



People's Rural Education
Movement

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President's Message

My dear friends and well-wishers,

We wish you all success in this year, whatever activities for the people we undertake, we expect 2021 will bring a good atmosphere and healthy environment and good health for each and every one of us. We are hearing from different states and also from Odisha that 2nd wave of corona is coming back. We have to be very careful in our day to day life. It is very important to use the mask all the time and also keep distance while meeting with other people. It is also very important that we have to make this opportunity to receive the vaccine provided by Govt.

I am very sorry to say, some of our good friends and colleagues became the victims of corona and they departed from us. We can only pray for them and their families.

I specially remember this time Mr. Selwin Mukkhat, who was the in charge of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, Save the Children Fund (SCF), UK, he is no more and died on 9th March 2021. Due to the corona situation we were not able to attend his funeral.

Let us take maximum care and protection to face the situation. I am also happy to say almost all the tribal communities in Odisha where we work are safe. They strictly follow the key COVID guideline of the Govt. I also take this opportunity to thank different agencies who supported us to support the people through relief, supply of mask and sanitizer etc. Azim Prem ji Foundation, Reliance Foundation and some agencies and friends from Taiwan and USA supported us.

I wish all good luck and God's blessings for each and every one of us and our near and dear ones

Dr. Jacob Thundyil,

President, PREM

Highlight of the volume

A step towards reducing child marriage

PREM has started working with Educo, India, a Spanish funding agency, on reducing child marriage in Kandhamal district from 1st February 2021. It is a one year project which aspires to reduce the prevalence of child marriage in 7 Gram Panchayats of Kandhamal district of Odisha through empowering adolescents and the youth and creating a responsive and efficient child protection system.



The project attempts to achieve the following:

1. *The Empowered children and adolescents will access justice and protect girls from being forced into child marriage.*
2. *Children and Adolescents will continue their education till 12th Standard.*
3. *Sensitized and active local institutions will create protective environment to reduce Child Marriage.*
4. *Responsive system will enforce the prohibition of child marriage act to reduce child marriage.*

Following are the key activities conducted in this period.

Staff recruitment process

On 12th and 13th February 2021 the central team of PREM consisting of Program person, HR team organized a staff recruitment interview at project office Dandiamah, Daringbadi for the post of block level worker, cluster level worker and community mobiliser for reducing child marriage of PREM-Educo project. For these posts 95 applicants applied and 63



Staff recruitment process at project office, Dandiamah

candidates were shortlisted. The recruitment process consisted of with written test, interview and certificate verification. All the questionnaires of both the pattern were based on child marriage, child right, lobby and advocacy, liasioning with govt. department. The selected candidates were informed regarding their job confirmation by 16th February 2021. A total of 19 community mobilisers, 2 cluster coordinators and one block coordinators were appointed for this project.

Staff induction training

There was a need for orientation and induction for the newly appointed staff under Educo project For this felt need an induction training was organized for 2 days i.e 22nd and 23rd February 2021. The main



objectives of the training program were to orient the staff members about the PREM and Educo, about the project, their roles and responsibilities, leadership, process of community mobilization and process of conducting meeting. During the 2 days all these topics were covered through various methods such as

lecture, group discussion and presentation, role play , game etc. the two days training was very live and effective for the participants.

Capacity building training for the project team

To build the capacity of the newly appointed Educo project team on Child Rights, Child Marriage Prohibition Act & Preparation of Detailed Implementation Plan of the project a four days capacity building training program was organized at Mandiapalli training and resource centre from 1st March to 4th March 2021. The participants included 19 community mobilisers, 2 cluster coordinators and one block coordinator. The training was imparted and facilitated

by the Training Coordinator and the Project Manager of the project. The session was inaugurated by Dr. Jacob Thundyil,

President, PREM with an encouraging keynote address. The four days training program covered different topics like child & their rights, the child right relates laws/Acts, a brief about United Nations



