



People's Rural
Education Movement

President's Message

E-NEWS

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Dear friends and well-wishers of PREM,
New Year wishes to everyone!

We had lot of happy events and sad events in year 2022. We lost some of our good friends last year and the civil societies are facing lot of problems, especially in the matter of resources and also the new restrictions from different areas. So, the civil society organizations should be convinced that only secular civil society organisations can unite from village to center because they are not associated with any religion, caste and political parties. Our country is divided by caste, creed and politics and only civil society organisations can unite all the people under one umbrella. The protection of constitution only possible through this sector. when this sector is weakened then it is easy for other forces to divide the people. as it has been due in the past. so, we should understand our role very much. this is our request for 2023 and I hope all of us try to do our best for the integrity of our country and protection of our country,

Thanking you

With best regards

Dr. Jacob Thundyil,
President, PREM

Highlight of the volume

High level visit of the steering committee of the global program to end child marriage



Welcome to the steering committee members

A high-level delegation visited Jeerango Gram Panchayat on 1st November 2022. The delegation constituted the Steering Committee of the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage (GPECM) and is a 15 years global initiative that seeks to tackle child marriage in 12 countries where child marriage is very prevalent. The delegation

intends to encourage the leadership of the district



administration and the community to end child marriage.

Keeping in view of the proposed visit of the steering committee to Jeerango Gram Panchayat, necessary preparations were made at Panchayat office. On 1st November 2022, the High level team visited to Jeerango Gram Panchayat at 11 AM . Ms. Padmini Sabar , Sarapanch of Jeerango Gram Panchayat made a warm welcome to the high level team. At the Panchayat office gate, she has shown the map on the board and explained to the guests about the population and village details of Jeerango Panchayat.



Then the team members shared guests about the objectives and leanings of election awareness campaign among women prior to the panchayat election which was held in Gajapati district of Odisha in January-February 2022. The guests visited the women's and girl's desk office to understand its function and interacted with the standing committee members of women and child development in the panchayat. In the Panchayat conference hall, villagers shared the different methods initiated by them



Visit of the Steering Committee members to the field

to make villages child marriage free. Two adolescent girls shared their story on how they could stop their marriages due to under age and also able to stop the friends' marriage. After the meeting, guests visited to tribal stalls placed at panchayat office and proceeded to Anganwadi center located at Sabar Sahi. Anganwadi worker shared the objective and services offered in Anganwadi center. She also shared how the ADVIKA programme initiated by the government help the adolescent girls to a common

platform and linking them all with different schemes targeted at all the adolescent girls of Odisha in the 10-19 years age group.

Then the guests proceeded to District task force meeting on child labour held at Padma Sambham Conference Hall, Jeerango. This visit was a great opportunity for PREM and as well as for the Government department. it was a biggest platform to show all the programs and initiatives which have been undertaken to end child marriage in the district.



Observation of International Girl child day

PREM in collaboration with Educo, observed International Girl child Day in its project operational area to increase awareness among the key stakeholders about the problems that girls face, lack of access to education, inadequate nutrition, forced child marriage, legal rights, and medical rights. The awareness started on 11th October 2022 and it continued up to 31st October for 20 days long.

Through this event we covered 103 program villages of our project operational area and we have reached 6846 beneficiaries of 103 villages of project operational area. The participants included adolescent girls and boys, women, parents,

youths, community leaders, VCPC members, teachers, PRI members, ICDS workers, Supervisors and teachers.



Oath taking by the participants on the eve of International girl child day to ensure child care and protection in their village

At the outset of the program in every village the adolescents, parents, women, community leaders,



VCPC members, teachers, PRI members, youths, ICDS workers, Supervisors and teachers etc. came together to celebrate this day. A rally was organized in every village where all the participants joined and during the rally the participants chanted different slogans on girl child issues with greater energy and enthusiasm by holding placards and banner. After the rally an

awareness meeting was organized where the participants were made aware of the theme of the year “Our time is now—our rights, our future.” They also were oriented about the importance of the day, present status of the girls, women with regard to care, protection, violence, gender discrimination, development and participation and how to address the issues and role of every members especially the mothers/women for bringing positive changes in the life of adolescent girls in their families and communities. They all together took pledge to act as a change agent for in their village for development of the girls and to bridge the gender gap to Build an Inclusive & Equal Society. At the end of the event all the participants got refreshed with snacks. This program created awareness among the participants which enhanced their knowledge on the importance of the day and the theme of the year.



