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Eco-feminism and development: an example of Piplantri village in Rajasthan



3 Eco-feminism and development: an example of Piplantri village in Rajasthan

CONTENTS

6
Gross Domestic Wellbeing (GDW) as a parallel measure to Gross Domestic Product

8
Online orientation training programme on the project for creation of Model GP Clusters across the country

10
Capacity building workshop for ERs and functionaries of PRIs of Daman & Diu for effective formulation of GPDP under People's Plan Campaign

11
National ToT on

Entrepreneurship Development in Livestock Sector

12
ToT on engagement of PRIs to improve nutritional outcomes through Jan Andolan under POSHAN Abhiyaan in Telangana

13
Hindi fortnight celebrations at NIRDPR

14
CHRD organises two rounds of capacity building programme for Charge Officers of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana- II (2019-24)

16
Online ToT programme on institutionalisation of SDGs through Panchayats to manage COVID-19 crisis

19
Rurban Solid Waste Management Clusters

21
Online Training on Social Audit of PMAY-G and NSAP for Resource Persons of SAU Chhattisgarh






#POSHAN Maah2020

My child's growth is my utmost Priority

- ✓ I take necessary care and give nutritious food to my child
- ✓ I take my child to AWC every month without fail
- ✓ I ensure my child's weight and height is measured and marked at AWC
- ✓ I feed therapeutic foods until my child gains necessary weight and height
- ✓ I will not hesitate to go to NRC if there is a problem with my child's growth







#PoshanMaah2020
#Local4Poshan



Eco-feminism and development: an example of Piplantri village in Rajasthan

Planetary health is an emerging domain that addresses the human-caused disruptions to our environment and its impacts on human health. The basic underpinning in planetary health is that it describes the relations between health and climate. The marginalised and the tribals are characterised by inequities which have a direct impact on their livelihoods and issues related to their health. The planetary health movement conceptualises a holistic view of the world incorporating an eco-feminist perspective. It is a clarion call to address the biopsychosocial and spiritual aspects of individuals, groups and communities to come up with a focused strategy.

It cannot be denied that our health is inextricably allied to the health and well-being of our planet. It is high time to design resilient health systems to deal with the pandemic. Over the period of time, it is observed that disease patterns are changing as does the climate and human health is at risk from loss of biodiversity, depleted water supplies, the toxins present in the environment and the collapsing food systems. It is an

emerging need to take cognisance and address the human and planetary health issues. As per the United Nations, the world is facing substantial challenges in delivering health-promoting environment with 91 per cent of the masses breathing polluted air, 2.1

Piplantri's success in increasing the green cover and alongside saving the girl child is an excellent example for other villages to emulate.

billion people lacking access to safe drinking water and two billion suffering from malnutrition. As per the latest researches, there is greater mortality globally due to the air pollution than the HIV, malaria and TB combined. It is time to understand and acknowledge the deep interconnectedness between challenges and accept that we need to change the way we think and operate.

According to WHO (2014), women, children and the elderly in low-resource settings are considered to be the most vulnerable to the health challenges and

ecological crises. Without disturbing the structural balances, there is a need for conceptual and practical mechanism to address the same. Eco-feminist scholars have linked questions of justice regarding the unequal treatment of both women and nature of planetary health for many years. The researchers all across the world are now mapping resourcefulness and making an attempt to understand the sociopolitical, economic and environmental forces that can enable health solutions in a resource-scare future.

Eco-feminism is a political and philosophical theory and movement that connects the oppression of women with the oppression of nature. Feminist philosophers have often stressed on the detrimental effects on physical as well as mental health from the subjugation of nature through a feminist lens. They argue that gender, ecology and health are essentially intertwined. The small village of Piplantri in Rajasthan State is known for its eco-feminism. Since 2007, its residents have been celebrating every birth of a female infant by planting 111 trees.



Watershed conservation ensures availability of water throughout the year in the village

Piplantri

Piplantri, a model village in Rajasthan emerges as oasis in the desert region. Overcoming several barriers, the community people have taken long strides on the roadmap to development. The complexity of injustice and inequity across scales in systems and relations have forced them to generate solutions that promote dignity, safety and equity and justice. The community and local leadership have taken an integrative approach to advancing the health of the community by planting trees. The human health and the health of the planet are inextricably linked in this small village that has set examples in many dimensions. The community people understood that flourishing natural systems need to be focused upon if the ecosystem is to be protected. They realised that healthier environment and cleaner air would reduce the risk of extreme climate changes and its effects.

Piplantri works on a 'participatory model'. The indigenous ways of conserving water, enabling the protection of wildlife and celebrating the birth of girl child have been done through community resourcing.

Digging the Heart of Mother Earth

Piplantri, enriched with natural resources, in the semi-arid hills of Rajsamand district, with undulating landscape is one of the major mining sites for extracting marble. The rural tranquillity is often punctuated by dynamites going off periodically. The marble extracted leads to dumping on the hills and polluting the air with fine white powder that is hazardous to health.

Around 75 per cent of people are directly or indirectly involved in mining activities. Rest of the people depend on agriculture, allied-agriculture related services, small -scale businesses and enterprises and daily labour/wage activities for earning their two square meals a day.

Marble mining is the major livelihood source for the villagers. Extensive mining has resulted in white dust strewn all over the area causing immense air pollution. The destruction of the ecosystem is evidenced in the white marble covered hills that welcome an outsider to Piplantri. In the name of development, over the last few decades, the deforestation had taken away the pulse of the place.

Taking an Eco-feminist Approach

The village has a unique tradition of celebrating the birth of daughters. At the time of the birth of a girl child, Rs.10,000 from the girl's parents and Rs.31,000 from donors is collected and put in a Fixed Deposit (FD) account. All the official formalities are completed for the Janani Suraksha Yojana and other beneficial government schemes and it is ensured that the girl has access to this money when she attains twenty years of age. There are constraints on her parents also so as not to marry her off at an earlier age and that she completes her formal education. Her parents will also be assigned in nurturing the 111 trees they would have planted. Under this practice, on an appointed day, every monsoon, new mothers spread red fabric inside a large wicker basket and place the baby girls inside. Then they carry them to the place in the nursery where the new saplings are to be planted in the name of the newborn. The community of 8000 residents is also dedicated to making sure that the trees survive and attain fruition as the girls grow up.

The former Sarpanch, Shri Shyam

Sundar Paliwal started the programme in 2007 after the death of his daughter. Over 3,00,000 trees were planted throughout the implementation of the programme. Self-help groups, elderly women, grandmothers and aunts take care of plant maintenance. This invaluable work is being done under the Kiran Nidhi Yojana. Over the period of years, people have managed to plant over 3,00,000 trees on the village's common grounds including neem, sheesham, mango, amla, kadam and aloe vera. The festival of rakhi is celebrated with great fanfare wherein a sacred thread is tied around trees. An anthropomorphic approach is adapted wherein trees are considered as good as living beings and given care and protection. As a result, there are three plant nurseries in the village and there is watershed system across 1,020 hectares. The initiative has turned Piplantri into an oasis.

Momentum of Change

The village was once suffering from numerous issues that included industrial pollution from the nearby marble mines, serious water scarcity, lack of electricity, child marriage, female feticide, illiteracy, crime, etc. The former Sarpanch revolutionised both regressive social outlook as well as the ecology of a state and brought in tremendous change by his concerted efforts. Change came in through active participation of villagers. The Gram Panchayat started a day-and-night programme "Panchayat at your door" with reaching out to all the marginalised people in the village as well and seeking their viewpoints. Swajaldhara Yojana was launched to create awareness and take concrete steps to conserve water. At one point in time, the water scarcity had reached such a state wherein trains were used to fetch water. Now, the watershed areas are brimming with water all through the year. The groundwater



Arrangement of water on hilltop for wildlife

level of Piplantri has increased from 60 feet to 5-15 feet in just last five years. Complete ban on alcohol, cutting of trees and open defecation has yielded good results. Dumping yard is being converted into greenery filled hills under the guidance of Jalgrahan Committee. It is the unique work of strengthening dump yard by the debris from marble mines. Under MGNREGA, these white-coated hillocks are now being converted back into green pastures.

To develop the green belt in the village and to prevent illegitimate occupation on the land, flower and fruit plants are being grown extensively. The plantations done in the village include aloe vera, amla, guava, pomegranate, chiku, mango, karonda, plum, etc. The aloe vera plants have become a great source of livelihoods for the villagers. It is processed and marketed in a variety of ways. Now, they also produce aloe-based products like juice, gel and pickle. All pasture areas have been covered as far as possible by obtaining financial support from the watershed development scheme and MNREGA.

A new initiative is the "memory forest" wherein 11 trees are planted in the memory of the departed. The maintenance is done by family members and, about 1100 saplings have been planted so far. Drainage treatment works

on arable sloping land have brought moisture to the fields. Rice is also being cultivated by some farmers.

