



# Footprints 2019-20

Sikshasandhan

<https://www.sikshasandhan.org/>

Annual Activities Report  
**Sikshasandhan**  
2019-20



ND-7, VIP Area, IRC Village  
Bhubaneswar-751015  
Odisha, India  
Website: [www.sikshasandhan.org](http://www.sikshasandhan.org)  
Email: [sikshasandhan@gmail.com](mailto:sikshasandhan@gmail.com)



We are grateful to the children, teachers and parents of the schools we are working in, PRI members, and functionaries of the education departments for their unconditional support and cooperation. Sikshasandhan has learnt many things from its association with them. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support and technical inputs received from District Administration, Mayurbhanj, Lodha Development Agency, Welthungerhilfe, Oxfam India, Child Rights and You (CRY), CARE India and Terre des Hommes (TDH) & Karl Kubel Stiftung & Edelgive Foundation.

We feel sincerely grateful to our well-wishers and friends, who have extended their support and cooperation on several occasions.

Our governing council and general council members have unfailingly helped and encouraged us. We take this opportunity to record our deep gratitude to them.

Sikshasandhan thanks all the people who have been involved in shaping its vision directly or indirectly.

Last but not the least, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the team members of Sikshasandhan for their dedicated and spirited work in the field and in other fronts.

Anil Pradhan

Member-Secretary



Sikshasandhan came up as a registered organisation 22 years back in the form of a society. It was formed to address the issue of education in the state of Odisha by indulging in research, advocacy and training activities. Sikshasandhan was purely working as a resource centre from 1995 to 1999. However, in between, we realised that without having direct experiences from the field, Sikshasandhan cannot become a meaningful resource centre for education. In 1990, Sikshasandhan worked as a consortium for innovating education for children of tribal communities. Sikshasandhan along with its partners agencies run Alternative Education for Children of tribal communities from 1999 to 2008 and did experiments on teaching children in mother tongue, development of teaching learning materials in view of the nature and culture of the tribal community and community ownership and management of education centres along with advocacy and publication books on education and books for children in tribal languages. During this time, Sikshasandhan programme attracted interns from India and abroad and research report and case studies on Sikshasandhan work published in different forms. Also Sikshasandhan set up its printing press, built up its own building.

With the enactment of RTE, the required nature of the interventions has changed. Earlier, the organisation ran Alternative Education Centres through consortium partners, with the enactment of RTE Act 2009, the focus of the organisation has changed and started working with 64 government schools in one of the remote tribal areas of Mayurbhanj district of Odisha since 2010. Here, its main operations have been directed towards implementing RTE at the ground level and in view of the experiences initiate advocacy for bringing required policy changes. During this year, its field operations have been expanded to six gram panchayats (GPs) of Kaptipada Block of Mayurbhanj district with the support of various funding



partners such as Welthungerhilfe, CRY, Oxfam India, Terre Des Hommes, and Sir Dorabjee Tata Trust.

In the year 2015-16 Sikshasandhan started working in Rayagada District for the South Odisha Initiatives of Tata Trusts. The work in Rayagada expanded to new dimensions subsequently with the support of Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiative in the year 2018-19.

## VISION

Sikshasandhan shares the vision of a society where all human beings shall exercise their freedom, right and ability to learn and grow with dignity and self-esteem, organise their inner potential, and live in harmony with nature and society.