Children's day celebration

“The children of today will make the world of tomorrow. The way we bring them up will determine the



future of the country” based on these golden words the project celebrated the children's day on 14th November, 2022, in 20 selected schools and as well as in 17 schools and 103 operational villages in its project operational area. The main objectives of this celebration were to sensitize the teachers and children, to recognize the needs of children, to protect their rights and to stop their exploitation, for the

overall development of children. Besides this another motto to celebrate this day was to make the school children aware of the importance and significance of the day and importance of the children for nation building. As per the plan our project team visited the selected 20 schools and celebrated this day along with the school management. The celebration began with a meeting in the



schools and the school head master and other teachers delivered their speeches on the importance and significance of the day and similarly our project staff also got opportunity to present their views and gave importance on education and how education leads to



Celebration of Children's Day in operation area of Kandhamal district

development. The children also delivered their speeches, debates and sang songs. At the end of the program all the teachers took oath for ensuring quality education for their students which will help to stop child abuse, child marriage and child labour. The students also expressed their commitment to

continue their education at any cost to build their future. During this celebration the project could reach 6782 beneficiaries and sensitize them on role of education, their rights, and proper care and protection for their development.

PREM Program Activities

Mobile camp for Children in Need of Care & Protection (CNCP)

Daringbadi block is one of the inaccessible block of the Kandhamal district. It is nearly 170 kilometers far from the district head quarter, Phulbani and in requirement they have to travel such a long distance, which is very difficult for them. It is very difficult for the parents or guardians to take the children to Phulbani and produce the children before Child Welfare Committee(CWC). It takes 2 to 3 days to complete the procedure which is very challenging for the parents/guardian for



accommodation and bearing expenses. As a result, the CNCP children are deprived of availing different government sponsorship schemes. PREM regularly presented these issues in the District Task Force Meeting in every quarter before the District Collector. In the month of June this issue again was presented in the meeting before the District Collector and other Govt officials who are working for the care and protection of the children and we requested them to organise a separate camp at block headquarter Daringbadi for these deprived and vulnerable children so that these children can easily access to the CWC for their care and protection. After the presentation the District collector took this matter very seriously and this point has been taken as an important action point. Then as per the plan of action a mobile camp date was finalised to be organised on 10th August 2022 at block head quarter, Daringbadi. Accordingly on 10th August 2022, Child

Welfare Committee Kandhamal and CDPU in association with PREM and Educo and ICDS Daringbadi organised a Mobile Camp for CNCP children of inaccessible pockets of Daringbadi block.



Through this camp 69 children have been identified and linked under Ashirbad Yojana, Sponsorship scheme, Education scheme and schemes for persons with disabilities. This is an achievement for PREM and as well as for the district administration through which the vulnerable children could access care and protection.

Exposure Visit and Cross Learning for Elected Representatives, Government Officials and NGO workers

Educo in India has facilitated an exposure visit for a team from PREM (local partner NGO), comprising of elected representatives of Gram Ganchayat, Government officials from the State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), Govt of Odisha and representatives from PREM. This team visited the Child Rights Trust, Bengaluru office and the field operational areas at Shidlaghatta and Bagepalli, Chikkaballapura District from the 21st to 23rd September 2022 to know about children's



The team during exposure visit to Karnatak state

participation in local governance, particularly child friendly

Grama Panchayat model developed by Child Rights Trust (CRT) in Karnataka state in partnership with Educo. This exposure has provided an opportunity to learn about the functioning of Child Rights Clubs and how Child rights grama sabha works in tandem with Grama Panchayat for the

development of children. Additionally, the team also learned about the process of developing the Grama Panchayat Report Card. Child Rights Trust has developed the Grama Panchayat report card to encourage Grama Panchayat to adopt SDG-based Indicators to plan, monitor and evaluate the situation of children and their accessibility to services being provided by the state government. The SDG-based report cards reflect the ground realities of SDGs

implementation in the area. It gives a clear picture of developmental barriers and advancements as well as guides the formulation of the plan of action in the interest of all children.

