

AGRAGAMEE

ANNUAL REPORT

2014-15







Director's Note

During the year 2014-15, Agramee basically focused on two aspects – a) Development of Eco-villages and b) Helping the Communities to access Information on Government Schemes. The concept and practice of developing Eco-villages are very intensive interventions within the village to utilise the Natural Resources like Land, Water, Forest, Bio-diversity and other Environmental Resources. The Eco-village development has two components – i) Development of Family Farms and ii) Development of Village Commons. It is expected that each Family Farm will generate Food and Livelihood Securities for the family round the year. All the family Farms are located in ran-fed areas but some of them have irrigation. We have tried to ensure irrigation by following various methods like Lift Irrigation, Pitcher Irrigation, In situ sub-soil moisture conservation. Quite a large number of Family Farms are coming up with both Annual and Perennial Crops. It is a positive sign that inter-cropping is generating good income and the family is no more attracted to migration. On the other hand, each village has Commons which are patches of hilly/Dangar land. The women Group in the village is developing this patch by fencing and plantation of fruit-bearing trees. Undoubtedly, the village commons are going to provide an

ecological base in various villages along with income for the women.

Helping communities to access Information on various Government Schemes in the areas of Education, Nutrition, Health, MGNREGS and Governance has been a total effort by Agramee and its Partners who are implementing an RTI related project in 10 Districts, 20 Blocks and 1000 villages. This is assisting the communities to be more aware of the schemes as well as to get benefits. For the first time in remote villages, there is discussion on the School Management Committee (SMC) etc. Of course, on MGNREGS, the situation is not changing much. In case of holding Panchayats and Gram Sabhas, the people are not showing much interest to participate. We are always hopeful that the situation in these 1000 villages will improve in the coming years.

Agramee has also focused on Social Enterprise during the year as the Market Forces are gaining ground in the Tribal Areas. For this, there has been an effort to go for more processing and marketing of various products. A small beginning has been tried out by taking up turmeric processing. There has been plans to take up processing and marketing of Cashew, Mango and Tapioca etc. For this, we have the plans to form Producers' Companies.

I thank our staff, Governing Body Members and Donors like NABARD, Welthungerhilfe(Germany), Karl Kubel Stiftung (Germany), European Union, Rose (Belgium). Many well-wishers and friends have made some important contributions. We specially thank Goonj.

Kashipur

Achyut Das

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1

Progressive Education in Remote Tribal Regions: Success of Mukta Gyana Kutiras



1.1 Introduction

The Right to Education Act, 2009, guarantees every child free education. Six years after the passing of the Act however, there is little evidence of the Act in the tribal and rural hinterlands. One sees children running and playing around in school time, a desultory teacher sitting with half a dozen students, who are not even able to read the writing on the walls of their school. Agragamee's three Mukta Gyana Kutiras in Padepada, and Adri in Thuamulrampur Block of Kalahandi District, and in Kashipur in Rayagada District make small efforts to right this wrong in some of the remotes corners of Odisha. The names 'Mukta Gyana Kutria' embodies the basic spirit of the schools. The teaching in these schools is open, liberal, and in a stress free, child centred, rather than a curriculum centred or teacher centred ambience.

Over the years, Agragamee has been able to de-school teachers into giving up their rigid disciplinarian conditioning, and help children learn without fear or stress. The results have been remarkable. Our students have passed high school with flying colours, several have joined plus 2 and graduation, and some for technical

diplomas. We are even more proud of our achievements in our lower classes. By the time children pass out of class 2, they are able to read and write with ease, and are better than children of class 7 and 8 in Government schools. This has been recognised by parents in neighbouring villages as well, who have withdrawn students from class 8, and sent them to join in class 2 and 3 in Mukta Gyana Kutira. Our achievement with slow learners makes us equally proud. Students who came to us shy and non-communicative, not touching their pencils or even drawing books, not mixing with other children, have turned boisterous and playful within a few months, within a year, they join the others in shouting out answers, and dancing action songs in the playground.

1.2 Goals

The overall goal of the school is to enhance education and literacy levels in underdeveloped tribal communities through qualitative inputs for primary education for girls.

1.3 Objectives

- To help tribal girls access qualitative holistic primary education that will help them go for further education, and also address life-situations in more informed and capable ways,
- To emphasize the need for education of girls to local tribal communities and enhance their participation and commitment in the process,
- To help in emergence of a generation of literates, who will be able to take the processes of education forward for their community and also improve participation in decision making,

1.4 The Schools

Table 1.1 Location

Districts	Blocks	Gram Panchayats
Rayagada	Kashipur	Kashipur
Kalahandi	Thuamulrampur	Adri, Padepadar

The three schools provide an all-round and holistic education to girl children from the neighbouring villages. Each school has a headmistress and teachers. The Kashipur School has highest number of teachers, 5 as it caters to more children, while the schools in Kalahandi, in Adri and Padepadar villages have 3 teachers each, including the head teacher.

1.4.1 The Daily Schedule

A School day begins by 9.00 am, with an assembly, newspaper reading and exercises. Classes continue till 1.00 pm, and then after lunch break, the children of Class III, IV and V have two more class, while the children of lower classes engage in co-curricular activities, and then break for games. On Saturdays, the children clean up their classrooms and the school grounds.

1.4.2 Main Features of the Program

- Child centred class rooms and teaching
- Learning without stress or fear,
- Language learning through known words

- Child to child learning
- Maximum Community participation, and regular parent teacher interactions,
- Personal one to one contact with children's families,
- Mainstreaming Issues of Tribal Education

1.5 Activities

1.5.1 Innovative Publications and TLM

Innovative publications have been developed by the teachers and students together, documenting the teaching and learning together experiences. The children already have a newsletter namely Dongar Kotha. Illustrated story books have been designed and published to encourage the reading habit. Questions at the end of the stories encourage children to talk about what they have read amongst themselves and with the teacher. In addition, picture aids, story cards, number sets with marbles, and other counting aids help children with language and maths. A new language primer for first class students "Kau Dake Ka" has enabled children develop literacy skills with ease. The success of the book has encouraged several of the parents who come to our meetings to buy the book, and take up literacy learning at home. This has encouraged us to bring out further books, which are currently being designed.

In addition to published material, teachers also actively develop teaching aids during weekends, and other holidays. TLM is actively used specially in classes 1 and 2 to help children learn easily. Teachers are provided regular training to use the TLMs which include look and say card, matching games, odd one out, story card, word-picture cards, sentence making cards, alphabets cards, numeric number card, mathematical symbols for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division worksheet and help children learn effortlessly.

1.5.2 The Classroom

A Child Centred Learning method is used, which facilitates a relaxed and stress free learning atmosphere. The classrooms are designed with Blackboards all around, at a height of comfort to the children, in addition to the one used by the teacher, desks are arranged to enable students to sit in groups and discuss their lessons, and learn from each other. Teachers are encouraged to be facilitators, who help the children when they have a problem, and provide guidance when required. Creative TLM designed by the teachers themselves are used, helping children connect words and pictures, and understand phonetics in a natural and intuitive manner. In the higher classes, groupings allow children to share skills, and ask each other question from lessons, and so have better learning, with just a little effort from the teacher.

1.5.3 Uniforms for Children

Parents do not have the resources to clothe their children adequately. This problem is especially acute in the winter seasons. Agragamee has been mobilising resources from different sources for uniforms for the children for the last 5 years and will continue to do so in the future.

Table 1.2 School Management Committee

Kashipur			Adri			Padepadar		
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
6	10	16	4	11	15	3	7	10

School Management Committees (SMCs) are formed for all the schools of Mukta Gyana Kutira. These SMCs are constituted by representatives of parents, teachers and local community leaders. More than 50 percent of the members belong to the female folk of the community. The prime tasks of the SMCs are to plan for development of the school, ensure enrolment of all non-enrolled children through enrolment drive, ensure regularity of attendance of children in the school and prevent temporary drop-out rate, monitoring and supervision of MDM and health of the students.

1.5.4 Nutritional Support

The schools provide a mid-day meal for each child, helping to address the acute nutritional deficiencies that affect children from community in which hunger is chronic and endemic. This consists of a basic meal of rice, dal and vegetables, supplemented by eggs twice a week. This helps to make a visible difference to the health of the child within a period of few months. Also it helps children build up resistance and strength within the children. Vegetables grown as part of the co-curricular activities also are used for the programme. Agramee is also seeking support from the district administration for the programme. In addition, a glass of milk in the afternoon helps to address the protein deficiency.

1.5.5 Parents-Teacher Meetings

Mukta Gyana Kutira Schools firmly believe in involving the parents and the extended community of the village at every step in the child's education. These monthly meetings provide a forum for wide-ranging discussion on issues of education, teaching, development of the child, as well as developmental issues in the village.

They play a crucial role in enabling the community have a better understanding of institutional provisions for community participation in Government programme, like the School Management Committee, the Mothers' Committee for pre-school education, etc. and thus ensuring better quality of service delivery. These interactions take place in the premises of the schools, enabling parents from different villages come together and understand and learn about the processes adopted in the schools, and the progress of the individual child. These meetings also help to introduce ideas and concepts of child centred teaching to the community, increasing understanding of child psychology, and also helping to address complaints that parents might have about the school and teaching.

1.5.6 District Collector's Visit

26th September, 2014, was a day of great excitement for the children, as the District Collector visited the Kashipur School. The classrooms were cleaned and decorated to the best of everybody's ability, and children were in their best behaviours. In sequence, the District Collector visited all the classes beginning with class I. Awestruck by it all, the little ones went completely silent, until their teacher asked them to sing a song. This broke the ice, and the children sang 3 songs, one each in Odia, Hindi and English Language. After a general interaction in class 2, the children of class III impressed him with their ability in mathematics. The classes 4 and 5 which were together responded promptly to the Collector's query on words which spelt the same right to left as well as left to right, beginning with their Head Mistress' name Kanak!

1.5.7 Community Mobilization

To ensure effective community participation for the success of the schools, Agramee has been taking up community mobilization efforts, incorporating development education as part of the mainstream plus syllabus, for the children as well as the community. This is done through village meeting out of Agramee's own fund. In addition, development issues within the villages, the MGNREGs works, the different welfare schemes, and other

issues are also discussed. Different enabling and empowering Acts, the National Food Security Act. The provisions of these Act, and what it implies for the people in the villages, how to take advantage of the Act are also detailed out. This helps the meeting have a multi-dimensional role, helping to address socio-economic issues, and increasing people's participation in governance and development planning. This also strengthens the role of the students of Class IV and V, who are encouraged to look into these issues, and report as part of their project work.

1.5.8 Health Check-up

Health of the student has been ensured by tracking their height and weight measures every month. Annual Health Check-up was conducted for all students for Malaria, TB, skin diseases, and eye problems. The students having illness were given proper treatment. Linkages have been made with health departments in order to provide medicines and health check-up facilities. Consequently medical official are coming to schools and doing health check-ups.

1.5.9 Arts Workshop

Artists, Nalini Mohanty and Satyabhama Malik from Bhubaneswar conducted a 5 days arts workshop with the children. While encouraging the children to express themselves freely with colours, and providing creative ideas for showcasing the children's talent, these artists, helped to decorate the whole school, and also engaged the teachers in efforts. The children thus designed a butterfly cave in class 3, making hundreds of colourful creatures swarm out and spread cheer all over, at the entrance, they designed a floral bouquets with colourful paper and ribbons, and made an exhibit of the ten best drawings, for the juniors, they designed a whole wall display of picture words, which help children in understanding the alphabets.

Table 1.3 Arts Workshop Schedule

Day	Thematic Background of the Workshop
Day - I	In the first day participants were instructed to draw and paint whatever they fancied. After that, they were asked to draw the same picture on the canvas box. Here, the resource persons helped them with the techniques, and use of brush and colour to get the shapes they wanted. The students also learned how to cut the colour drawing paper in a rectangular shape through scissor.
Day - II	On the second day the participants were taught about the use of combination of colour to make specific colour like by mixing white and red we can get pink colour, similarly by mixing yellow and white we can get brown colour and so on and so forth.
Day - III	On this day, training was given to the participants to draw painting on Canvas Box and how to make Butterfly by Colour Paper. Also, some students have learned how to brush the cup with colour and after that they dried the cup on the sunshine.
Day - IV	On day four the participants were trained on sticking Batter Stick on plywood with the help of fevicol. Besides, training was also given on wall painting.
Day - V	On the last day the participants were trained on how to map wall to stick Odia alphabets prepared with A 4 size paper. Also, they learned about making flower with A 4 size paper. After making the flower they stucked the same on the inside wall of the school. Last but not the least, marble painting was also taught to the participants.

1.5.10 Wall Magazine

Wall magazines provide space for children's expressions, and also let visitors specially the parents know how their children are progressing. The last Fridays and Saturdays in every month, are exciting days, when children write and design their wall magazines. There are two in each of the separates school buildings. The junior wall magazines are filled with pictures, and short write ups by class 3. The senior wall magazines have village stories, folk tales and essays by the students of classes 4 and 5, many of them with illustrations by the children themselves. The children love to see their own display, and have also begun to provide illustrations for their stories, in classes IV and V in the wall magazines.

1.5.11 Teachers Training

Aragamee has given major emphasis on helping teachers develop their capabilities through training, exposure and networking. A major effort in this section was the 3 days training held at Kashipur from 21 to 23 7.2014. Prof. Manmathnath Kundu and Mr. Dhirendra attended the training as resource persons. In this training all the teachers of three schools namely Kashipur, Adri and Padepadar have participated. Here teachers learnt different approaches and games to help children feel free and learn without fear. Rhymes, pictures, and theme based learnings were emphasised to help lively and interesting communication between children and teachers. Apart from this, 4 teachers of Agragamee have also taken training at Binapani Bidyamandir School based at Malkangiri. There Prof. Manmathnath Kundu and Mr. Prankrushna gave training and orientation to the Agragamee teachers.

1.5.11 Library Reading

The students of the Mukta Gyana Kutira Schools have access to a variety of reading material from the children's libraries at each of the schools. The library room has maps and globes, which help students, understand about different places that are reported in the newspapers. The weekly sessions are mean to encourage the students to read upon the various interesting topics including science, mathematics, nature, literature and social sciences. The students have gradually battered their reading skills and have enjoyed these as sessions. Their curiosity on large number of topics makes the library reading sessions an enjoyable experience.

1.5.12 Science Experiment

Science experiments are regularly conducted, using locally available material, as well as lab equipment. These experiments are often of much interest and enjoyment to the children, giving them happy breaks from their classroom. Experiments seek to help children to understand the use of the different equipments, and also understand the basic principles of common phenomenon, like the need of oxygen for burning, as well as for growth of life, response of seeds to light and air and moisture, much of these experiments relate to energy, environment, and health and common situations in the life of the child. Selections are based on the educational value, attractiveness, versatility and availability of materials and equipments or kits.

1.5.13 School Gardening

Here the students raised nursery of various vegetables crops and irrigated it every day. They have also created vermi compost. Plough the filed in natural process and they have cultivated various vegetables like chilli, brinjal, tomatoes, beans, pumpkin, leafy vegetables, papaya, kunduri, in the school garden premises. It was done in 4 times a week. These vegetables are given to student in Mid-Day Meals.

