

Saugaht Foundation

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ANNUAL REPORT : 2016-17

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An overview by the President

Annual Activity Report: 2016-17

SAUGAHT FOUNDATION

Hello friends,

It is a matter of real pleasure and privilege for me to present the Annual Report of SoughtFoundation for the financial year 2016-17. Passing the way down the memory lane since our inception in 2005, we have been working tirelessly with the sole objective of alleviating the condition of the poor tribal people. The road has never been very smooth .We have faced a lot our problems that threw a challenge before us in discharging our duties. But our steadfast determination has helped us to surmount all odds and reach out to those who need our intervention to alleviate their lives. But instead of basking in the glory of what we have achieved, we take pleasure to work harder and bring about qualitative changes in the lives of those who are poor and downtrodden and who suffer in the abyss of poverty and its related curses like hunger, diseases, superstitions etc. We have been working innovatively and with total dedication and devotion to make the optimum use of the available resources and ensuring their equitable distribution among the have-nots. Apart from continuing with our activities that have been running since our inception, we give emphasis on projects that we feel are the need of the hour to ensure holistic development of the underprivileged people.

This year had multifarious activities, although we gave emphasis to few areas like providing assistance to Government of India to implement activities under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), Digitization of Public Distribution System and so on. Our thrust area of activities has also been Pre-Primary Education for Tribal Children, Conservation of Bio-Diversity, Awareness creation on various Social Issues, Women and Child development programs, Water & sanitation program, various health issues etc.

We may be a small organization but that does not deter us from taking ambitious projects and carry them out with all expertise and sincerity that they duly deserve. Our officials, project staff and volunteers work hard to penetrate into remote areas and provide intervention to the needy tribal people who are otherwise deprived of all benefits. I am proud to say that we have been able to establish a good rapport with the socially excluded tribal people we work for. We have been able to win their confidence. I gratefully acknowledge and salute the dedication of our staff members for working diligently with high degree of commitment.

I express my sincere gratitude to all our donors, well-wishers, and supporters. I thank the local administration on whom we used to fall back upon for assistance and have never returned empty-handed. We are grateful to all of you. I hope you will continue with your support and assistance for years to come.

Thanking you all.

*Jitendra Kumar Pandey ,
President, Saugaht Foundation*



PROJECT-HIGHLIGHTS



- **Activity under SBM (G)**
- **Digital System Development in PDS**
- **Pre-primary Education for Tribal Children**
- **Open-field Pre-schools for tribal kids**
- **Tailoring Training to Rural Women**
- **Prevention of Child Labour**
- **Community Sensitization on Safe Drinking Water**
- **Conservation of Bio-Diversity**
- **Observance of Independence Day**
- **Observance of International Women's Day**
- **Awareness of various Social Issues**
- **Prevention and Control of Diabetes**
- **Digital System Dev. In Land & Revenue Dept.**

ACTIVITY NARRATIVE REPORT :-

Construction of Toilet under SBM(G) :-

Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) has been launched as a fitting tribute to the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, to be celebrated in 2019, Govt. of India has launched this mission for



improving the levels of cleanliness in rural areas. Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan has now been restructured by the present Government as "Swachh Bharat Abhiyan" with the objective of making India a "clean" India by stopping the problem of open defecation, building up of toilets for all households, providing running water supply, treating of solid and liquid wastes in a proper manner.

Construction of Individual Household Latrines was one of the important components of Total Sanitation Campaign introduced by Government of India in 1999. Under Total Sanitation Campaign incentive was given only to Below Poverty Line families. The financial implication in construction of toilets is taken care of under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. The government of

India launched the 'Swachh Bharat Mission' (SBM) Programme, on 2nd October 2014, which promises 110 million toilets built in the next five years in an effort to make India an "open defecation free country." The extent of open defecation all over rural India presents a major health issue. The objectives of Swachh Bharat are to reduce or eliminate open defecation through the construction of individual, cluster and community toilets. But it is miserable that even after 70 years of independence India has a massive problem of open field defecation. More than 72 percent of rural people in India respond to their nature's call behind bushes, in fields or on roadsides.

Being a leading NGO in Palamu district Saugath Foundation has been actively participating in this Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) initiatives and the Govt. has given responsibility to construct 167 nos. of sanitary latrines in Garikhaspanchayat of Pandwa block. During the FY2016-17 our organization has got a major assignment to construct 540 sanitary toilets. The project target area has been 4 villages in GarikhashPanchayat, 2 villages in ManghigawnPanchayat and 1 village in BabhandihPanchayat in Palamu district. We have successfully constructed 540 sanitary toilets.

