

DHULAGORI MAHILA SAMITY

Estd:1972 ;Regd.No: S/18321

Vill.& P.O. --Dhulagori,Dist :Howrah -711302,West Bengal (India)

Ph.No: 9903971380 & 8272981321

41th
Annual
Report

2014-2015

2014-

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Dhulagori
Mahila
Samity

2015

Managing Committee;Introduction of Dhulagori Mahila Samity;
the various types of work done by the Samity in the year 2013-
2014 including important aspects like Tuberculosis & HIV/AIDS
under its Health Program ; tailoring and knitting training &
production units under its Women Empowerment & Income
Generation Program etc.

Towards Better
Development.....

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41th ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2014-2015

Dhulagori Mahila Samity was founded on the 2nd of October, 1972. As we all know the 2nd of October is also the birth date of the Father of the Indian Nation, Mahatma Gandhi who believed that the most deserving and able people lived in rural India. He has sacrificed a lot for the development of the villages. Following in his footsteps and keeping rural India in mind, Dhulagori Mahila Samity was established.

Dhulagori Mahila Samity is situated in an underdeveloped SC/ST/OBC area of the Sankrail Block, in the District of Howrah in West Bengal. A vast majority of the population is illiterate especially in the SC/ST/OBC categories. It has been the aim of the Dhulagori Mahila Samity to develop these areas in the district of the Howrah and today most of these places could be called as urbanised. However it is hardly possible for us to go further ahead due to our severe financial constraints at present. We would hope that it is possible for DMS to arrange Grant-in-Aid from donor agencies for the Welfare Programs.

1. ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME:

(i) Low Cost Sanitary Latrines

There has been good response in the matter of low cost latrines in the villages in over five blocks of the District of Howrah. On its own initiative, the Organization has installed 900 such latrines in the aforesaid blocks after motivating users to enjoy the subsidy provided by the local government. It was quite an effort to get these 900 families to change their age old unhealthy habits of using open fields and railway tracks.

(ii) Improved Smokeless Chullah:

The program has made an impact in the villages by way of pollution free environment, saving firewood at the time of cooking. This has created a great demand for the smokeless chullah in the villages which are yet to be covered. This program was carried out this year in the Sankrail, Panchla, J.B.Pur, Amta I & II blocks.

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(iii) A FORESTATION:

This year, 20 programs were conducted to protect environment through planting of trees and plants (forestation) ,in the Sankrail ,Amta I & II and J.B.Pur blocks.

With a partial support from the Forest Department , Government of West Bengal ,we have been able to procure a variety of 4000 saplings like Mahogany ,Sal ,Teak, Gummer, Coconut etc. In order to re-enforce ponds and even roadways from the effects of erosion. We have distributed saplings throughout the year have also distributed them through our sister organization. This will go a long way in providing a pollution free environment and creating some costly assets for the society.

2. CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM:

This year two Balawadis (crèche) have been functioning like the previous years at greater villages of Dhulagori with 45 children in each ,with the help of mothers, teachers and helpers. Most of the parents belong to the poor SC/ST and other backward classes. The children aging from a few months to five years (0-5 year) are given pre -school education ,health care and health check up ,supplementary nutrition ,etc. All these services are rendered free of cost .The Organization has also been running a NCLP (National Child Labour Project) school under the Central Government of India , since 2010. 50 children are currently enrolled in this school and attend classes each day .These children belong to the working classes who live nearby and have been rescued from various factories in and free mid- day meal and are later enrolled into the local Government run schools. Dedicated teachers take their tasks seriously and teach these children not only the basics in all primary school subjects but also in hygiene and self cleanliness.

3. PISCICULTURE:

Trained women of some of the Dhulagori villages were provided with two ponds covering about four acres of water in order to be able to cultivate fish with some technical help from the Fisheries Department ,Government of West Bengal . This provided part time employment to all the women involved besides earning revenue for the Organisation .This revenue in turn helped us to take up other welfare activities like marriages, grants, book distribution in deserving cases.

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4. AWARENESS SEMINER PROGRAMS

Dhulagori Mahila Samity organised 200 Awareness Camps in the year 2014-2015 in the following blocks – Sankrail ,Amta I & II ,J.B .Pur ,Panchla ,Domjur and Uluberia I& II in the Howrah District. Six Bank Managers and five Officers participated in the Self –Help Awareness Camps.10000 women also participated in these camps.

The Mahila Samity arranged 100 Seminars in the year 2014-2015 at Sankrail ,Amta I & II,J.B .Pur, Panchla ,Domjur and Uluberia I & II in the District of Howrah.The Seminars included topics like users' course for the Smokeless Chullahs and the usefulness of this environment friendly equipment .About 12000 people participated in these Seminars.

