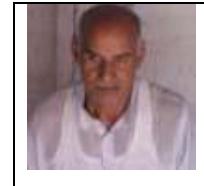


FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



It gives me immense pleasure in presenting you our Annual Report in 29 years of our existence in social sector. It gives me immense satisfaction as well as to my colleagues at BALS K that from a humble starts our work has now spread to 08 blocks, 36 Panchayats and 220 villages in Bihar. Our activities reach to some of the most marginalized people with more than 13,000 beneficiaries of various natures.

In 2010-2011, BALS K has taken up some of the most challenging development tasks on multiple development issues of the region. We concentrated on working on different development issues like health (general as well as reproductive), women empowerment through self-help groups, literacy promotion among illiterates and reduction of ignorance from the society as well as making contributions in reducing human sufferings at the time of natural disasters.

In due course, BALS K has also been associated with LOK SAMITI and other like-minded social groups and VOs in Bihar to strengthen voluntary action. Exposure visits to other countries have also helped us in adopting better module and practices for the integrated development of the community in need.

In coming years, BALS K would like to keep strengthening the grass root people in a pro poor way through the "People's Committee" which has a very extensive presence at different Panchayats in Bihar. BALS K would also like to see that the poor rural people (men, women and children) would lead a life of socio-economic stability.

Lastly, I express my gratitude to all our donors and individuals who trusted us and always equipped us with required resources and capacity to help deliver various development activities for the community at large.

**Binod Sharma
Secretary**

■ ORGANIZATION

A group of youth having strong trust and affiliation with the ideologies of Shri Jayprakash Narayan established BALS K in the year 1982. These youths were the part of the youth wing called "Chhatra Vahini Sanghars Morcha". This wing is the followers of the ideologies of JP for the reconstruction of the society. Initially, the group worked as a community volunteers for years with continuing efforts for community empowerment. In the initial stages, formation and strengthening of the village level institutions was the basics of the intervention. BALS K got registered as a NGO under the Society Registration Act in 1987 and under the FCR Act in 1988.

■ VISION

To establish a self-sustainable society based on the values of equal opportunity, balanced growth, dignity and self-respect.

■ MISISON

To organize, capacitate and empower the rural in order to invigorate their potential towards socio-economic, cultural and political entitlements and materialization of organizational vision.

■ LEGAL STATUS

- Registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860 by I.G. Registrar, Govt. of Bihar, Patna. Registration No. 195 dated 14.08.1987.
- Registered under FCR Act, 1976 by Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi. Registration No. 031340012 dated 06.07.1988.
- Registered under 12(A) of Income Tax Act, 1961. No. VIII-OSD/51-1992-93.
- Registered under 49(A) of Income Tax Act, 1961. PAN No. AAATB4110E

■ TARGET GROUP

Women, Children, Youth, Disabled, Small and Marginal Farmers belonging to the poor and deprived section of the society.

■ HUMAN RESOURCES

BALS K has a committed team of professionals, social activists and volunteers who have been entrusted with the tasks to implement different activities of the organization. At present there are 113 experienced staff serving for BALS K. The details of the staff are as follows:

Type	Male	Female	Total
Full time staff	19	11	30
Part time staff	40	0	40
Social Activists	03	02	05

Volunteer	0	246	246
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■ OPERATIONAL AREA

State	District Coverage	Block Coverage	Panchayat Coverage	Village Coverage
Bihar	Nalanda	05	45	162
	Gaya	03	32	256
	Supaul	03	9	45
	Total	11	86	463

■ MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sl.No.	Name	Address	Gender	Designation	Experience in Rural Development
1.	Shri Bhagwan Singh	NBJK, Korrah, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand	Male	President	36 years
2.	Mr. Vinod Sharma	At + PO-Baday, Vai: Islampur, Nalanda, Bihar	Male	Secretary	31 years
3.	Mr. Satyendra Singh	-do-	Male	Treasurer	28 years
4.	Mr. Girijanandan	NBJK, Korrah, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand	Male	Member	36 years
5.	Mr. Prabhunath Sharma	-do-	Male	Member	36 years
6.	Mr. Banke Bihari	At+PO-Shivnagar, Ekangersarai, Dist-Nalanda, Bihar	Male	member	31 years
7.	Mr. Pano Devi	Vill:Sonawa, P.O. Chandhari Islampur, Nalanda, Bihar	Female	Member	20 years
8.	Mr. Chourasi Davi	Vill-Guljarbag. P.O. Barday Islampur, Nalanda.	Female	Member	20 years
9.	Mr. Sujita Devi	Vill-Bauridih, P.O. Bauri Sarai, Via-Islampur Nalanda, Bihar	Female	Member	13 years
10.	Mr. Srikanth Sharma	Vill & P.O. Utarama, Gaya, Bihar	Male	Member	14 years
11.	Mr. Hans Raj	Old Rajendra Nagar, New Delhi	Male	Member	36 years

■ INFRASTRUCTURE/FACILITIES

BALSK has a well equipped registered office at Islampur, Nalanda with all necessary basic facility like phone, fax, computers and internet along with meeting halls, demo halls and library. The field offices of the BALKS are at Rajgir in Nalanda district, Pratapganj in Supaul district and Fathepur, Tankuppa at Gaya district in Bihar.

