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# PRAGATI

Newsletter  
November 2020



**Civil Society-driven Community-based  
Natural Resource Management in  
Tribal Communities of PESA Areas**







# 3

Civil Society driven community-based Natural Resource Management in Tribal communities of PESA Areas

## CONTENTS

7

NIRDPR celebrates Constitution Day, organises lecture and quiz competition

8

Celebrations of National Ayurveda Diwas at NIRDPR

9

Virtual Training of District and Mandal level Line Departments Teams on Handwashing and COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviours SBCC package

10

NIRDPR conducts training on Social Audit of PMAY-G and NSAP for Resource Persons of SAU Uttar Pradesh

12

Training of Sevadal of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation on COVID-19 and Risk Communication and

Community Engagement

13

Virtual training programme on Sustainable housing technologies

14

NIRDPR organises Hindi Prabodh classes for employees

15

2nd National Workshop on Social Audit of Rural Development Programmes

## #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



## Civil Society driven community-based Natural Resource Management in Tribal communities of PESA Areas

The Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) (PESA) Act enacted in 1996 was expected to bring about a paradigm shift in the way villages/hamlets/padas/tolas in Scheduled Areas (primarily in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Gujarat) were governed. The emphasis of PESA Act lays on reviving the cultural and traditional ways of management in tribal areas through strengthening their Gram Sabhas.

In 1980s, there was an emergence and expansion of civil society-driven (Civil Society organisation) Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) which set the stage for the NGOs assuming centre-stage in what was supposed to be 'community-based' NRM. In this article, an attempt has been made to highlight varied themes emanating out of CBNRM through CSOs in tribal communities.

### CBNRM in Maharashtra: Tribals Struggle for Rights

This case explores the struggle of the tribals for their traditional right to manage their indigenous resources.

The village of Ghota in Dharni block has been managing its fishing in

In contemporary times, modern CSO based CBNRM activities reinstalled the relevance of NRM through recreation of the conditions under which tribal communities can successfully manage their resources.

the water body that is spread over 20 hectares. They raise contributions and stock fish seeds and then decide the manner in which it is to be harvested, sometimes collectively harvesting, sometimes through SHGs, sometimes through group of villagers as decided in their Gram Sabhas. Khoj, an NGO made them realise it is not only fishing that they need to manage but also the entire management of the water body.

They planned and proposed for desilting under MGNREGA. Hence, deepening of the water body allowed better storage that helped both in sustaining irrigation facilities for agriculture and fishing. Simultaneously, the silt is used by the farmers to enrich their soil. Through their fishing management, the Gram Sabha of Ghota village was able to provide a small relief packet to its own members during COVID-19 pandemic without having to wait for others to offer help. (Source: Khoj, Melghat, Maharashtra)

### Convergence model of CBNRM in Chhattisgarh

This case study emphasises on the convergence strategy leading to development of the tribal communities by the introduction of appropriate technical skills from outside to support the indigenous knowledge and practices.

In Bastar, despite owning large landholdings, the tribal community of Maria Gonds were living in deep poverty. Considering the above context, the district





*Tribals selling vegetables (file image) - Image credit: Dr. Surjit Vikraman*

MGNREGA department along with a CSO PRADAN, was jointly engaged in evolving alternative use of the hitherto sub-optimally used village uplands in sericulture.

Exposure visits for the tribals were conducted at the rearing sites in the Bastar block under guidance of scientists and technicians from Basic Seed and Multiplication Centre. Having understood the potential of the proposed activity of Arjuna Plantations under MGNREGA, the community identified an upland site of 20.88 hectares close to their habitation at Tirathgarh Permapara comprising government land and privately owned lands of 13 Maria Gond households from that hamlet.

One amongst the five SHGs - Danteswari Swa Sahayata Samuh took up the responsibility to prepare nurseries on their own rather than buying saplings from elsewhere. They received some guidance from the forest department and successfully carried out all the important operations.

This way, they prepared 80,000 saplings of required standard and sold those saplings and earned Rs. 1,25,000 by selling the saplings to MGNREGA for

planting.

The need of the water conserving structures in and around the site was identified during the planning process and to treat the whole patch of land, boulder check dams in two rainy season streams, contour trenches within the plantation area of 21 Hectares and 10 percolation tanks and farm ponds were constructed by the villagers. This whole intervention played a very effective role in substantially checking the runoff and transforming the area greener. The household working in the plantation site gained an additional income ranging from Rs. 20,000-25,000 in the form of wages.

#### **CBNRM: Key to Women Empowerment in Jharkhand**

This case enumerates that training assistance for entrepreneurship in tribal women was assured so that they could wean away men from illicit distillation in workforce participation.

The role of women in lac production has traditionally been restricted to post-harvesting work like preparing scraped lac and taking it to market. This is because the lac host trees are high and hard to

reach. Men have, therefore, carried out the inoculating and harvesting processes.

In 2013, Kamla, a tribal woman in Gumla, attended a series of training workshops organised by PACS partner Udyogini in association with the Indian Institute of Natural Resins and Gums as part of our lac livelihood model. Following the training, Kamla started cultivating the Kusumi variety of lac on Ber trees. She says, "In the first season we sold lac scraps and got a profit of around Rs. 10,000. This year we earned Rs. 31,000." Indeed, with her knowledge and success, Kamla is today mobilising other women in her community to follow in her footsteps and choose lac farming as a viable livelihood.

