

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22



PRAYATN SANSTHA www.prayatn.org

Hit but not Withered

Message from Chairperson

Year 2020-21 turned out to be an extremely challenging year, not just for India but for the entire world, because of first wave of COVID 19 pandemic. With the development of the vaccine against it, it was thought that 2021-22 will be better. But 2021-22 turned out to be more challenging because of the second caused by its delta variant. Before we could vaccinate even our health workers, the number of active cases shoot up to about 2.5 million and every day 3 lakh new cases and 2000 deaths. In spite of unprecedented efforts for gearing-up public health machinery, acute shortage of testing facilities, beds in hospitals, oxygen supply, medicines, Personal protection equipment was felt. Measures like curfews, gathering and mobility, restrictions, closures of schools etc., proved inadequate and almost entire population got infected. More than 5 lakh people died in this process.

Besides affecting health and causing mortality, the pandemic affected the second most populous country of the world in various other ways. Closure of economic activities because of restrictions and reduced demand made several people jobless while others too suffered unbearable economic losses. In such situation, mass migration labourers took place. With increase in poverty and prolonged closure of schools and inaccessibility of online education for majority of population, vulnerability of children towards child labour and child marriage increased manifold.

In the above situation, Prayatn made every possible effort to support the government in controlling the pandemic and extending relief and recovery support to the community. In short run, at community level, we focused upon generating awareness about COVID vaccination, treatment and following COVID protocol and distributed masks, hygiene kits and sanitary napkins. At institutional level, we provided equipment like oxygen concentrators, thermoscanners, pulse oximeters, personal protection kits, sanitizers, N95 masks, to public health institutions and frontline workers. For long term benefit, we pushed livelihood development support initiatives and extended education to children in small groups following COVID protocols so that they do not forget what they have learnt and do not all prey to child labour because of closure of schools and poverty. In spite of the risks involved, our staff continued working at grassroots level. Support of our donors in the new situation, was also very important.

With the presentation of this Annual Report, we express our gratitude towards all our staff, donors as well as community-based institutions who stood with us in this critical situation. Because of this support, while we have been hit hard but not withered. As the situation getting better, we hope that all of us will be able to recover from the blow soon.

Hakim Manjhi

Chairperson

Year of Suffering, Year of Hope

Message from the Secretary

Year 2021-22 was highly challenging but it was a year of hope as well. While we witnessed the worst repercussions of COVID 19 pandemic in the form of second wave, we also witnessed several rays of hope and encouragement. Towards the end of the year, joint efforts of government, corporate sector and civil society, the situation was brought under control and significant section of the population was immunized against corona virus.

For Prayatn, there were several other reasons as well that encouraged us. Foremost among them were appreciations that the organization received during the challenging situation. During the India CSR Summit that was hosted virtually by CSRBOX and Dalmia Foundation, the Holistic Rural Development Programme, which is being implemented by Prayatn in Odisha with the support of HDFC Bank, was awarded as the best CSR project on Rural infrastructure Development. This project came to closure in Rayagada block of Rayagada district after 4 years of successful implementation during the year but because of its success, HDFC agreed to support it in another block (Kolnara) of the same district as well as Gop block of Puri district. While the former is expected to begin in April 2023, the later has already begun.

The second recognition received by Prayatn was from Child Welfare Committee in Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh state for running emergency child helpline service known as Child Help Desk at Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Nagar Railway Station with the financial support of Childline India Foundation and Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. The service was functional round the clock even when COVID related restrictions were imposed because of special order the government and the team left no stone unturned to extend emergency service to the children when the situation was extremely risky because of the pandemic. Prayatn is running similar service in Dhaulpur district of Rajasthan.

Another source of encouragement for us initiation of partnership with Bread for the World, Germany for Combating Malnutrition through Livelihood Development Project in Baran district of Rajasthan.

Successful completion of partnership with Plan and NSE foundation was also an important highlight of the year. The partnership included four larger scale projects that proved significant in improving education level and changing WASH related behavior of the community in Karauli district of Rajasthan.

All the above-mentioned developments and details provided in the subsequent sections of this report give us confidence that in any situation, our team is capable of delivering the desired change and is committed as well.

Happy Reading!

Malay Kumar

Secretary

Snapshot for 2021-22

Our Vision and Mission

Prayatn visualises a just society wherein everyone has equal opportunity to grow, and is aware of and capable to critically analyze their own situation, and in this process realizing their potentials, equality & equity, freedom, dignity and human rights. PRAYATN's thrust is to build up community spirit in people who take charge of problems and issues affecting their lives and collectively strive towards achieving sustainable process of self-reliance and bringing about change in their lives.

In pursuit of this vision, we work to enable people facing inequality and injustice to help themselves. We aim to strengthen ties in local communities so that people can work together to bring about positive changes in their lives. We particularly encourage women to participate in this process, as they are the most marginalized, downtrodden and powerless social group in India. Prayatn gives them the opportunity to develop their decision-making skills and leadership capacity so that they can address the issues affecting their lives. Playing the role of catalysts, we help to implement sustainable development processes that will make communities self-sufficient in the long term.

Our Objectives

- To facilitate the process of empowerment with special focus on the marginalized and disadvantaged sections of society, i.e., Women & Children
- To facilitate participation of local community in programme planning, implementation and evaluation.
- To mobilize social institutions and evolve people's organizations to address problems and issues affecting the socio-economic fabric of society.
- To foster leadership capacities at the grassroots level which will promote appropriate initiatives in the community
- To develop a system to disseminate information to create awareness and evolve a forum for policy interventions

Our Core Strategies

- Enhancing local capacity to address developmental needs and ensure appropriate access to entitlements thereby developing community-based systems and mechanisms;
- To engage with institutions of accountability thereby developing operational partnership and collaboration to ensure access of partner communities to entitlements;
- To experiment and develop child and women centred development processes for broader replication;
- To develop experience-based knowledge management model thereby developing training programmes for sharing of knowledge with development workers, academician, government departments and development professionals.

Our Approach

Prayatn has worked in charity, development as well as rights-based mode in past. Presently, the organization is working with **Model Development Approach** in which, we develop and demonstrate solution for resolving complex social issues by addressing all the dimensions of the problem at appropriate times. To ensure that the model is duly developed, documented and disseminated, we lay high emphasis upon defining the working planning, implementation and monitoring processes elaborately in written form, abiding by them in strict manner and reviewing them from time to time. We believe that if process of working is not right, the true change that we want to achieve will not

materialize. We are primarily a grassroots level implementation organization but play role resource organization undertake researches, documentation and publication assignments as per requirement.

Our Thematic Areas of Intervention

- Women Empowerment
- Child Development
- Health and Nutrition
- Livelihood Development
- Strengthening Democratic Processes
- Natural Resource Management and Climate Change

Our Legal Status

Prayatn is registered under the following legal obligations

1. Societies Registration Certificate
2. Foreign Contribution Regulation Act
3. Income Tax Act sections 12(AA) and 80G
4. Employees Provident Fund Act
5. Payment of Gratuities Act,
6. PAN and TAN
7. Darpan Portal of NITI Aayog
8. CSR portal of Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India

Our Overview for 2020-21

Coverage

The organization covered 16 districts of 5 states (Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Jharkhand) through its interventions at grassroots level benefitting total population of about **7 million people** directly or indirectly. Details of this coverage are as follows:

- States - 5
- Districts - 16
- Blocks - 42
- Panchayats - 1189
- Villages - 1321
- Schools - 529
- Anganwadis (Full/mini) - 414
- Public Health centers - 141
- Households covered - 84957
- Population benefitted - 7030523

Financial Overview for 2020-21

The overall financial turnover of the organization in terms of funds received during 2021-22 was about **Rs 7.60 crore** as per our audited income and expenditure statement. This included funds from various international and national development agencies, corporates as well as government departments.

Human Resource Overview for 2021-22

The human resource strength which shouldered the progress of the organization during the year was 295 as on March 31, 2022. This included 175 females and 120 males.

