

C VID-19 RESPONSE

Bulletin

"Persistence of Vaccine hesitancy among the 1.3 lakh people in the 13 Primitive Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) of Odisha has proved to be a headache for the officials. Though Dongaria Kondhs in Rayagada and Bondas in Malkangiri have shed their hesitancy, among the rest it persists."

Hindustan Times

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Leadership Challenge; Getting the Team Back!

Dear Friends,

I've been talking with CSO leaders about heading back to the office, and there is so much more to consider in the return to "normal" than just physical safety and economic urgency. While we are all eager for normalcy, it would be a mistake for organizations to rush to fill our office chairs. Before they bring teams back to offices, leaders need to first capture what employees have learned from life during the pandemic. Rushing will only cause further turbulence and hurt performance.

The leaders I've spoken with have identified three return-to-work concerns that need to be addressed as the world emerges from the pandemic:

- 1. It's not just about Covid-19. People may be afraid to return to work because of possible infection, but they're also likely harboring a lot of anxiety around things that have nothing to do with the virus. Feelings of dread come from numerous structural issues that were likely present before the pandemic, but have been avoidable over the past year, such as commuting hassles, challenging workplace relationships and job responsibilities.
- 2. We're grappling with divergent experiences. Normally, the workplace is a self-reinforcing social bond that aligns coworkers through daily shared experiences. The pandemic has severed that daily social bond and created divergent experiences around health, loss and financial security that may leave us feeling misaligned with our coworkers. All this has been exacerbated by isolation. While returning to the office may be exciting to think about, the reality may be more jarring.
- 3. The workplace itself looks different. Pre-pandemic, most workplaces expected colleagues to work in person, but the pandemic has forced employers to acknowledge that remote work may not be the productivity drain they feared it would be.

What You Can Do

While each of these challenges requires a unique response, there are three actions every team leader should take to set their team up for return-to-work success.

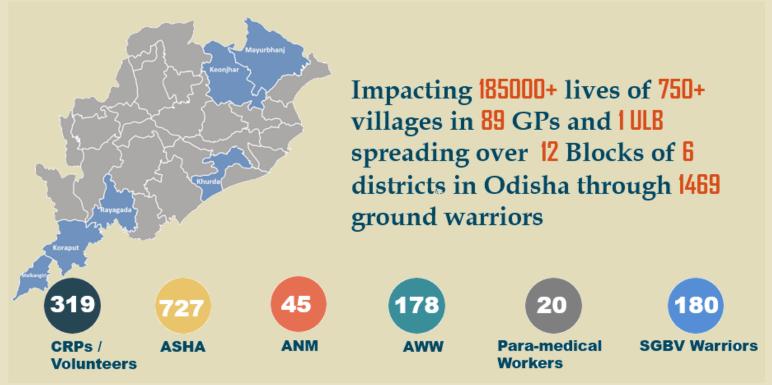
- a) Show you care. Your team may have a range of reactions to the idea of returning to the workplace. Let them know, publicly and frequently, that you understand this and that you are there to support them through the process. If leaders make time to listen to structural concerns and offer a process for thinking through solutions, employees will feel supported in tackling what's really worrying them.
- b) Capture employee insights. Have fresh, valuable insights to share from work during the pandemic. Don't miss this opportunity to capture them. To create more resilient and respectful workplace cultures, leaders need to invite employees to share their unique experiences from the past year and capture learnings for the organization.
- c) Welcome the chance to innovate. The organizations that will successfully transition out of the pandemic will be those that design new flexible work arrangements in partnership with staff. Together, leaders and teams can be more selective about when it makes the most sense for people to come together in person for work and when it might be more useful for them to work independently in remote locations. Don't let a crisis go to waste; tell your team that you want to take what you've all learned and, together, make our organization a better and more successful place to work.

In Solidarity, Jagadananda

N.B: The leaders may tryout the above ideas by capturing what their employees have learned from life experience during the pandemic and together embark upon to make the organization a better work place.

