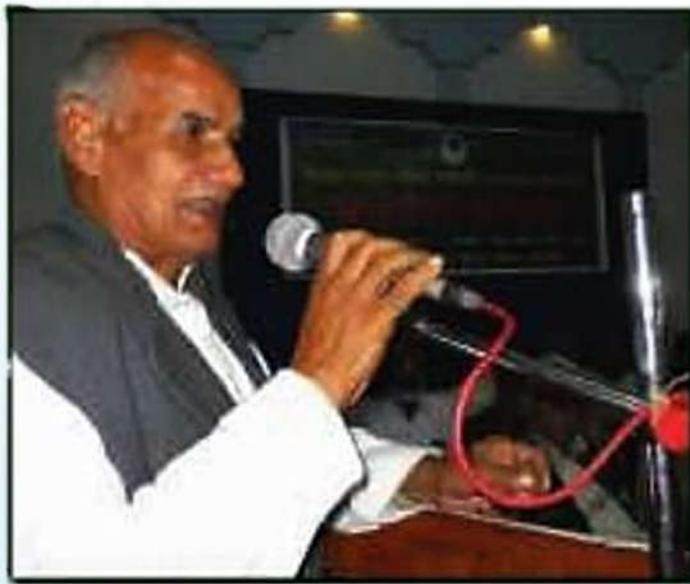




Annual Report 2019-20



PROMOTING PEOPLE'S CENTERED DEVELOPMENT.....



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Writing this message in 2020, at a time when the whole world is in grip of a pandemic, is a reminder of the unpredictability of life; how even the best-laid out plans don't work. More importantly, it highlights that even in the toughest times our values, purpose, resilience and standing with the people can be the compass to navigate whatever the future brings.

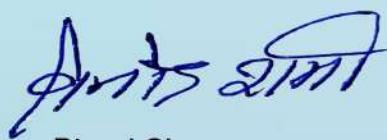
I am delighted that the Annual Report of B ALSK for the financial year 2019-2020 is published. Our hearts are full of Joy and gratitude to God for showing us the way in last 32 years and enabled us to reach out to millions of people who needed help and support for a dignified life. These past years have also given us opportunity to learn from people's struggle. It is important to recognize that we need to remain relevant as an organisation as the socio-economic and political situation has rapidly changed which brings up new challenges to deal with.

In 2019-2020, B ALSK has worked on some of the challenging development tasks on multiple development issues of the region. We concentrated on working on different development issues like health (general & reproductive health, homeopathic treatment, mobile health clinic and emergency services), women empowerment through self-help groups, agriculture development through infrastructure development, education among illiterates and reducing human sufferings at the time of natural disasters. Disaster management committees have been formed in Supaul, Pratapgang, Islampur and Rajgir districts in Bihar to help community fight disasters with right techniques and at right time.

My word to the team, our partners, contributors, the youth and the larger masses, don't wait for the right time and opportunity. "This world is the world of volume, we do need solutions in volume and the people who work on those are also needed in volume."

We express our appreciation for the help and support we have received from the government officials.

Lastly, I express my gratitude to all our donors for their support and solidarity and individuals who trusted us and always equipped us with required resources and capacity to deliver various development activities for the community at large and we look forward to engage with you through various initiatives in the future.



Binod Sharma
Secretary, B ALSK

GENESIS

A group of youth having strong faith in the ideologies of Shri Jayprakash Narayan formed B ALSK in 1982. These youths were the part of the youth wing called "Chhatra Yuva Sangharsh Vahini". Initially, the group worked as a community volunteers for several years to learn the art of community empowerment. In the initial stages, formation and strengthening of the village level institutions was the basics of the intervention. B ALSK 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.

MISSION

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

RECOGNITIONS

Awards & Participation

- Father Tong Memorial Award in category of Best Community Health Organization for the year 2011-12 by Bihar Voluntary Health Association, Patna.
- The David & Lucile Packard Foundation acknowledges and appreciates the contribution of B ALSK for advancing family planning and reproductive rights for young people, through the Parchar Project in partnership with Pathfinder International, India for the year 2002-2005.
- Participated in Indo-Pak Exchange Programme Enhancing Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health. Supported by The David and Lucile Packard Foundation.
- Participated in Management Development Programme on Strategic Leadership and Management Development for Population and Reproductive Health Programmes from December 26, 2004 - January 1, 2005.

