ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

2017–2018

BAITARANI

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1. PREFACE

“Our mission is for the destitute, the poor and the illiterate peasantry and labouring classes and if after everything has been done for them first, there is spare time, then only for the gentry.”

- Swami Vivekanand

Located at Bhattasahi, a backward and benighted village in Keonjhar District in Orissa, BAITARANI is a women based and women-oriented NGO at grass-root level. The organization has been registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860, Government of Orissa, vide its Registration No. KJR-4616/92, dated 15th November 2003.

The genesis of the organization dates back to 2001-02. A group of village women under the leadership of Smt. Santilata Shi came out from the four walls of the domestic chores and wanted to do something for other needy and neglected women of the society. No doubt it was very difficult at a backward village reeling under grim illiteracy and the resultant social superstitions and religious dogmas. The resistance came from the male dominated society, but the women were desperate. Neither any obstacle nor any odd could dissuade the spirit of a group of sincere and dedicated women who got united and took a solemn vow to enlighten and empower other poor women and marginalized segment of the society. Their firm resolution was translated into action with the establishment of BAITARANI, a woman based and women regulated civil society in the year 2001-02 which was registered later under the S.R Act in 2003.

Thanks to the tenacious efforts of a group of village women, BAITARANI has already made its presence very much felt among the distressed, downtrodden and deserted women at the village Bhattasahi and its neighbouring area. The organization stands poised to go forward with its lofty mission of helping the helpless women and other poor people in the coming years.
2. VISION & IDEOLOGY OF BAITARANI

BAITARANI believes in the equality and justice of all human beings cutting across the barrier of caste, creed, clan and gender. It visualizes a social order in which women will not be exploited and they will enjoy all equal rights and privileges with their male counterparts in society and also women will have joint partnership with the male in the development process.

MISSION OF BAITARANI

The mission of BAITARANI is to cause sustainable development to the poor and marginalized groups with a prime focus on the distressed, dalits and downtrodden women and neglected children.

3. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

In a nutshell BAITARANI aims at fulfilling the following objectives:

- To spread literacy and education both formal and non-formal among the illiterate and ignorant people.
- To organize the rural women belonging to SC, ST and other backward communities against all types of atrocities, tortures, injustices, discrimination and exploitation and help them in all possible ways to have proper legal protection.
- To take up different poverty alleviation programmes for the removal of crushing poverty at different backward villages in Orissa.
- To cause socio-economic empowerment of the poor and marginalized groups with a prime focus on the distressed and downtrodden women through micro-finance.
- To form self-help groups among the poor women and generate savings among them.
- To achieve self-reliance of the poor and vulnerable segment of the society with a prime attention on the distressed and downtrodden women through micro-finance.
- To conduct different vocational training programmes and create employment opportunities for the unemployed youths belonging to low socio-economic condition with a prime attention on the distressed and deserted women.
- To optimize the productivity in agriculture, pisci culture and its allied activities in the rural area thereby maximizing the income level of the poverty-stricken farmers and fishermen.
through the dissemination of science-based, need-based and result-oriented technologies among the backward peasantry and fishing communities.

- To develop horticulture in the rural area for the economic betterment of the poor farmers.
- To undertake different community development programmes in backward villages including arrangement for low cost housing, construction of village roads, safe drinking water and sanitation.
- To organize different community based health care programmes in the backward villages with a view to bringing a lasting improvement in the health, hygiene and sanitary condition of the poor villagers.
- To undertake Integrated Child Development Programme, Reproductive Health-Care Programme, Mother & Child-Care Programme, Nutrition Promotion Programme, Family Planning & Welfare Programmes in the backward villages.
- To take up AIDS Prevention Programmes.
- To organize Waste Land Development and Social Forestry Programmes.
- To improve the environment and ecology in the rural area by taking up different environmental protection programmes.
- To organize relief and rescue programmes during the period of natural calamity.

4. ORGANISATIONAL SET-UP & STRUCTURE

BAITARANI is governed, managed and controlled by an Executive Committee consisting of 7 members including 5 office bearers. The members of the Executive Committee are elected from among the general members for a period of 5 (Five) years. The Executive Committee, the main decision making platform of the organization is represented mainly by the SC & ST women from villages. Any important decision is taken unanimously in the meeting of the Executive Committee as per democratic norm. Besides, there is a General Body represented by 09 (Nine) members.