Our Response to COVID-19 (2nd Wave)

Outreach



Relief Measures

- Managed 10 Isolation Centres at 10 GPs in South Odisha (Koraput, Malkanagiri & Rayagada) and North Odisha (Keonjhar & Mayurbhanj) which extended safe-isolation facility to 491 Covid patients.
- 12 Health Care Centres strengthened with support of 53 Oxygen Concentrators helping 212 COVID affected people with 3263 hours of life saving oxygen support.
- Besides, the health care centres have been supported with 1000 Oximeters, 600 Thermometers, 1000 Oxygen Masks.



- 1050 Frontline workers ASHA/ANM/AWW, supported with protective measures, have been able to reach 22321 houses hassles free for conducting door-to-door surveillance and identified 532 COVID cases out of which 32 critical cases were referred to district hospitals.
- 1000 Care and Support Kits provided to the Mild and Moderate Covid Positive patients.



Awareness Drive:

- Our 319 empowered and protected CRPs have been engaged in awareness campaign round the clock to address Covid testing reluctances, more fear factors - reaching 1.8 lakh people in 750 villages to bring in a behavioural change among them and increase the acceptance of vaccine. As of now helped 7686 people (45+) to make registration, 5324 already vaccinated and 100% vaccination covered in 5 villages.
- CSOs collaborated 'Citizen Support Centre' (CSC) has supported 28302
 people through 232 WhatsApp groups with appropriate information as
 well as helped 1862 people including 32 positive cases connecting
 health experts and psychosocial counselors to address their health
 and anxiety issues.
- Capacity building of 350 ground warriors directly linked with CSC, through 17 virtual sessions, helped them to use health-tracking equipment effectively.



Restoring Migrants' Livelihoods

- returnee migrants 140 with successfully reskilling have established mushroom units getting around 15000 rupees per month during lockdown. Creation 9564 person days under helped **MGNREGS** 822 unemployed youths.
- Input support provided to 377
 Farmers and Returnee Migrants to continue Kharif cultivation.
- 9564 person-days generated for 822 job-seekers for 12 days during lockdown.



GO-NGO Coordination

- District, State and National level coordination meetings have been facilitated including the OSDMA and NDMA.
- Five Taskforces have formed at the district level to deepening the engagement in covid-19 response.

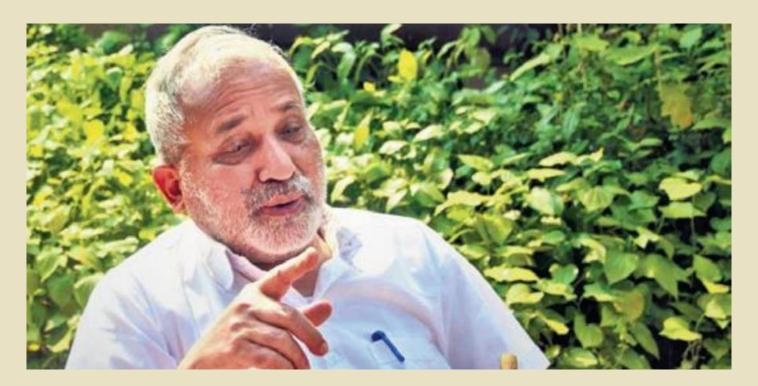


BRLF

"UANAT"

Remembering the Golden Era of Prof. Radhamohan

Jagat Parida



An eminent scholar, academician and environmentalist, Prof Radhamohan has left for the heavenly abode but his contribution towards the country survives.

Prof. Radhamohan was a friend, philosopher, guide and role model for the social development organisations.

During 80's, a NSS Youth Training Camp at Paradip and followed by another camp at Puri Youth Hostel could have brought a ray of hope in thousands of educated youths who dedicated their entire life in national social service. His untimely demise has created a huge void in the 'golden era' of youth participation in Social Service.

