

Annual Progress Report

Year : 2011-2012

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:

- Meetings were regularly organized with community by the project staff and volunteers and the peoples were made aware to demand their entitlements under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA). Handbills and posters were distributed during the village level meetings.
- Foot marches in some village panchayats and panchayat level meetings in some village panchayats were organized. Banner, placard, and slogans were used in these events. 100 to 150 people including project staff, volunteers, SHG members, MNREGA Sahyog Samiti members, job card holders and villagers participated in each foot march and meeting.
- During the foot marches and village/panchayat level meetings, local songs were sung in the project villages on the issue of entitlements of the rural people under the MNREGA.
- The MNREGA Sahyog Samitis were working in their respective panchayats and villages under the project to keep vigil against the corruption in implementation of MNREGA and helping the people who want to get their job card, work, unemployment allowances, etc. They were in regular contact with the project staff.
- 60 rural youth volunteers and 100 members of women SHGs trained in last year, were involved in their respective areas for problem identification, awareness building, and handling of cases of violation of provisions as provided under MNREGA. They were provided backup support from the project staff.
- The trained rural volunteers and women were providing support and guidance to the people who are deprived or desirous to seek the employment. The trained women were organizing meetings with rural women and also involved on the issue of right and justice issues related to women under MNREGA.
- The members of MNREGA Sahyog Samiti were involved to keep vigil against corruption and help people in preparation and submission of application for getting job card or employment.
- Meetings were organized with village community specially those persons who were desirous to get job under MNREGA but have not been issued job card and those who have job card but not given employment.
- Situational analysis completed in the villages to get the knowledge of implementation of MNREG scheme in the selected project villages. During the process of situational analysis:

- Detailed information such as number of households, estimated population, socio-economic 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 second phase, to collect information about the enhancement of knowledge and awareness about MNREGA among the villagers through the project intervention, 150 people (10 to 15 people in each village panchayat) were interviewed during December 2010 to April 2011. The peoples interviewed were selected randomly from among those who were interviewed earlier in the month of August and September, 2010.
 - 8 village prandhas were also interviewed during the second phase.
 - In the survey of differently abled persons in the project areas, 225 physically handicapped and 820 visually impaired persons were identified. Out of 820, 135 persons were found totally blind, whereas 685 persons were facing problem of cataract, problem in one eye, low vision, etc.
- Identification of the problems and issues related to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) was documented and shared with the panchayats for their action.
 - Block level officials and panchayats were contacted to get information under MNREGA and to inform them about the situation and deprivation of people.
 - People desirous to get job card / employment were helped in processes of applying for getting job card / employment in writing. The format for application for job and job-card have been printed and distributed in the beneficiaries as per their need.
 - Regular village level meetings were organized with village community and panchayats for preparation of job cards.
 - 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.
 - Panchayats and community were guided and made aware in selection of projects that would be helpful in enhancing the productive infrastructure of the village and benefit the weaker section of the community and rebuild the ecology of the village.
 - Village pradhans (village council heads) were contacted regularly on the issue of MNREGA to cooperate with the project staff.
 - Meetings of volunteers, SHG members and MNREGA Sahyog Samiti members were organized.
 - During the village level meetings, selected educated rural youths were provided knowledge and training on how to use Right to Information (RTI) Act to get the information on the issue of MNREGA and to provide maximum benefit of the provisions of MNREGA to the beneficiaries.
 - Resource centres in all the 30 village panchayats had been established. Posters, handbills, and other materials related to the Scheme were available at the centres and also distributed in the concerned villages. At these centres, the meetings were also organized by volunteers, women SHG members and MNREGA Sahyog Samiti members. Project staff also participated in such meeting from time to time.
 - The village pradhans were encouraged to attend the village level meetings.

- Regular meetings were organized with the project staff to share the experiences and discuss problems faced in project implementation. During the meetings, strategies were made to get the solutions.
- During July to September 2011:
 - 8 handicapped persons got job-card issued.
 - 35 handicapped people applied for the job. Out of which, 20 persons got employment.
 - 24 visually disabled persons applied for job-card.
 - 10 visually disabled persons applied for employment.
 - 8 visually disabled persons got employment under the Scheme.
 - 20 handicapped persons could benefit from the employment under the MNREGS according to their physical capabilities.
 - 372 persons applied in writing for employment and all of them were benefited by getting employment under the Scheme.
 - 26 elderly persons got employment.
 - For the purpose of attendance, the entries of 46 peoples made on muster roll
- In the month of April 2011, a team of ANSA-SAR officials visited to CREDA. During the visit, an interaction meeting was organized with project staff, volunteers, SHG members and MNREGA Sahyog Samiti for sharing of the experiences. Prof. B.N. Juyal made presentation of the report of situational analysis before the team. Dr. Gopakumar K. Thampi and Ms. Nuzhat Jabeen from ANSA-SAR were present on this occasion.
- The team also visited to Sardarpur and Thotha villages, where interactive meetings were organized with the community and project beneficiaries.
- 5 village panchayats have been developed as model village panchayats for best implementation of the MNREGA with the support of village panchayat and our volunteers.
- A booklet on RTI Act in simple language was developed and printed. The copies of the booklet have been provided to the project staff, youth volunteers, SHG members, MNREGA Sahyog Samiti members and people who are desirous to enhance their knowledge about RTI Act. During the village level meetings, 117 youths have been trained on the process of getting information under Right to Information Act and available in the community to help them on the issue of MNREGA.
- To take benefit of the Right to Information Act (RTI Act), educated volunteers among the trained rural youth volunteers were identified and the finally selected volunteers were provided training about how the RTI Act can be used in implementation of the project to provide maximum benefit of the provisions of MNREGA to the beneficiaries. They were also provided with necessary materials.
- The selected youths and volunteers from the project villages were provided needed information about the social audit mainly on following points:
 - What is a social audit
 - How it can be carried out in the village
 - Participation of stakeholder in social audit
 - How to form questions about the social audit
 - Ensure that the needed records are made available during the social audit
- All the progress and processes have been documented during the year.