Conclusion

Going by the tagline "beti, paani, ped, gochar bhoomika sanrankshan" and stressing on "paryavaran ki paathshaala", the new initiatives have carved a niche for themselves. The Piplantri Model mainly focuses on the better upbringing of the girls in the village, water restoration and reforestation work of the village which was lost due to the mining activity going on for decades. The transformation in the village has been due to systematic approach and committed community members resulting in the village receiving the "Nirmal Gram Puruskar" in 2007 and also the former Sarpanch being honoured by the President's award. He acknowledges this long-lasting change to self-motivation and positive thinking. In the development discourse and practice, active involvement of village communities for effectively managing local forests and commons has been widely recognised. The community makes sure that these trees survive and grow as do the girls.

Dr. Sonal Mobar Roy

Assistant Professor, CPGS & DE,
NIRDPR

Cover page Design: **Shri V. G. Bhat**

Gross Domestic Wellbeing (GDW) as a parallel measure to Gross Domestic Product



The entrance of Malkapur Model Village in Medak district, Telangana

The visit to progressive village of Malkapur, Medak district, Telangana, reminded and made it realise the importance of substitution of wellbeing as a better and alternative measure to quantifying production/income. The village is performing very well by cooperating among themselves and getting the work done with great coordination from different government departments, resulting in more and more basic facilities for the village, progressing as a community and adjudged as the best in the State.

The village made use of Grama Jyothi Scheme (GJS) of Government of Telangana, which is aimed at the comprehensive development of rural areas and improving the Human Development Index (HDI). Alcohol is prohibited in the village and all the houses now have treated tap water supply all-round the year. Cleanliness is maintained well with proper drainage facilities and sanitation and the village has become Open Defection-Free (ODF). The groundwater level has increased as a result of soak pits. The village has solar street lights. Trees have been planted beautifully along the roadside, and a garden has been developed at the entrance of the village, welcoming the guests. In short The village has become an inspiration to the neighbouring

villages. District Collector D. Ronald Rose is the motivating force behind the social transformation of Malkapur village.

The cooperation of the villagers not only had a great impact on the village as a whole, in terms of better infrastructure but also led to individual prosperity. The villagers received adequate formal finance from Stree Nidhi Credit Cooperative Federation Ltd. for agriculture and other non-agricultural livelihoods. Impressed by the progress made by the village in a short span of time, the State Government provided milch animals of their choice to each and every household in the village.

Despite such a progress and steps forward of the village as a whole, interaction with the young men of the village as part of a field study at the village revealed their enormous discontent and displeasure that they are not earning lakhs of rupees per month and not able to drive cars to their farms and go around places with family in their own cars. Each one considers its as an accomplishment when he earns more than his peers.

Why is it a problem? What is the solution to such problems? What is the root cause of such a problem? It is due to the affluent enslaving the weak. The modern day's strength is indicated by wealth and income, one leading to the other. The voracity to earn and accumulate

more and more is the principal reason for exploitation, inequalities and deprivation of basic needs to many. Gross Domestic Wellbeing (GDW) as a parallel measure to Gross Domestic Product is a loud thinking!! and we need to have a thorough examination of its impact.

The International Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress summed it up that "what we measure affects what we do: if we measure the wrong thing, we will do the wrong thing," writes Joseph Stiglitz in his article published in The Guardian titled 'GDP is not a good measure of wellbeing- it's too materialistic.' If we focus only on material wellbeing, we become distorted and become more materialistic. GDP is not a good measure of wellbeing – it's too materialistic. The Focus should be on health, education and environment. Introduction of Gross Domestic Wellbeing (GDW) as a parallel measure to replace GDP in the long run is the need of the hour, he adds.

The flawed and inadequate metrics directing the macro policies focused narrowly on GDP and fiscal prudence fueling insecurity, without any concentration on social performance. The deficient policies, concentrating on realisation of a higher GDP, bring in labour market changes in the name of boosting flexibility and it weakens the workers'

bargaining position leading to insecurity and lower wage incomes. Guy Standing, a famous labour economist, in his book titled, 'The Precariat: The New Dangerous Class' talks about the emergence of this new class of people and its rapid growth. He describes them as a class without any work-based identity, facing lives of insecurity giving little meaning to their lives. When employed, they are without traditions of social memory, occupational identity, codes of ethics and norms of behaviour, and fraternity. The precariat does not feel as a part of a solidaristic labour community intensifying the sense of alienation. The actions and attitudes derived from precariousness, drift them towards opportunism without a strong or binding effect on their longer-term relationships, producing instabilities in society. In short, it says that situation of precarious employment and economic insecurity affects the lives of the "precariat" individually, collectively, day-to-day, and over the longer term.

The precariat has grown because of the policies and institutional changes promoting competitive pressure and open market economy. The commitment to market principles and 'commodification' the central aspect of globalisation made everything as a commodity, to be bought and sold, with prices determined by demand and supply. It has been extended to every aspect of life, including the family, education system, firm, labour

institutions, and social protection policy. In the drive for market efficiency, barriers to commodification were dismantled by re-regulation thwarting the voices of collective interests, in the guise of barriers to competition. The said objective of economic growth 'making everyone richer' justified the rolling back of fiscal policy as an instrument of progressive redistribution. High direct taxes and provision of economic security for low earners were considered as disincentives to invest and driving investment and jobs to other countries. This led to competitive pressures between the different nations, including the industrialised countries and the newly industrialising countries like China and India with an unlimited supply of labour available at low cost. This led to implementation of flexible labour laws by every country destroying the social protection and outcome of social solidarity in the name of economic growth.

Better metrics like Gross Domestic Wellbeing (GDW)/ Gross Domestic Happiness (GDH) of the country, state, district, mandal, village and / or organisation make policymakers at the national and international level and decision-makers at the local / establishment level pay attention at least to some extent on security and equality complementing and contributing to growth and enhancing wellbeing of the group/society at large. The appropriate

metric of measurement of growth and development redirect the budget of different countries/States accordingly. If it is people first, for governments, what improves their wellbeing should be the agenda.

COVID-19 has brought in many unexpected changes to the daily routine, work and made the world realise the truth that individual's health and wellbeing is dependent on universal wellbeing. Ill health and suffering of anyone anywhere is a threat to health of one and all everywhere. Now, more than ever, we need to evaluate the state of inequality and remind ourselves the '1944 Declaration of Philadelphia' of International Labour Organisation (ILO), which, recognised the fact that poverty anywhere is a danger to prosperity everywhere. It also called for unrelenting efforts at national and international level for common welfare and policies facilitating freedom, dignity, economic security and equal opportunity while achieving material wellbeing. If these directives were taken into account, while framing policies and properly implemented, there must not have been such an inequality among the people. But, the partial and flawed process of measurement of material wealth might have sidetracked the focus of policy merely towards boosting material wealth.

Let the COVID opportunity be used to launch GDW as parallel measure to GDP in the short run and replace it in the long run. The introduction of GDW to some extent may improve the focus of policies towards wellbeing, and help in reducing the large-scale unemployment, widespread poverty and consequent social unrest. It is also helpful in combating the imminent climate change crisis.

Bhavani Akkapeddi

Project Consultant,

CED & FI

Aparna Penumarthi

Assistant Professor, CESS



Rock garden at Malkapur village

Online orientation training programme on the project for creation of Model GP Clusters across the country



Training programme on project for creating Model GP Clusters in progress

The Centre for Panchayati Raj, Decentralised Planning, and Social Service Delivery (CPRDP&SSD) has completed the first online orientation training for the State Nodal Officers (SNO), State Level Master Trainers (SLMTs), and District Level Master Trainers (DLMTs) on the project for creating Model GP Clusters. The training aims to orient the participants about the project and develop a common understanding about the goal & objectives, approach and distinctive character of the project.

Training was conducted for all the participant States and UTs (26 States and 5 Union Territories which include Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Leh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Ladakh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal). The training was imparted through online mode due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation in four slots (29th July to 31st July, 5th August to 7th August, 26th August to 28th August, and 2nd September to 4th September 2020).

The first two three-day training programmes started with the keynote address by Shri Alok Prem Nagar, Joint

Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj and the third and fourth three-day training programmes started with the keynote address by Shri Shiv Shanker Prasad, Director, Ministry of Panchayati Raj which set the tone for the orientation training programme.

Addressing the participants, the key speakers emphasised on the importance of planning at Gram Panchayat-level in a participatory manner and the importance of creating 250 Model GP Clusters across the country. Shri Alok Prem Nagar highlighted that “process is more important than the product” in the context of GPDP preparation. Shri Shiv Shanker Prasad, highlighted that the ownership of the States is crucial and the performance of SLMTs/DLMTs and SNOs is key to the success of the project.

The training programme covered the following topics: i) GPDP as a strategy of achieving holistic & sustainable development; ii) Quality issues in GPDP and means of achieving them; iii) The goal & objectives, methodology of implementation, key outcomes and milestones of the project for creating Model GP Clusters; iv) Institutional strengthening of the Project GPs as a prerequisite for quality GPDP; v) Relevance of Mission Antyodaya Data and e-GramSwaraj portal of the MoPR in the context of effective GP functioning; vi) Community-based, community-

managed & community-owned process of development, based on voluntary actions; and, vii) Role of the Project in meeting challenges of economic development, social justice & SDGs and triggering positive differences in the effective functioning of GPs and creation of Model GPs.