Legal Status

- Registered under Society 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 (Permanent Account Number): AAAAB0762B
- Unique Identification No. on NITI Aayog Portal: BR/2017/0168348

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SL. No.	Name	Address	Gender	Designation	Experience
1	<i>Bhagwan Singh</i>	<i>NBJK Korrah, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>43 Years</i>
2	<i>Binod Sharma</i>	<i>Baday, Via: Islampur, Nalanda, Bihar</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>38 Years</i>
3	<i>Pano Devi</i>	<i>Vill. Sonawa, P.O Chandhari Islampur, Nalanda</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>37 Years</i>
4	<i>Girijia Nandan</i>	<i>NBJK, Korrah, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>44 Years</i>
5	<i>Prabhu Nath Sharma</i>	<i>NBJK, Korrah, Hazaribagh, Jharkhand</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>44 Years</i>
6	<i>Satyendra Singh</i>	<i>Baday, Via: Islampur, Nalanda, Bihar</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>36 Years</i>
7	<i>Santosh Kumar</i>	<i>Vill. & P.O. Chandhari, Islampur, Nalanda</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>18 Years</i>

TARGET GROUPS

Women, Children, ERs of Panchayat, Adolescents, Disabled, Disaster affected population and small & Marginal Farmers

HUMAN RESOURCES

BALSK has a committed team of professionals, social activists and volunteers who look over the different activities of the organization. At present, 12 full-time staff (male-09 and female- 03) are in payroll and 256 persons are working as voluntary basis.

INFRASTRUCTURE/FACILITIES

BALSK has a well equipped registered office at Islampur, Nalanda with all necessary basic facilities like phone, fax, computers and internet along with meeting halls, demo halls, vocational training center and library. The field offices of BALSK are at Rajgir in Nalanda district, Pratapganj in Supaul district and at Warisaliganj in Nawada District in Bihar.

OPERATIONAL AREA

State	District Coverage	Block Coverage	Panchayat Coverage	Village Coverage
Bihar	Nalanda	2	23	78
	Gaya	2	9	27
	Supaul	2	10	60
	Nawada	2	30	157
TOTAL	04	8	72	322

AUDITOR

*Prasad and Santosh
1B, Shambhu Nath Plaza, New Dak Bungalow Road, Bihar*

OUR DONORS SO FAR

Name	Place/Country
MISEREOR	Germany
CASA	Kolkata
Centre for Catalyzing Change (C3)	New Delhi
Ministry of Human Resource Development	New Delhi
Oxfam India Trust	Kolkata
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
Pathfinder International	U.S.A.
DFID	U.K.
Bread for the World (BFW-GERMANY) Through NBJK	Hazaribagh
Cord Aid	Netherlands
Terre Des Homes	New Delhi
Basic Needs Through NBJK	Bangalore
Nav Bharat Jagriti Kendra (NBJK)	Hazaribagh
Prativedesh	Patna
Bihar Voluntary Health Association (BVHA)	Patna
Trickle Up Program	U.S.A.
Give India	Mumbai
Swayam Sikshan Prayog (SSP)	Mumbai
Damien Foundation	Patna
Mamta	Patna
Rural Youth Coordination Centre	Patna

PROGRESS DURING THE YEAR

(1) WITH THE SUPPORT OF CASA

BALSK has been supported by CASA for improving the socio-economic status of Dalits and Mahadalits population through leadership developments, developed DRR and Kivelihood opportunities in 10 Village/tolas of the Tekuna and Suryapur Panchayats of the Pratapganj block in supaul diatrcit of Bihar.

The project Intervention Area and targetted group are economically backward class. several people belong landless, share cropers, Agriculture labour, daily wages and others type of low wages. Unemployment, poverty, literacy is the major problem in this area. National Disaster flood 2008 are also root cause of this problem.



Training on climate resilience agriculture

BALSK started several poverty Eradication activity among targetted people. They awared about social welfare scheme NRLM and Poverty Eradication program like National old age pension,Mukhyamantri vridha pension, widow pension,Disable pension, PMSY,PMKP,Mudra yojna, PMKVK, Awas yojna, lohiya swasthya yojna, ICDS, MDM, ujwalla yojnaand others agriculture subsidy schemes. Community leaders were trained about these schemes. They have got current knowledge about Entile, condition and process. community leaders gave knowledge about several schemes to aware benificiaries/ targetted people. They also started preparation and use of vermin compost in cultivation so their production cost reduce. These schemes gradually increases their income. Peoples are now aware about collective farming. They have trained by KVK and Pusha agriculture university for Modern cultivation. Targeted people plantation of papaya and others fruit plants and green vegetables/kitchen garden so their daily income increase.

Building & strengthening Community Based Organisations (CBO) It has led to emergence of a large number of grass-root organisations of men & women facilitating development & change. These CBOs have gradually acquired the capacity to understand & analysis their issues & addressing it collectively.

Formed different type of village level CBOs as VDC, DMC, DMTF, Youth club, farmers club, peace committee,Block and district level fedration etc. BALSK conduct many type of seminar, training camp, workshop, Exposure visit, different type of meetings for capacity building of people. After conducting these activity build and developed social leadership and they active roll for socially development of society. Through intervention, targeted group are now being able to take decision without the descrimination of cast and religion and trained to improve their skills in leadership to play a lead role in village development. Womans are well aware due to attaining many meeting and Capacity Building training. They regularl ar attained the Gram sabha, ward sabha meetings and share their problems and demand for their rights. CBOs leaders also active for many type of social security and others development schemes. They regullarly contact with Grampanchayat, block and district level officials and Elected representatives. There has been an increased participation of youth, women and Gram Sabhas. Leadership Building Training of youth and women, meeting with community and PRI members, planning of village development with community members, creation of livelihood model on tailoring, training of community-based groups on leadership and socialaudit were implemented.



