

# ANNUAL REPORT

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2007-08



# LOK PRERNA

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## Lok Prerna : A journey towards Development

### Foreword

LOK PRERNA is a podium of like-minded people who believe in the philosophy of 'Helping people to help themselves' and implement it for the cause of marginalized and disadvantaged section. Being a non-profit voluntary development organization it started its work since 1991 with the following vision of 'Establish a non-exploitative Self-reliant social order devoid of inequalities based on caste, creed, religion or sex and characterized by dignity of the individuals with the primacy of truth and nonviolence for its perpetuation'.

Since beginning, LOK PRERNA has tried its best to achieve the vision tapping resources from different Government departments and Non-Government agencies. At the same time tireless effort has been given to form & promote people's organization at the village level to accelerate the development process for which the organization is committed.

Our identified target groups are unorganized, deprived, disadvantaged and economically/ socially backward people, who are the operational areas happen to be schedule castes, schedule tribes, dalits & other backward castes, women, children and small / marginal farmers.

In these following pages of this annual report, an attempt has been made to provide its readers a glimpse of the record of growth and development through different multidisciplinary programs and activities undertaken and performed under the umbrella of LOK PRERNA during the year 2007 – 2008 in different district of Santhal Paragana region. Our organization has now covering 20 blocks of Santhal Paragana and about 3 lacks families through its different programs.

The reader would find the impact of various programs implemented by a well-knit network of SHGs, CBOs, Youth Clubs, Children's Club & registered NGOs. About 500 women SHGs has been formed and promoted for socio-economic transformation of the villages. People's participation has been ensured through community organization.

During the course of rural development activities we have learn that 'People have power to develop themselves if the development process accelerated by any agency mobilizing & empowering the people.'

During presentation of this Annual Report of our achievements & impact for development of quality of life of the poor, marginalized people with special emphasis on women and children in the targeted area, we hereby take the opportunity to express our sincere thanks to our Donors, Government Departments, Consulting agencies & consultants, Partner organizations & Individual well wishers within India and abroad for their continuous support & cooperation. Also we would like to congratulate different grass root groups, village's leaders, organization staff and the volunteers without whom such a gigantic task could never possible. Our sincere thanks to all of them.

Lok Prerna

Lok Prerna founded in the year 1993 is an initiative for strengthening the community based development process in the rural parts of Santhal Pargana region in Jharkhand. The organization started its initiatives with full commitment.

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### Something about us!

Lok Prerna has been working with the community since last 15 years. In these years, the organization has actively devoted itself to community mobilization, awareness creation, creating community assets. In this process, it has interacted with government machineries and has been able to converge with many of their program. Lok Prerna has had active collaborative relationships with different organizations in the past and at present.

In the past, Lok Prerna has implemented projects related to Health, NRM, Women Empowerment Technology transfer and Child Labour. In course of implementing these projects, it has interacted and formed working relationships with different government and non-government organizations. A list of such collaborations is as below:

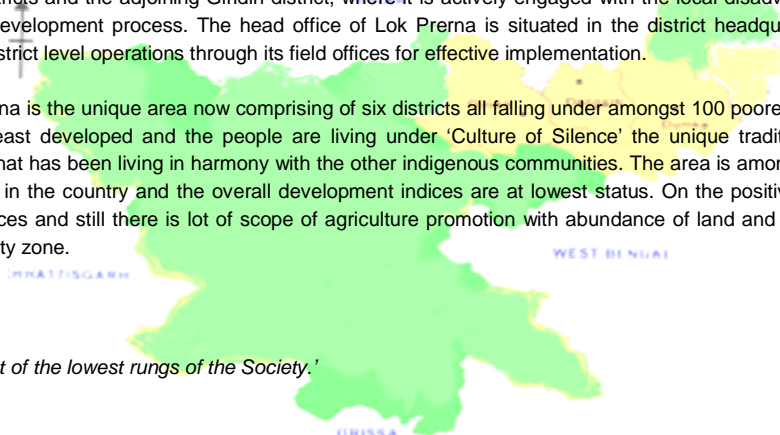
### LEGAL DETAILS:

<u>Act of Registration</u>	<u>Year of Registration</u>
S.R.A. (Act XXI of 1860)	1992
F.C.R.A. – 1976	1984
IT Act –1961 U/S 12A	1999

### Where do we work?

The Operational area of Lok Prerna is situated in Santhal Pargana region with particular focus in Deoghar, Dumka, Jamtara and Pakur districts and the adjoining Giridih district, where it is actively engaged with the local disadvantaged communities for participatory development process. The head office of Lok Prerna is situated in the district headquarters of Deoghar and it controls the district level operations through its field offices for effective implementation.