During the interactions, the participants raised several questions about the project pertaining to the implementation mechanism, various activities of the project, and the role of the various stakeholders and funding mechanism of the project. All the questions were answered in detail with examples by resource persons, and participants were provided with all the reading materials related to the project for further learning and understanding.

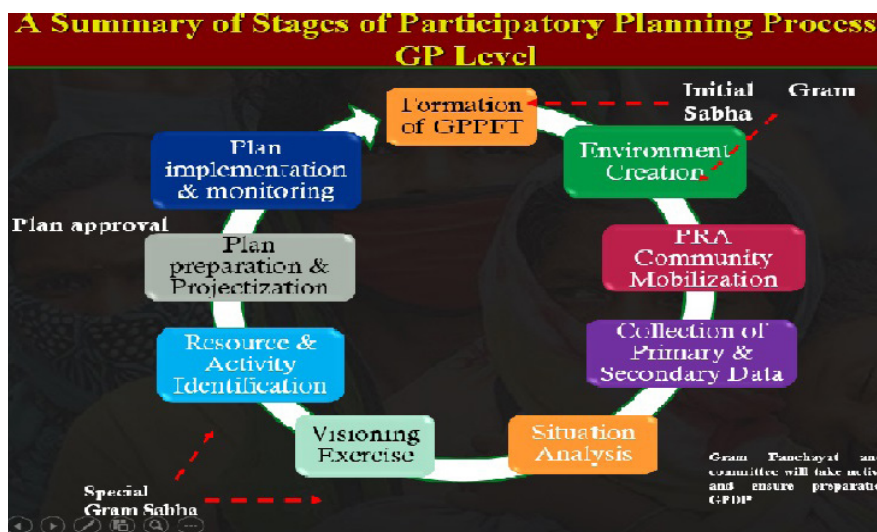
At the end of each training programme, participants gave positive feedback and comments. Ms. Remy Lacerda, who is a State Level Master Trainer from Goa, wrote: “The programme was well planned, organised and topics well-covered. Thanks for sharing the matter. This knowledge will surely guide us to go ahead with the project.”

These programmes were coordinated by Dr. Anjan Kumar Bhanja, Associate Professor, CPRDP&SSD, NIRDPR, along with Shri Dilip Kumar Pal, Project Team Leader for Model GP Clusters and Project Management Unit Team for Model GP Clusters.

Capacity building workshop for ERs and functionaries of PRIs of Daman & Diu for effective formulation of GPDP under People's Plan Campaign

The Centre for Panchayati Raj, Decentralised Planning and Social Service Delivery (CPRDP&SSD) conducted two-day online capacity building workshop during 19th and 20th August, 2020 for the elected representatives and functionaries of PRIs, including the frontline workers of Daman and Diu for the formulation of Gram Panchayat Development Plan. The participants were from the District and Gram Panchayats of Daman and Diu. The training programme aimed at orienting the participants on stages, processes and issues involved in preparation of GPDP; acquainting them participants with PRA techniques for authentic data collection; developing a clear and common understanding on the quality issues in GP functioning and GPDP; enabling them to understand the significance of integrating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with GPDP and to guide them to utilise the opportunities of e-Gram Swaraj Portal of MoPR & Learning Management System (LMS) of NIRDPR for Panchayat strengthening and formulation of quality GPDP. The training was delivered on online mode considering the COVID-19 pandemic situation.

The training started with the keynote address by Shri Avinash Chander, Under Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India which set the tone for the two-day Capacity Building Programme. While addressing the participants, he said that the Participatory and Inclusive Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) is a means to achieve economic development and social justice. He further highlighted that grassroots officials are the frontline warriors for accomplishing the objectives of People's Plan Campaign". Shri Avinash



A slide from the presentation

further emphasised upon the action points of People's Plan Campaign 2020-21. He discussed the challenges faced by Gram Panchayat to conduct Gram Sabhas in this pandemic.

Welcome address was delivered by Shri Premji Makhwana, BDO, Daman and Diu on the first day of the workshop. He highlighted the capacity building and training initiatives of Ministry of Panchayati Raj and NIRDPR for the elected representatives and functionaries of PRIs of Daman & Diu for preparation of participatory GPDP as a part of People's Plan Campaign since 2018.

Shri Premji Makhwana further mentioned that the formulation of participatory and inclusive Gram Panchayat Development Plan at the Panchayat level is possible with the wholehearted support and involvement of elected representatives and functionaries of Gram Panchayats.

Dr. Anjan Kumar Bhanja initiated the session by highlighting the background and objectives of the workshop and also the goal & objectives, and activities of the People's Plan Campaign. He discussed the design of the workshop at length by focusing on some of the important technical sessions like stages, processes and issues involved in preparation of GPDP;

quality issues in GP functioning and GPDP; relevance of Mission Antyodaya Data and eGramSwaraj portal of the MoPR in the context of effective GP functioning; Community-based, community-managed & community-owned process of development; and tools for community level data collection for participatory planning - PRA.

The sessions were interactive and participants raised their queries on multiple issues like activity mapping in the eGramswaraj portal, relevance of Mission Antyodaya data; GIS-based spatial planning, involvement of line department in the planning process, etc. Participants were provided with reading material related to the steps, process of formulation of Gram Panchayat Development Plan for further learning.

Ms. Richa Choudhary, Consultant, Department of Panchayati Raj, Government of Jharkhand took a session on integration of Sustainable Development Goals with Gram Panchayat Development Plan. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Anjan Kumar Bhanja, Associate Professor, CPRDP&SSD, NIRDPR along with Shri Abnish Kumar Ray, Project Associate, NIRDPR.

National ToT on entrepreneurship development in livestock sector



The Centre for Human Resource Development (CHRD), National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad conducted a two-week national training of trainers programme on 'Entrepreneurship Development in Livestock Sector' from 24th August to 7th September, 2020 virtually. The training programme on livestock entrepreneurship consisted of five modules: livestock for entrepreneurship 2. management, feeding and healthcare of livestock 3. concept of value chain and farmer producer organisations 4. applied economics and value addition to milk, meat, eggs and dung for promoting rural enterprises and 5. bankable projects, financial and marketing aspects, packing, branding and how to become a champion.

The objective of the training programme was to impart knowledge on opportunities in livestock sector, challenges and opportunities in rural entrepreneurship, management, feeding and healthcare of livestock and backyard poultry, to train on economics of dairy,

value chain and FPO approaches, processing and making of products and economics, to provide knowledge on financing, marketing, branding, ethics, morals and values in business and to share the experiences and knowledge of livestock entrepreneurs with the participants.

On the first day, Dr. Y. Ramana Reddy, Programme Director, Professor and Head, CHRD and Director, NRLM-RC highlighted the training schedule, objective of two-week training programme and initiated the programme by elucidating the status of production of animal sourced foods in different States of India and notified the increasing trend in consumption of meat in developing countries citing that much of the world's livestock feed comes from small mixed farms in developing countries and the context of demand uprising for the animal sourced foods, he said it is time to take a proactive step in order to generate rural employment and meet the market demand.

Dr. P. P. Sahu, Associate Professor, Centre for Entrepreneurship

Development and Financial Inclusion (CED&FI), NIRDPR illustrated the challenges and opportunities of rural entrepreneurs. Specifically during COVID-19 scenario, obstacles faced by first generation entrepreneurs, 'Missing Knowledge Ecosystem', 'Missing Incubation Ecosystem', 'Missing Banking Ecosystem', poor accounting skills, herd mentality and other constraints for instance like marketing, raw material, etc., which are refraining rural entrepreneurs from establishing a successful enterprise. He also shared the knowledge on establishing a business and significance of business plan and its components, multiple schemes of Government of India under different ministries for enterprise promotion, viz. SVEP under MoRD, ASPIRE, INSPIRE, PMEGP, SFRUTI under Ministry of MSME, MUDRA under Ministry of Finance etc., which are significant pathways for the first generation entrepreneurs to overcome the constraints and become successful.

The other key areas covered during the training programme were ties and challenges of Indian Dairy

enterprise which involves the millions of resource poor farmers, knowledge on management and health care of dairy animals for better production, feeding of dairy herd at different physiological stages, pregnancy and lactation, feed and fodder resources management, importance of value addition to basal diet, feed processing/densification, fortification, processing options, water footprints, fodder conservation technologies, management and health care of small ruminants, emphasising on breeding management, breeding seasons, care and management during gestation.

The topics also included housing importance, effect of climate factors on performance, methods to prevent diseases and attacks by the flies, different rearing systems of small ruminants, advantages and disadvantages of different rearing systems, best feeding practices for economical meat production from sheep and goats, backyard poultry for livelihoods and entrepreneurship, concept of value chain for quality animal sourced food production and its significance, community collective marketing, problems of the poor farmers, constraints and the need for village organisation intervention in marketing.

