



People's Rural Education
Movement

E-NEWS

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President's Message

Dear friends and supporters of PREM.

First of all I wish you a Happy and prosperous New Year 2021 to all of you on behalf of PREM family!

We have gone through a most difficult period of the history of mankind. This created fears and challenges in the minds of all the people of the world. Crores of people got affected by COVID 19 and lakhs and lakhs of people died because of this pandemic. This is more than the World War I & II.

We are now slowly recovering from this pandemic and there is a ray of hope, expecting the vaccine will bring changes for the lives of the people as protection. Many activities were cancelled and suspended by which the poor and the marginalized in the society have become more vulnerable. We specially remember all the people who were victims to the calamity.

This E-news brings information regarding our regular projects; I hope this will be informative for you all. We hope 2021 will bring new hope and life to the humanity.

Thanking you all
With best regards

Dr. Jacob Thundyil,
President, PREM

Highlight of the volume

"16 Days (25th Nov to 10th Dec'2020) Campaign against Gender-Based Violence"



*Celebration of 16 Days Campaign against
Gender-based violence*

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence is an international campaign originating from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute sponsored by the Centre for Women's Global Leadership in 1991. Participants chose the 16 days, from 25 November, International Day Against Violence Against Women, to International Human Rights Day



on 10 December, to symbolically link violence against women and human rights and to emphasize that such violence is a violation of human rights.

The 16 Days of Activism Campaign was celebrated in many countries throughout the world. Keeping this in view on 27th November 2020, PREM in collaboration with UNFPA organized **“16 Days (25th Nov to 10th Dec’2020) Campaign against Gender-Based Violence”**—annual international campaign was held as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls—at Administrative Conference Hall, DHH, Dhenkanal participated by the concerned Govt., NGO and legal functionaries. For this specific year 2020, the UN has chosen the theme ***“Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, and Collect!”***.

The program started with the a warm welcome address and objective sharing of the program and also on raising awareness about gender-based violence as a human rights issue at the district level and call for the solidarity of women. Dr. Sujata Rani Mishra, CDM & PHO, DHH, Dhenkanal, Ms. Jyotshna Ray, DSWO, Dhenkanal, Ms. Anuradha Goswami, DCPO, Dhenkanal, Ms. Sonali Priyadarshini Das, DPM, DHH, Adv. Manasi Mohapatra, District Bar Association, Dhenkanal, Mr. Rudra Mishra, PIPAR, Ms. Angoor Mishra, Action Aid, Ms. Aliva Acharya, Hospital Manager and Ms. Sasmita, Deputy Manager, RCH were the dignitaries in the program.



The topics covered in the program were physical, sexual and psychological violence such as domestic violence, sexual abuse including rape and sexual abuse of children by family members, forced pregnancy, sexual slavery, traditional harmful practices to women such as female genital



mutilation, work place harassment, violence towards women & girls, sexually harassment at different level, educating girl children, psychological trauma, psychological, behavioural and physical consequences for survivors. joining hands against the violence towards women, several measures by the Govt. to prevent and protect the women and girls from atrocities, activating Block and District level Task Forces,

Numerous policies and reformative Acts like Dowry prohibition, POCSO.

To symbolically commemorate the theme of the year all the guests and participants wore orange coloured stoles and participated in mass Pledge making with the following message.



“We pledge to -----

Never commit, condone, or remain silent about all forms of violence against women and girls. We also educate ourselves to challenge attitudes that condone disrespectful behaviour or degrading language towards them and take action to end all forms of violence with love, compassion and without judgment.”

The program was concluded with good notes from the participants and followed with vote of thanks.

PREM Program Activities

Visit of the Agriculture and Marketing Advisor, Govt. of Odisha

On 28th December 2020, Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM along with Mr. Rama Chandra Panda, The Agriculture and Marketing Advisor to Govt. of Odisha, Deputy Director Horticulture, Gajapati, Mr. Gopinath Sahu, Block Horticulture Extension Worker, Mr. Mosha Majhi, The Sarapanch of Birikote G.P. They visited Punjasaragi, Chandragiri and Lobarsing villages, of Birikote Gram panchayat, Mohana Block of Gajapati District. The main objective was to see the successful implementation of the lemon grass project. They visited the demo fields of Tulsi and Davana at Punjasaragi village and interacted with the villagers, the farmers and local Sarapanch. They also visited the two distillation units of Punjasaragi and Chandragiri villages. During the interaction the farmers demanded for 2 more lift irrigation points for



Visit of the Agriculture and Marketing Advisor, Govt. of Odisha to Mohana block



the irrigation of the vast area which is the major concern of the farmers. Mr. Rama Chandra Panda realized the need of the lift irrigation points and contacted the District Agro Industry Manager and sanctioned 2 more points for the farmers.