■ AUDITOR

Parsad and Santosh
Madhuri Bhawan, Jamal Road,
Patna, Bihar

■ OUR DONORS

Name	Place/Country
Ministry of Human Resource Development	New Delhi
Oxfam India Trust	
Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART)	New Delhi
Canadian high Commission	New Delhi
Forrad	New Delhi
Caritas India	New Delhi
Trickle Up Program	USA
CASA	Kolkata
Pathfinder International	USA
Misereor	Germany
DFID	U.K.
Bread for the World (BFW)	Germany
CordAid	The Netherlands
Terre Des Homes	New Delhi
Basic Needs	Bangalore
Nav Bharat Jagriti Kendra (NBJK)	Hazaribag
Pratiwesh	Patna
Bihar Voluntary Health Association (BVHA)	Patna

ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR 2010-2011

INTRODUCTION

Binoba Arogya Evam Lok Sikshan Kendra (BALSK) with the help of 'Pathfinder International' is implementing Prachar's phase- III in Fatehpur and Tankuppa blocks of Gaya district in Bihar. Under this project, BALSK is covering 256 villages (160 in Fatehpur and 96 in Tankuppa).

The aim of the project is to improve the reproductive health status of young people and married couples by bringing about change in their reproductive health and family planning behavior through inter-personal communication and mass awareness programs. For achieving this, Balsk will appoint project staff for reaching males and will utilize Government appointed Accredited Social Health Activists for reaching out to females.

Goal of Balsk- PRACHAR project

The overall goal is to have significant impact on youth fertility by delaying and spacing births in identified area by implementing a more focused Prachar model through a government and civil society partnership.

Specific Objectives

1. To create an enabling and supportive environment among the families and community to encourage young couples to change reproductive behavior for delaying and spacing birth.
2. To change the belief of young couples of 0 and 1 parity regarding RH/FP issues and change their reproductive behavior to delay the first child until the mother is 21 years and space and subsequent birth by at least three years.
3. To change attitudes and beliefs related to RH and FP issues of adolescent by providing essential information and skills to adopt healthy and risk free Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) behavior as they enter into adolescence, adulthood and marriage.
4. To advocate the programme with local government functionaries so that they appreciate the need of a programme that address issues of youth fertility.

Project Area

The project is implemented in 160 villages of Fatehpur block and 96 villages of Tankuppa block of Gaya District in Bihar.

Project Progress in December, 2010 – March, 2011

I. Preparatory Activities:

Consultative Meeting All partners of Prachar Phase- III project were invited in the consultative meeting at Prachar office Bodh Gaya on 3rd November, 2010 with one core member/staff from the organization. The objective of the consultative meeting was to show their interest in the implementation of the project as per the norms of Prachar.

Signing of LNA and Activity Planning Meeting A meeting was organized at Bodh-Gaya office of Prachar on 10th December, 2010 for signing of LNA and discuss about the planned activities for the implementation, reporting and time lines. The Secretary, Project Coordinator and Accountant of B ALSK participated in the meeting to discuss the provisions of high quality family planning and reproductive health services and budget provisions.

Office Setup A project office was set up on December 12th, 2010 near Primary Health Centre, Fatehpur, and Gaya for better coordination of the project activities.

Recruitment of Project Staff As per the budget provisions of the project, B ALSK recruited the project staff (40 Male Communicators) in both the blocks (25 in Fatehpur and 15 in Tankuppa) and 01 Project Manager, 03 Project Supervisors and 01 Accountant cum Project Assistant. These staff was recruited during December last and January first weeks.

Opening of project Account As per the norms of Pathfinder the Bank account of B ALSK Prachar project Phase- III was opened up in State Bank of India, Branch Islampur, Nalanda. The Account no. is 31563357529.

Purchase of Equipments Purchase of 01 Motorcycle, 01 Laptop, 01 Table, 01 Chair, 10 Ordinary Chairs, 03 Fans and 09 Mats were made. Purchase of laptop instead of desktop and office table instead of computer table was made as per the approval letters of Path finder (Ref. no. PPP/BG/11/225 dated 27/01/11 and Ref. no. PPP/BG/2011/241 dated 25/02/11). All these equipments are purchased within the prescribed budget.