During the exposure visit, the team got an opportunity to get first-hand experiences of work done by Grama Panchayat and Child rights Grama Sabhas; and learned about the challenges of those panchayats in the process and learnt how they were able to overcome these challenges. This has created a practical peer learning opportunity for both the host and the visiting team through sharing of experiences. Educo in India also is discussing with PREM to develop a follow-up mechanism to



ensure that the learning assimilated during the exposure visit is utilized by the participants upon their return to address the children's issues in their own areas.

Cultural program

Project organized 103 cultural programs at villages which were performed by the adolescents. Before the execution of the cultural programs the adolescents took time for rehearsal. Project team also provided hand holding support to them during rehearsal and execution of the program. This program was aimed to sensitise parents, community peoples, youths, women groups, village leaders, PRI representatives and adolescents on child rights, child marriage prohibition act, child abuses and child care and protection issues. Through this program 1653 primary and



secondary beneficiaries understood on their roles and responsibilities

towards addressing all these issues. This program was very effective among parents and village people. It had a positive impact on the adolescents and as well as the community people.



Cultural program by the adolescents on the consequences of child marriage and child labour

Labour card registration

With the support of block level administration, the project team engaged in labour card registration of



the eligible families of its operational area. It was decided that every Saturday and Sunday this activity will be carried out at Gandhi seva kendra, Daringbadi. Accordingly, this initiative started on 30th July 2022. In this period 257 families have been registered under this scheme This initiative undertaken by the project will ensure issuing the labour cards to the

eligible families of the project to get various benefits under this card.

GP level interface meeting

During the reporting period seven GP level interface meetings were organized in seven gram panchayats of Daringbadi block. The main objectives of the meeting were to empower the adolescent

girls and boys to express their issues before the VLPCPC, Gram Panchayat Representatives, parents and community peoples. In these meetings 208 panchayat level federation members sat together and discussed their issues and met their respective Sarpanchas and ward members. The main discussion points in the meeting were importance of education, care and protection of the vulnerable children, role of different stakeholders to stop child marriage and child labour. Different children's issues also discussed in the meeting. The adolescents prepared a charter of demand and submitted the same to the sarpanch for addressing their school and village level issues. This program created a platform for the adolescents to raise their voice and share their concerns with the Panchayat representatives.



Community Mobilization & Identification of vulnerable families

A series of Community meetings have been organized in 200 villages of Mohana and R.Udayagiri



Community level meeting and identification of vulnerable families

blocks of Gajapati district of Odisha, involving men, women, youths, adolescents, PRI members, ASHA workers, ICDS workers, school teachers to make the people understand the aims and objectives of project and to complete the activities such as assessment of socio- economic condition of the village, identification of vulnerable groups / beneficiaries from among

the women groups in line with project criteria by the villagers and collection of Basic village demographic information. This developed a clear understanding among the participants.

Tapping of Govt. Resources

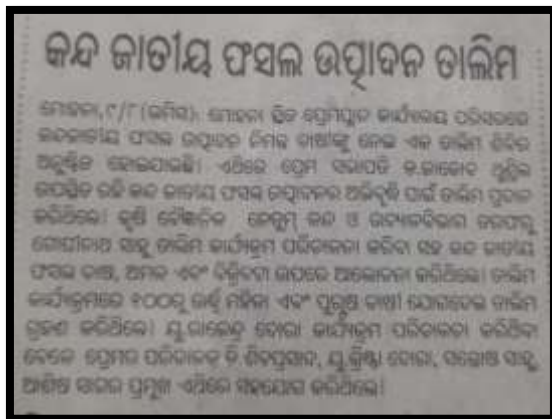
Tuber crops such as sweet potato, greater yam (EFY) from CTCRI (Central Tuber Crop Research Institution) and Horticulture department of Mohana Block. Vegetable seeds and agricultural implements were availed by the small and marginalized farmers from ADS and OPELIP in the PVTG villages of Mohana Block. Fruit bearing trees like improved grafted varieties of Mango, litchi, pineapple, guava, sapota, lemon and other plants have been provided by Horticulture Department through MGNREGA with the help of our project associates.