Dhulagori Mahila Samity also organised Low Cost Sanitary Awareness programs, Pulse Polio Programs, HIV/AIDS & TB Awareness programs ,Plantation programs as well as Lok Adalat Awareness Camps etc. 2500 (Two thousand and five hundred) men and women participated .Some Experts & Lawyers of the Calcutta High Court participated in these programs.

The Samity also organised Awareness Camps for DOTS in co ordination with CBCI Card.

5. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT & INCOME GENERATION

The Organisation is running a Tailoring and Knitting Unit in which the local women from BPL families are trained in the trades. They produce garments which are sold by women leaders from various S.H.G.s the Organisation helps in the training, procuring of raw materials as well as marketing. A beautician training course is also being conducted at the Organisation premises at Dhulagori .This program is being sponsored by Pepsi Co India Holdings Pvt. Ltd. ,which has its Frito Lays Division at Dhulagori .Batches of 25 ladies are being trained in beauty treatment techniques and are expected to benefit from this course. About 60 other women are benefitting from the Tailoring and Knitting Unit.

Another project has been started under the sponsorship of Pepsi Co India Holdings Pvt. Ltd. , which has its Frito Lays Division at Dhulagori ,on Jute Product Training where 2 batches of 25 ladies are currently being trained under this program in Jute handmade products.

It is to be noted that this program has generated some revenue for the Organisation and the same is being used to support other programs in Sports and Culture etc.

6. GAMES & SPORTS

Sports Day of Dhulagori Mahila Samity was held on the 14th of November,2014 as is the trend each year . Some of the local schools and clubs participated in this event on this auspicious day. The Organisation helped 15 of the local clubs to purchase playing materials like footballs, volleyballs, cricket materials etc.

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7. TUBERCULOSIS (GFR-9,AXSHYA) PROJECT

Dhulagori Mahila Samity implemented, like previous years, a Tuberculosis ACSM Project (AXSHYA Project –Global Fund Round 9) in collaboration with District Tuberculosis Unit .Govt.Of west Bengal ,Howrah in 3 BLOCKS : Sankrail, Panchla ,& Domjur ,J.B .Pur. The project is funded by Catholic Bishops Conference of India (CBCI-CARD). The project aims to generate awareness about all aspects of Tuberculosis (Symptoms, Treatment & Care) and acts as a catalyst for more 'early identification' ' more 'treatment adherence' and greater TB related 'stigma-free ' society.

In this year the organisation has organized 100 TB awareness camps with various VHSCs/PRI/SHGs/CBOs in our operational blocks directly covering around 3000 persons. Through these camps and household survey our volunteers have referred 87 suspected patients with TB symptoms for smear testing (TB identification) in various Govt. DMCs on which 20 new Tuberculosis cases have been identified . The treatments of identified new TB cases are also closely followed up by the organisation 's volunteers apart from the Govt. appointed DOT providers and will complete their respective treatment courses in the coming months.

The organisation also conducted 15 Mid – Media activities (Wall Painting) on Tuberculosis in the operational blocks . It also participated in observation of World Tuberculosis Day on 24th March and World AIDS Day on 1st December for mass community awareness on Tuberculosis. The organisation had also maintained its active participation in district level TB Forum.

8. HIV/AIDS PROGRAM

Dhulagori Mahila Samity has been involved in organizing HIV/AIDS awareness camps for several years now. Like each year ,the camps were organized in order to prevent HIV/AIDS. At these camps apart from distributing condoms, the Organisation also organised street plays to enhance awareness which covered other subjects like social responsibilities and social stigma suffered by persons carrying the HIV germs .Dhulagori Mahila Samity also arranged GD/FGD for the community people (MSMs, Transgender, FSWs, Truck Drivers, and Migrant Labours etc) .The Organisation provided support for the PLWHA (People Living with HIV/AIDS).Apart from all this ,ICTC (Integrated Counselling and Test Camps)Test Awareness Camps were organized throughout the Howrah District covering mostly all the blocks.

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9. OTHER VITAL PROGRAMS

Dhulagori Mahila Samity had organized other very vital programs throughout the year some of the programs were as follows:

- **Free Medical Treatment;**
- **Education of Street Children ,Child Labourers and School Dropouts;**
- **Colored Fish Program;**
- **Mushroom Production**
- **Production cum Training Program**
- **SHG Program;**
- **DOTs Program;**
- **Skill Development Program.**

10. PROJECTS SUBMITTED

The Organisation has successfully submitted some Projects to the International Funding Agency, 'Save the Children' on 'Intervention Project on Adolescent S.R.H and Alternative Livelihood and is awaiting approval.

Project 'Swawlamban' has been submitted to the District Social Welfare Officer of the Government of West Bengal as per the directions given. This Project has been approved.

Negotiations have been initiated with other International NGOs like 'Handicap International' for a project on 'Aged People's Home'.