The Swachh Bharat mission is also making an initiative of establishing an accountable mechanism of monitoring latrine use. Several studies at the halfway of the implementation of SBM programme show a gloomy picture and point out various gaps. Target oriented approach has not been successful in creating and sustaining functional toilets. Hence, behavioural change from open defecation to usage of toilet is the major challenge which needs to be addressed.

Assistance to Govt. for digital system development in PDS :-

The journey of e-Governance initiatives in India took a broader dimension in mid 90s for wider sectoral applications with emphasis on citizen-centric services. In order to transform the entire environment of public services through the use of information technology, the Government of India has launched the Digital India programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and

knowledge economy. Department Of Food And Civil Supplies, Govt. of Jharkhand has entrusted Saught Foundation with an important assignment to add names of ration card holder living in Palamu district under appropriate ration dealers of the concerned locality. The main objectives have been computerization of digital system of PDS for overall improvement in process efficiencies in distribution of food grains to the targeted beneficiaries. Our organization was given responsibility of entering 6009 no. of 'Red' rations card and 5326 no. of 'White' ration cards into a specific computerized data entry system during the FY 2016-17. We have successfully completed this vital work. We are happy that we have a substantial contribution to develop digital India for result oriented e-Governance initiatives in PDS.

Preprimary Education for Tribal Children:-

Saught Foundation believes that education is the most essential weapon to fight against poverty and social deprivation. The status of indigenous people in India has always been downtrodden. Imparting education to their children only can pave the way for their mainstreaming. In order to address to this social need for tribal community children our organization has been implementing a project titled 'Basic Education for tribal children'. The project is meant for children under 3-5 years, which is being implemented in Path village under Phakiradih Panchayat in Bhandariya Block in Garhwa district. This project is being supported by Asha for Education - San Francisco chapter, USA. The project has made a remarkable progress during this year. Currently the project is highly visible in the rural area. The implementation of this project for last 3 years (since June 2014) has brought a substantial change in the outlook of the community people towards the education of little children. In



fact our target group children have always been the down trodden and under privileged tribal children who previously used to roam around the forest fringe areas. In this circumstance the Asha-SF project has brought a visible change in the habit of the children of the project village who are eager to go to our school regularly. The children have learnt English alphabet and can read and write from A to Z. They can also count and can write numerical from 1 to 100. It is wonderful to see that they know the names of various fruits, vegetables, animals and can easily identify those things. As far as the main objective of our preprimary school project is concerned, we are supposed to prepare and admit socially excluded little tribal-children in local formal primary schools for their main streaming. We are happy to mention that from our project, 20 children have been admitted in class-1 in four local primary schools in 2016-17. Altogether during last 3 years total $(19+15+ 20) = 54$ children from this tribal community have been entered into formal primary schools. We feel; it is an important milestone that we have crossed in the very 1st 3 years of our project. We have replaced the conventional teaching techniques by introducing new method of imparting education. Use of educational toys has been very effective for the children. The teaching technique of our teachers has made our children sharper and intelligent and modest in nature. Special orientation has been given to the children and their parents to maintain hygienic way of life. Our project has created a positive environment in terms of children's education. We observe that the children and their parents have become receptive not only towards education but also to health and hygiene. Thus the project has a positive impact on the community. We are grateful to a local well-wisher who donated a two room building for this school. Running cost of this project is being supported by

Asha for Education, USA through its San Francisco chapter. We are thankful to this esteemed organization for such valuable support. We extend our special thanks to Mr. Abhishek Aggarwal, the project Stewart of Asha-SF for his kind assistance and guidance. We have a far reaching innovative plan to bring more numbers of tribal children to impart basic education to start formal schooling in other tribal dominated districts in Jharkhand.

Open-field Pre-schools for tribal kids:-

It is a normal scenario in many forest fringe tribal hamlets in our project areas that the poor children generally roam around unprotected and use to play in the community; wearing rotten garments, bare footed, half naked, half fed. These children do not attend the Government schools or other formal school because of the following problems:-

- Due to the different linguistic, cultural and geographical environment, and its peculiar complications, the tribal community of our project area is largely cut-off from the mainstream society.
- There is no Anganwadi (government preschool) within 2-3 kms. from our proposed project villages. Covering such distance to join school regularly for a kid in the age group of 4-5 years is difficult.
- The target group people suffer from social exclusion and are not encouraged to join any social institution of the mainstream people.
- The targeted Indigenous community people don't feel comfortable in coming



- outside their own area for any social interaction with other community people,
- Most of the parents are illiterate and they are not aware about the importance of their children's education.
- The little preschool level children don't have any opportunity to get basic education and orientation to begin formal education.
- These children remain out of school and consequently they grow up without any formal education and subsequently become potential child labours.
- This situation

consequently creates the vicious cycle of poverty in those tribal families which continues for several generations.