Farmers Training Program

PREM in collaboration with the Azim Prem Ji Foundation conducted training for the 63 small and marginalized farmers from twenty villages of different Panchayats of Mohana Block. The training program was inaugurated by Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM. M. Nedun Chzhiyan, the principal scientist of CTCRI and Mr Gopinath Sahu, the horticulture officer of Mohana Block were graced the program. They imparted the training program and also demonstrated various products prepared out of Tuber crops in the training session. The farmers were given Tuber



crops such as sweet potato, Tapioca, cassava and greater yam (EFY)



by PREM in association with CTCRI (Central Tuber Crop Research Institution) Govt. of India. During the training session both the trainers explained the marketing, value addition, medicinal and nutritional values of the tuber crops to the participants. This training program was very informative for the farmer and it will help them to produce good quality tuber crops.

Life skill training program at school level

PREM in association with Educo organized school level life skill training program at 16 schools level to empower the adolescent girls and boys so that they will play vital role to stop the prevalence of child marriage and to stop various types of child abuses in the villages, families and schools. Session wise calendar has been developed for conducting life skill sessions at school level. The trainers adopted different methodologies and games to make the session live. This training program was very helpful for the school students in their day to day life and also for their future.



Sensitisation program for the religious leaders



PREM-Educo project organised a sensitisation meeting for the priests and religious leaders of Daringbadi Parish at Daringbadi Catholic Church on 26.09.2022. In this program 42 (41 male and 1 female) religious leaders and priests of Daringbadi parish participated and got sensitised on their roles and responsibilities to stop child marriage in their

area. The main discussion points in the meeting were different issues of children regarding child marriage, their roles and responsibilities toward ending child marriage. The meeting was very interactive and all the religious leaders took very active part and also gave their suggestions which will help them to create awareness among adolescents, parents, youths to reduce child marriage. At the end of the program the religious leaders took an oath to stop child marriage in their area. This program was very participatory and helpful for everyone present in the meeting.

State Level Module Development Workshop on Women and Girl Friendly Panchayat

in September a State Level Module Development Workshop on Women and Girl Friendly Panchayat and State Level Advocacy Workshop organized for two days at Pantha Nivas, Bhubaneswar. The broad objective of these workshops were to create girl/women friendly panchayat in all over Odisha and to create module using tribal culture, tradition, local songs, stories and dance etc. using different tribal related things based on the girl and women related issues. A total of 65 including tribal Participants from



15 districts of Odisha and staff of PREM-UNFPA were present over there. Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM, Mr. Sandeep Patnaik, State Consultant-UNFPA and Ms. Sumitra Chardia, Sarpanch, Sundargarh District was on the dais on first day Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM Ms. Nikita Sisodia, UNFPA-Program Manager, Dr. Bijaya Bahidar-President, Gabesana



State level module development workshop on Women and j Panchayat

Chakra (Odisha), Ms. Bratendri Jena, Independent Researcher, Tribal Issues, Mr. Debabrata Patro, Regional Manager-Action-Aid, Mr. Nirakar Beura-Panchayat Expert, Ghasiram Panda, Program Officer-Action-Aid, Dr. Jyotirmayi Tudu, Lecturer-Utkal University, Mr. Pankaj Nayak, Professor in Economics, RD Women's College, Bhubaneswar and Mr. Sandeep Pattnaik, Consultant, UNFPA were the guests on the dais.

Block level orientation program

in this period block level orientation on Girl friendly panchayat held at seven blocks of—Mohana, Adava, gumma, Nuagada, R. udayagiri, Gosani, Kashinagar—of Gajapati district. BDO, block



Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Health Officer, Police Officer, CDPO, were the guests on the



dais. Around 445 people participated in the program including ICDS Supervisors, GPEO, PEOs, JE-RWSS, Sarpanchas of different panchayats and block level officials were participated in this program.

Model village initiatives



Community laundry brings joy to all especially to the women of Dimbiripankal model village

Govindapur, a new settlers from Gudanggorjang village to be reconstructed



For the first time Groundnut is cultivated in Gudanggorjang model village



Anganwadi in Dimbiripankal village is functioning in a child friendly environment





Artist's view of the new village under one roof

Annual Gudanggorjang village picnic on 2nd January 2023 on Olmal hill top.



