

## President's Message

### Dear friends and well wishers of PREM,

We are presenting our E-news, volume 24 with a lot of information from the field and on training programs held by different projects of ours.

PREM has initiated and demonstrated to the Government of Odisha and to the central government, especially, the Women and Child development department that Mother Tongue Based Multi-Lingual Education (MTMLE), was the best approach to Early Childhood Education of the Children from the indigenous communities. An act to this effect has been passed in 2012 in Odisha, and in 2013, in the center. All the same, no major steps have been taken as yet for its implementation excepting the identification of some tribal dialects and preparation of guide books in some states of India. Odisha has, with PREM's support, conducted training for 7000 Anganwadi workers and 400 supervisors. Since there is no proper mechanism of monitoring and MIS in place, one cannot know anything about the impact of MTMLE. This necessitates a collaborative effort between the WCD department and the voluntary agencies involved in education program in tribal areas. If it does not happen so, the plight of MTMLE will be the same as that of Panchayat Extension to Schedule Area (PESA), which had been passed on 24<sup>th</sup> of December, 1996; No state has implemented the act until today in letter and spirit. The status calls for an ardent advocacy and lobby of the indigenous people of India for effective implementation of these Acts.

The involvement of communities and Panchayati Raj Institutions is crucial for the implementation of the approved policy considering MTMLE throughout the country. It is for these people, who are the primary stakeholders that the matter is more important rather than for the government officials and policy makers. Hence tribal organisations along with the Civil Society Organisations and media will have to take up advocacy measures much more ardently than now.

*We wish you a Merry Christmas  
and a prosperous New Year  
2018!*

*May you stand up for your own rights  
in the **New Year** and also the rights of  
fellow human beings, may nothing  
stop you from championing a cause  
that you hold close to your heart.*



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

With all best wishes and regards to all.

Jacob Thundyil  
President, PREM

## Highlight of the Month

### Computer based Adult literacy program

With the objective of enhancing the learning, reading, writing and cognitive skills of adults from the most marginalized communities and to promote functional literacy of adults, women in particular, PREM in collaboration with Development Focus-TCS started the computer Based Adult Literacy Program from July 2017 in 50 villages in Daringbadi block of Kandhamal district.

The program will lead to higher self-esteem and self-confidence enabling them to engage in economic activities. Improved functional literacy will directly impact on people's ability to understand their rights, and claim their entitlements, enabling them to be able to influence Govt. policies that affect them.

In view of the desirability to align program initiation/Literacy



Modules to the NIOS exams scheduled in the months of March and August. Initial preparatory activities included selection of Supervisors; selection of the facilitators in the project villages.

A community based organization called 'Adult Literacy (AL) group' has been formed at the beginning of the project period. This AL group will play a very critical role in the selection of the facilitators from the village, provision of a venue for the conduct of classes and with active involvement and support throughout the program.



*Project initiation meeting of Adult literacy program in presence of Managing Trusty of Development Focus and President, PREM*

### The program rollout and scheduling strategy are

- Each project village (of approx. 150 Learners) will have 8 batches of approx. 20 Learners each
- At any given time in a village, 2 batches of training will be taken up. Each of these 2 batches will have 5 classes of 1- 2 hours duration each in a week (20 + hours/month)- a weekend off.
- A module of 45 sessions will take approximately 9 weeks to complete
- Each village will have one Trainer/Facilitator
- Each village will have Adult Literacy group and Learners club will be formed gradually to enable the continuous learning and help the slow learners.



## PREM Program Activities

### Adolescent Health Day celebration

Adolescent Health day program organized by PREM in the month of Oct 2017 at different Panchayats of Rangeilunda and Sankhemundi Block of Ganjam District under Biju Kanya Ratna Yojana (BKR) programme. All the adolescent girls who are the drop outs and school going from the age group of 10-19 were present. During, the camp general health checkup, hemoglobin test and weight measurement

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and oriented on health nutrition and hygienic conducted by the doctors from MKCG Medical College, Berhampur.