The Executive Committee sometimes forms different Monitoring Cells & Bodies for supervision of different projects and activities. There is also an Advisory Committee consisting of 10 reputed and retired personals to provide the valuable advices and suggestions at the time of need. There are also different staff for different projects.
5. ORGANOGRAM OF BAITARANI

GENERAL BODY

GOVERNING BODY

PRESIDENT

VICE-PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

TREASURER

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

FIELD WORKERS

BENEFICIARIES
6. OFFICE BEARERS

a) Smt. Susmita Mishra  -  President
b) Smt. Debaki Mundar i -  Vice-President
c) Smt. Santilata Shi   -  Secretary
d) Smt. Basanti Patra   -  Asst. Secretary
e) Smt. Samita Das      -  Treasurer

7. AREA OF OPERATION

The area of operation of Baitarani is all over the geographical jurisdiction of Keonjhar district of Odisha which may likely to be extended in course of time as per the need and demand of the people. But for the time being, the organization is working in Sundargarh and Keonjhar district of Odisha.

8. TARGET GROUPS

Poor and marginalized groups with a prime focus on tribal, distressed and downtrodden women, needy and neglected children are the target groups of Baitarani.
9. A BRIEF RESUME OF ACTIVITIES

2017-18

1. Consumer Awareness Camp

A Consumer Awareness Camp was organised on 28th March 2018 by Baitarani in Bhubanananda Public School of Padmapur, Keonjhar with the support of the Asst. Controller, Legal Metrology, Keonjhar. There were 100 nos. of participants of SHG leaders, PRI members, students and general public from near by villages attended the programme.

The Asst. Controller, Legal Metrology, Keonjhar prised over the meeting, explained how the customers are being exploited during purchasing goods in their day to day life. The demonstration class was also taken by him for better understanding of the participants. The Senior Inspector of legal metrology was disseminated the information and leaflets were distributed.

2. Access To Free Medicine Campaign On Niramay Yojana

Baitarani have organized 10 meetings on Nirmaya Yojana in Kendujhar Sadar and Telkoi block with the financial support of WOSCA, Keonjhar. Total 598 people aware about and they have assured to replicate the Yojana to within and nearby villages. They got the knowledge about the expenditure towards medicine which will be reduced and the same amount may be utilized for their day to day other needs.
People realized about the free medicine scheme and became aware and right to demand free medicine at Govt. hospitals. During all the meetings a few numbers of participants argued about the free medicine that it is not working properly and immediately rather than branded medicine. They told that they have never used free medicine; we advise use and see the effect of the medicine.

3. **Niramay Yojana Meeting With GKS**

During the year **Baitarani** also organised 4nos. of GKS meetings in different villages of Sadar Block, Keonjhar with the support of OXFAM-INDIA, Bhubaneswar aiming to access the people for free medicine from any Govt, hospital in Niramaya Yojana scheme. The topic was discussed on the reasons that cause the people suffering from diseases and the expenditures incurred for the patients by the family.

Information were disseminated on Nirmaya Yojana and told about all the benefits that should be provided to the patients from all Govt. hospitals. On the other hand people are ignorant all about the system towards getting medicine and demanding to the doctors for free medicines. As a result they spend a huge amount of money from their own pockets towards bribe to the doctors and the assistants for better care and early recovery of their patients. So they were taught how to demand free medicines for all types of diseases and in any case they buy the medicines from outside also submit the bill to the hospital and demand the cost to get back.
4. Youth Festival Programme

On the eve of celebrating the fortnight on the theme of "Campaign Against Women Violence", a programme was organised by Baitarani on 13th December 2017 at Pateswar Mahavidyalaya, Suakati with the support of OXFAM-INDIA. Hon'ble Principal was presided the meeting and all the staff & 300 nos students participated. The secretary of Baitarani addressed various violence that are being done with the women and taking it as a great challenge today for the women society.

The Principal delivered his speech by giving examples regarding the honour to the women in epics & ethics and the violence against them as well. Then Smt. Bhanumati Pani, the Resource Person from OXFAM INDIA, Bhubaneswar explained the position of women in present societies. In the meetings she told about the violence that are being occurred in day to day activities, harassments in domestic, workplace, offices and even in travelling. Women participants shared their problems that faced in the society and discussed the findings for solution and leaflets were distributed among the participants and the Principal conducted a mass oath & audio visuals (part of films) was showed relating to the various violence that face a woman somewhere in its daily life. Then Mrs. Pani discussed on the legal part of the violence regarding the provisions, punishments and compensations concerned with the matter and also explained how to provide moral support and escort to a victim.
5. Bano Nayee Soch Campaign

Baitaranı has conducted a Gender Sensitisation Programme in Gumura village of Sadar Block, Keonjhar on 14th December where the Ward Member was presided the same and AWW, ASHA, SHG members, PRI members were attended along with 200 nos. of villagers. Resource Person from OXFAM INDIA, Bhubaneswar explained the position of women in present societies.