Besides, topics such as the concept of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and its significance, concepts of value addition in every stage (viz. procurement, product preparation and marketing) to milk, meat and eggs and economics, how the biogas from cow dung could be a sustainable green enterprise or business model which can create jobs, application of economics in dairy production in order to assess profitability and efficiency of farm, finding suitable interventions to increase dairy income minimising the cost and increase returns, how to make bankable business projects,

Slide 3

Present Context of Agrarian Economy

- Small holder agriculture
- Increasing tenancy
- Declining contribution to GDP
- Agriculture as a livelihood, by default
- Collectivisation as an alternative is time tested.

A slide from the presentation

cardinal principles of financing, project management and the concepts of market appraisal, technical appraisal, brand equity in marketing, financial appraisal, socio cost-benefit analysis, monitoring of projects and the recent trends in agri sector, importance of 3 Rs (i.e. Respect for people, Responsibility, Result), ethical behaviour, models of management ethics, corporate social responsibility and other useful concepts.

In addition, an interaction session with dairy, sheep and back-yard poultry entrepreneurs was also organised to make the trainees to understand ups and downs in livestock enterprise and how to overcome them for successful running of the enterprise.

A total of 2,070 nominations were received for the training programme nationally and internationally and 224 (male- 171, female – 53 and 2 international participants) registered trainees were shortlisted. Out of them 127 (male – 98 and female- 29) successfully completed the training and received the e-certificate by fulfilling the criteria of the training programme.

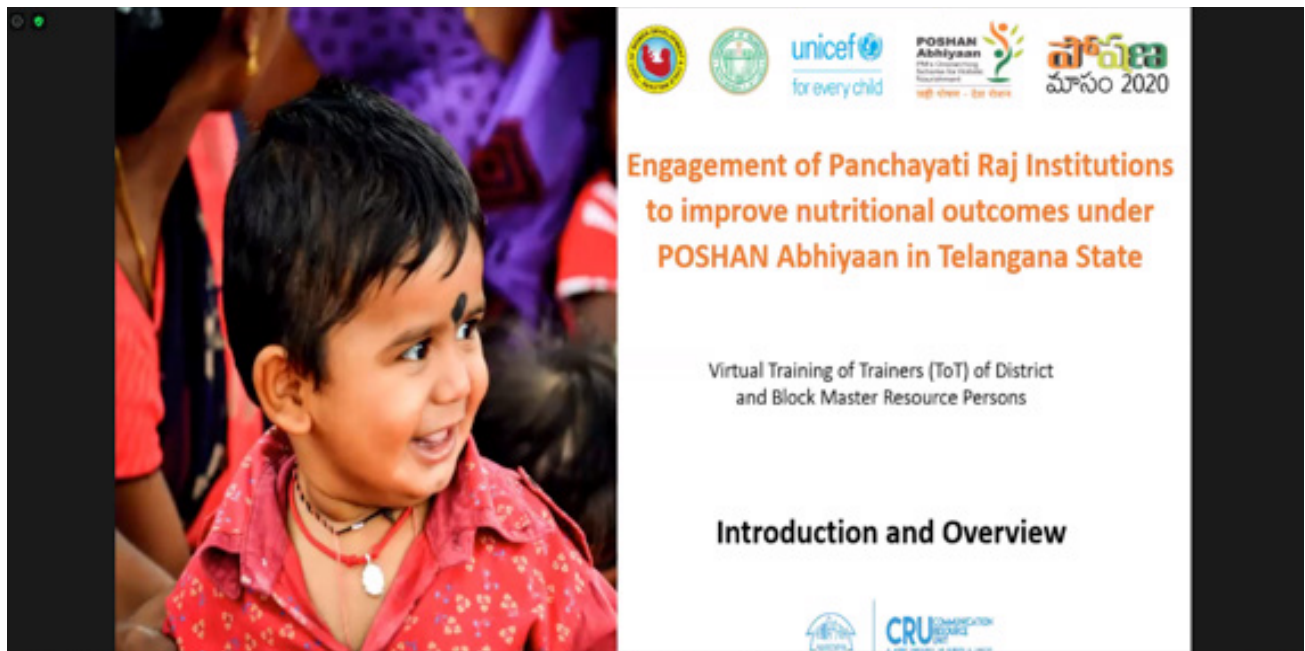
The profile of the successful participants include animal husbandry officers (Veterinary Assistant Surgeons or equivalent - 34, Assistant Directors -

13, Assistant Commissioner - 1, Deputy Directors - 3), administrative officers of universities and ICAR (Deputy Director of Research - 1, Registrar of Hospital - 1, Joint Director of Research, NDRI - 1), teaching faculty from various veterinary colleges (Assistant Professors - 33, Associate Professors - 2, Professors - 5), scientists of KVKs (3), poultry development and research officers (3), SIRD (4) SRLM (1) and ETC (1) staff, research scholars (13), young professional (1), international scholar (1) and others (6).

State-wise participants include fifteen from Andhra Pradesh, six from Bihar, eight each from Haryana, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, 23 from Maharashtra, three from Mizoram, nineteen from Odisha, four from Puducherry, five from Rajasthan, ten each from Telangana and Uttara Pradesh, one each from Assam, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, West Bengal and one from Nigeria (international).

At the concluding session, Dr. Y. Ramana Reddy, Programme Director delivered the valedictory address and interacted with the participants. Ms. Shefali Singh, Young Professional and Rimki Patgiri, Research Associate, NRLM RC assisted the Programme Director in organising the training programme.

ToT on engagement of PRIs to improve nutritional outcomes through Jan Andolan under POSHAN Abhiyaan in Telangana



A slide from the presentation

POSHAN Abhiyaan is India's flagship programme to improve the nutritional outcomes for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers. POSHAN Abhiyaan emphasises on the role of PRIs in advocating and influencing the households with the key nutrition and health behaviours, and for bringing about momentum at the Gram Panchayat level.

In this context, CRU-NIRDPR and UNICEF Hyderabad field office in collaboration with DWCD of Telangana designed an online training programme to build the capacities of district and mandal resource persons on 'Engagement of Panchayati Raj Institutions to improve nutritional outcomes through Jan Andolan under POSHAN Abhiyaan in TS. The NITI Aayog training package on engaging PRI members in POSHAN Abhiyaan was adapted in organising these virtual trainings. These ToTs were organised with an overall objective of reaching PRI members and Gram Panchayat secretaries with the message to act as community influencers to enhance participation and support, supervise the

activities of POSHAN and promote the practice of nutrition behaviour's (both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive) among the households in their village.

Two batches of virtual ToTs were organised during 22nd and 23rd of September for district and mandal resource persons from line departments, i.e. RD&PR, DWCD, Health, SERP and Tribal Welfare. A total of 210 District Resource and 490 Mandal Resource Persons attended the training programme.

Mr. Srinivas, SBCC Coordinator from Communication Resource Unit (CRU) presented the context and overview of the ToT programme.

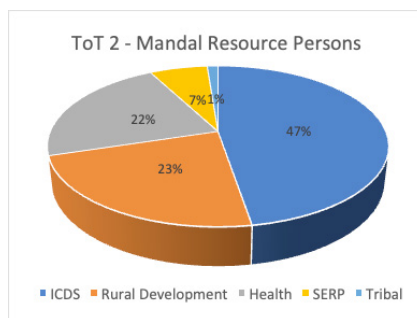
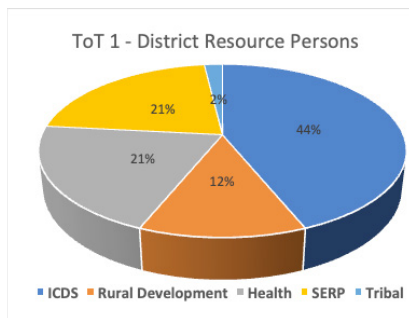
Ms. Seema, C4D Specialist of UNICEF HFO, in her opening remarks welcomed the participants. She appreciated the efforts undertaken by the the Department of Women Development and Child Welfare of Telangana as part of the 'POSHAN Maah'. She also noted role PRI members can play in bringing convergence in the POSHAN Abhiyaan programme at the village level.

Dr. R. Ramesh, Associate Professor and Head, Communication Resource Unit

highlighted the need to include budget in GPDP to address malnutrition-related concerns and also pointed at triggering behavioural changes in PRIs to take up activities which can be accomplished without any monetary support like home visits, etc.

Ms. K.R.S. Laxmi Devi, Joint Director of Women Development and Child Welfare of Telangana and Ms. Lalitha, Joint Project Coordinator & Nodal Officer of POSHAN Abhiyaan in the State participated on behalf of the department and appreciated the effort of CRU-NIRDPR in organising the ToT. They also requested all the participants to be attentive and carry forward the message. Ms. Devi also highlighted various activities as part of the 'POSHAN Maah' that are being taken-up in convergent mode with other line departments.

