

Project Jharkhand

Mission

To search and resonate Human Excellence, by achieving prosperity of character, increasing efficiency in day to day work, and getting inspired for social welfare through social consciousness.

Values:

"Conviction in the power of goodness."

"Absence of jealousy and suspicion."

"Supporting all who are trying to be and do good."

Background:

A team comprising 5 members visited three villages of Jharkhand in request of "Swami Satyabodhananda of Ramakrishna Mission who urged us to take initiative and under take up the community development programme in these villages of Jharkhand.. Identical problems are observed in all the villages of that region.

Findings revealed that the main requirements of the villagers are (a) revival of education system (b) generation of jobs and (c) providing proper medical facility. The team suggested immediate and prompt action and thus Project Jharkhand started. Survey of one of the villages is given below for a better understanding

Survey report of Tumankocha - a sample village

The village is located within 16 km of Ghatshilla Railway Station. Tumankocha is stretched at both sides to a length of 125mts (approx). The total area is divided into 2 portions; one of them is a high land area and the other is a low land area.

The upper portion is a bit developed due to the initiative of Beersa Awas Yojona. So, we consider the lower land as our potential execution zone. The details of its demographic and other related aspects are furnished in the following paragraphs:

The tribes, BeerHors and Shabars, constitute the populace of the village. Amongst them, Shabars are the majority. As per the records, BeerHors constitute almost 15 families and Shabars almost 23 families in the village. Total Population: According to the villagers the average number of family members in each unit family is 5 (approx). So, the entire population of the village sums up to $((23*5) + (15*5)) = 180$. We consider the number 200 to round up.

The living condition of the entire village needs a lot of attention and requires a substantial uplift.

15-16 years back some "Pakka Makans" (small houses of brick) were built through Indira Awas Yojona. Presently, most of them have turned into debris while some are the gazing ground of snakes.

But, some of the villagers still take shelter in those inhabitable nests.

It is quite clear that usage of 3rd grade raw materials are the root cause behind the poor condition of the houses.

Now, the new building constructions are going on under Beersa Awas Yojona. They have started the constructions in the upper land.

Few well built-decorated-maintained houses are also found in the village. But, the number is not more than 5-6 in the entire village.

EDUCATION

3
The average education level of the village is in a dismal situation. The smartest person of the village is class 3 pass. (We found a girl, who appeared in the metric exam, in the upper land).

3
There is only one school in the vicinity of the village. The local people built the school.

3
Government has provided 2 teachers and introduced the mid-day meal scheme in the school.

3
But, the attendance level is very poor.

3
The education system has to be uplifted on a great scale.

MEDICAL FACILITY

There is no Medical Facility available within the vicinity of the village. The nearest available medical provision is in Pathargora village which is almost 2.5 kms away from Tumankocha. The medical issues are handled by a "Quack" over there.

OCCUPATION

The main occupations of the villagers include: Hired labour, firewood collection, dry leave collection, rope making, etc.

MISC

- I.
Cattle are a prized possession for the villagers.
- II. The available water sources are 2 tube wells and 2 deep wells in the village. One of the tube wells is dead long back.
- III. The nearest market accessible to the villagers is at Musabani (5 kms away from Tumankocha).
- IV. The nearest bus stop is Sidhu-Kanhu College, which is 3-4 km away from the village.
- V. Head of the village is KANHU SHABAR who has never even seen the door of a school!
- VI. The foremost means of entertainment for the villagers are dancing in their traditional festivals and consumption of alcohol.

Infrastructural
Requirement and Remedy:

During our visits at Various Tribal villages, We found that Bharat Sevashram Sangha has got a huge infrastructure at their possession which is immensely suitable and meant to serve the needy villagers.

But, They are suffering from a huge financial crunch, Despite having all the infrastructure ready at hand, they are not able to serve the villagers to the full extent due to the lack of funding needed to run those actions.

They have their medical units shut, the mobile medical vans lying idle and many a facilities are not getting utilized .

The kind of activities we want to undertake, can be well mobilized if we can support to revive the infrastructure retained by Bharat Sevashram Sangha.

Our Long-term goal will be to revive the facilities of Bharat Sevashram Sangha so that the purpose of serving the Tribal classes is well-served with the joint effort of LUCY and Bharat Sevashram Sangha.

Survey report of Bharat Sevashram Sangha

Swami Pranavananda
Centenary Rural Development & Tribal Welfare Project

Barajuri, Ghatshilla.

Location: Barajuri, Ghatshilla, Jharkhand (About 12 Kms. away from Railway station)

District: East Singbhum, Jharkhand, Pin num: 832303, India.