1.5.14 Annual Day Celebration

The 10th Annual Day Celebration programme of Mukta Gyana Kutira of Agragamee was organized in Kashipur on 2nd March 2015. It helped to share the achievements and activities of Agragamee schools with parents, and local dignitaries like CDPO, Sarapanch, Head Mistress of Sisu Mandir School in Kashipur, Mrs. Sumani Jhodia renowned community leader and former SI and CRCC of Kashipur graced the event. Mr. Achyut Das the director of Agragamee presided over the function. The Annual report of activities and achievements of the schools was presented to the audience. This was followed by children cultural function, which was eagerly viewed by their siblings and friends from the villages. The programme has increased the understanding and leaning about the educational process initiated by Agragamee, and increased parent participation.

Table 1.4 Enrolment Status of the School

Class	Kashipur				Adri				Padepadar			
	SC	ST	OBC	Total	SC	ST	OBC	Total	SC	ST	OBC	Total
Class-I	16	3	18	37	11	8	2	21	10	8	2	20
Class-II	24	5	10	39	9	3	5	17	8	4	4	16
Class-III	24	4	9	37	4	2	3	9	7	3	2	12
Class-IV	15	1	-	16	6	5	3	14	5	5	2	12
Class-V	13	6	10	29	5	3	-	8	4	4	2	12
Total	92	19	47	158	35	21	13	69	34	24	12	72

1.6 Case Studies

Case Study - I

Padma show the way:

Upur Chobri, a village of Padepadar Panchayat in Thuamulrampur block under Kalahandi district is majorly inhabited by the tribal communities of the "Kondho" communities. Villagers, here hardly gets any benefit from the government service and deliveries. Although, a Primary School was established in the village, problems like teacher absenteeism, poor quality of teaching and high drop-out rate prevented students from learning much. But, Padma Majhi, a 6 year girl of the village has encouraged others to come forward for learning. This has become possible when parents of Padma enrolled her name in Class I of the Mukta Gyana Kutira School at Padepadar. In a span of just one year, she was able to learn alphabets and numeric from 1 to 100. She is now studying in Class II and able to do addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. She can write her parents name, 12 months of the year and read story books aloud in the village. Seeing the rapid learning of Padma, her parents and other villagers became enthralled. Now, 18 other girls of the village are studying in the same school. Padma says, "I wanted to become a teacher in future. I will help children to study in my village".

Case Study - II

Displaced But Not Dispirited:

Sunadhar Majhi works as an ironsmith in Pukijal village of Padepadar panchayat. His family includes his wife, and

4 daughters. He recalls that earlier he had 2 acres of agricultural land. But, after the displacement due to the Indiravati Reservoir Project, he lost his patta land. The meagre compensation amount was utilised for managing day to day life and did not help him buy any land. In the displaced village, now Sunadhar sustains his livelihood as an ironsmith. But, the earning is not sufficient, therefore his wife and 3 daughters often engaged in wage labour activities to supplement their family income.

The junior daughter is taken care by other daughters.

The teachers of Mukta Gyana Kutira School visited several times to the village and especially counselled Sunadhar Majhi and his wife to send their daughters to the school. After realising the importance of education, finally Sunadhar enrolled Chandri Majhi, his third daughter in the school. Initially, she was a bit nervous and reticent shares the headmistress of the school. But gradually, her fear disappeared due to the friendly relationship of teacher with the teachers. She was not only good at studies but also in extra-curricular activities like game, singing and dancing. After completing Class V, now she is reading in Class IX in Government High School at Padepadar. Her parents are very happy to see her success. "I have never thought that my child will able to read and write. We will support her further study as well", chuckles Sunadhar.

Case Study - III

Who Said I am Disabled ?

Madhusmita Majhi is a differently abled girl of Upar Chobri village. "I was used to called "choti" (handicapped) at the village school. Other students teased me on the ground that I cannot walk properly", laments Madhusmita. Her father one day came to know about Mukta Gyana Kutira School at Padepadar. He visited the school and requested to the headmistress to enrol his daughter in the school. After that, the life of Madhusmita changed. She is treated in dignified way both by the other students and teachers of the school. Now, she is studying in Class II. When asked about the most favourite thing of Mukta Gyana Kutira School she says, "here all students are treated equally, regular MDM is provided. Apart from uniform, we have also got boot and sweater from the school".

1.7 Conclusion

Aragamee's vibrant programme of primary education reaching out to villages with almost zero literacy has helped tribal communities realize the importance of education. Our interventions include schools for tribal girls, developing primers and guides that can help first generation school goers get over the initial learning barriers with ease, teacher training and development of supportive primers. These efforts which focus on learning with freedom, and education without fear or stress have helped establish child centred processes, where learning, fun and play merge into one another. First generation School education is a major challenge in India, as is being proved repeatedly by national reports which show dismal learning levels of children, even in classes 7 and 8. Aragamee is in the process of developing models for language teaching for first generation school goers that can be easily taken up by teachers, with a minimal training inputs. It has made significant advances in this, in its own schools, and is making efforts to upscale and extend this to other schools as well.

2

Vocational Education and Training for Youth Entrepreneurship Development



2.1 Introduction

The tribal population in Odisha constitutes around 23% of the total population and depend primarily upon subsistence farming. Hardly any of them have taken to modern and improved agricultural practices, and majority still adopt primitive methods. This is mostly due to lack of proper training and transfer of technology to the grass root level. Diversification of sustainable agriculture and allied sectors has untapped potential for employment, growth, increased income and for checking migration.

The Vocational Education & Training for the unorganized rural sector programme funded by Welthungerhilfe seeks to address these complex problems by creating young paraprofessionals and developing Entrepreneurship skills in youth. Skill development and backward and forward linkages on natural resource based livelihood options for the youth will help in strengthening the local economy as well as creating alternative options for the rural youth who would otherwise spend their life as unskilled labour.

The operational districts of VET are Rayagada, Koraput, Nabarangpur and Kalahandi, which form part of the

undivided KBK districts-one of the poorest regions in the country with 89.14% (based on 1999-2000 NSS data) people below the poverty line. The target group are youth from primitive tribes comprising about 60% of the total population, belonging to different communities such as the Kondho, Paraja, Soura and Gadba.

2.2. Overall Goal/Project Purpose

To contribute to reduced unemployment and inclusive growth in rural areas and to complement to the achievement of MDG-1.

2.2.1 Specific objective

- Increased access to skills and training for tribal, Dalit and OBC adolescents and youths in selected BRGF districts of three Eastern states.
- Established institutional arrangements for planning, quality assurance, certification and linkages.

2.3. Activities and Results

Agragamee has conducted seven trainings during the reporting period with 175 trainees from 34 villages in 5 districts. During the reporting period the training manual on "Sustainable Agriculture" & "Turmeric Processing" has published. Training modules for the refresher training courses were prepared and linkages with Govt. departments and experts of the concerned themes for resource persons were established for the same. The pace of training activity and quality has improved compared to last year. Efforts were put to motivate and encourage women participation in the program and out of 175 trainees 97 (55%) were female from 28 villages. The prime focus has given towards the development of women entrepreneurship during the reporting period.

The last five years program implementation learning's with internal review made us focus on women participation in different training programs. Their learning capacity and intensity towards the program is admirable. Two turmeric processing units have been successfully running by the women groups of Dongasil and Girliguma Panchayats of Rayagada and Koraput Districts respectively where turmeric cultivation is done by larger farmers. The "Sargiguda Mahila Mandal", of Dongasil G.P. had taken loan of Rs. 1,00,000.00 from State bank of India, Dongasil for the promotional activities of turmeric cultivation and processing. This loan has been encouraging the above women group to carry forward the established turmeric unit with more functional. However, they are earning healthy amount by selling turmeric powder in local markets and wholesaler. The sustainability of the concerned units has flown in the sky of efficiency and dedication of the said entrepreneurs. Apart from that 8 nos. of Nursery have established in 8 villages by the Nursery trainees. They have been raised their nursery with mango, cashew, guava and papaya plants. They have been applied all possible tools and techniques learnt during the earlier VET training to make their nursery as a model nursery.

The training program on turmeric processing has been conducted once during the year 2014-15 with 26 trainees. The trainees of the concerned trade were able to augment their skill and knowledge on the agricultural practices of turmeric cultivation. As a result in the last season they have cultivated turmeric successfully with applying of all necessary steps learned in training. It helped them to enhance their productivity as well as to maintain the path of sustainability.

During rainy season all the women members of Sargiguda Mahila Mandal took up turmeric cultivation in 4 acres common land of the village. They used the local seed material and took up cultivation under improved technology and organic farming system. All 18 members along their family members worked in the field. During the year 2014-15 they harvested the crop in total 160 quintals of organic raw turmeric was produced. Through improved technology the raw turmeric was processed. They got 32 quintal of dry turmeric from the raw stick. They sold 28

quintals of dried turmeric at Rs 9000.00 per quintal and received Rs 2,52,000.00. They powdered the remaining 4 quintals of dried turmeric with the help of machine provided by Agragamee under VET support project. They have purchased one packing machine at a cost of Rs 200/- and packaged entire powdered stock and prepared 4105 packets each with 100 grams. They sold these packets in the local market at Rs. 18 per packet and earned Rs. 73890/- only. Altogether they sold the entire stock for Rs. 3, 25,890.00. They have also availed Rs. 1, 00,000.00 bank loan from local bank. After meeting all the expenditure and repayment of bank loan, they distributed the net profit of Rs 2,25,890.00 among all the 18 members each got Rs. 12,549.44 as profit.

2.3.1 Integrated Sustainable Agriculture

The trainees have got immense knowledge and built up their skill after attending 30 days qualitative training on integrated sustainable agriculture by the experienced experts/resource persons. In post training activities some participants have been doing consultation in local region while others have focused on sustainable organic farming. They have been sold seasonal vegetables, pulses and cereals in the local hat and market. Apart from that few trainees have been also engaged with Goatery and Poultry activities. All the concerned initiatives have made them as successful entrepreneurs which encouraging the tribal youth in the vicinity.

2.3.2 Nursery Raising and Management

All the trainees from nursery raising and management prepared their individual nursery plot designs and business plans during the training period. After the training they have been set up their own nursery with mango, cashew and litchi seedlings. This season they have planned for grafting the entire seedlings which would definitely bring them healthy earnings. For this kind of act the trainees were given all the requisites of nursery i.e. grafting knife, secateurs, polythene and sprayer etc. to the deserving participants selected in post training follow up and monitoring. Along with that it has been planned to register their nurseries under Horticulture dept. which would enable them to sell these plants to the concerned department.

2.3.3 Certified Seed Production

The training on Certified Seed Production has been conducted once which was attended by 15 nos. of women trainees of Gochhapada panchayat of Phiringia block in Kandhamal district. The trainees have been linked with OSSCO (Odisha State Seed Certification Office), District Horticulture Department and KASAM to promote and strengthen the agricultural practice, processing and marketing of turmeric. After getting foundation seed of turmeric from the concern department, they have been cultivated it in their own agricultural as well as in common land. After harvesting they have plan to process and sale it in experimental basis in local hat and market.



Table 2.1 Details of Training Program

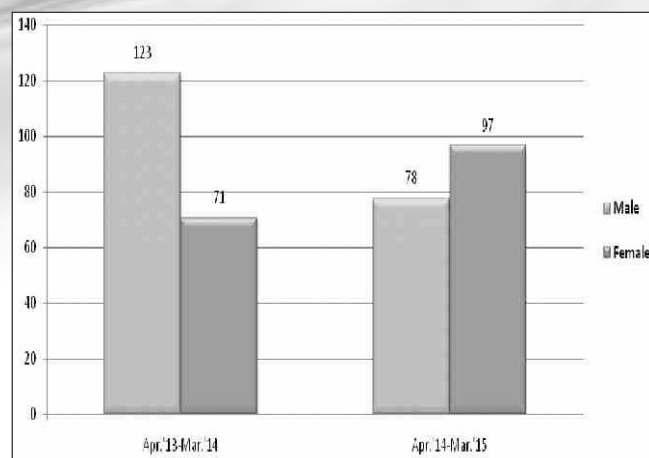
Sl. No.	Name of Training	Date	No. of Trainees	Details of Trainees	District				
					RGD	KPT	KLH	KDH	NBR
1	Turmeric Processing	1st Apr.'14 - 15th Apr.'14	26	ST-24, OBC-2, Female-26	—	—	—	26	—
2	Integrated Sustainable Agriculture	16th Jun.'14 - 30th Jun.'14	31	ST - 22, SC - 9, Female-31	31	—	—	—	—
3	Nursery Raising and Management	6th Aug.'14 - 20th Aug.'14	19	ST-19, Male-15, Female - 4	15	—	4	—	—
4	Integrated Sustainable Agriculture	16th Sep.'14 - 30th Sep.'14	30	ST-25, SC-2, OBC-3, Male - 19, Female - 11	30	—	—	—	—
5	Certified Seed Production	16th Nov.'14 - 30th Nov.'14	15	ST - 15, Female-15	—	—	—	15	—
6	Integrated Sustainable Agriculture	20th Nov.'14 - 4th Dec.'14	24	ST - 24, Male - 20, Female - 4	24	—	—	—	—
7	Integrated Sustainable Agriculture	10th Dec.'14 - 24th Dec.'14	30	ST-30, Male - 24, Female - 6	10	—	20	—	—
	Total		175	ST-159, SC-11, OBC- 5, Male - 78, Female - 97	110	-	24	41	-

2.3.4 Comparative Analysis

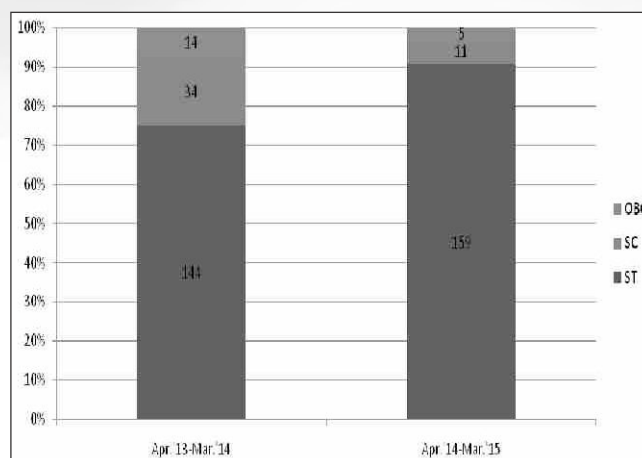
April 2013 – March 2014	April 2014 – March 2015
7 trainings on 6 trades Dal Processing (1) Fruit Processing (1) Nursery Raising and Management (2) Integrated Sustainable Agriculture (1) Oil Seed Processing (1)	7 trainings on 6 trades Turmeric Processing (1) Integrated Sustainable Agriculture (4) Nursery Raising and Management (1) Certified Seed Production (1)
194 Trainees – 144 ST, 34 SC, 14 OBC, 123 Male, 71 Female	175 Trainees – 144 ST, 11 SC, 5 OBC, 78 Male, 97 Female



2.3.5 Gender Analysis



2.3.6 Caste Analysis



2.3.6. Practical aspects during the training:

Two experienced persons from the local community, have been engaged in conducting practicals of all themes. They are - i) Hari Jhodia (grafter) and ii) Bibhisan Lohara (progressive farmer). They have been making the trainees more efficient in preparation of demonstration plots with respect to relevant trainings. In addition, the trainees have been taken to model nursery, turmeric and organic farming farms etc.