## MISSION

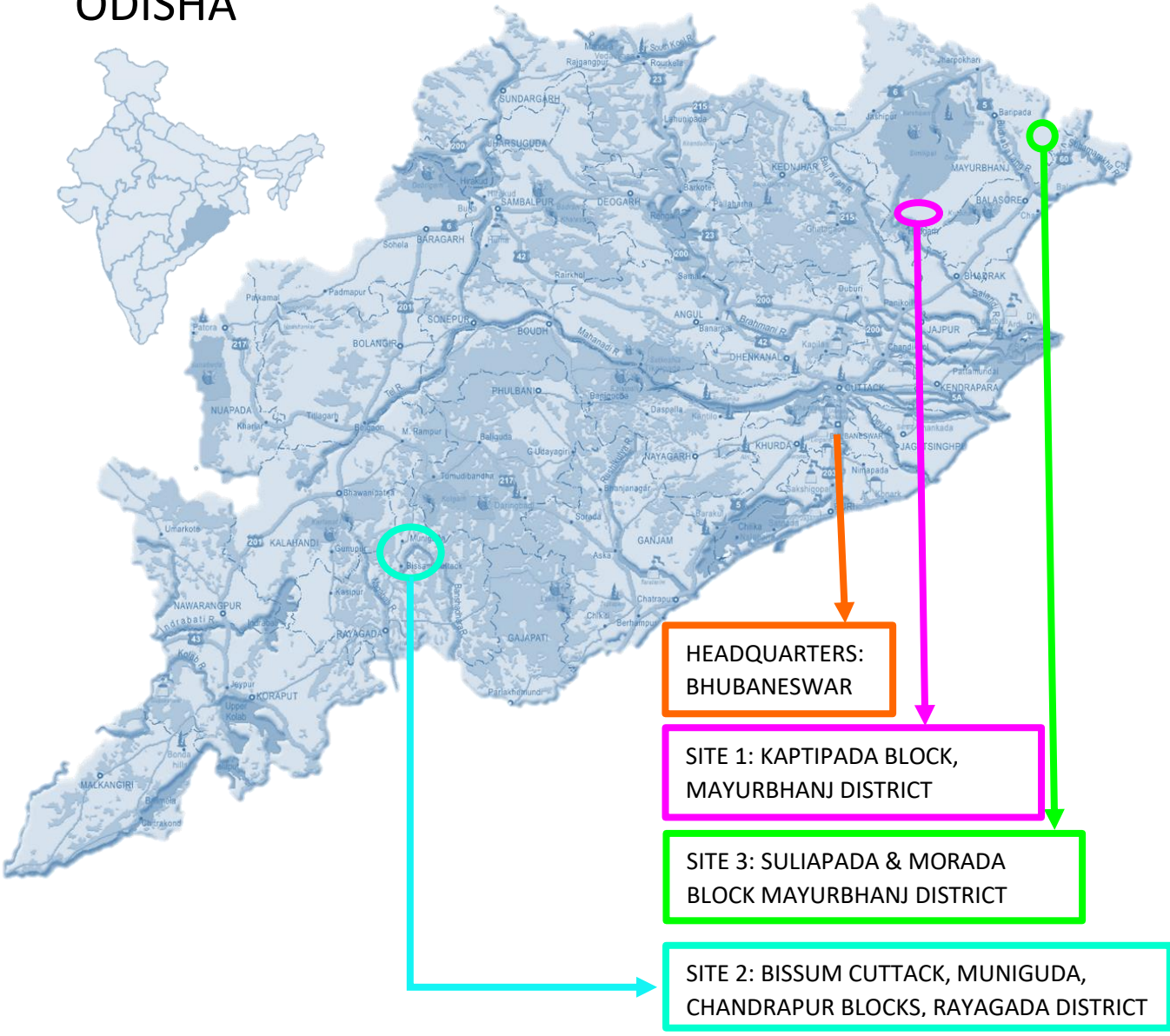
The mission of Sikshasandhan is to promote a form of education that is inspired by the life-experiences of people, especially the poor and the marginalised, their struggles, achievements, hopes and aspirations – a form of education that is driven by critical human consciousness, and, therefore, liberating and transformational.

## GOAL

The goal of Sikshasandhan is to create an *educational environment* which provides value-based, quality education which will be available and accessible to the most deprived sections of the society, and where the internal urge of every human being, that is, to learn, to think, to act and to express oneself can be freely and creatively reached.



# ODISHA



Sikshasandhan operates from its headquarter in Bhubaneswar. The head quarter houses the research team, financial control team, printing press, library and top management body.