Projects Implemented during 2021-22

In 2021-22, we witnessed successful completion of 6 of our projects and beginning of 3 new projects. Brief summary of these projects is as follows:

S. No.	Name of Project	Location	Coverage	Funding Partner
1	Moving Ahead	Bharatpur, Dhaulpur, Karauli & Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan	45 villages and 4 districts	KKS and BMZ, Germany

2	District Childline	Dhaulpur, Rajasthan	Entire District	Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, and Childline India Foundation
3	Improving literacy & numeracy skills of school children in primary and upper primary classes	Sapotara, Karauli, Rajasthan	All 175 government schools in the block	Plan India and NSE Foundation
4	Improving literacy & numeracy skills of school children in primary and upper primary classes	Mandrail, Karauli, Rajasthan	All 140 government schools in the block	Plan India and NSE Foundation
5	Making the block as Open Defecation-free Sustainable through School, AWC, Community-centered Wash Intervention	Sapotara, Karauli, Rajasthan	All 167 villages in the block	Plan India and NSE Foundation
6	Making the block as Open Defecation-free Sustainable through School, AWC, Community Centered Wash Intervention	Mandrail, Karauli, Rajasthan	All 123 villages in the block	Plan India and NSE Foundation
7	Bajaj Health and Nutrition project	Shahabad, Baran, Rajasthan	50 villages	CRY and Bajaj Finserv
8	Bajaj Education and Child Protection project	Khandela, Sikar, Rajasthan	15 villages	CRY and Bajaj Finserv
9	Holistic Rural Development Programme	Rayagada, Odisha	15 villages	HDFC Bank
10	Child Help Desk	Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Railway Station, Uttar Pradesh	1 railway station campus	Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, and Childline India Foundation and Ministry for Railways
11	Child Help Desk	Dhaulpur Railway Station	1 railway station campus	Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, and Childline India Foundation and Ministry for Railways
12	Sambal Project	Cholapur, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	50 villages	Kindernothilfe, Germany
13	Combating Malnutrition through Livelihood Development	Shahabad, Baran, Rajasthan	30 villages	Bread for the World, Germany
14	Holistic Rural Development Programme	Gop, Puri, Odisha	15 villages	HDFC Bank

Before yet Beyond the Themes

Development of Community based Institutions

At Prayatn, we develop community-based organizations of children, adolescent girls, women and adults in general across all the villages and slums wherever we work and strengthen them as a part of our core strategy to bring sustainable change in the life of people. These institutions contribute to all the themes about which we will discuss in further chapters but their purview is beyond these themes and covers all aspects of community development. As these institutions are meant to sustain the change even after withdrawal of our intervention, understanding their progress is very important

Community based institutions and their progress during 2021-22

Collectives of Adults and their federations:

Collectives of adults are called by different names under different interventions. Under some, they are called as Village Development Committees while in interventions focussing upon child protection, they are called Village Child Protection Committees. These institutions are open for all the adult members in the village/slum and act as apex community-based institutions at village level which are meant to support and coordinate with other institutions as well. These are expected to meet at least once a month and are expected to have equal participation of men and women. Every year, they are expected to develop micro-level plans also called Village Development Plan and resolve various issues identified in this process. Their capacity building on different issues and skills is undertaken keeping their stage of development in mind.

Taking a step further in locations where Prayatn is working since long, like Dhaulour and Shahabad in Rajasthan and Rayagada in Odisha, federations of these institutions have also been developed to bring all the institutions together and strengthen them further. In Dhaulpur while the federations have been developed at block and district level, in Rayagada this has been given name of Adivaasi Vikas Samiti. Various steps were undertaken during the year to build their capacity as well.

Self Help Groups and their federations

Self Help Groups act as very important means of women empowerment. While Economic empowerment is definitely one of the important objectives and outcomes of the process, they play vital role in social, legal and political empowerment of women as well. They also contribute in the overall development of the community. So, these have been formed in most of our locations. Their federations have also been developed in Dhaulpur and Baran districts of Rajasthan. In Dhaulpur, a separate women's cooperative has been developed to make the institution self-sustaining.

Children's Collective and their federations

Formation of Children's Collective called Bal Manch has been undertaken by Prayatn across all its locations as means to make children aware of their rights and ensure their age-appropriate participation in the process of development. In Dhaulpur, their federation at block and district level has also been formed and several measures were undertaken during the year to build their capacity.

Adolescent Girls Group

Adolescent Girls' Group have also been formed in many of our locations to provide platform for such girls where they can come out of their hesitation, learn life skills and raise their issues confidently.

Highlights of Progress of Community based Institutions in 2021-22

- In 520 villages, community-based institutions have been formed and strengthened during the year at community level. Nearly 20,000 children, women, adolescents and men are members of these institutions.
- In addition to the above, children's collectives have been formed in 300 schools in which about 3300 children are members.
- Through micro-level planning processes like Village Development Plan preparation and Child Led Indicator Development, these institutions identified at least 1422 issues of village development and were able to resolve 1037 of them while action on the remaining is ongoing.
- These institutions in Dhaulpur and Rayagarda have collected Rs 7,26,890 over the year as village corpus during the year through various ways to undertake different village development initiatives through the same
- Because of efforts of these institutions, at least 10,945 families have been linked with different government schemes over the year
- 606 representatives of these institutions have been trained during the year on aspects like leadership, development of community-based systems and mechanisms, vision building, issue-based advocacy etc.
- 297 members of adults' collective and 328 members of children's collective were benefitted from exposure visit to other villages/locations for enhancing their understanding on how institutions can function more effectively.

Women Empowerment

Women Empowerment has been one of the core thematic areas of working of Prayatn since its inception. We have addressed all aspects of women empowerment in this process including social empowerment, legal empowerment, political empowerment as well as economic empowerment. Over last few years, we have started using economic empowerment process as base for empowerment on other aspects and in the scenario, that was hit by COVID 19, this became more important as women acted as backbone on which the families could stand firm.

Interventions on Women Empowerment in 2021-22

Development and Strengthening of Women's Self-help Groups

Self Help Groups have proved to be very successful means for empowering women economically as well as socially. Governments at central as well as state level have, therefore, encouraged formation of SHGs by Anganwadi staff in every village. However, many of these SHGs are for namesake only. In the absence of proper guidance, many of them are not functioning properly or have become defunct. Prayatn team, during the year, tried to make such existing SHGs functional through regular guidance and handholding support. At the same time, it also developed new SHGs on its own and strengthened them as well. The process, as described in previous chapter, enabled SHGs to play very important role in supporting women in particular and community as a whole during the COVID 19 pandemic.

Strengthening Women's Cooperative Society

In Dhaulpur, Rajasthan, to take the process of women empowerment further and make it self-sustaining, Prayatn encouraged women to develop a cooperative society in which all the members are women and they only govern its functioning. The cooperative society registered in the name of 'Kaila Devi Apna Ghar Mahila Sahakari Samiti' is involved in the process of saving, lending, repayment and then re-lending to other members. The existing members themselves decide about involving more members and beneficiaries of loan support and terms and conditions of repayment.

Linkage of Women and Girls with Government Schemes

Central and State governments have initiated various schemes for supporting women and girls. These include Widow pension, Rajshree Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Vandana Yojana, Janani Surasksha Yojana etc. but many women remain deprived of the same because of lack of awareness. Prayatn staff, across all its intervention areas ensured that eligible women are able to benefit under such schemes through awareness building and helping them in the process of application.

Aakanksha's Aakanksha

Akanksha means aspiration in Hindi. But here we are talking about a 16 year old girl whose name is Akanksha whose aspirations were shattered because she had to discontinue her education and work as agricultural labourer because of poverty of her family.

Prayatn started working in Mahda village which is located in Sinhpur Panchayat of Cholanpur block, in 2019 under Sambal project. When baseline survey for the project was being done, and community members were asked if there is any child in the village who is out of school, they said that all children are going to school. But when interaction with children's collective was done, they revealed that their friend Akanksha has left studies after passing Class VIII and she goes for



harvesting of crops as agricultural labourers in other people's fields. Project decided to talk with the girl and her parents immediately and took support of CPC members in locating her house

When the project staff and the CPC members interacted with parents of the girl, her father, Keshav, told that after Class VIII the girl needs to go to inter-college in Cholanpur block headquarters which 8 km far from the village and since education after class VIII is not free and they will have to pay fee and meet other expenses like books travel etc that they cannot afford. He is aware of importance of education but is helpless. The girl too was interested in continuing education but had no option.

In the village, two Self Help Groups have been formed under the project and Akanksha's mother Malati is member of one of them. When the issue of economic barrier in education of Akanksha was discussed in the same, the group suggested her to take loan from it to meet the education expenses and repay it in easy instalments later.

Malati liked the idea and took loan of Rs 2000 from the SHG immediately. Her husband took Akanksha to the Government Girls' Inter-College next day itself and got her admitted. He bought her books and uniform for the purpose and the girl started going to the college daily.

Because of restrictions imposed by the government because of COVID 19, demand for labour declined significantly and finding employment became difficult for Keshav. In such situation, repaying loan became difficult. Worried Malati explained the situation to the Self-Help Group. The group knew the situation and allowed delay in repayment without any penalty.

After about six months, the situation became better and the family was able to repay the loan. Education of Akanksha continued during this period although for sometime her Intercollege too was closed. She is now happy and dreams of becoming a doctor so that she is able to eradicate poverty of parents who have suffered a lot and serve mankind at the same time.

Her parents too are happy because they feel that aspirations of their daughter will now be fulfilled and her poverty will end. They thanked the organization and KNH for the support.