Table 2.3 : Details of Practical Exposure

Sl. No.	Name of Training	Practical Exposure and Experience
1	Turmeric Processing	Demonstration plot at Sargiguda Turmeric field, Kashipur, Rayagada.
2	Integrated Sustainable Agriculture	Exposure visit to Banasil Organic Field, Dasmantpur in Koraput District
3	Nursery Raising &	Demonstration plot at CETAR and Parajasila ManagementNursery, Kashipur, Rayagada.
4	Certified Seed Production	Demonstration at Beheraguda village and STO Lab, Rayagada

2.3.7

Best Practice - I

Ghasen Saunta is a dynamic and articulatetribal woman of Bijapadar village in Tentulikhunti Panchayat, Nabrangpur District. Despite the hard work of Ghasen and her husband on their field, and in the forest to collect dry and sell various minor forest produce, walking long distances to the market their income was barely able to support their family with 2 children.

But, the situation took a positive change when she attended Agragamee's 15 days training on Oil Seed Processing at CETAR, Mallijharan, in Dongasil panchayat of Kashipur block, where she learnt about the tools and techniques of Oil Seed Processing. Soon after the completion of the training, she initiated her own entrepreneurship in the

village. As she is a member of Bijapadar Mahila Mandal, she organised a meeting in the village and inspired all the members of the Mandal to set up a unit of Oil Seed Processing. Finally, she succeeds. To help them, Agragamee has also provided the much needed support by supplying machinery and technical support to them.

In the post training activity, Ghasen Saunta has started to cultivate various oil seeds like niger, mustard and black gram for raw material which could possible to grow in the locality. In last year, she earned Rs. 5400/- by selling extracted oil and oil cake in neighboring villages and local haats. Apart from this, she stored sufficient oil for household use for the coming year. Now, she realized the nutritional value of oil for children and adult of the village. The little earning from the above activity has also added financial assistance to her family. She has fixed target to promote her business with the linkages of local banks for which she has also applied for small grant of loan. She has confidence to become a successful entrepreneur in the vicinity.

Economy of 150 kg of Mahua Seed Processing of Ghasen Saunta

Cost of Seed – Nil (collected by herself), Cost of labour for collecting seed – 750/- Processing cost – 100/-, Labour Cost – 100/-, Total – 900/-, Oil quantity – 60 litre, Sale Proceeds – Rs. 90- per litre. 5400/-, Net Profit – 4500/-.

Best Practice - II

My Nursery is Strength of My Life

I have established a nursery of different kinds of fruit crops and agro forestry plants for which I am getting incentives by the Govt. dept. It means a lot to my profession. The training program and support has augmented my skill and promoted my business. Now I am happy to maintain my family with good earnings. **SITIA MAJHI**

The nursery is a place where plants are raised with special care until they are ready or large enough for transplanting into the field. Every nurseryman should aim at producing healthy uniform plants that will be able to establish in the field quickly. The tools used in the nursery should be simple but of good quality. Sometimes it is worth spending a bit more on their purchase than having to replace low quality tools. Their proper maintenance is one of the main activities of a good nurseryman.

Sitia Majhi is a progressive farmer of 35 years old. He is one of the literate persons among the villagers with having sound knowledge in agricultural mechanism. But, when he knew about the VET project of Agragamee, he showed interest towards attaining training program.

He attended 15 days training on Nursery Management in two phases. This includes 10 days theory and 5 days practical with a participatory approach. His performance was praiseworthy in the whole practical session during the training program. He is also a good learner in theoretical aspects during the same. After getting exposure to Nursery Farm of Kashipur block, he showed keen interest to establish his own nursery farm after the concern training.

In post training activity, he took a small loan of Rs. 20,000/- from State Bank of India, Dongasil Branch and started a nursery with 5,000 no.s of mango saplings. To promote his Nursery, Agragamee gave material support like knife, sprayer, secateurs and polythene. He used the method of stone grafting as it is a faster method. He was able to sell 4500 grafted mango at Rs. 30/- per plant in the local market, neighbouring villages and to local traders also. Hence, he earned a total of Rs. 1, 35,000/- by selling the said products.

After assessing his skill and expertise on nursery raising and management, the forest department has been provided 36,000 numbers of different seedlings like Acacia, Chakunda, Anla, Simarua, Cashew, and Mango for plantation of hill area. For this he is getting Rs. 4,500/- per month from the forest department. Indeed, Sitia Majhi has shown, that through Orchard Plant Nursery raising, one can ensure sustainable livelihood.

3

Reclaiming the Commons with Women's Power: Eco-village Development in Tribal Odisha



3.1 Introduction

Tribal communities have been the eco-system people with more or less self-reliant and sustainable models of natural resource use and management, built up over centuries. This is still in evidence in the interior reaches of the KBK districts, where communities have preserved their bio-diversity of agricultural production, cultivating several varieties of cereals and pulses, and oil seeds, on whole a range of lands. Several species of millets, including many varieties of finger millets, foxtail millet, pearl millet, sorghum, maize, as well as upland paddy varieties are cultivated, along with pulses like pigeon pea, rice bean, green gram, cowpea, and oilseeds. A huge variety of low land paddy, of high market value are also grown.

However, there has been a downward spiral of production and income due to environmental degradation, loss of forests, and changing climatic conditions. Forests supplemented the food and livelihoods of the tribal communities, as also played a crucial role in checking erosion, and sustaining agricultural production in the swidden systems of the tribal communities. Land rejuvenation which would take 3 to 4 years in the ideal swidden

systems of the past, now necessitates fallow cycles of 5 to 7 years or even more. The fallow cycles have increased alongside loss in productivity. The latter necessitates bringing increasing acreage of land under shifting cultivation, setting into motion a downward spiral of land degradation, and ecological imbalances. All this has caused multiple levels of impoverishment amongst the tribal communities, leading to distress migration, increasing malnutrition at all ages, higher susceptibility to diseases and infections (which again lowers earning capacities), land alienation and increasing indebtedness.

It is in this context that Ama Sangathan and Agragamee jointly launched the Eco-village development project with the support of Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facilities (IPAF). The challenges for developing and establishing a land and natural resource based model in just three years' time are huge. Yet, this is the first need of the tribal communities whose levels of food and livelihood insecurities have been steadily going down due to land and environmental degradation. This effort will therefore be taken up with concerted and systematic people centered planning, backed by training and capacity building so that the women's groups in particular and the community in general will be able to take the inputs provided forward on their own initiative. The objectives of the project are briefly outlined below;

3.2 Overall Goal

Ecological degradation reversed, food security increased and land security enhanced building on indigenous knowledge in underdeveloped tribal districts.

Objectives:

- To build on women's role as traditional keepers of commons, by helping them demonstrate viable alternatives to shifting cultivation.
- To use the enabling laws to help tribal communities have institutional and legal access to land and NRM resources in general.
- To help establish sustainable and eco-friendly practices of land use that can help tribal communities preserve and develop their indigenous seed resources.
- To establish people and more specifically women centered models for the governance of commons that can provide for the livelihood as well as income needs on a sustainable basis.

3.3 The rationale of Eco-village Development

The project aimed to enable targeted village communities to develop a model for reversal of ecological degradation of their lands and commons by combining traditional knowledge systems with agro ecological models. This was hoped to pave the way for the development of viable eco-village models that could be up-scaled and replicated in other villages and panchayats.

3.4 Activities undertaken during the reporting period

3.4.1 Eco Village Development

Under the Eco-Village development project, each beneficiary has been provided with 40 mango plants for his/her 1 acre of land. The plants were planted in 22×22 feet, depth of the pit and width should be 3 feet each.

3.4.2 Selection of beneficiaries

After the selection of the beneficiaries, land preparation through labeling, pit digging and earth bunding was

done. Apart from it, fencing was also done in order to protect the plants from cattle grazing. Mango, cashew, and other oil seed plants like simarua, karanjia, were provided to the beneficiaries. Apart from it, ragi, niser, and kosala were also given to the farmers for intercropping in the plot. The detail of plants and other inputs given during the financial year of 2014-2015 was as mentioned below;

3.4.3 Support for the development of commons

Total 100 acres of common lands were developed through earth and stone bunding by the Mahila Mandals of 4 villages of Chandragiri panchayat. With the collective effort of women members of Mahila Mandal, these 70 acres of common land fenced in. Mango, Cashew, and oil seed plants like Simarua, karanjia were provided to Mahila Mandals. Also arhar, niser, kosala, koting and beans were provided for intercropping in the Mahila Mandal Commons land.

3.4.4 Supports for development of Private Uplands: 75 Acres

Land fenced through stone and green fencing and protected from cattle in 64.70 acres of private uplands. Seasonal crops of local millets and pulses like kosala, ragi, suan, peanuts, were cultivated along with fruit plantation of mango and cashew in the individual beneficiary plot. This has significantly increased the yield rate of the farmers.

3.4.5 Model demonstration for improving low-land paddy cultivation

The application of Zero tillage method in especially in the low land paddy cultivation has set up a bench mark in the agricultural practice amongst the farmers. It has augmented the yield rate and also significantly reduced intensive labour input for growing paddy. The Zero tillage method also protects rapid soil erosion and enriches the soil natural fertility to a significant extent. This model demonstration for improving low land paddy cultivation was initially shown on 3 acres of land which was much appreciated by the farmers in the operational areas.

3.5 Training & Advocacy for Land Rights

3.4.6 Training Programme on Sustainable land use

A 2 days Training Programme on Sustainable Land Use was Organised in the VRC Hall of Agragamee, Kashipur (Rayagada). Total 115 participants attended the training programme. Mrs. Vidhya das was the resource person who gave critical inputs to the participants. The thematic background of the training is to orient and capacitated the target groups on sustainable land use method and its advantages. The repercussion of using in-organic fertilizers was shared and special emphasis was given on using organic manure to augment the fertility of the soil and thereby increasing the yield. Field demonstration was also given to the participants in order to give them hands on experience. Experience sharing on traditional agricultural practices, organic pest management were also shared amongst the participants. Documentary film on Sustainable farming, preparing organic manure and pest and how to raise orchard farming were also shown in the training programme.

Panchayat level workshops for dissemination of information and learning's

One Gram panchayat level workshop was Organised in Chandragiri for the dissemination of information and learning's amongst the participants in this reporting period was shared in the meeting.

Applications for land rights to landless, with special focus on women headed households

Under Forest Right Act, total 72 numbers of individual claims were filed and submitted to the Welfare Extension

officer of Kashipur out of which 55 claims are from landless applicants and the remaining claims were made by the Women headed households of the operational areas. The claimants have met more often to the concerned line departments for regular follow up of the claims and demanded for title deeds distribution.

3.5 Impacts

The overall success of seasonal agro crops, millets, pulses and other herb-culture varieties in the village following the particular initiative has been remarkable. The levels of awareness and acceptance of issues and concepts related to eco-village and mixed cropping have also risen considerably amongst all stakeholders. The case study of Maligaon village has made it evident that sustainable agriculture, food security and environment conservation are deeply interwoven phenomena.

To add to that, the project has clearly provided women farmers self-reliance in the matter of food security and livelihood generation in a vast barren landscape with hardly any scope for water harvesting. The project has facilitated water logging around the mango and cashew plant pits, which has proved to be immensely beneficial for agricultural production in general and intercropping in particular.

The advancement in individual household food security and nutrition levels among children has been even more phenomenal. The practices have, to some extent, revived traditional barter among the community as well, and it has achieved all of this with women at the forefront.

3.6 Documentation of Best Practices

3.6.1 A life transformed from grey to green

Sumitra Majhi lives with her husband Dhanu Majhi and one son and two daughters in the Maligaon village. Rainfed agriculture and wage labour in the dry season are the mainstays of her livelihood. The couple hold 1.5 acres of land out of which one acre comes under up-land and the remaining half acre under medium land category. In the up land, ragi and fox millet were produced by Jhum cultivation in the days before the IPAF project, while the medium land was used to grow paddy and niger.

Like many small farmer-households of Odisha, most of Sumitra's agricultural and wage labour income was spent towards purchasing food for consumption and paying exorbitant rates of interest on loans taken to purchase agricultural inputs like chemical pesticides and fertilisers. Despite having 1.5 acres of land, her family had neither income security nor food security. By any standards, she was considered one among the very poor, if not the poorest.

Sumitra herself concedes that the support received under the Eco-village Development project brought about sea changes in her life. In her own words, initially she was a bit confused about orchard raising and intercropping as she had only seen the practice of Jhum cultivation in the region since childhood. Detailed enquiries at the village level meetings organised by Agragamee finally convinced her of the perceived benefits of the project and motivated the couple to go ahead.

In 2012-2013, she got 25 mango and 10 cashew saplings from the project. With utmost care, she planted these saplings in the pits and protected them from cattle by making stone and green fencing. She got another 12 mango saplings in the subsequent year in place of three that died during the first year. In 2013-2014, they procured pulses, millets and vegetables like, arhar, ragi, koting, tomato, and beans for intercropping. Through use of bio-fertilisers, bio-pesticides and mulching, Sumitra's family improved their production and the variety of produce remarkably. Her household now harvests multiple crops each year and the cost of cultivation is nearly one fourth

of what it was earlier. Moreover, the amount of vegetables and minor millets they used to buy from the market has also gone down substantially. Sumitra expects her mango and cashew trees to bear fruits within the next couple of years.

3.6.2 An expert in multi-tier agriculture

Kuntala Majhi – a woman farmer of Maligaon village in Kashipur block has earned repute for success in terraced land cultivation in her two acres of patta land. In fact, she is now considered a maestro in multi-tier cultivation of orchards and a range of pulses, grams, and vegetables. Kuntala's life was not always as happy as now. A major part of her two-acre land was of the up-land category, making cultivation round the year a difficult affair. A few traditional millets and up-land paddy was all it yielded, scarcely supporting her household consumption. It was only after IPAF provided 40 mango saplings, along with seeds of pulses, grams and vegetables for intercropping, that self-farming turned smooth, sustainable and sufficient for her household.

Today, Kuntala speaks proudly about her multi-tier vegetable garden that has provided the family substantial quantity and variety of vegetables and grams. The first tier includes plants which require minimal sunlight such as root or tuber crops such as carrot, reddish, beetroot, turmeric, and ginger. The second tier includes creepers that cover the soil, such as bottle gourd, pumpkin, and cucumber, and act as live mulch. The third tier includes leafy vegetables like sorrel leaves, spinach and amaranthus. The fourth tier grows vegetables such as brinjal, tomato, cauliflower, cabbage, chillies and maize. The sixth and seventh tiers are comprised of fruit trees such as mango, cashew, banana, papaya and drumstick, being plants which require maximum sunlight.

Kuntala, however, is quick to acknowledge that these would not have been possible without the technical support and critical inputs from Ama Sangathan. The harvesting of multiple crops round the year provides food throughout the year, ensuring nutritional security and regular income for the five-member family. In fact, they now have marketable surplus. "I feel delighted for our piece of land now, as it even attracts neighbouring villagers; they visit our farm land and appreciate our effort," says a satisfied Kuntala.



4

Experiment in Community Mobilisation to Arrest Land Degradation and Ensure Food Security



4.1 Introduction

The project titled, “Addressing Land Degradation and Food Insecurity: Eco-village Development with Small Farmers in Tribal Areas: Cost Effective Approaches with Small Farmer Communities’, has been initiated to address the problems of tribal families’ food security in 15 villages of Kashipur and Thuamulrampur blocks of Rayagada and Kalahandi districts respectively. All these villages are very interior to access and people hardly get basic facilities from government pro-poor programmes and schemes. They are not able to put forth their grievances at right forum and suffers from food insecurities and acute malnutrition.

An extensive study, involvement with people, for a long time and assessment of the needs of the area covering 15 tribal villages in Kashipur and Thuamulrampur blocks have inspired us to propose the project for meeting the challenges of poverty alienation among the marginalized and landless families. During the village meetings, the people especially the women expressed their difficulties during crop failures and therefore they expressed to improve their life condition of the villages through Family Farming and optimum utilization of village commons.