### Site 1: Kaptipada Block, Mayurbhanj District

- Kalamgadia G.P. – Starting from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 (Covering 34 village, 14 Nos. of Schools & 20 Nos. of Anganwadi Centres) supported by Welthungerhilfe, Germany
- Ramachandrapur G.P. – Starting from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010 (Covering 22 Village, 8 Nos. of Schools & 5 Nos. of Anganwadi Centres) supported by Terre des Hommes, Germany.
- Ranipokhari G.P.– Starting from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 (Covering 39 village, 10 Nos. of Schools & 7 Nos. of Anganwadi Centres) supported by Child Rights & You (CRY), West Bengal.
- Notta G.P. – Starting from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 (Covering 30 village & 11 No. of Schools, 9 icds) supported by Oxfam India, Hyderabad.
- Saradiha G.P. – Starting from July 2012 (Covering 23 village & 9 Schools) supported by Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Mumbai

### Site 2: Muniguda, Bissum Cuttack & Chandrapur Blocks, Rayagada District.

G.P.	Block	G.P.	Block
Hajaridanga	Bissamcuttack	Agula	Muniguda
Thuapadi	Bissamcuttack	Bhairabagada	Muniguda
Chancharaguda	Bissamcuttack	Jagadalpur	Muniguda
Chatikona	Bissamcuttack	Kumudabali	Muniguda
Paikadakuluguda	Bissamcuttack	P.Ranipinda	Muniguda
Sahada	Bissamcuttack	Patraguda	Muniguda



Kutragada	Bissamcuttack	Sibapadar	Muniguda
Hatamuniguda	Bissamcuttack	Telengapadar	Muniguda
Bissamcuttack	Bissamcuttack	Turuguda	Chandrapur
Hajaridanga	Bissamcuttack		
Dukum	Bissamcuttack		

### Site 3: Morada & Suliapada Blocks, Mayurbhanj District.

Name of the village	Name of GP	Block
Bhadrasol	Jualibhanga	Muruda
Chikitimatia	Chikitimatia	Muruda
Ghodabandha	Chikitimatia	Muruda
Pumachandrapur	Jualibhanga	Muruda
Tiansi	Barkand	Muruda
Gadigaon	Gadigaon	Muruda
Handibhanga	Gadigaon	Muruda
Samaidihi	Haldipal	Muruda
Dhobani	Baghda	Suliapada
Nektagunja	Baghda	Suliapada
Pathamesa	Kantisahi	Suliapada
Sansasul	Ufalgadia	Suliapada





Teachers' Training

Early  
Childhood  
Education

Children and  
their Rights

Youth  
Programmes

Community  
Mobilisation

Advocacy

Multi Lingual  
Education

Education for  
PTG

Speacial  
Nutrition  
Drive

Publication



This year Sikshasandhan is presenting its activity details site wise.

## Site 1 Kaptipada Block, Mayurbhanj District

### Community Empowerment and Capacity Building Activities

As the part of Sikshasandhan's policy to empower community so that they can assert their rights, Sikshasandhan organised a number of training and capacity building programmes for members of School Management Committees (SMC), Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI), Child Protection Committees (CPC), Janch Committees, Mothers Committees and other community based organisations such as members of youth clubs, advocacy groups. The major objective of these programmes was to create awareness on various provisions, and rights under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, ICDS, Child rights framework.

#### Training Programmes from SMC and PRI Members

With the support from CRY, KKS, Millennium Alliance, Oxfam and TDH, training programmes were organised for the SMC and PRI members where they were oriented on Child Rights, RTE, SDP and role and responsibility of SMC. Training programmes were organised for SMC members where discussion was held on advocacy initiatives by the SMC for solving the school problems in context to incomplete work like repair, additional class room, school boundary etc., role of SMCs in School Development Plans, school monitoring etc.

#### Training to VLCPC and PRI Members

Sikshasandhan has formed Village Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPC) in Ramachandrapur Gram Panchayat. Objective of the training was to orient the VLCPC members on child rights and child right issues including different laws and schemes. Apart from their increasing their



understanding and knowledge on child protection, child violation, they were given the basic concept regarding role, responsibility and work of VLCPC.

### Strengthening Village Advocacy Groups

In the Ramachandrapur Gram Panchayat area 8 numbers of Advocacy groups have been formed where each advocacy groups consist with 10 members (Teacher, School Cabinet child, Asha, ICDS worker, SMC, one progressive parents, Ward members and one member from Youth group, Asha and one member from SHG). It was formed with objectives to identify the school problems and initiate the advocacy activity to address the issues.