Achievements

- 181 SHGs with total membership of 2095 were formed and continued to function in spite of the COVID 19 pandemic.
- Total 5845 meetings of SHGs were held during the year in spite of COVID pandemic in which total 61481 members took part.
- Cumulative saving of these SHGs at the end of the year rose to Rs 31,49,044 with the addition of at least 11,63,184 during the year.
- Internal loaning that took place during the period was of about Rs 10,19,150
- 100 women got benefitted through livelihood development loan support through the organization ranging from Rs 25,000 to Rs 40,000 for income generation activities like buffalo rearing, goatery, poultry, fishery and petty shop development.
- Another 491 women benefitted through the SHGs through internal loaning
- 804 women have been provided orientation about SHG management during the process.
- In Varanasi, SHG women prepared and distributed 4963 masks keeping COVID pandemic in mind
- 1046 women and girls linked with various government schemes ranging from availing free bicycles and Sukanya Samridhi Yojana to Rajshree Scheme, pension schemes, etc.

Child Development

Ensuring child development and protection when COVID closed schools for children

Prayatn has been striving for development of models of child friendly villages in which all rights of children as defined under UNCRC are ensured. In this process, we try to strengthen community, schools as well as entire public child protection machinery. In the year in which children remained deprived of education because of closure of schools and economic condition of families became vulnerable because of losses in livelihood owing to COVID pandemic, this quest became very difficult. However, need based modifications and innovations in our working strategy helped in reducing the negative effect of the situation on children as described below.

Brief of our Interventions related with Children in 2021-22

Interventions focused upon Child Protection

Moving Ahead project:

In the previous years Prayatn implemented Dusk to Dawn project which was a comprehensive project in which multiple components related with child protection including linkage of child labourers with quality education, alternative livelihood development for families that are dependent on child labour, community based institutional development and strengthening of public child protection machinery were addressed simultaneously. Seeing the success of the project, Prayatn and its funding partner Karl Kubel Stiftung, Germany, decided to take the initiative to its 3rd phase in which the scaling up of the same to divisional level was planned. This new expanded phase has been named as Moving Ahead project and was initiated from September 2020 onwards. In this phase, at one end, the remaining 45 villages too will be turned in to model child friendly villages, on the other hand, child protection machinery across all the four districts of Bharatpur division – Dhaulpur, Bharatpur, Karauli and Sawai Madhopur, are being activated.

Sambal Project:

Sambal project too has been designed on the model of Dusk to Dawn project and is being implemented in 50 villages for Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh since January 2019 with the objective of ensuring child protection in these villages where prevalence of child marriage is high. It is a child sponsorship-based project but covers all aspects including education, livelihood development, community based institutional development and activation of Child Protection Machinery.

District Childline and Child Help Desks at Railway stations

Prayatn has been running Child Help Desk at Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay (PDDU) Railway Station in Uttar Pradesh round the clock since 2016 and District Childline in Dhaulpur district of Rajasthan since 2018. Both of these services are linked with toll free Childline number 1098 and are meant to provide emergency support to children found in need of care and protection under financial support of Ministry of Women and Child Development under its Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) through Childline India Foundation. In 2020-21, this partnership moved further with the initiation of Child Help Desk at Dhaulpur Railway station as well and recommendation of Prayatn by District Administration, Railway authorities and Child Welfare Committee for the same. All the three units continued to function during 2021-22 and even when restricts like curfews were imposed because of the pandemic, these units were rendered special permission to function and rescue children in need.

Bajaj Education and Child Protection Project

Education and Child Protection project was initiated by Prayatn in 15 villages of Khandela block of Sikar district where too, child protection issues, particularly child labour and child marriage, are highly prevalent. Child and adolescent labour is generally found in brick kilns spread across the area and the project focuses children of brick kiln workers so that they do not fall prey to child labour. As part of the intervention, community-based institutions called Village level Child Protection Committees along with children's collectives called Bal Manches have been formed and are being strengthened at village level. At administrative level, on the other hand, efforts to sensitized and strengthen School Management Committees as well as Panchayat and Block level Child Protection Committees are also being made under the project.

Interventions focused on Education

Improving literacy & numeracy skills of school children in primary and upper primary classes:

To improve status of education in Karauli district, two projects were initiated with the above name in the Sapotara and Mandrail blocks of karauli district. Both the projects were implemented in saturation mode covering 175 schools in Sapotara and 140 schools in Mandrail and were funded by Plan India and NSE Foundation. The projects, as the title suggests, were aimed at improving educational status of children studying in government schools through remedial education support, capacity building of school teachers, strengthening of School Management Committees and development and strengthening of children groups in schools. In 2021-22, when schools were closed for significant part of the year, remedial education in small groups at community level following COVID prevention norms was important highlight of the project. The year marked successful completion of the projects.

Education component of Moving Ahead and Sambal project:

As mentioned earlier, linking out of school children with good quality education is one of the important components of all these projects. The child labourers identified in the villages have been encouraged to start their education again by educating them initially in a bridge school and then mainstreaming them. In the school too, several processes and activities were undertaken like regular visit by pedagogical experts to demonstrate child friendly teaching learning processes, strengthening preparation and follow-up of school development plans, bridge building between community and teachers through Teacher Community Interfaces, Teachers' Felicitatation programme etc.

Bajaj Education and Child Protection Project

The project, as mentioned earlier, is focused on eradicating child labour and quality education of children, which is very important so that they do not fail and drop out from education. To ensure that children acquire age and class appropriate academic competencies that were found lagging and resulted in disinterest of the child and the family towards continuing his/her education, remedial education support was provided at community level. Establishing a digital learning center at community level to make computer education accessible to children, was is also a very important component of this process.

Holistic Rural Development Programme (HRDP) - Rayagada and Puri

The Programme, as the name suggests, aims at rural development in holistic manner which includes different themes together. Education of children has been an important theme under which various initiatives have been undertaken. These include infrastructural development in several government schools, developing digital classrooms in them, developing libraries in them, etc. to make school environment child friendly and safe. It also included community awareness building and extending remedial education support at village level to academically lagging children and irregular children to prevent their drop-out. Capacity and motivation building of teachers and strengthening of School

Management Committees was also an important component of the initiative which was begun in 15 villages of Rayagada district of Odisha in April 2018 concluded in March 2022 but before this, it was started in 15 villages of Gop block of Puri district in 2021.

Stepping in Fearlessly

On a Wednesday, as usual, children ran back from school to their houses to participate in the Bal Manch Meeting. During the regular activities, Mr. Dinesh, Community Organizer coming from Prayatn Sanstha, started discussing children's issues, when little Shivani, a student of class 7 and an active member of the group, instantly interrupted. She pointed to her own shabby dress and said that it was hard to enter school with a clean dress during rainy season because the road from village to school was filled with muddy puddles. Also, few others stated that they often fell into dirty ditches, soiling their uniforms and shoes and even missing classes on such days.

As soon as Shivani completed her statement, little Arti stated another issue of not having a boundary wall for the school. She added that many stray animals very often trespass into the compound scaring children and disturbing their studies. She demanded a solution for the issue. Everyone agreed to their friends' statements, and subsequently, decided to address the issues in the Child Protection Committee meeting. Representing the Bal Manch, little Shivani and Arti took the responsibility to speak about the issues in the CPC meeting.

This discussion was taking place in village Lashkarpur which is located in Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh at a distance of 25 km from the district headquarters and 10 km from the block, Cholapur. More than 4000 people reside in this village. Children of the village go to the nearby Government Upper Primary School. Before Prayatn's intervention in Lashkarpur, the community was ignorant of the importance of education and protection of children. Consequently, dropouts, irregularity, child marriage, and child labor were common in the community. Children were addicted to chewing beetle and using intoxicating substances. Adults of the village were not interested to steer their children properly as they were deprived about the advantages of education.

Prayatn Sanstha started working in Lashkarpur village under Project Sambal with the support of Kindernothislife (KNH) to ensure the development of children and community through empowering Community Based Organizations. Gradually, an active Bal Manch and a dynamic Child Protection Committee came into existence. They raised their firm voices for the developmental issues of the community.

CPC members surprisingly noticed the presence of two children in their meeting and inquired about the same. Shivani and Arti presented their issues before the CPC members. They decided to approach the SMC realizing the seriousness of the issues, but to no avail. The School Management Committee was defunct with community members, not even aware of their membership.

Since the Child Protection Committee was determined to resolve the issue, they decided to raise the issues during Teacher Community Interface (TCI), which was scheduled on 22nd September 2021 with the facilitation of Prayatn. On the day, the Head Master presented the issues before the community members (42 Male and 14 Females), following which a proposal was drafted for the same, and submitted to the Block Education Officer at Cholapur. The department analyzed the issues and started construction of road and boundary wall in no time.