The project, funded by Karl Kübel Stiftung (KKS), Germany will support Agramee's objective of developing a cluster of eco-villages in one of the most neglected tribal region of the country. It would aim at securing sustainable livelihoods and improved standard of living of the people in the target area. This will have direct impact on health, social life and poverty reduction. Natural resources like land, water and forest will be managed to sustain the main livelihood resources of the target population. Establishment of farm families, development of commons, training and capacity for the tribals, Diversified agriculture production, promotion and protection of the environment through agro-ecological practices and supply of solar energy, portable drinking water, and provision of income generation sources to sustain the livelihood to alienate poverty.

4.2. Development Objective

To ensure the livelihoods enhancement, quality organic horticulture production and poverty reduction of tribal communities through Family Farming of 400 tribals in 400 acres.

4.2.1. Project objective

- To achieve food and other economic sustainability of 400 tribal and poor households.
- To increase the purchasing capacity of poor tribal households through organised and institution building efforts
- To develop the socio-cultural practices of the target households through participatory methods.
- To implement various income generating activities keeping in view of the traditional skills and technology.
- Establishment of effective and efficient peoples organisations
- Ensuring Women Participation and decision making in development process to bring equity in the process

4.3. Key Activities of the Project

4.3.1. Eco Village Development

- Baseline Survey/Micro-planning
- Family farm for sustainable intensification of the major staple and cash crop
- Gap filling and family maintenance
- Support to women headed households and other vulnerable sections
- Formation and strengthening of women's Groups (Training and Capacity Building)
- Development of Commons

4.3.2. Community Infrastructure Development

- Seed and Grain bank
- Irrigation development

4.3.3. Training and Capacity Building

- Farmer's Field School
- Solar Light
- Supply of Drinking Water and Environmental management
- Training and Orientation of Community Mobilizers
- Training of Community leaders

- Thematic Workshop
- External Consultancy
- Public Hearing on Child Right

Under this project, various capacity building activities in terms of organising orchard development, training to tribal stakeholders, land levelling, soil and water conservation and management, application of appropriate technologies in organic farming, food processing, integrated pest management in orchards, improving health care measures facilitating the process of fusion of modern and traditional approaches to marketing etc are the major activities. This will expedite and strengthen the on-going empowerment process of and by CBOs, Mahila Mandals, SHGs, producers groups, farmers' organisations, Joint Forest Management Committees and Panchayat bodies. Convergence of different development schemes and approaches of Govt. will be taken up simultaneously to strengthen the effort of project.

4.5. Activities and Achievements

4.5.1. Family Farm

For each target family, 0.4 ha (1 acre) of land has been developed to create an orchard in 0.75 acres and the balance 0.25 acres has to be utilized for raising annual crops for his food security. Selection of 4 crops: 4 crops viz. Cashew, Mango, Litchi and Guava suitable to the area has been selected in 35:20:5:5 ratio for 0.75 acre of family farm. Two hundred (200) forestry plants such as bamboo, neem, poxgamea, simarua, chakunda, gambhari, teak and bamboo have to be planted in the boundary of the family farm.

During the year 2014-2015, the project has covered 4 villages with 85 beneficiaries in Kashipur block and 2 villages with 29 beneficiaries in Th. Rampur block of Rayagada and Kalahandi districts respectively where the basic pre-establishment initiatives of family farm like land development, establishment of nursery and management and layout of patch for pit digging etc. have achieved. In cumulative the family farm activities undertaken in 15 villages with 286 beneficiaries in Kashipur block and three villages with 114 beneficiaries in Th. Rampur block of Rayagada and Kalahandi districts respectively. 1 acre of each beneficiary of total 400 acres of land has been taken for the establishment and sustainable management of Family Farm. The details of the aforesaid coverage area has mentioned below;

Table 4.1 Family Farms Details

District	Block	Panchayat	Village	No. of Beneficiaries	Area (acre)
Rayagada	Kashipur	Chandragiri	Y. KBD	44	44
			Durukhal	40	40
			Maligaon	18	18
			Dandabad	30	30
			Padampur	23	23
		Manusgaon	Kukudagad	34	34
			Kabatsil	37	37
			Singerkhadak	28	28
			Tujher	22	22
			Bhatipas	10	10

District	Block	Panchayat	Village	No. of Beneficiaries	Area (acre)
Kalahandi	Th. Rampur	Mahulpatna	Pondpus	36	36
			Podapadar	20	20
			Lepespadar	29	29
			Upar Chobri	14	14
			Tala Chobri	15	15
			Total	400	400

Before selection of 400 nos. of beneficiaries, the land ownership of them has been verified through the land records available in the office of revenue inspector/Tahesildar of the concerned area during the reporting period. After verification, the list of the beneficiaries of the particular village and their land has been identified. This initiative has opened the way towards the beginning of family farm activities. After the completion of micro planning in 15 villages of 3 panchayat of 2 blocks of 2 districts it has been concluded that the fertile land that belongs to individual beneficiaries with record of right has been taken into consideration for establishment of family farms. Apart from that the contiguous patch consist of 5 to 7 acres of land of total 400 acres of 400 nos. of farmers in 15 villages has identified till the reporting period.

During the reporting period 286 nos. of beneficiary in 9 villages have developed fruit orchard in their Family Farm with Mango, Cashew, Litchi and Guava plants. These plants have planted in 0.75 acres of land of each Family Farm of 9 villages and remaining 0.25 acres of land used for annual crops like millets, maize, paddy, pulses, mustard and niger etc. They have also completed fencing (green fencing with bamboo and stone fencing) to protect the plants in Family Farm from cattle grazing and local animals. Apart from these, in order to meet the need of firewood demand, chakunda, acacia, tamarind, jackfruit and neem plants have planted as a border plantation. And also oil seed plants like Simarua and Karanjia have planted.

To increase the productivity of the soil and ultimately production of the crop, sowing of different crops especially vegetables like onion, tomato, brinjal, chili, cowpea, runner beans, radish, bottle gourd, ladies finger and pumpkin have taken up by 286 nos. of beneficiaries as intercropping in Family Farm during the reporting period. They were provided improved variety of above vegetable seeds so that it can be preserved and reused in the next season. This kind of act not only helped the farmers to increase the land productivity and production, but also enhanced their confidence over family farm activities with a healthy return during degustation period. Moreover some of the farmers have augmented their income by selling different vegetables in the local hat and nearby markets.

4.5.2. Land Development

The land development works like labelling, bush cutting, removing stone and pebbles have completed in 400 acres of land of 400 beneficiaries in 15 villages to bring the land to a proper size for plantation of individual as well as community land which are usually sloppy, undulating, and unproductive and remain uncared. For 1 acre of land preparation the labour cost is Rs. 173/- (one man day) which coming under local contribution and the foreign contribution (KKS) is nil for the same.

4.5.3. Nursery Raising and Management

During the year 2014-15, total 5 nos. of new Nurseries have been established in 5 villages of 3 Gram Panchayats (Chandragiri, Manusgaon and Mahulpatna). The pre-activities of nursery establishment like land cleaning,

nursery bed preparation, polythene packing etc. have completed during the reporting period. To protect the nursery from cattle, green fencing was done by the nursery care taker. The idea behind the said nurseries is that the individual or group entrepreneur of each village will raise the nursery and Agragamee will purchase the saplings of different species from the nursery raised by them. The individual or groups earn money out of this nursery trade. The saplings for the family farm and development of commons will be procured from these nurseries. The youth and women entrepreneurs have been enhanced their skills on nursery management through various training and meeting provided by Agragamee.

In cumulative 14 nos. of Nursery has raised in 14 villages under 3 Gram Panchayats, i.e. Chandragiri, Manusgaon and Mahulpatna. Out of 85007 saplings in 9 nurseries 64851 saplings have survived and the percentage of survival is 76%. Fruit plants like Mango and Cashew has risen in the concerned nurseries. Apart from these, in order to meet the need of firewood demand, Chakunda and Acacia plants have grown as a border plantation in the nursery. Also oil seed plants like Simarua and Karanjia have planted. The aforesaid plants have distributed among the beneficiaries during the reporting period.

The women committees of 9 villages have taken all responsibility of distribution of nursery plants to family farm and commons. They have sold the above plants to the beneficiaries of family farm and commons and the payment of the concerned plants went to their bank account which would help to sustain the nurseries and strengthen the income generation activities conducted by them.

4.5.4. Pit Digging

During the year 2014-15 the target of pit digging in family farm was 22620 nos. in 348 acres out of which 22360 nos. of pit digging in 344 acres have achieved. The beneficiaries of each village have been digging the pits as per the specification of 1m x 1m x 1m. After rigorous monitoring and community intervention the target no. of pit digging in 15 villages has completed. The total cost for 1 no. of pit digging is Rs. 27.69 out of which Rs. 5.77 is local contribution and Rs. 21.92 is foreign contribution (KKS). The local contribution is considers only as labour work. In cumulative out of 26000 nos. of pit digging, 25740 no.s was achieved.

4.5.5. Fruit Orchard Development in Family Farm

During the year 2014-15 total 286 nos. of beneficiaries from 9 villages have developed their fruit orchard in family farm with 10010 cashew, 5720 mango, 1430 litchi and 1430 guava plants. Out of which 9246 cashew, 5105 mango, 968 litchi and 998 guava plants have survived. The survival rate of the whole plants is 88% and mortality rate is 12%. The reason of the mortality of above plants is continuous three low pressures, cyclone called hudhud and cold held during the reporting period. The highest rainfall in the month of july and august 2014 was 138mm and 118mm which is greater in comparison to the month of july and august 2013 i.e. 58mm and 78mm respectively.

The growth of the above fruit plants have been monitored through the following circumstances i.e.

- Canopy development of the trees
- Change of color of leaf and trees.
- Nutritional intake capacity of the trees
- Height and growth of the trees
- Pest and termite attack

4.5.6. Fencing

During the year 2014-15, out of 400, 286 nos. of beneficiary have completed fencing in 286 acres of land in family farm. In some places the farmers have done green fencing with bamboo and while others have made stone fencing. These fencing have been protecting the farm from stray cattle and other animals to enter inside. Apart from that gabion has also done in family farm to protect the plants from fog, cold and animals.

4.5.7. Plant Staking

During the year 2014-15, 286 nos. of beneficiary have completed plant staking of 18590 nos. of plant in family farm. The above plant staking has done with bamboo and wood sticks.

4.5.8. Border Plantation

During the year 2014-15 boarder plants have been planted in the periphery of the family farm in 286 acres of land by 286 nos. of beneficiary. In boarder plantation simarua, acacia, chakunda, neem, karanjia, jackfruit, tamarind and bamboo plants have planted. It will also work as a green fencing and provide fruit, fuel, fodder, timber and other daily requirements.

The survival status of boarder plantation has mentioned below;

- No. of plants supplied in 9 villages: 57200 nos.
- No. of plants survived in 9 villages: 48127 nos.
- Percentage of final nos. of plant survived: 84%.

4.5.9. Intercropping

To increase the productivity of the soil and ultimately production of the crop, sowing of different crops especially vegetables like tomato, brinjal, chili, cowpea, runner beans, radish, bottle gourd, ladies finger and pumpkin have taken up by 286 nos. of beneficiaries as intercropping in Family Farm. This kind of act is not only helping the beneficiaries to increase the productivity and production, but also give them a return during the gestation period.

Most of the progressive farmers of KKS villages have been cultivating tomato, brinjal, cabbage, cauliflower, radish, beans, cowpea and pumpkin as intercropping in family farm. They have taken up all the above crops by following the procedures of organic farming. The concern activities have been helping them to increase the productivity and fertility of land. The farmers have been getting income by selling the above vegetables in nearby local hat and market. The average income of the said farmers during kharif and rabi season is between Rs. 5,000.00 – Rs. 10,000.00. For example Sindhi Majhi and Dhanpati Majhi of Kukudagad and Malegaon villages have earned Rs. 9,850.00 and Rs. 5,945.00 through vegetable cultivation as intercropping in family farm respectively.

4.5.10. Support for Annual Crop

During the reporting period 286 nos. of beneficiaries have taken support for annual crop in 0.25 acres of land of each family farm. Each beneficiary was provided 1.5 kg. of Kandul(arhar) for cultivation. Apart from that the beneficiaries have cultivated short duration paddy, maize, ragi and green pea as annual crop. The yield of these crops will work as food security. This is essential component for food security. After harvesting the food grains will store in seed cum grain banks of the project villages.

4.6. Support to women headed households and other vulnerable sections

During the year 2014-15 the selection of 16 nos. of women beneficiaries belong to women headed households in 8 villages have been completed. After selection of the beneficiaries the support as Goatery of Rs. 16,000/- has provided to each of them. Out of Rs. 16,000/- the local and foreign contribution is Rs. 8,000/- and Rs. 8,000/- respectively. Out of Rs. 8000/- the purchase cost of goat is Rs. 7000 which has transferred to the beneficiaries bank accounts and Rs. 1000/- has spent for insurance of the goat. In local contribution they have made Goatery house and their maintenance. The insurance of the above goats have done after the physical inspection report of the Veterinary Asst. Surgeon of the respective blocks. The vaccination of all goats has also done to keep them healthy and their further growth.

Apart from that the beneficiaries were linked with various govt. schemes availed for them like Indira Awas Yojana, Widow Pension, Old Age Pension and loan facilities through local banks to promote their income generation activity which will sustain the livelihood mechanism and enrich the life quality. The goats have delivered kids. When these kids will grow the income generation will be come out.

In cumulative 22 nos. of women beneficiaries belong to women headed households from 11 villages (Durkhal, Maligaon, Y. Kebidi, Padampur, Dandabad, Kukudagad, Kabatsil, Singerkhadak, Pondpus, Podapadar and Lepespadar) have been provided the Goatery support of Rs. 16,000/.

4.6.1. Formation and strengthening of women's Groups (Training and Capacity Building):

During the year 2014-15, 4 nos. of training and capacity building under formation and strengthening of women groups have conducted. The abstract of the training program has mentioned below:

Table 4.2 Women's Group Trained

Sl. No.	Broad Head	Date	Venue	No. of Participants
1	Formation and strengthening of women groups	26.05.2014	CETAR	42
2	Formation and strengthening of women groups	23.02.2015 to 24.02.2015	Padampur	81
3	Formation and strengthening of women groups	12.03.2015 to 13.03.2015	Tala Chobri	78
4	Formation and strengthening of women groups	21.03.2015 to 22.03.2015	Upper Chobri	79

The following key points and issues have taken place in all the above training programs i.e.

- Sustainable Agriculture
- Organic Farming
- Family Farm Development Activities
- Intercropping
- Activities of Commons
- Govt. Schemes availed for Children

- Linkages of KKS activities with Govt. Schemes
- Implementing Policies of both Family Farm and Commons Activities

In cumulative 12 nos. of training and capacity building under formation and strengthening of women groups have achieved.

4.6.2. Development of Commons

After site selection of the commons in 6 villages under 3 panchayats of 2 blocks the land cleaning works has been done in 81 acres of land. For the sustainability measure 15 women committees have formed in 15 villages and each committee consisting 11 members. The women committees of 15 villages have been taken care of the activities of commons.

4.6.3. Land Development

In cumulative 200 acres of land has cleaned by the women groups of 15 villages. The land cleaning work of the women groups has considered as free labor which was also informed by the change agents to the concerned groups. For 1 acre of land preparation the amount of labor are Rs. 500/- out of which Rs. 200/- is local contribution and Rs. 300/- is foreign contribution (KKS).