On the occasion of International Youth Day, with his inspiration an international level Youth Camp was organised by CYSD at Biswanahakani of Cuttack inviting large number of national and international volunteers. His active involvement in the camp was the main attraction and motivation point for all. Another such memorable event during the post-super cyclone period was undertaking a mega work camp for construction of around 200 metre long embankment 'Paladhua Bandh' in Ersama block of Jagatsinghpur district to check the flow of normal water to get mixed with saline water coming through sea-mouth.

Prof. Radhamohan retired as the Principal of SCS College, Puri. He was a student-friendly teacher and an economist turned environmentalist. He was the first Information Commissioner of the State who gave a new dimension to the Right to Information movement in Odisha.

He was living a simple life by taking normal vegetarian food; wearing simple cotton dhoti, half *kurta* and a pair of chappal as daily usable dress. Coming to office by walk, attending office or meetings before time shows his simplicity and punctuality. He was a rare personality who always remained away from appreciation and ever dislikes personal propagation.

Prof. Radhamohan was a progressive thinker and social reformer. Being a proponent of organic farming, he was deeply passionate about agriculture, especially adopting sustainable and organic practices. He was also respected for his knowledge on subjects relating to the economy and ecology.

Prof. Radhamohan had started an initiative called 'Sambhav' some 30 years ago to provide resources to famers to grow rare and vanishing crops. His elder daughter, Sabarmatee who joined him later together converted a 90 acres of wasteland into lush green forest called 'food forest' at Rohibank of Nayagarh, his home district, through soil and water conservation techniques. The 'food forest' now has over 1,000 species of plants, 500 varieties of rice and supports a 'seed bank' with 700 indigenous varieties of seeds. He had trained farmers on sustainable agriculture and bio-diversity conservation through 'Sambhav', a resource centre for farmers across the country.

Prof Radhamohan along with his daughter Sabarmatee was awarded the country's fourth highest civilian honour, the Padma Shri, last year for their contribution to the field of agriculture and organic farming. He is the recipient of many prestigious awards. For his work on environment, the United Nations Environment Programme had conferred 'The Global Roll of Honour' on him. The Odisha Government awarded him the highest civilian award 'Utkal Seva Samman' for dedicated public service.

He dreamt and worked for a society beyond caste, for a village economy that is sustainable and for a green and clean environment throughout his life. During his adulthood Prof Radhamohan had challenged caste hierarchy in his village. He, who had read all the religious books, quoted "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" to the Brahmins who protested his idea of caste free society. Even born in a high Brahmin caste family, he had deleted the family title from his name.

Being a great lover of trees, he wished if his mortal body could be buried under a tree to supply sufficient bio-compost with nutrition.

Padma Shri Prof. Radhamohan breathed his last on 11th June 2021 at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar while getting treatment for bronchial asthma complications for the last few days. He was 78 and is survived by three daughters - Sabarmatee, Biswabharati & Amaravati and beloved wife.

Prof. Radhamohan might have gone from our sight, but never from our hearts!

COVID-19 Treatment Threats to the Environment

Sivangi Das



Since, the COVID-19 pandemic hit India in 2020, there has been a magnificent rise in medical and bio-medical waste generated from the treatment of infected patients throughout the country. Is not it a threat the environment?

As per the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), 146 tonnes of bio-medical waste are being generated every single day due to Covid-19 in India.

During the second wave, as COVID cases saw an exponential rise, states like Kerala, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Delhi and Gujarat became major disposers of medical and bio-medical waste.

While India has been focused in dealing with the virus in hand, numerous social and environmental pandemics have started surfacing during the period.

The disregard for incautious use of plastic for COVID equipment and myopic focus on the pandemic is a major concern as it has serious implications for the environment.

