



JEEVIKA'S Newsletter

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Independence Day Tableaux - The Magnum Opus



The Independence Day tableaux presentation is one of the most proud and awaited event for JEEVIKA as on this day we showcase the organizations vision and the transitional change which has taken place in society since the time of JEEVIKA's initiatives. The tableaux presentation is a well-planned team work wherein the entire team comes forward to work in synergy to achieve excellence in the endeavor.

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From Rags to Riches



This Independence Day tableaux depicted the effort to bring joy in the lives of the ultra-poor people of Bihar who live in vulnerabilities and misery by linking them with the Satat Jivikoparjan Yojana and taking them towards a newer, better direction. Prior to the enactment of the Alcohol Prohibition act in the state, efforts are being made to enhance the livelihoods of the communities such as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, who are traditionally into country liquor and toddy making. The tableaux was being led by women from the Santhali Tribe who are members of Jeevika. They were wearing their traditional outfits and giving the message to move ahead by singing songs related to livelihoods.

The tableaux depicted the change in the lives of the families after the implementation of the Satat Jivikoparjan Yojana. The inclusion of these families in the three tier community based organizations of Jeevika being the first step towards change was depicted through the meeting of the village organization. Closure of Country liquor units and opening of general stores in their place, conversion of toddy tapping and sale into Neera, Jaggery and sweets depicts the positive change that has come into the lives of the ultra-poor households. Exposure to sources of livelihood after receiving technical and non-technical from skill development mission is another story of change of these households. Women are taking up livelihood activities such as Goatry, dairy through Jeevika in order to enhance their incomes. Easy loans are being made accessible



through Customer Service Points which are being run by the women of Jeevika. Children going to toilets and schools, availability of water, electricity and drainage through the welfare schemes of the state and the central government is also depicting the change that has come.

JEEVIKA's role is proving to be monumental in helping the development of the state through its determination and responsibility to link the ultra-poor households to interventions such as animal husbandry, Neera production, incense stick making, and bee keeping and traditional sources of livelihood under the Satat Jivikoparjan Yojana.

The Community's Experience

The tableaux was donned by members of community based institutions of Jeevika, it was for them a unique and life changing experience, the community was happy to present the tableaux before the Chief Minister of Bihar. They were equally happy to participate in the activities of the tableaux. **Meera Devi** who came all the way from Danapur said it was a very joyful experience for her. This was her first visit to Gandhi Maidan, and she told her son that she would be going to Gandhi Maidan and to present before the Hon'ble Chief Minister. She also told that she had never imagined in her life that she will be getting this opportunity, and it's a huge moment for her.



The Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana (SJY) was launched formally on 5th August, 2018 in the presence of Honorable Chief Minister - Shri Nitish Kumar, Honorable Deputy Chief Minister - Shri Sushil Kumar Modi, and Honorable Rural Development Minister Shri Shravan Kumar.

Objective & Components

Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (BRLPS-JEEVIKA) has been designated as the implementation agency for the scheme “SJY”. The yojna targets to cover 100,000 ultra-poor households through a customized ultra-poor graduation approach. The objective of the scheme is to empower “ultra-poor” households traditionally engaged in production, transportation and sale of country liquor / toddy. Besides, ultra-poor from SC/ST, poor from other communities have also to be included in the gamut of scheme through diversification of livelihoods, capacity building and improved access to finance.”

The components of the SJY are designed based on the principles of the ultra - poor “Graduation Approach” which combines of complementary approaches— capacity building, livelihood gap

assistance, transfers of productive assets, regular hand holding etc.—into one comprehensive program that may help spur a sustainable transition to employment/income generating activities. The scheme consists of four components – Capacity Building, Livelihood Financing Partnership & Convergence and Project Management; each designed to address specific constraints faced by the ultra-poor households.

Development of Community Cadre for ultra-poor targeting

In SJY, the Community Resource Persons (CRPs) are involved in the participatory identification





endorsement of ultra-poor households within Village Organizations. Till June 2018, JEEViKA identified and trained 300 CRP teams (3 members' team) for targeting of ultra-poor.

Identification of targeted ultra-poor households

Participatory identification of target households was initiated and till June 2018, 5095 target households were endorsed in 16 districts. Initially panchayats having high concentration of SC/ST and deprived households were selected for ultra-poor targeting.

Identification of Master Resource Person (MRP) for SJY

Additional support of community cadres is required for regular coaching, confidence building, livelihood mapping, enterprise selection & training, household level monitoring etc. Master Resource Persons (MRPs) were identified and trained, with the aim of bringing the ultra-poor households in the JEEViKA fold and in turn, facilitate them in graduating out of poverty. After the approval of SJY by the state Government, a total of 148 MRPs have been selected and trained.