Santhal Pargana is the unique area now comprising of six districts all falling under amongst 100 poorest districts in the country. The area is least developed and the people are living under 'Culture of Silence' the unique tradition of the tribal Santhal communities that has been living in harmony with the other indigenous communities. The area is amongst one of the most food insecure zone in the country and the overall development indices are at lowest status. On the positive side the area is full of natural resources and still there is lot of scope of agriculture promotion with abundance of land and water resources and the rich bio-diversity zone.



### Our Mission

*'Empowerment of the lowest rungs of the Society.'*

### Our Vision

*Establish a non-exploitative Self-reliant social order devoid of inequalities based on caste, creed, religion or sex and characterized by dignity of the Individuals with the primacy of truth and non-violence for its perpetuation.*

### Objectives

To bring people to the development front and help them to take responsibility for their own development – creating environment for support and to strengthen their potentiality as agents of change in the society.

### Functional Strategies-

- ◇ People's participation through community organization
- ◇ Proper up keep and optimal utilization of local resources
- ◇ Convergence initiatives focusing on involvement of grassroot level people
- ◇ Breaking inertia for survival against odds and hindrances
- ◇ Research, Training and orientation for empowerment

### Target Group:

Unorganized, deprived, disadvantaged and economically/socially backward people, who are in the operational areas happen to be STs, SCs, OBCs, Women & Children, Landless families, Small & marginal farmers

## LOK PRERNA ORGANOGRAM

### Decentralization Process

As the organization has been growing slowly in terms of projects/activities as well as an expansion of areas, the 'Decentralization Process' has been though off in the year 2007 headed by two senior members of the organization to handle/implement the projects/activities smoothly to ensure quality and impact of programs for the benefits of the poor and marginalized people, children and women.

It was decided two units under Lok Prerna i.e. (i) SAMADHAN & (ii) SATAT initially to be operated from two separate units for its convenience of administrative and operational issues. But finally the Yearly Accounts, Report to Government, Annual Activity Report will be on behalf of the mother unit Lok Prerna.

Accordingly the decentralization process materialized from the beginning of 2008 with another one hired building opposite to VIP More, which is the office of SAMADHAN. The SATAT office has remained in the old/same building of Lok Prerna. It has really helps a lot for operations of number of projects smoothly.

### Water Poverty!

Water has different dynamics to the lives of the poor communities. The implications related to poor management of water at village level often leads to the condition of water poverty affecting the farm production, food availability and health conditions, the recent village level survey affirms significant improvement in overall health conditions of the village with improved access to water and peoples perception to safe drinking water. Lok Prerna has mobilized the communities to come out with successful models of rainwater harvesting and water sanitation services.

### Accountability

As per the Societies Registration Act, Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, Income Tax Act, yearly organizational Audit has been done and submitted to concerned Government departments as per the law of the land on yearly basis.

### Lok Prerna's Collaborative efforts in Social Sector

The organization has believed on practicing true sense of social collaborative idealism. It has played an important role in the process of unification for grass- root level institutions by forming several village level networks, forums and promoted groups to take up initiative in the planning and implementation of the activities of their interest and benefit. A network initiated among several NGOs working in the Santhal Pargana region named NORRMS has targeted a noble objective to address the root cause of sustainable livelihood in the region and have invited several national level issue based organizations like AFPRO, SPWD, WATER-AID, IGSSS etc to contribute for the cause.

### Managing Natural Resource & Livelihood

#### SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD PROMOTION THROUGH LAND WATER MANAGEMENT & COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

The Andheri Hilfe supported project covers 100 families from 3 villages Bihajori, Jamdhara and Kusumaha of Jarmundi block in Dumka district. The initiative started with focus on improving the livelihood conditions of the disadvantaged communities and improving their capacity in managing the local issues related to their livelihood.

The project has increased food security and local opportunities for the involvement of 100 small and marginal farmers in gainful employment activities by developing agriculture infrastructure and practices.

### Key Achievements:

58 acres of land brought under irrigation and 40% of the irrigated land gives two crops in a year.

The farm production of cereals, pulses, oilseeds and leafy vegetable has significantly increased and people have surplus production at home. The farm production has increased due to increase in net sown area and the improved crop practices. Lok Prerna introduced following techniques to improve the productivity levels –

- SRI method of paddy cultivation
- Seed Treatment
- Timely sowing of seeds
- Experimentation with mixed crops, intercropping and the crop cycle
- Use of vermin compost, inter-culture and non pest management.

700 women self help groups, 300 User groups and the gram sabhas are actively mobilizing resources to scale up the project experience. The social regulations related to water use, grazing and plantation are in place to maximize the benefits on equitable basis.

### Roll outs

Integration of Gram Sabha plans with NREGA and other state development programmes are in roll out. The local community participation in planning of NREGA works in the village and involvement of local people in wage labour under the scheme is considerably high.

The NREGA activities have developed the rural infrastructure like access road and water harvesting structures. More significantly women are getting equal wages  
The SHGs have shown good progress and 2 of the groups have mobilized second linkage from the nearby commercial bank.