PPE kits, face masks, medical equipment like injections, bottle tubes and syringes etc are being disposed without proper waste management in many places in the country. This might lead to polluting the beaches and water bodies and harming the ecosystem.

The haphazard disposal of safety equipment by individuals and households has a greater risk of transmitting the virus as well as other diseases.

On the other hand, a part of the bio-medical waste that consists of blood, cultures, contaminated items etc. are highly toxic in nature and have high chances of contaminating the ecosystem.

Additionally, due to lockdown massive quantities of household waste are also being disposed in the form of plastic bags, matchboxes and other non-biodegradable items and could have fatal consequences for the environment.

Research also shows that excessive use of sanitizers and disinfectants on roads, commercial, and residential areas due to the virus may kill non-targeted beneficial species and may lead to ecological imbalance.

While there have been some positive impacts of the pandemic on the environment such as a cut down on hair pollution and emission of GHGs due to recurring lockdowns and a reduction in water pollution as the industries releasing untreated waste into water bodies have stopped working during the pandemic. There have been major negative impacts in terms of waste management and uncalculated measures in dealing with the virus.

The need of the hour is to chalk out a long-term plan in fighting the virus from a more sustainable and holistic approach.

Oyster Mushroom Cultivation Opens up an Alternate Source of Livelihoods for Tribal Women

Kamalakanta Barik



Kashipur block of Rayagada district is less encouraging towards mushroom cultivation in comparison to other blocks of the district. The people having capacity to purchase take mushroom in their food plate, whereas the poor people collect it from nearby forests which is limited to specific seasons. Most of the poor farmers don't have knowledge on the profitability of mushroom production or how it can offer an alternate source of income to them. Oyster mushroom grows well in the winter season but it suits the climatic condition of Kashipur area year the round.

Rengnasil, a remote village of Dongasil GP in Kashipur block, is situated around 25 km from the Block headquarters. The village comprises of 231 households with a population of about 1156. Among them 30% are SC, 20% ST and remaining are from OBC and general castes. About 82% of the women populations are landless agricultural labourers. During this second wave of the Covid pandemic, especially April – May being the lean period for agricultural activities, farm women were encouraged, Kashipur being the operational area, to grow Oyster Mushroom initiating group farming through SHGs to supplement their family income.

It is a well-known fact that Mushroom grows in agricultural wastes, besides paddy straw. From this waste, with a low investment, mushroom growth and production comes better, and the waste disposal is also eco-friendly, being organic. As an alternative Agri allied source of income, CYSD program team organized 3-day mushroom training for 45 women farmers of SHGs from Dongasil GP in two phases at a venue set up in Regnasil village inviting resource persons. At the concluding day of training, a demonstration session was conducted with a minimal capital investment which gave high yield. Beforehand, the general public were made aware on mushroom consumption as a good supplement for protein deficient diet and this can be easily cultivated indoors and marketed profitably.

Following the COVID-19 guidelines, the training programme was conducted where the each participant was provided with inputs support like 2 kg Spawn and 10 Polythene sheets as start-up kit to undertake mushroom farming.



Knowing the easy method of mushroom cultivation, the SHGs members in groups started cultivating Oyster Mushroom with technical guidance from CYSD Program Team. Among all SHGs, Maa Patrabuda SHG came out with better yield. Initially, they started with 20 mushroom beds and after 30 days, they harvested around 24.1 kg of quality mushroom. The group made packaging of 250gm mushroom in polybag which helped them for easy marketing @ rupees 50 per package (i.e. rupees 200 per kg.) and earned appx rupees 4820/- in first phase. The success of mushroom production by Maa Patrabuda SHG not only encouraged other three SHGs from the adopted village but also the women farmers of neighbouring villages were inspired to grow mushroom successfully to earn their livelihoods.