Resource team from CRU, UNICEF coordinated all the sessions. The resource team included Ms. Aravinda Devi and Ms. Jones from CRU and Dr. Kyathi, Nutrition Specialist and Shri Prakash, SAM Consultant from UNICEF and Ms. Shruthi from SPMU of POSHAN



Percentage of participants attended from line departments

Abhiyaan, Telangana. The sessions covered topics like importance of nutrition, life cycle approach, 1000 days' care, care for the sick children – SAM and MAM, nutrition-sensitive behaviours: immunisation and Vitamin A supplementation, caring for the adolescent girls, sanitation and hygiene

behaviours, GDP and Nutrition, and expected role of PRI members in POSHAN Jan Aandolan.

All the participants were provided insights on the above sessions and key messages which in turn the PRI members can convey in their communities to be as change agent at village level for

POSHAN behaviours. At the end, a rollout plan to cascade next level trainings were discussed by Ms. Shruthi from SPMU. She detailed on the process that has to be followed to organise next level trainings and also on reporting of such programme from mandals.

Shri Srinivas, SBCC Coordinator from CRU thanked all the HoDs of line departments, i.e. DWCD, Health, RD&PR, SERP and Tribal Welfare for nominating the district and mandal resource persons and also thanked all the participants. He exuded confidence that the training sessions were equipped with necessary knowledge and inputs to take-up next level training to PRI members.

The programme was coordinated by Shri S. Srinivas, SBCC Coordinator at Communication Resource Unit of NIRDPR.

Hindi fortnight celebrations at NIRDPR



As per the directions of the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi, and with the approval of the competent


authority, the Hindi fortnight was celebrated in the Institute during 14th–28th September, 2020. In the wake of the current COVID-19 pandemic, an online

elocution competition was conducted under the able leadership of Smt. Radhika Rastogi, Deputy Director General, NIRDPR. The competition was held separately for the staff of the Institute and PGDRDM students.

Shri Narsimha Raju Kesipeddy, OSD to Director General and Dr. Sonal Mobar Roy, Assistant Professor, CPGS & DE coordinated the elocution competition for the staff of NIRDPR and PGDRDM students respectively.

Smt. Anita Pandey, Assistant Director (OL) welcomed all the participants during the online elocution competition and presented a brief outline of Hindi fortnight. The topic for the competition was 'Role of Information Technology during COVID-19 Pandemic'. The competition was organised separately for Hindi and non-Hindi speaking participants. The winners of the competition were given cash prizes. Mr. E. Ramesh, Senior Hindi Translator and Smt. V. Annapurna, Junior Hindi Translator were the judges of the competition.

CHRD organises two rounds of capacity building programme for Charge Officers of Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana- II (2019-24)



FIVE YEAR VISION OF MoRD 2019-24

Develop model Gram Panchayats under the leadership of Hon'ble Members of Parliament across the country during 2019-24 under SAGY- II

SAGY-II (2019-24)

Five Adarsh Grams (one per year) will be selected and developed during 2019-2024, by each Hon'ble MP

Chapter 9, SAGY Guidelines

340 Gram Panchayats identified for 2019-20 and 10 GPs identified for 2020-21

A slide from the presentation

SAGY - SAMARTHYA training programme - the complete capacity building programme on planning process and effective implementation of the programme for the Charge Officers of SAGY - II (2019-24), was organised through online mode by NIRDPR, Hyderabad in two phases, i.e. during 28th-31st July and 1st-3rd September, 2020. The programme was sponsored by SAGY Division of Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.

Though it was thought of organising this programme across the country in one phase, later, due to the larger number of nominations (nearly 250) received, it was decided to conduct the same in two phases. The first of phase training programme was organised for southern and north-eastern States and second phase was organised for northern, western and central States of the country.

In fact, several such programmes were organised in the past (in-house) for the benefit of the functionaries involved in the implementation of Programme in the earlier phases and these two were the first online programme among the series of SAGY programmes across the country. The Institute, so far, trained about 1,300 functionaries involved in the implementation of the programme. The

clientele group mainly consists of Charge Officers of SAGY Gram Panchayats, State Team of Trainers, State Nodal Officers, etc.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic prevailing in the country, this programme was organised through online mode. In the first phase, almost 160 Charge Officers were nominated to attend this programme and 123 participated. Similarly, in second phase, 260 officers and elected PRI representatives of PRIs were nominated. However, a total of 180 participants attended this programme. To avoid last-minute technical issues before the commencement of the programme, participants were given demonstration and guidance by the course team on how to use online application.

The objectives of the programme were (i) to orient the participants about the importance of SAGY programme and its role in creating model villages, (ii) to equip the participants with the strategies of SAGY scheme for effective implementation, (iii) to impart the skills and techniques of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) for effective planning processes, and (iv) to demonstrate various successful rural development models to the participants.

In all, 303 (123+180) Charge Officers consisting of 231 males (79+152) and 72

females (44 +28) from 23 States (11+12) such as Andhra Pradesh (20), Arunachal Pradesh (1), Assam (2), Karnataka (3), Kerala (39), Manipur (1), Nagaland (2), Puducherry (UT) (1), Sikkim (1), Tamil Nadu (51) and Telangana (2) in first phase, Bihar (9), Chhattisgarh (12), Gujarat (40), Haryana (8), Himachal Pradesh (2), Jammu and Kashmir (UT) (1), Madhya Pradesh (5), Maharashtra (27), Punjab (27), Rajasthan (16), Uttar Pradesh (16) and Uttarakhand (2) in second phase took part in this programme.

Dr. Ramana Reddy, Professor and Head (i/c), Centre for Human Resource Development, NIRDPR welcomed the participants. and explained the importance of SAGY programme.

Dr. Lakhan Singh, Assistant Professor and Course Director presented the course structure/design and interacted with participants to make them more comfortable with the online mode. He also shared the necessary instructions to be followed during the four-day training programme.

Both programmes were inaugurated by Dr. Biswajit Banarjee, IAS, Joint Secretary, PPP and SAGY, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. During his inaugural address, he interacted at length with the participants. He highlighted the SAGY guidelines according to which the Hon'ble Members of Parliament are to identify five Gram Panchayats (one per year) for developing as Adarsh Gram during 2019-24. So far, Hon'ble MPs have identified 340 Gram Panchayats during 2019-20 and eight GPs for 2020-21, he added. Further, Dr. Biswajit advised the Charge Officers to pursue with the Hon'ble MPs in identifying five Gram Panchayats in their jurisdiction. He thanked NIRDPR for preparing online training modules for capacity building of Charge Officers of SAGY and also for making all the necessary arrangements.

Dr. Biswajit also highlighted the issues

and challenges of COVID-19 and stressed upon maintaining physical distancing and following precautionary measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus. He said SAGY Gram Panchayats should play a crucial role in spreading awareness among villagers on COVID-19 and facilitate the necessary assistance to needy. He also touched upon the issues of agriculture, farmers, youths, food security, alternate marketing, reach of all rural development schemes, convergence of resources available under different Central and State schemes, need to ensure participatory appraisal of development activities at village-level, etc. Dr. Biswajit showed his concern towards preparation of less number of Village Development Plans (VDP) and asked the Charge Officers to make an extra effort to prepare village development plan.

Smt. Roop Avatar Kaur, IFS, Director, SAGY, MoRD also interacted with participants and made an impactful presentation on some selected successful models of Gram Panchayats under SAGY. The presentation revealed that wherever the GP President and Charge officers showed keen interest and owned this scheme, those GPs have done wonderful work and have emerged as model villages.

The sessions of training programmes

were developed keeping in view the objectives of the programme and feedback of the participants on previous rounds of programmes. The sessions which were delivered in four days included overview on SAGY, successful models of rural development, use of Mission Antyodaya data for planning purpose, experience sharing on field visit to SAGY Panchayat, entry point activities/social mobilisation under SAGY, VDP framework, baseline surveys, PRA tools and techniques, availability of resource envelope and convergence strategies, successful model villages of SAGY, observation from the post-project evaluation study of SAGY, low/less cost development, COVID-19 and livelihood approaches, and demonstration of MIS used in SAGY.

The sessions were delivered by Shri Ram Pappu from Mission Sammriddhi, Dr. Y. Ramana Reddy, Dr. C Kathiresan, Associate Professor and Head, CPR, Dr. R. Ramesh, Associate Professor and Head, CRI, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Mamgain, Professor, SRSC and Dr. Lakhan Singh, Associate Professor from NIRDPR, Dr. Suryanarayana Reddy, former Consultant at NIRDPR, Shri Subhranshu, Sekhar Sarkar, Professor, Tezpur University, Assam, Dr. Gireesan K., Rajiv Gandhi University National Institute of Youth Development, Tamil Nadu,

Dr. Vardaani, former Additional Director, DDUSIRD, Lucknow, Shri Sourabh, Ms. Uma and Shri Rijo P. George, from SAGY division, MoRD and Shri Atul Kumar Singh, NIC, New Delhi.