Introduction: When we stepped into the premise of Bharat Sevashram Sangha, Barajuri, we found the boys, wearing their pink shirt, are coming for their evening prayer in a row. In the backdrop was their hostel and the combination of both made the entire scene wonderfully appealing. Then we had a prolonged discussion with the Maharaj of BSS about their ongoing and proposed projects. The relevant issues are discussed in the following paragraphs:

Our discussion more or less covered the following areas—

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Education:

o
Formal Education

o
Residential School

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Medical:

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Running the hospital

o
Mobile Medical Units

o
Medical Camps

o
Proposed Hospital Project

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Other Income generating projects

o
Carpentry Unio Soft Luggage making

.
Handloom

Education

Formal Education

§
There are total 16 Free primary schools that are run under the Swami Pranavananda Centenary Rural Development & Tribal Welfare Project. The total number of students is almost 1500 in the primary schools.

§
A Free Secondary School and one High School (Pranavananda Uchcha Vidyalaya) are also run under the same project.

§
The Free Secondary School supports almost 156 students.

§
All the students in all the schools mentioned above get the day meal, uniforms, Books, shoes absolutely without any cost.

§
All the teachers are from Bharat Sevashram Sangha itself.

§
All the schools are run without any Government support.

The funding is done internally for each and every expenditure.

§
There is no running fund for all these schools

§
These huge projects are functioning without any permanent fund.

Even after this Himalayan efforts, the student attendance in all these schools are not upto the marks.

v
Most of the students do not just come back to the school after the vacation period. Why???? Their parents want to keep the bigger child to take care of the younger one or the student is asked to try his hands in earning bread!!!!

Residential Schools

There are 2 residential schools are run within the BSS premise. One for the Girls and the other for the Boys.

Girls' Residential School:

One Girls' hostel and one Boys' hostel are attached with the schools resp.

The Girls' Hostel can accommodate 120 heads under its roof. Currently, 108 places are occupied (including the housekeeping staffs and residential teachers)

The Girls' school is upto Class 4th.

Boys' Residential School:

The Boys' Hostel can accommodate 100 people. Currently 80 people are staying in the hostel.

The Boys' residential school is up to the 5th standard.

The total number of teacher allotted for the 2 residential schools is 10.

Among the residential students, majority belongs to the SC/ST community. The potential students are collected through the Ashram Health Workers and BSS Maharajas.

The students are picked up from within the 50-60 km radius of Barajuri.

After the students finish their schooling with the residential schools, the main concern becomes to place those students in suitable institutions. Bharat Sevashram Sangha's local High School serves the purpose a bit. But, placing those students properly and encouraging them for further studies are still a matter of deep concern.

Note: Among all the students, Ashram is taking care of 6 orphans who stay in the hostels and studying there.

MEDICAL

The biggest medical infrastructure, which is built by Bharat Sevashram Sangha, of Ghatshilla is suffering stringent financial crunch.

The 60-bed hospital is running with a lot of difficulties.

Among the Outdoor sections, Eye, General health and Dental department is functioning on daily basis.

The maternity ward is non-functioning for a long time (money, money!!!!!!)

The doctors like NR Chatterjee, Sumana Majhi, Gita Baidya, Dr. Seth, Dr. Mondal, Dr.Das, Dr. Banerjee, Dr Partha Dey are among the few who are instrumental to run the various departments of the hospital efficiently.

For The RecordBook: Last year, more than 2500 eye operations were performed in the eye department (Swami Pranavananda Eye Care centre) of the BSS hospital.

The Mobile Medical Units and Medical camps

All the Mobile Medical units are bound to sit idle for quite a long time.

There are total of 4 Mobile Medical Units with BSS

Earlier, the Mobile medical units used to run every alternative day.

Total villages covered with this Mobile Medical Units are more than 50 in numbers.

Everyday, more than 200 villagers were taken care of by a single unit of Mobile medical van.

These Medical units are entirely stopped due to fund deficiency. To run a single Unit, 30 days a month, almost 5 lakhs INR is required per month.

Note: ALL THE MOBILE UNITS ARE COMPLETELY non-functioning NOW.

Meaning, everyday 800 medical cases in the surrounding villages are getting unattended.

It is Time to act really FAST ………

Proposed Hospital Project:

One of the biggest ever Medical project of Ghatshilla has been undertaken by Bharat Sevashram Snagha. The project is yet to be started.

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The proposed site of the project is near Harindukri near Barajuri itself.

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The proposed Hospital has provisions for 210 beds.

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The entire project costs almost 30 Crore INR.

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If the project sees the light of the day, the hospital will be the biggest medical facility available in the entire state of Jharkhand and will be capable of catering to all the medical needs of nearby villages.

Other
Income generating projects

Carpentry Unit:

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The carpentry unit is fully functional

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In this unit, a 9 months course is running.

.
Almost 7-8 students are there in this unit.