In order to address to the above-mentioned problem in this year we have developed an innovative approach which was titled as, 'Open-field Pre-school' for tribal kids. We have a plan to cover 600 children by organizing 20 such preschools with 30 poor tribal children in the age group of 4-5 years in each school. We have strategically selected remote villages located in the forest fringe tribal dominated Ramgarh block in Palamu district in Jharkhand. Our idea is to organize such Open-field Pre-schools not in any particular classroom arrangement, rather the teacher will choose her convenient places in and around the project village to gather little children in the natural environment, may be under a tree, in playground, on the bank of a stream, near a spring, in the foothill, in the courtyard of teacher's own house, under a community shed etc. Our teachers will give orientation to the poor parents for qualitative upbringing of their children with special emphasis to nutrition, health and hygiene, nature building etc. The project would promote basic education for the neglected tribal children who live in remote backward areas, where the government has not extended any 'Anganwadi' facility. Direct assistance and guidance of our project teachers would enable our beneficiaries to get admission in standard-I in local formal primary schools. So far as the unit cost of the project is concerned it is a very

low cost project. The innovative idea of school without any school-building and classes without any classroom makes this project unique.

We are taking pride to mention that Sugaht Foundation has participated in the 'Global Contest for Innovation in Education' of Asha for Education- Stanford Chapter, USA and has become the Award winner. We have received funding support in March 2017. Implementation of the project will start from in the following year (April: 2017-18). We are thankful to MrVatsalSharan and MsParomaVarma of Asha for Education- Stanford Chapter for this valuable support .

Tailoring Training for Rural Women for their self-reliance:-

Economic empowerment is the only way to establish the women as the equal associates in the arena of social development. A self-reliant women can have a dignified life by taking part in the decision making process. As an integral part of our women empowerment programme; we provide tailoring training for rural women. In this year also with the funding support of Department of Labour, Employment and Training, Government of Jharkhand, we have conducted one training workshop with 26 participants at Bhajaniya in Mohamadganj Block in Palamudistrict . The period of training have been from 05/06/2016 to 29/06/2016 .

Our training programme is mainly meant for tribal girls over 35 years coming from poorer families. Themain objectives of this project have been upgrading the status of poor rural women, equipping them with this vocational skill in order to ensure their employment. Basically we follow conventional teachings technique although we also impart modern tailoring techniques to keep our students up-to-date with current market needs. Under the supervision of experts; they are given practical lessons on cutting, stitching, embroidery work etc. and are taught how to use modern sewing machines. We impart them training on designing garments as per rural market needs. After the completion of training our organization has issued certificate to each trainee. The Government of Jharkhand has also given sewing machines for self-employment of all those trained women. The project has a positive contribution in terms of economic self-reliance of the rural women as most of the trained women have been able to find out suitable job in the local job market by upgrading their skills. We have future plan to include various other types if economic activities for self-reliance of our target group beneficiaries.



Community Sensitization against Child Labour practice:-

Like other years Sugaht Foundation worked in this year also on community sensitization against child labour practices. As an essential part of our community development activities we find-out the school-dropouts children and counsel their parents about the consequences, urge them to support our endeavor to eradicate child labour practice and assist them to continue their children's school education. In order to highlight the issue we have undertaken a continuous campaign in several locations in town and rural areas in the districts of Palamu, Garawah by organizing community meetings, seminars, group discussions etc. We have made the parents and also the employers of child labours aware that engaging a child labour is a criminal offence which may put the offender in prison. As an

integrated part of this activity we have started a center in Phakiradiha Panchayat in Garwah district for basic education for adults where our social animators discuss about the harmfulness of child labor practice with parents. We also organized special awareness generating event in that center for the prevention of child labors on the occasion of World Day against Child Labour on 12th June, 2016. We have our endeavor to sensitize the participants in this event that every child has the fundamental right to have proper health care and quality basic education, which helps the children, their families; and their communities to break the vicious cycle of poverty, ignorance, exploitation and social custom. We have observed some positive impacts of our interventions however we understand that proper implementation of integrated child development programme can abolish child labor practice from our society. We feel that government needs to undertake legislative reforms and to take strong steps to implement policies that would guarantee the elimination of child labor.