Dr. Jacob Thundyil, the president PREM also highlighted the problems and need for support to cultivate the lemon grass in large scale. The Deputy Director Horticulture explained the advantages of cultivating lemon grass and how the farmers are being benefited. Mr. Mosha Majhi, the Sarapancha of Birikote narrated the problems face by the farmers in the context of land and facilities.

Mr. Panda encouraged the farmers to replicate such kind of

more profitable model in other areas of the Block. He also agreed to extend all kinds of support to the farmers to expand the lemon grass cultivation in the area as this will change the lives of the tribal farmers and their families. The visit program was very effective and beneficial for the farmers of the gram panchayat.



The Agriculture and Marketing Advisor, Govt. of Odisha along with President, PREM visited one of the lemon grass distillation unit

Grihini Lifestyle Management Training

43 Grihini Life Style Management Trainings were organized by PREM in Mohana and R. Udayagiri blocks of Gajapati district. The training aims to empower the women in the areas of economical, social and political aspects. The Grihini life style trainings were imparted by community resource



persons with the support of technical experts for the Self Help Group members in Mohana and R. Udayagiri blocks. There were as many as 243 women who actively participated in the one full day training program.

The trainings covered topics such as, sharing of objective of the training program, orientation on COVOD-19 Pandemic, its symptoms , maintaining

social distance, use of mask and hand gloves, hand wash practice and sanitize etc, briefing on present socio- economic situation of the people, orientation on different livelihood aspects (organic farming, soil testing, compost making, organic pesticide, pot compost, light trap, mulching, animal husbandry, leveraging Govt. schemes, marketing of agro products, practicing regular savings, repaying loan in regular basis, maintaining documents etc.

Capacity building trainings to the entrepreneurs

Under Bridge-IT project of PREM basic computer training was completed in this period. The objective of the training was to provide knowledge on fundamental of computers to the entrepreneurs. As many of the entrepreneurs have started their businesses, some basic photography training was also provided for all clusters in this period month. Resource person for Development Focus provided the training on techniques of photography. This training created interest among the entrepreneurs and they expressed their interest to pick this profession as a business opportunity and provide photography as part of their services.



Similarly, online training on revenue streams was organised for all clusters by the Roinet state Coordinator. The sessions were very practical and the resource person trained on numerous Banking Services through the Roinet portal that has tie ups with nearly 42 public, private and regional rural banks. The entrepreneurs also learnt how to apply for Pan Card and Tahasil Certificates. All

entrepreneurs are now registered with Roinet Espresso and have received their business IDs to provide different services to the community.

It was a wonderful training session conducted over two days. The, entrepreneurs were very

happy to receive this training which will create opportunity for income generation. Moreover,

they also realised their contribution for their community as a change agent.



The entrepreneurs have started their businesses and serving their community

Training on Possible online revenue streams

PREM in collaboration with Development Focus organised online training on **Possible online revenue streams** for all clusters. This 2 day training was conducted by the State Coordinator, ROI NET solutions, Mohana which covered 4th modules each for each cluster. The sessions have been very practical and narrative. All the entrepreneurs are now registered with ROI NET Xpresso



and have received their business IDs to provide different services to their community. All the entrepreneurs have started providing different online services such as banking services, applications for PAN cards, Tahasil certificates, DTH / mobile recharge, job applications, DTP works, Photoshop. Overall, it has been wonderful training sessions.

Notes from field

District level monitoring regarding preparation of quality food

PREM-UNFPA District Consultant along with officials from District administration, Gajapati district has



Monitoring visit regarding maintenance of quality of mixing of Chatua preparation by District Consultant

been engaged for monitoring regarding maintenance of quality of mixing of Chatua preparation in Gumma block. On 23rd of every month the team visits different chatua mixing units and ensures the quality and submit the visit report to the DSWO. Based on the visit report the CDPO after sample testing monitors all

the units until distribution the chatua at the AWCs of the block

Lemon grass cultivation

Mohana Block is one of the tribal dominated Blocks of Gajapati District of Odisha where agriculture is the main occupation of the people. The people cultivate maize, paddy, pulses, ragi and fruit bearing trees in the rain fed and upland where there is no irrigation facility. Cultivation of maize by using chemical fertilizer in large scale for years is harmful for the soil and environment. The soil become hard and loses the water holding capacities. Furthermore the farmers sell their produce to the Mahajans at a cheaper price which is lesser than their investment. Thus the farmers have to refund a heavy amount to the money lender against the loan.