Today, the scene at school is different. The school compound has been levelled and paved with interlocking tiles and covered by a huge boundary wall with a beautiful gate and children are happily stepping into the classrooms without the fear of any stray animals.

The headmaster and the school officials are thankful to Prayatn Sanstha for equipping members of Bal Manch and CPC to realize the issues and act accordingly. Previously people were not aware of their responsibilities as members of SMC, but today they are motivated to raise their voices for the issues for their children through the active intervention of the organization in the village.



Newly constructed entry gate, boundary wall and way of Government Primary School, Lashkarpur

Major Achievements

Education

1. Education of 12081 rural children continued their education through community level tutoring even when the schools were closed because of COVID related restrictions
2. 2282 children benefitted from on-site support in schools when the schools re-opened.
3. Supply of teaching learning material including textbooks, workbooks etc. ensured to 428 and 2975 children for continuing education when schools were closed, to ensure continuity of their education
4. Because of joint efforts of community based institutions including children's collective, Adolescent Girls Group, Village Development Committees and School Management Committees, following results were achieved:
 - a. Supply of dry ration kit in place of Midday Meal ensured for 495 children
 - b. Enrolment of 881 children from Anganwadi to Class I ensured.
 - c. 61 out of school children linked with regular schools while 17 linked with open schools.
 - d. 305 irregular children regularized in school
 - e. Continuity of education of 277 girls who were at risk of dropping out ensured. These included 99 girls who were enrolled in Class VI and 169 girls who were enrolled in Class VIII and 9 girls who were enrolled in KGBV
 - f. 437 adolescent girls could avail free bicycles for going to school under Mukhyamantri Cycle Vitaran Yojana in Rajasthan because of joint efforts of community-based institutions
5. In 97 schools, infrastructure development was undertaken to make school environment child friendly and modern. In another 11 schools, this was done through community contribution
6. SMC formation ensured in 36 schools while 563 SMC members oriented about their roles and responsibilities
7. School Development Plan preparation facilitated in 58 government schools and 108 school development issues resolved because of the same.

8. 390 children could avail digital education because of establishment of digital classrooms in 9 government schools and 1 digital learning center within the community
9. Teacher Community Interface organized in 30 schools with total participation of 1821 community members and teachers to bridge gap between them
10. In 5 schools, nearly 408 people participated in the process of felicitation of teachers during Teachers' Felicitation programme to motivate them by expressing respect and appreciation
11. 60 government school teachers trained on child friendly teaching learning practices

Child Protection:

1. 1344 children who were in need of emergency care and protection have been rescued and repatriated through 3 units of Childline services being run by the organization
2. At least 5105 adults and 3294 children were reached out by these services to spread community awareness on child rights, child protection and childline services.
3. At least 2307 members on Bal Manch took part in awareness campaign on child rights and child protection
4. 4625 children and 5105 adults learnt about child rights, child protection and childline services because of various outreach activities.
5. 496 Bal Manch members provided detailed training on child rights and child protection and the role their institution can play in ensuring the same.
6. 658 Child Protection Committee members have been imparted training on child rights and child protection and role of the institution in ensuring the same
7. 32 district level officials 431 members of Panchayati Raj Institutions have been trained on their roles and responsibilities in the context of child rights and child protection
8. In 45 newly formed Gram Panchayats, formation of Panchayat level Child Protection Committees was ensured in Rajasthan
9. Right to identity of 619 children was ensured because of preparation of their birth certificates and Aadhaar Cards
10. Children identified 593 issues as part of child led indicator development process with Bal Manch out of which 112 were resolved while resolution of the remaining is in process.
11. Age of couple in 233 marriages were verified by community-based institutions across 45 villages in order ensure that no child marriage has taken place and the villages can be declared child marriage free.
12. Child Marriage of 22 girls averted because of timely identification and counselling. Also, *Gauna* (sending of girl to in-laws) of 8 girls who had become victims of child marriage has also been delayed because of efforts of community-based institutions and Prayatn staff.
13. Bal Manch members in 12 villages saved Rs 358,369 collectively upon learning importance of regular collective saving and have decided to make use of the same in case of dire need
14. 112 children abandoned addition to tobacco-based toothpowder after becoming aware of its harmful effects.
15. 124 children have been freed from child labour because of joint efforts of public child protection machinery, community-based institutions and organization staff.
16. 632 children started using masks in regular manner while 64 children orphaned because of COVID 19 pandemic linked with support scheme announced by the government
17. 29 children received training on leadership, negotiation and communication
18. 32 children trained on using theatre as means of communication.

Health and Nutrition

COVID 19 pandemic was the most severe health disaster as far as last hundred years is concerned. In the absence of any treatment and delay in development of vaccination, minimizing its spread by generating community awareness on COVID appropriate behavior and strengthening of public health machinery. Since is process needed sometime and the pandemic was spreading faster than fire, different governments including India imposed severe restrictions like lockdowns. Such restrictions, helped in reducing the speed of spread to an extent, they created other severe problems like that of food security and nutrition. Also, other health issues got sidelined because entire public health machinery was falling short for addressing the pandemic alone. We tried to strike balance in this situation through following interventions during the year.

Prayatn's Interventions of Health and Nutrition during 2021-22

COVID related Awareness building and Relief Work

During 2020-21, the focus of COVID related relief work was upon addressing issue of food security through ration kit distribution, spreading awareness, distributing masks, etc. But in 2021-22, during the second wave, the situation was different. Public Health machinery was struggling because of tremendous increase in number of cases, severity of symptoms and increase in mortality because of the delta variant. In such situation, we focused upon strengthening the system by providing equipment like oxygen concentrators, thermos-scanners, pulse oximeters, N95 masks, sanitizers, liquid handwashes etc. to the frontline institutions and workers like Anganwadis, Public Health Centers. Even police personnel, members of Panchayati Raj institutions etc. were also supported in this process. Ensuring supply of sanitary pads for adolescent girls was also important part of the process.

Bajaj Health and Nutrition Project

Bajaj health and Nutrition project was focusing upon maternal and child health and nutrition for Sahariya tribe through community awareness building as well as strengthening of public health institutions like Anganwadis, Primary Health Center and Sub-centers, Community Health Centers and Malnutrition Treatment Centers. It was being implemented in 50 villages of Shahabad block of Baran district where incidence malnutrition and health and nutrition related issues is very high. The project took community-based malnutrition management together with institution-based malnutrition management so that the issue is addressed in more sustainable manner.

Health and Nutrition as part of Holistic Rural Development

The project also had maternal and child health, and water and sanitation as its important components. For ensuring health, the project supported activities like conduction of health camps, Kitchen Garden development, campaign for community awareness on VHND, life skill training of adolescent girls etc. on the demand side. At the same time, it supported training of Anganwadi staff and repairing and refurbishment of Anganwadi centers to strengthen supply side.

Karmaveer Karmotram

Karmotram Pal is a humble gas agency worker living in Govardhanpuri village in Sapotara tehsil of karauli district of Rajasthan. He was member of Village Water, Health and Sanitation Committee too. When Prayatn started working on the issue of Water, Sanitation and Health in the village in 2019, his commitment for development of his village, pushed the organization to select him as a frontline worker (FLW).

When COVID 19 broke out, he was deeply bothered about the attitudes of people towards the wide-spreading COVID cases in the District as well as state. People were overlooking the pandemic and were not serious about the prevention methods against COVID-19 infection. People even had vaccination hesitancy because of myths like the vaccine would lead infertility or allergic reactions. Another myth was that people with



Karmotram and his daughter distributing masks to the villagers

underlying conditions like diabetes and heart disease should not get vaccinated. He realized and was overwhelmed by the perilous circumstances his community is going through.

Mr. Karmotram Pal discussed the issue with his wife, Mrs. Kamla Devi, and asked her as an ASHA worker what she can do for the community? He along with his wife contacted the block level government officials with WASH project team and contacted his village Sarpanch also and discussed the present circumstances of COVID-19. The authorities told him about arrangement of masks, soaps, sanitizers etc. but these were too inadequate to reach out to the remote villages like his. The authority were also concerned about low interest being shown by the community members towards COVID vaccination.

Mr. Karmotram quickly came back home and inspired and steered his daughter to prepare masks. Since she was good at sewing, the mask turned to be an eye-catching and admirable one. Moreover, He brought clothes and elastics spending his own hard-earned money. Within the next few days, ample masks were stitched in various colors and sizes. Then, he and his wife along with his children went to the community and started free distribution of the same. He ensured that the distributed masks are beneficial for the community to prevent COVID.