CBO's Leaders meet with Circle Officer regarding Residential Land rights Issue

The CBOs engage with institutions such as panchayat, multiple government departments at village, block and district levels, the CBOs interface with the panchayat and other government functionaries on common issues, share information, discuss strategies and share ways of resolving. They never thought they will even enter to the office of government officials and now they feel confident to talk with government officials on their rights.



Interface meeting between targeted communities and government officials on Climate Change and DRR

Strengthening their capacity and knowledge on disaster risk reduction will help them to survive and cope up with the situations and prepare them for future disasters. Awareness Generation Programmes, exposure visits, Capacity Building Programme on Disaster risk reduction and Skill Training Programmes have been initiated by B ALSK to train the community leaders to strengthen the local capacity of the community.



Leadership building among youth, women and excluded groups.

Many leaders shared their feelings and happiness being a part of collective process. They realized the power of common people in togetherness. Many examples they cited during the sessions.



BALSK has been promoting Papaya cultivation in the project villages by creating awareness on nutritional value of Papaya and encouraging people



Dispensing information on government schemes and a lot many beneficiaries could avail and were benefitted by the government's social security, economic empowerment, housing, health, education and scholarship schemes. With awareness of many schemes, people's organisations are able to avail the benefits for a better living.



Workshop on Gender equality and Sensitization to support adolescents in identifying, articulating, and sharing their gender-related experiences. Gender-Sensitization has played an important role in forming and changing gender attitudes during adolescence, and have the potential to alter their short and long-term beliefs

Initiatives on Creating awareness

(Awareness on WASH for COVID-19 , Print media/WallWriting/Posters/Banners)

Physical demonstration on Hand wash, Social distancing, mask use guidelines and how to protect others while sneezing & coughing. The Volunteers were sharing the various pamphlets published by the government. Apart from this wherever possible the staff and volunteer developed flex/handmade posters/wall writing on Covid-19 at the village level. We started awareness building on how to safeguard against the corona virus. We are already working on strategy to deal with this pandemic as we realise that we have a long road of suffering ahead. Our plan will focus on Awareness building, WASH, providing ration & cash and supporting livelihood initiatives in the Project area.



Workshop on Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2019 with chief Functionary, Accountant and Coordinator of all the 18 CFC partner of Bihar. Discussed about FCRA Act 2010 and rules 2011 in brief and amendment made in 2015. Recapped all the important changes made by the government in FCRA act 1976 and further changes in FCRA Act 2010 Rules 2011 and Amendment 2015. All the CFC Partners also discussed about the do's,don'ts in FCRA and suggested that it is necessary to follow the rule of FCRA and make all the returns on time to FCRA to save the organization



BALSK has been involving in Papaya promotion among communities through awareness building on nutritious aspects of Papaya consumption. **BALSK** emphasizes communities to use part of their land in Papaya Cultivation and was able to promote it among 637 Households. Promotion of traditional seed bank, Nutrition Garden, Organic Farming (organic manure - Jiva Amrit, Vermi Compost, etc.) in the project areas.



Capacity building - 'Do No Harm'

Youths were trained to analyse and face challenges of sensitive issues with utmost care, they were trained to adapt and ensure Do No Harm framework and also to build a peace building practice. They were also capacitated on gender based issues. Besides that, the youth groups spread awareness on various issues of social concern through different activities such as street plays, wall writing, organising local level cultural events.



The participants are trained on gender analysis skills with an orientation on the need of such analysis, gender sensitive indicators, gender concepts and tools, legal legislations and laws to address gender violence, advocacy and gender budget. Issues such as alcoholism, need for private space for lactating mothers, more women representatives in decision making bodies, women SHGs were taken up within the meetings and acted upon to curb the negative effects on the community as a whole.

Workshops and Meetings	Period
• Group meeting of CBOs was implemented.	Monthly Basis
• Group meeting of DMC was implemented.	Monthly Basis
• Group meeting of DMTF was implemented.	Monthly Basis
• Exposure Visit to Progressive farmers on sustainable agriculture and agriculture and Traditional Farming to reduce the effect of climate change was implemented.	43 Progressive Farmers & Share Cropers
• Capacity buiding training to project staff was implemented.	6 Staffs
• Block level federation meeting was implemented.	4 Meetings
• Interface Meeting with Federation members, Community and Govt. official on Agriculture development programmes and schemes for landless people was implemented.	July 25, 2019
• Community level meeting and develop IEC material.	July 27, 2019
• Deligation meet with Govt. Land Department.	5 Meeting
• Training on Gender Discrimination was implemented.	July 31, 2019
• Workshop with Progresive farmer and Agriculture Dept.	June 15, 2019
• Core Committee meeting of district level P.O was implemented.	December 7, 2019
• Interaction meeting with DMC & Govt. Officials on DRR	December 30, 2019
• Followup meeting of progressive farmer on lowcost farming.	December 23, 2019
• Workshop on Gender equality and Sensitization among adolescents.	December 18-19, 2019
• Midline Survey was implemented.	Feb 3, 2020 to March 17, 2020
• Capacity Building Training of Block level Federation.	March 17-18, 2020
• Covid-19 Awareness Program was Implemented.	March 19-20, 2020