II. Environment Building Activity



Project Launch Ceremony 8

Project launch ceremonies were organized as part of environment building activities to discuss the key project issues of the program and to encourage active community participation. This activity received support from community of key influencers

and stake holders such as PRI members, government officials, community leaders and ASHAs. 29 Panchayat in two blocks of Fatehpur and Tankuppa were covered. Total of 1,157 people participated including male and female. PRI Representatives, community leaders, local influencers and govt. functionaries also participated and shared their opinion and extended their continued support for the program success

Key Issues discussed

During the Activities of BALS and introduction of RH, Need of RH and FP, Overview of the activities of Phase III, Collaboration with local people, Use of IEC materials.

Meeting with Panchayat Members and Secondary School Teachers Organization has oriented the entire Panchayat members eg Mukhiya, Panchayat Samiti, ward members, influencer etc & School teachers through the personal interaction & village level meeting.

III. Advocacy

Advocacy BALS has so far made contact with block level officials like BDO, CO, Block Education Officer, Medical Officers of PHC Fatehpur and Tankuppa to get them informed on the vision, mission and objectives of BALS and BALS Prachar project. Discussion was also made with them on ASHAs training and their role in it.

ASHA day was attended by the Project staff BALS on the 10th February, 2011. Project team extended all possible support to ASHAs in conducting Beneficiary listing for the couple of "0", "1" and 2 and more parity



IV. Program Activities

Home Visits / survey for beneficiaries listing In the project, Home visits by ASHAs is an important activity to deliver the messages on delay and spacing, spousal communication, negotiation skills, information on services availability and use of pregnancy testing kits. While this period (From January 2011 to March 2011) ASHA were engaged in the beneficiaries listing during this listing they visited all house hold of their allotted area & They interacted initially with the target group on delay and spacing of child and information on FP and contraceptives'

Beneficiary listings of Adolescents boys and girls The list of the beneficiaries was prepared by Male Communicators of Adolescents girls and boys in the age group 15-19 years. The format of the listing was provided by Pathfinder International. The results of the listings are as follows:

Block	15-19 Girls	15-19 Boys	Total
Fatehpur	9988	11818	21806
Tankuppa	4934	5801	10735
Total	14922	17619	32541

Beneficiary/Couple listings of 0/1 Child, 2 Child and more than 2 The list was prepared by ASHAs. The format of the listing was provided by Pathfinder International. On the basis of this, listing Male communicator prepared the list of the beneficiaries that has been helping us in organizing group meetings and conducting home visits by ASHAs.

Group Meeting Group meeting is an important activity of the Prachar project to achieve goal and objectives. The activity helps to spread the message of the project at a common place with targeted beneficiaries

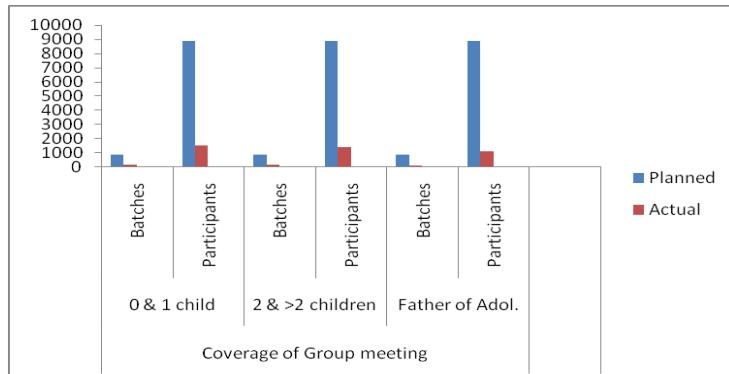
From February 2011 to March 2011 period, group meetings were held by the MCs in both block as follows

Category	Planned Meetings	Actual Meetings held	Participants Covered
Men with 0 or 1 child	887	185 (20.85%)	1534
Men with 2 or more children	887	170(19.16%)	1434
Father of adolescent	887	127 (14.31%)	1123
Total	2661	482(17.91%)	4091

482 group meetings were conducted with 306 group meetings in Fatehpur and 176 in Tunkuppa block respectively. And 4091 participants reached in these two blocks.

Key issues discussed:

- With '0' and '1' child couples consequences of early marriage, early child bearing and the various methods of contraception were discussed using Pathfinder developed communication materials.
- Importance of limiting family size is discussed with the couple of two and more children.
- Fathers of adolescents were motivated to send their adolescent children for the training program by informing them the importance of the same. In the discussion, emphasis was made on limiting family size by delaying first birth and spacing subsequent births by at least three years, and advantages of adopting family planning methods.



V. Capacity Building

Orientation Meeting of male communicator

One day orientation meeting was organized by the B ALSK on 5th January, where the DPO of Pathfinder & B ALSK representative oriented 36 male communicator, PM & three supervisors oriented on Project activity as well as their Job responsibility.