Kamla uses the secateurs that she was given in the training workshop to prepare brood lac bundles - sticks containing the lac producing insect - which are then tied to trees to inoculate them for lac production. (Source: [www.pacsindia.org](http://www.pacsindia.org))

#### **CBNRM in MP: Gateway to Sustainable Livelihood of Tribal Communities**

The case study of Gadia village further illustrates the struggle of establishing alternative sources of

sustainable development and livelihood through CBNRM. All 47 families of Baiga primitive tribal group of this village were relocated here in the late 1980s due to the submergence of their traditional land following the construction of a dam by the State Government. In 2008, a group of eight villagers began vegetable cultivation on a patch of submerged land of Matiyari dam's reservoir, 0.75 miles away from the village boundary. During the summer season, the water level of the reservoir decreases drastically, allowing vegetable cultivation on a plot of land with soil quality far better than the agricultural fields of the village. Water availability for irrigation was not a concern given the closeness to the reservoir.

The farmers resorted to usage of organic manure under the pretext that the usage of fertilisers could potentially harm the fish in the reservoir which was an alternate livelihood strategy for fishermen belonging to their and neighbouring villages. The vegetable cultivation produce came out in the month of April, the peak time for vegetable prices, in order to maximise profits.

Thus, an alternate livelihood option was added to the portfolio of this tribal group by utilising an unused piece of land. In their interviews, the eight-member group reported earning Rs. 22,400 by selling the produce in the local market and they consumed vegetables worth Rs. 11,200 over a period of six months.

#### **Awareness generation regarding policy decisions through CBNRM in Odisha**

This case emphasises on the creation of enabling marketing policy for the tribal communities through awareness generation from outside intervention at



*A tribal lady (file image)*

an appropriate time.

Tamarind is perhaps the one non-timber forest produce that enters every kitchen in India. However, it's designated as a minor forest produce (MFP) and the minimum support price (MSP) for MFP Scheme has included tamarind in the list of items. In Kandhamal, one of the most remote districts in Odisha, the local traders were paying tribals only Rs. 5 per kilogram for ripe & dry tamarind. In fact, the traders bought the entire tamarind in a tree based on an ocular estimation.

It is in such a context that Vasundhara, an NGO, organised the 'MSP for MFP' caravan. The caravan went around villages in Phulbani for 10 days and the staff of Vasundhara played recorded audio messages in the local language and planned meetings at public spaces. They explained the provisions of the schemes and oriented the tribals on accessing the same.

When people learnt that the minimum support price for tamarind was Rs. 22 per kg, they refused to sell their tamarind to the local traders. The MFP collectives in the Jamjhari Gram Panchayat of Phulbani block began

procuring it at Rs. 22 per kg as the TDCC promised to buy it from them after paying a further commission of two per cent.

Finally, the collectives were able to procure 80 quintals of tamarind from 119 households in 12 villages of the Panchayat and sold it at Rs. 25.50 per kg to a district level trader, who sells directly in the relatively large Raipur market. The taste of selling the sour tamarind was indeed sweeter this year. (Source: [www.down.to.earth.org](http://www.down.to.earth.org))

#### **CBNRM leading to economic independence in Odisha**

This case illustrates the economic upliftment of tribal communities in Sundargarh district of Odisha. Good quality chironji kernels are usually available for more than Rs. 1400 per kg but the tribal and other forest depending communities who collect the seeds had to sell the seeds at prices as low as Rs. 40 per kg.

This is roughly the equivalent of getting paid Rs. 120 for a kg of chironji kernels that sell for about Rs. 1400 per kg—less than nine per cent of the market price. Such low prices have been maintained





*Vegetable market in a tribal area (file image) image credit: Dr. Surjit Vikraman*

over the years through ensuring lack of competition at the local level and lack of processing facilities with the people.

The declaration of MSP for chironji at Rs. 100 per kg did not guarantee it to be sold at this MSP for tribal women in Sundargarh district of Odisha. The Centre for Integrated Rural and Tribal Development (CIRTD), a CSO working with tribal people in Sundargarh, picked up chironji as the principal focal point of their 'MSP for MFP' caravan.

Due to awareness campaign, people came to know about the MSP and collected chironji seed to hand it over to Tribal Development Co-operative Corporation (TDCC). They were told that they cannot do so as they do not have a local PPA (Primary Procuring Agency registered with TDCC). As TDCC initially refused to collect their yield, they petitioned the District Collector. Consequently, a PPA was formed within 15 days and the TDCC finally lifted 7.8 quintals of chironji seed. What would have fetched the collectors about Rs. 31,200 in the local market ultimately earned them Rs. 78,000 - an incremental benefit of Rs.

46,800 (a hefty 150 per cent more than what they would have got otherwise).

#### **CBNRM and Ethnoveterinary indigenous knowledges of tribal women in Himachal Pradesh**

This case establishes the ideology of ecofeminist school that tries to explain the link between women and nature by equating women's biological role with an imagined feminine principle in nature.

In a remote tribal village in Rajgarh block (Sirmour district) of Himachal Pradesh, every tribal household owns livestock for sustenance and tribal women take care of the animals through their indigenous ethnoveterinary knowledge.

This indigenous knowledge-based medication becomes imperative owing to the inaccessibility of this village to any veterinary hospital or veterinary doctors if the livestock falls critically ill. With this context, an NGO, Rural Centre for Human Interests (RUCHI) in HP came up with the idea of Dangar Dai programme.

The NGO trained 20 female veterinary attendants (dangar dais) by equipping them with basic medical kits and training them to treat common cattle ailments.

The medical kits were replenished on a monthly basis by RUCHI and the tribals no longer had to seek routine medical care for their livestock from far-off government dispensaries.