Total 51 farmers have been provided handholding support in vegetable cultivation and the handholding approach of capacity building has helped them achieve good results in 16 acres of land in the first follow up after training. The farmers have also come out with a green vegetable nursery in 0.5 acre of land providing quality saplings for vegetable cultivation.

### CUSTER DEVELOPMENT APPROACH FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD OF TRIBALS

The cluster development approach with support of Micro Educational Socio Service Organization [MESSO] is based on prototype development model with proven technology packages for Jharkhand. The programme is supported by the Govt. of Jharkhand.

Under the programme Lok Prerna has undertaken construction activities related to bari wells, shall wells, lift irrigation units, water harvesting structures and land leveling work in a cluster of 10 tribal villages in Jarmundi block of Dumka.

Sl. No.	Activities	Total units under project	Completed units in year 1	Ongoing units	Coverage (in acre)	No. of Beneficiaries
1	Lift Irrigation System	13	9	4	473.3	292
2	Shallow Well	14	10	4	134.0	147
3	Dug Well	9	9	-	28.55	71
4	Water Harvesting Structure	3	3	-	54.80	41
5	Land Leveling	105	42	63	105	183

**Figure 1 Bari well with Pump set irrigating the uplands**

**Table 1: Construction Details under MESSO Project**

The project location is situated in Motihara river sub basin that is part of the Mayurakshi River Basin, the conspicuous water reserve in Santhal Pargana region however the people living in this region are poor and the agriculture activities are still struggling for adequate irrigation facilities. People had to rely on subsistence farming that was mostly mono crop.

The project has changed the village scenario with irrigation facilities, training of farmers and quality inputs of agriculture. The project involves the communities in different levels of planning and implementation and based on the values of participation, transparency and accountability. The water resources are being managed by the User Committees who look after the project implementation and operates through the community accounts in local bank.

The first rabi crop after installation of 9 lift irrigation units was sown in 69 acres of land with inputs for quality seeds and land treatment from the project. The results have been encouraging and 115 families earned between Rs. 5000 to 6500 during this season alone.

Figure 2 Crop coverage in first rabi season after lift facilities

Figure 3 Tomato cultivation with lift irrigation

System of Rice Intensification technology used for paddy cultivation has recorded almost double production and interesting farmers for next season.

### WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT:

Watershed Irrigation activities have been one of the crucial areas of NRM based livelihood in Santhal Pargana region. Lok Prerna has come out with previous successful models of watershed management in this region and providing technical support to other agencies also in this area. During the year Lok Prerna implemented two units of watershed in Raneshwar block of Duma district with support of the District Rural Development Agency, Dumka.

Shyamal Watershed                      3 villages    532 ha  
Sagen Sakam Wartershed            6 villages    550 ha

Major watershed activities during the year 07-08

Sl. No.	Details of works	Unit
1	Installation of Lift Irrigation System	1
2	Renovation of tank	1
3	Construction of New tank	2
4	Check Dam repairing	1
5	Plot Leveling & Bounding	34 Ha
6	Kitchen Garden promotion	10 Ha
7	Formation & strengthening of SHGs	25 SHGs

*For tribal communities shift from the subsistence farming to organized farming is a major challenge. The changing scenario and depleting natural resources have made them dependent on agriculture but limited access to resources and technologies limits their risk taking ability.*

*MESSO Jarmundi has opened up new avenues for the Santhal communities with irrigation based agriculture.*



The watershed interventions in the area have increased area under rabi cultivation and contributing to soil – water conservation. The Popular crops wheat, mustard and green vegetables have been taken up in additional 60 acres of land as the irrigation facilities has increased. Promotion of the kitchen garden in 10 Ha has facilitated water run off management from the homestead area with the plantation of fruits plants and vegetable cultivation as well.

Two additional units of watershed were sanctioned during the year but could not be started since the funds have not been allocated yet. The preliminary work of survey has been completed and the base activities have been identified.

### National Rural Guarantee Act

NREGA is one of the most important legislative reforms to ensure rural livelihood for the poor with secondary objective of building sustainable assets in the village that could further augment the rural development perspectives.

Lok Prerna initiatives have been to strengthen both the aspects NREGA, viz.

- ☉ Mass education and mobilization to help people access 100 days wage employment
- ☉ And, capacity building of local communities in participatory mapping, monitoring and social audit for effective implementation of NREGA.

### Major initiatives under NREGA

Mass awareness and capacity building in 17 panchayats of Raneshwar block, Dumka in partnership with District Administration, Dumka

Study of NREGA implementation in 5 villages of Masalia block in Dumka and facilitation of Social Audit in 5 panchayats of Nala block in Jamtara district with support of DFID PACS programme. In Dumka district Lok Prerna is working with the DRDA as programme implementing agency (PIA) in Ranishwar, Masalia and Jarmundi blocks. The immediate focus of Lok Prerna in NREGA is village based planning for water centred development and full coverage of the unskilled workforce willing to work under NREGA.

