

NEWSLETTER- MARCH 2023

International Women's Day: On 8th March, SIGN celebrated International Women's Day in Hazaribagh, Gumla, Dokapat, Ranchi, and Khunti. Under the leadership of Sr. Anna Xalxo, SJT, about 300 Asur women gathered at the School campus of RC Primary School, Dokapat. Women had dance competition and Diocesan Administrator Fr. Linus Pingal Ekka encouraged the women by his presence at Dokapat, whereas 60 women gathered at Loyotanr village of Kathkamsandi block in Hazaribagh district. Mrs. Kunwari Baxla, the Panchayat head was the Chief Guest. Mrs. Monica Soren, Mrs. Pyari Marandi, and Mrs. Pyari Tirkey, leaders of women Self Help Groups were the guest of honor. On this occasion Fr. Prabal Xaxa, the Assistant Director, Jan Vikas



Kendra, Hazaribagh, Mr. Sukhram Toppo, the Project Coordinator and Mr. Walter Zaphed Kerketta, the Coordinator of SIGN were special invitees. They started with an ice breaking games. After that the chief Guest highlighted Five different types of women empowerment work done in the block and few achievements made by the women during the year. Women took resolution a) to send all the girl children of their respective villages to the school and b) to grow vegetable at their backyard and not to buy vegetable from the market. At the end everybody danced and with happy heart departed to their respective villages. Under the leadership of Elias Surin 55 members of SHGs gathered at Semra toli to celebrate Women's day for the first time. Under the leadership of Nirmala Tirkey and Juliana Tuti 195 women came from five villages at Lali Jara toli, whereas 70 women gathered at Konsa village and celebrated International women's day.



International Day of Forest: At the premises of St. John Mary Vianney Middle School,



Chandro and Amar Jyoti School for the Blind, Chandro, SIGN, with the support of "Young Indians", organized International day of Forest, on 21st March. About 600 Children, from small to big, from both the school came out on the road with placards on their hands shouting slogans "isM+ yxkvks, isM+ cpkvks", ge lous Bkuk gS]

Ik; kZoj .k cpkuk gS". It was wonderful sight to see. Principal, staff of the school, authorities from SIGN and Young Indians as well as staff from local Thana joined the rally. After the rally, children performed stage show, where they spoke about importance of trees in our life. They also staged one-act-play highlighting the ill effect of deforestation. Students from the blind school sang a heart touching song on forest protection. After the stage program everybody went for planting the trees. 100 mangoes and lichi saplings were planted in the camps of both the schools.

Lac Cultivation Training: In order to increase family income of the farmers of 5 districts viz. Ranchi, Gumla, Khunti, Hazaribagh and Simdega, two days each Lac Cultivation training was organized by SIGN at five different locations. The training was conducted by Balajee Mishra and Sonalal Mahali. Altogether 125 participants learnt the technique to cultivate lac in their respective places.



the resource person dealt following topics during the training: Scientific method of Lac cultivation, types of lac, when to take lac crop, time to have

insertion of lac and season for harvesting. He talked about suitable trees for lac cultivation.

Then he talked about the process of lac cultivation beginning with pruning trees, lac treatment, insertion of lac, removing funki, insecticide/fungicide spraying, harvesting, division process and removing lac from branches. He taught the participants the reason for pruning the trees for lac cultivation.



Steps of Cultivation of lac, major function of lac culture, and stages of lac cultivation. Participants enhanced their knowledge on lac cultivation and agreed to do lac cultivation in their respective places.

Workshop on Safeguarding: SIGN organized two days' workshop on Safeguarding for the partner organization. 27 participants from 8 organization participated in the workshop. In



the workshop following topics were discussed: What is safeguarding, difference between Safeguarding and Protection, Key concepts on Safeguarding, why Safeguarding is required in our institution, consequences of breaching

Safeguarding policy, why exploitation takes place in the society and what are the abuse and

prohibited behaviours organization should take care. Then Safeguarding Framework and the Safeguarding policies required for our organizations. Participants expressed the need to have safeguarding policy in every organization and Institution. With the resolution of sharing this knowledge with their colleague in their respective organization, participants went back to their organization.

Agriculture Training: Under Tribal Sub-Plan, one-day Agriculture training program was



organized by Birsa Agriculture University at the Conference Hall of Directorate of Seed and Farms. Dr. Onkar Nath Singh, the Vice Chancellor of Birsa Agriculture University was the Chief Guest, who spoke about the importance of seed in the life of a farmer. Dr. Sambhunath Karmakar, Director Seed & Farm, welcomed all the guest and thanked Dr. O.N.

Singh, VC, BAU and Fr. Bipin Pani, Director, SIGN for their presence. Fr. Bipin Pani, the Director of Social Initiatives for Growth and Networking (SIGN), thanked all the authorities of Birsa Agriculture University for their support to the farmers and exhorted all the farmers to take benefit for the opportunities coming on their way. Er. D.K. Rusia, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture Engineering talked about the different stages of Seeds and how to preserve seeds. At the end all the 50 participating farmers were given one sprayer each. Thanks to Walter, the Coordinator SIGN and Dr. Ravi Kumar, Junior Scientist-cum-Assistant Professor, who organized this program for the benefit of the farmers from Khunti and Ranchi districts.