Although many tribals were initially hostile to the idea of women para-vets, they eventually acknowledged the dais' expertise and sought after them for medical advice and referrals. Now, since years, the dangar dai programme has been sustained informally by the tribals themselves. (Source: [www.ruchi.org.in](http://www.ruchi.org.in))

#### **Conclusion**

The concept of Community-based Natural Resource Management is not new. Most of the tribal and rural communities have been unconsciously pursuing it through their traditional and indigenous knowledges backed with cultural and religious beliefs. In contemporary times, modern CSO-based CBNRM activities reinstall the relevance of NRM through recreation of the conditions under which tribal communities can successfully manage their resources.

The themes emanating out of these case studies reiterate on Chamber's concept of 'farmer first' which stressed on the marginalisation of the voices and indigenous knowledge of local communities. These case studies have eventually reestablished that Civil society-driven Community-Based Natural Resource Management in tribal communities leads to transference of intergenerational indigenous knowledge and yields sustainable positive socio-economic outcomes in PESA areas.

**Dr. Rubina Nusrat,**

Assistant Professor,

Centre for Equity and Social  
Development,

NIRDPR

Cover page design: **V.G. Bhat**

## NIRDPR celebrates Constitution Day, organises lecture and quiz competition



*Dr. K. Murali, Assistant Professor, NALSAR University of Law delivering a lecture as part of Constitution Day celebrations*

National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Ministry of Rural Development, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad celebrated Constitution Day on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2020. Dr. K. Murali, Assistant Professor, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad was invited as guest speaker to deliver lecture on 'Constitutional Values and Fundamental Principles of the Indian Constitution.'

The pledge administered by the Shri Ram Nath Kovind, President of India was followed live by the NIRDPR staff at Vikas Auditorium. Smt. Radhika Rastogi, IAS, Deputy Director General, NIRDPR welcomed the gathering and spoke about the importance of the Constitution of India. Dr. Karnam Murali delivered a lecture on the evolution, achievement, role and importance of the Constitution of India. This was followed

by quiz conducted by the guest speaker. Altogether five teams, each comprising three members, participated in the quiz based on the Constitution of India.

The first winning team comprising of Dr. Anjan K. Bhanja, Dr. M. Srikanth and Dr. M. V. Ravibabu was awarded cash prize of Rs. 3000 and second winning team comprising of Smt. A. Hemalatha, Ms. Hemangi Sharma and Shri P. Aravind was awarded cash prize of Rs. 2,000. Later, the guest speaker was felicitated and the session was concluded with vote of thanks by Lt. Col. Ashutosh Kumar, Registrar and Director (Admin.).

Shri Shashi Bhushan, Director (Financial Management) and FA, Centre heads, faculty, administrative and supporting staff and students were among the other attendees of the programme.

**-CDC Initiatives**



*Smt. Radhika Rastogi, IAS, Deputy Director General, NIRDPR, delivering the inaugural address*



*The quiz competition in progress*



## Celebrations of National Ayurveda Diwas at NIRDPR



*Smt. Radhika Rastogi, IAS, Deputy Director General, NIRDPR lighting the lamp during the National Ayurveda Diwas celebrations held at NIRDPR. Also seen are (left to right) Dr. Y. Ramana Reddy, Director, NRLM Cell, Dr. K. Jaya Krishna, Ayurveda Physician, Lt. Col. Ashutosh Kumar Registrar & Director (Admin.), Dr. D. Vijaya Ganeshwar Reddy, Professor, Dr. B. R. K. R Govt Ayurveda College and K. C. Behra, PRO*

National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Rajendernagar, Hyderabad celebrated National Ayurveda Diwas commemorating the birthday of Lord Dhanwanthari, god of Ayurveda on 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2020.

Dr. D. Vijaya Ganeshwar Reddy, Professor, Dr. B. R. K. R. Government Ayurveda College, Hyderabad and Dr. K. Jaya Krishna, Ayurveda Physician and Cowpathy Practitioner, Secunderabad were invited as guest speakers to deliver lectures on 'LifeStyle Managment through Ayurveda' and 'Role of Ayurveda in COVID-19 Control and Livelihoods.'

The programme began with the welcome address by Dr. Y. Ramana Reddy, Director, NRLM Cell, followed by inaugural

address by Smt. Radhika Rastogi, IAS, Deputy Director General, NIRDPR. During her inaugural address she mentioned that change in lifestyle is leading to lifestyle disorders in day-to-day life. She spoke on the importance of Ayurveda and compared different medical practices. She said that Indian-based medical practices such as Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha are neglected.

Dr. Vijaya Ganeshwar Reddy highlighted the importance of Ayurveda in daily life, how to start and end a day according to Ayurveda principles, do's and don'ts, how to change diet and lifestyle during different seasons, importance of exercise in order to keep a person healthy.

Dr. K. Jaya Krishna, Ayurveda Physician enlightened the audience about how Ayurveda principles and practices helped

to control the COVID-19 pandemic in India, future of Ayurveda globally and how livelihoods can be created through medicinal plants and their processing, cold-pressed oils and ghee making as a means of livelihood for rural people and their importance in health both physically and mentally. A Q & A session was also held at the end of the guest lectures.