The partnership had positive results in terms of the utility of assets created under NREGA, transparency in the functioning and involvement of community at every level of the programme. So far the water harvesting facilities have ensured irrigation facilities in additional 456 acres of un-irrigated land and created **20680 wage employment days**. Recently the Govt. – NGO partnership in NREGA has been put on hold by the district administration.

### National Environmental Awareness Campaign

The theme for the year 2007-08 Environmental Awareness Campaign was "Biodiversity". Lok Prerna has organized padyatara, awareness camps and school level competition to sensitize children and their parents on biodiversity conservation issues.

Santhal Pargana has rich diversity of medicinal plants and herbs but the resources are depleting due to uncontrolled exploration of these resources. Local herbal species were planted by the community people involved in the campaign.

### Sustainable Livelihood Project

The sustainable livelihood project initiated with support from Sir Ratan Tata Trust has been recently launched in November, 2007. The project has specific focus on developing irrigation systems, introduction of improved farm practices and small livestock to reinforce the livelihood activities in two villages Ghormundi and Jaruadih of Masalia block in Dumka district.

### Entitlement and ensuring of rural communities to Natural Resources

The DFID supported PACS initiative in Masalia and Ramgarh blocks of Dumka district covers 205 villages with focus on promotion and strengthening of local community based organizations for their proactive role in managing natural resources and improvement of livelihood opportunities based on these resources.

Community Based Institutions	No. of Units	Member-ship	Linkage Volume in Rs.
Self Help Groups	318	3835	4200000
Kisan Clubs	159	2727	10790000
Gram Sabha	182	17452	19700000

The project is in the final stage of winding up and the CBOs have shown marked growth in terms of their effectiveness, approaches and ability to manage funds from Govt. institutions and different development schemes for local Development.

The resource mobilization is based on the process of capacity building, consensus on concerned issues through village level meetings, workshops, participatory mapping and development of village perspective plans.

Lok Prerna has used the GIS technique to improvise the participatory mapping process. The Gram ++ software developed by IIT Mumbai has been used in the GIS process that reflects the area and terrain and give the results in actual land area in ha. The tool is outcome of the UNDP initiatives where Lok Prerna with some other organizations in Jharkhand were developed as Technology Resource Centres.

The community mobilization and empowerment has visible results in terms the people's perception and their collaborative approach with different line departments to make out most of the development initiatives that not only helps in realization of entitlements but has effectively controlled the distress migration from the area.

Effective linkages have been made in the field of Poultry, Bamboo craft, Tassar cocoon rearing, handicrafts, and agro forestry. The local resource based enterprise promotion has been a good experience and the people are comfortable since they can manage the inputs locally.


**Gender and Livelihood**

**SGSY (Swarn Jayanti Swarojgar Yojna)**

The Self Help Approach and women empowerment initiatives of Lok Prerna has thrived into a strong field presence of 317 women self help groups. The groups have emerged out of different development programmes with proven sustainability and continuous operations at community level. The SHG funds have played an important role in stabilizing **“internal flow of money concept”** and increased the access of people to small credit facilities.

**SHG Figures**

No. of self Help Groups	317
Total Membership	4362
Total SHG Corpus	Rs. 16.84 Million
No. of groups linked with bank	300
No. of groups with Bank Credit linkages	284
No. of artisan groups	20



There are 20 artisan groups also formed with support of Ministry of Textile to promote livelihood based on local handicrafts.

Lok Prerna is facilitating the groups with focused approach to the lifecycle of SHG and the level of inputs for groups varies as per their grading.

The groups of shown good improvement in terms of internal fund management, rotation of funds and developing local cluster based networking. About 200 groups are managing their books of accounts by their own and locally mobilizing resources to scale up their operations.

90 of the self help groups in Masalia block of Dumka district have been upgraded for conversion under SGSY. The scheme has particular focus on income generation activities related to agriculture and small livestock. The District is providing infrastructure support for Poultry sheds, working shed for bamboo craft, Lok Prerna is providing technical inputs and support to the groups for establishing micro entrepreneurship.

The SHGs involved in poultry business are under linkage process with Arambagh hatchery to build up a market chain. Lok Prerna is also promoting the PRADAN model of poultry chain successfully established in Lohardaga district through exposure to the existing model.

**Right to Property for Tribal Women**

The regional workshop on Right to property for tribal women was organized at Deoghar with support of Ministry of Women and Child Development, Govt. of India. In Santhal Pargana region the women population is deprived of property rights and neither the legislation nor customs or traditions safeguard the rights of women who are destitute or successors to lawfully inherit the property. Mr. Nalini Soren,, Minister of Agriculture, Govt. of Jharkhand inaugurated the workshop and leading tribal women leaders shared their concern on this issue with local women and leaders of traditional self governed institutions.