4.6.4. Pit Digging

Out of 12285 pits in 189 acres, 8515 pits have dug in 131 acres of land. The total cost for 1 no. of pit digging is Rs. 23.08 out of which Rs. 7.69 is local contribution and Rs. 15.39 is foreign contribution (KKS). The change agents have maintained the pit digging status register in 9 villages of KKS to monitor the above work.

Apart from that several nos. of meeting regarding pit digging, land development and layout of pits have conducted in the said villages. The Lok Sangathan has conducted monthly meetings at village level to discuss various issues related to land development, pit digging, and payment of the concerned works etc. This kind of meetings has recorded in monthly meeting registers of Lok Sangathan and Family Farm. It helped the change agents to accentuate the backlogs of the action to achieve the target as per the timeline allotted to them. Apart from that weekly monitoring of the above works have done by the Project coordinator which speeded up the motion of activities of family farm of each targeted villages of KKS. The beneficiaries had informed about the mode of payment against pit digging, land development and other works of family farm. The payment of the concerned activity has transferred directly in the bank account of the beneficiaries as per their work status.

In cumulative out of 13000 nos. of pit digging in 200 acres of land 9230 nos. of pits have dug in 142 acres of land.

4.6.5. Plantation

The plantation of commons has completed in 119 acres of land. Total 7735 cashew plants have planted in 119 acres of land in 9 operational villages of KKS. Out of 7735 cashew plants 6507 plants have survived. The survival rate is 84.1% and mortality rate is 15.9%. The reason of the mortality of above plants is continuous three low pressures; cyclone called hudhud and cold held during the reporting period. The highest rainfall in the month of July and august 2014 was 138mm and 118mm which is greater in comparison to the month of July and august 2013 i.e. 58mm and 78mm respectively.

Table 4.3 Commons Development

Sl. No.	Commons Name	Area (acre)	Plants Supplied (Cashew)	Plants Survived	Percentage of Survival Plants (%)
1	Durkhal	15	975	805	82.6
2	Maligaon	10	650	360	55.4
3	Y. Kebidi	15	975	903	92.6
4	Kabatsil	15	975	818	83.9
5	Kukudagad	15	975	810	83.1
6	Singerkhadak	15	975	815	83.6
7	Pondpus	14	910	860	94.5
8	Podapadar	10	650	604	92.9
9	Lepespadar	10	650	532	81.8
	Total	119	7735	6507	84.1

The young Cashew plant does not tolerate high rainfall, storms and frosting and high humidity during its initial growth between September to December due to cyclonic weather, the plants have been affected. However, the gaps will be filled up immediately during the ensuing monsoon period.

4.6.6. Fencing

During the reporting period the green fencing in 119 acres of land in commons has completed. Apart from that stone fencing has also taken place in some of the commons as per the availability of the sources. These fencing have been protecting the farm from stray cattle and other animals to enter inside. The gabion in common has done to protect the plants from fog, cold and animals.

4.6.7. Plant Staking

During the reporting period the plant staking in commons has done in 93 acres. Out of 7271 plants 6045 plants staking have completed which is 83.1% of the total. The above plant staking has done with bamboo and wood sticks. It provides strength to the plant to stand against heavy wind flow.

4.6.8. Boarder Plantation

In the periphery of the commons, boarder plants have planted in 119 acres of land the women committee of 9 villages. In boarder plantation simarua, acacia, chakunda, neem, karanja and bamboo plants have planted. It will also work as a green fencing and provide fruit, fuel, fodder, timber and other daily requirements.

4.6.9. Sustainable management and benefits from commons

- The women committees of 9 villages have conducted fortnightly meeting to review the commons activities and its progress. The committee has monitored the pit digging, pit filling and land development works of commons. Apart from that the said committee has approved the beneficiaries who belong to women headed households, the location of sanitary well and seed cum grain bank in the concerned villages.

- The Lok Sangathan has been acted as a community watch group to monitor all activities of family farm, commons and nursery development and also to review the performances of farmers towards the sustainability of the implementation of the project. Apart from that the Sangathan has been monitoring the maintenance of Krushak Pustika by the individual farmer.
- Apart from that 9 nos. of nurseries in 9 villages have raised with proper maintenance which would promote the orchard development as well as meet the need of fodder demand of the community through border plants in the common land.
- The members of the Mahila Mandals of 9 villages have done green and stone fencing as per the availability in commons to protect the plants and intercropping from cattle grazing. They have also planted different forest spices like simarua, acacia, karanjia, chakunda, Subabul etc. in the boarder of commons to fulfil the need of fodder.
- Intercrops with hardy vegetable crops, millets, maize, ragi & high land paddy oil seeds & pulse have been taken up in the commons. And it would help the community populace to strengthen their economic condition.
- The women committees have been taken up development of these community land (Commons) and the produce will be taken earning of the particular committees.
- Through this earning, they have planned to take up many income generation programmes, collection and processing of Non Timber Forest Produces (NTFPs) and Agro-products, poultry, Goatary and dairy etc. It will improve the eco-system of the locality and keep the environment pollution free.

4.6.10. Seed and Grain Bank

Food insecurity is a persistent problem in the tribal areas. They cannot survive on what they produce by working hilly lands. In this regard the most essential stride has evolved as the establishment of Grain Bank in tribal villages. It makes tribals aware of the importance of saving. They are also being kept far away from the moneylenders who get them into a debt-trap, escape from which is impossible. The sustainability of the grain bank has been achieved by the collective contribution of the tribal families. It has decided that the community grain bank would advance loans to people only during the rainy season, a time of scarcity. During harvesting time, the loaner must repay the loan with interest. The operation of community grain bank being solved the problem of food shortage faced by the people to significant extent.

During the reporting period 6 nos. of Seed cum Grain Bank have established in 5 villages (Kabatsil, Kukudagad, Y. Kebidi, Pondpus, Podapadar & Dandabad). Apart from that require materials for rest 9 nos. of Seed cum Grain Bank have procured. The site selection for these banks have done and approved by the villagers of the target villages.

4.7. Solar Light

During 2014-15, 400 nos. of solar light have distributed to 400 nos. of beneficiaries of 15 villages of KKS. In the distribution ceremony Dr. Sashibhusan Padhy, Collector cum District Magistrate, Rayagada distributed the concerned lights among the beneficiaries of Kashipur block. Each solar light cost is Rs. 700/- which has provided to each beneficiary of family farm of 9 villages. These solar lights will reduce the use of small kerosene lamps, small earthen lamps by burning different vegetables oil. This kind of act will definitely mitigate the expense of kerosene and the children spend time in education at night time. The distribution of solar lights could able to offer the heartfelt pleasure among the farmers.

4.7.1. Supply of Drinking Water and Environmental Management

Safe and portable drinking water is one of the major problems in the project areas. The problem becomes more intense especially during the summer months, many tube wells, and open wells meant for drinking water purpose get dried up and women becomes compelled to go a distance of 3 to 4 km (sometimes it is even more than 5 km) to get drinking water from perennial stream which is not even safe for drinking purposes. To check spread of gastritis, inflammation in stomach, cholera, diarrhea, typhoid, skin diseases, and other communicable diseases, safe portable drinking water will be provided to all the households by adopting water technology supported by the scientific organizations of Govt.

The supply of safe drinking water has established in 5 villages (Kukudagad, Pondpus, Podapadar, Lepespadar and Malegaon) and the construction works like digging of well, concrete work and set up of hand pump etc. in 4 villages (Dandabad, Padampur, Kabatsil & Tujer) are under processing. Apart from that the site selection of 4 villages (Singerkhadak, Bhatipas, Upper Chobri and Tala Chobri) has completed. The location of the sanitary well has decided and approved by the Lok Sangathan and Women Committee of the respective villages. The above sanitary wells have been ensuring safe drinking water to the villagers. It has been helping them to curb various waterborne diseases like diarrhea, jaundice and cholera etc.

4.7.2. Training and Orientation of Community Mobilisers

On orientation training program on Eco-Village development has conducted with the community mobilisers of 15 nos. of KKS operational villages. The community mobilisers were informed about the following key points of Eco-village in the concerned meeting i.e.

- a) It would meet the food needs of each member of the community;
- b) Meet the fodder needs of the cattle in the village;
- c) Meet the firewood and other livelihood needs of the whole community;
- d) Ensure equitable resource sharing and land use;
- e) Seek to ensure conservation and sustainable use of the land, water, forest and other resources in the best interests of each member of the community and the ecosystem in general.
- f) The community will seek to protect and regenerate its commons, to meet the overall livelihood needs of the community, as also generate income where possible, that would form a collective wealth of the community.
- g) It should also be able to provide a supplementary income to the inhabitants, which will enable a good quality of life;
- h) The eco-village takes care of the poor, vulnerable and weaker sections within the community;
- i) The eco-village is built on a common understanding, trust and cooperation between each and every the member of the village.
- j) Every adult in the village have to appreciate the suggestions given by the women in decision making process for the development of eco-village.

4.7.3. Training of Community leaders

Total 2 trainings of community leaders have conducted. Resource persons were from the relevant Govt.

department of the concern region. Major emphasis has been given on selection of the potential candidates for community leaders those who have confidence, dedicated to learn, and eager to stand up with the community for social cause. In the entire project period, these community leaders have to play a key role in motivating, mobilizing and giving inspiration to other women's group and members to march ahead in the right and true spirit.

4.7.4. Sustainability through Establishment of CBOs

Women SHG

15 nos. of Women Committees have formed in 15 villages and opened bank a/c in respected villages till the reporting period. The concerned women committees have been taken care of the development of commons means land development and plantation in the village. Apart from that it has been playing major role in the activities related to women and child development of the village. Out of 15 nos. of training and capacity building under formation and strengthening of women groups 12 nos. of training have achieved.

Lok Sangathan

As there is an existing women group of each operational village so instead of village committee we have been formed Lok Sangathan (community watch group) in 15 villages. It has been monitoring the agro-activities of the community and appraising the performances of beneficiaries transparently during the reporting period. The Lok Sangathan has been acted as a community watch group to monitor all agro-activities like family farm, intercropping, orchard development and also review the performances of farmers towards the sustainability of the implementation of the project.

Grain bank committees

Total 15 nos. of Grain Bank committees have formed in 15 villages till the reporting period. There is 5 members in each committees and out 5 members 3 and 2 members are male and female respectively. Each committee has president and secretary and both the post consist of one male and one female. The committees have started the collection of food grains and local seeds to store in the seed cum grain bank and also monitoring the said activity with maintaining the monthly collection and distribution registers.

Apex committees

One apex committee has formed till the reporting period. This committee consists of 15 members out which 8 nos. are female and 7 nos. are male members. The apex committee has been monitoring all the activities of both family farm and commons of 15 villages. It has been playing prime role as a problem solving cum monitoring mechanism to the operational villages of KKS.

4.8. Monitoring

The monitoring matrix has developed through which all the activities have been monitored with proper tracking system. The Krushak Pustika (Farmers' Book of Family Farm) has updated according to the activities of KKS action plan in 15 villages to measure the progress and sustainability. This book has been provided to each beneficiary of family farm of KKS operational villages. It has been updated time to time i.e. containing the information of support receiving by KKS, training details and visitors review etc. Through the aforesaid book the activities and status of family farm could be tracked which has also smoothen the process of implementation of the project.

5

Addressing Nutritional and Income Insecurity of Underprivileged by Improving Access to Information on Relevant Government Schemes



5.1 Introduction

The Advocacy Project on “Improving Access to information on Government Schemes” is a five-year project starting from January 2014, funded by the European Union and is being implemented by Agragamee and its 9 partners – Agranee, Bolangir Bikash Parishad, ChaleChalo, Seba Jagat, Organisation For Rural Reconstruction And Integrated Social Activities(ORISSA), Society For The Welfare Of Weaker Section(SWSS), Mahila Vikas, Harmony and Regional Centre For Development Cooperation(RCDC) . The project area comprises 1000 villages, of 100 GPs under 20 blocks in 10 backward tribal districts of Odisha. Of the EU Project area, each district covers 2 blocks, 5 GPs have been selected under a block and a total of 10 villages under each GP have been taken up for project activities. This advocacy project covers 5 sectors of Govt. Schemes - Mass Education, ICDS, Health, MGNREGS and Governance. While Agragamee implements the project in 10 blocks, its 9 partners execute the same in other 10 blocks in 10 districts.

Table 5.1 EU Project Operational Areas and Partners

Sl. No.	District	Block-I & Implementing Agency	Block-II & Implementing Agency
1.	Rayagada	Kashipur - Agragamee	Rayagada - Agragamee
2.	Kalahandi	Th.Rampur - Agragamee	M.Rampur – Seba Jagat
3.	Koraput	Laxmipur - Agragamee	Dasmantpur - Agragamee
4.	Nawarangpur	Tentulikhunti - Agragamee	Dabugaon - RCDC
5.	Gajpati	Rayagad - SWSS	R.Udayagiri – Mahila Vikas
6.	Malkangiri	Mathili - Harmony	Korukunda - ORISSA
7.	Kandhamal	Tikaballi - ORISSA	Phiringia - Agragamee
8.	Bolangir	Bongomunda - Agragamee	Belpada – Bolangir Bikash Parishad
9.	Nuapada	Boden - ChelaChalo	Nuapada - Agragamee
10.	Mayurbhanja	Thakurmunda - Agragamee	Kaptipada - Agramee

India has some of the worst indicators in terms of crucial human development indicators like nutrition, literacy and education, health, and income. The hidden or perhaps not so hidden message behind these is the poor quality of services relating to these indicators, including, schools, pre-schools, provision of drinking water, etc. The most important and cross-cutting factor in all these is education. The lack of education creates a self-perpetuating cycle of ignorance – poor participation, poor governance, ineffective programme implementation, lack of education and so on. This traps the rural areas and especially tribal and marginalised communities of the country in a downward spiral of poverty and underdevelopment, which is worsened by the increasing disproportion in the development and facilities of the rural and urban areas and the digital divide become a chasm that is difficult to bridge.

This project seeks to address this growing divide by breaking this self-perpetuating cycle through persistent interventions for increasing people’s participation, people’s knowledge and information on the different schemes, and helping them mobilise for collective and persistent action. The first focus of the project is on education, and the schemes, programmes and supports for primary and elementary education, so that the first steps towards a generation of literates in the tribal regions can be initiated. This will be the foundations for an aware, alert and confident community, who will actively participate in governance from planning to implementation and effective monitoring.

5.2 Objectives

- To improve the quality of life of poor local communities in remote tribal pocket by enhancing participation in local governance and improving information and access to govt. schemes.
- To enhance access to information on and benefit from Govt. schemes to targeted Schedule Tribe and Schedule Caste women and children, landless and marginal farmer families, migrant workers, and displaced communities in the EU project areas of 10 districts.
- To empower the ignored Govt. Schemes beneficiaries/stakeholders to follow up their issues through RTI, and to demand for supports and benefits under Govt. Schemes like – demand for school/ICDS building,

regularising MDM, teacher attendance, monthly SMC meeting, monitoring of services in school, ICDS, Health, MGNREGS AND Gram Sabha and Palli Sabha etc.

- to empower the stakeholders, women groups, Citizen Action Group(CAG), PRI members through capacity building training and Orientation, and formation of BIC, Block, District and State level RTI Forum to create and activate the support through multiple platform.
- To enhance benefit to 10,000 children from improved delivery of ICDS services, 10,000 school going children to have better access to primary education, 20 backward blocks to have better people centred planning, 10,000 women in 20 blocks to benefit from women centred Gram Sabha decisions.