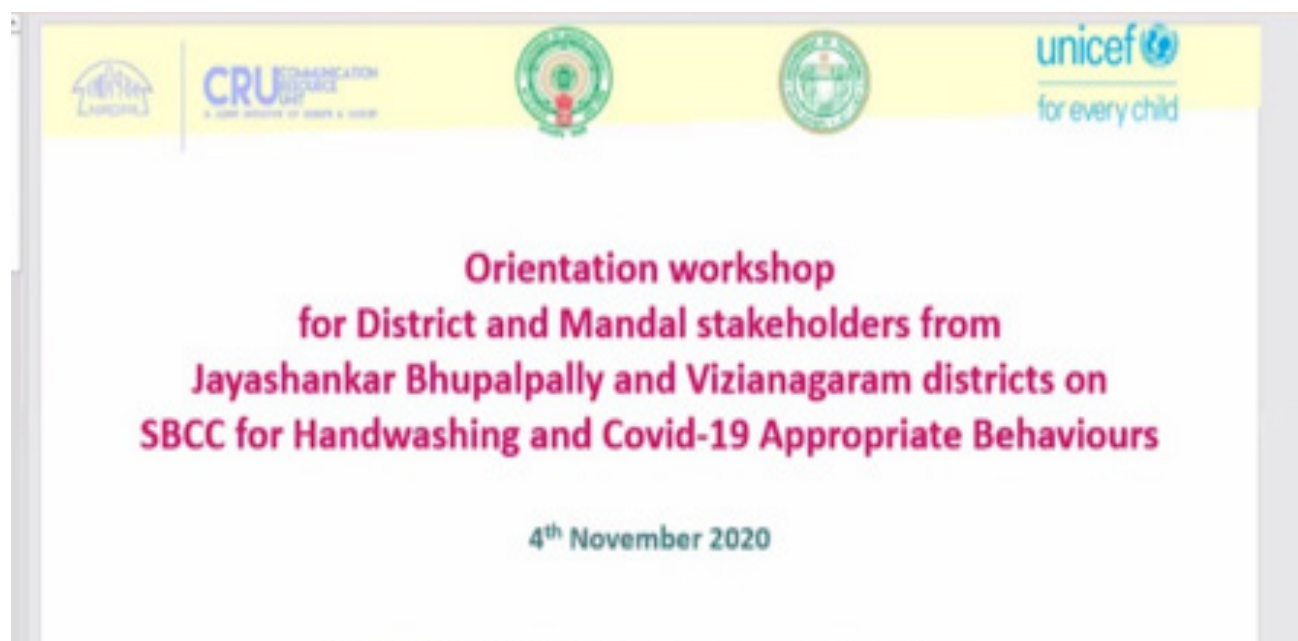
Vote of thanks was delivered by Shri T. Ravinder Rao, Mission Manager, NRLM Cell. Lt. Col. Ashutosh Kumar, Registrar & Director (Admin.) and Shri Sashi Bhushan, Director (Financial Management) & Financial Advisor, Centre heads, faculty, health centre officials, administrative and supporting staff and students of NIRDPR attended the programme. The programme was organised by the DAY-NRLM Cell, NIRDPR, Hyderabad.



*Dr. K. Jaya Krishna, Ayurveda Physician (left) and Dr. D. Vijaya Ganeshwar Reddy, Professor, Dr. B. R. K. R Government Ayurveda College, Hyderabad delivering lecture during the National Ayurveda Diwas celebrations*



## Virtual Training of District and Mandal level Line Departments Teams on Handwashing and COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviours SBCC package



*A slide from the presentation*

Global Handwashing Day is celebrated every 15<sup>th</sup> October to raise awareness on the importance of handwashing with soap. Handwashing with soap and water at all critical times is the simplest and effective way of preventing illness and the spreading of germs. Currently, 40 per cent of the world's population do not have access to a basic handwashing facility. This day is about taking action to increase access and practice handwashing with soap to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 6.

This year's campaign carried the message of 'hand hygiene for all.' To support State governments in celebrating the Global Handwashing day campaign, for the promotion of handwashing behaviours in the communities the Communication Resource Unit of NIRDPR and UNICEF Hyderabad Field Office (HFO) developed a comprehensive SBCC plan and package consisting of posters, handouts, flyers, cinema slide, auto and bus panels and audio messages, etc., They were shared with the district administration to be taken up and implemented in the field. In continuation to the SBCC media plan submitted, CRU-NIRDPR in collaboration

with UNICEF HFO organised a one-day virtual orientation workshops on GHWD SBCC package for the district and mandal level stakeholders from the line departments such as Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Swachh Bharath Mission, Women Development Child Welfare, Health, Education and Youth development of Jayashankar Bhupalpally district, Telangana, Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 and Raichur district of Karnataka on 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 on use of the handwashing package and roll out of the plan.

This training also covered COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviours (CABs) complimenting Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's campaign on handwashing.

This virtual training covered the topics of handwashing situation in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka, Handwashing – the new normal, SBCC for handwashing: objectives, framework, plan and package, COVID-10 Appropriate Behaviours, role of line departments in implementation of SBCC plans.

Shri Srinivas, SBCC Coordinator from Communication Resource Unit,

welcomed the participants and speakers and explained the context and purpose of organising this training.

Ms. Seema Kumar, C4D Specialist from UNICEF HFO emphasised on the behaviour of washing hands before food which need to promoted extensively as may statistics shows decline of this practice. She also emphasised on sustained SBCC plan to implement handwashing in the field during the pandemic. Dr. Ramesh, Associate Professor and Head of CRU highlighted the communication that took place on SBM as most communicated message and covering handwashing after defecation as part of these messages. He also stressed on importance to practice all these behaviours for social development.

Dr. Hari Jawaharlal, IAS, District Collector, Vizianagaram and Shri Abdul Azeem, IAS, District Collector, Jayashankar Bhupalpally joined the training session and formally inaugurated the SBCC package. They emphasised on the need of this SBCC package and to reinforce media plan and the message on handwashing.

Dr. Hari Jawaharlal was impressed with the SBCC plan and showed interest to implement the package in the field.

He shared the commendable and inspiring response of district administration in containing the spread of COVID-19 in the district. Emphasising that prevention is better than cure he said it is high time to take up intensive preventive measures to control the spread of diseases by all stakeholders. Furthermore, Dr. Hari also emphasised on the importance of working with the policymakers as one of the key tool to mitigate the pandemic.