**Skill Based Entrepreneurship**

**CRAFTS BAZAR**

The Craft Bazar has been finalized at Dhanbad with support from Departement of Handicrafts, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India. The sanction delays made it difficult to organize the fair in this financial year hence the schedule has been planned for first quarter of next financial year when we expect more than 150 artisans from different parts of the state.

The fair might be a good opportunity to develop linkages of artisans with the market.

**VOCATIONAL TRAINING TO TRIBAL YOUTHS:**

The educational status among tribal communities has significant growth in the recent decade and with the same employment of the educated youth is an emerging challenge in this region. Most of the youth are unskilled and the formal education system does not support vocational skills. Lok Prerna has stard vocational training in following areas –

Vocational Trade	No. of learners	Location	Duration
Computer Application	30	Barmasia (Shikaripara)	One year
TV/ VCD/Radio repair	40	Basukinath (Jarmundi)	Six month

The vocational training in TV/ VCR / Radio recording has been recently completed and most of the learners have been placed in self enterprise or working at nearby workstations.

The vocational training has made overall change in the attitude of the local youth who feel now more confident and self dependent.


The computer education has also promising demands of skilled work force in the locality and opens up new avenues of desk top job, data entry works and youth involvement in e-

governance.

**Water Sanitation & Hygiene**

**PROMOTION OF WATER - SANITATION & HYGIENE:**

*"Joka panchayat of the Lok Prerna-WAI operational area has recently received the coveted "NIRMAL GRAM" award. The practices of the community has completely changed and they are more than happy 6 other NGPs have been recommended by the state for their good work."*



**Mission Partners: Water AID India and Total Sanitation Campaign**

Water Sanitation has been a core issue in Santhal Pargana and one of the key focus of Lok Prerna. The organizational initiatives are focused on influencing the community behavior and practices related to safe management of water and sanitation & hygienic environment in Deoghar, Dumka and Jamtara districts of Jharkhand.

The water sanitation programme with support of Water Aid India is focused in Jarmundi block where Lok Prerna is working on this issue in 21 villages covered under 3

panchayats. Under the project Lok Prerna is working with 2805 households, two third of them are living below poverty line. The objective of the project was to create awareness on water, sanitation, health and hygiene among the rural communities and building up some community based low cost models in unserved areas. Lok Prerna has also demonstrated efficient technologies of rainwater harvesting – surface and roof top; sanitary latrines, soak pits etc.

The achievements as far as Social Development Indicators are-

- Ⓜ Concerned Participation and decision making Started by Women, Tribal, Dalit and disabled persons;
- Ⓜ Enhanced Participation of Children;
- Ⓜ Enhanced Enrollment of children in school;
- Ⓜ Better quality of life;
- Ⓜ Better health status;
- Ⓜ Reduction in Water bone diseases;
- Ⓜ Enhanced Education level; and
- Ⓜ Enhanced Economic status of the target communities.

Focus area	Key activities
<b>Water</b>	Safe drinking water sources Installation and Restoration; Water quality test and Mitigation measures; Washing Platforms; Rain water Harvesting Structures; Force and Lift pumps; Operation and Maintenance; Spare Banks; Trained Mechanics; Trained Care Takers.
<b>Sanitation</b>	Installation of household latrines (IHHL); construction of School Sanitary Block; construction of Child friendly Toilet; construction of Compost pits (NADEP); Soak pits construction and promotion of Kitchen Garden
<b>Hygiene</b>	Hygiene education for children at family & school level; Uses of latrines by the Women & Children at household level; create Hand washing facility in School

**Outreach & dissemination**

Since onset of the programme activities Lok Prerna has influenced the behaviour of local communities in positive manner. The internal study conducted at the start of the year reflects that water contamination and poor sanitary conditions lead to worm infestation and ill health of the poor communities and results into high anaemia prevalence. Sanitary latrine had never been treated as a priority need of the people in the locality 5 years back.

The situation has changed with time and consistent efforts of Lok Prerna with WATER AID India and Total Sanitation Campaign and the water borne diseases have significantly reduced.

Water borne diseases are one of the key detriments to poverty alleviation initiatives in this region. The programme related interventions more particularly soak pit constructions, drain management, promotion of tippy for safe handling of water and the hand wash campaign at schools, and community spots have significantly reduced the incidences of Malaria, scabies and other skin related complications and diarrhea.

The learning we have from implementations of these projects further shifts our focus to water accessibility and availability of ground water that at present is adversely affecting the water & sanitation environment. Appropriate technology for ground water recharge is felt as a matter of immense importance to be taken up; Poverty is also the constraint to bring changes in hygienic behavior of the people; Prevalent old traditions and blind believe are also big hurdles. This confirms our thought of integrating water sanitation activities in community development programs to give them an edit value.