Case study

Everyone's effort matters the most for wellbeing of the adolescents

A child marriage case has been stopped in the nick of time as a team of PREM-Educo with the support of ICDS department on 20.10.2022. As per the case information Sabita Pradhan (name changed) aged 14 years, daughter of Mr. Samsan Pradhan of Kudimunja village of Simanbadi gram panchayat of Daringbadi block had an affair with Sudam Pradhan (name changed), aged 17 years, son of Mr. Dhaneswar Pradhan of Sitapanga village of Badabanga gram panchayat of Daringbadi village since few months. In the month of November both Sabita and Sudam eloped and finally stayed at Sudam's home as a married couple.



When it was came to notice of VCPC committee members of Gadadi village—one of the program village of PREM-Educo, which is a nearby village of Kudimunja—they informed to PREM staff and anganwadi worker. Then with the support of ICDS department and along with Badabanga gram panchayat Sarpancha, PREM-Educo staff visited to Sitapanga village and interacted with the boy's father but during the visit the team failed to convince them to dissolve this marriage. Then on 17th November 2022, in the Pallisabha meeting the Sarpancha, Badabanga gram panchayat again tried to convince the parents and the adolescents but they did not agree. Finally, he declared that if the family would



not dissolve the marriage and separate the adolescents till, they become adult then the family will be deprived of availing all the Govt. facilities so far. After this strong decision taken by the sarpanch the families and as well as the adolescents understood the issue and agreed to dissolve the marriage. On 20th November 2022. The girl was rescued from the boy's home in presence of ICDS supervisor, anganwadi worker, Badabanga sarpanch, village leaders both the family members of the adolescents and PREM- Educo staff. Parents of both the adolescents gave a written undertaking mentioning that they will take care of their children and give marriage to them till they reach appropriate age for marriage as per law. This initiative was a great success for the project where Govt. PRI member and community altogether played their role to stop the child marriage and bring a difference in their community.

Notes from field

Adolescent performed Cultural program on child marriage and child labour at block level event

The block level administration, Daringbadi invited PREM-Educo to perform a cultural program in a block level event called " Parivartan" which was organised on 22nd September 2022 at Tilory Gram panchayat of Daringbadi block of Kandhamal district of Odisha. Accordingly the 23 best adolescents from Dasingbadi and Danekbadi gram panchayats performed the cultural program on child marriage and child labour on the dais of the event. The performance of the adolescents was very live and effective and it created awareness among the participants who attended the Parivartan program. The CDPO and the Block Development Officer were highly impressed with the group and appreciated their performance. In their feedback they encouraged the group to perform this type of cultural program in future to create sensitisation on child marriage and child labour among the people. By performing in such a big platform the confidence level of the adolescents increased and they were also very happy for this opportunity.



Nutrition Garden

There are as many as 31 nos of Nutrition gardens which have been demonstrated in 25 GPs of Mohana and 6 Gram Panchayats of R.Udayagiri Block of Gajapati District by the community

Celebration of Nutrition Week



Nutrition week have been celebrated in 49 nos of hard to reach communities and where mini Anganwadi centres are present. Anganwadi worker, Anganwadi helper, pregnant women, lactating women, children below 5 years and adolescent girls were the participants in the program. The nutrition values in vegetables, cereals, rice wheat, ragi etc

have been discussed before the participants. The pregnant and lactating women understood the process of balanced food preparation and agreed to cultivate vegetables in their backyard using organic manure prepared by them.



Specialization Training Program



in the month of September PREM-APF project organized a three days specialization training program at Retreat centre Mohana for the 30 nos of community coordinators on various models of Nutrigarden. In the day one the participants were trained on different models of Nutri-garden and preparation and use

of organic manure, pest and insect control adopting organic method theory through lecture and participatory method. Followed by the theory the hands on practice sessions were conducted at Narayanapur village of Pindiki GP Mohana Block for rest of the days. In the final day the participants were given a seed packet one each for practice in their respective fields using their 3 days learning experience.



Block level Review on FPLMIS & Expanded Family Planning indicators



The family planning commodity stocks are being maintained through FPLMIS(Family Planning Logistic Management Information System) portal. In order to strengthen the FP Services in the district, one-day review on FP-LMIS & expanded family planning indicators supported by UNFPA

was conducted in block level as per the pre scheduled time table. The meetings were organized by the Dr Pradeep Kumar Panda, RCH Consultant, UNFPA and Dr. Soumya Ranjan Panda, District RMNCAH+N Consultant, UNFPA and as per the instruction of CDMO & PHO the meeting were conducted in presence of the MO-I/Cs, PHEO, Pharmacists BDM, ANM(Handling FP-LMIS application), LHVs of the respective blocks in pre decided respective dates within in the month of September in the CHCs of the district. The main topics discussed were rational use of the FPLMIS application, logistic supply of FP commodities for each sector, raising an Indent, updating stock and preventing stockout situation of FP commodities, late supply issues were discussed, recap training on dosage, utilization, and safe distribution of new contraceptives.