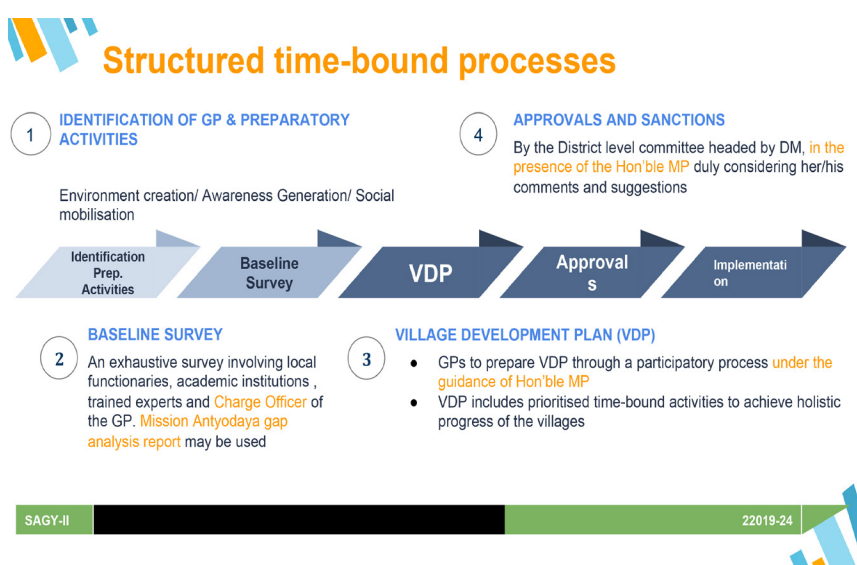
Since the programme was conducted via online platform, all resource persons were requested to present their sessions in a participative way by using documentary films, charts, success stories, case studies, charts, photographs, live demonstration of website, presentations, lecture method, question and answer session, etc., and all these methods were applied successfully by resource persons.

At end of each session, the participants were asked to evaluate the programme. The feedback highlights that more than 95 per cent participants of first programme and 87 per cent participants of the second programme reported improvement in their knowledge, skill and change in their attitude after attending the sessions.

The valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Biswajit Banerjee, IAS, Joint Secretary, SAGY, MoRD. He took the feedback about the programme directly from the participants and asked how it could be improved further. He also invited questions/clarifications/suggestions from the participants and clarified their queries. He motivated and inspired all the Charge Officers by promising them to extend his full support and cooperation to make the SAGY programme more successful. The valedictory address for the second programme was delivered by Course Coordinator.

Dr. Biswajit Banerjee also appreciated the efforts of CHRD team at NIRDPR and SAGY division, MoRD in organising this programme successfully and effectively.

The programme was coordinated by Dr. Lakhan Singh, Assistant Professor, Centre for Human Resource Development, and Dr. R. Ramesh, Associate Professor, Centre for Rural Infrastructure, National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad.



A slide from the presentation

Online ToT programme on institutionalisation of SDGs through Panchayats to manage COVID-19 crisis



A slide from the presentation on Gender Equality

A series of four advanced online ToT programmes on 'Institutionalisation of SDGs through Panchayats to manage COVID-19 crisis' was organised in the month of September, 2020 by the Centre for Panchayati Raj, Decentralised Planning and Social Service Delivery (CPRDP&SSD), NIRDPR, Hyderabad. The clientele groups for the programme were Certified Master Resource Persons, District Panchayati Raj Officers and Block Panchayati Raj Officers of the Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, North-Eastern States. The participants of all the four ToT programmes were Certified Master Resource Persons of NIRDPR, Hyderabad under the MoPR-RGSA sponsored project 'Transforming India through Strengthening PRIs by Continuous Training and e-Enablement (TISPRI)'.

The objectives of these ToT programmes were to orient the participants on the goals and targets of SDGs and enable them to integrate the same into their respective fields, especially for managing COVID-19 crisis. The programme also entrusted the participants to develop their capabilities to understand the role of Panchayats to achieve holistic development through SDGs.

The first programme of the series was conducted in coordination with the Department of Panchayati Raj, Uttarakhand during 1st-4th September, 2020. A total number of 65 participants, namely Village Panchayat Development Officers, Research Officers and Panchayat Secretaries attended the programme. The ToT programme started with the briefing of objectives and purpose of the programme by Dr. Pratyusna Patnaik, Assistant Professor, CPRDP&SSD, NIRDPR. It was followed by a welcome address by Dr. C Kathiresan, Associate Professor & Head, CPRDP&SSD, NIRDPR. The inaugural address of the programme was given by Shri Shiva Shankar Prasad, Director, MoPR, GoI, New Delhi. He requested all the participants to make best use of this opportunity to understand Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and integrate the same into their respective fields, especially for managing COVID-19 crisis. The keynote address was given by Shri H. C. Semwal, IAS, Secretary, Dept. of Panchayati Raj, Uttarakhand. He emphasised on institutionalisation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Panchayats to manage COVID-19 crisis.

The second programme of the series

was conducted in coordination with MGSIRD&PR, Madhya Pradesh during 8th-11th September, 2020. A total of 72 participants attended the programme. The ToT programme started with the briefing of objectives and purpose of the programme by Dr. Pratyusna Patnaik, Assistant Professor, CPRDP&SSD, NIRDPR. This was followed by a welcome address by Dr. C Kathiresan, Associate Professor & Head, CPRDP&SSD, NIRDPR. As part of the welcome address, he discussed the importance of Sustainable Development Goals to achieve holistic development at the Panchayat level. The welcome address was followed by a keynote address by Shri Sanjay Kumar Saraf, Director, MGSIRD&PR, Madhya Pradesh. He brought to fore that during the COVID-19 period, the role of Panchayats has become more important, i.e. Panchayats should be more focused on its database, and migration at Panchayat level should be stopped. Gram Panchayat should mainly ensure participation, transparency and inclusive development for achieving of Sustainable Development Goals, he said.

The third programme of the series was conducted in coordination with SIRDPRs, North-East India during 15th-18th September, 2020. A total of 76

participants attended the programme. The ToT programme started with the briefing of objectives and purpose of the programme by Dr. Pratyusna Patnaik, Assistant Professor, CPRDP&SSD. Dr. C Kathiresan, Associate Professor & Head, CPRDP&SSD, NIRDPR, in his welcome address, discussed the importance of Sustainable Development Goals to achieve holistic development at the Panchayat level and how the Panchayats can proactively engage in working towards the betterment of its people. Shri Rajendra Kumar Noatia, Director and Addl. Secretary, Panchayats, Govt. of Tripura, delivered the keynote address. In his address, he detailed the way of integrating SDG into GPDP process. He also stressed that the Panchayats can be instrumental in shaping those goals into reality.

The fourth programme of the series was conducted in coordination with YASHADA, Maharashtra during 22nd-25th September, 2020. A total of 71 participants attended the programme. The programme started with the briefing of objectives and purpose of the programme by Dr. Pratyusna Patnaik, Assistant Professor, CPRDP&SSD, NIRDPR. This was followed by welcome address by Dr. C Kathiresan, Associate Professor & Head, CPRDP& SSD, NIRDPR. He

discussed the importance of Sustainable Development Goals to achieve holistic development at the Panchayat level and also highlighted the Peoples Plan Campaign, scheduled during 2nd October 2020-31st January, 2021. He emphasised that the role of each participant is going to be very crucial in the preparation of GPDP. The goals of sustainable development could be achieved only with the effective planning of GPDP. The keynote address of the programme was given by Shri Pramod Pawar, Director, SIRD, YASHADA, Pune. He discussed each sustainable development goals in brief and also the role of Panchayats in achieving these goals.

In the four-day ToT programme, most of the goals were covered by experts pertaining to respective domains. The details of sessions of the ToT programmes are as follows:

In the first session of the programme Goal 17- Integration of SDGs in Decentralised Planning was discussed. The session was taken by Dr. C. S. Pran, Founder, Teesri Sarkar Abhiyaan. He emphasised that the vision of Gram Swaraj could be achieved only by the development of Panchayats and also pointed at the fact that the Gram Panchayat should be the centre point for preparing any kind of planning at

the village level. People's participation is very important to know the needs of the community. He explained many ideas as to how the SDGs can be integrated in planning, particularly in GPDP.