Coverage	Services
3 Districts	Safe Drinking Water
3 Blocks	Construction of Individual household latrines and community latrines
19 Panchayats	Sanitation Mart
4000 Children	Ring and pan production
15400 households	Network based mass education
	Linkages with NRHM, NREGA and other schemes.

**Community Health**

**Mission Partners: National Rural Health Mission, Jharkhand State AIDS Control Society, UNODC and CCF India**

Health is one of the most critical factors attributing to poverty conditions in Santhal Pargana. The health development issues

**The Sahiya mechanism –**

**Step 1:**  
Mobilizing local community to take on community based health care system.

**Step 2:**  
Formation of Village Health Committee in Gram Sabha meetings

**Step 3:**  
Selection of a voluntary health worker known as Sahiyya by these Health Committees to bridge the gap between ANM and villagers in providing health facility and awareness.



have different dimension varying to access to health services, nutrition and the community behavior and practices. The field experiences suggest that more than often the health emergency put 70% of the people under debt as they are unprepared to meet the high medical costs of the private service providers. The state services have some inherent challenges to tackle with and most often fail to create confidence among the people. The community behaviour and practices are also a matter of concern and more often guided by stigmas and myths

Lok Prerna has come forward with some significant interventions during the period to address various issues related to health to influence the health seeking behaviour of communities and maximizing the outreach of Govt. health schemes and services.

**SAHIYA: Health Promotion**

The ASHA/Sahiyya project is supported by Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Jharkhand. The program seeks to develop village based health counseling and support mechanism with help of community based health workers on mother and child health.

The Program has instantly improved the coverage of Pulse Polio and Routine Immunization in Giridih district. The further steps are aimed to continue the growth trends and also increase the performance of Janani Suraksha Yojna and institutional deliveries.

Lok Prerna has taken up the programme in Giridih district where it is working in the entire district except two blocks Bagoadar and Dumri. The basic objective of the program is to form Village Health Committees & selection and appointment of Sahiyya's to work as a local catalyst at the village level. The Sahiyya (the female health volunteer) acts as a direct link among the Health committee, health sub-center and the mothers of the villages.

The Program has made a significant change in access to early services and transcending the healthy practices at community level.

**Outreach:**

2217 Villages

1888 Gram Sabha

2029 Sahiyas

1891 Sahiyas trained in Module I (Role and Responsibility of Village Health Animator)

1857 Sahiyas trained in Module II ( Child Health)

**Vitamin – A Supplementation Programme**

Vitamin A deficiency is very common in Jharkhand but the implications have been recognized very recently. Every year a number of children are suffering from Vitamin A deficiency. Lok Prerna has started the Vitamin A Supplementation program with help of MI- CINI and Govt. of Jharkhand in Jamtara district of Jharkhand.

The programme covers capacity building of local health officers and staff in Vitamin A supplementation strategy and session monitoring to mainstream the programme in magnitude of its implications in the state. The programme also engages media and other stakeholders for effective implementation of the Routine Immunization program of the state.

The regularity of bi-annual follow ups has improved with the capacity building support and field based supportive supervision to village health workers. The significant change in people's mindset on Vitamin A supplementation could be attributed as success of this program as many of the parents are asking about Vitamin A dose at the PHCs in Jamtara.

**TARGETED INTERVENTION PROJECT (TI) on HIV/AIDS**

Deoghar district in Jharkhand has high prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases that puts its under the peril of HIV/AIDS. As the state has high migrant population Lok Prerna has started the Targeted intervention project with support from Jharkhand AIDS Control Society.

The program covers entire district with particular focus on sensitive locations. The program has been helpful to identify and counsel 8 persons living with HIV / AIDS and link them with needful services of different schemes. The basic objective of the project is to make visible change in the community behaviour to safe sex and their consciousness on HIV/AIDS related issues. The mass sensitization also aims for social inclusion of the at-risk population with counselling, support and basic services.

The project has been useful to come out with a situational analysis and identification of the niche population groups and their capacity building to address the risks.

Performance Reporting	Apr-07	May-07	March07	Total
CSW Identified	8	12	12	32
MIGRANT Identified	5	20	2	27
TRUCKER	467	502	52	1021
STD CASE TREATED	50	88	5	143
STD CASE COUNCEELED	48	78	3	129
ADVOCACY	0	0	0	1
Activity with community	2	4	1	22
<b>CONDOM DISTRIBUTION</b>				
FREE	924	1478	565	2967
SOCIAL MARKETING	4055	5400	1005	10460
Condom Demonstration	78	52	22	152
One to one	879	429	128	1436
One to group	54	49	23	126

Figure 4 Quarterly reporting of the TI project

**Prevention of Drugs and Crimes**

The program is supported by United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime to aware the people especially the youths to the ill effects of drugs and develop consciousness among them on responsible living. It covers 5 schools and local college where the adolescent and youth have been provided counseling and support. Interaction with teachers and parents is another part of the program to sensitize them about the adolescent and young behaviour and their engagement in the process. Use of parents in the sensitization program and as judges for the youth events has also helped in establishing communication between the generations.