Convention on Child rights (UNCRC), types of child abuses, present issues of the children with regards to their rights in our operational area, different measures are to be taken to address the issues of the children, gender, difference between sex and gender, gender discrimination, reasons for gender inequality, step to be taken at community level to stop gender discrimination, child care and protection,

children's cares & protection related laws/Acts, a brief about JJ Act 2015, present child care and protection issues in our operational area, child care protection mechanism at present at different level, steps to be taken to provide healthy and safe environment to the children at the community level, child marriage, causes of child marriage, consequences of child marriage, different stakeholders and their role to provide care and protection to the child, Child Marriage Prohibition Act and Strategic plan of Govt. of Odisha to stop child marriage. Mr. Sarat Maharana Project Officer, Institutional Care from District Child Protection Unit, Chhatrapur, Ganjam was the resource person in the first day and he enhanced the knowledge of the participants regarding different laws and acts related to child right, child protection, child marriage, child labour etc.



Capacity building training for the project team at Training centre, Mandiapalli



Through virtual meeting the team from Educo office interacted with the participants and presented Child Safeguarding Policy of Educo and explained in very simplify methods which was very easy for the participants to understand. The central Educo team presented the project objectives, activities, results, roles and responsibilities of all staff (community mobilisers, cluster level workers and block level worker). Mr. Ashish Nagori from Educo took one and



Virtual meeting conducted with Educo team

half day session to plan out the detailed project

implementation plan through virtual meeting. In this session participants presented the detailed project implementation plan through group presentation. After the presentation Mr. Ashish gave his feedback with suggestions which were included in the final report. This implantation plan is very helpful for the project team to plan and implement the project activities in a productive way. The four days training was very effective and helpful for the team. This will help them to implement the assigned project activities in a very qualitative way.



PREM Program Activities

Shishu Sampark Yatra

Odisha State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (OSCPCR) visualising the imperative need of connecting the children, their parents and the larger communities in the post COVID period



Shishu Sampark Ratha (Chariot) was crafted with Flex, Posters on girl children's issues, Songs and audio messages on children

communicated to Child Welfare Committees (CWC) of districts to organise Sishu Sampark Yatra in collaboration with District Child Protection Unit, Childline, SAKHI and Women & Girl friendly GP project and with the financial support from DCPU, Dhenkanal, PREM and UNFPA, Bhubaneswar. The

purpose was to reach out to children and their families to understand the situation, provide necessary counseling & handholding support and to strengthen

the care and protection mechanisms. Subsequently the plan of action was appraised to the Collector & District Magistrate and with his approval the activities of - building awareness on issues related to

child marriage, sex selective abortion and gender based violence on girls, interaction with PRI members, SHG members, and community at large, distribution of leaflets and information on the available support services. This activity was carried out during 20th to 26th January, 2021 in Hindol, Parjang and Kankadahad blocks and on the eve of Republic Day at district Head Quarter Pared Ground. A Sishu Sampark Ratha (Chariot) was crafted with Flex, Posters on girl children's issues, Songs and audio messages on children. Through a mobile van decorated with posters, audios and visuals has reached more than ten thousand population of the area with its message creating awareness. The school children, SHG members, PRI members, DCPU unit, CWC and other Govt. functionaries took part as message disseminators en route of its journey.



Sponsorship program

Sponsorship is one of the key activities of PREM. The project team remained busy with the sponsorship and communication activities during this period and the central team remained occupied



with the Annual Child Report, it's the formation and fine-tuning. The Community Facilitators got deployed in taking photos of the Sponsored children, collecting necessary information and data regarding their progress, family's development, current problems etc. The striking information obtained was pertaining to the education of children, that got hampered owing to the lock down and

shut down imposed during the year due to COVID 19 pandemic. The online education system introduced has very little to do with the rural children without smart phone and network. The communities reported to have been resilient and were able to manage the financial crisis during the pandemic period owing to the SHGs' savings and credit movement that had created some property and assets in families and communities. However, the restrictions have undone most of the developments.