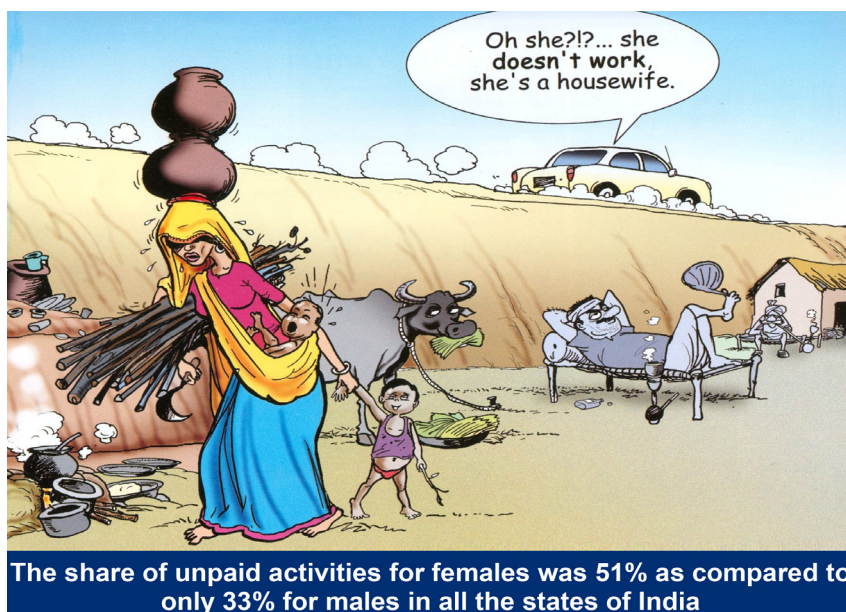
The second session of the programme was taken by Dr. Ramprasad V. Pole, faculty, YASHADA, Pune. He delivered a session on Goal 4 - Setting goal for Panchayats in achieving inclusive and quality education for all. In the session, he highlighted that by the year 2030, all Panchayats are expected to achieve 100 per cent literacy. Emphasising that education should be linked with livelihood, he also highlighted how the Panchayats can play an integral role.

The third session was on Goal 2 - Fighting Hunger and Malnutrition. The role of Panchayats was discussed. The session was hosted by Mrs. Richa Chaudhary, Project Director, AFC India Ltd., Jharkhand. She explained that hunger and malnutrition is a very sensitive issue and Panchayats as the only institution at the village level can tackle this problem. She meticulously explained that Panchayat can push the institutions working to address hunger and malnutrition.

The fourth session was on Goal 5 - Gender equality and women's empowerment. The session was taken by



A slide on the role of Gram Panchayat presented during the training programme



A slide highlighting the issues faced by females presented during the training session

Dr. Pratyusna Patnaik, Assistant Professor, NIRDPR. She spoke about how gender inequality is still a persistent issue in our society and how the Panchayat can play an important role in bridging the gap of gender equality in the society.

In the fifth session, Goal 6 - Role of the Panchayats in the management of water and sanitation for all was discussed. This topic was dealt by Dr. Rajesh Kumar Sinha, Assistant Professor, NIRDPR and Dr. Satyapriya Rout, Associate Professor, University of Hyderabad. In the session, water scenario at the international, national and village levels were discussed. The role of Panchayats in managing the water and sanitation-related issues were also deliberated.

Few case studies were also shared with participants to enrich the lecture. They highlighted that Panchayat being a grassroots democracy can effectively deliver the services to the people.

In the sixth session, Goal 1 - End poverty in all its forms: initiative towards poverty-free Panchayats was discussed. Dr. Partha Pratim Sahu, Associate Professor, NIRDPR and Shri Ravindra Mane, Sarpanch, Manyachiwadi, Satara were the resource persons for the session. Details on resources and role of Panchayats in developing poverty-free

Panchayats were discussed as part of the session.

In the seventh session, a discourse on Goal 7 - Planning for sustainable energy: role of Panchayats was conducted. The session was headed by Dr. Sonal Mobar Roy, Assistant Professor, NIRDPR. As part of the session, she talked about renewable and non-renewable sources of sustainable energy available at Panchayat level. The role of Gram Panchayats to conserve and create new sustainable energy resources was also explained during this session.

In the eighth session, Goal 13 - Planning for climate resilience and disaster management: role of Panchayats was discussed. The session was taken by Dr. Sujit Kumar Mishra, Professor, Council for Social Development, Hyderabad and Shri Surendra Prajapati, faculty member, MGSIRD&PR, Madhya Pradesh. As part of the session, effects of disaster and causes of climate change were explained in detail by highlighting the recent event. Action points of the Gram Panchayats to manage climate changes and disaster management was also deliberated.

In the ninth session, Goal 15-Role of Panchayats in effective planning for sustainable eco-systems and conservation of biodiversity was discussed. The topic

was taken by Shri Mohd. Taquiuddin, Consultant, NIRDPR. In the session, Biodiversity (BD) and its services, threats to biodiversity, Biodiversity Act, 2002 of GoI and what Panchayats can do to conserve BD were explained in detail.

In the tenth session, Goal 3: Role of Panchayats in ensuring health and well-being for all was discussed. Dr. Lakhan Singh, Assistant Professor, NIRDPR and Shri Bhaskar Pere Patil, Sarpanch, Patoda were the resource persons for this session. The session covered different schemes, action taken by GPs to ensure health and well-being of all its residents, best practices adopted by GPs regarding the health issues of lactating mothers and childrens, etc.

In the eleventh session, Goals 8 and 10 - planning for local economic development and ensuring social justice in Panchayats were discussed. The topic was handled by Shri Manoj Pant, Additional CEO, Centre for Public Policy and Good Governance, Uttarakhand and Dr. Sanjay Kumar Rajput, Sr. faculty member, MGSIRD&PR, Madhya Pradesh. The session highlighted the role of Panchayats in ensuring social justice and local economic development. The resource persons were of the opinion that if the issues pertaining to people would be discussed in Gram Sabha then the planning would be better.

In the valedictory session of the programme, respective Panchayati Raj Department and SIRDs thanked NIRDPR for organising the online training programme.

Participants of all programmes assured that the learning of this four-day ToT programme would really help them in field to impart training. The programme concluded with issuing the online participation certificates to the participants.

The online training programmes were organised by Dr. Pratyusna Patnaik, CPRDP&SSD and coordinated by Mr. Munish Jain and Dr. Dambarudhar Garada, Project Training Manager, CPRDP&SSD, NIRDPR.

Rurban Solid Waste Management Clusters



Wastewater management plant in Spituk cluster, Leh

The Rurban Mission of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India is a unique programme that aims at developing infrastructure and livelihood opportunities in clusters of Gram Panchayats that demonstrate economic growth potentials. This is being executed by converging schemes from the Central and various State government departments, coupled with a critical gap fund provided by the Rurban Mission. One of the components many of the ICAPs (Integrated Cluster Action Plans) have is solid waste management in rurban clusters.

A few Gram Panchayats in India manage solid waste successfully. However, a cluster of GPs together managing solid waste is rare to find, if one wanted to pay a visit in order to draw lessons. In order to facilitate the State and district-level government officials in-charge of Rurban Mission, the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj conducted a three-day (15th – 17th September, 2020) online training programme on 'Cluster Approach to Solid Waste Management'. During the programme, Garbologists and development professionals involved in solid waste management shared their

knowledge on this subject. The main lessons that emerged from the various sessions conducted are as follows:

- Wherever Rurban Cluster-based waste management units are set up, the team involved may consider (i) banning all single use plastics as part of the campaign (ii) implementing 'Green Protocol' in local schools, public functions, training/IEC campaigns, local marriages, sports events, annual temple festivals and other celebrations. A one-pager on Green Protocol may be prepared for use by GPs.

- The GPs in every Rurban cluster has a Cluster Development Management Unit (CDMUs), which is a representative body of all the GPs in the cluster. The same CDMU can sign an MoU amongst themselves detailing out the waste management arrangement in the cluster, unless the CDMU members decided; otherwise such as a new body such as Cluster Waste Reduction & Management Committee (VWSC) may assume such role. The MoU, thus prepared shall clarify the powers and functions of every participating GP, the role of households, the role of sanitation workers, and other provisions that a waste management system may entail. This document MoU will be the reference point for obtaining

clarification in case there is a dispute, misunderstanding or non-participation, non-cooperation, non-compliance to any aspect of the waste management chain/system.

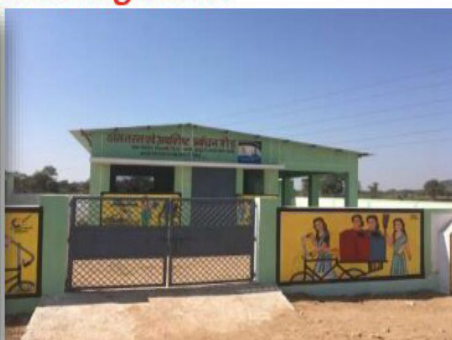
- GPs in a cluster managing waste does not necessarily always mean GPs directly managing waste. The GPs together or the CDMU can decide contracting out waste management services to an outside agency or trained SHGs. This outside agency may be a professional NGO, or a private waste management agency, or an agency that the CDMU or the GPs together may decide to engage for this purpose on payment. The terms and conditions of waste management service, and the payment for services, etc., shall be written down clearly in stamp papers for signing a contract/agreement. This will be equally binding for both the parties involved.