### ***Self-Defence training for adolescent girls***

A ten days' residential training camp held on self-defence from 21st to 30th October, 2017 at PREM Conference Hall Mandiapalli. Total 30 adolescent girls from Rangeilunda and Sankhemundi Block of Ganjam District participated in the training. Two trained lady resource persons from Utkal Karate School, Bhubaneswar, imparted the training in an environment of curiosity and joyfulness. The trainers highlighted courage, strength and martial art/self defence tactics as the core attributes of self-defence. The agenda



included exercises to make hands free, warm up exercises and practice of techniques for different modes of attacks and defense. The enthusiasm and passion for learning among the trainees knew no bound and

they without difficulty took hold of as many as 30 techniques of defense at one go within the period. The girls maintained discipline and practiced the tactics meticulously. The training kept the girls fairly equipped with the tactics of confrontation and self-defence.



*The adolescent girls are receiving self defence training*

### ***Training of ASHA workers***

The Bal Vikash project conducted a two days long training for 22 ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activists) on the 22nd and the 23rd of September, 2017 at PREM's Training and Resource Center situated in Dandimaha village. The Chief medical officers of the local Community Health Center imparted the training. The new systems and services that have been provisioned in the health centers and the procedures for realization of the same were dealt with in detail. The doctor advised the ASHA to be sacrificial in spirit and deliver the required services and benefits to the target segments of the society, especially women, adolescent girls and children. The training was quite enlightening to the ASH Activists.

### ***Training on Gender Training module***

It being a field tested, replicable and down-to-earth methodology of the module, the management wanted a training to be conducted for the program persons of PREM. That is how a training was held on the 9th and 10th of September, 2017, at the Training and Resource Centre of PREM. The module experimented, field tested and found successful by Maria, a Spanish lady, in Haiti, Pakistan and Philippines, was shared in detail on both the days. 18 program staff attended the program. The training adopted various methodologies like group work, analysis of case stories, gender related languages/proverbs, work routines of men and women etc to bring home the points to the participants. The training was highly participatory and analytical.



## ***Base line survey***

Base line survey for 5000 nos of households is going on in Gajapati and Puri districts of Odisha. 5000 nos of base line survey formats have been printed and distributed to 27 nos of community resource persons followed with field testing and hands on experience. The project PREMA central team visited the selected villages and conducted village meetings together with the local and district coordinators. Collection of baseline information by the community resource persons and validation by the local coordinators is going on simultaneously. After validation the survey formats will be submitted at central office at Mandiapalli for computerization and upload into Axis Bank website. In the current quarter 1800 nos of households are covered under base line survey.

## ***'Grihini' Life Style Management Training***

Soon after completion of Base line survey a screening process for beneficiary selection will be done in the identified villages of Gajapati and Puri districts. There are 600 nos, of selected Grihini women successfully completed their income generation training focusing on the importance of practical aspects in dealing with social issues in the curriculum during this quarter. The trainees belong to Mohana, Nuagada and Gumma



blocks of Gajapati District and Krushnaprasad and Bramhagiri blocks of Puri district. This is also a women empowerment process especially in the areas of economic, social and creating a model village. The Community Resource Persons also involving PRI members, ICDS workers and School teachers as resource persons during the training sessions. After completion of the training by the Community Resource Persons, the trainees are following up the social plan of action prepared during the training.

Review meetings for the CRP and district coordinators were organized across the two operational districts (Gajapati and Puri) of project PREMA. Hand holding support on different technical aspects to all the trainees given by the Community Resource Persons during the period. 32 nos of Self Help Groups newly formed by the Community Resource Persons in the Gajapati and Puri districts during the period.