Lemon grass plantation in Mohana block

Considering the above situation of the farmers, Horticulture department started lemon grass cultivating in 110 hectares of land and established 2 nos of distillation units in Mohana Block of Gajapati district. PREM played a vital role to implement the project for

the farmers in the village of Punjasaragi. It took a couple of months to motivate the farmers and to convert the waste land into agriculture land. PREM identified the farmers and lison with the district



One of the Lemon grass distillation units in Mohana Block of Gajapati district

Horticulture department to establish the oil extract plant in the village of Punjasaragi. PREM has been extending hand holding support to the farmers such as land development, scientifically planting methods, weed management, irrigation, timely apply of fertilizer, harvesting and marketing the produces. A total 110 hectares of land have been cultivated lemon grass in Chamdragiri, Badakhani, Dhadiamba,

Birikote, Manikapur and Govindpur panchayats of Mohana block. Scientifically it has been demonstrated that a farmer

can harvest lemon grass three times in a year getting an average income per acre is Rs. 80,000/-. At present the local vendors are buying the lemon oil Rs. 1,000/- per litre. PREM has contacted different export companies in Cochin and they have agreed to buy the lemon grass oil Rs1,400/- to Rs.1,500/- per litre. PREM also have discussed this matter with the Horticulture department of Gajapati district and planning to form a Farmer Producer Organisation(FPO) and registration of GST.

These villages also are experimenting Tulsi and Davana cultivation in pilot basis. As these two plants are having medicinal values and oils are also very beneficial in many aspect. Thus after extracting the Tulsi oil costs Rs. 5,000/- per litre and Davana oil costs Rs. 10,000/- per litre. Recently the Agro department has visited the villages and they also agreed to support 5 more lift irrigations. PREM is closely working with the district Horticulture department and the farmers for proper implementation of the project and benefit of the farmers.

Training on book keeping

PREM organized Cluster Level Association (CLA) training on book keeping for 2 days. The field coordinator was the trainer and trained the 30 women members including the chief functionaries of the CLA. The training included the topics such as maintenance of cash book, resolution book, master book, individual ledgers and all other books relevant to the functioning of SHGs and the CLA. The members got idea about the book keeping process and other documentation. The training program was very helpful for all the participants to function their group in quality way.



Enhancing livelihood status through FADP and OTELP Plus program

In respect to enhance the livelihood status of the tribal people of Rayagada and Koraput districts, PREM along with ITDA Gunupur and Koraput has committed to implement **FADP program and OTELP Plus program**. These programs are supporting the ST families with viable alternative livelihood and in identifying livelihood opportunities based on the farming and non farming options suitable to local conditions, available resources and capacities of the tribal communities. It also aims at developing and implementing a replicable model that ensures household food security, improves livelihood opportunities and overall quality of life of the tribal population based on the sustainable and equitable use of natural resources.

Following are the key activities conducted in this period:



Scented Rice Cultivation at Mahulbania Village, puttasing GP under Gunupur block, FADP

Joint verification by WEO & BPC, Padmapur along with concern AWW, to the vegetables, Kulthi & Alosi cultivation by SHGs of Patuguda Village, Nuagada GP of Padmapur Block.



Tree guard distribution to the wadi plantation beneficiaries of Musapadar, Sidhaguda, Marathiguda and Madhukur block of Gudari.



Hybrid Rice cultivation of Penkam GP of Ramnaguda block



Scented Rice Cultivation at Ankulpadar village of Telenganapadar GP under Muniguda block

Harvesting of scented rice at Dasrandanguda village of Penkam GP of Ramnaguda block



Wadi plant distribution at Parikhit GP of Ramanaguda block of Rayagada District





Another chicks unit at Mak
block of Rayag



Success story

Organic farming helped the community for good health and sustainable livelihood

Keeping in view of the present global health risk due to inorganic food intake which is produced by use of chemical