Due to huge demand of Oyster Mushroom in Dongasil area, now other SHGs have shown their interest to take up mushroom cultivation as a major income generating activity throughout the year. Around 14 SHGs and 7 individuals in 6 GPs of Kashipur Block - Kucheipadar, Hadiguda, Dongasil, Kodipari, Mainkanch and Chandragiri undertaken Oyster mushroom cultivation during the pandemic with the input support of CYSD-UANAT Project. Moreover, the SHGs are linked with the Horticulture Department, Rayagada for obtaining the COVID-19 special entitlement packages as a result each SHG have obtained Rs.10000 and each individual farmer received Rs.1000 to scale up their enterprises. A total of Rs.1,47,000 has been disbursed to the women mushroom grower beneficiaries in the month of June,2021.

"We express our sincere gratitude to CYSD for being with us during this deadly pandemic crisis and supporting us to opt for an alternative sustainable source of income for our families in distress", said a group of women farmers from Hadiguda Gram Panchayat of Kashipur block.

Haladhar Sir, the Ambassador of Alternative Green Skilling ventured at RLTC

Mahesh Chhatoi



"I was really unfortunate! I missed 15 years of golden opportunity to get involved in the development programmes initiated by CYSD in and around my locality, carrying a misconception in my mind that the organization is deeply engaged only in religious promotion works. Being an educated person, I feel ashamed after conceptualizing the programme objectives of a great organization", said Haladhar Behera (72), a retired teacher, in a valedictory session of "Honeybee Farmers Training" organized at the Rural Livelihoods Training Centre (RLTC), Kapundi. "I promise to be the Ambassador of this noble organization to spread its various good developmental practices and alternative green skilling ventures across my Block - Saharapada and beyond", he added.

Haladhar Behera hails from Chutiaposi village of Kapundi GP under Saharapada block of Keonjhar district who started his service career as primary school teacher in 1973 after completion of matriculation with a certified teacher's diploma course. His moto was to increase literacy rate in Saharapada,

a trial dominated area of the district. He took it as a challenge and continued his efforts relentlessly. Seeing the sincerity and good work of Haldhar, the District Education Department engaged him in different innovative programmes throughout across the Block. After 30 year of dedicated service, he took retirement in 2012.

On the other side, Haladhar has a passion for Honey Beekeeping from young age. He used to cultivate honeybee in a traditional method without applying any technical knowhow. But, he enjoys beekeeping a lot. In 2016, he underwent an 8 days honey beekeeping training in a Government Vocation Training Centre at Sakhigopal of Puri district taking permission from his higher officer, but could not succeed due to indiscretions in training process and non-availability of honey beehives (chambers)

But, he had a strong desire to augment his own beekeeping unit and was wondering for an opportunity. Luckily, just before the second wave of Covid, he got to know from one of the Gram Sathinis, Ms. Pravasini Mohanta of his village that Honey Beekeeping Training for farmers and returnee migrants being imparted by CYSD at its RLTC campus as an alternative livelihoods option.

With a basket of questions and hesitations, Haladhar who had once promised not to even visit RLTC, entered the campus which is only 3 kms



away from his village. Seeing is believing! The programme activities, production process and the environment of RLTC dumbfounded him. Gradually, he was attracted towards the development initiatives. In March 2021, Haladhar joined a 7-day residential training course on Honeybee Farming at RLTC.

The old man completed the training successfully with all sincerity demonstrating his capability in practical classes for which he was appreciated by the Training Facilitator. Indeed, he was an active listener and careful observer during classroom transaction. He could get all his doubts clarified by raising various questions to the facilitator and did superb in practical classes.

Sharing his feelings at the closing ceremony, he said, "The logistic arrangements at RLTC is far better off than any Government Vocational Training Centres. The staff members here are so caring for the tribal community people. This is the real place where ideas getting translated in to action". Addressing the co-trainee participants, he proudly expressed "There is no need of people to migrate outside in search of job, one can change his fortune staying in native place through adopting new approach of organic agriculture practices demonstrated by this field lab, RLTC.