Meantime, Prayatn Sanstha organized a capacity building and strengthening of the VHSNC members at the village level and motivated all to participate in the same. Mr. Karmotram actively participated along with his friends and community members. Front Line Workers and Assistant Project Coordinator from Prayatn Sanstha have felicitated the sessions, where Karmotram has actively participated. Consequently, the participants were encouraged to focus on health, sanitation, and the provision of nutrition for the community. Discussions are detained on COVID, Vaccination Hesitancy, and Myths on the same.

More than 400 people have been vaccinated so far in the village, because of the motivation of Karmotram and his family. He decided to vaccinate every single villager. The community witnessed his dedication towards the social service and welfare of the community. They said this in solidarity that he gained this inspiration from his father. They say that like his father, Karmotram is also a a 'Karmaveer' – a brave person who believes in doing, as per them. Today people are careful about COVID infection and vaccination. They stand along with their inspiration instigator - Mr. Karmotram to fight against COVID third wave in the community. Even today he is voluntarily serving society, along with his family. Hats off to him for his unstinting dedication and commitment to the social work and community welfare

Achievements

COVID relief

- COVID vaccination of 24448 people ensured
- 12 Oxygen Concentrators, 110 thermo-scanners and 110 pulse-oximeters provided to public health facilities like CHCs, PHCs and Anganwadis
- 135 COVID infected people motivated for home quarantining themselves
- Distribution of 11557 masks, 5000 from the organization and 6557 through Gram panchayats was ensured for curtailing spread of COVID
- At 43 Anganwadi centers, dry ration distribution, which had not been initiated as per government guidelines, ensured
- 1006 households were provided direct ration kit during COVID restrictions.

Strengthening Public Health Services in tribal areas

- 5 Anganwadis provided repair and refurbishment support while in case of 17 Anganwadis, same ensured through government
- Sanctioning of 2 Sub-centers and renovation of 4 of them ensured
- Ambulance service ensured for 2 PHCs in Shahabad
- Appointment of 5 staff on vacant positions ensured at Anganwadi centers
- 43 Anganwadi Workers, 20 ANMs and 49 Mawadi workers were trained on proper nutrition and health care of women and children
- In case of 16 Anganwadis, community members were encouraged to felicitate Anganwadi Staff to motivate those who are making sincere efforts through Anganwadi Abhiwaadan

Maternal and Child Health

- Improvement in grade of malnutrition in case of 115 children ensured through community and institution-based malnutrition management. This included improvement from SAM to MAM in case of 57 children and MAM to normal in case of 58 children
- Full immunization ensured for 2106 children ensured
- 968 pregnant women counselled for timely ANC and PNC
- 1884 Adolescent Girls trained on proper general and menstrual health care and hygiene.
- 441 adolescent girls started taking IFA tablets after due counselling about their importance.
- 404 women were benefitted by linking them with Pradhan Mantri Matri Vandana Yojana and Janani Suraksha Yojana

General Health Care and Nutrition

- 1129 people could avail proper health check-up and awareness because of 15 health camps conducted at village level
- 858 community members registered for various health insurance schemes like Chiranjeevi Swasthya Bima Yojana when they were made aware of their benefits
- Registration of 2039 households under National Food Security Scheme was ensured
- Kitchen garden development support was provided to 200 economically vulnerable tribal families to address issue of malnutrition among them
- Ratio support that was stalled for 2 months was ensured for 25 families through efforts of community-based institutions
- Compensation that is provided by government for labourers who get infected and killed because of Silicosis was ensured for 33 families
- 499 medicinal plants were planted at village level with the support of Gram Panchayats.

Drinking Water and Sanitation

Issues of Water and Sanitation were integral part of Prayatn's intervention on health and nutrition. However, over last few years, looking at the attention that the issue requires, we have started taking it as a separate thematic area on its own. Our interventions in this regard include those related with related infrastructure development as well bringing behavioral change in the community.

Prayatn's Interventions on Water and Sanitation in 2021-22

Making Sapotara and Mandrail blocks of Karauli district Open Defecation free

In Year 2021-22, Prayatn's larger scale projects on Water and Sanitation one which covered Sapotara block while the other covered Mandrail block of Karauli district reached successful closure. Objectives of both the projects were to make the blocks Open Defecation Free (ODF) sustainable. It is important to note the aspiring district had been declared ODF but sustainability of this status was a challenge. To aid this, the projects have been initiated in saturation mode under which all the 300 villages (167 in Sapotara and 123 in Mandrail) and 315 schools (175 in Sapotara and 140 in Mandrail) were covered. In schools, focus was upon developing WASH infrastructure through repair and retrofitting of toilets and handwashing facilities and making children and SMC members aware of importance of hygienic practices like using toilets and maintaining hygiene in them and developing School WASH committees of children for the purpose. At community level, focus was upon bringing behavior change in the community on similar aspects to mass awareness campaigns, household contact and strengthening of Village Water Sanitation and Nutrition Committees (VWHSNCs). With outbreak of COVID pandemic, practices like proper way handwashing along with abidance to other norms were given more emphasis through handwashing demonstrations. Convergence with Swachh Bharat Mission and Jal Jeevan Mission of the Government of India were important components of this process.

Holistic Rural Development Project – Rayagada and Puri:

Ensuring tribal people's access to safe drinking water and sanitation practices was also among the thematic areas that were deeply focused under the Holistic Rural Development Programme, which was implemented by Prayatn in 15 villages of Rayagada district of Odisha and initiated in another 15 villages of Puri district of the same state during the year. Under this process while developing related rural infrastructure like repair of drinking water handpumps, installation of community overhead tank with RO system and Solar pumps (locally called Jal Minar), development of community bathrooms, etc. was heavily focused, development of community-based systems and mechanisms to manage the same and ensure their sustainability with the collection of user charges by committees formed by the community for the same was also focused equally. Capacity building of VWHNCs was important component of the same.

Addressing WASH as cross-cutting issue:

Across all the interventions of Prayatn, preparation of Village development micro-plan preparation and follow-up by community-based institutions is a common practice. Almost everywhere, issues related drinking water and sanitation, emerge as high priority issues. The community-based institutions are encouraged to resolve these issues through their collective efforts using innovative processes like Government community interfaces.

Addressing Sanitation issue as part of Village Development

Tilmapur village is about 200 years old, it is located at Cholahpur block of Varanasi, in Uttar Pradesh, which is 25 km from district headquarter and 10 km from village to block headquarter. There is a paved road to go to the village but there is no health center and post office. The distance of bus stand from the village is 5 km, this village is situated at around 3 to 4 km.

Before Prayatn started working in the village, the situation was unusual, there was discrimination among the people; abusing on small things, getting angry on their children, beating them, not paying attention to the education of children were normal in the village. There was no co-ordination between children and parents, people did not talk to each other about any problem, nor did they meet together, what are the children doing? the parents of the child did not pay attention on their child, many children intoxicated and used to teach small children to take drugs. The condition of women at the community level was pathetic. There was no work, women and children were beaten up and tortured by men after consuming intoxicants.

During the intervention of Prayatn from August 1, 2019, door to door contact was done in the village and information about the community was collected and their family status was assessed. During survey, a mapping program in the village was organized by meeting with the community, in which the children and the community were motivated and giving information about the formation of three organizations, giving the introduction of the project with consent of the members. Organizations were formed such as Child Protection Committee, Self Help Group and Children's Forum.

On 22-2-2021, village development planning was organized in Tilmapur village to identify and solve the issues of the village, in which the community people participated. Under village development plan, the vision map of the village was created with help of community and our team, then issues affecting the village were identified, in which various issues related to village came out, among them one issue was the problem drain, due to which the people of community had to face a big challenge during the rainy days. Water locking problem always remained in the village in rainy season. The water from the drain used to enter people's homes due to which the children also suffered and had difficulty in going to school, the children had stopped going to school in such a situation, the children were being deprived of education and due to the accumulation of dirty water in the village, the village people had to face major diseases like malaria fever etc. It was a very complex problem for the community. To solve this problem, an action plan was prepared at the time of village development plan, in which the responsibility of the people of the community and organization was given that, when and how we will solve this problem?

With consensus of the community and cooperation of our team, a proposal was prepared on 15-3-2021 and given to the village head and village secretary, in which it was assured by the village secretary that the problem would be solved within about a month, after follow-ups, within 10 days the construction work of that drain



Drain constructed in Tilmapur village

was started and the drain was made completely ready in 45 days.

The Child Protection Committee members say that now the water in village goes into the canal there is no water lock, the drainage system of the village is strong now. With the completion of the construction of the drain, our children will not have any problem in going to school and the people of the village will not have to face diseases like before, now we are very happy and we all village people express our gratitude to the Prayatn Sanstha as the organization and social workers like you made an effort to aware the people, there has been a big change in our life and a big change has come in our community and village.