In Noto Gram Panchayat meetings with community were held to build a narrative on inequality. In these meetings the project staff has facilitated sessions with community to generate awareness on different dimensions of inequality issues. The grassroots level effort of project staff mobilized involvement of community for school development and monitoring.

### Participation of SMC Members and Mothers in Monitoring and Governance of Schools/AWCs

With support from Oxfam India and Edelgive Foundation meetings have been organised with Mothers committee members to encourage them in engaging in school monitoring, effective management of school governance, mobilise children to school regularly. Mothers and SMCs are ensuring regular attendance of children in villages located in very remote location. Along with that these mothers committee have been strengthened on ensuring equal access to ANC, NC and PNC services to all also ensuring nutrition entitlements and other maternity benefits reach equally to all pregnant and lactating mothers.



## Facilitating Participation of Community Members and Mothers in ICDS and Elementary Education

The Janch committee members (Monitoring Committee) of the Anganwadi centres and mother parents of elementary schools have been sensitised on the package service of ICDS and norms and provisions of RtE Act. Mobilisation meetings were organised in Odisha supported by Oxfam India. This helped to establish convergence between service providers and rights holders. The convergence programme was held through joint sensitisation meetings and focus group discussions in groups.

Despite the duty bearers training, the project team had also organised capacity building of rights holders on entitlements, monitoring systems and citizenship roles. 40 influential leaders from communities. With this group a detailed discussion was carried out on different aspects/Provisions of RTE, present status, problems and their solutions. .

## Capacity-Building Workshops for Parents and Civil Society Organisations

The objective of the capacity development training had also envisaged to develop the capacities of CSO/CBOs in demanding equitable, quality pre-primary and elementary education. In the training a group discussion facilitated by the project staff to identify inequality hues, how is it affecting poor and marginalised and ways of addressing it. The participants were identified the type of inequality in their area and discussed in details about its manifestations on the tribal, migrant community children. Post the group discussion the facilitator dropped a question on how to combat inequality, in response the CSO/CBOs were expressed that they can form a resource group in their respective project field and put pressure on the government stakeholders for ensuring children's right.



## Engagements with Children

### Children's Festival

Events of this kind have helped in generating interest in education among the children, to help them get rid of the fear for education, and to provide them with a platform to express their creativity. In addition, programmes of this kind attract children to school and nurture their inherent creativity. The children are selected on the basis of their interest in different games and sports. A number of children festivals were organised by Sikshasandhan with the support from CRY, KKS, Oxfam India, Millennium Alliance, EdelGive Foundation, TDH etc.

### Training to Child Rights Club Members

Child Rights club is a team which is formed at the village level with both school going and drop-out children. It is an initiative to bring both school going and dropout children together and work as a team. It builds leadership quality among them. Supported by KKS, CRY and TDH, Millennium alliance children rights club meetings were organised and discussions were held on child labour, child protection and their participation. Open discussions were held about child marriage, child labour, ecological child rights and children problems in the school-MDM, syllabus completion, use of toilet and urinal and play ground, play materials. Theme of the trainings were on child rights and their creative abilities. Discussion was held regarding various problems facing in their day to day life from the discussion it was found that children interest to study, play and enjoy the festivals was many times stagnated due to parents will.

### Strengthening Child Cabinet Meeting

To develop leadership quality among the children, in every school Child Cabinet has been formed. Every child cabinet has seven child ministers. These ministers have their own responsibility and they arrange meetings in



every week (everyday where possible). In their meeting all ministers of the Child Cabinet as well as one or two teachers of the school are present together. The ministers have different responsibility and they were noticed and advice all other children about this.

## Engagement with Other Stakeholders

### Formation and strengthening of Child Protection Committee

The project Area Ramachandrapur Gram Panchayat has 3 Revenue villages with 19 hamlet villages. Village-level child protection Committee has been formed in 3 revenue villages-Ramachandrapur, Dolipada and Tolagadia with 76 members( Representation from Teachers, Youth group members, parents, ICDS, Asha, Ward Members, Sarpanch, children of Child club or school cabinet, Women SHG members Disabled children, Jati Mahasabha) to work for child rights and child protection and addressing child rights issues.