Outcomes Achieved

- Facilitation of alternative and sustainable livelihood opportunities for the farming communities is an important and integral part of the programme. Communities were taught on ways to develop village micro-planning considering the priority needs of the village by including all sections in the planning process. Initiatives like kitchen gardening, landreclamation and formation of village development committees were taken up.
- Promotion of local resources to meet out disasters and capacity building for better planning for disaster management in future. Encouraged to link with govt. disaster road map. Promotion of better coordination with Bihar Disaster Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Society.
- Mainstreaming of School dropout children parents got sensitive for girls education. Poor Children supported under the fellowship and notorious food schemes.
- There has been an increased participation of of youth, women in Gram Sabhas. Leadership Building Training of youth and women, meeting with communityand PRI members, planning of village development with community members, creation of livelihood model on tailoring, training of community-based groups on leadership and social audit were implemented.

(ii) WITH THE SUPPORT OF MISEREOR

BALSK with the support of Misereor, Germany has implemented a project for “Community Based Village Development Program for Underserved Population with an Integrated Approach to Health, Disaster Management, Climate Change and Socio-Economic Improvements, Supaul, Bihar” covering 30 villages of Chhatapur blocks in Supaul district, Bihar. The project goal is to improve the reproductive health, enhancing knowledge and bringing desirable changes in the sexual behavior increased access/control over resources better equipped for claiming of rights and entitlements and better disaster management capacity of the target groups. The target groups of the project were:

- Adolescent of age group 14-19 (male & female)
- Young Unmarried male & female
- Newly married couples
- Eligible Couples with first pregnancy/One Child
- 2nd time pregnancy and 2nd child during post partum period
- Parents in law of eligible couples, Influential person of the target communityy, local administration & democratic bodies
- Poor women, Youth groups, NGO groups, PRIs and poor general communities as a whole .

Implemented Activities

(I) Meeting on the Sanctioned Project

A one day meeting of the executive committee members of the BALSK was organized at Nalanda to discuss the project goal, objectives and indicators of the sanctioned project of Misereor. Mr. Binod Sharma, Secretary of BALSK thanked the members for their full cooperation for planning and drafting of the project proposal to Misereor. He further emphasized that all members should cooperate fully for achieving the set objectives of the project.

(II) Selection of Project Staff

Selection of the project staff like Program Manager, Accountant cum Assistant Program Manager, Supervisor and Health Animator were done to make the project properly implemented.

(III) Base Line Survey

The objective of the activity was to capture the details on health, disaster management and climate change issue, knowledge base among adolescents, school children, farmers, SHG leaders, disable, widow, old age people, pregnant women, community influencers, teachers, youth groups, NGO groups, govt. officials and other influential group. Questionnaires were developed to cover details on the above mentioned issues and topics. The project staffs were oriented on how to conduct “Base Line Survey” through filling of questionnaires in all 30 project villages of chhatapur block in supaul district in Bihar. The surveyors visited door to door for completion of questionnaires on household basis with the support and response of the house head. The collected data are classified, tabulated and analyzed by BALSK.



(IV) Orientation training to Project staff on vision, goals, objectives, roles & responsibility

A two-day orientation training was organized for the project staff at the project office at Pratapganj in Supaul. Mr. Manoj Kumar Singh/Resource Person first informed participants on the vision, goals, objectives, working strategy and action plan of the project. They have also transferred knowledge of their roles and responsibility within the project and liaisoning skill with PRIs and govt. line departments. The orientation was completely participatory giving ample opportunity to the participants for expressing his/her thinking and questioning on the issues. The project staffs are well oriented and they are now ready to take challenges of the project with improved knowledge, information and skills.

(V) Orientation training to project staff on different issues

Two-day orientation training was organized for the project staff on 20-21-02-2019 at Pratapganj. The objective was to orient and improve skills/knowledge of the project staff on issues such as reproductive health, social analysis, disaster management, climate change and cultural practices etc. Mr. Prakash Pran and Mr. Manoj Kumar Singh were the resource persons of the training program. The training program was participatory in nature. The demonstration, group discussion/presentation, role play, case study, discussion and group methods were used during the training program. The training put a good impact on the project staffs and they have now improved knowledge, information and skills on the issue concerned.



(VI) Formation of DMC/DMTF



Formation of DMC/DMTF is an essential activity of the project. During the reporting period, 30 DMC/DMTF has been formed in different villages of the project area. Aam Sabha organized in the villages in which people participated and play their part in the formation process.

(VII) Formation of VDC



Formation of VDC is an essential activity of the project in order to inform people about different govt. schemes and programs, help in program planning and implementation and bringing positive changes in the situation of health and education scenario in the area. During the reporting period, 30 VDCs has been formed in different villages of the project area. Gram Sabha organized in the villages in which people participated and play their part in the formation process.