Community sensitization on safe drinking water:-

Our operational area is basically hilly forest area and drought prone in nature. People in our project area are mostly indigenous and uneducated. Although people in general drink water from tube-wells, but this



source of water is found not very well maintained. They do not know the importance of safe drinking water and many of them don't have any other option to drink water they collect from the open wells and ponds. As a consequence they suffer from a host of ailments. The majority among them is water borne illness like cholera and jaundice being the largest cause for concern. Tube -wells and wells get dry in the summer months as water levels falls drastically. The problem is sometimes aggravated due to the non-uniform distribution of rainfall. Huge numbers of the tribal villagers in our operational area are living without any safe drinking water facilities and they strive for collecting drinking water from distant places. Moreover, excepting the drinking purpose, water used for other purposes are mostly taken from either river or pond which is getting contaminated continuously because of many reasons, mainly due to human excreta. In order to combat waterborne diseases several awareness generation programmes were conducted in this year by our organization at different areas mainly in tribal

belts. Although we undertake this kind of awareness programme round the year yet some special events were conducted in 3 villages in Bhandariya Block in Garhwa district and 2 villages in Ramgarh Block in Palamu district on 22nd March, 2017 on the occasion of World Water Day to educate the poor rural people about the importance of safe drinking water in human life and various scientific techniques of getting safe drinking water from nature. Our resource person shared the fact that there are over 663 million people in this earth living without a safe water supply close to home. As per the theme of UN this year, we focus on wastewater and ways to reduce and reuse of wastewater. We need to improve the collection and treatment of wastewater and safely reuse it. At the same time, we need to reduce the quantity and pollution to protect the environment and our water resources.

Conservation of Biodiversity & Environment Awareness Programme :-

Biodiversity is the variety of different types of life found on the Earth. Global environment and climate is undergoing drastic changes recently due to unsustainable development activities and consequently natural resources are getting depleted. In Jharkhand green shelterbelt has an immense environmental importance to reduce intensity of the natural catastrophe in the hilly areas. The endangered bio diversity of Chottonagpur hilly area has become vulnerable and demands immediate intervention for its protection. Due to indiscriminate felling of trees has become a threat to the existence of hilly forest, which is affecting bio-diversity and needs conservation urgently. Deforestation has been increasing the intensity of those natural calamities like drought in our operational area in Palamu district and need to be controlled by preservation of forest. Extensive development of mining industries in many districts in Jharkhand has resulted in massive deforestation. In view of this, like previous years in order to sensitize community on this issue, our organization in this year has organized awareness drive in the forest fringe areas in Ramgarh block of Palamu district by conducting a big street rally on 5th June 2016 on the occasion of World Environment Day by covering the rural areas especially the forest-fringe tribal villages. The street rally was organized with placards, festoons, slogans to highlight the issue. Few hundreds of tribal people of that community participated in that event. This event for creating environment awareness among the general masses has been highly effective in conservation of biodiversity of the area.



Community Sensitization for prevention and control of Diabetes:-

In the present era India has become the diabetic capital of the world. Since the last few decades the country has been experiencing a significant increase in the burden of various non-communicable diseases, including diabetes. Indians are at higher risk of acquiring diabetes because of poor awareness about diabetes among the meagerly educated population. In line with lack of awareness, glycemic control in Indian patients is also very poor, which results in a rapid increase in diabetes prevalence across the country. But unfortunately diabetes has never been considered as a public health priority in India. Lack of diabetes education is the primary reason for delayed and/or missed diagnosis in this vast country. Considering the ever-increasing burden of diabetes mellitus, a health system strengthening approach especially on diabetes is needed. The government of India has taken certain initiatives at the national level but there is a need to implement those policies at grass root level and prevent the disease from taking the shape of pandemic in India. It is assessed that 77.2 million people in India are suffering from pre-diabetic condition. It is also assessed that a population of nearly 1 million is presently afflicted with the disease and more than 1.5 million people are suffering from pre-diabetic condition in Jharkhand. Since the basic healthcare situation in remote rural belt in Jharkhand is awfully poor, the situation of diabetes care in our operational area is pitiable. As a responsible NGO to provide

humanitarian assistance in Palamu and its surrounding districts, Saugah Foundation is engaged in diabetes care and control.