Achievements

1. In 88 government schools, toilets have been repaired by the organization and handed over to SMC for management because of which more than 5000 school going children are getting benefitted.
2. In 5 government schools safe drinking water availability has been ensured through installation of RO system
3. Awareness campaign on making village Open Defecation free organized in 37 villages reaching out to about 1697 households
4. 3600 children who are members of School WASH committees formed in government schools have been trained on how they can contribute in generating awareness among children about health and hygiene and maintain hygiene in schools
5. 428 VHSNC members oriented about their roles and responsibilities under WASH related programmes of the government like Jal Jeewan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission
6. 2612 SMC members oriented about their roles and responsibilities in maintaining proper WASH facilities in schools
7. 3025 households across 300 villages witnessed changes in WASH related habits like filtering drinking water before use, using ladle for drawing water from pot, regular handwashing, use of toilets, etc.

Livelihood Development

Restrictions imposed by the central and state governments to control spread of COVID 19 resulted in severe economic losses to the major part of world population. Closure of factories, construction works, and most of other economic activities during lockdown resulted in an unprecedented reverse migration from cities to villages. But here too, the issue of livelihood haunted them because this inadequate livelihood only had pushed them to migrate to cities. The organization, in this situation, tried to provide maximum possible relief to them through livelihood development opportunities available under different projects as well as through linkage with corresponding schemes of the government. Both, farm as well as non-farm-based livelihood development opportunities were supported in this process:

Prayatn's Interventions on Livelihood Development in 2021-22

Holistic Rural Development Programme

Ultimate objective of the HRDP project in Rayagada Odisha is to eradicate poverty in tribal community. For this purpose, farm-based livelihood development was achieved through capacity building of farmers on modern and more productive techniques of agriculture, developing Agricultural Resource center at village level to support them in this process, developing clusters for rice and vegetable production, developing Farm Field schools, improving availability of water for irrigation with installation of lift irrigation system, organizing Buyer Seller Interface, etc. Non-farm-based livelihood development opportunities like goat rearing, pisciculture, poultry development and SHG development. The later also included skill development of youth on employable trades like tailoring, computer education, etc.

Moving Ahead Project

Dusk to Dawn was aimed at eradicating child labour and ensuring Child Protection in Dhaulpur district of Rajasthan. Since, the most important cause of child labour is poverty, providing alternative income source to the family that thrived on child's income was crucial. So, alternative livelihood development was provided under the project to families vulnerable to child labour. The support was provided through Self Help Groups and trades like buffalo rearing, goat rearing and petty shop keeping were supported in this process.

Sambal project

In Sambal project too, same model was followed. So, SHGs of women have been developed and their capacities have been built to enhance economic resilience of the families.

Combating Malnutrition through Livelihood Development

One of the root causes of malnutrition among tribal children is poverty of their families. Livelihood Development is a crucial means to address poverty. So, address malnutrition among children of Sahariya community, which is Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG), in Shahabad block of Baran district of Rajasthan, an intervention for farm and non-farm-based livelihood development has been initiated in January 2022. Under this project, focus is to increase income of the tribal farmers through sustainable agricultural development support and that of landless families by supporting development of alternative livelihood options. While the agriculture development support includes awareness building of farmers on better ways of crop cultivation through means like trainings, farm field school development. On-site support by agriculture experts and development of crop demonstrations in this process; making better seeds and equipment accessible to them through development of seed bank and agriculture tool bank; ensuring availability of better irrigation facility; better land and soil fertility

management, etc. Non -farm based livelihood development options promoted in this process include promotion of goat rearing, shop keeping, domestic flour mill establishment etc.

Convergence with Government Programmes and schemes.

During Lockdown, when we witnessed, reverse migration of migrant labourers to villages, we knew that providing ration kit and other immediate relief support for a few days but for long lasting solution, these workers need to be linked with some kind of livelihood. MGNREGA was the only source that was available to the landless and therefore, we, taking the local community-based institutions, together, made rigorous efforts to apply for job under the scheme. We also tried to link them with various social security schemes which were being run by the central and the state government.

A School without any building

Kandhamaligaon is a village located in Kampamaligaon Panchayat of Rayagada block of Rayagada district of Odisha. The village is inhabited by tribal people who depend upon agriculture for livelihood. The land in the region is undulating but still good for agriculture.

When Prayatn assessed the village before initiating its intervention, it was found that the farmers in the village were practicing traditional ways of agriculture because of which productivity as well as income from agriculture was low.

It was realized that farmers are not aware of modern and organic ways of farming which render better yield and that too in a nature friendly manner. From land treatment and sowing to proper irrigation, soil fertility management, pest control etc., their practices reflected their lack of awareness. Dependence on chemicals was high. Rice is the staple foodgrain in the region but farmers had never hear of techniques like System of Rice Intensification. Awareness about line sowing was also lacking. Also crop diversification was limited with less type of vegetables being grown.

When Prayatn team started intervening in the region, they introduced SRI in paddy cultivation. Organic farming was also introduced. Farmers were imparted training on better and organic ways and demonstration of the same was done in their own villages in which agriculture experts rendered on site guidance. When farmers witnessed improvement in paddy production without using chemical fertilizers, they started trusting the organization and their hesitation in modern ways reduced. Steps like development of Agricultural Tool Bank also helped them a lot.

To take the process of innovation further, the organization introduced the idea of developing Farm Field School in the village. When the idea was discussed with the farmers' group, 27 of them showed interest. A field where availability land and water for irrigation and area was about 18 acres, was identified and the farmers were oriented about



Farm Field School at Kandhamaligaon



On-site training of farmers at FFS

the entire process in detail. The agricultural experts visited the land and guided the farmers on regular basis. Vermi-compost pit and process of developing Vermi-compost as well as Amrit jal Sanjeebani and Amritjal Keetnashak was demonstrated to ensure that entire process is followed in organic way exclusively. Techniques like mile multiple cropping, nursery development, line sowing, inter-cropping, mulching, bed preparation, proper seed rate and distancing between plants, etc. were demonstrated.



Vermi-compost demonstration at FFS

As a result of the process, the farmers harvested a good production of vegetables like cabbage, tomato, cauliflower, brinjal etc. During the year, the farmers cultivated 44,768kg of vegetables from the Farm Field School which yielded market value of Rs 1,18,770. The quality of production drew attention of other farmers as well and they too are expressing interest in implementing similar ways in their own piece of land. Many of them, who used to migrate from the village seasonally, have decided to stay back and adopt these ways. In this manner, Farm Field School which is primarily a piece of land with no building, has turned into school of agricultural education which is leading to transforming the farming process being followed in the village in significant way.



Glimpses of Farm Field School at Kandhamaligaon village

Achievements

Farm based Livelihood Development

- 210 tribal farmers have been imparted advance training on high value crops
- Agriculture resource centers developed in 15 villages and enriched in another 15 villages through addition of more agriculture equipment and resource material in them. Around 400 farmers are visiting these centers monthly to take benefit from the same.
- Rs 96,575 collected as rent of equipment that is charged by the Agriculture Resource Center Committee from farmers taking the equipment. This amount will be used for maintenance of the ARC and its further enrichment.
- Because of Rice Production Cluster Development with the use of System of Rice intensification, 559 tribal farmers witnessed 30% increase in production and corresponding income with reduction in investment
- 411 farmers adopted System of Rice Intensification after seeing benefit of the same
- 302 farmers diversified cropping by adopting vegetable cultivation and increased their income through the same
- Buyer seller organized in Rayagada in which 19 buyers and 41 farmers took part. This resulted in opening new avenues for farmers for marketing their production and getting greater income.
- In 5 villages, Farm Field Schools have been developed. Through this, 123 farmers have been rendered on-site training on seed treatment, nursery development, bed preparation, line sowing, use of organic manure, weeding, etc.
- 50% of the farmers have switched over to organic farming because of awareness generation during the above processes.

Non-farm-based livelihood Development

- 100 women got benefitted through livelihood development loan support through the organization ranging from Rs 25,000 to Rs 40,000 for income generation activities like buffalo rearing, goatery, poultry, fishery and petty shop development.
- Another 491 women benefitted through the SHGs through internal loaning
- Veterinary health care camps have been organized in 15 villages through which 1496 animals of 194 farmers have been benefitted as they received vaccine, vitamin doses and other medicine as per need

Linkage with government schemes

- 8595 community members got job under MGNREGA while 125 got their job cards prepared
- 998 labourers in unorganized sector got their E-labour cards, 109 got their labour cards and 75 got their labour diaries prepared
- 1558 farmers were linked with Kisaan Samman Nidhi
- 197 persons were linked with old age pension while 70 linked with widow pension.