(VIII) Training to Project Staff on Disaster Management

A two-day training to project staff on the issue of Disaster Management was organized on 07-08.10.2019 at BALKS office at Pratapganj. A total of 9 project staff participated in the training program. Mr. Manoj Kumar Singh and Mr. Anjay Kumar- Resource Person of the training program first informed participants on the vision, goals, objectives, working strategy and action plan of the project. The training was completely participatory giving ample opportunity to the project staff for expressing their thinking and raise questions on the issue of Disaster Management. The training was properly conducted in a positive environment that was helpful to generate the right knowledge and capacity of the project staff to take challenges of Disaster Management with improved knowledge, information, and skills.



(IX) Training to Adolescent on Reproductive Health



Topics Covered

Changes from childhood to adulthood, Right age of marriage, HIV/AIDS, Reproductive Health and FP, use of contraceptives and physical differences between male and female.

1 block	701 Girls
30 villages	272 boys

Training to Adolescent is an important activity of the project as negative thinking found among adolescents due to illiteracy and lack of information on RH and PFP issues. With the key change objectives to improve knowledge on right age of marriage and HIV/AIDS, to bring positive behavior for RH and FP issues and increase contraceptive use, to decrease myths and misconceptions and to promote delay in first child and spacing between 2 child; training programs for Adolescents (boys and girls) were organized during the reporting period. The adolescents participated in training programs with great enthusiasm and greatly benefitted.

(X) Group Meetings with Different Target Groups

Six months group meeting with different target groups like women and husband of 1st time pregnant women and postpartum women, women and the husbands of women with 1st child and 2nd child, fathers and mothers of newly married couples, newly married men were successfully organized during the reporting period. The project staff organized meetings in small groups that covered different topics of huge importance. The details of the group meetings are as follows:

(a) Women and Husbands of 1st Time Pregnant Women and Postpartum Women



Topics Covered

Regular checkup during pregnancy, Immunization, the importance of taking iron tablets and nutritious diets, the importance of breast feeding, Importance of institutionalized delivery and use of contraceptives

(b) Women and the Husbands of Women with 1st Child and 2nd Child



Topics Covered

Regular checkup during pregnancy, Immunization, the importance of taking iron tablets and nutritious diets, the importance of breast feeding, the spacing between 2 child, sterilization and FP



(c) Fathers and Mothers of Newly Married Couples



Topics Covered

Do not pressurize for early child birth to daughter in law, child birth after 21 years of age, essential immunization schedule, the importance of regular test, nutritious diets and use of Contraceptives.

(d) Husbands of Newly Married Woman

Topics Covered

The right age of childbearing, discrepancies of childbirth at a younger age, opportunity to understand each other and planning for a happy family.

(XI) Home Visits of Newly Married Women

Topics Covered

Delay in first child birth, use of FP methods, STI/HIV/AIDS, safe abortion, immunization schedule, regular test, nutritious diets and use of contraceptives

(XII) Disaster Management and Climate Change Interventions

(a) Group meetings with Farmer's Groups on Climate Change Issue (Farmer's Groups formed in all 30 project villages)



- Participants were equipped with information about sustainable agriculture practices and mixed farming-growing diverse food crops on small farms .
- Group meeting with farmer groups provided an opportunities to learn how farmer are farming ecologically and are innovating to diversify their food production and improve their self sufficiency.
- Importance of a strong farmer's groups, changes in agriculture practices due to climate change, organic farming and multi-cropping practices



Topics Covered

Importance of building a strong team to reduce disaster effects, preparation of pre, during and post disasters, identification of local resources for disasters and their uses, development of teams for different works like rescue, relief etc.

(XIII) Group Meetings with School Education Committee in all Schools



Group meetings with the school education committee in all schools of the project area were an important activity during the reporting period. These group meetings highlighted the importance of the sensitization of SMC members to promote RH and population education among children along with the strengthening of the internal system and facilities in the schools.

Topics Covered

Importance of RH and Population Education among children, Improving attendance and monitoring of children in schools, maintaining sanitation facilities in schools, mid-day meals in schools, etc.

(XIV) Group meetings with DMC Members

In order to improve the capacity and sensitization of the DMC members about disasters, prevention and tapping of resources, regular group meetings of DMC members were organized during the reporting period.

Plan	Achievements
300	300

Topics Covered

Role and functions of DMCs, Types of Disasters, How to prepare for different types of disasters and preparation of pre, during and post-disaster techniques.



(XV) Training and Group meeting to VDC Leaders



Two-day training to the VDC Leaders was organized in different panchayats of the Chhatapur block in order to develop a strong VDC in the area. Babita Kumari and Balgovind Prasad were the Resource Persons of different sessions of this training program

Topics Covered

Role of VDC, quality of a good leader, strengthening of the institution, how to identify problems, planning, knowledge of govt. schemes and how to avail it.

(XVI) Training and Group meeting of DMTF Members:

Topics Covered

DMTF Concept, causes of Disasters, Importance of awareness on disasters and training of DMTF members, problems because of Disaster, Benefits of DMTF, Early Warning System, Rescue, Relief, Shelter and First Aid during Disaster, Mgt. of Livestock during Disaster, etc.