The products of this carpentry unit are really wonderful.

Soft Luggage:

The soft luggage section is running good. There is one store of the soft luggage products at Ghatshilla market.

Handloom:

The handloom unit is also functioning.

Programmes Undertaken:

Pre_puja
Assistance

13th October 2007:

We planned to distribute new clothes to the 3 villages, namely Tumankocha, Bhadua and Chhatordanga, near Jharkhand area. We covered around 70 families under this project. The target population for this project is mainly the Shabars and Beer-Hor Tribes who are amongst the most backward of the tribal classes. The support came from various wings was overwhelming.

The distributed items were: Total 70 Sarees, 70 Blouses, 60 Lungis , 60 T-shirts, 60 shirt-pant for young boys and 65 Dresses for young girls.

Additionally, we distributed biscuits in those three villages and sweets to the nearby Tribal Hostel. The main objective of the welfare act was to earn the confidence of the villagers so that we can work for them in future.

Winter Assistance

18th November 2007

As the winter in the Jharkhand area is a real killer, considering the living condition of the villagers, we planned to distribute 2 blankets per family before the winter season.

We planned for three villages in our project. But, one of the villages named Mahish Doba made a surprise entry into our welfare project by mere chance.

A total of 150
Blankets were distributed in those four villages on 18th November 2007.

In
Chhatordanga, a total of 24
blankets were distributed.

In
Mahishdoba, a total of 8
blankets were distributed. This village was not into our calculation. So
we distributed on the basis of 'One
blanket for one family' format. We shall consider this village also
from our next projects.

In
Bhadua, a total of 46 blankets
were distributed.

In
Tumankocha, we distributed a total of 72
blankets.

In
addition to the blankets, some dresses for the young women were also
distributed.

As the outcome of the welfare activities we have been able to bring a total of 34 Shabar and Beer-Hor children to the Parivaar Ashram of Kolkata where the children will get their Basic platform to empower themselves educationally, socially and health-wise.

20th January, 2008:

A team of 3, comprised of Mainak Pal, Pulak da (Parivaar Ashram) and Sabyasachi Dutta visited the Tumankocha village and brought a bunch of 14 Shabar and Beer-Hor Children to the Parivaar Ashram, Kolkata. We would like to congratulate them for making this tedious job a reality with their efforts.

8th February 2008:

A team of nine members went Ghatsila to bring the next lot of 20 tribal children to kolkata.

Medical
Assistance

8th February
2008:

A nine member delegation team went Ghatsila for conducting a medical survey

19th February

2008:

The Next sub-project undertaken was a Medical Camp for the villagers. Due to the bad weather we could not reach 2 villages. The camp was organized at the Village Bhadua.

Mr. Jaydeb Barik who came from Medinipur was the doctor for the medical survey. He also brought one full bag of medicines for the poor tribal patients.

At Bhadua total 19 patients of 11 Birhor families were treated. The details are listed below. In most of the cases medicines were supplied by the medical team and only few medicines of cost Rs. 200/- were bought from Ghatsila and handed over to Samrah (Head of Birhor tola of Bhadua).

Medical Survey Report

Village- Bhadua, Ghatsila. Date - 09.02.2008

Doctor- Jaydeb Barik

SI No.

Family Head

Patient Name

Age (in Yrs)

Disease

1

Kaju Birhor

Durga Charan Birhor

3

Vivax Malareia

Dulopati Birhor

70

Cataract

2

Somra Birhor

Karma Birhor

65

Common Cold

3

Gopal Birhor

Tiri Birhor

60

Low Back Pain

4

Bishram Birhor

Baswanti Birhor

45

UTI infection

Bishram Birhor

45

Urticaria

Indrasai Birhor

3

Scabies

5

Chaiti Birhor

Chaiti Birhor

70

LRTI

Ramlal Birhor

19

General Checkup

6

Ruidas Birhor

Sukarmani Birhor

23

Pain Abdomen

Ruidas Birhor

40

URTI

Belonduri Birhor

3

CSOM

7

Buddheswar Birhor

Sombari Birhor

4

CSOM

Sumil Birhor

2

CSOM

8

Mongla Birhor

Jigap Birhor

2

CSOM

9

Gurva Birhor

Pramila Birhor

8 Months

LRTI

10

Sukram Birhor

Sukram Birhor

35

Vision in night

Somrah Birhor

3

Skin Disease

11

Phagu Birhor

Phagu Birhor

45

LRTI

Total Number of Families = 11
Number of Patients = 19

Total

Future
Programme :

We
have planned to do more Frequent Medical camps as the need of medical
facility is very high at the villages.

Educational
Counseling is an area where we would like to concentrate more.

We
shall concentrate on an overall development of their lifestyle and the
living standard as well

We need your support .It’s you who can make a change.