## ***State steering committee meeting***

A meeting of the state steering committee was held on the 29th of July, 2017 at the 'National Training & Resource Center', MTMLE, PREM. The national convener, CM CJ, the national coordinator, CM CJ, Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President PREM, the current convener of the Odisha state chapter, 8 senior members of CM CJ from Koraput, 4 from Gajapati and Kandhamal districts and Valerian D'Lima, the facilitator were present for the meeting. The key agenda for the meeting was to evolve and make commitment for smooth functioning of the state chapter, prompt reporting adherence, possible ways to strengthen or create a pleasant working atmosphere of course all of these in the best interest of children. There were discussions around the rejuvenation of CM CJ in Odisha and targets were set for membership in different districts. It was decided that membership would be raised from 5 districts, namely, Koraput, Raigada, Ganjam, Kandhamal and Gajapati. Mr. Jeeban Sisa continued to be the state coordinator to look after two districts- Koraput and Raigada. Ms. Rutani Gamanga was selected as additional state coordinator for the other three districts. 3500 membership is the target. The membership fees is Rs.10/-. A sub-account is to be opened at Berhampur and it would be operated by a steering committee member, Mr. Basudev and Ms. Rutani, the new coordinator. PREM, as the only partner of KNH in the state, would continue to be the convener of the Odisha chapter.

## **Introductory Meeting of children on CMCJ**

A meeting was held at National Resource and Training Center of PREM, Mandiapalli for young boys and girls from Berhampur city on the 15th of August, 2017. Two young ladies and 5 young men from different colleges in and around Berhampur participated in the program. Mr. Valerian D'Lima, Project Manager, Balvikash Project and Dilip Kumar Panda, Advocacy coordinator, were present for the program.

Refreshment after flag hoisting, the session started. There was self introduction and Mr. Valerian educated the children on the four baskets of rights, namely, right to survival, development, protection and participation. The four rights were elaborated with appropriate examples. The child protection issues were thrashed from various angles. This was linked to the climatic issues the children are exposed to and at stake of. Factors accounting for air pollution, denudation of forests and environmental degradation and ecological deterioration were dwelt upon in detail. There was elaboration on the genesis as a youth club in 2008 in Madurai, Tamilnadu and gradually growing into the present structure of CMCJ with a registration certificate under the Tamilnadu society's act. Creating congenial environment for a happy and healthy life of children and their development was highlighted as the objective in the main. There would be activities for mitigation, adaptation and advocacy towards this end. That children between 13 and 18 years of age would be members of junior cadres and those between 18+ and 25, those of senior ones was explained as one of the eligibility criteria for membership in the movement and that one needs to pay a token fee of Rs10/- yearly for membership added. Issues of child marriage and girl child trafficking were dwelt in detail and the importance of plantation of trees, stressed upon. The children were asked whether they wanted to be members of CMCJ. The response was pretty positive. The seven young people were very active and they promised each one getting ten members at least additionally by the end of September, 2017.

## **Notes from field**

### **Sponsor visit**

Ms. Herold Ursula Maria, Sponsor from Germany visited to PREM office and its operation area during 22nd to 29th October 2017. The purpose of the visit was to visit as a sponsor to its operational areas of Gajapati district. She reached Gopalpur on 21st October 2017 and on 22nd October she visited PREM office and met with President, PREM and had a small meeting. From 23rd October to 28th October 2017 she visited villages like Gudanggorjang, Tanguda, Angada, Padsagorjang, Kidasing of Gumma block and Ludru village of Mohana block. After her visit she was very happy and expressed her gratittude to PREM for successful implementation of the programs.



*Ms. Herold Ursula Maria during her visit to Gudang goorjang village*

### **Tuition teachers training**



There was a training organized for the facilitators of 20 tuition centers supported and run by the Bal Vikash project. It was a two days event held on the 29th and 30th of July, 2017 at PREM's training and resource center, Dandimaha. 2 Resource persons from Zenith, an education agency, based at Berhampur, imparted the training. Child friendly methodology and class room transaction were the main themes dealt with. The tutors obtained special easy techniques of teaching mathematics, science and English. The modified syllabus and the



pedagogy appropriate to current situation too became the subjects of discussion. The participants of the training expressed to have learnt much and new things from the training.