Shri Abdul Azeem, IAS, District Collector, Jayashankar Bhupalpally inaugurated the Telangana SBCC plan and shared the districts efforts in controlling the spread of COVID-19 despite the presence of many migrants working in mines. He emphasised on the four rules promoting mask, handwash, social distancing and IEC-around these. He appreciated the plan and noted that some of the materials from the package have already been used in the districts.

Dr. Ramakrishna, District Health Officer of Raichur expressed his

willingness to use the package across the district. Shri Srinivas, SBCC Coordinator, CRU-NIRDPR, presented the data from NSSO and handwashing quiz on handwashing situation in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka. He also highlighted the practice of handwashing behaviour from pre to post COVID-19.

Shri Kulandai Raj, C4D Consultant, WASH & DRR of UNICEF presented the Handwashing – the new normal, online poll activity to generate situation when handwashing with soap is essential and explained the need of washing hands at all times with soap.

Shri Kulandai Raj also spoke on the SBCC plan for handwashing – objectives, framework and presented the complete SBCC package and its use in the field. He stressed upon other campaign activities that can be taken up for promoting handwashing behaviour. In the end, Kulandai Raj presented the role of line departments in the implementation of SBCC plan.

Shri Kishore, C4D Consultant of UNICEF took a session on COVID appropriate behaviours and highlighted four key behaviours such as usage of mask, social distancing, handwashing and respiratory hygiene that need to be practiced by everyone to keep themselves safe from the pandemic. Shri Manikanta, WASH Consultant of UNICEF presented an overview of Global Handwashing Day in the three States.

A total of 160 participants including MPDOs, CDPOs, supervisors, Panchayat Secretaries, Health Resource Persons, District Project Managers, MPOs, Teachers, Field training officers, DPOs, ZP CEOs, etc., attended the training.

Shri Srinivas and Shri Kulandai Raj concluded the training session by thanking all the participants. They wished that under the leadership of respected District Collectors, the package would be rolled out extensively to promote handwashing during critical times matching the theme of hand hygiene for all on Global Handwashing Day 2020.

## NIRDPR conducts training on Social Audit of PMAY-G and NSAP for Resource Persons of SAU Uttar Pradesh

### Follow up action

- ATRs – State government responsible for taking follow up action in a time bound manner
- ATR to be submitted within a month of the GS/WS to state authorities with a copy to SAU
- District Administration should also enter the ATR in social audit MIS
- During subsequent audit SA resource persons shall verify action specified in ATR

*A slide from the presentation on Social Audit of PMAY-G and NSAP*

The Centre for Social Audit, National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad organised

a five-day online training programme on Social Audit of NSAP and PMAY-G for the social audit resource persons of SAU Uttar

Pradesh in three batches through WebEx platform. The first, second and third batches began from 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> November,



2020, 16<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020 and 23<sup>rd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 respectively. A total of 521 participants nominated by Uttar Pradesh Social Audit Sangathan attended this programme in these three batches.

In reference to guidelines on Social Audit for PMAY-G and NSAP released in November, 2019 by MoRD, Government of India, the Centre for Social audit, NIRDPR is committed to provide training and hand-holding support to SAUs for grounding the guidelines. To carry out this commitment, Centre for Social Audit, NIRDPR conducted five regional Training of Trainers (ToTs) from December 2019-February 2020, covering all the States.

Due to COVID-19, capacity building of remaining resource persons came to a halt. So, the Centre for Social Audit, 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 in 20 sessions. Each session's duration was 45 minutes. At the end of the day, participants were given a quiz with 10 questions through Google form. E-copies of learning materials, PowerPoint presentations (PPT) and quiz questions were provided in English and Hindi.

The first and second batch of training programmes were inaugurated by Dr. Srinivas Sajja, Asst. Prof, NIRDPR. The third batch training was inaugurated by Shri Yogesh Kumar, IAS (ret'd.) & Director Social Audit Unit, Uttar Pradesh. In his inaugural speech, Shri Yogesh Kumar emphasised on the need for Transparency and accountability in current scenario, particularly in PMAY-G and NSAP.

Every training programme started with an ice-breaking exercise to make the participants feel free to express themselves and get familiar with the training programme and onboard for the training programme. Sessions were taken by NIRDPR faculty and experts from Nodal

Department of UP State. The following topics were covered during the training programme in the five-day period:

- Social Audit process and issues at ground level – Participants 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. Interactions with the tutor and participants during and after the sessions and mandatory recap every

morning made the programme highly participatory. Participants were provided with chat facility if they faced issues of audio/video streaming on the online platform.

After completion of the training sessions, a programme evaluation was done. During this evaluation, participants gave their feedback on course content, practical orientation and course material, etc., as well as ways to apply these learnings and skills in their day-to-day work in future.