Project:

Child Right Project:

Protecting child rights, in particular the right to education and protection in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh.

Activities:

- Project staff identified, selected and recruited for implementation of the project.
- Prior to the final selection and placement of field animators, information about each selected animators was profiled. Minimum 12th standards, able to work and live in village situation were the major criteria for selection. Written and oral test was conducted for the final selection. Advertisement was given in the project villages by pasting the advertisement paper at important public points such as panchayats, hospital, block, small and big village markets, schools, etc. A numbers of the applications received at our block offices and contacts. Finally 20 field animators were selected.
- An orientation programme for Field Animators and Block Coordinators was organized on 12th and 13th January 2012 in which they were oriented by Chief Functionary, Project Manager and MIS Coordinator. The state level and district level UNICEF officials also visited the orientation programme and addressed the trainees. The FAs continuously visiting the project villages twice in a month.
- CSOs, labour unions and CBOs were identified for establishing block level civil society alliances for creating a protective environment for children in Halia and Madihan blocks of Mirzapur district.
- Child protection committees (CPCs) formed in 185 villages in line with ICPS. The process of formation of CPCs in rest of the villages was going on and inception meetings were organized under this process.
- To provide training to the CPCs and women SHG members, CREDA identified 20 CBTs on the basis of written test and personal interview. The 5-day ToT programme on 10 Point Child Friendly Agenda & IPC Skills and 4-day Training on Child Right, Child Protection & Facilitation Skills was organized with the support of Independent Thought, New Delhi.
- The CBTs visited the villages and tried to build the relation and introduction with the SHGs and identification and selection of women champions for the training on 10 Point Child Friendly Agenda and IPC Skills.
- To identify and prepare the list of vulnerable communities and get the extent and situation of their vulnerability, first, the criteria of vulnerability had been defined such as facility of basic needs, their low or very low socio economic condition, role and participation in the PRIs, benefit of government schemes and programmes, their status in the society, awareness about their entitlements, etc. 295 hamlets had been identified as the hamlets of vulnerable/marginalized communities. The field animators under the guidance of block coordinators did the work of preparing the list and note on vulnerable/marginalized communities and hamlets.
- 83 existing women self-help groups identified for their involvement in the project. Most of the SHGs were non-functional, in both of the blocks and new SHGs were formed, some olds were made functional for the project purpose.
- Field animators visited at least twice in a month in each of their assigned project villages.
- As social awareness and mobilization activity, wall writing completed in 130 villages. Slogans on child right and child protection were written at the public places to promote the rights of children.
- Rallies, marches and big meetings in 28 project villages in Halia block organized to aware the community about the Child Right Project. During the marches from one village to another, two types of handbills containing the slogans on 10.CFA have been distributed in the public. Banners and placards were also used to aware the people about the rights of children. The SHG members, adolescent girls and active persons from the community provided their full cooperation in organizing the rallies.
- To aware the community on 10 Point Child Friendly Agenda, the set of 8 posters provided by UNICEF were used.

Some Photographs of Activities Carried Out During the Year 2011-2012



Awareness through publicity materials



A poster pasted on the wall of a house



Message on MNREGA through wall writing in the project villages



Message on MNREGA through wall writing in the project villages



Gathering information about payment of wages at workplace in each villages





Process of situation analysis



Inter-village rally/march of women



A member of MNREGA Sahyog Samiti reading the content of the poster



MNREGA Resource Centre being operated from a village hut



Village meeting for helping to write the application for job



People are happy as job card has been issued to them



Training of rural youth volunteers on use of RTI Act, 2005



Meeting on understanding Social Audit



Interaction meeting with ANSA-SAR officials at CREDA Resource Centre



ANSA-SAR Officials' visit to Sardarpur village of Halia block



ANSA-SAR Officials' visit to Thotha village of Halia block



Interaction with the children in Panvari Khurd village of Halia block, Mirzapur



Using UNICEF poster for awareness in the village Kotar Nath, Halia block



Training of Block Coordinators and Field Animators on 13th January 2012



Community meeting by Field Animator in Panvari Kalan village of Halia block



Educating children for hand washing in a Primary School, Galara, Halia block



A Community Based Trainer explaining the growth chart in the village Baidha, Halia block