



Sakuntaladevi Charitable Trust

Annual Report 2021-22

Sakuntaladevi Charitable Trust, Keonjhar, Odisha

SAKUNTALADEVI CHARITABLE TRUST

PABITRADIHA, KRUSHAK BAZAR LANE

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From Founder Trustee

It is my pleasure to present the Annual Report of our organisation for the year 2021-22. We were in critical juncture to uphold our vision and ongoing activities. Ours have had no means of any options to address our financial crisis and striving towards our community desires. In COVID-19 and post Pandemic, we were working amidst challenges and



exploring opportunities, this report makes a humble effort to compile our strategies, accomplishments and learning leading to poverty alleviation through community participation, empowering the marginalised groups and our holistic approach to development. As you read the report, I hope that you too are inspired by the people in our communities who have been empowered, and through this are changing their own lives. Throughout our journey, we have continually redefined our approach – from service delivery to a future where the local communities determine and move towards sustainable development goals. Our evolution has been both defined and focused, and our transitions mirror the rapidly changing socio-economic landscape and development dynamics among communities and the society at large. The results in the field speak about our work. Though we are focused on skill building activities in this year, other non-funded activities were also

carried out in small scale for addressing the livelihood and food security issues. This year was a challenge before us to carry out the NRM related activities and strengthening the livelihood through agriculture intervention in selected pockets of Keonjhar District in the state of Odisha. The major achievements are visible in the sector of sustainable agriculture, soil and water conservation and creation of irrigation infrastructures for the small and marginal farmers while building the capacities of community. It is not roses spread all the way. The factors like climate change poses a critical threat to the communities that depend on the natural resources for their livelihoods. Further, the changes in the macro and micro climate within which the organisation operates poses a big challenge to sustain the stage where we stand. Credibility, transparency and accountability have always been the bench mark for Sakuntaladevi Charitable Trust, which are achieved by adhering to principles of good governance. On behalf of Sakuntaladevi Charitable Trust, I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all our Donors, Members of Board, NGO partners, CBOs, well-wishers and friends who have been so vital in supporting our mission for a better society

Shibasrita Swain

GENESIS:

SAKUNTALADEVI CHARITABLE TRUST operational in the district of Keonjhar (Odisha) in 2018 – The organization came into being during the year 2018 following long association of its

members with likeminded youths of the district. The members of the organisation obey the thumb rule “United we stand and divided we fall”,

LEGAL ENTITY OF THE ORGANISATION	
Registration No	41001700965
Date of Registration	21.07.2017
Type of Registration	TRUST ACT
PAN No	AATTS9456M
80 G Registration No	AATTS9456MF20210
12 A Registration No	AATTS9456ME20206
CSR Registration No	CSR00015693
NGO Darpan ID	OR/2020/0265570

which has enabled the organization to in still self-confidence and self-reliance among

Vision

A society sustainably living with Dignity

the members. The fundamental principle of the founding members of the SAKUNTALADEVI

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TRUST is to build the wall brick .Taking a cue from the principle; they approached

individuals to come under one umbrella and named this umbrella as "SAKUNTALADEVI CHARITABLE TRUST ". It means aspiration towards development of the poor and Marginalised section of the rural and tribal communities

MISSION:

Holistic Development of the under developed tribal and rural poor through innovative approach of solutions for better society .

As a nascent organization, during the initial year of intervention, it has made its presence felt in the remote Suakati village of Banspal Block by undertaking rehabilitation activities for the aged. Gradually it extends out towards ensuring its' supports for rendering better service to the vulnerable children and families for enabling them ensure and improve their livelihood and provide quality services. It adopts a right-based approach for its' metered interventions. The unique experiment of SAKUNTALADEVI CHARITABLE TRUST is to eradicate the poverty is through

education and making Institutions sustainable through community organisations, create local leadership.