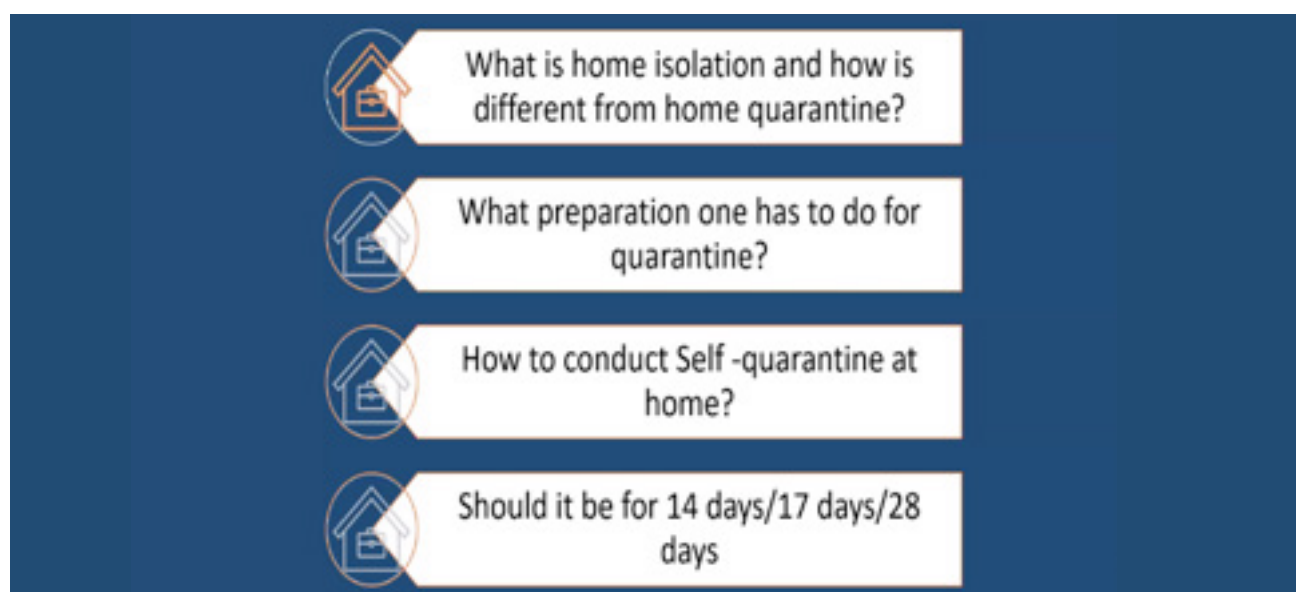
However, they also shared some challenges like poor internet connectivity in some locations, high data usage during the training, etc., that created bottlenecks in participation. After the informal feedback session, a formal online feedback was taken through Training Management Portal.

These training programmes were coordinated by Dr. Srinivas Sajja, Assistant Professor, Dr. Rajesh K Sinha, Assistant Professor and Dr. C. Dheeraja, Associate Professor and Head (i/c), Centre for Social Audit, NIRDPR with support from Shri Shahameed Ali, Research Assistant and Shri Shashidhar, Training Manager.

Maharashtra					
S No	Scheme Name	Eligibility Criterion	Central Govt	State Govt	Total
1	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)	Belonging to BPL family 65 years and above	Rs. 200	Rs. 400	Rs. 600
2	Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) & Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Anudhan Yojana	BPL 18 years and 65 and 80% Disability	Rs. 200	Rs. 400 ( Under State Sponsored SGNAY	Rs. 600
3	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS)	Belonging to BPL family 40 years to 65 Years	Rs. 200	Rs. 400 ( Under State Sponsored SGNAY	Rs. 600
4	National Family Benefit Scheme - NFBS	BPL 18 to 59 years	Rs. 20000	-	Rs. 20000
5	Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Anudhan Yojana	65 Years age Below Eligibility * Annual Income : Rs 21000/-	-	Rs. 600 ( Single Beneficiary) & Rs. 900 ( Two or more beneficiaries)	Rs. 600 & Rs. 900
6	Shravan Bal Seva Rajya Nivruttivetan Yojana	65 Years age above Annual Income : Rs 21000/- and name not included in the BPL List	-	Rs. 600	Rs. 600

*A slide from the presentation on Social Audit of PMAY-G and NSAP*

## Training of Sevadal of Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation on COVID-19 and Risk Communication and Community Engagement



*A slide from the presentation for training the Sevadal volunteers of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka*

Coordinating and combining efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic is essential. Successful campaigns always have meaningful engagement and participation of diverse stakeholders/partners to address myths, misconceptions and social norms that influence one's choices, behaviours and practices, there is a need to mobilise the community towards desired behaviours. To minimise the burden of the diseases in the States, it is proposed to engage and empower the natural and existing platforms to reach out to diverse audiences.

In this context, CRU-NIRDPR and UNICEF Hyderabad field office has partnered with Sathya Sai Seva trust to train the Sevadal volunteers of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka on 'Risk Communication and Community Engagement.' Sathya Sai Sevadal volunteers have huge presence and reach across the States and these volunteers can play a great role in promoting safe behaviours among its Samithi's Sevadal and the community. The Sevadal teams are socially well-connected and exchange a lot of information and even the

devotees look up to them for COVID-19 relief and support. They effectively manage implementation of social service activities for general public. The role of Sevadal members can be utilised better by consistent and systematic engagement with the followers of SSSSO and community members for awareness on COVID-19.

The content for this RCCE training on COVID-19 was adapted and modified to suit to religious places. The training sessions covered were overview to COVID management, question and answers session with experts on common queries related to COVID and the roles of SSSO Sevadal teams towards COVID prevention including SOPs for prevention.

A Total of 2,681 Sevadal volunteers were trained from three States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka through ToT approach in eight batches. The trained teams are expected to cascade these efforts and impart RCCE specific COVID-19 training to the Sevadal members of their respective centres, who will further reach out to community members. The Sevadal from three States