Review cum reorientation program

Under PREM-UNFPA project a two days review cum reorientation program for the cluster coordinators was organized at Mandiapalli training and resource centre from 25th to 26th March 2021. The main objectives of the meeting were to review the progress of last year activities and prepare an action plan for 2021, to discuss the issues of the district and field with corrective

measures, reorientation on Maternal Health and Adolescent Health. The State Coordinator, District level consultants, Cluster Coordinators were present in the meeting. The main topics covered in this two days were review of the project, key achievements and challenges of 2020 with discussion on plan of action for 2021, convergence with school health program, LSE, Experience sharing from CLCs- weekly



Review cum reorientation program organised for the cluster coordinators

work plans, Involvement in different programs, What are the initiatives taken for improving the information, attendance and service uptake in VHNDs, their role in adolescent health program, prevention of child marriage, inclusion of adolescents in skill training, Maternal Health Programs, Issues related to MH both in the community and in the outreach programs, Adolescent Health Programs, Issues related to AH both in the community and in outreach programs

Gender based issues, Programs for Women and Girls (Focus on Programs from WCD like Advika,



Child marriage free village campaign etc), Role of Cluster Coordinator. Action Plan and Way Forward (Working with Communities focusing on community challenges, engaging the family in improving maternal and adolescent health, involvement in WCD and Health meetings in the field etc). The program was very interactive and participatory. Different methods were there for clear understanding for the participants.

At the end of day 2, the program was successfully completed and the Cluster Coordinators got oriented to different themes as per the agenda.

National level Capacity Building Training for the Community Facilitators

There was a 5 days' training conducted by the National Office, SHA (KNH) India, at Hotel Olive, Kolkata for the Community Facilitators and project coordinators from SHA projects spread over the country. Almost 50 participants were present for the program. The Asiatic coordinator, SHA(Self help Approach) the National coordinator and his assistants imparted the training. The various aspects of Cluster level Associations of SHGs like the meaning and definition of CLA, its structure, functions, its goals



and sustainability were discussed. There was a market study done for two days and elaborate discussion held on the market, the demand and supply aspects, kinds of consumers and suppliers, entrepreneurial spirit, marketing techniques and value chains and so on in greater details. All the participants had reflection on the dream/ideal villages, the features, challenges, responsibilities /roles



of CFs and PCs and the CLAs in groups and the roles were recapitulated as OATH-organisation, Assistance, Training/ capacity building and Handing over. The aspects of sustainability were dealt with followed by the Child Rights Situational Analysis and Reporting. Multifarious games and de-freezing activities were conducted to

create a joyful and congenial environment for learning and open sharing, free and unflinching expressions devoid of fear and hesitation for sharpening one's learning process. The accommodation, food and programs were excellent to every body's satisfaction and pleasure.

Capacity Development training- Bridge IT project

To enhance the capacity and entrepreneurial skills of the entrepreneurs and to build capacity on the importance of Business Capital and Stock Management virtual trainings were conducted by Resource person from Development Focus in this period. through this training entrepreneurs received knowledge on basic business skills and book keeping, income, expenses, profit, monthly and half yearly targets setting, looking for market opportunities, maintaining customer register, process of searching business oppoortunities in the village, process of managing stocks in the shop, especially for offline items. All enterprenuers are regularly attending team



meetings in their respective clusters and they conducted Livlihood Committe meeting for their respective villages and the feedback of the community was very positive. "Now all entrepreneurs are providing different online and offline services to the community i.e Banking Services, Pancard Apply, Tahasil Certificates, DTH recharge and Mobile Recharge, Job Applications, DTP, Driving Licence and



Passport Photo etc.

They are also learning from each other and sharing their experinces. Team Meetings also held in each enterprenuer's shop (on a rotation basis) and this has given the enterprenurs an opportunity to see what the other entrepreneursares doing, and to interact with their

families. Visiting entrepreneur's shops has enabled the entrepreneurs to help their fellow weaker

entrepreneurs with small loans. The Cluster Leads are also very committed in helping their entrepreneurs.