1.1. Aim and Objectives of TRUST :

- ❖ To build Knowledge and educational platforms for upliftment of various sections of the society
- ❖ To support towards sustainable management of natural resources and energy for betterment of the society
- ❖ To promote livelihoods towards enhancement the quality of life of women, indigenous communities, backward and weaker sections of the society
- ❖ To conserve and promote livelihoods related traditional knowledge
- ❖ To organise regional, national and international seminars, workshops, conferences, book fairs art and other exxhibitions etc, towards awareness of target groups
- ❖ To support and supplement developmental works within the framework of international laws, treaties, policies, patents, intellectual property rights etc.
- ❖ To promote the role of local communities as a necessary innovator and implementer of sustainable development.
- ❖ To generate, analyse, publish and disseminate proper information towards enhancement of living conditions of the target communities.
- ❖ To provide relief and health related support activities to communities in need
- ❖ To undertake activities towards development for rural poor and urban deprived for better living conditions
- ❖ To provide technical support services falling under the purview of objectives of the trust
- ❖ Whereas in pursuance of above desire, the founder of Trust intends to create and declare a trust, style or considering himself as a Trustee and appoint first Board of Trustees as following:

1.3- Our APPROACH:

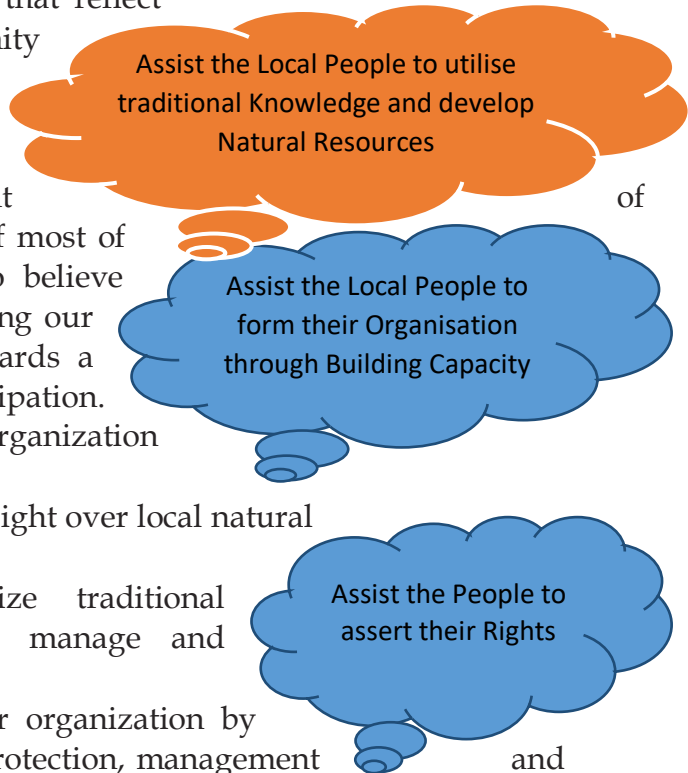
- *Pro Poor Approach towards development perspective and sustainable approach of strengthening grass root democracy.*
- *Holistic approach towards all round and sustainable development with prime focus on ecofriendly natural resource management without degradation of local environment.*
- *Participatory approach in planning, monitoring, executing and evaluating the programme.*
- *Need based approach to evolve the project and programme with prime motto of people centric development.*
- *Approach towards social transformation by which the community and community based organization.*



1.4. OBJECTIVES:

The program strategy that we set out to carry forward has several perceptions for the smooth working of our organization. It demands continuing efforts to develop and strengthen systems and procedures that reflect our mandate of community participation, transparency and accountability with the process of community empowerment. It is a matter of fact that faulty management of natural resources is the root cause of most of our development problems. We do believe that the existing practices of managing our natural resources must change towards a wider spectrum of community participation. A set of three objectives guides the organization effectiveness:

- Assist local people to assert their right over local natural resources.
- Assist local people to utilize traditional knowledge and techniques to manage and develop all local natural resources
- Assist local people to form their organization by enhancing their capabilities for protection, management and sustainable utilization of local natural resources



1.5. DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES OF TRUST

- € Creating awareness among masses of the people about their social, economic and political rights and associated responsibilities
- € Building skill of rural and tribal poor for addressing the unemployment situation and livelihood issues
- € Documenting, collating and disseminating information and analysis on specific development issues, policies and programs.
- € Building and nurturing CBOs to undertake various issues of substantial community interest
- € Motivating, nurturing and educating traditional village/ community institutions for social, cultural and economic transformation of the society they live in.
- € Develop and wide spread natural farming concept to combat the natural and manmade disasters and climate change impact.
- € Social and economic empowerment of women to make them equal partners in development process and decision-making.
- € Referring and lining up with Sustainable Development Goal and its short and long term output and outcome and results.