Laxmipriya Sees a Ray of Hope in Agri Allied Enterprise

Swati Das

Laxmipriya Das (22), a rural poor young girl of Balichandrapur village in Jajpur district has never dreamt that the Covid-19 pandemic will bring changes in her life and livelihoods. Not only she becomes an independent Agri-allied entrepreneur but has created a position in her locality as Mushroom Mentor (Chhatu Didi).

Laxmipriya's father is a marginal farmer whose agricultural income was not sufficient to manage a family of eight members. Being elder among children of her family, she has decided to supplement her father's income discontinuing her higher secondary education. Her will power to do something to earn money did not allow her to stay at home. She joined in a garment shop based at Cuttack, the millennium city in May 2019. A monthly remuneration of Rs. 8000/- could help her a lot to maintain a decent life apart from supporting her family. But, her fortune was not in her favour. With the surge of Covid-19



in March 2020 and followed by the lockdown declared by the Government, her rice bowel garment shop remained shut down for a long duration of nearly 8 months. Laxmipriya lost her job and found no other option of earning than seating idle at home. As a result, the financial condition of her family gradually deteriorated.

Where there is a will there is a way. In a wintry sunny morning during December, she came to know from her friend that ABHIJAN, a voluntary organization based at Balichandrapur, in partnership with CYSD has been providing a three-day Mushroom Cultivation training program in batches to the poor unemployed youth. Her inquisitiveness to know more about mushroom cultivation fetched her to the training venue of ABHIJAN. She inquired about the training, it's prospective and got clarified her doubts. Finally, her name was enrolled for the Mushroom growing training and she could successfully complete the training course and obtain a completion certificate from CYSD. Now she owns a small mushroom venture and growing 5 – 6 kg of mushroom every day and earning up to Rs.800/- out of it.

"I see a new ray of hope in Agril Allied "mushroom growing' enterprise which can lead me a happy life", shares aspiring Laxmipriya.

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A teleservice dedicated to helping, guiding and facilitating

Thanks to technology and the commitment of volunteers, people in remote parts of Odisha, particularly women, are able to get a whole range of support, from psycho-social counselling to home delivery of medicines, during these tough times

RAKHI GHOSH, Bhubaneswar

Kalyansinghpur Block in Odisha's Rayagada District was hesitant to take the COVID-19 vaccination. She wanted to discuss it with someone well-informed. She picked up her ordinary mobile phone and dialled a number. The person who answered her call patiently cleared all her doubts. She also connected Kuntala to a volunteer in her block, who helped her register on the CoWIN App. Kuntala received the first dose of the vaccine, and is now awaiting the second one.

Who are the people who are

helping Kuntala and others like her get answers to their many questions? They are volunteers at the Citizen Support Centre (CSC), a toll-free teleservice setup by a few like-minded CSOs (civil society organisations) in Odisha to reach out to people in need during the pandemic. "We play a pivotal role in connecting people with service providers, from whom they can immediately get help. People are fearful during this time, and they need help, but don't know whom to ask for it. We support them," said Niladri Bihari Sahoo, manager, CYSD (Centre for Youth and Social Development), the team leader of CSC.

Last year, in March, when a nation-wide lockdown was declared to contain the spread of the coronavirus, CYSD decided to reach out to the needy, especially migrants. This year in February, other CSO experts in their respective fields in Odisha joined hands with CYSD. "We receive queries about the vaccine, pandemic-related stress,

COVID symptoms, fear and anxiety, treatment and facilities for COVID, doctor consultations, availability of medicines for other diseases, maternal and child health issues, public distribution system issues, and even domestic abuse and migrants' issues, which increased during the lockdown," said Swati Das, senior programme associate, CYSD, a member of the CSC team.

The teleservice helps the rural community, especially women, to be informed and get help just by dialling 8880592592. The volunteers receive 30-40 calls every day. The calls are divided into four categories — basic information, food and entitlements, psycho-social counselling and telemedicine.