Observation of National Girl Child Week

On the 24th of January 2021, a nationwide observation of **National Girl Child Day** was done in the country to raise awareness about the rights of the child and importance of their education, health and nutrition. The year 2021 marks 13th National Girl Child Day. All of the sectors and Govt. departments were instructed to observe this day with different activities and programs. The W&CD department in Odisha specifically directed all the district administrations to



design a week's plan to observe the National Girl Child Day as National Girl Child Week throughout the state. There were different messages/themes to be included in this observation. Based on this guideline in Gajapati district the ICDS & DCPU departments took active interest and organized different programs at different levels. All the CDPOs were instructed to conduct the week in their respective project areas with specific plans and activities to help adolescent girls to participate in this program and also learn from it.



Observation of National Girl Child Week

The events show a huge turn out of adolescents and participants from various groups in the project areas and venues. Below is an account of all the activities conducted during the week i.e. from 24th to the 31st of January 2021.

- All the project areas under the CDPOs organized different activities such as Rangolee, Dance, Drama, Speech Competition etc. The participants had practised for the same before and performed on the day of the observation. The winners were given different prizes as per their merit.
- Some of the project areas organized a village/community level meetings and discussions on Adolescent empowerment, Child Marriage, Sexual abuse/violence etc. The community members also took oath to stop any child rights violation in their locality including child marriage and child labour.
- Many of the staff from the district administration participated in various programs and activities across the district. They distributed prizes, gifts and appreciated the theme of the day and interacted with the adolescent girls/women who were present in the meetings/events.
- The observation of the National Girl Child Day was carried out for a whole week in the district at various project areas. The activities were well-designed and conducted with the help and support of supervisors and AWWs etc. More than 5000 adolescent girls/women have participated through out the district in the National Girl Child Day observation program week.
- Particular emphasize were given to topics such as child marriage and adolescent empowerment. Drop out girls would be tracked and brought back to school and helped with various other schemes. Oaths were taken in the events and meetings to End Child Marriage in the district and make it a child marriage free district.

This program created awareness on the importance and purpose of the National Girl Child Day. It was also clearly understood that both boys and girls are equally important for society's welfare. Even though Girl children are creating great impacts on the country's growth and economy.

Notes from field

Manual Grafting of Cabbage cultivation

Under Give India Foundation project the team visited to a vegetable garden of Ms Sanju Sabar of Jamadhia village of Mohana Block, Gajapati District in the month of December 2020 where cabbage was cultivated in half acre of land. The team suggested to the farmers to follow the manual grafting process soon after the first harvesting. New branches will come out from the root stock for which the farmers need to take care of. In the next visit during February



2021 the team revisited the same vegetable garden and found there were three to four branches emerged at the side of the root stock. Through this process the farmers can get two crops instead of one. Now the farmers will get maximum yield by the manual grafting process. The team suggested the farmers to disseminate the practices to other fellow farmers of their village. The farmers can save their time and labor by adopting such technique in vegetable cultivation.



During the month of February 2021, Gangadevi SHG group received an amount of Rs 1,00,000 from Canara Bank, Sinkulipodar for the purpose of vegetable cultivation in the village Jamadhia of Mohana Block, Gajapati District.

Model Goat shed

The model goat sheds have been constructed in different villages by the farmers to protect the animals from diseases, wild animals and decrease mortality rate. The goat sheds were built with locally available materials and it is very easy to design and it does not require any heavy maintenance. The structure is made with combination of different locally available materials like bamboo and wood pieces and the roof structure made of iron



Model Goat shed at Chhatabori Village of Mohana Block, Gajapati District

sheet. Advantage of the model is to clean the goat drop very easily and it reduced the risk of diseases.

Monthly review meetings of the CLAs

As reported earlier, there evolved 4 Cluster Level Associations in the course of the Self Help process over the last 5 years, namely, Pragati CLA (Partamaha), Pradasika CLA (Sangudumaa), shaktimayee CLA (Sujamaju) and Adarsh CLA (Kilabadi). The Community Facilitators of the project conducted, as usual, the **monthly review** meetings of all these CLAs and facilitated them to make an assessment of their progress and difficulties. Following the submission of the monthly contributions by the member SHGs the discussion on the repayment of the loans taken by different members for varied livelihood activities stepped in



as the main point to be thrashed for long. A little more time was devoted to see if there was progress made along the activities financed for. The livelihood activities undertaken by the members were reported to be somehow going on well although the CORONA Virus stood as a stumbling block. Member SHGs were instructed to monitor the livelihood activities undertaken by their respective members and to make the savings and credit products regular.