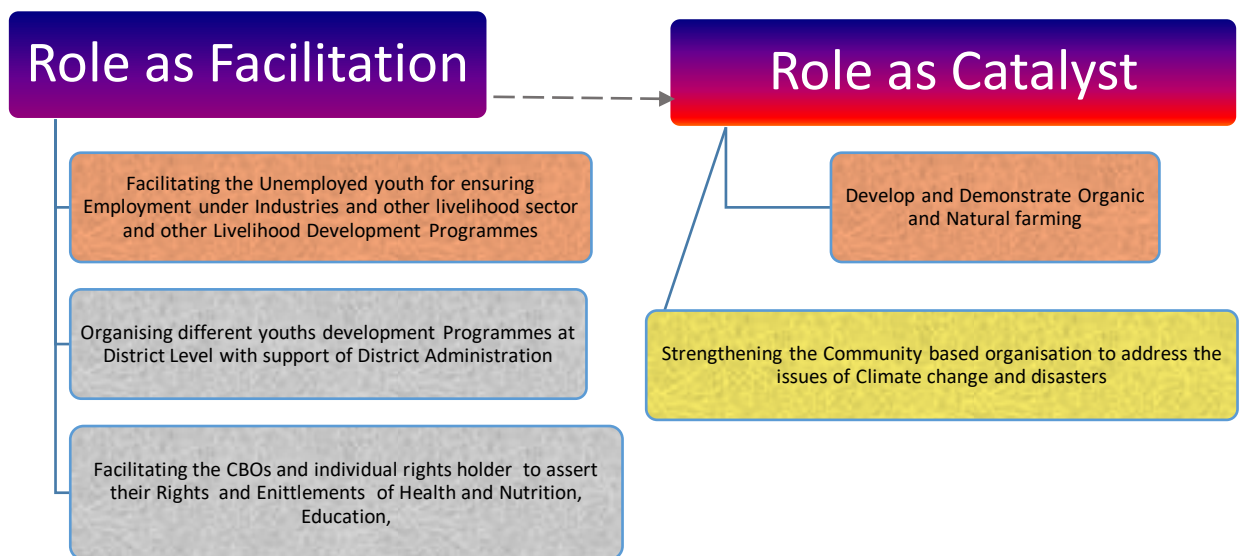


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graph TD; TB[TRUST BOARD] --> DFO[Director Field Operation  
Trustee head]; TB --> DHR[Director HR and Admn  
Trustee head]; DFO --> PM1[Programme Manager]; DFO --> PM2[Programme Manager]; DHR --> AA[Accounts and Admn]; PM1 --> CI[Coordinator/Instructor]; PM2 --> CO[Coordinator]; AA --> DEO[Data Entry Operator];
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1.7. METHODOLOGIES OF TRUST

To appreciate the Trust objectives, we have intervened in multi-sectorial activities with the partner communities to comprehend the wider objective of community empowerment and food and livelihood security for the vulnerable and socially excluded people.

Our Role in Development paradigm



Looks for
better india
through
farming

Implementation of SWEKRUTI SCHEME for mainstreaming the transgender

OBJECTIVES of the Scheme

Article 41 of the Constitution of India enjoins the States to make effective provision for securing the right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement and in other cases of undeserved want within the limit of its economic capacity and development. Article 14 also guarantees to all persons equality before the law. Article 19(1) ensures for all citizens freedom of speech and expression. Article 21 expresses protection of life and personal liberty to all persons. Article 15 (1), 15(2) and 16 (2) in express terms prohibit discrimination on the ground of sex. The Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SSEPD) Department, Government of Odisha recognizes that Transgender Persons are valuable human resource for the society and seeks to create an environment that provides them equal opportunities, protection of their rights and full participation in society. As part of an integrated initiative for Transgender Equality & Justice the Departments launched this new umbrella scheme "SWEKRUTI" to be operated in a mission mode with manifold

OBJECTIVES OF SWEKRUTI SCHEME

1. To create an enabling environment to ensure equal opportunities, equity, social justice & empowerment of transgender persons of the state.
2. To encourage voluntary action and participation of all stake holders for ensuring effective social integration of transgender persons.
3. To expand outreach activities for protection of rights and entitlements of transgender persons in the state.
4. To promote individual and group endeavours by transgender persons for employment, self-employment and other socio-educational services.
5. To strengthen the existing implementation machinery and create facilities for coverage of all transgender persons of the state. STRATEGY The approach of this Scheme is to make available the whole range of services necessary for rehabilitation of transgender persons.

