Annual Progress Report

Year: 2010-2011

Centre for Rural Education and Development Action (CREDA)

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Project:

Empowering rural people for seeking their entitlements under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) to ensure livelihood and food security

Activities:

- Identification of 30 Project Village Panchayats covering 99 village in Halia block of Mirzapur district.
- Initial contact with Panchayats and Block Officials by project staff.
- Organization of village level meetings and rapport building with community
- Development and printing of awareness materials, i.e. posters and handbills on provisions of MNREGA.
- Conducting massive awareness drives in project villages by village level meetings, distribution of printed materials, wall-writing (slogans and provisions of the Act) at public places
- Discussion meetings with communities, panchayat leaders, opinion leaders, and SHG members in most of the project villages
- Organization of marches and cultural programmes. Banner, placard, and slogans were used in these events.
- Identification of 60 volunteers and 100 women SHG Members
- Identification of training needs and development of training modules and materials on MNREGA
- Training of rural youth volunteers and their involvement in the project
- Training of 100 women SHG members
- Support and involvement of trained SHG members in the project
- Organization of discussion meetings with the villagers to identify and select the persons (5 in each village panchayat) for formation of the panchayat level committees in the name of MNREGA Sahyog Samiti
- Formation of 30 MNREGA Sahyog Samitis
- Involvement of the MNREGA Sahyog Samitis to keep vigil against corruption and help the people / employment seekers to prepare their documents as required under the Act
- Facilitation and support by MNREGA Sahyog Samiti to the persons requiring job / employment under MNREGA
- Situational Analysis of project village panchayats began. During the situation analysis:
 - Detailed information such as number of households, estimated population, socioeconomic condition of the villagers, main occupation, number of people applied for job card in each village (male and female), number of people got employment or unemployment allowances, type of corruption in implementation of MNREGA, etc. have been collected.

- The workers under the MNREGA were contacted and meetings were organized at the worksite to get information about situation of the implementation of the Scheme.
- In the month of August and September 2010, 1,500 survey formats were completed in 20 village panchayats on random sampling basis. The purpose of the survey was to get information about existing knowledge of the people about the provisions of MNREGA. We found that 85% people do not have proper knowledge about MNREGS.
- 26 village pradhans (during July-October 2010) and 24 Panchayat Mitras (during September-October 2010) were also interviewed in this process to get information about their existing knowledge on the provisions of MNREGA.
- Documentation of the types of problems encountered by the people in getting the employment
- Contact with the concerned officials and panchayats and informing them about the problems of the people
- On the basis of gathered information, families helped to apply and get job card
- Organization of village level meetings for preparation of job cards
- During village/hamlet level meetings, development of the database of large number of the people who have not been issued job card. The concerned official as well village pradhans were contacted to ask them to ensure the issuance of job cards to the desirous people.
- Documentation all the experiences gained during the project period

Project:

Empowering disadvantaged rural community through supplementary education, need-based knowledge, information and assistance in line with Gandhian Basic Education

Activities:

- Organization of a two-day staff orientation and planning meeting to share the aims, objectives and strategies of the project with project staff
- Identification of 50 backward villages inhabited by poor families for the purpose of involving them in the project
- Initial discussion and focus group discussion (FGD) meeting in 20 villages selected for the extension programme
- Development and printing of a booklet containing various aspects of development, education, peace, communal harmony and conflict resolution on the line of Nai Talim and ideals of Mahatma Gandhi
- Information gathering, documentation and printing of booklet on traditional rural knowledge on pest control and other techniques
- Establishment of demonstration centre
- Promotion of organic farming through awareness and training programs by educating / training rural people on composting and vermin composting
- Identification and support to poor families to fulfill their nutritional needs and economic benefits under kitchen gardening (seeds of seasonal vegetables)
- Encouragement and education of people on kitchen gardening
- Knowledge provided to rural poor about various entitlements, schemes and projects and encourage them to take benefit for their socio-economic development
- Education of the people about conservation and protection of plants, trees and animals in their respective areas
- Encouragement of tree planting among villagers and also revive their knowledge regarding locally available herbal medicines