The objective of protection committee is to discuss children protection, child drop out, child retention, child labour, child violence, child migration, child marriage and child rights issues. During the reported period 10 meetings was held with VLCPC and discussion was held child protection, various rules and laws on child protection, identifying child labour, child marriage case and child migration. It was decided to visit the school and share with children to know regarding child protection mechanism practice adopted in school.

### Regular Monthly Meetings of Child Protection Committees

During the period regular meeting has been held with the Village level child protection committees where teachers, PRI representatives, Child club, and Youth group, SHG, Mother Committee, PTA and SMC are the members. These CPC has been working for last one year for the addressing violation of child rights. Regular meetings are being held with them and



discussion was held with them to save the children from migration, child torture child labour and child marriage.

In the meeting CPC members identify the major issues of children and accordingly decisions are taken to aware parents, instant action to take by CPC to inform at appropriate authority to stop injustice on children. They were also given general idea about various government laws to stop child labour, child marriage, child migration and how to identify the children in vulnerable and to whom they will contact, they were given idea and all contact number regarding Redresses mechanism at government system for the children.

### Mass Awareness Campaign

Frequent awareness campaigns were organised using folk media, street play and public meeting in all our field areas across Odisha. Issues like provisions of RTE, roles and responsibility of the SME, child rights, roles and responsibility of the Jaanch Committee and mother's committee, sanitation and environment protection etc. were highlighted among the targeted villagers.

### **Engagements with Teachers and Others Involved in Pedagogic Interactions with Children**

#### Engagement with Teachers and Anganwadi Workers

Sikshasandhan has been engaged with the teachers, Anganwadi workers and education volunteers who are involved in the process of teaching at different level. The focus is mostly cantered around their capacity building by conduction of trainings, workshops, exposure visits and through handholding supports at classroom level.



## Training for Language Teachers

Language teachers along with the field associates, project staffs and pre-instructors were trained in a life skill training programme organised by Sikshasandhan. The major objective of the training programme was knowledge-Child development, Life cycle of development, commitment-CR ideology under UNCRC, life skill-self, proactive thinking, emotion, communication, collaboration and participatory and skill development. Another training for the language teachers where teachers were oriented on how to assess the primary school children learning competency. Training was also given on formative and summative under CCE, its tools and methods.

## Mother tongue based Multilingual Education for Children

Sikshasandhan is continuing Mother tongue based Multilingual Education for Children with the support of CRY, AIEN, OXFAM and Millennium Alliance. To facilitate this programme Sikshasandhan has collected stories, songs, riddles and history of villages from community through its community volunteers and using them as teaching learning materials. Sikshasandhan has developed bi-lingual books for children which is helping children in building identity and self confidence in them. A package equivalent to the competencies of class 3 is developed and transacted by the community volunteers.

Fifty community volunteers from the same HO community are supporting the schools of HO tribe children and demonstrating innovative contextual pedagogic inputs in the schools. The innovative package involves assessment of skills related to LSRW and knowledge the basic contents of the text books. It is a target-based package in which the learning skills related to listening, speaking, reading and writing are improving. After the classroom activity the volunteers are evaluating learnings of each children of the class and reinforcing improvement through remediation. The





process is also strengthening capacities of existing school teachers who do not have adequate knowledge on Mother tongue-based teaching and learning skills.