(XVII) Interface Meetings with Govt. officials, PRI Representatives, NGO/CBOs, Social Workers and Youth Groups:



On 24/12/2019 an Interface meeting was organized with the target groups (Govt. officials, PRI Representatives, NGO/CBOs, Social Workers and Youth Groups) in order to give project a right momentum with the support of one and all and give momentum to link beneficiaries with the govt. welfare schemes and programs. The meeting was organized at Chhatapur in which 84 participants participated. The members and staff of BALS K also presented on the occasion in which relevant topics like child marriage, disaster, RH and FP issues, and climate-resilient agriculture practices were discussed at length.

(XVIII) Training of DAI/ MAMTA/ASHA and Swasthya Doots:

In the project area, early marriages with pregnancy are common with low service facilities. In order to improve the capacity of DAI/MAMTA/ASHA and Swasthya Doot and make them active to provide good service on the issue of concern.

(A) DAI/ MAMTA/ASHA Training



Topics Covered

Safe pregnancy/pre and post care, identification of different problems during pregnancy and importance of institutionalized care during the pregnancy period, knowledge of different tools of FP, the importance of handwashing in daily life.

(B) Swasthya Doot Training



Topics Covered

The objective of developing Swasthya Doot, the role and works of Swasthya Doot, the promotion of homeopathic medicines, etc.

(XIX) Wall Writings and Street Plays

The wall writings and street plays were an important aspect of the project in order to generate mass awareness on important project issues like FP, Population Control, child marriages, child spacing, pregnancy, disaster, etc. A good number of populations were sensitized on the issues concern.



(XX) Awareness on WASH for COVID-19 , Print media/WallWriting/Posters/Banners

We started awareness building on how to safeguard against the corona virus. We are already working on strategy to deal with this pandemic as we realise that we have a long road of suffering ahead. Our plan will focus on Awareness building, WASH, providing ration & cash and supporting livelihood initiatives in the Project area.



Women with COVID-19 can breastfeed if they wish to do so. They Should:

-  Practice Respiratory hygiene and wear a mask
-  Wash hands before and after touching the baby
-  Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces

#COVID19 #CORONAVIRUS



I'm Pregnant
How Can I Protect myself against COVID-19 ?

-  Wash Your Hand Frequently
-  Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
-  Cough or sneeze into your bent elbow or a tissue
-  Put space between yourself and others

If you have fever, cough or difficulty breathing, seek care early. Call beforehand, and follow medical advice

#COVID19 #CORONAVIRUS



All Women have the right to a safe and positive childbirth experience, whether or not they have a confirmed COVID-19 infection.

-  Respect & dignity
-  A Companion of choice
-  Clear Communication by maternity staff
-  Pain relief strategies
-  Mobility in labour where possible and birth position of choice

#COVID19 #CORONAVIRUS



नोवेल कोटोना वायरस से बचाव हेतु जन जागरण कार्यक्रम
सावधानी ही बचाव है, सामाजिक दूरी बनाएं रखें कोटोना से बचें।
नोवेल कोटोना वायरस (COVID 19) इस समय की सबसे बड़ी वैज्ञानिक एवं सामाजिक चुनौती है।

क्या है कोटोना वायरस ?

कोटोना वायरस का संबंध वायरस के एरो पटिवाट ले है, जिसके संकरण ले जुकाम या लैकट लाल लेजी में तकलीफ लीडी लागतया हो जाता है। कोटोना वायरस, विषाणुओं के एक बहुत बड़े पटिवाट का हित्ता है लेकिन इनमें ले तीव्र 6 विषाणु ही एरो हैं जो ड्राइनों को संक्रमित कर सकते हैं।

लक्षण

 नाक बहना	 छांटी
 सिटर्डर्ड	 बुखार

आयोजक

विनोवा आरोग्य एवं लोक शिक्षण केन्द्र

MISEREOR • IHR HILFSWERK

कैसे फैलता है कोटोना वायरस ?

- संक्रमित व्यक्ति के आंतरिक या छांटीकर्जे ले विलक्ष्य करीब जाकर
- अपने हाथों को बार-बार साबुन से अच्छी तरह धोयें।
- संक्रमित व्यक्ति के बाट हाथ धोएं।
- अपने हाथों को बार-बार साबुन से अच्छी तरह धोयें।
- अंख, नाक औस मूँह को छुने से बचें। हाथ कई सतहों को छूते हैं और वायरस उठ सकते हैं एक बार दूषित होने पर वायरस को अपनी आँखों, नाकों और मूँहों में बहाँ से प्रवेश कर सकते हैं।

बचाव

• ड्राइन लाई उपलब्ध

• दिन में कई बाट हाथ धोएं

• बीमार लोगों के दूर रहें



Name: Jhaliya Devi W/O Shivan Sada

Age: 45 Years

Education: Literate

Children: 4 Children (2 Sons and 2 Daughters)



Name: Parasmani Devi W/O Jagdish Sardar

Age: 40 Years

Education: Class X

Children: 3 Sons

“

Jhaliya Devi is the native of Chhatapur Panchayat in Supaul district in Bihar. She belongs to the Musahar (Mahadalit) community. The people of this caste are poor and illiterate and the age of marriage of 90% of people of this community is 14-15 years. At the moment, Jhaliya Devi is a member of the “Village Development Committee (VDC)” formed for better implementation of the RH program run by B ALSK. Jhaliya Devi also plays the role of a leader in her village.