The volunteers receive calls from remote districts like Koraput, Rayagada, Malkangiri, Nabaragpur, Mayurbhanj, Sonepur and Boudhas well as from urban areas like Bhubaneswar, Cuttack and Puri. "We get 80 per cent of calls from different parts of Odisha while 20 per cent calls are from outside the state, mostly from migrants who want to return or want to consult a doctor for their family in Odisha," said Swati.

"We have a vast network of Internet sathis or digital leaders and CRPs (community resource persons) in 11-12 districts. And to reach out to others we take the help of friends and colleagues. We request them to amplify the message or toll-free number in their WhatsApp groups," said Niladri. That's how Kuntala and others came to avail of the facility.



Vaccine hesitancy with reference to the COVID-19 vaccination programme, especially in semi-urban and rural India, is one of the major challenges confronting the administration today. Even as more and more people are getting vaccinated, the fear element still persists.

The teleservice is based on the interactive voice response system (IVRS). "We interact in the local language and feed-back from callers helps us to improve our operation," said Niladri. "The volunteers of Aide et Action counsel migrants, while maternal and child health issues are handled by volunteers of Mamata; Aaina volunteers handle domestic abuse- and psycho-social health-related calls. Human Context, Views and RCDC are other organ-isations which are part of the effort. Recently, various tribal languages - Desia, Kui and Santali-were introduced for smooth communication.

Sharing an incident, Swati said, "In May we received a call from a woman in a remote village in Nabarangpur District, asking for help. Her husband was suffering from fever, cold and cough, the basic symptoms of COVID. The neighbours were not helping to take him to a doctor. The volunteer connected her with a doctor who sent a prescription through a grassroots CSC member. For the next 10 days his health was regularly monitored by CSC volunteers and when he recovered, the woman told the team that it was as if her husband had got a new birth."

In another incident, "a man working in Kerala called the helpline for a doctor's consultation for his mother in Odisha's Malkangiri District who was suffering from age-related ailments. He was connected with a doctor and, later, volunteers dropped medicines at the woman's house," Swati said.

Last year, when a group of migrants working in a construction site in Chennai contacted CSC for help to return to their village in Odisha, volunteers had a tough job. "It was during the lockdown and we had to take permission from local bodies at the destination site to bring them home. We helped the migrants register with the concerned portal, tracked their journey and counselled them to stay in quarantine centres. After 14 days, when they were finally reunited with their families, they told us, "We were living in fear, but with the support of CSC we were able to get back home," said Debasnata Nayak, a team member.

In the first wave, while most calls were regarding migrants wanting to return to their villages, in the second wave the calls were more about availability of hospital beds, oxygen cylinders, etc. Debasnata said identifying people in need of psycho-social help and counselling them virtually was the most challenging task in the second wave.

Sixteen of the 30-odd team members are women. There are four frontline volunteers who first receive calls. If they are unable to handle them, they forward the calls to two or three experts who work as backline supporters. Besides, they conduct zoom meetings.

"We have a WhatsApp

"We have a WhatsApp group where we interact internally about the progress of any call and store all materials on Google Drive so that everyone can access to information", said Swati. "Though we have household responsibilities, being women, we can extend our work timings if needed. We feel happy that we can reach out to people in need of help".

Debasnata says last year, the virtual format of work was a little difficult for the volunteers. "But after consistent work, "we have improved our digital knowledge. The CSOs in Odisha are reaching out to the needy virtually, and trying to bring a smile to their faces."





An Internet sathi holding a mobile phone in hand, helping others to interact with CSC volunteers. On right, a screenshot of a virtual orientation programme about CSC work.