Natural Resource Management

Growing population requires more food, more water, more clothes to wear, more houses to live, more schools, more hospitals etc. As all of these come from natural resources and they are limited, pressure on the resources is increasing with population. Because of this, climate change is taking place which is a serious threat to life on earth. To prevent this and ensure sustainability of development, conservation of natural resources is necessary. At Prayatn, we therefore, lay high emphasis on conservation of natural resources. In particular, we focus upon, conservation of soil and water as sustainability of agriculture depends heavily upon it. As part of this process, we also promote organic farming. It is important to note here that even in the situation of emergency created by COVID pandemic, we did not dilute our attention from Natural Resource Management and Climate Change because we felt that we should not do so. Sustainability remains important even during emergency

Prayatn's Interventions on NRM and Climate in 2021-22

NRM as part of HRDP, Rayagada and Puri

Under Holistic Rural Development Programme being implemented in Rayagada in Odisha, strong emphasis on conservation of natural resources especially soil and water is being laid. This is being done through processes like construction/repair of water harvesting structures like ponds, check dams, loose boulder check dams, anicuts, land treatment, plantation, etc. Promotion of organic farming through capacity building of farmers on the same and support to them in the erection of compost pits, vermi-compost pits etc. is also a part of this process. Promotion of use of solar energy for powering water pumps and street lights is also being promoted under the project as a part of the process.

NRM under CMLD Project

Under the Combating Malnutrition through Livelihood Development project too, soil and water conservation activities like construction of water harvesting structures, land treatment, bunding, plantation, etc. are being promoted. Also, farmers are being encouraged to pursue organic farming and adopt natural and integrated ways of pest and disease management.

Achievements

1. 120 hectares of agricultural land has been treated through levelling and bunding and gully plug preparation because of which soil fertility and water have been conserved. At least 196 poor farmers have been benefitted in this process
2. 4 ponds have been renovated because of which 27 acres of land could be brought under irrigation. This has benefitted 40 farmers who are now in position to cultivate two crops in place of one over year.
3. An anicut has been renovated resulting in bringing 13 acres of land under irrigation. This has enabled 9 farmers to cultivate additional crop during the dry seasons
4. 50 loose boulder check dams have been erected resulting in conservation of fertile soil and water at the time of cultivation
5. 1262 farmers reduced use of chemicals in farming and have adopted organic farming with the use of compost or vermi-compost for soil fertility management and using natural ways of disease and pest management
6. 1751 plants have been planted in Rayagada and Dhaulpur to make better use of wasteland
7. 30 solar street lights have been installed in 15 villages to illuminate streets of remote villages during night and encourage use of renewable source of energy

Financial Progress



GOURISARIA GOYAL &
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

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PRAYATN SANSTHA

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CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31st MARCH 2022

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT (Rs.)		ASSETS	AMOUNT (Rs.)	
	2020-21	2021-22		2020-21	2021-22
Capital Funds			Fixed Assets:	20810518.00	21819595.00
Society Fund:	34043963.06	35223162.45			
Equipment Fund:	3335618.00	3434574.00	Investment's		
Gratuity Fund	2048812.00	2770239.00	Fixed deposit (FDR)	11731916.00	12286120.00
Building Fund:	3148557.00	3148557.00			
STEP Fee Reserve	35800.00	35800.00	Current Assets:		
Revolving Fund:	1586316.00	1586316.00	Grant Receivable		
-				1391883.51	2001765.88
Secured Loan	609535.12	405250.35	Gratuity	2048812.00	2409625.00
Current Liabilities			Security Deposit	10100.00	43000.00
Security Fund:	1132521.00	1043575.00	Loans & Advances	2282344.00	2472885.97
Unspent Grant	11226777.85	8998785.07			
Sundry Creditors	3993343.25	568599.00	TDS Receivable	190749.50	188934.00
TDS and PF Payable	527542.00	422120.00	TCS Receivable	11941.00	
			Cash & Bank Balance:		
				23210521.27	16415052.02
Total	61688785.28	57636977.87	Total	61688785.28	57636977.87

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01- 04-2021 TO 31 - 03 -2022

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT (Rs.)		INCOME	AMOUNT (Rs.)	
	2020-21	2021-22		2020-21	2021-22
Programme Expenses :			Grant in Aid		
FCRA	16357309.02	19876856.32	FCRA Grant	18307458.52	19393202.36
Non FCRA	69204265.51	53747359.48	Non FCRA Grant	63126555.55	49562012.06
Depreciation	356605.00	413551.00	Others Income		
Surplus Transfer to Society Fund	7687086.24	2006960.62	FCRA	0.00	279265.00
			Non FCRA	12171251.70	6810248.00
Total	93605265.77	76044727.42	Total	93605265.77	76044727.42

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01- 04-2021 TO 31 - 03 -2022

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT (Rs.)		PAYMENTS	AMOUNT (Rs.)	
	2020-21	2021-22		2020-21	2021-22
Opening Balance:			Programme Expenses:		
FCRA	2317549.07	4006785.91	FCRA	16738459.02	20148456.3
Non FCRA	26993785.77	19243074.36	Non FCRA	78119903.77	61469202.5
Grant in Aid			Closing Balance:		
FCRA	18307458.52	25025301.00	FCRA	4006785.91	9162895.59
Non FCRA	52999672.75	41669224.54	Non FCRA	19243074.36	7366243.43
Others Income					
FCRA	0.00	279265.00			
Non FCRA	17489756.95	7923147.00			
Total	118108223.06	98146797.81	Total	118108223.06	98146797.81

AS PER OUR SEPARATE REPORT OF EVEN DATE

For PRAYATN SANSTHA

For GOURISARIA GOYAL & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
F. R. N.: 016681C

(SECRETARY) (FINANCE MANAGER)

(CA. RAVI GUPTA)

Partner

Place: Jaipur

M.No 419994

Date: 11th June,
2022

Our Donors

Following international and national organizations funded our work during 2021-22. We are highly grateful to them and expect their continued support in future as well.



We also acknowledge support of our following benefactors who have partnered with us in past and have contributed in progress of Prayatn towards its vision and mission



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.





Department
for International
Development



Convergence

At Prayatn, we believe that civil society organizations need to act as helping hands to the government because government alone cannot reach out to every extreme of the society. In extra-ordinary situations, like the one created by the COVID pandemic, we need to travel extra-miles for this purpose. We have mentioned this in different thematic chapters but would like to summarize the same here for its better understanding.

Major Engagements of Prayatn with the Government during 2021-22

Continuing Childline Services with Ministry of Women and Child Development funds

Playing role of Collab organization while running emergency services of Childline has been one of the key operational engagements of Prayatn in which Government funds are involved. As detailed out earlier in this report, Prayatn is running a District Childline and two Child Help Desks at Railway Stations which are funded by Ministry of Women and Child Development via Childline India Foundation. The process requires close engagement with Ministry of Railways as well as entire Public Child Protection Machinery from District to local level.

Engagement with Child Protection Machinery in Bharatpur division of Rajasthan

This is being done as a part of Moving Ahead project which has been described earlier. Keeping the success of our engagement with Child Protection Machinery in Dhaulpur district of Rajasthan, we have moved a step ahead and are now engaging with similar machinery in three or more neighbouring districts so that entire division is developed as a model for child protection. This process includes capacity building of bodies ranging from Panchayat and Block level Child Protection Committees at local level to sensitization, strengthening and regular engagement support to district level bodies like District Child Protection Unit, Child Welfare Committee, Juvenile Justice Board, Special Juvenile Police Unit, Ant-Human Trafficking Unit, District level Task Force against Child Labour etc. We look forward to take this process to further level in strategic manner so that entire state becomes child labour free and child rights inclusive.

Support to Public Health Machinery

While describing our efforts on issue of health, we have explained that we extended short term as well as long infrastructural development support to grassroot level public health institutions like Anganwadis, Public Health Sub-centers, Public Health Centers, Community Health Centers and Malnutrition Treatment Centers. This, in short run, included providing them personal protection equipment for combating COVID pandemic, while in longer run, it included physical infrastructural development of these centers to make them safe, attractive and better equipped to deliver their services in qualitative manner. Capacity building of public health workers has also been an integral part of this process. Certain centers have come out as models because of this support. It is important to note even when lock down was imposed, we voluntarily approached to the local administration to extend support from our end and put all the resources that were available with us or were mobilized from our donors at their disposal so that better use of the same is made in well-coordinated manner.

Supporting Education Department

This year schools were closed for children for almost entire year and Education Department was struggling hard to reach out to children through technological means. We coordinated with the Education Department so that the online education content is shared with us and we shared the same

with our local Shiksha Mitras who were reaching out to children directly in small groups following COVID guidelines. So, significant part of children, who had no access to smartphones, televisions or radios were also reached out in regular manner. Infrastructural development support to government schools to make their campuses child friendly, modern and safe was another significant type of engagement that we made with education department in multiple states.