### ***Observation of World hand washing day***

The **hand washing day** was observed on the 15th of October, 2017 with much pump and pleasure at PREM's Training and Resource center, Dandimaha, Daringbadi. 128 children and ECE teachers attended the program. The special topic of the year was "My hand and my future". The discussion went around the significance of hand, the



ways hand is used, reasons why hands are to be washed, on which occasions hands should be washed. The diseases caused by negligence in hygienic care of one's body were dealt in detail. There was a demonstration of how one's hands need to be washed. Children themselves practiced how to do the washing.



### ***Visit program of CDPO, Banspal block***

On 19th August 2017 the CDPO, Banspal Block visited the ICDS centre, Talachampey along with ICDS Supervisor of respective area. She visited the centre during classroom transaction in presence of Project Manager and MPW of PREM. During her visit she interacted with children and AWW and additional teacher. The children also performed action song in front her which made her very happy. She also discussed with the program staff of PREM and their roles and responsibilities. She also suggested some points which need to be improved and practiced.



### ***Meeting of children on CMCJ***



A meeting of 40 children was held at Daringbadi training center on the 14th of October, 2017. It was on CMCJ that the meeting was held at a greater length. Global warming and its impacts were dealt in detail. CMCJ, its genesis, structure, its objectives, activities, membership criteria and fees were thrashed to every body's understanding and conviction. The children, to the end of the training, took an oath to spread the message, form children's clubs, plant trees in the backyards and common lands.

## **Case study**

### ***A mother teaches her child after getting opportunity to learn***

***"I am very happy that I can read and write now, which is a miracle for my life in the age of 47 years."*** Says Sanjukta Nayak (Learners of CBAL Program) of village Bhramarbadi

Sanjukta Nayak, aged about 47 years of village Bhramarbadi of Daringbadi block, Kandhamal is one of the best learners of the 1st quarter, who has successfully completed the three months course through Computer Based Adult Literacy Program(CBALP) of PREM-DF. She was illiterate and unable to write even her name. She got the opportunity of learning through CBAL program which is the turning point of her life. Now she is able to read and write. She is practicing reading books and writing at home. She is very much happy that now she is teaching her children and supporting them in their studies. The children are very happy that their mother is able to support them in their studies and they are enthusiastically sits with their mother at home regularly.



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 ବୟସ - ୪୭  
 ଗ୍ରାମ - ଭରମାରବାଡ଼ି  
 ବ୍ଲକ - ଦାରିଙ୍ଗବାଡ଼ି  
 CBALP ଉପରେ ୩ ମାସ ଶୁଭ ଚର୍ଚ୍ଚା ଠାରେ  
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 ଦେବାରେ ସକ୍ଷମ ହୋଇପାରିଛନ୍ତି ।

*Sanjukta is busy in teaching her child*

Sanjukta Nayak expressed her gratitude to PREM-DF for unbelievable change in her life.

## Photo Gallery

<p><b><i>Distribution of Laptops &amp; Projector under Computer based Adult Literacy Program</i></b></p>	<p><b><i>Self Defence training under BKRY project</i></b></p>
<p><b><i>Health camp under BKRY project</i></b></p>	<p><b><i>Orientation on home based care to the mothers</i></b></p>





*Mosquito net distribution to the Juanga tribal people*



*Distribution of Study Materials to the learners*



*Home Visit by the Supervisors & Facilitator*



*VHND (Village Health Nutrition Day) Program*



*Visit of TCS Volunteers to the Project Areas*



*Sponsorship refresher training*





*Training for the Field Supervisors under Computer based Adult Literacy Program*



*Kitchen garden at project operational area*

## Quote of the Month

*“Once you learn to read, you will be forever free”*

*--Frederick Douglass  
Author, Editor , February 20, 1895 (aged 77)*

### **PREM E-NEWS**

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