One of the market outlet established by by
PREM at Mohana block



fertilizers and pesticides, PREM started a sort of campaign in favour of **organic farming technology** in its project areas since 2016 after a team of 30 field workers obtained a month long training at the Kerala University of Advanced Agriculture. The youth farmers of Gajapati were trained by these trained resource personnel followed by peer education on the organic farming in the operational tribal villages of Gajapati. One selected youth farmer (girl/boy) from each village underwent 20 days training on organic farming and marketing technique. During these 20 days the trained youth become peer educators of their fellow farmers in their respective villages. These are mostly from the women's SHGs or youth of the villages, who motivate and train the other members of their groups and other farmers of the community on the training components of organic farming and marketing process. So far 297 farmers were trained covering 297 villages of Gajapati district of Odisha. The training course contains the topics such as Soil testing, Compost making, Preparation of organic pesticide, Pot compost, Jeevamrit, Bijamrit, Light trap, Mulching, Neem leaf solution, Fish amino-acid, Egg amino-acid, Humic acid. SRI method of paddy cultivation, Mushroom cultivation, Fruit cultivation like, cashew, mango, banana, papaya, Fish production, Cattle management, Backyard poultry, Goat rearing, tapping agricultural schemes of government and its provisions. *As a result the farmers in the villages get motivated and encouraged for organic farming of different vegetables, paddy, mushroom, fish, fruit cultivation and for the promotion of animal husbandry. They are getting healthy and getting nutritious food for their families and communities. The resource team of PREM provides handholding support for scaling up the program as far as possible.* In view of the increasingly high demand for the organic products, 50 market outlets have been established by PREM at Luhagudi, Mohana, Adava, Chandiput and Chandragiri areas where the farmers sell their products directly at a reasonable rate. As there is no middlemen's interference in the marketing process, the farmers earn 30% more income than before.

"Now we are getting quality food through organic farming method. It also helps to improve the soil health. Through the market outlets we are also getting a constant regular income which is very helpful for our sustainable livelihood—thanks to PREM" says Ramakanta Mallick, a farmer of Analaguda village of Mohana block

In this intervention, PREM's strategy has strengthened and involved the communities, PRIs and the people's organizations so that they lead the development process of their own communities and carry forward after PREM withdraws from the field. PREM's intervention is to provide handholding support to fill the gaps between the

community and government administration. Government officials too have cooperated and supported PREM's initiatives.



Appreciation of Visitors during their visit to NRTC of PREM for MTMLE

PREM has established a **National Resource and Training Center(NRTC)** at Mandiapalli, head office since 2015. The main motto of establishing the **National Resource and Training Center (NRTC)** was to bring more understanding among the different stakeholders on MT ML ECE and to enhance the skill and knowledge of existing ICDS workers in tribal areas of Odisha and India on the transaction of MTMLECE. The Resource centre is a Learning centre as well



as an information hub where different stakeholders of the state as well as other parts of India get the opportunity to understand Mother Tongue Based Multi Lingual Early Childhood Education, get idea on different teaching and learning materials for transaction of the mother tongue based multilingual early childhood education in the existing ICDS centres of tribal areas and to receive quality training on MTMLECE, receive residential training in resource centre, to enhance the MT ML ECE transaction skills of different stakeholders like ICDS workers, preschool teachers, ECE supervisors. Whatever the learning the trainees are acquiring in the in-house training are executed at field practically. In these few years many individuals, Govt. officials, civil society members, political leaders, different target groups from different sectors from India and abroad visited the resource centre and appreciated this initiative of PREM. In this volume we are presenting the list of visitors who visited the NRTC and admired the initiative of PREM.

Photo Gallery



Community kitchen in Dimbiripankal model village



A calendar for 2021 released by (Bapuji Gramya Kalyan Samaj) BGKS on the eve of birthday of President, PREM



Adolescent girls meeting at Dhadiamba panchayat of Mohana block



Different organic agriculture products are promoted at field level



VHND camp organized in kujasingh panchayat of Gumma block of Gajapati district



An enterpeuner, Sujata Mallik of Mohana block sharing her success with village committee members.



Sponsor child of PREM now became a teacher



Village level meeting at Kadasi village of Kulusing panchayat of Gunupur Cluster.



Team meeting organized at Gunupur Cluster to discuss about business development and developing good rapport among villagers



Promotion of Kitchen garden in the backyard in Mohana block



Coffee processing unit in Gudang gorjang model village



Training on online services such as apply for driving license, scholarship etc. at Gumma block



Maize harvesting in Mohana block



Visit by the cluster in charge to one of the entrepreneur at Buruda GP, Gaiba Gumma cluster



OLMOL stadium of Gudanggorjang model village which ensures better participation of the youth in integral community development.



NADEP model compost preparation at Dimiripankal model village

Quote of the Month

Abuse is not only physically. You can abuse someone emotionally and verbally. There is no abuse that is big or small, most important or less important, most serious or less serious, because every abuse is wrong and must stop."

— De philosopher DJ Kyos

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