CLA leaders asked the members to keep on educating people on the pandemic COVID-19 and take all precautionary measures going by the anti-CORONA Virus norms and practices prescribed.

Interaction and linkages with Government Departments

PREM interacted with officials of various Govt. line departments and organized several livelihood programs in collaboration with them. To educate the people, the project invites a number of experts and extension officers in the field of agriculture, horticulture, ITDA, Soura Development Agency, Forestry and OPELIP. The community resource person and field coordinators are continuing their efforts for tapping the schemes and benefits of both state and central Government. During the reporting period the following women Groups have been benefited on various livelihood promotion activities.

SL#	Name of the Village	Name of the SHG/Household	Support received
1	Chhatabori	Maa Mangala SHG	Rs 1,00,000 from Bank for vegetable cultivation
2	Jamadhia	Gangadevi SHG	Rs 1,00,000 from Bank for vegetable cultivation
3	Guburiguda	40 households of the village	From Horticulture Dept. Lemon grass Seedlings received by families.
4	Raipur	Maa Bankeswari SHG	From OLM for Poultry farming.
5	Mahakupa	20 households of the village	From Horticulture Dept. 3000 cashew seedlings received by 20 families.
6	Sirisapada	6 households of the village	From Horticulture Dept. 900 cashew seedlings received by 6 families.
7	Sikulipadar	60 nos of SHG members	From OLM for developing nutri-garden
8	Deraba	50 households of the village	From Horticulture Dept. 5000 cashew seedlings received by 50 families.
9	Tentulikhunty	39 households of the village	39 Households received seeds for kitchen garden from OPELIP.
10	Kaliapata	28 households of the village	28 organic manure packets received from District Agriculture Department.

Success story

Model village

Hidikama village under Adava Gram Panchyat of Mohana Block in Gajapati District, Odisha State, India is a small tribal habitat of 20 households. It is situated in a remote location, three kms from the



GramPanchyat office at Adava, 14 kms from Block Headquarter Mohana and 125 kms from District Headquarters Pralakhemundi. Nearest community health centre and veterinary hospitals are situated at Mohana. Out of total population of 103 villagers, 49 are male and 54 are female.



Hidikama, the model village promoted by PREM

Origin of the village dates back to 1984. People's Rural Education Movement (PREM) started rural development activities at 15 villages in and around Mohana from 1982. Five migrant families from



Rayagada district travelled 70 kilometres to reach Mohana in search of land for agriculture. They approached the functionaries of the voluntary organisation to help them in setting up a new village by convincing the local population who were objecting to their move. PREM agreed to intervene into the matter and reminding the tribal culture of caring and sharing pursued the people of two of its program villages to allow the migrants to live in their geography as neighbours.

PREM extended support to the villagers of Hidikima from the very beginning of the new settlement. PREM has provided one adult education teacher and one lady health worker to this village to provide service and these two people motivated to the villagers to take different development works in the village. The organisation helped them to adapt to horticulture activities by planting cashew, mango, banana orchards. In due course



of time the villagers not only managed a constant source of income, but with enactment of Forest Rights Act by government could achieve ownership of 100 acres of the cultivated forest land. Thus



this village turned to be a village of economically high net worth individuals within three decade.

Improved lifestyle of the villagers of Hidikima attracts the attention of the neighbours in the region. All the families in the village have their own toilets which they are using regularly and they have smokeless kitchen in the houses. There are three open wells and three tube wells in the village that

enables supply of safe drinking water to every household. Use of toilets makes the environment open defecation free. Practice of institutional delivery and immunization of pregnant women and children contribute towards better public health indicators.