Earlier, Jhaliya Devi is like a common woman in her village. But, when she started playing a role in the implementation and monitoring of the RH program, she became sensitized on different problems faced by the Musahar community in the area. She has now moved in this direction and working sincerely to make people sensitive to the issue of child marriage. She is committed to not getting married girls and boys before 18 years of age.

At the moment, she is working hard to make people sensitize by regularly interacting with them on the harm of child marriage on the physical and mental growth of the children. Due to her effortless work, people of the Musahar community have now becoming sensitized for the abolition of child marriage in the village.

“

Parasmani Devi is the native of Vill and Panchayat: Lalganj of Chhatapur block in Supaul district in Bihar. She belongs to Musahar Community. Her family is solely dependent on small grocery shops for livelihood. With her effort, Parasmani Devi has now involved as a community mobilizer in the Ajeevika project that is being run in the village. The people of her caste are poor and mostly illiterate. The age of marriage of 90% people of this community is 14-15 years. Most of the Musahar community girls become mothers at the age of 18 years only.

She has been involved with the RH program being run by B ALSK in Lalganj village and remains the part of Street Plays conducted at a regular interval in her village. The street plays also conducted on the social evils like child marriage and Parasmani Devi become motivated by watching these street plays and decided not to do marriage of her Sons before 21 years of age. She is also motivating male and female of her village to go against child marriage. She said that she marry her elder son at the age of 18 years and still suffering its consequences. Her Son has not become responsible yet and she still has to look after them.

Bihar was one of the first states in India to reserve 50% of seats for women in three tiers of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. As a Project partner of C3, BALSK's program **Pahel** supports the EWRs in understanding and delivering their role and responsibilities better, but also to help them be leaders in voicing atrocities against women and girls. Our program bridges the gap, and mainstreams EWRs in political and personal decision making processes. We do this by building leadership skills, specifically to strengthen their voice, participation, leadership and influence within the Panchayat, with focus on family planning/reproductive health issues. Further, these EWRs also work on issues of early marriage, low education completion rates as well as poor nutritional status of girls and women. This initiative is based on the belief that enhancing capacities of Elected Women Representatives can pay large dividends and lead to positive social change. Because of this intervention, EWR's decision making in the Panchayat has increased and they are able to contribute to improved services at village, block, and district levels. Specifically, EWRs monitor the quality of services at the Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Day (VHSND), Health Sub-Centre (HSC), Primary Health Centre (PHC), and District Hospital (DH), Forum of Panchayat and Gram Sabha (meetings), and raise issues related to delivery and efficacy of health services.

PAHEL WOMEN ON THE MOVE

WHAT

The Project aims to strengthen the:

- Voice
- Participation
- Leadership, and influence of elected women representatives (EWRs) in the lowest tier of India's governance structure - the Panchayati Raj.

This program focuses on the participation and agency of EWRs over reproductive health services.



“

Pahel gave me the voice to ask question; gave me the strength to take actions and gave me the tools to change the society.

- Gudiya Devi, Ward member, Siuar Panchayat, Bihar

INCEPTION YEAR	DISTRICT
2017	1 (Nawada district of Bihar)
BLOCK	VILLAGE
2 (Warsaliganj & Roh)	157

WHY

The program's vision is to have EWRs raising and rallying around issues of girl's education, early marriage, and better quality sexual as well as reproductive health services for all.

It has helped Pahel reach out to 500 EWRs in Nawada district of Bihar. Through continuous hand holding and capacity building, their voices have strengthened, while the influence of elected representatives has significantly increased in the decision making within panchayats.

Use of 104 and public grievance redressal system by elected representatives has significantly increased in the project intervention area. Two hundred EWRs were trained and mentored to promote health and nutrition services .

However, 31-year old Gudiya's life has been made much easier and less burdensome with the PAHEL program. She has also been successful in boosting their self-confidence and leadership skills. She is extremely happy and grateful to BALSK for strengthening her.

The project makes a difference where it matters – by strengthening the voice, participation, leadership and influence of elected women representatives in panchayats.

Some of the key achievements of this project in 2019-20

- **Improvement in the functioning of the Panchayati Raj system and services**

Panchayat meetings organised regularly. Public Health Family Welfare & Village Sanitation Committees made functional in 30 Panchayats

- **Improvement in access to health services**

Gram Panchayat Health Sub-Centres reopened. More frontline workers for home visits to homes of pregnant women and lactating mothers. More interactions between EWRs and the community

- **Improvement in ICDS systems and services**

Anganwadi Centres at many locations now operating regularly

- **Improvement in education systems and services**

Continuous visits and interaction between EWRs and school authorities. 6 school education committees formed and made functional. In schools, elected representatives take the lead in developing school infrastructure and facilities.