Livelihood Gap Assistance Financing

After final endorsement of ultra-poor households, the Village Organizations will transfer the Livelihood Gap Assistance Fund to respective households. During the initial period of 7 months, VO will provide the Livelihood Gap Assistance Fund (Rs. 1000 per month) directly to the households selected under the scheme. During the quarter 1 of financial year 2018-19, a total of 66 ultra-poor households have received livelihood gap assistance fund from VO.

Enterprise selection and transfer of productive assets

Trained MRPs conducted the Livelihoods micro-planning of ultra-poor households. Based on the livelihoods micro-planning Village Organizations transferred the productive assets to targeted households. VOs conducted the procurement of productive assets following the community procurement norms. During the quarter 1 of financial year 2018-19, trained MRPs conducted micro-plan of 193 ultra-poor households and VOs transferred productive assets to 49 such households.



Mukhyamantri Kosi Mulberry Pariyojana

Mukhyamantri Kosi Mulberry Pariyojana is a project in convergence with the Rural development Department, Industries Department and Agriculture Department being implemented in all the 7 districts of the Kosi Division.

The MKMP aims to benefit 6000 families and 17000 individuals with round the year income and ensuring 80% participation of women and bring 2900 acres of land for mulberry Cultivation. Producing 171.91 MT of silk threads and developing a sustainable and gender inclusive industrial model.

Mulberry Silk Rearing Under MGNREGA in Dhamdaha

MGNREGA aims at enhancing existing livelihood by creating suitable assets and resources that generate livelihoods. These objectives are met through various interventions that are suitable for the area under intervention, or where there is an existing pool of people with traditional skills. Some entirely new projects are also introduced to enhance the livelihoods of the marginalized community. JEEVIKA assessing the potential converged with Department

of Industries and MGNREGA under the aegis of Rural Development Department for promoting mulberry silk rearing in Purnea and conceptualized Mukhya Mantri Kosi Mulberry Project. Bihar State Cabinet approved the project to be implemented in the Kosi region (Madhepura, Saharsa, Purnea, Katihar, Supaul, Araria and Kishanganj districts) of the state.

JEEVIKA is responsible for mobilizing the rearers from the platforms of SHGs, executing plantation works under MGNREGA-CFT and cocoon rearing work with technical expertise from Department of Industries.

Silk Rearing process

Mulberry farming is an important component of sericulture. The Eggs of Silk-moth take about 14 days to hatch into larvae, which eat continuously. They have a preference for white mulberry. After they have molted four times, their bodies become slightly yellow and the skin becomes tighter. The larvae then prepare to enter the pupa phase of their life cycle, and enclose themselves in a cocoon made up of raw silk produced by the salivary glands. The final molt from larva to pupa takes place within the cocoon, which provides a vital layer of protection during the vulnerable, almost motionless pupa state. It swings itself from side to side in a figure '8' distributing the saliva that will form silk. The silk solidifies when it contacts the air. The silkworm spins approximately one mile of filament and completely encloses itself in a cocoon in about two or three days. The amount of usable quality silk in each cocoon is small. As a result, about 2500 silkworms are required to produce a pound of raw silk. The intact cocoons are boiled, killing the silkworm pupa. The silk is obtained by brushing the undamaged cocoon to find the outside end of the filament. The silk filaments then wound on a reel. One cocoon contains approximately 1,000 yards of silk filament. The silk at this stage is known as raw silk. One thread comprises up to 48 individual silk filaments.

The MKMP was initiated in July 2017 in Purnea. The Project Implementation Plan was shared with the Jeevika Didis in CLF, VO and SHG meetings. The MGNREGA. Consultant of Jeevika mobilized the community members for the project by describing the economics of mulberry silk rearing, investment cost, techniques for rearing, support to be provided by JEEVIKA and the provisions under the project.

Constitution of Producer Group

After rigorous dialogue and discussion, 35 SHG members were initially identified for the project. A Producer Group was constituted, named Chandrama Mulberry Silk Rearing Producer Group. The Bank Accounts of each member was opened and linked to their Aadhar Card. The required documents were submitted to the Panchayat Rojgar Sevak who in turn supported to issue them job cards under MGNREGA. The saplings for Mulbeery cultivation were provided from MGNREGA to the rearers. Each were provided with 2700 saplings. The rearers were also provided with pump-sets with delivery and suction pipes for irrigation, disease free laying from the Industry Department.