In the meetings she told about the violence that are being occurred in day to day activities, harassments in domestic, workplace, offices and even in travelling. Women participants shared their problems that faced in the society and discussed the findings for solution. The Ward Member conducted a mass oath and others followed her & also showed audio visuals (part of films) relating to the various violence that face a woman somewhere in its daily life. Women participants shared their problems that faced in the society and discussed the findings for solution and at last leaflets were distributed among the participants.

6. Pre-Activities on RTE for Organising Ground Level Panel

In order to promote the improvement in enrolments and reduction of dropouts, BAITARANI has taken an initiative by organising cluster level meetings and FGDs with the tribal communities of various villages in Keonjhar and Dhenkanal district in a collaboration effort with SRUTI, Dhenkanal. Total 13 nos. community & students meetings were conducted during the report year under the technical support of OXFAM INDIA and financial support of PRAXIS, New Delhi.
SMC is strengthening by providing orientation trainings and giving stress on Tribal Sub Plan budget. It focused on the enforcement of 12(1) C act and aims to organise a Ground Level Panel that consisting of different types of personnel such as students, guardians, SMC members, Rtd. teachers, lawyers, social activists and community leaders etc. The panel not only work as a coordination committee, but also keep touch to the MDM quality, sanitation and environment and caste discrimination in the schools.

7. Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Study

With the support of State SIA Unit, NCDS, Bhubaneswar, BAITARANI has conducted a Social Impact Assessment study of land acquisition for construction of Talcher-Bimalagarh New Broad Gague Rail Link project in 2 nos. of villages (Nischintapura & Babehudi) in Lahunipada Tahasil of Sundargarh district. The study comprises of data collection & social mapping in participatory method, estimation of socio economic and cultural profile of effected and displaced families, assessment of nature, extent and intensity of positive and negative social impacts of the project by using cost-benefit analysis method, preparation of Social Impact Management Plan (SIMP), preparation of draft SIA report in local language, organise Public Hearings with video recordings etc.
8. Vocational Training Programme

The main objective of this programme is to give a self-sustaining footing to the distressed, deserted and down-trodden women living at different backward villages in Keonjhar district in Odisha. However, the details of the programme conducted by Baitarani in Keonjhar district in Odisha have been given below in a tabular form:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Name of the trade</th>
<th>No. of Trainees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tailoring</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Beauty Culture</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Vegetable Cultivation</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Observation of National Days

The organization has observed the Independence Day & Republic Day with its General Body, guests invited and office staff. Song competition was made among the students and awarded prizes to winners. World TB Day was observed with District administration and health department of Kendujhar. On Children's Day (14th November), Gandhi and Shastri Jayanti (2nd October). Essay and Debate competitions were held among school children by the organization.

10. World Consumer Rights Day – 2018

World Consumer Rights Day was observed by BAITARANI on 15th March 2018 at Rotary Bhawan, Keonjhar under the chairmanship of hon'ble ADM, Keonjhar with the Support of ACLM, Keonjhar where 150 nos. of participants were present in discussion and shared their experiences. The ACLM and other dignitaries from the Dist. Consumer Forum explained the right way of purchasing goods with a
minimum knowledge and bargaining power. Then it was discussed the legal provisions of law and the participants have been oriented how to lodge complain at sub division and district level respectively regarding any suspect or cheating. An exercise was carried out by the participants for their practice and future needs. The selected 8 nos. of students from the previous competition were awarded by the hon’ble ADM & other guests with the certificate & prizes.

11. **Essay & Quiz Competition on Consumer Protection**

BAITARANI has organised a district level essay & quiz competition on consumer protection on 8th March 2018 at Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir, Kendujhargarh. The programme was supported by the Asst. Controller, Legal Metrology, Keonjhar where 70 nos. of students from different schools have participated.

The Senior Inspector of legal metrology was dissaminated the information and leaflets were distributed. The students were also shared their experiences regarding purchase of goods from the market. They were advised to be alert and purchase the things even medicines with bargaining.