NQAS Baseline Assessment of Various Health Facilities of Gajapati District

As per the instruction of the Directorate of Family Welfare, Odisha the NQAS baseline assessment for selected health facilities (51 health facilities) of Gajapati, was conducted by the District health team with support from the UNFPA. After designing the plan and schedule the selected facilities were randomly assigned to the NQAS master trainers, Quality Manager, and District RMNCAH+N Consultant, UNFPA of Gajapati and Rayagada to accomplish the NQAS baseline assessment of the respective facilities and submit the TBAP (Time Bound Action Plan) within the stipulated time frame.



The respective Blocks were informed along with the MO/I-C and health care providers of the respective facilities to assist the assessors in completing the baseline assessment.

Distribution of Agricultural Implement - Manual Weeder machine

In the month of November PREM in collaboration with Azim Prem Ji Foundation organized a program for the farmers of Mohana Block to distribute agricultural implement i.e manual weeder machine. Around 562 men and women farmers actively participated in this program.



Ms Tapaswini Hansada, Block Development Officer, Mohana, Mr Ranjiba

Sabara , Chairman, Mohana Block, Mr Sandeep kumara Sahu, Block Agriculture Officer, Mohana, Mr Balakrushna Mallick, Samiti member ,Ms Sebati Gomango, Sarapancha, Chudangapur GP and Mr D Shiva



Prasad, the project manager PREM-APF project were the guests for the program. In the beginning of the program the project objectives were explained by the Project Manager then Mr. Sandeep kumara Sahu, Block Agriculture Officer explained the present schemes available for the rural farmers and importance of SRI paddy cultivation. At the end of the program 700 nos of weeders have been distributed among the farmers of Mohana Block.

Similarly another program was organized at Panchayat office R. Udayagiri block where 350 women farmers of six gram panchayats—Sabarpalli, R.Udayagiri, Chhelagada, Dabarguda, Abarsing, Bastiriguda—have received weeder machine. In this program Mr. Laxminarayan Sabar, Block Chairman,



Meeting organised during Distribution of Agricultural Implement - Manual Weeder machine

R.Udayagiri, Ms. Monoswini Mallick, Agriculture Assistant Engineer, Gajapati, Ms. Fulomoti Sabar, Sarapanch of Sabarpalli GP and PEO of Sabarpalli GP and Mr. D Shiva Prasad, the Project Manager, PREM-APF project were graced the occasion. Similarly after sharing the project objectives by the Project Manager, Ms Monoswini Mallick , Agriculture Assistant Engineer, Gajapati, explained the present schemes available for the rural farmers and importance of SRI paddy cultivation. At the end of the program 350 nos of weeders have been distributed among the farmers of above stated GPs of R.Udayagiri Block by the Chief Guest. Project hopes that the weeder machines will be beneficial for the farmers of these two block for more production of paddy.

Photo Gallery



SRI method paddy plantation in operational villages of Gajapati district



Training to the farmers on Big circle Nutrition garden.



Orientation meeting to the GP level federation members on consequences of child marriage and child labour



Hands on Practice on Nutrigarden



SHG meeting on ensuring care and protection of the children



GP level federation meeting on identifying their issues



Visited BDO, PD, DRDA of Gajapati to Kamalapur village of Jeerang GP Mohana



GP level task force sensitisation meeting in Daringbadi block



Home visit by the project staff to the vulnerable adolescents



Village meeting at project operational areas



Panchayat Level Orientation Programs



Project staff attending panchayat level MIS meeting

Quote of the Month

The International girl child day program was a very effective program for the adolescents and community members. As an anganwadi worker I have role to stop child marriage. This awareness program will help us to achieve ending child marriage in our area.

- Ms. Rashmi Ranjita Singh, Ananwadi worker, Dasingbadi vollage, Dasingbadi gram panchayat of Daringbadi block

PREM E-NEWS

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