The community workshops and awareness activities have created mass sensitization during the 5 week campaigns at different locations of the district. Quiz program and participatory activities with the students have helped in thought provocation and leadership skills among the youth to overcome the effects of drugs and violence; and many of them have come out with confession and commitment to give up the addictions like cannabis, gutkha, tobacco, smoking and other form of drugs.

## Reproductive Child Health

The CCF supported RCH project is operational in 46 villages of Devipur block in Deoghar district where Lok Prerna is working under integrated approach to address these issues-

- (i) Child Nutrition (PD/Hearth) & growth monitoring;
- (ii) Support for immunization coverage;
- (iii) Support to pre-natal & post-natal mothers;
- (iv) Support to strengthening the health system;
- (v) Camp & treatment to the mothers infected in reproductive truck infection and sexual transmitted infection etc.

With these initiatives Lok Prerna has reached out to 2400 children and 480 mothers and adolescent in the project location.

The program has visible impact in improvement of nutritional status of children and improved practices among mothers and health care givers on hygienic practices. Promotion of kitchen garden has been one of the successful experimentation in the area and the backyard vegetable cultivation has been adopted by most of the families that add to household nutrition at no cost. Special camps and regular follow up with pregnant mothers and adolescent girls has helped them in early treatment of reproductive tract infections and control of sexually transmitted diseases. They are more concerned about personal hygiene and usage of sanitary napkins is more hygienic.

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## Education & Community Development

### INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN JHARKHAND

**Mission Partner(s):** BMZ - Tere des Hommes (TDH)  
Women Development Core Group (WDCG)

The Integrated Rural Development program of Lok Prerna has been supported by BMZ-*Terre des hommes, Germany* e.V. to fight against Poverty in 2,500 households in 50 villages in 5 Clusters (10 villages in each cluster) of the Deoghar district of Jharkhand, improved access to and participation in education, health care, food security, etc. with special emphasis on women and children as members of the Adivasi (Schedule tribes).

The project is operational under the WDCG network, a core group of 5 grassroot civil society organizations working on the issues of women and children. The project is roll out of the continuing partnership of the network with TDG. Lok Prerna plays the role of network leader and providing support to the other network partners apart from direct implementation of the project in 10 villages of Devipur block in Deoghar district.

#### Sectoral Approach to Development

The program has specific focus on improving status of primary education, health and gender parities in the project area. The sectoral approach aims to fill up the critical gaps and advocacy to improve the local system.

Regular health camps and meetings of Parent-Teacher Associations & Village Education Committees has encouraged community based monitoring of educational quality and services in the area and the retention of children in the project locations has significantly increased. The children's parliament has sensitized communities and teachers on the right of children and helps the children to come out with their views and imagination to nurture their natural growth. The remedial coaching centre has provided direct benefit to 60 children in pursuance of their studies and keep the pace of learning at class appropriate levels.

Need based interventions and input support to children mattered most in control of dropout from the schools. Inputs to 60 of the at-risk children helped in their continuing education and 5 of the girls have been mainstreamed to formal schools again. It reaffirms that the small and timely inputs matter most in retaining children at school and a continuous tracking of children at school level is essential for improved performance of schools.



The collective effort of network has been able to produce concerted impact on advocacy front and this has helped the communities to put up the issues at different levels of governance. The capacity building inputs have developed leadership among the disadvantaged communities who are more vibrant to negotiate for their rights and entitlements.

The Agriculture promotion and natural resource management activities have been helpful in improving the production level and diversification of household sources of income. The alternative income sources have helped to address the critical factors related to poverty and gender interrelations. The water sanitation programs have also increased the community awareness and practices related to water and sanitation management ultimately leading to good health and reducing effects of waterborne diseases.

The community initiatives

86 Women Self Help Groups are functional

6 of the Self Help Groups have started income generation activities.

30 Groups of Adolescent Girls

42 Bal Sansad events organized

20 Farmer groups are actively deliberating community level agriculture promotion activities.

**Vidyalay Chale Abhiyan**

Lok Prerna supports the Back to School campaign of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The animators of Lok Prerna and the community based organizations have also actively contributed in school enrolments and sensitization of parents. The drive helped in mainstreaming 640 children back to school from the operational areas of Lok Prerna.

**TARA AKSHAR (Literacy Program):**

**Mission Partners: DFID- PACS, Development Alternatives & Price Waterhouse Coopers Ltd**

Tara Akshar Program was launched under DFID PACS program follow up to increase literacy among the rural women using the ICT methods using laptops and educational software in local languages. The program offers unique opportunity of functional literacy in month special course designed by DA. After the one month community based course the person is skilled enough to read and write.

The program had four center scheduled to each 18 members on each of the center in 30 days or one month. The project envisages to educate 720 members through four centers through 8 teaching cycles. So far the project enrolled 672 women out of which 648 women have successfully qualified the course.