With a view to include transgender persons in the mainstream of society and actualizing their potential, the thrust would be on the following key strategies:

1. Survey & Identification of all Transgender persons in the state and issue of certificates, multipurpose smart cards, etc.
2. Assistance to parents of transgender children and provision of pre and post- matric scholarship for all transgender children pursuing education.

3. Skill upgradation and entrepreneurship development training, supply of Self Employment Kit and strengthening Self Help Groups.
4. Support for Critical Health Care & group insurance support for transgender persons.
5. Provision for Legal Aid and advice, counseling and guidance services for transgender persons in distress.
6. Organization of Community Awareness, sensitization and campaign on rights of transgender persons and training of staff and volunteers.

SURVEY & IDENTIFICATION

No accurate estimates on transgender persons are available yet except those of crude estimates. It is important to note, however, that accurate figures are unavailable due to the fact that no formal estimation of the number of transgender persons living in Odisha has been conducted till 2015. The SSEPD Dept. has taken initiatives to conduct a state wide survey on transgender persons, results of which are yet to come. In view of the above facts the Dept. proposes to conduct survey and identification of transgender persons in the state from time to time with the help of associations of transgender persons and others. This survey and identification process will help the Dept. to enroll all of them in different schemes and programmes. MULTIPURPOSE SMART CARD Multipurpose SMART CARD will be provided to all transgender persons which will enable them to avail any of the required services such as education, social security benefit etc. at any institution or even at any place within the state. This support will be managed through a comprehensive state level computerized database created for the purpose enabling institutions to verify about the transgender persons status of benefits supplied and services required.

ASSISTANCE TO PARENTS OF TGs

a) Need for Supportive Money Awareness and information is needed among parents/guardians to support their gender-nonconforming or transgender children, setting aside their discomfort and deeply held normative attitudes. Parents should be alert to the risk of the children facing bullying and other violence outside the home – in the extended family, at schools, on the playground, and support them accordingly. They also need to take cognizance of the escalation in stress and discrimination faced by a transgender child as he/she grows into adolescence. Counseling and other mental health services that affirm the child's gender identity are needed for the child as well as



their parents. Support groups help parents to

(i) overcome misconceptions, understand the difference between sex, sexuality, gender, and intersex variations

(ii) Realize that they, as parents, are not alone

(iii) Their children's gender-nonconformity is not the result of bad parenting

(iv) Be able to work through their negative feelings of anger, disbelief, shock, or disappointment in a safe space. Additionally, existing forums such as the Anganwadi Centres, Self-Help Groups and Bharat Nirman Volunteers (BNVs) may be oriented on transgender issues, and involved in providing information to parents of transgenderyouth.

Financial assistance will be provided to the parents of transgender children in order to support such parents in successfully bringing up their transgender children against societal intolerance, stigma, discrimination and violence. It shall also act as a feeder program for the component of pre and post matric scholarship. b) Eligibility For purpose of claiming financial assistance, the following



criteria shall apply: 1. Parent must certify on an affidavit that they have a child showing gender nonconforming behavior. 2. The age of the child is less than 18 Years. 3. In case of death of the parent, supportive money will be made available to the guardian subject to production of the relevant Certificate of guardianship obtained from Competent Authority. c) Extent of Assistance The assistance under the head will be provided to parent at the rate of Rs 1000/- (rupees one thousand only) per transgender child per month and can be paid till the child attains the age of 18 years. d) Modus of allocation/ sanction / disbursement of assistance 1. The parents desiring to avail the assistance will submit an application as given in the Annexure A through the Block/ ULB Administration. 2. The Block/ ULB Administration on receipt of such applications will verify the information given therein with reference to records available, and recommend for sanction to concerned DSSO. 3. On the receipt of all such recommended applications, the concerned DSSOs will scrutinize the applications and get those sanctioned from the Collector as per rules and procedures. 4. DSSO, as the case may be, after sanctioning the assistance, will place Block and ULB wise requirement of funds to SSEPD Department at the beginning of the financial year. 5. After sanction of the assistance amount, the DSSO will ensure that bank account is opened in post

office or scheduled commercial bank in the name of the transgender child jointly with father / mother/ guardian. 6. The District Social Security Officer (DSSO) will see that such requirement reaches him / her by the given date line. 7. After receipt of requirement from the DSSO, the Department will release funds in first allotment to the DSSOs& fund will be remitted to concern child directly. 8. After disbursement, the DSSOs will submit consolidated UCs to the Department by the 31st March with due countersignature of the Collector. 9. The DSSOs will make online entry of data on parents assisted including information on the transgender child.