Capacity building of project staff and Male Communicators on RH, FP and Project Goals

and Objectives Capacities of 39 Male Communicator, 03 Supervisors, 01 APA and 01 PM were build up through training programs with an objective to improve their capacities on RH and FP so that they can play their role according to the needs. The project staffs and male communicators during the meeting were oriented on Techniques of Group Meetings, beneficiaries' listings process, their respective roles and responsibilities, field reporting, and Monitoring and Evaluation process.

Capacities building of ASHAs In the identified blocks, 278 ASHAs who are grass root health workers under National Rural Health Mission are deployed. Though they will be directly accountable to Block Health Manager under NRHM, training of 246 ASHAs were organized. Permission for their training was undertaken by the head of the PHCs by B ALSK before the training. The details are as follows: The training of ASHAs were conducted by Pathfinder Consultant trainers.

Planning Workshop Meeting A two day planning workshop meeting was organized on 2nd and 3rd of February, 2011 by Pathfinder International at Bodh-Gaya in which the Project Director and Project Manager, B ALSK Prachar project participated. Dr. Mallika Biswas, Director Programs, Dr.E. E. Danial, Advisor MIES and Programs and Mr. Binod Bihari Singh, Project Leader and Mr. Rajesh Narayan Singh, Manager program Operation participated from Prachar's office. The topics discussed during the workshop were expectation and introduction to the workshop, How MIES helps planning, result based management, Prachar' objectives, activities and results, timeline, and discussion on present activity status and setting of targets. All implementing partners developed three month activity planning at the end of workshop.

Workshop on financial reporting A one day training workshop was organized at Pathfinder's office in Bodh-Gaya on February 9th 2011 to discuss the issues involved in financial reporting (MFR and GFR). The Project Director, Project Manager and APA attended on behalf of B ALSK in the workshop. Mr. T.R. Ramchandran, Director, Finance and Administration, Pathfinder International, New Delhi attended the workshop as a resource person.

Workshop on MIES A two day workshop was organized at Hotel Taj Darbar in Bodh-Gaya on 2-3.03.2011 to discuss the issues involved in Management Information and Evaluation System (MIES). The Project Director, Project Manager, APA and Supervisors attended on behalf of B ALSK

in the workshop. Dr. E. Daniel, Advisor MIES and Programs, Pathfinder International attended the workshop as a resource person. The topics discussed during the workshop were recording and communication during home visits, reporting of home visits, Process of coordination between NIP and NTP, planning and recording of group meeting and reporting of group meeting

Training on Quarterly technical Progress report A one day orientation workshop was organized Pathfinder International on Quarterly Technical progress Report to be submitted at the end of each Quarter. The meeting was attended by the Project Manager Arvind Kumar on behalf of B ALSK. The topics of discussion in the meeting were structure, content, substance and flow of a narrative report including the style and format. A template with was developed inviting inputs from all the NIP partners.

Workshop on RSA dissemination A one day workshop was organized at Hotel Sujata in Bodh Gaya on 31st of March, 2011 by pathfinder International to share with partner the results of baseline data form Rapid situation analysis data findings to orient implementation partners on the project goal and the set priorities accordingly.

VI. Challenges

Challenges faced this quarter

- 1) Migration of people due to poverty and unemployment.
- 2) Lack of motivation among the male communicators and ASHAs because of low honorarium.
- 3) Backwardness of the area is a major hindrance.
- 4) Wider area of project coverage.

Challenges overcome B ALSK has the past experience of the implementation of Prachar Phase I and II that will be helpful in meeting the challenges that we face during the period. Proper planning, regular communication, undertaking different people oriented programs, follows up and living up to the expectations of the people will be the key to reducing these challenges.

VII. Lessons Learnt

- 1) Scheduled of program should be done.
- 2) Discussion will be made only on issue concerned without diverting to different other issues.
- 3) Apart from the target group, the participation of general community should also be ensured.

VIII. Visitors in the quarter

- 4) Dr. Surender Prasad (MOIC Tankuppa) and Ranjeet Kumar (Health Manager, Tankuppa) visited the ASHA training Program and addressed all ASHA to assure the assigned task by

Pathfinder & BALSK. They observed ASHA training found it very useful in strengthening role and relevance.

Suggestions by MOIC

1. Male communicators should be given an identity card for easy identification
2. Spare govt. program dates while planning activities for easy and successful completion the program activity.

IX. Plan for the next quarter (April – June, 2011)

Activities planned for the next quarter are Home Visits, Group Meetings, Adolescents Training (Girls and Boys), Wall Paintings, and Block Level Meetings, sub Convergence forum meetings, Meetings of Panchayat Representatives, Participation in ASHA DIWAS, Transfer of couple in ASHA register, Submission of Reports (MFR, GFR, MIES and QTPR), Participation in quarterly review meeting and Organization of staff monthly progress review meeting.