This literacy program has brought significant change in the confidence level of SHG women in the operation area (PACS) and increasing quest for learning among the women some of them have successfully completed the course and even physically challenged have come out with sheer zeal and commitment to educate themselves. Now they are proud of putting their signature on the document instead of putting thumb impression.

**Networking, Advocacy and Scale Up**

The organizational initiatives to scale up the project experiences are important to maximize the benefits for the community through effective linkages of community institutions with different line departments and agencies, networking with like-minded organizations, and mass campaigns on relevant issues.

The mass based awareness and interface has increased community outreach to Govt. services more particularly to the commercial banks for financing, technical institutions like Krishi Vigyan Kendra for agriculture technology and DRDA & Block Development office to sustain immediate support under the social security schemes like Antyodaya, Annapurna, Indira Awas Yojna, NREGA and other various schemes.

**NORRMS - NETWORKING OF ORGANIZATIONS FOR RURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN SANTHAL PARAGANA**

NORRMS is an effort of 26 Civil Society Organizations of Santhal Pargana region, committed to social transformations by sustainable development of rural livelihood resources through group initiatives. The organization regular exchanges ideas, information and experiences to scale up individual programs and undertake regional policies.

The basic spirit of Rural Resource management lies in managing Natural Resources (including human resources) for the optimal benefit of the poorest and vulnerable groups in the rural areas.

At present, the action reflection initiative revolve round six districts in Santhal Paragana and one adjacent district of Giridih with a broad goal of our reaching the impact of those endeavors in republic and meaningful manner to a larger mass.

Being non-profit, non-political and secular organization, this forum intends to extend its best services for the cause of the needy. The idea is based on the insight that proper management of rural resources envisages empowered and self-reliant people enabling them live a better life and contribute to the development of their society.

Despite efforts of various NGOs, the context of development and the concern for some specific need-based intervention have not been able to bring expected trends of change among the vulnerable. The network recognizes that a joint effort of various organized voluntary organizations prove more effective in promoting developmental efforts and such joint and consisted efforts show results quickly, cheaply and successfully benefiting those for whom such efforts are designed.

#### Technical Linkages and Collaboration

LOK PRERNA is closely associated with following organizations of repute and state level institutions providing technical support and services for community development-

- PRADAN
- BASIX
- Agriculture and Technology Management Association (ATMA)
- Central India Initiatives of Sir Ratan Tata Trust

#### CONSUMERS AWARENESS:

The consumer Awareness campaign is to safeguard the rights of consumers in Deoghar district where Lok Prerna has launched mass awareness activities with support of Consumers Affairs Department, Govt. of Jharkhand. The rights of the consumers along with different Govt. Schemes i.e. NREGA, Minimum Wages, Annapurna, Antodaya, Public distribution System and other issues are discussed in the campaign

#### SRABANI MELA:

Srabani mela in the months of August – September is the festive season in the pilgrim city of Deoghar where peoples from every part of the country throng in for religious offerings to the Baidyanath temple. The 108 Km long journey from Sultanganj to Baidyanathdham has different camps on way and different departments and philanthropic institutions take use of this opportunity to serve the mankind and disseminate the useful messages with the larger audience. Lok Prerna also organizes camp to provide social service, healthcare to the tourists and use this occasion to spread out common concerns with the mass.

#### **Focused area of NORRMS:**

- Natural Resource Management
- Promotion of livelihood supporting technology
- Transfer of Technology (Rural)
- Promotion of adoption of indigenous technology
- Networking and forum based alliance for concerted effort
- Capacity Building
- Convergence

#### *OUR THANKS*

We take this opportunity to extend our sincere gratitude and thanks to the Organizations associated with us. We also convey thanks to the individuals supported us in any form for our noble cause for the upliftment of the people of Jharkhand. Without sincere help and cooperation from many Individuals and Organizations, it would not have been possible to initiate and implement those development activities in the area of Santhal Paragana & adjoining districts of Jharkhand.

We would like to mention few of those organizations as an acknowledgement of their contributions. Hope we will receive the same in future also.

#### International:

- WaterAid India
- CCF – India
- Andheri Hilfe
- Tdh Germany
- ICCO

**National / Govt. Departments:**

- Ministry of Home affairs, GOI
- Min. of Health & Family welfare, GOJ
- Min. of Textile (H), GOI
- Min. of Tribal Welfare Com, GOJ
- Min. of Environment & Forest, GOI
- SPWD
- Jharkhand State Aids Control Society
- DWSM (PRAKALP), Dumka, Deoghar & Jamtara
- DRDA, Deoghar, Dumka
- MESSO, Dumka
- NABARD
- SRTT

**Local:**

- NORRMS Partners
- WDCG Partners
- Women SHGs, CBOs, Youth Clubs, Child Clubs
- Respected & Dear Individuals