During the financial year, SCT in collaboration with RDAC (Rural Development Action Cell), Baripada did a survey on transgender. 30 transgender enrolled across the district for the scheme. The process of providing AADHAR has been completed. with the support of district administration, media and Sadhana Mishra, KITS facilitated the meeting.

Organising Blood Donation Camp

SCT in collaboration with “Jeeban Bindu” programme of Government organised Blood donation camp in our office premises. 19 units of blood collected during the camp. With the support of Blood Bank of the district, the camp was smoothly organised. The Blood donation camp was a model of the district to inspire others towards donating blood for save the deserved persons.

No of Blood donors participated	Units of Blood collected	Venue
30	19	SCT office Premises



Natural Resource Management

Natural resources are no more the resources of the nature. The locality of the resources is lost. The monopoly of scientific knowledge and the authority of the State was instrumental in restraining the traditional knowledge along with the natural and communal rights of resource dependent/ managing communities.

Proper management of natural resources, land based activities including agriculture, and control over resource flow by the local communities assist in restoration of traditional rights of the local communities over their natural resources. Forests and other natural resources in the region still are the major sources of habitat for the forest dependent people, wildlife and other biological resources. A majority of the tribal people still depend on these natural resources for their livelihood, culture, entertainment etc. 'Living with forest' is a way of life or lifestyle pattern of the tribal and other forest dependent population.

The land, the prime natural resource, has been highly degraded, and the loss of topsoil has accentuated the problem of precipitation and moisture retention. The fertility and productivity of the land have gone down because of poor treatment, excessive tillage and intensive farming, use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides etc. Food security is not limited to food availability, accessibility and absorption; it also puts emphasis on food sovereignty. Presently the market determines what a farmer should grow as the focus on agro production has been shifting from food crops to cash crops and the people are losing their control over the production system. The SCT is pioneer Trust in the district to have greater care and management of natural resources through community based organization's initiatives. During this period, SCT had given more focus on building capacity of the farmers and orient them on use and replication of organic pest management and manure making techniques. About 100 farmers of Ghatagaon block had been imparted training on the organic promotion and practices for better management and sustainable development.

These resources are to be protected, regenerated, conserved and managed by the local communities in a democratic, participatory and decentralized manner to supplement and complement the basic livelihood needs of the local communities.

Farmers Training

During the financial year, SCT was organised four training programmes for the progressive farmers in selected area of Ghatagaon Block & Patna Block of Keonjhar District. On the basis of farmer's need and priority, the training programmes were conducted with the support of technical persons from District and Block level to facilitate the programme. The below training programs were facilitated by Government officials and Experienced NGO workers along with few progressive farmers.

Date	No of farmers participated	Venue	Subject
5 th June 2021	45	Udaypur/Patna	World Environment Day
12 nd July 2021	50	Kendiposi/Patna	Animal Husbandry care and management
26 th Dec 2021	48	Sanamasinabilla/Ghatagaon	Sustainable Harvesting & Marketing of Khariff crops
20 th Jan 2022	45	Bhagamunda/Ghatagaon	Rabi Vegetable Cultivation and its management

Empowering Women Farmers:

Women play a vital role in agriculture from soil enrichment to harvesting and preserving seeds for next crop, but they are seen as 'farm wives' or farm labourers rather than farmers. They don't have access to information, institutional credits or extension services to enhance their skills and expertise. With the advent of Green revolution, women have become vulnerable to health hazards due to the harmful effects of chemical farming. In this backdrop we have introduced eco-friendly farming and women friendly interventions to enhance their farming abilities and strengthen their organisations for better production. During this period, we had promoted 200 women farmers for eco-friendly farming in their patches of land to enhance their livelihood and address the climate change.

Date	Venue	No of Women Participated
6.04.2021	Harischandanpur	45
4.05.2021	Masinabilla	44
1.7.2021	Baghamunda	54
12.09.2021	Chakradharpur	45
14.12.2021	Gadadharpur	48
8.03.2022	Gopinathpur	47

For addressing the issues, the rural and tribal women in the District have been imparting training to enhance their capacity in context to addressing the issues in their surroundings

Organic practices and training to farmers on promotion:

The immediate need to increase food production through modern agriculture techniques, has led to new set of problems i.e. hybrid seeds, heavy use of chemical fertilisers, pesticides, herbicides etc and over exploitation of water resources. Now farmers have come to realize the adverse impacts on soil and human health, environment and above all the increasing expenditures on external inputs have dragged the farmers into the deadly debt trap. SCT is promoting organic farming practices among the small and marginal farmers in 20 villages of Keonjhar District through utilisation of local knowledge and documentation about best practitioner farmers.