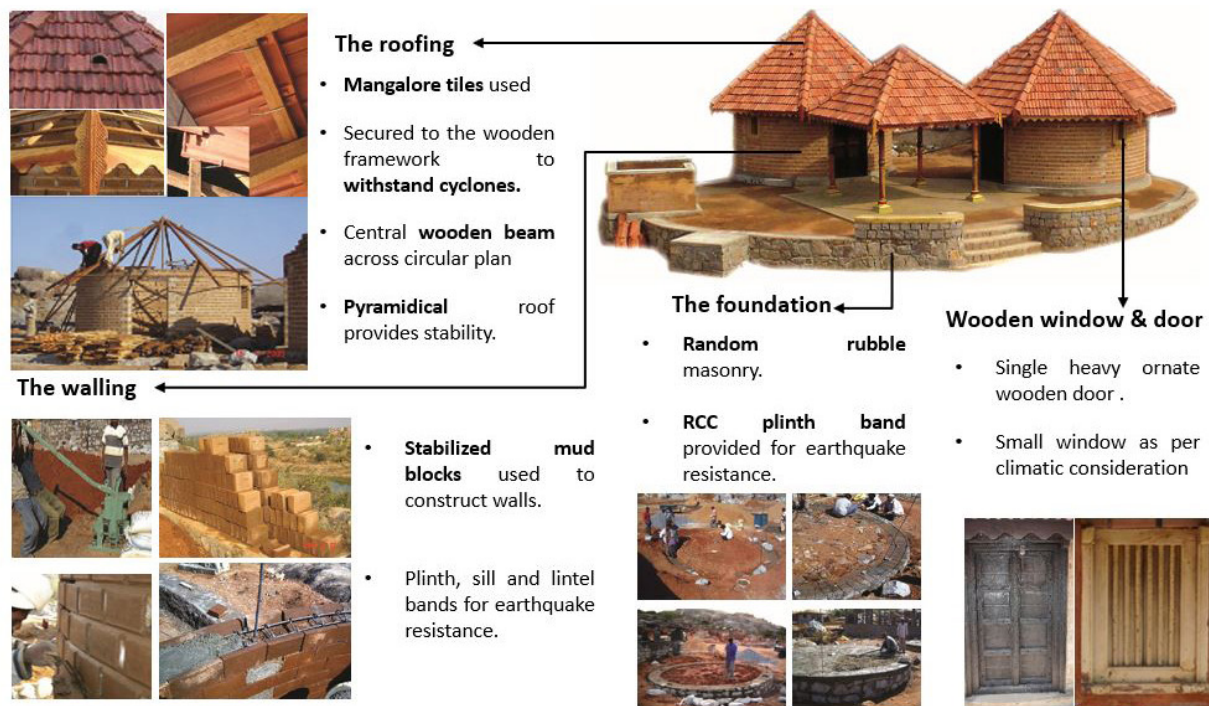
trained through zoom and all the necessary IEC materials developed by CRU-UNICEF were shared for their use.

Ms. Seema, C4D Specialist from UNICEF HFO and Dr. Ramesh, Associate Professor & Head of CRU joined in the training batches and provided their remarks. Resource team included Dr. Sanjeev, Health Specialist of UNICEF, Dr. Sri Krishna from UNICEF, Dr. Harshith and Dr. Bhavani from WHO and Dr. Puttaraju from Public Health Foundation of India and Shri Kishore, C4D Specialist from UNICEF and Shri Srinivas, Ms. Aravinda and Ms. Jones from Communication Resource Unit handled the training sessions in all the batches.

A poll was conducted at the end of every session to obtain feedback from the participants. Trained Sevadals will engage with the communities in their respective geographical areas and social groups in digital spaces with key messages related to COVID-19. Sevadals will also ensure prevention of stigma and discrimination due to COVID-19 and facilitate psycho-social support for community members if required.



# Virtual training programme on Sustainable housing technologies



*Various stages involved in the construction of stabilised mud block house*

Centre for Innovations and Appropriate Technologies for Skills & Jobs, National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj organised a three-day online training programme on 'Sustainable Housing Technologies' for international participants from 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2020.

Dr. Ramesh Sakthivel, Associate Professor & Head, CIAT&SJ and Programme Director, addressed the alumni of the ITEC programme on 'Sustainable Housing and Rural Planning' and government officials in the construction field. The training was aimed at re-emphasising the importance of using sustainable housing technology for the sustainable development in the construction sector.

The participants of the virtual workshop were from a wide range of professions such as architects, engineers and government housing officials from different parts of the world paved way for dynamic interactions during the course of three days.

The training programme was structured in a manner to give a holistic understanding of the issue at hand

and add-on to the technologies that many alumni had not been trained on. The training programme gave a varied scale approach from the root-level technologies to the various town and city planning techniques.

Dr. Ramesh Sakthivel, on the first day, gave an outline of the functions of CIAT&SJ and the various activities and initiatives undertaken by Rural Technology Park towards the goal of sustainable development. The session progressed with a presentation on the National Rural Building Centre showcasing the various eco-friendly and cost-effective technologies implemented at the various models on the campus.

Renowned architect Sathya Prakash Varanasi, who is specialised in eco-friendly architecture and practices in Bengaluru, took a session and shared his vast experience in the field. He interacted with the participants briefing them about the various practical concerns and experiences in executing sustainable buildings in the current scenario. He also emphasised on the need for everybody to start thinking and adapting a sustainable

way of living for a better tomorrow.

The discussion initiated by the participants with the architect raised many interesting questions and ideas.

A detailed presentation on the technical aspects of the eco-friendly and cost-effective building technologies was presented on the first day of the workshop. The virtual learning experience of the sustainable technologies, namely the Rat-trap walling, CSEB making and CSEB arch building proved to be the highlight of the second day of the workshop.

The video showing the step-by-step procedure combined with the live demonstration of the ongoing process facilitated in filling the gap of not being able to experience the process physically. The second day concluded with a session on the Director General's bungalow at NIRDPR by Dr. Ramesh Sakthivel, where he analysed various cost-effective and energy-efficient aspects achieved by using sustainable materials, technology and design. This case study of the DG bungalow, allowed the participants to understand the actual benefits of using these technologies practically.

The workshop had few alumni from the past ITEC programme, and the session acted as a refresher course while adding on technologies that were recently researched on at RTP. This included a session on 'Handmade floor tiles and rammed earth' which motivated the participants to experiment in their countries.