Like last few years we have been focusing on creating awareness among the school children about diabetes. We have organized an event on 14th November 2016 in our school cum project center located at Path villages in Phakiradiha Panchayat in Garwha district for observance of World Diabetes Day. We engaged two doctors as our resource persons who addressed the students, teachers and local community people and gave the vital message of maintaining a healthy life. The School Principal and concerned teacher for physical education of the school also addressed the assembly. About 1200 children have participated in this motivational event. Apart from this some selected obese students were also asked to join a special class and were given special orientation by our doctors for their behavioral change to reduce obesity. We also took initiative to talk to the mothers of those obese children in a special session. We are hopeful that such activity to sensitize community people through children in Daltonganj city will have a positive impact to combat the targeted issue by adopting curative as well as preventive initiatives to fight against diabetes in the area.

Observance of International Women's Day :-

International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. In



order to create awareness regarding this global women's movement, our organization has initiated observance of 'International Women's Day' on 8th March 2017 at Ramgarh of Palamu district. On this occasion we organized a small street rally with local people especially the tribal ladies of the area. We invited village elders and representatives of local self-government and also common people. Speakers spoke on the importance of treating women with dignity. Some women social activists delivered speeches and

motivated the women to actively participate in the process of social development as equal associates with their male counterparts. Altogether more than 300 local women have participated in this event. Local people appreciated our initiatives. We are hopeful that our efforts have made positive impacts in those communities and the deprived tribal girls of that area will have a better quality of lives in their future.

Digital System Development in Land & Revenue Dept.

To establish ownership rights for land, registration with clear title in the name of owner and proper documentation and managing land records are important both for the Government and land owners. It is also easy for the Government to collect the land revenue or to pay compensation, if lands are

acquired. This led to the creation of Revenue Department to serve the citizens effectively and to resolve inter-family land disputes through fair land record system. Traditionally this land records were kept in concerned departments in paper hardcopies. The Digital India Land Records Modernization Program was launched by Government of India in the year 2008 , which is aimed to modernize management of land records, minimize scope of land/property disputes, enhance transparency in the land records maintenance system, and facilitate moving eventually towards guaranteed conclusive titles to immovable properties in the country. The major components of the program are computerization of all land records including mutations, and settlement records of all land holdings. Government of Jharkhand is also in the process of digitization of land holdings. NGOs are also entrusted with this assignment to enter data in specific website of government through a well-organized procedure. Saugaht Foundation is engaged to undertake this job in Lesliganj Block in Palamu district. In 2016-17 we have entered data for digitization of 3383 nos. of land holdings.

Events for observance of various special days:-

Saugaht Foundation generally observes various days of national significance. India's Independence Day is a day of great significance for the people of India. In this year we have celebrated three special days viz. Independence Day of India on 15th August 2016, birthdays of Mahatma Gandhi, 'The Father of our Nation' on 2nd October 2016 , and Republic Day of India on 26th January 2017 . However we took special initiative to celebrate our Independence Day. We organized day long programs to mark this occasion with due respect by conducting various events in our project center at Phath village of PhakiradihaPanchayat of Garwha district by involving the local community people and children. Local community leaders and villagers have participated to celebrate this auspicious day. Sweets were distributed among the participants on this occasion.



Raising awareness on various Social Issues

Saugaht Foundation is working in the remote rural areas, mainly in the tribal communities. We are familiar with various social issues which create hindrance to social development. We have identified various social problems, which affect the lives of poor underprivileged tribal community people. As a leading NGO, working in those tribal communities our organization always extend humanitarian assistance to those socially isolated people. We believe that sensitizing community people is the ideal way to combat those issues. During 2016-17 our organization has undertaken various social awareness activities to address to some specific social problems illiteracy, gender inequality, child marriage, dowry system, witch-hunting practice, alcoholism, superstition, insanitation, deforestation and so on. Hope our endeavor will have far reaching positive impacts in the lives of the community people by solving those social issues.

Future Project Planning :

- Comprehensive development of communities in Ramgarh area
- Intervention for care and control of diabetes among poor tribal people ;
- Expansion of preschool children's education for deprived communities

An Appeal

Saught Foundation is committed and dedicated to extend humanitarian assistance for the causes of the poor, socially isolated and economically exploited tribal people, especially for the women and children. In this connection assistance is needed for undertaking various development initiatives for the target people. We solicit your kind support in this endeavor.

**THIS CHILD CAN HAVE A BETTER
TOMORROW ONLY WHEN**

YOU

EXTEND YOUR SUPPORT



Your donation is Income Tax Exempted

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