

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2023

Training on Participatory Rural Appraisal: SIGN organized a training on Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) from 3rd November to 6th November at Jharna Spirituality Centre,



Namkum, Ranchi for four Diocesan Partners Viz. Catholic Charities, Jamshedpur, Jan Vikas Kendra, Hazaribagh, Vikas Kendra, Simdega and Samaj Vikas Sansthan, Chandwa together with two members each from five Faith Based Organization viz. Chabijhan, Sitara, Gumla, Medical Sisters of Francis Assisi, Ramgarh, Asha Seva Kendra, Gomia, and Religious of the Assumption, Piriyaonch. 29 participants participated in the training. The training was conducted with the participatory

methodology. The facilitator built on participants' level of knowledge by seeking their views and opinions on various issues. Plenary discussions, group discussions, exercises and field visits were used to explore and develop understand and learning on data collection and analysis of it. Mr. Khilesh Chaturvedi, a renowned Resource person dealt following agenda for the training; Concept of PRA, when is PRA Done in the process of Development, Principles of PRA, PRA Methods and Exercises, How to select the PRA exercises to be done, Selection of PRA exercise, Practical exercise on PRA in the



village, Plan of action by groups on the PRA to be done in their respective fields. PRA is a *methodology* for interacting with villagers in order to seek their perceptions and thinking, *understanding* them and *learning* from them. He said that good PRA is about empowering.

He emphasized that "We" are not teachers or transferors of technology, but instead conveners, catalysts, and

facilitators. We have to unlearn, and put our knowledge, ideas and categories in second place to learn from the villagers. Our role, in PRA activities, is to enable local people to

do their own investigations, analysis, presentations, planning and action, to own the outcome, and to teach us, sharing their knowledge. Then he said that the Principle of



PRA is “Optimal ignorance, and appropriate imprecision”, “de-learning to learn”, “Listening and learning - asking more and more open-ended questions”. Then he gave a list of PRA methods. Then participants were asked to conduct different PRA methods to collect information from the villagers. Participants conducted following PRA methods. Almost every group was comfortable with Social Mapping, Resource Mapping.

The resource person taught the group about the Expenditure and Income Analysis, Wealth ranking, Mobility mapping, Safety mapping, Daily Schedule, Time trend and Historical Profile. On the third day participants were divided into two groups and were sent to Villages under the guidance of the Resource Person. It was a good learning for all the participants.

Football Match: In the month of November SIGN organized One-Day Football tournaments in four districts Viz. Ranchi, Lohardaga, Gumla, and Garwah. On 14th October football tournament was organized at St. Livens Unch Vidhayalaya, Tamra, where 10 teams participated and Football team from Bindhaintoli became the Champion of the tournament. On 6th November, football tournament was organized at Itki, Ranchi, where 6 teams participated and Football team from Semra became the Champion of the tournament. On 20th November football tournament



was organized at Lohardaga, where 14 teams participated in the tournament. Jingi Football club became the champion of the tournament. On 27th November Football tournament was organized at St. Joseph Church. Bistrampur, Garwah. Seven teams participated in the tournament. 22 Plot won the tournament by defeating Jhumeleva Football Club by 1-0.



These football tournaments were organized among the tribal youth. The purpose of all these football tournament was to promote unity, equality, cooperation, caring and sharing among the tribals.

Dance Competition: As young tribal are slowly forgetting the art of playing tribal instruments, and use of different tribal songs in different seasons, SIGN organized Tribal Song and Dance competition in two districts to promote, preserve and protect the art of tribal song and dance. On 23rd November one-day tribal singing and dancing competition was organized at Dighiya Parish, where seven teams participated in the competition. Team from Patrachoauli won the first prize, whereas team from Dighiya and team from Kurkuria won the second and



third prize successively. On 24th November one-day tribal singing and dancing competition was organized at Bagha Village, where seven teams from Navatoli, Bagha, Simpur, Ene, Nagada, Kuru, Hirhi and Nini participated in the competition. In dance competition Bagha won the first prize, whereas in singing competition Simpur won the first prize. Competition of tribal song and dance was organized, as present day's youth are more attracted towards DJ sound system and the art of playing Mandar, Nagada is slowly vanishing from tribal community. It is a good beginning.



Annual Review Meeting: Annual Review Meeting of the project 'Child Health Improvement & Adolescent Empowerment' held on 27th of November at SDC Ranchi. Fr Bipin Pani, the Director SIGN presided over the meeting. Entire project team, starting from Chief Project Executor to Community Mobilizers, were presented for review on the final quarter of the



second year. In his keynote address, the Chief Project Executor, appreciating the project staff for their efforts, said that their effort brought change in the remote places of the project. Women have realised the importance of immunization. They are aware of immunization schedule and visiting VHSND centres. He also said that we have come a long way in Mother & Child health Care program, now we need to start focusing on the Adolescents. After this, Project Coordinator, presented Key Observation with feedbacks & input

to conduct situational analysis. Observation clearly said that community linkages with the Government Health Department, at the block levels, are strengthened. the scope of sharing knowledge on Adolescents to Adolescent girls is expanded, which was limited to ARSH (Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health). Now they are aware of child labour, ill effect of early marriage, carrier building etc. Finally, tools, like a Daily Schedule, task analysis, time trend and the institutional analysis, were used to teach the project staff to conducting Situational Assessment.