Benefits Accrued

The mulberry cultivation was done 1.5acres of land

with each rearer had a plot of 1.5 decimal. The farmers dug pits of (2 feet) x (2 feet) at a gap of 3 feet, for sowing the seeds and approximately 2700 saplings were sown by each rearer. In a span of 3 months the saplings grew into a well-developed plants. Soon after this all the PG members raised demand for their wages which were later on paid for 34 man days @ Rs177/- per person per day. They received a total of Rs. 6018 in two instalments. This further boosted their morale to come forward as trust had developed within them towards MKMP. Demand for number of Disease Free Layings was generated and each were provided with 50-100 Disease-free Laying. 50 Disease Free Laying almost help them produce 50 kgs. of cocoon which could be sold from the Nodal center at BPIU @ Rs. 250/- per kg which helped them earn Rs. 25000/- per quintal of production. On an average each rearer after withstanding production shocks such as plant mortality, cocoon damage could incur a profit of Rs. 10,000/- from cocoon sale and also earned wages of Rs 6000/- for plantation under MGNREGA. Expanding the initiative, currently, 1088 farmers have been selected and their lands have been inspected for mulberry cultivation, 600 farmers have already planted mulberry plants, and the remaining 488 plots will be taken up in the month of October, 2018.



The Swacch Jeevika- Swacch Bihar was extended throughout the month of August. Special focus was laid on attaining ODF status for the community based institutions through the activities aimed behavior change, promotion of toilet usage, conversion of pits dug into toilets and submission of Individual Household Level Forms to the Block Development Officer. The blocks of Areraj in East Champaran and Govindpur in Nawada were declared open defecation free during the campaign.



Transforming Lives

The Village Electrician: Job not Strictly Restricted to Men



They say some jobs are strictly restricted to men, and women shouldn't take them up, but not for Neetu Devi who works as an electrician in her village and is an expert when it comes to repairing fans, let's have a look at her story. Neetu, resident of Kura Nawada village in Sampatchak, used to stay at home while her husband, a trained electrician used to sell milk, Neetu Devi insisted that he should ply to Patna and work as an electrician to justify his skills, Neetu Devi also

wanted to contribute for the family of 7 and was looking for the right opportunity. Neetu Devi joined SHG in the year of 2014. She was told about Jeevika by the community Mobilizer. She learnt that Jeevika provides various opportunities for self-employment and economic independence, Neetu started investing her savings into the SHG. After her SHG matured, Neetu decided to take a loan to start a business on her own and in doing so she took a loan of Rs. 10,000 to open a general store to meet the economic needs of her family, she also learnt how to repair fans and menial electrical jobs from her husband. After learning the works of an electrician, Neetu Devi decided to open

an electronic repairing and maintenance workshop in her village, to fulfill this she further took a loan of Rs. 7500 and started the work of an electrician. She primarily repairs ceiling fans in her shop. After from repair and maintenance of ceiling fans, Neetu Devi can also repair motors, and therefore she fetches good amount of work in the village itself, while also running her groceries shop from where she is able to earn around 6000-7000 a month.

From Rags to Riches

Many women haven't told their tales even in their times of hardships, but their personality sets an example and also tells the tale of their struggle. Sonamati Devi from Safi Village in Brahmpur Block of Buxar fought all the difficulties, moulded herself and by the aid of Jeevika SHG achieved the tag of open defecation free for her village. Seeing her efforts towards cleanliness campaign, she was sent to Rishikesh on flight by UNICEF through the state government's initiative. She was given due training on sanitation in Rishikesh. She was given the responsibility to mobilize people to construct toilets and provide them training at the Mahadalit tola of Bairia Village (Saansad Gram), she flawlessly took care of this responsibility, and mobilized people into building around 100 toilets. This was the reason she was sent to Rishikesh. She was amazed when she heard that she will be going to Rishikesh for training on an airplane. This was like a dream come true for her, which she wasn't able to realize. When she

was told of this by BPM Brahmpur, she wasn't ready to believe it, and was also not able to contain her happiness. Sonamati Devi joined Mahima Jeevika SHG on 20th January, 2015 as a president, her SHG is a part of Mamta VO. Her husband died after a few years of her marriage, and therefore she started saying in her maternal home. She had the willingness to do something for the society, which she thought was possible by joining Jeevika. Right from SHG formation to creating awareness related to various schemes she is doing it all. She is a known name not only in her village but in the entire block and in fact the whole district. She is spreading awareness against open defecation and wishes that her district and state both be clean and safe.



September 15th August Celebrations

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMING UP IN THE NEXT EDITION

- Saras Mela



JEEVIKA

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