- **Increased utilization of the Lok Janshikayat and Medical Advice & Grievance Redressal system**

36 complaints registered by elected representatives under Lok Janshikayat. Over 50 complaints registered under the Medical Advice & Grievance Redressal system

Key Highlights :

- Two-fold increase in women leaders' participation in Panchayat meetings.
- 49% increase in women leaders raising family planning, reproductive health, and girls' education related issues in panchayats.
- 24% increase in women leaders' interaction with local health service providers.
- Starting from less no. of women representatives, today we are mentoring over 250 women leaders in Nawada district of Bihar

IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

- Regular visit to PHC,HSC,VHSND by ERs
- Dialogue meeting among members of PHFW & VSC from all the three tiers
- Cluster Meeting
- Bimonthly meetings of PHFW & VSC
- Regular organized & Visit to Sas-Bahu Sammelan, Aanprasan Diwas, etc.
- Administered checklist of VHSND, HSC and PHC
- Preparing Data Base and Profiles of Panchayat Representatives
- Organizing/Support Ward Sabha/Gram Sabha
- Liasoning with Block and District level officers
- Interaction of ERs

CASE STORY



BABITA DEVI

**Ward Member, Ward Number – 05
Paingari panchayat, Bihar**

“

Babita Devi won the election of Gram Panchayat for the post of ward member from reserved seat. She 's educational qualification is matric but she is very passionate about her work. She come from backward Caste. Apart from the housewife's work, she also does daily wage work in the market. Her husband works as a driver and runs his family's livelihood. She is also a member of Public Health Family Welfare & Village Sanitation Committees in her panchayat.

After the Intervention of BALSK Pahel project, she regularly monitor the quality of services at the Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Day (VHSND), Health Sub-Centre (HSC), Primary Health Centre (PHC), and District Hospital (DH), Forum of Panchayat and Gram Sabha (meetings), and raise issues related to delivery and efficacy of health services.

During Monitoring, one day she went to her village school, there she saw irregularities in the mid-day meal, then complained to the principal of the school, principal got very angry and stated that "It's none of your business so, mind your business". She answered back that "I am the ward member of this village so you can't talk to me like that". She has complained many times but there was no any action taken by the School administrative. Principal was a hooligan person who causes trouble for others and due to his domination BDO Warisaliganj has also refused to take complain against him and advised her for settlement.

After getting disappointment from all sides, she registered a complaints under Lok Janshikayat, from then she got threatened to kill her husband and even officials of Lok Janshikayat advised her to do settlement with the School principal. she settled the matter at the behest of her husband and for his safety.

But even after this, She has not given up. Still monitoring the school, and the Principal has also reform the systems of Mid-day-Meal. Improvement in Mid-day-Meal occured due to continuously pressurizing the School Principal by Babita Devi. She take the lead in developing school infrastructure and facilities.

Nowadays, When women from other panchayats meet at cluster meeting they are also influenced by Babita Devi and they feel strengthened in decision making in the Panchayat and are able to contribute to improve services at village, block, and district levels.

Babita Devi Says,

I feel proud to be associated with this BALSK Pahel project as the EWRs from the Panchayat are now more interacting with the community and this program has boosted mine self confidence and leadership skill

PAHEL Program photographs at a glance



Quarterly Cluster Level Meeting of Panchayat Representatives



Interface Meeting at Warisaliganj & Roh block of Nawada



Giving Mahila Maang Patr (Charter of Demand) from EWRs to Govt. officials, demanding better public policies and programs



District Level Convergence Meeting at Hotel Aakash, Nawada & Chief guest was Aruna Devi, Bihar Legislative assembly member of Warisaliganj



Bimonthly meeting of PHFW & VSC ; (Right) Data Collection of Health pictorial Checklist

(4) DKH/CASA HUMANITARIAN AID FUND

“Renovation of 2 Pond in Jaikrishna nagar and 2 Canal in Rasulibigha village under Drought Relief Work in Islampur block of Nalanda District in Bihar (INDIA)”

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

1. To ensure employment of the drought affected family.
2. To ensure food security of the affected people.
3. To ensure drop migration of poor people and labours.
4. To ensure health facility of pregnant women, old age person and children.
5. To increase water level and Irrigation facility among target population.

IMPACT OF THE PROJECT

(1) 262 families (SC, OBC and landless and marginalized community) has benefitted from part- time employment and increase in socio-economic status in society.

(2) Renovation of 2 water canals and 2 ponds have benefitted approx 500 small and marginal farmer by irrigation facility, available cattle fields and increased ground water levels



(5) OTHER PROGRAMS

BALSK always believes that information dissemination is important for the development of the society. In 2019-20, No. of awareness camps and workshops were organized in Nalanda district of Bihar covering different issues of socio-economic importance. Experienced resource persons and eminent personalities participated on these occasions and shared information with the participants that has improved their knowledge on the issue. The details are as follows:-

- **Child Labour Eradication**
- **Water & Sanitation**
- **Disaster Management**
- **Environment Awareness**
- **TB Awareness programme**