- It is possible that a few Gram Panchayats (GPs) in some of the Rurban clusters have already established solid waste management systems. Our attempt to implement cluster-approach should make it a point not to disturb the existing system, if it's found to be conceptually sound, and practically workable/working. We need to give shape to our approach in alignment with the existing system,

Solid Waste Management



Sonhat, Koriya



Loharshi, Dhamtari



Hardibazar, Korba



Jetha, Janjgir-Champa

SHGs taking up waste management in different parts of Chhattisgarh

unless it requires revamping for lack of scientificity or for other reasons.

- As far as possible, GPs in waste management clusters should encourage households to do 'home-composting'. Do the required campaign, impart training and demonstrate and show in some houses. If the decision is door-to-door collection of waste, then it is intelligible to collect only the dry and plastic wastes. If dry and plastic wastes only are collected from households, then collection frequency may be alternate days or weekly twice. This helps in reducing the number of trips, and the labour required. If the arrangement is for collection of wet waste from households, it has to be necessarily collected daily, and treated/processed to convert to compost or biogas daily.

- Respective GPs can take responsibility for door-to-door collection of segregated waste. The processing of wet waste through some composting techniques can be done at Central Processing Unit (CPU) meant for the cluster. Gram Panchayats concerned should take responsibility to transport

the segregated waste (collected door to door) to the CPU. If required one or two transfer stations may be set up. At the CPU, receiving the segregated waste by weight, and processing them using appropriate treatment method may be as per arrangement agreeable to all the GPs involved.

- Since handling the quantum of waste to be handled from multiple GPs obviously will be more, the processing facilities have to be set up accordingly. This may spell economic viability. It's possible that the quality of wet waste received from all the GPs may not be of the same quality.

Therefore, both windrow composting and vermicomposting may be set up for processing wet waste. Dry waste (plastics, bottles, card boards, tetrapacks, multi-layered packaging, etc.) can be classified and sent to scrap dealers or recyclers or to the Plastic Waste Management Unit proposed to be set up at every block under the SBM-G. The CDMU should collect the list of scrap dealers/recyclers (and also EPR agencies in each block/district) in order see that waste plastics,

bottles, and other recyclable items get sold periodically. Otherwise, they tend to get accumulated in the Material Recovery Centre (or at storage places in CPUs) occupying space and discouraging the sanitation workers.

- The idea of waste to wealth is fascinating. But all said and done, case studies of successful SWM Units as well as experience show that resource recovery/ converting waste into cash is insufficient to meet the operation and maintenance expenses of SWM Units. Therefore, every GP has to generate own source revenue through collection of user charges, besides setting apart a portion of 15th Finance Commission funds for the purpose of meeting the wages of sanitation workers (or Operation & Maintenance expenses). This looks a pragmatic approach to be able to run the SWM Unit sustainably – especially financially by paying for the services rendered by the service providers if CDMU appointed one. Even otherwise, meeting the wages of sanitation workers, vehicle maintenance, etc., require funds, which cannot be met if the source of income is assumed to be 'resource recovery alone'.

- It is good to keep the investment in infrastructure and machinery less. Waste management must be viewed more as a socio-psychological problem. It requires to be solved more through well-designed Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) techniques. Machineries and technologies must be viewed as attendant to it. In other words, technology must be viewed as an aid to reduce drudgery involved in the waste management process. Technology per se does not solve the problem of waste. Therefore, our aim should be towards progressive reduction of waste, and not to send across a signal that 'you generate waste, we are here to clean up'.

Dr. R. Ramesh

Associate Professor & Head (i/c), CRI,
NIRDPR, Hyderabad

Online Training on Social Audit of PMAY-G and NSAP for Resource Persons of SAU Chhattisgarh

एनएसएपी दिशानिर्देशों में सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा का संदर्भ

एनएसएपी योजना दिशानिर्देशों के पृष्ठ 27 धारा 6.10 में निम्नलिखित बातों का उल्लेख है :

- एनएसएपी के तहत योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन और निगरानी में सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा अनिवार्य है।
- सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा से न केवल योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन में सुधार होता है, बल्कि पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेहिता को भी बढ़ाता है, इसके अलावा लाभार्थियों की शिकायतों का निवारण भी करता है।
- ग्राम सभा / वार्ड समिति द्वारा प्रत्येक 6 महीने में एक बार सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा किया जाना है।
- ग्राम पंचायत/नगर पालिका स्तर के क्रियान्वयन में कर्मचारियों को भी सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा के दौरान मौजूद रहना है।
- प्रतिभागी संबंधित अधिकारियों से जानकारी की मांग कर सकते हैं और रिकॉर्ड सत्यापित कर सकते हैं।
- पिछले सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा की एटीआर प्रत्येक सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा की शुरुआत में पढ़ी जाएगी।
- राज्य नोडल विभाग को सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा की रिपोर्टों की मानिट्रिंग करनी चाहिए और एनएसएपी - एमआईएस में ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय को रिपोर्ट भेजनी चाहिए।

A slide from the presentation on Social Audit of PMAY-G and NSAP for Resource Persons of SAU Chhattisgarh

The Centre for Social Audit (CSA), National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj organised a five-day online training programme on 'Social Audit of NSAP and PMAY-G' for the second batch of social audit resource persons of Chhattisgarh from 14th-28th September, 2020 using Google Meet platform. A total of 95 participants, nominated by Social Audit Unit (SAU) of Chhattisgarh, successfully attended this programme.

Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India had issued guidelines for Social Audit for PMAY-G and NSAP in November, 2019. For operationalising these social audit guidelines, capacity building of SAU resource persons is to be done by NIRDPR. Hence, CSA, NIRDPR has planned a series of online training programmes on 'Social Audit of NSAP and PMAY-G' for Social Audit resource persons.

The five-day training programme was divided into 20 sessions. At the end of each day, participants were given a quiz with ten questions through Google form. E-copies of learning materials, PowerPoint presentations (PPT) and quiz questions were provided in Hindi and English.

The programme began with ice-breaking exercise to make the participants feel comfortable to express themselves and get familiar with the training environment. Following topics were covered during the training programme in the five-day period:

- Social Audit process and issues at ground-level – Participant's experiences
- Concept of Social Audit
- Recent developments in Social Audit
- Introduction to NSAP Guidelines
- State schemes and Implementation challenges of NSAP
- Introduction to NSAP Social Audit Guidelines
- Experiences of Pilot Audits of NSAP Programme
- Introduction to PMAY-G Guidelines
- Implementation challenges of PMAY-G
- Introduction to PMAY-G Social Audit Guidelines
- Experience of Social Audits during ToT of PMAY-G

All the sessions were video recorded

using OBS studio software. Interaction of participants and trainer during and after the session and mandatory recap every morning made the programme highly participatory.

After the completion of training sessions, the programme evaluation was done. During this evaluation, participants gave their feedback on course content, practical orientation and course material as well as the practical application of these learnings and skills in their day-to-day work in future. Some participants opined that the online platform is better and more convenient. However, they pointed out that issues like poor internet connectivity in some locations, high data usage, phone requiring frequent charging due to fast draining of battery, etc., were causing obstructions. After that informal feedback session, formal feedback was obtained through the Training Management Portal.

This training programme was coordinated by Dr. Rajesh Kumar Sinha, Assistant Professor and Dr. C. Dheeraja, Associate Professor and Head, Centre for Social Audit, NIRDPR with support from Shri Mohammed Arif, Consultant and Shri Shashidhar, Training Manager.

Journal of Rural Development calls papers for special issue on 'COVID-19'

Scheduled date of publication: **March 2021**

Dear all,

Journal of Rural Development (JRD) is a quarterly journal of international repute, published by the National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR). The criteria used for acceptance of articles for JRD are topicality, contribution to knowledge, clear and logical analysis, good presentation and sound methodology of the research article.

Every article submitted for publication in JRD is evaluated on a step-by-step basis and is sent for peer review to a subject expert only after clearing the word limit criteria and similarity check. The members of Internal Editorial Board also go through these papers to check the relevance and quality of the content and soundness of methodology followed to clear it for peer review.

Journal of Rural Development is bringing out a special issue on COVID-19. In this regard, papers may be submitted on the following subjects:

1. COVID-19 and Livelihood Dynamics in Farm and Non-farm Sectors
2. Status of Adaptability of COVID-19 Stipulations and Coping Mechanisms
3. COVID-19 and Status of Migrant Workers (skilled and unskilled)
4. Impact of Corona virus Pandemic on Agricultural Supply Chain and Marketing
5. How the Existing Schemes (MGNREGA, Food Security, etc.) Help in Providing Livelihood Support?
6. COVID-19 and Microfinance for MSMEs
7. COVID-19 and Public Health, Sanitation and Rural Infrastructure
8. COVID-19 and Local Governments/Panchayats
9. COVID-19 and Agriculture
10. COVID-19 and Communication

The authors have to submit full papers with declaration on to **www.nirdprojms.in**. Before submitting the paper, kindly go through the '**Instructions to Authors**' on **www.nirdprojms.in** or in the final pages of the journal.

All papers submitted to JRD are subjected to double blind peer evaluation by relevant subject experts. Last date of submission of articles is **30 November, 2020**.



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