Dr. Abdul Razak, Professor, School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada took a detailed lecture on sustainable neighbourhood planning which gave a macro perspective to the challenges in sustainability that needs to be addressed at the planning level. He also showcased a glimpse of the impact an individual can make in the larger scenario with simple day-to-day sustainable practices. The three-day workshop was concluded with

an interactive session of Q&A. A total of, 30 participants from Bangladesh, Botswana, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe attended. The feedback given by participants after the workshop showed the positive impact created by the programme. Overall, the participants felt the workshop exhibited and explained the various alternative technologies that can be used in construction in a simplified manner and they also expressed their desire to have more workshops on sustainable housing construction. The course was coordinated by Dr. Ramesh Sakthivel, Associate Professor & Head, CIAT&SJ, and Er. B. N. Mani, Project Engineer and Ar. Vishnupriya R, Young Professional (Architect).



*A model house built using the sustainable housing technologies*

## NIRDPR organises Hindi Prabodh classes for employees



*(left to right) Shri E. Ramesh, Senior Hindi Translator, Shri B. Srinivasa Rao, Assistant Registrar (T) and Smt. Anita Pandey, Assistant Director (OL) during the Hindi Prabodh examination*

Hindi Prabodh classes were organised for the officers/employees of National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad in collaboration with the Hindi Teaching Scheme by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi, during September-November 2020.

These classes were conducted with the approval of Smt. Radhika Rastogi,

Deputy Director General, NIRDPR. The examination was held on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 successfully with support from administration complying with COVID-19 guidelines of Hindi Teaching Scheme.

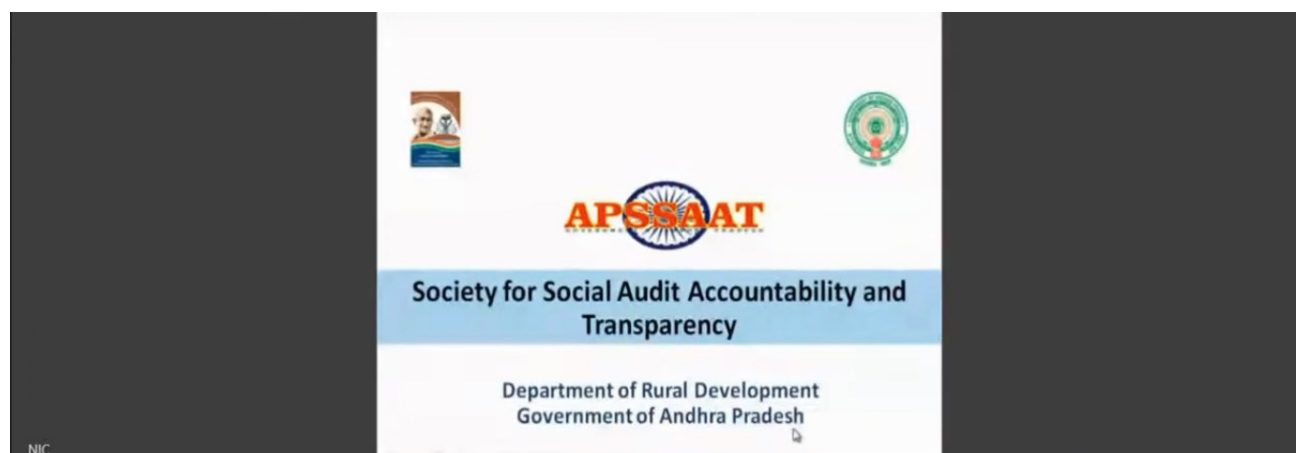
Shri B. Srinivasa Rao, Assistant Registrar (T) opened the examination papers in front of the candidates. On this occasion, Smt. Anita Pandey, Assistant

Director (OL), served as superintendent of examinations and Shri E. Ramesh, Senior Hindi Translator, served as invigilator of examinations.

The entire process from conducting Prabodh classes till exam was conducted under the guidance of Lt. Col. Ashutosh Kumar, Registrar and Director (Administration), NIRDPR.



# Second National Workshop on Social Audit of Rural Development Programmes



*A slide from the presentation held at 2<sup>nd</sup> National Workshop on Social Audit of Rural Development Programmes*

Ministry of Rural Development organised an online workshop with the SAU Directors and senior implementation officials on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2020. The 1<sup>st</sup> National Seminar on Social Audit of Rural Development Programmes was held in New Delhi from 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2019. Following this workshop it was decided to have five regional workshops during 2020 but they could not take place due to COVID restrictions. Accordingly, this workshop was organised.

Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor, MoRD delivered the welcome address during which he touched upon the importance of social audit in the context of increased

spending on Rural Development programmes and its contribution to good governance and accountability framework.

Shri Sanjeev Kumar further mentioned about the Social Audit index book prepared by Centre for Social Audit, National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj which can be used by the SAUs for self-evaluation. He requested Shri Nagendra Nath Sinha, Secretary, MoRD to release the e-book containing the Social Audit Assessment Index.

The Secretary released the Social Assessment Index and requested the States to do an honest self-assessment and prepare a roadmap to address shortcomings.

The States (23 of 28 SAUs) got an opportunity to present the progress made on social audit, highlight the best practices and fix timelines for the remaining key tasks to be completed.

Shri Nagendranath Sinha, Secretary, MoRD, Shri Sanjeev Kumar, AS&FA and Shri Rohit Kumar, Joint Secretary-RE gave valuable feedback to the States to strengthen the social audit process.

Key action points were identified for the different stakeholders, including the State governments, scheme implementation officials, social audit units, NIRDPR and the Ministry. The workshop was attended by Secretaries, implementation officials and Directors of SAUs.



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