Conservation and replication of local germ plasma is encouraged to regain control of farmers over their own seeds and protection of their farmlands. SCT (Sakuntaladevi Charitable Trust provided trainings to the progressive farmers on

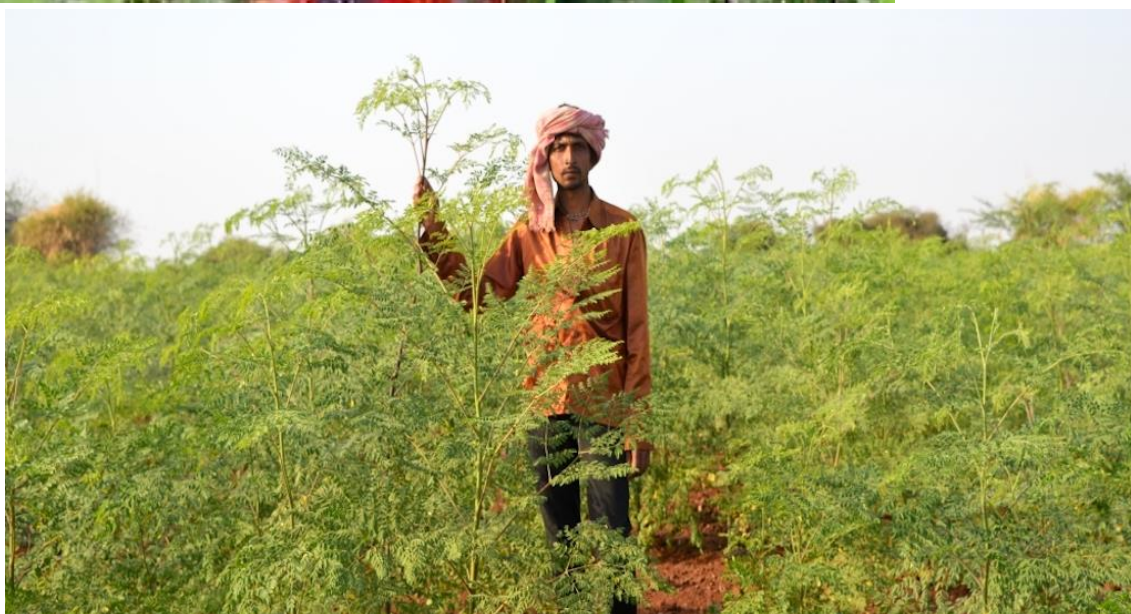
promotion of organic manure and its preparation. Apart from manure preparation, the Trust also provide technical handholding support to the farmers in construction of compost vermin pit and wash for



vermin
pit and
wash

sustainable agriculture development. The list of training programmes were imparted during the financial year.

Date	No of farmers participated	Venue	Subject
09.04.2021	47	Rajnagar/Patna	Preparation of different types of organic manures
17.05.2021	48	Khireitangiri/Patna	Preparation of Vermi compost and its use
08.06.2021	46	Baunsuli/Patna	Use of Cow dung in organic farming practices
07.08.2021	49	Badapalasapal/patna	Organic Pest Management system
12.08.2021	46	Badapalasapal/patna	Organic Pest Management system
11.09.2021	58	Baunsuli/Patna	Cow dung preparation
18.11.2021	50	Sirigida/Telkoi	Crop preparation in organic way



Women Leadership Training

With the objective to increase women's effective participation in decision making processes not only at Palli Sabha and Gram Sabha, but also at all levels of society and household levels training programmes were held with cooperation of Resource Persons. Then follow-up meetings were organized at village/community level.

- With the objective of empowering women so that they can take part in decision-making process, village level and Federation level meetings were held.
- Gender sensitization training programs have been organized during the project period. The following points were discussed in these programs-
- Understanding the important roles played by women in agriculture,
- Recognition to Women as farmers and to provide them with Bank loans and Govt. incentives for organic farming,
- Confidence building among the women farmers that they can produce sufficient food grains without using chemical fertilizers & pesticides,
- Increasing the productivity of the land by land development and construction of water harvesting structure such as farm pond, cattle shed, compost pit, vermin compost etc through convergence of Govt. schemes such as MGNREGS,
- Development of Nutritional Garden with plantation of some perennial vegetable plants such as drum stick, papaya, banana, lemon, gourds, etc, which will fetch extra income also.