5.3 State Level Launching of the EU Project

The Project was officially launched on 9th January 2014 from Bhubaneswar by Agragamee and its 9 partners of the EU Project. The distinguished guests present among others were Mr. Laurent LE DANOIS Attaché – Development and Cooperation of the Delegation of the European Union to India, Chief Secretary, IAS and Odisha State RTI commissioner Mr. Tarunkanti Mishra, Prof Radhamohan, former Odisha Information Commissioner, Shri Chitta Behera, a noted Legal Activist and expert on RTI, Shri Digambar Sathpathy, Shri Manmohan Praharaj former DG of Police, Dr. Aurbindo Behera, former Member, Board of Revenue who described the role of information in deepening democracy, Professor BK Panda, Director Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for development Studies. The distinguished guests unanimously hailed the much needed ‘Advocacy Project’ for the backward tribal districts of Odisha. A total of 150 participants had joined the inaugural ceremony of the EU Project. They also immensely appreciated Agragamee’s prolonged effort sensitise and enlightened the spirit of the illiterate, poor and marginalised communities on different Govt. Schemes in the project areas.

5.4 Programme Activities

5.4.1 Formation Block Level Information Centre (BIC)

The first step towards providing a resource centre on information and capacity building training and orientation for the project area at the block level was the establishment of the BIC on a priority basis. These will act as liaisoning and information centre for the needy people of the area. All the 20 Block Information Centres (BIC) have been set up, in the respective block headquarters, and are functioning actively, providing information, and support to community members for effective implementation of programmes. It is expected that these centres will become more active, once CAGs become active, with training and information inputs.

5.4.2 Linkages and Joint Programmes with Government Organisations

The next step was to develop the ‘Linkages’ with Government Institutions at different levels - block, district and the State level. At the state level, effective dialogue and communication have been established with the Information Commissioner, the Health Secretary, and the Chief Secretary for facilitating sharing of information by the different departments and offices. Sharing and interaction were taken up with 10 District Collectors, PD, DRDA, PA, IT DA, DWO, DWCD, DEO, BEO, CDPO, BDO, ABDO, PEO Medical Officer, CHC. Apart from this the ground level linkages at the Block, and with village leaders, and elected leaders have also helped Agragamee and its partners to fine tune the programme, and identify priority areas and groups for support and hand holding.

Interface workshops at the GP level have been taken up in different districts. These workshops, which have brought together community members, elected leaders, and government functionaries, have helped to highlight the lacunae in the Government Programmes, and facilitated direct interaction between the members of the

community, and the government officials, highlighting the shortcomings, as also helping people to have a better understanding of the programmes. There have been wonderful appreciation of such a advocacy campaign effort that some govt. officials both at district and block level wholeheartedly supported the idea and have been extending promised support for collecting information on any issues or Govt. works till today. During the project period more than 250 Govt. officials were contacted and apprised of the EU Project Objectives and also received supportive response from them.

5.4.3 Base-line Survey

The baseline survey was one of the major programme activities to be completed within first half of this year. This was followed by a Baseline training and orientation programme for all block coordinators. The purpose was to ascertain the ground realities and collect some valuable inputs from the diverse groups, community leaders, PRI members, Govt. officials. This survey was divided in to 3 parts – Part – I, Part – II and Part – III to simplify the qualitative and quantitative data. This has been completed in all the 20 blocks of the 10 districts. The Part – I format all the households were survey in one village per GP out of 5 GPs and 50 villages of a EU block area. The Part – II format collected data from 10% of the household in 50 villages under 5GPs of a block and the Part – III format of the survey entire village data were one survey form that conveys the general opinion of the villagers in 50 villages.

The above exercise not only helped us in identifying the depth of irregularities and corresponding distress pockets but also enable us a lot to shape our future programme intervention, strategies and capacity building training and Orientation programmes as per the priority needs. The Baseline Survey has been completed and a good collection of data was obtained on conditions of the families and services on School, ICDS, Health, MGNREGS and Gram Sabha and Palli Sabha. Besides, micro-planning was conducted in 40 high risk villages including PRAs.

The Baseline Survey coverage in 20 blocks of 10 districts is as follows:

1. In the Part – I Baseline Survey a total of 4,700 individual households were surveyed. This was a rapid quantitative socio-economic household survey covering 10% of the project area
2. A total of 660 families were covered under Part – II format of baseline Survey. This was a more qualitative survey seeking to understand the extent and kind of exclusion in the villages. The survey covered
3. In Part – III a total of 953 villages in 10 districts were covered. This was a village level appraisal of the status of different Government schemes, and the overall situation of the village, with regard to access to different services and facilities.

5.5 Micro Planning and PRAs

A total of 40 high risk villages were selected and micro-planning and PRAs were taken up to ascertain the Information on status of different schemes and programmes in 1000 villages. After its conclusion, it was found out that the extent of exclusion from Government Programmes for 5000 families in 100 villages assessed.

5.6 Development and Printing of IEC Material

As the school and ICDS were the to be focused in this period IEC material content –leaflets and posters, brochures regarding diverse rules and regulations, provisions and facilities details were designed and printed in Odia language. A bi-monthly newsletter covering case-studies from different blocks project areas. The newsletter has become a great tool of empowerment and has already won the hearts of all groups in the villages of the project areas and there has been an increasing demand for it which is very difficult to comply with under given financial constraints.

- Brochure on the Govt. schemes designed and printed: Brochure in Odia Language: 1500 copies; Brochure in English Language: 1700 copies
- Leaflets on School and ICDS – 10,000 copies, Posters on RTE – 1500 copies and Matru Committee and Janch Committee in one poster – 1500 copies.
- A total of 6 Newsletters each 16 pages were designed and printed: Newsletter in Odiya Language: 1st issue - 2500 copies; Newsletter in English Language: 1000 copies, rest of the issues in 1500 copies.
- About 100 copies of newsletters are sent to different RTI activists, social worker, civil societies, media, PRI members, IAS officers and MP MLAs of the state.
- Awareness of the project has reached Block and district Offices, as also remote corners of villages, and created the potential for active people's participation in Govt. Programmes, and also created a demand amongst officials for involvement of project staff for better implementation of Government programmes.

5.7 District Level Launching of EU Project in 10 districts

To develop and promote rapport building and sharing of information an interface programme of Dist. level Launching of this challenging EU Project was planned. Launching of this Information Sharing Programme was taken up successfully in 10 Districts of Odisha between June and September 2014. These events were able to bring together Government officials, elected leaders, community members and members of the media to highlight the problems faced by people in tribal regions to access basic services provided by the Government. Several young Sarapanch participated in these meetings. They highlighted the many reasons for the poor implementation of the programmes, and emphasised that there should be more dynamic participation of people especially the women groups in the Palli Sabha and Gram Sabha which are the local governance bodies for collective and democratic decision-making.

Many women leaders spoke about the poor implementation of the programmes, and pointed out that the need for more information on the processes and procedures of the programmes. Most importantly, these District level Launching events brought District officials and tribal community members together in a face to face discussions, and drew forth a commitment from the officials to ensure that the programmes ran effectively, and transparently. The specific achievement is as follows:

- Government Officials of Tribal Welfare, Women and Child Welfare, Health, and Panchayati Raj Departments as well as District Administration sensitised in 10 districts,
- Elected representatives promised their unconditional commitment to support the programme in 50 Panchayats in 10 districts.

5.8 Training & Capacity Building for Youth Empowerment

For the period 2014-15 the first programme of Identification, orientation and leadership training of Sachetaks were taken up in November 2014 in two batches for a total of 40 Sachetaks in 20 blocks of 10 districts. The selection of 2 Sachetaks were to be selected from each block on a basis of 1:1 Male Female ratio so that gender equality is maintained. Two more Sachetak Orientation and Training programmes were organised on a quarterly basis – in January and April 2015 at Kashipur of Rayagada. The Sachetaks' performance was reviewed and they were provided a timely orientation given their past experiences of successes and failures.

5.9 Block Level Citizen Action Group (CAG) Formation

In the project period 2014-15 the priority needs for formation of block level Citizen Action Group (CAG) forum was

formed in all of the 20 blocks of the 10 districts. The CAG members were scheduled for a series of Village and GP level capacity building orientation and training programs at their respective BIC centres and GP level Information Centres in a block. Here also the 'gender equality' was worked out in the selection of CAG members. Thus, a total of 800 CAG members are on the move to track and follow up the stakeholders' issues pertaining to receiving benefits from Govt. schemes in 10 districts. In this year a total of 46 block level CAG capacity building workshops were organised and more than 1500 CAG members and other participants sensitised on the rules and regulations, provisions and facilities, roles and responsibilities of school and ICDS committee members in 10 districts.

5.10 GP Level CAG Orientation and Training Programmes

In this period a total of 79 GP level capacity building and orientation programmes have been conducted and more than 2400 CAG members and participants were sensitised. IEC materials like brochures, leaflets, posters distributed and information given through wall paintings in 55 villages on school, ICDS and MGNREGS in 20 blocks of 10 districts.

5.11 Village Level CAG Meetings

The period from April 2014 to March 2015 witnessed a total of 3400 village level CAG meetings in 20 blocks of EU project areas. The village level CAG meetings proved to be the most powerful programme so far as the project faced lot of challenges from irregular school teachers, Anganwadi Workers, corrupt Ward Member, Sarapanch, AWW, Asha Karmi, GRS, Contractors and their village supporters. This, in turn, emboldened the spirit and determination of the project staffs and villagers in favour of the project campaign to achieve its goal in project areas.

However, there have been some wonderful success, villagers and women groups have demanded for transparency and accountability in implementation of MDM in school, teacher's attendance, new teachers' appointment, new school building, 6 types of ICDS services from Anganwadi Centre, MGNREGS works and Palli Sabha and Gram Sabha. At the yearend it was found out that a total of 60% villages out of 1000 EU villages have either verbal or written complaint lodged at least once at the targeted Govt. offices. There have been instances of life risk to different block coordinators, Sachetaks and CAG members as they received threatening from the corrupt teachers, govt. officials, GRS or village Contractor sometimes over the phone or at times face-to-face.

This trend of following up of issues in village and lodging complaints have gone up substantially which shows the ever increasing impact of awareness on CAG members. Some of it has been well documented in the bi-monthly newsletter of the EU project.

5.12 Using the Weekly Market Space:

In order to help people to overcome their fear-psychosis and make them more knowledgeable and informative directly it was decided to launch a weekly 'Haat Programme', making use of the traditional weekly market centres in each block. Attracting people with bright tunes and folk songs on a megaphone, these programmes then proceeded to broadcast information on different Government programmes and schemes in the market space, and distributed leaflets and pamphlets to those interested to know more. The response was immediate and significant. Hundreds of people wanted to know about the schemes, and flocked to these makeshift tents for information. Several Government functionaries, also participated, and assured to share their schemes as well in the next market programme.

5.13 Wall Paintings

Wall painting in village walls was found to be a powerful medium to sensitize the villagers on govt. schemes.

During the project period wall paintings on school, ICDS services and MGNREGS facilities were carried out in a total of 15 villages.

5.14 Some of the Success Stories:

5.14.1 Durkhal Primary School and AWC Regularised

Durkhal is a small revenue village of Chandragiri GP in Kashipur block under Rayagada district, Odisha. Most of the villagers are Tribal, are very poor and illiterate. A total of 110 families live in the village. There is very little agricultural land in the village. The farming on the hills is the only source of subsistence. The severity of illiteracy and malnutrition in the village especially among the mothers and children are clearly visible in their face. There is one Primary School and an Anganwadi centre in the village. But none of them were functional for years together. In the school 2 teachers had been appointed and a total of 55 children are there up to 5th Standard.

Through village meetings, and leaflets about the programme, the villagers were sensitized about the Govt. provisions, rules and regulations, roles and responsibilities of the School Management and AWC Committee members. Thereafter, the next day the villagers sat together to discuss the strategies to address the problem and decided to confront them in a village meeting.

The AWC and only one teacher came to the said village meeting. The villagers asked for reasons behind serious irregularities at school and AWC showing the leaflets of Govt. rules and provisions, role and responsibilities of teachers and SMC and Janch Committee members. The school teacher found no way out wept before everybody and finally accepted his guilt and promised to run school as per rules and provisions. But, the AWC was adamant and tried her best to argue with the villagers. But, when the villagers asked her to provide a written petition of what she was saying she got humbled, wept and acknowledged her guilt and promised to be regular at the AWC with all provisions and facilities. Afterwards, both the school and AWC became regular.

5.14.2 Bhitabagri School Building Improved:

Dist: Koraput, Block: Dasmantpur, GP: Bhitabagri

A total of 160 families live in the Bhitabagri village under this GP. Out of this 151 families belong to Scheduled Tribe and 2 families are from Scheduled Caste while other 7 families are of other castes than the above. The village Primary School was established way back in 1975 and later on it was promoted to a higher secondary school. The School has had only 2 classrooms and out of this two rooms one is being used for cooking MDM. So, all the students from 1st to 7th class sit in the one room and continue their study till today.

Seeing this very distressing condition of the school children a village meeting was organised by the CAG members and it was decided to lodge a written complaint to BDO and Block Education Officer (BEO) drawing the attention of the very awful condition of the village school. Both BDO and BEO made a surprise visit to the village soon after receiving the complaint from the Bhitabagri villagers and women groups. He was utterly shocked at the very poor condition of the school building and as also to find all the 1st to 7th class students in one classroom. Then, BDO asked the school headmaster to complete renovation and whitewashing of the school building within 7 days. As for a new school building, the BDO suggested the villagers to submit a written petition demanding for the same.

Thereafter, the renovation and whitewashing works were completed within seven days. And, to the villagers' surprise, the construction works of a new school building was also taken up a few days after the renovation services have been completed.

5.14.3 Community shuns Home Delivery and Opts for Institutional Delivery:

On the banks of River Rahul is Jurakhman, a small village with 115 families, in M.Rampur block of Kalahandi district. Out of 115 Families 85 families are belonging to scheduled Tribe (ST) community. Most of the villagers are daily wage earners or agricultural labourers. Most of the residents of this village are illiterate and depend on village forest products in some way or the other. During pregnancies and for delivery, they all depended on the local Dai.

Despite availability of Anganwadi centre in the village, health service for pregnant women was not accessible. Seba Jagat in association with EU-Agragamee project started its program in the year 2014. It focused on improving the condition of education and health in the village. At that time there was no coordination among the community and the health service providers. The Anganwadi centre existed just for the name sake. No one knew what the Anganwadi Worker was doing or was supposed to do.

Seba Jagat with the support of Agragamee, formed the Citizen Action Group (CAG) at the village and sensitized to CAG and community leaders of the village regarding Govt. Scheme and services i.e Mamata Yojana, Janani Surakshya Yojana, ICDS, roles and responsibilities of ASHA, AWW and ANM, and Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health and also coordinated with Health and ICDS dept. for providing better services in the area.

Continuous activities with CAG, community leaders and service providers, Rapport Building with block administration and sharing the information of Govt scheme and services we have success to ensure safe delivery. Pregnant women found their feet and reason out with their in-laws to shun home delivery and instead take advantage of the modern birthing methods in the hospitals. Today Jurakhman village has achieved the feat of 100 % institutional delivery. The success has rubbed off on the nearby villages and they are also following the footsteps of Jurakhman. The people of this village have vowed to take the village forward in the sectors of health and education.