Media Coverage





ବୈପାରିଗୁଡା, ୪ା୭ (ସମିସ): ଜୟପୁରସ୍ଥିତ ସମନ୍ତିତ ଆଦିବାସୀ ଉନ୍ନୟନ ସଂସ୍ଥା ଓ ସ୍ୱେଚ୍ଛାସେବୀ ଅନୁଷ୍ଠାନ ପ୍ରୟାସ ପକ୍ଷରୁ ମିଶନ ଜୀବିକା ଯୋଜନାରେ ବୈପାରିଗୁଡ଼ା ବ୍ଳକ ବାଲିଗାଁ ପଞ୍ଚାୟତର ୯୦ ଜଣ ଆଦିବାସୀ ବର୍ଗର ଚାଷୀଙ୍କୁ ମାଗଣାରେ ମକା ବିହନ ବଣ୍ଟନ କରାଯାଇଛି । ବାଲି ଗାଁ ପଞ୍ଚାୟତର ଜରିଆଗୁଡା, ଚେରକା, କୁଷପାରିଆଗୁଡା, କୁମୁଡାବେଡା ଆଦି ଗାଁର ୯୦ ଜଣ ଚାଷାଙ୍କୁ ଏକର ପିଛା ୮ କିଲୋ ଉନ୍ନତମାନର ମକାବିହନ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯାଇଛି । ଏଥିସହ ମକା ଚାଷର ପଦ୍ଧତି ସହ ବିଭିନ୍ନ କୈଶଳ ଉପରେ ଚାର୍ଷୀମାନଙ୍କୁ ତାଲିମ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯାଇଥିଲା । ଏହି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ ଆଇଟିଡିଏର କର୍ମକର୍ତ୍ତା କସ୍ତବ ଦାସ,

ମିଶନ ଜୀବିକା ଯୋଜନାରେ ମକା ମଞ୍ଜି ବଣ୍ଟନ

ବୈପାରିଗ୍ରତା, ୩୮୬ (ନି.ପ): ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାରଙ୍କ ସମନ୍ତିତ ଅବିବାସୀ ଉନ୍ନନୟ ସଂଗ୍ରା ଓ ସ୍ଲେମ୍ବାସେବା ଅନୁଷ୍ଠାନ ସିଷାଇଏସଡିକ ମିଳିତ ସହଯୋଗରେ ବୈପାରିଗୁଡା ବ୍ଳକର ୯୦ ଆନ୍ଦିବାସୀ ହିଡାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କୁ ମକୀ ମଞ୍ଜି ବଣ୍ଟନ କରାଯାଇଛି । ପ୍ରତି ହିତାଧିକାରୀଙ୍କୁ ଏକର ପ୍ରତି ୮ କିଗ୍ରା ବିହନ ବଣ୍ଟନ ହେଇଛି । ଗତବର୍ଷ ବୈପାରିଗ୍ରତା ଦୁନରେ ବହୁ ଚାଷୀ ମଳା ଚାଷ କରିଥିବା ବେଳେ ଚଳିତ ବର୍ଷ ବିହନ ବଣ୍ଟନ ହାଇ। ଅଧନ ପରିମାଣରେ ଚାଷୀ ମନା ତାଷ କରିବା ନେଇ ଳଶାଯାଇଛି । ବାକିଗାଁ, ଳତୁଆଗୁଡା, ଟେରନା, କୃସଯାତିଆଗୁଡା, କୃମୁଡାବେଡା, କାଳିଆଝୋଲି ଆଦି ଗ୍ରାମରେ ଏହି ବିହନ ବଣ୍ଟନ କରାଯାଇଛି । ସମନ୍ତିତ ଆଦିବାସୀ ଉନ୍ନୟନ ସଂସ୍ଥାର କର୍ମଚାରୀ କୋଷ୍ତବ କାସ, ସିବାଇଏସ୍ଡିର କର୍ମୀ ସୁଶାକ୍ତ ହରିଳନ ପ୍ରମୁଖ ଉପସ୍ଥିତ ରହି ବିହନ ବଣ୍ଠନ କରିଥିଲେ ।



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