The list of women leadership development training programmes were conducted in the financial period of the Trust

Date	No of women participated	Venue/Block	Subject
02.04.2021	40	Kantapada/Telkoi	Different government schemes and programmes for the development of women
10.05.2021	48	Sirigida/Telkoi	National Rural Livelihood Mission and its importance
07.06.2021	46	Jagamohanpur/Telkoi	Acts for women like DV Act, Atrocity Act, Sexual harassment and sexual abuse
31.08.2021	47	Rajnagar/Patna	Self-Defensive course for adolescent girls and women in sexual harassment, sexual abuse and rape

Education development Initiatives by Sakhuntaladevi Charitable Trust

Background of Education system in Tribal areas

Despite the efforts made by the independent India so far and a great number of experimentations in the process of education have been undertaken or some of them are underway, but the real needs of the people and the country have not been fulfilled so far. Some of the common or simple reasons which hindrances to the development process and causes disparities for the smooth management of education are not far to seek.

1) The present education policy ensures that students attend classes regularly, more and more children get admitted and there be less drop-outs. In order to ensure regular attendance, the government has introduced several measures such as the mid-day meals and no failure upto class VII (if not mistaken). Here, the stress is on the quantity of students in school, not the quality.

2) Rural and tribal residents/communities are very different from urban areas. Mostly they are lack of awareness about the growing educational importance. Many schools in rural areas do not have good buildings, teachers and proper teaching aids. The government run schools in rural areas, which mainly cater the needs of poor section of people generally, also present an unpleasant picture.

3) There is a clear demarcation found between the rich and the poor in respect of education in big towns and cities. The children of the rich read in private schools, with good infrastructure and teaching environment, big buildings, libraries, playgrounds etc and the poor children to ill-equipped government schools. Obviously the children belonging to high-clan get a good quality of education and the poor have to be contented with poor standard.

4) The quality of education is becoming expensive day by day as the private elitist schools charge exorbitant fees which are beyond the reach of millions of Indians. They create a wedge between the haves and the have-nots and widen the disparities between the rich and the poor to the betterment of upper classes of the society.



5) There is a general tendency with the school authorities or inclination towards prescribing more and more costly books for various types of study to the young students. Even some prescribed books are found not in accordance with the standard of the classes rather too high standard in the respective classes. Moreover, the school going pupils are seen carrying a heavy satchel with books and note books across their shoulders or on their backs. Parents also render their service by carrying their books. How can we expedite the process of gaining knowledge by prescribing lots of books for study along with home assignment with no time for these growing children without any rest or recreation? Needless to mention, teachers also face problem and always in a hurry to finish the prescribed syllabus by hook or by crook, Sometimes a few chapters remains incomplete. The process should be pleasant experience, not a horrible happening which the children today are faced to undergo. It results in a sordid state of affair, instead of getting properly educated. Unless we are able to put an end to all such unhealthy trends of education at all levels, we cannot provide both quality and help in achieving the universalization of education or mass education in the country.

6) All basic education should be nationalised and the government should ensure that all schools are equipped with all facilities so that even the children of the upper crust of the society are to depend on these institutions only.



7) In many schools, where the number of students are more, the children are deprived of getting personal attention from the teacher, The teacher cannot monitor all the students freely and easily.

8) Another disturbing feature is the commercialisation of education at every level. The management of some reputed schools do not hesitate to fleece parents by getting huge sums of money for admission and school fees.

SCT strives towards skill development of the tribal youths and adolescent girls from its inception. Apart from SCT also endeavours towards imparting education to dropout girls and boys from mainstream of education. During the financial year SD International School has been established at Naranpur village which

is very close to Keonjhar District Head quarter. In a survey we found that, tribal families in this village are/were in drastic conditions to meet the education need of their children. In this context, we hired a building and started the school for the dropouts. The main objective of our endeavours to address the livelihood issues of the tribal family and mainstreaming the education of their children without any cost. Our school have more than 100 students with highly professional instructors/wardens to impart education.



ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS OF THE TRUST 2021-22

Photos