- Creation of a non-violent society in the favour of women in the villages prone to liquor consumption by men and initiation of anti alcohol drive as taught by Mahatma Gandhi – formation and capacity building of 38 Women's groups in the name of Women's Collective Against Violence (*Hinsa Virodhi Nari Samaj*)
- Empowerment of women through village based micro-enterprise based on micro-planning exercises and support provided to 30 families under micro-enterprise
- Villages, schools and children identified and 23 Bal Mitra Mandals formed
- Bal Mitra Mandals were involved in the project and support provided to them with needed inputs and guidance and by educating them on the theme of Gandhian Basic Education
- Games and recreational materials procured and distributed among Bal Mitra Mandals
- 2,580 youths (men and women) selected as Shanti Sainiks and were involved in the project. Before involvement of the Shanti Sainks, they took oath for their involvement as Shanti Sainik.
- Poster and essay competitions on Gandhi and rural development organized among children in schools in the selected project villages
- A rural resource centre established in the campus of CREDA's field office in the Sukhra (Rajpur) village in Halia block. It has been equipped with materials on legal issues, MNREGA, child labour, organic farming, literature on Gandhian philosophy, sarvodaya, etc. to provide information and support to rural people as required by them.

Project:

Empowering adolescent girls through need-based skill training and literacy in Mirzapur district

Activities:

- Survey and identification of adolescent girls for the literacy and skill development.
- Necessary infrastructure and materials were developed, purchased, procured and provided to Adolescent Learning and Skill Centres (ALSCs).
- Establishment of 8 Adolescent Learning and Skill Centres (ALSCs).
- To develop the skill of the enrolled adolescent girls to improve their employability/self-employability and make them self-dependent, various types of skill development training were imparted like Tailoring, Menhadi, Painting (Fabric), Painting (Poster), Ceramic Work, Food Preservation, Bakery, Patch Work, Tie and Dye, Soft Toy Making, Beauty Parlor, Candle Making, Flower Making, making useful items using Argendy, Jute and waste materials, Embroidery (Hand), Embroidery (Sindhi), Embroidery (Zardoji), and computer literacy.
- Literacy classes were organized for those girls who were either illiterate or had some knowledge of reading and writing. They were given especial attention to make them able to easily read and write.
- The target groups were provided legal knowledge on those important issues which has meaning in their day to day life such as dowry, family violence, compensation, minimum wages, and rights of women under various circumstances.
- All the adolescent girls were imparted health and family life education through classroom transaction.
- A total of 489 girls benefited at the 8 ALSCs in two batches. Since they belong to 489 families, indirectly 489 families also benefited from the literacy and skills learned by the adolescent girls.
- Computer literacy provided to 66 adolescent girls against the target of 60.
- Certificate of participation was awarded to the beneficiaries of the two batches.

Some Photographs of Activities Carried Out During the Year 2010-2011





Rural people with handbills on MNREGA





A discussion meeting on provisions of MNREGA and entitlement of beneficiaries / workers





Awareness through village to village foot marches



Training of rural youth volunteers



Training of SHG members







Handbills and posters developed, printed and distributed



महात्मा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोज्गार गारन्टी अधिनियम



Literacy to illiterates



Training on Food Processing



Legal Literacy to Adolescent Girls



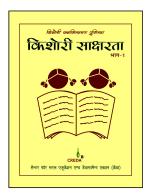
Tailoring Theory Class

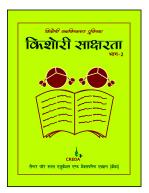


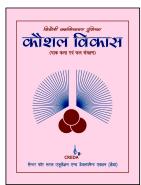
Practice on Computer Literacy



Health and Family Life Education









Booklets Developed, Printed and Distributed in Beneficiaries



Children participating in poster competition



A group of *Shanti Sainiks* talking oath in a village primary school



Focus Group Discussion



Women digging pit for composting



Field trial for germination test



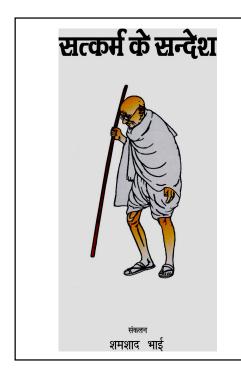
Seed distribution camp



Discussion for selection of beneficiaries



Formation of Bal Mitra Mandals



Booklet printed containing various aspects of development, education, peace, communal harmony and conflict resolution



Discussion meeting for formation of 'Hinsa Virodhi Nari Samai'