5.14.4 Stakeholders got back IAY after threatening Sarpanch with RTI

Dist: Kandhamal, block: Phiringia, GP: Balandapada – this GP is situated at the end of the western part of the district border. It is at distance of 50 and 45 kilometres away respectively from district and block headquarters. The GP covers 18 wards and mostly the tribal(Kondh), Schedule Caste and other marginalised communities live in the villages. The inhabitants are illiterate, downtrodden and neglected till date. Given this hapless situation many govt. officials, private contractors have been exploiting these people like anything for their business interest. In one of such a glaring instance the Sarpanch of Balandapada GP was demanding bribes of Rs. 5000-10000/- for giving IAY work orders. Those who couldn't afford such sums were deprived despite legitimate Gram Sabha resolutions.

The above issue of FRA –IAY was brought to notice of the block level CAG members of those 5 villages. These CAG members then lodged a complaint on the above issue with the BDO with an ultimatum that if the left out stakeholders of those villages didn't get back their FRA-IAY within the following 15 days then they would be forced to file an RTI over the matter. But, after a month from the date of lodging the complaint the BDO issued an instruction to Sarpanch, GRS and Panchayat Extension Officer to personally call for the stakeholders to hand over the FRA-IAY work order to each of them at the earliest. Finally, handing over of the pending FRA-IAY work orders of the stakeholders of those 5 villages were completed before 10.03.2015. Thus, a total of 34 stakeholders could get back their IAY work orders without any bribe. The CAG members emerged victorious in their effort to bring transparency in the implementation and management of a govt. scheme in such an illiterate and much neglected pocket of backward tribal area.

5.15 Conclusion

The project year from 2014-15 was in many ways a learning experience in 20 blocks of EU project areas. There have been a set of wonderful positive response from some govt. officials, PRI members and CAG members and villagers alike. But, there have also been equally disturbing reports from blocks where the block coordinator, Sachetak or a CAG member has been threatened with dire consequences for taking up an issue, highlighting it in media and persuading village to rise against a corrupt official, GRS, local contractor. Finally the volume of success in the field in taking up issues and villagers, stakeholders or Committee members' enthusiasm and determination became an eye-opener that really carried the project activities forward.

Table 5.2 District Level Launching

Sl. No.	District	Date	Venue	Total no. of Participants		No. of Officials/ PRI Members
				Female	Male	
1.	Rayagada	20.06.2014	Conference Hall, DRDA, Rayagada	25	40	Dist. Collector, PD, DRDA, DEO, BDO, CDPO-5 PRI members
2.	Koraput	13.06.2014	Sadbhawana Gruha, DRDA, Koraput	25	50	Sub-Collector, PD, DRDA, Koraput College Principal, Ex-Collector-5 PRI members
3.	Gajapati	24.07.2014	Conference Hall,	38	71	Dist. Collector, DEO, DRDA, Paralakhemundi CDMO, 35 PRI members
4.	Nawarangpur	28.07.2014	Mission Sakti Nawarangpur	21	39	ZP Chairman, Ex-BDO, PRI Conference Hall, members
5.	Malkangiri	4.07.2014	Conference Hall, DRDADRDA, Malkangiri			PA, ITDA, SEO, PEO, staff, BRCC, CDPO, LACO, DCPU, ZP Chairman, ZP Vice-Chairman, – 11 PRI members
6.	Kalahandi	9.07.2014		30	40	Dist. Collector, 8 PRI members
7.	Kandhamal	19.08.14	Conference Hall, DRDA, Phulbani	70	110	AHO, ADWEO, 13 PRI members
8.	Bolangir	23.07.14	Sambadikabhawan, Bolangir	65		DEO, Lecturer, ZP Chairman, 10 PRI members
9.	Nuapada	5.08.2014	Soil conservation Conference Hall, Nuapada	15	25	PD, DRDA, 6 PRI members
10.	Mayurbhanja	8.08.2014	Conference Hall, Municipality Bhawan, Baripada	25	47	Ex-Commissioner Secretary, PHEO, Gender Coordinator, Sarva Siksha Aivyan, Statistical Officer – DSWE0

Table 5.3 Weekly Haat Details

Sl. No.	Block	No. of Haat Programmes GPs	Total No. of Participants	No. of		No. of Officials/ PRI Members	
				Male	Female	Male	Female
1.	Dasmantpur	1	345	-	-	2	10
2.	Rayagada	1	200	170	30	0	3
3.	Phiringia	8	910	819	91	0	15
4.	Boden	3	450	405	45	1	8
5.	Kaptipada	2	400	360	40	0	3
	Total	15	2305	4517	206	1	39

Table 5.4 Weekly Wall Painting Details

Sl. No.	Block	Total No. of Wall Paintings	Wall Painting: No. of GP/Villages		Wall No. Painting: No. of Govt. Schemes
1.	Tentulikhunti	4	1	2	2
2.	Dabugaon				
3.	Laxmipur	9	1	2	2
4.	Dasmantpur	17	1	2	3
5.	Kashipur	16	2	3	4
6.	Rayagada	9	1	4	2
7.	Phiringia	6	5	6	3
8.	Boden 3	3	3	5	
9.	Bongomunda	10	5	8	2
10.	Belpada	4	4	4	5



6

WADI Programme Shows the Way in Agro-Horticulture Development



6.1 Genesis of Wadi approach

The “Wadi” model of tribal development is a holistic approach addressing production, processing and marketing of the produce and also other needs. The core of the programme is “Wadi” or home garden, and other development interventions are built around it. The “Wadi” may be of mango, cashew, litchi or any fruit crop suitable to the area or a combination of these crops, with forestry species on the periphery of the land holding. Two or more fruit crops are selected in the “Wadi” model to minimize the climatic, biological and marketing risks. Wadi programme is introduced as the strategy to improve horticulture development. Tribal families having less than 5 acres patta land is given 1 acre Wadi each for raising 60-75 fruit plants suitable to local area and 200-300 forestry plants on the boundary. Other development interventions in the Wadi areas are soil conservation, water resource development, agriculture development; women development, health, income generation for landless etc. are woven around the Wadi.

Convergence is also an integral part of the Wadi programme where convergence through three major schemes –

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGS), National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and National Rural Health Mission (NHRM) are explored. Also departmental wise schemes related to irrigation facilities, drinking water facilities, land development, fencing etc. can be explored further. The advantages of Wadi programme can be stated as follows:

- Sustainable income from orchard every year
- Till plants starts fruiting, inter cropping can provide earlier return to family
- Due to assured irrigation, farmer can take 2-3 crops in a year.
- Intensive agronomical practices, which can produce more yield and more income to the family
- Year-round food security to the family
- Cost of production can be reduced
- Collective marketing and processing of all produce due to more quantity available for sale

6.2 Objectives of the WADI Project

- To facilitate creation of 1000 acres of self-managed mini orchards for 1119 tribal families.
- To generate empowerment and capacity building for tribal farmers and women groups in 37 villages through different trainings for income generation.
- To provide nutritional food and safe drinking water for all the tribal families of the 37 villages.
- To achieve Convergence with govt. Schemes such as NREGS, National Horticulture Mission, National Rural Health Mission etc.
- To enhance quality of life of the tribals through provision of basic services like health, sanitation safe drinking water etc. in all the villages of the projects areas.

Table 6.1 NABARD WADI Project Abstract

District	:	Koraput	Total Beneficiaries	:	1119
Block	:	Dasmantpur	Total UVS Formed	:	78
Total Villages	:	37	Boarder Plantation	:	1000 acres
Total No. and Name of the panchayats	:	1.Dasmantpur	Supply of Diesel pump for lift Irrigation purpose	:	36
Total GPs: 04		2.Chikamba	Check dam	:	2
		3.Giriliguma	Nos. of Landless beneficiaries for IGP	:	101
		4.Dumbaguda	Total SHG formed	:	50
Project Period	:	2009 to 2017			
Funding Agency	:	NABARD			
Total Area Covered	:	1000 acres			

Table 6.2 Training and Meeting

Training and Capacity Building	Nos. of Training & Meeting Conducted	Total Participants
Experience & Sharing workshop	5	365
Training to Farmers on Wadi Establishment	9	429
Training of Self Help Concept	3	102
Safe Drinking Water Chlorination of Wells	2	89
Special Measures for Malaria, Diarrhoea & Cholera	1	48
Horticulture Training	2	69
Mother & Child healthcare- Special Measures	1	25
General Health Camp	9	502
Total	32	1629

Table 6.3 How landless are benefited

Income generation activities for landless

Name of the Activities	Nos. of Beneficiaries
Goatery	73
Sheepery	24
Tailoring	5
Multi Utility Shop	7
Vegitable Vending	5
Cycle Repairing	4
Total	118

Table 6.4 How landless are benefited Cana Digging of Wadi Beneficiary in own Initiative in Wadi patches

Name of GP.	Name of Village	Total Mtrs.
Dumbaguda	Bhitarbagri	645
Berengaput		212
Bhandisil		425
Girliguma	Ratabandha	534
Makakan		123
Total		1939

Table 6.5 Pipe Line Connection to WADI Patches

Name of GP.	Name of Village	Total Mtrs.
Dumbaguda	Berangaput	645
Do	Bhitarbagri	945
Dasmantpur	Pedisil	345
Girliguma	Ratabandha	215
Total		2150

6.3 Convergence work with Govt. department

- AGRAGAMEE gave IPPE Training in PRI method (MGNREGA Action plan 2015-16) to 16 GPs JE.GRS, PEO,BPT and Sarapanch at Dasmantpur Block Meeting Hall.
- 60kg of Onion Seeds in Rabi season have been supplied by Horticulture dept. of Subsidised rate.
- 10nos. of Tetra-vermi beds for preparation of vermi compost have been supplied by Horticulture dept.
- Land development in shape of bunding (earth & stone bunding) have been taken up in an area of 80 acres through MGNREGA in Banasil , Bariguda, Pedisil, Dudijhola ,Girli, Makakan, Bhitarbagri villages. Vegetable seed kits at 50% subsidy have been provided to farmers by Horticulture dept.
- 10nos. of sprayers at 75% subsidy have been provided to beneficiaries through Agriculture Dept.
- Planning has been made to construct a check dam in the village Bhitarbagri, Girli, Banasil & Rataband by B.D.O., Dasmantpur utilising MGNREGA funds.

6.4 Resolution of 4th Project Implementation & Monitoring Committee(PIMC)Meeting:

The 4th Project Implementation & Monitoring Committee (PIMC) Meeting of NABARD WADI Dasmantpur was held on dated 16th January 2015 in the training hall of Agragamee Dasmantpur, Koraput. Mr. Murali Mishra, AGM NABARD, Koraput cum Chair Person of PIMC presided over the meeting.

6.5 PIMC Members field visit:

As per agenda the members of PIMC visited to Banasil village to observe WADI plantation of second batch (2011) and interacted with beneficiaries. It was found that each beneficiary was supplied with the following planting material for one acre:

- 25 no's of mangos grafts
- 10 no's of Litchi grafts
- 40 no's of cashew grafts
- The total area of the village 38 acres
- Total number of beneficiaries 42.
- The entire area is fenced.
- No. of UVS 3

The beneficiaries had raised inter cropping with brinjal, chilly, beans, cowpea, bitter gourd and ridged gourd etc. The total project was organic based plantation with inter cropping including pest and disease management and integrated nutritional management.

It was also learnt from the beneficiaries that on an average each beneficiary has received a profit of Rs.8,000-10,000/-. The crop is still on the fruiting stage .The members in PIMC went round the WADI area and visited thoroughly the achievement so far made.

During field visit, the members interacted with the beneficiaries and wanted to know what are the different inputs, supplied to them, how they have utilized the inputs, what was the pit size, how they are irrigating the plants how the UVS is functioning etc. The members were satisfied at the growth of the plants, maintenance of the orchard and sincerity of the beneficiaries. They have also provided some technical guidance for further improvement of orchard.

6.6 Bonasil village - a success story:

Bonasil is a tribal dominated village consisting of 90 households, the majority belonging to the Kondha Paraja community of Adivasi. Bonasil became a model village under the Wadi project gaining attention from the neighbouring villagers, government officials and development activists for its lush green Wadi plots with mixed croppings of vegetables, grams and orchards. Previously the socio-economic situation in the village was not as rosy as it seems now. According to Dipai Majhi, a community leader and President of Bonasil SHG, "In earlier days, agriculture largely depended on monsoon; villagers used to cultivate mono-crops in the low and medium land and practiced shifting cultivation on the sloppy land where they produce various minor millets, the yield of which is subjected to the timely rainfall. The situation became even worse when the rainfall got delayed and farmers failed to recover their sowed indigenous seeds. This form of subsistence agriculture barely provided food security for 4-5 months in a year. Due to lack of employment opportunities, distress migration is the only solution available to the villagers for their livelihood."

Dipai also added that previously land was rocky, less productive and had no irrigation facility; making a good harvest a distant dream for the farmers. Danua Jani and Puri Jani were the first two farmers in Bonasil to adopt the Wadi model. Danua delightedly says that, "The Wadi project helped me realize the significance of settled agriculture and now farmers are no more practicing shifting cultivation which is more labour intensive and incurs less returns". The initial task was to develop land through earth and stone bunding, priority was given to fencing for protection from cattle and once the land was developed and fenced, fruit saplings and intercropping was used extensively. Gradually their rocky land was converted into green Wadi plots. During Kharif season dwarf varieties like finger millet, green gram, black gram, groundnut and various vegetables are cultivated as intercrops. In Rabi season chickpea, pea, masoor, sunflower and vegetables are cultivated. "Last year I earned Rs 11500 after selling the intercrops. With that money I have repaired my house and purchased a pair of goats", says an overwhelmed Danua. Seeing Danua's success, other farmers too accepted the Wadi model. From year 2011 to 2014, a total of 56 farmers adopted the model.

Every month a meeting is organized by the UVS of Bonasil and collective decisions are taken, one Yubak Sangha and 2 SHG were also formed in the village. The Wadi project has significantly improved the socio-economic life of every farmer in the village, more importantly younger generation is showing interest in Wadi model. This has reduced the rate of distress migration in the region. There is no doubt that Wadi is a holistic and replicable model for sustainable livelihood of tribals in other parts of the country.



A beneficiary standing in his Wadi plot



Kuntala Majhi in her family farm of mixed cropping of indigenous maize and tomato



Mango Tree in a flowering stage



Gramya Devi Mahila Mandal, Durukhal



Eco-village model at Maligaon



H type staking of mango saplings to protect from wind blow



Sunadei Majhi of Y-Kebidi in her family farm



Kuntala Majhi in her family farm



Members of Maligaon Mahila Mandal showing cashew plant in their common land



Orchard Grafting



Members of Mahila Mandal taking orchard saplings to their common land



Members of Y-Kebidi Mahila Mandal working in their common land



Children performing Street play for sensitization importance on girls education



Classroom teaching in Agragamee School



Collector interacting with the students



Teacher training for 1st graders



State Level Workshop on Rural Entrepreneurship Development Focusing on Tribal Regions at Bhubaneswar



EU evaluator Mrs. Anusaya Gupta interacting with the women of Mandibisi



CAG Training at Rayagada BIC



Village meeting at Meniguda of Dabugaon village, Nabarangpur



Solar Light Distribution to the Wadi beneficiaries



Wadi beneficiaries showing Solar Lights



Wadi farmers demonstrating how to prepare Organic Pesticide in Banasil village



Beneficiaries with their Solar Light at Podapadar village of Mahulpatna, Kalahandi

7

Transparency Form

- 7.1 Name** : AGRAGAMEE (Non-Government Organisation)
- 7.2 Registered Address** : Agragamee, At/Po- Kashipur, District : Rayagada,
Pin: 765015, State: Odisha, Country: India
- 7.3 Details of Branch Office** :
1. At: Derakumpa, Po: Gochhapada-762002, District: Kandhamal
 2. At/Po: Thakurmunda, District: Mayurbhanj
 3. At: Goudaguda, Po: Tentulikhunti, District: Nabarangpur
 4. At/Po: Dasmantpur-765028, District: Koraput
 5. At/Po: Laxmipur, District: Koraput
 6. At/Po: Nuapada, District: Nuapada
 7. At: Padepadar, Via: Mukhiguda, Pin: 766026, District: Kalahandi
 8. At: Adri, Po: Gopinathpur-762002, District: Kalahandi
 10. At/Po: Rayagada, District: Rayagada
 11. Coordination Office, ND-8, VIP Area, IRC Village,
Bhubaneswar-751015
- 7.4 Telecommunications** : Phone : 0674-2551123
Fax : 0674-2551130
E-Mail: info@agrgamee.org
Website; <http://www.agrgamee.org>
- 7.5 Contact Person** : Mr. Achyut Das (Director)
- 7.6 Details of Registration** : KPT-289/6/1987-88
Date of Registration – 29th April 1987
Sub Registration of Society, Koraput, Odisha

7.