All the families of the village traditionally depend on agriculture and horticulture for livelihood. They have adopted organic farming methods. They have also started rearing goatery and backyard poultry which supplements their income. One of the unique features of farming in Hidikima is the adoption of 'Entra' work culture, in which the entire farm labour of the village concentrate in an individual farmland at a time to make it suitable for farming or harvesting. The process helps in timely completion of agricultural activities for everyone and cost saving that ultimately contributes towards better profits.



They have a Self Help Group called Priyanka Self Help Group where one female member from each of the families in the village is a member of that. They are encouraged to adopt business plans by the development activists who also offer household support. The SHG members have procured a leaf



plate making machine and contribute labour for leaf plate making. They also market cash crops such as ginger, turmeric, tamarind, vegetable and fruits. This village also achieved 100% food security.

All the children of Hidikima regularly attend Anganwadi centers and schools. While there are 16 students admitted to primary school, one is studying in secondary, two are studying in college and four are studying professional courses. It includes two students in M.B.B.S and four students in B.Sc. Nursing course. One young man has completed Ph.D and teaching in a college. Ms. Sabita Sabara has completed MBBS and now working at Apollo Hospital, Bhubaneswar as a Doctor. Now all the villagers are happy after seeing their children with different profession. There

are no dropout students in the village. Importance given to girl child's education resulted in the end of the child marriage tradition.

In one of the remarkable features of Hidikima eight villagers are employed in Government and private sector. In Government job there are one Anganwadi worker, one ASHA worker, one female and two males members are serving as Hostel Wardens and one male have joined Police services. In private sector one male is working as agriculture demonstrator who has completed training on advance agriculture and organic farming from Kerala Agriculture University with the



support of PREM and Axis Bank Foundation and another male of this village is Krushak Sathi.

The villagers have taken initiatives to avail various facilities offered through government schemes. Job cards under guaranteed employment scheme have been sanctioned for 20 individuals representing equal number of households. A total number of 11 individuals availed social welfare pension which include nine old age pension, one widow and one disabled pension.

The villagers are taking active participation in the democratic governance process. They attend Palli Sabha and Gram Sabha meetings regularly. In recent past Mrs. Kesani Gomango was elected as the Sarapancha of Adava Gram Panchyat, Mrs Arpa Sabar as Ward Member and Mr. Lazar Gomango as Samiti Member.

Hidikima is a litigation free village and people themselves have imposed prohibition of alcohol and other tobacco products. There are no instances of negative migration from the village during recent past.

NRTC Highlights

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 ideas 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



The model village, Gudang Gorjang of Gumma block was recognised as the best GKS village of the block for the year 2020-21 by The District Collector, Gajapati and awarded with Rs. 10,000/-. The award was received by the village representatives of the village. This is also a great achievement of PREM.



Celebration of International womens day at Ragidi at GP office by the entrepreneurs and youth groups in presence of the Sarpanch of the GP. The team interacted with TCS team virtually about the importance of International Women's Day

Narayan Sabar and Aso Sabar entrepreneurs of Mohana Cluster are busy in the business.



Village meeting organised at Mandobadi village of Daringbadi block under PREM-Educo project



Adwika meeting organised at village level at AWC of Mohana block



Meeting with District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) at phulbani regarding reducing child Marriage in Daringbadi block



Community awaness meeting to stop child marriage in Gajapati district



Team meeting at Gumma cluster regarding development of business plan



Village meeting organised at Patrasahi of Sonapur panchayat of Daringbadi block under PREM-Educo project

	
<p><i>Rangoli competition organised for the Adolescence girls on National Girl Child Day</i></p>	<p><i>Village level Child Protection Committee meeting to make Child marriage free village</i></p>
	
<p><i>Organic vegetable kitchen garden developed at Gudang Gorjang model village where small kids participated actively in this process</i></p>	<p><i>Turmeric processing unit has been established at Gudang gorjang model village</i></p>

Quote of the Month

***Avoid child marriage, Prevent Childhood
Stop killing the childhood by child marriage and start educating your children.***

PREM E-NEWS

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