Engagement with Agricultural, Rural Development and other Departments

While working on the issue of livelihood development, we engaged closely with institutions like Krishi Vigyan Kendra so that their expertise is made accessible to the farmers. We took farmers to them for training and exposure. We also used measures like Government Community Interfaces that brought public servants, particularly those related with Panchayati Raj and Rural Development, close to the community. Because of such processes these public servants were able to extend reach of government programs to the communities which are most needy.

Our Team

Executive Committee members

Prayatn is registered under the Societies Registration Society. As such, it has a general body consisting of 15 members. This body has elected an executive committee whose members are as follows:

1. Mr. Hakim Manjhi, Chair Person, Ranchi, Jharkhand
2. Ms. Rajvinder Kaur, Vice- Chair Person, PACE, Lucknow
3. Mr. Malay Kumar, Secretary, Jaipur, Rajasthan
4. Mrs. Pinki Tanwar, Treasurer, Jaipur, Rajasthan
5. Ms. Kavita Sharma, Member, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
6. Ms. Tahira Bano, Member, Jaipur, Rajasthan
7. Mr. Surender Verma, Member, Jaipur, Rajasthan

Prayatn Staff

The total human resource serving Prayatn as on March 31, 2022 was 295 out of which 120 were females and 175 were males.

The major chunk of staff strength includes Community Organizers and Shiksha Mitras who work at grassroot level. They are generally graduates from the same community. They are guided by Assistant Project Officers/Block Coordinators, Project Officers, Thematic Experts, Field Office in-charges and Programme Director who are post graduates in related themes and/or have ample experience of the sector. Finance and administration related work is led by Finance Managers and they are supported by Accounts Officers, Administrators, Office Assistants, Drivers, Mess Cooks, etc. All of them work under the guidance of Chief Executive who is the Secretary in the Executive Committee.

Following table gives brief profile of our key staff members:

Name & Designation	Qualification	Experience	Association with Prayatn
Mr. Malay Kumar, Secretary cum Chief Executive	PGDRD, XISS – Ranchi	24 years of experience in development sector on issues like Child right and protection, Women’s right, Health, Good governance, Institution development and Networking, NRM, and Convergence	Founder member
Mr. Yogesh Jain, Program Manager	PGDRM, IIRM – Jaipur	15 years of experience in development sector on issues like Women and Child Rights, Research and Documentation, Networking and Advocacy, training and capacity building, vocational education and publication	Since September, 2005
Mr. Rampal Mali, Finance Manager	B. Com	22 years of experience in development sector on Accounts and Finance	Since April, 2008
Mr. Ramprasad Jangid, Monitoring Officer	B. A	40 years of experience in development sector on issues like Community organization building, Child right, Health and nutrition, livelihood development, Capacity building, Programme Monitoring, Documentation and Publication	Since Prayatn’s interception
Mr. Ram Khiladi Poswal,	M.A.	21 years of experience in development sector on issues like Community organization building, Child	Since January, 2002

Project officer and Member – Resource cell		Rights, Health and nutrition, Inclusive quality education, livelihood development, education and Capacity building. Member of state level resource group constituted by Save the Children and UNICEF on Child Protection	
Mr. Shiv Narayan Tiwari, Project Officer and Agriculture Expert	B.Sc. (Agriculture)	24 years of experience in development sector on issues like Community organization building, livelihood development, Training and Capacity building.	Since June, 2017
Mrs. Rajani Jain, Livelihood and Gender Expert	B.A.	18 years of experience in development sector on issues like women’s right, good governance, Health, networking and advocacy, Training and Capacity building, livelihood development, Research and documentation	Since September, 2003
Mr. Uday Upadhyay, Senior Project Manager	MBA	25 years of experience in corporate and development sector on aspects like rural development, agricultural marketing, social marketing, management, etc.	Since June 2020
Mr. Sundar Singh, Team Leader	M.A.	10 years of experience in development sector like community mobilization, child rights, women rights, child protection	Since September, 2010
Mr. Sonu Gaur, Education Expert	B.A. & B.Ed.	8 years of experience in development sector like community mobilization, child rights, women rights, child education, child protection	Since June, 2012
Mr. Manoj Suwalkya, Accounts Officer	M.Com.	7 years of experience in development sector on accounts and administration	Since January, 2014
Mr. Purna Mohapatra, Project Officer	M.S.W.	5 years of experience in development sector like health, education, community based institutional development, holistic development, etc.	Since June 2017
Mr. Midhun Kurien, Project Officer	M.A., B.Ed	7 years of experience in Development sector on issue of education	Since August 2020
Mrs. Leenu Thomas, Documentation Officer	B.Sc (Biotech.), Diploma in Counselling	5 years of experience in development sector especially in education, documentation, etc.	Since September 2020
Mrs. Reena Tyagi, Team Leader	B.A, GNM	11 years of experience in development sector on issues related child development, women empowerment, community based institutional development, health, convergence, etc.	Since April 2010
Mr. Sarnaam Singh, Team Leader	M.A., B.Ed	5 years of experience in development sector on issues like education, child protection, community based institutional development, etc.	Since January 2017
Mr. Hemraj Mehta, Assistant Project Officer	M.A. (Sociology)	7 years long experience in development sector on issues like food security, health, nutrition, child development, women empowerment, etc.	Since December 2013

Looking Ahead in 2022-23

Towards the end of 2021-22, we felt that COVID pandemic is getting under control. The Omicron variant that followed delta variant was found less deadly. But chances of further wave cannot be ruled. Experts feel that if any third wave of COVID is witnessed, it may be more dangerous for children who have not been affected much in the first two waves. So, we need to keep ourselves prepared for the same in a better manner and continue efforts to prevent the same.

While threats, as mentioned above, are being foreseen, we also look forward to certain opportunities that lie ahead for us. Because of COVID 19, migrant workers have been affected very severely. We look forward to engaging with them through the Community transformation Hub project, which is expected to begin in urban slums of three different cities – Jaipur in Rajasthan, Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh and Surat in Gujarat. The project, which will be funded by LIC Housing Finance Limited, will focus on ensuring education of children of migrant workers but is likely to impact other aspects of their life as well.

Partnership with Runaya, a company of Vedanta group for life skill education of adolescent girls, also seems to be an important opportunity. With this intervention which is being planned in Jharsuguda, we look forward to expand and intensify our intervention in Odisha. Expansion of HRDP project in Kolnara block of Rayagada is yet another opportunity that we look forward to in the same state.

2022-23 will mark 30th year of our existence. We look forward to celebrate this journey not only with joy but also with strengthening of our commitment to our cause of existence which is betterment of the communities that we serve.

Our Contact Details

Administrative Office

Prayatn Sanstha

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State and District-wise Field Offices:

Rajasthan

Baran:	Prayatn Sanstha, National Highway no. 27, Bypass, Shahabad, District- Baran, Rajasthan, Pin – 325217, Ph. 9351712255, 8290441671
Bharatpur:	Prayatn Sanstha, Ward No. 13, Gayatri Colony, Behind Tehsil, Katra, Nadabi, District. Bhartpur, Rajasthan, Pin – 321602, Ph. 9414028004
Dholpur:	Prayatn Sanstha, Sardar Dara Singh Nagar, Near Police Line, Sainpau Road, Dholpur, Rajasthan, Pin – 328001, Ph. 8107597852, 8003549218
Sikar:	Prayatn Sanstha, Shyam Pyare Kirana Store, Sitaram vali colony, Barsinghpura Road, Khandela, Sikar, Rajasthan, Pin – 332709, Ph. 9928962692
Karauli (Mandrail):	Prayatn Sanstha, New Colony Opp. Police Station, Mandrail, District- Karauli, Rajasthan – 322251, Ph. 7007900703, 9833143868
Karauli (Sapotara):	Prayatn Sanstha, Kanapura, Lakhon Petrol Pump ke Samne Vali Gali, Sapotara, District - Karauli, Rajasthan – 322218, Ph. 9116017676

Uttar Pradesh

Varanasi:	Prayatn Sanstha, H.No.30, Kashi Enclave, Near Benipur Road, Pahariya, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Pin – 221007, Ph. 9351712255, 8107597852
Chandauli:	Child Help Desk, Railway Plat Form No. 3, Near RPF Office, Pandit Deendayal Upadhayay Railway Station, District - Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh, Pin – 232101, Ph. 09532364633
Agra:	Prayatn Sanstha, Plot no. 22, Dwarka Green Phase – II, Lohta Mod, Gwalior Road, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India

Odisha

Rayagada:	Prayatn Sanstha, Opp. Jain Dharmashala, Lane-1 st , J. K. Puri Road, Kasturi Nagar, Rayagada, Odisha, Pin – 765001, Ph. 9559551119, 8858954015
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