- a. FCRA Number** : 104960035
Date of Registration: 27th February 1991
- b. Detail of Staffs** : Professional : 20
Support : 80
Total Members : 100
- c. Financial Status** : 1. Income and Expenditure (Lakhs)
Income - INR : 3,16,89,267.00
Expenditure : 3,22,41,973.00
2. Assets as per last audited balance sheet (Lakhs)
Fixed Asset : 1,11,04,651.00
3. Loan & Work Advance : 4,79,153.00
4. Fixed Deposit at Bank : 1,30,66,793.00
- d. Exemptions** : 1. 80-G
2. Society Registration under 1860 Act
3. 12A
4. Income Tax Act (PAN No. AAATA1775E)
Commissioner of Income Tax Bhubaneswar
5. Tax Deduction Account (TAN) - No. BBNA0018D
- e. Administration Expenditure in %** : 20 %
- f. Compensation Structure Ratio** : 1. Highest Cost Employee Rs. 25000/-
2. Lowest Cost Employees Rs. 6000/-
3. Ratio: 7:3
- g. Facilities Provided** : Fooding, Free Accommodation, Medical Facilities,
Health Insurance, Solar Light, Drinking Water,
EPF and other allowances

8

Organisation Profile

8.1 Governing Body



Prof. Manmath Kundu

President

Eminent Educationist, Professor of English Literature, Former Director of English Language Teaching Institute, Former Director of Academy of Tribal Languages, Author of several books on Education.



Smt. Shanti Devi

Vice President

Freedom Fighter and Social Worker, Recipient of JAMUNANAL BAJAJ AWARD, Founder member and organiser of SEVA SAMAJ, Runs projects on health, education, nutrition and women's welfare in tribal areas.



Sri Achyut Das

Director

Development Activist and Founder Director of Agravamee. Ex-Member State Planning Board in Odisha, Ex. Member of the Joint Machinery setup for coordination between voluntary agency and Government by Planning Commission India. Completed Special Training on Human Rights (Law, development, Social Justice) in the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands. Completed Special course on rural Energy, Planning and Environment in Twente University, ENSCHEDE, Netherlands, Special Certificate Course on Managing Sustainable Rural Development in University of Birmingham (UK).



Mrs. Sundei Saunta

Member

Social worker and community leader, President of Dasmantpur Mahila Mahasangha - Women Federation consisting of 1000 tribal women as its members.



Ms. Sushila Majhi

Member

Secretary of Ama Sangathan – a Tribal Women Federation consisting of 1200 tribal women as its members.



Mrs. Jatani Kanhar

Member

Social worker and community leader in tribal areas.



Boiraj Bhoi

Member

Social worker, community leader and educator in tribal areas.

8.2. Are any of the Board Members created to the Chief Functionary?

If so, kindly give details : No

8.3. Name of the Chief Functionary : Mr. Achyut Das

8.4. Does the Chief Functionary pay Income Tax : Yes

8.5. Kindly give details of the personal assets of the Chief Functionary : Nil

8.7. Activities

- Vocational Education and Training programme for tribal youth.
- Advocacy Learning and Social Activism through Capacity Building programme.
- Integrated watershed development and natural resource management.
- Training and capacity building for such comprehensive watershed development and natural resource management.
- Education including innovative, non formal, alternative and women literacy programmes.
- Environment including biodiversity conservation, natural resources management and ecologically balanced agriculture and livelihood creation.
- Women empowerment and childcare related programmes.
- Research, advocacy and networking in issues relevant to the tribal context.

8.8. Geographical Area of operation

India in particular, the Eastern State of Odisha

8.9. Operational Districts

Rayagada, Koraput, Nabarangpur, Malkangiri, Kalahandi, Nuapada, Kandhamal, Mayurbhanj

8.10. Our Donors

Karl Kubel Stiftung (Germany), Indigenous People Assistance Facility (Rome), European Union, Welthungerhilfe (Germany), ROSE (Belgium), NABARD (India).

Financial Summary

A.K. LENKA & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



Plot No. 687/2416, Ekamra Kanan Road
IRC Village, Bhubaneswar - 751 015
☎ : 0674-2551381 Cell : 09437018879,
9438866129
E-mail : aklenka.co@gmail.com

To
The Members
Agramee
Kashipur-765015
Rayagada

AUDITORS' REPORT

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet of Agramee, Kashipur-765015, Rayagada, Orissa (a public charitable trust) as at 31st March 2015, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipt and Payment Account for the year ended on that date annexed thereto. These financial statements are the responsibility of the organisation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in India. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Further, we report that:

- I. We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.
- II. In our opinion, proper books of accounts as required by law so far as applicable to the organization and prescribed by various donor agencies have been kept by the organisation so far as appears from our examination of books of accounts.
- III. The Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account and Receipt and Payment Account dealt with by this report, are in agreement with the books of accounts.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to explanations given to us, subject to notes to accounts disclosed in schedule no-7, the said accounts give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India.

- i) In the case of Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the organisation as at 31st March 2015; and
- ii) In the case of Income and Expenditure Accounts, of Excess of expenditure over Income of its financial year ending on 31st March 2015.

For and on behalf of

A.K. LENKA & CO.
Chartered Accountants



CA, A.K. Lenka, FCA, DISA (IC 28)
Partner
Mob. No - 061761
FRN: 0325851E
Bhubaneswar, 20th Aug 2015

AGRAGAMEE

At/Po-KASHIPUR
Dist-RAYAGADA
ODISHA-765015

**BALANCE SHEET AS ON
31st March, 2015**

PARTICULARS	SCH.	2014-15 (₹)	2013-14 (₹)
SOURCES OF FUNDS :			
Capital Fund	1	17,519,424	19,332,564
Un-utilised Grant	2	12,086,459	9,275,515
TOTAL		29,605,883	28,608,079
APPLICATION OF FUNDS :			
Fixed Assets:	3		
Gross Block		28,020,398	27,386,303
Less: Accumulated Depreciation		<u>16,915,747</u>	<u>15,794,697.00</u>
Net Block		11,104,651	11,591,606
WIP (SCHOOL Building)		634,983	
Investments (At Cost)	4	13,066,793	13,708,727
Current Assets, Loans and Advances:			
Cash & Bank Balances	5	7,649,967	5,617,911
Loans & Advances	6	<u>479,153</u>	<u>637,338</u>
	(A)	8,129,120	6,255,249
Less: Current Liabilities and Provisions			
Current Liabilities	7	<u>3,329,664</u>	<u>2,947,503</u>
	(B)	3,329,664	2,947,503
Net Current Assets	(A-B)	4,799,456	3,307,746
TOTAL		29,605,883	28,608,079
Notes to Accounts	14		

The schedules referred to above form an integral part
of the Balance Sheet
As per our Separate Report of even Date

For A.K LENKA & CO.

Chartered Accountants

FRN: 0325851E



CA A.K Lenka, FCA, DISA (ICAI)

PARTNER

M No. 061761

Place: Bhubaneswar

Date: 20th August 2015

For AGRAGAMEE



Achyut Das

Director

AGRAGAMEE

At/Po-KASHIPUR

Dist-RAYAGADA

ODISHA-765015

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st March, 2015

PARTICULARS	SCH.	2014-15 (₹)	2013-14 (₹)
INCOME:			
Grant-in-Aid			
Restricted Grants (including Peoples' Contribution and Organisation's Contribution) for Projects	8	28,372,540	27,610,075
BANK INTEREST			
On Saving Bank		324,884	138,739
On STDR (Matured Deposit)		486,709	169,763
On STDR Interest Accrued during the Year		294,826	579,874
OTHER RECEIPTS			
Organisation's Contribution for Projects			
Donations		446,000	1,114,746
Other Revenue	9	1,764,308	3,958,547
TOTAL		31,689,267	33,571,744
EXPENDITURE:			
Utilisation of Restricted Grants (including People's and Organisation's Contribution) for Projects	10	27,934,572	25,221,324
Administrative and other input costs	11	4,307,401	5,192,568
Loss on Sale of Assets		-	6,862
TOTAL		32,241,973	30,420,754
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE DEPRECIATION		(552,706)	3,150,990
Less: Depreciation		1,121,050	911,625
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(1,673,756)	2,239,365
Notes to Accounts	14		

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Income & Expenditure Account.
As per our Separate Report of even Date

For A.K LENKA & CO.
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 0325851

CA A.K Lenka, FCA, BISA (ICAI)
PARTNER
M No. 061761



For AGRAGAMEE

Achyut Das

Achyut Das
Director



Place: Bhubaneswar
Date: 20th August 2015

AGRAGAMEE

At/Po-KASHIPUR
Dist-RAYAGADA
ODISHA-765015

**RECEIPT AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2015**

PARTICULARS	SCH.	2014-15 (₹)	2013-14 (₹)
Opening Balance			
Cash in hand at Head Office and Site Offices		64,778	63,081
Work Advance at Head Office and Site Offices		508,476	31,470.00
STDR at Bank		13,003,271	7563271
Cash with Scheduled Bank		5,553,133	2,501,613
		19,129,658	10,159,435
RECEIPTS :			
Grant-in-Aid			
Restricted Grants (including People's and Organisation's Contribution) for Projects	12	27,892,423	27,590,888
Bank Interest			
On Saving Bank		324,884	138,739
On STDR (Matured Deposit)		139,384	169,763
On STDR (Accrued Int. received during the Year)		347,325	161,068
Sale of fixed Assets		-	210,000
Donations		446,000	1,114,746
Other Revenue	9	1,764,308	3,958,547
TOTAL RECEIPTS		30,914,324	33,343,751
PAYMENTS :			
Payment out of Restricted Grants (including People's and Organisation's Contribution) for Projects	13	24,591,663	19,124,304
Administrative and other input costs	11	4,307,401	5,192,568
Bank Interest (NABARD) refunded to RO		184,407	
Purchase of Fixed Assets		754,358	56,656
TOTAL PAYMENTS		29,837,829	24,373,528
CLOSING BALANCE			
Cash in hand at Head Office and Site Offices		64,302	64,778
Work-advance		266,913	508,476
STDR at Bank		12,289,273	13,003,271
Cash at Bank		7,585,665	5,553,133
		20,206,153	19,129,658

Notes to Accounts

14

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the Receipt and Payment Account.
As per our report of even date.

For A.K LENKA & CO.
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 0325051P



CA A.K Lenka, FCA, DISA (ICAI)
PARTNER
M No. 061761

For AGRAGAMEE



Achyut Das

Achyut Das
Director

Place: Bhubaneswar
Date: 20th August 2015

Agragamee's Publication

1. Ama Gaon, 1988
2. Naba Swajan Kan, 1990
3. Agragamee EkaSuphalRupayan (1 & 2) 1991
4. Gitare Gitare, 1992
5. Agragamee Parikshya and Paryalochana, 1993
6. Sachitra Sansar, 1993
7. Chatrutha Adivasi MahlaSambes, 1994
8. Adivasi Anchalare Samasthanka Pain Sikshya, 1995
9. Banabasi Sansar, 1996
10. Kaha Dhanakaha Adhikar, 1996
11. Sikshya Bitarka, 1996
12. Bhanisya Sansar, 1996
13. Jungal Chithi, 1997
14. Jami Adhigrahan Bill – 1998, 1998
15. Sikhyak Mahasamabesa, 1998
16. Ama Gaon Kashipur, 1998
17. Education for All in tribal areas, 1999
18. Agragamee, How Wrong, How Right?, 1999
19. Overview: Activities of Agragamee, 1999
20. The Illustrated World, 1999
21. MeghaGhumeriGhadaraGhumu, 2000
22. Grama Sasan Nua Sapan, 2002
23. Kutumba Panthi , 2002
24. Ama Gapa Bahi, 2002
25. Ama Gita Bahi, 2002
26. Kutumba Panthi O Khadya Nirapata, 2003
27. Amapanchayat Amayo Jana, 2004
28. Kapi Tu Kahun Aeilu, 2005
29. Jhaunli Napada Kehi, 2005
30. Chronicle of a Struggle, 2006
31. Governance in Tribal Areas: Myths and Realities, 2006
32. Jaibika Chasa Pranali, 2006
33. Water Right Water Wrong, 2006
34. Alternative State Water Policy, 2006
35. Samajika Samikshya, 2006
36. Community Grain Bank, 2006
37. Ama Chasabasa Ama Jungle, 2007
38. Jagati Karana O Sangramarata Mainsha, 2007
39. Jala Sampada O Sarajyabad, 2007
40. Stories From the Beyond, 2007
41. Ama Gaon Kashipur (New), 2007
42. Nua Patha Nua Bata, 2007
43. Arohan, 2007
44. MatiKaduara Manisha, 2008
45. Kashipur Diary, 2008
46. AtmaKaha: Jana Pathabhartna Paribrajakar, 2008
47. Food Rights Collectives, Odisha, 2010
48. Study of Pedagogy and Access to Education for Primary Age Group Children, 2005-06, 2010
49. Dongara Katha, 2011
50. HatiAau MusaGapa, 2013
51. Dui Chapalara Kahani, 2013
52. Kau Dake KaKa, 2014
53. NasrariPratishta O Parichalana Sambandhia Siksha Pranali, 2014
54. Nirantara Krushi Samndia Siksha Pranali, 2014
55. Haladi Chasa O Prakriayakarana Siksha Pranali, 2014
56. Reclaiming the Commons with Women's Power, 2014
57. Soura Shakti Chalita Lamp Ra Byabahara O Maramati Shiksha Pranali, 2014
58. Our Land Our Life
59. Soochana Varta- 6 Issues

OUR PROJECTS

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Dist. : Koraput

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At/P.O. : Laxmipur-765013
Dist. : Koraput

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At/P.O. : Rayagada-765001
Dist. : Rayagada

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At/P.O. : Thakurmunda-757038
Dist. : Mayurbhanj

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At/P.O. : Nuapada-766105
Dist. : Nuapada

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At : Goudaguda
P.O. : Tentulikhunti-764070
Dist. : Nabarangapur

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At : Derakumpa
P.O. : Gochhapada-762002
Dist. : Kandhamal

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At : Adri
P.O. : Gopinathpur-766025
Dist. : Kalahandi

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At/P.O. : Padepadar-766026
Via : Mukhiguda
Dist. : Kalahandi

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ODISHA



AGRAGAMEE

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