### Training of Government Teachers

The training mainly focuses on basic concepts of Language and Mathematics through activities. In this training various activities on Language and Mathematics were held by using picture Cards, word Puzzles, number Cube, cardboard, leaf, flower, stone and sticks etc. A workshop was organised to orient the government school teachers on teaching science to the students and how to make it very interesting for children to learn and understand easily including various

### Training of Anganwadi Workers

ICDS workers have been trained on various aspects of joyful mother tongue based learning and preschool education supported CRY, Millennium Alliance, TDH, EdelGive Foundation. The programme shared with the participants basic knowledge and information about physical development-growth of body and its organs, the functioning of physiological systems, Cognitive development-the development and functioning of the mind such as perception, language learning ,memory, problem solving etc, psychosocial development-the development in personal and interpersonal aspects such as motives, emotion, personality traits, interpersonal skill and relationship

### Engagement with Youth Groups

### Capacity-Building of RTE Cadre Members, SMCs, Youth Groups and Mothers



The community cadres especially the active members of the youth clubs participated in a training programmes. The capacity building programme was conducted through different methods such as case study analysis, power play games and experience sharing in pair methods. The training helped cadres to internalize on the adverse effects of inequality

### Training Youth Network Members on Ecology and Sustainable Development

With support from AIEN, training programmes were conducted for the members of Youth group network. In the training Participants were involved in preparing problem tree analysis on ecology and developed a common action to address the issues like polythene ban, forest fire, plantation and documentation of traditional and indigenous practice by the tribes for keeping environment and ecology healthy and sustainable.

### Life-Skill Training for Youth Group Members

In the reported period training on life skill was organised where youth group members from 10 youth group actively took part. During the training discussion was held on youth and their development. In this topic problems of youth were identified by group exercise and they also suggested giving their opinion and expectation for youth development. Discussion was held on choosing the area of interest to progress by youth, regarding carrier counselling was formally discussed. Apart from it they were also given basic information and knowledge on personal health and hygiene along with adolescence, and various precautionary measures. During second phase training was given regarding various employment opportunity and skill up gradation through various vocational institute working for youth skill development. The role of youth groups for village development was vividly discussed. Trainer also provided some important hints on life skill in the field of self behaviour, self attitude, leadership quality, self care, use of develop technology for personal development



## Observation of Important Days

### World Play Day

During the reported period on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019 World Play Day was organised where 90 (Boys-55, Girls-35) children from 8 government primary school had taken active part in various activities carried out in the day. At the beginning of the world play Day National song and anthem was performed by all children present in the Day. Traditional play like- Chakri, Puchi, Kata, Kitikiti, football, ring ball, local basket ball and bagudi, poison and Amruta plays was played among the both boys and girls. The objective of the observation of Play day was to create an atmosphere for the children to exhibit their potential and talent in play so as to create courage and interest towards school. Labangalata, Bajaye, Barsa, Budhuni and Bapi told that they have never got this opportunity earlier either at school or at community. They decided to motivate their Head master with support from Child right club to organise world play day in school.

### World Environment Day

On 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 World Environment Day was observed with the youths and child rights club members including project team members.

### Child Right days (Sisu Adhikar Divas)

In the month of 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 Child rights week was observed where children participated in Rally and drawing and quiz competition on Child ecological rights. Rallies were organised to raise the awareness levels of the community people on environment protection, illegal tree cutting, forest fire, hunting wild animal including poaching, avoid using non degradable polythene and plastic, avoid use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides. To develop the understanding of children a quiz contest on the theme of environment was also held and similarly children were encouraged to present the issues of environment by pictures and painting.



## Site 2: Muniguda, Bissum Cuttack & Chandrapur Blocks, Rayagada District.

Sikshasandhan Implements two major projects in this site.

1. Pada Pusti Karyakram with the support of Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiative.
2. Early Grade Reading Programme with the support of Unicef.

### Pada Pusti Karyakram

The tribal communities are inhabiting in Muniguda in the small scattered hamlets spreading across the hill slopes and valleys. Due to socio-economic reasons, this has been a well-accepted practice among them generation after generation. But from the service delivery point of view, this has created a barrier in communication for the service providers. It has been witnessed that 95% of hamlet villages of Muniguda block of Rayagada district of Odisha are located in interior pockets of hilly terrain and don't have all-weather road connectivity making them are hard to reach.

As a result, the people of these hamlets, cannot avail of the facilities of institutional delivery, Village Health & Nutritional Days, Immunization, ICDS, and schooling, which are vital services from a survival point of view in market dependent modern age.

To address these issues of malnutrition of children in the age group of 0-6 years and pregnant and lactating mothers, Sikshasandhan and APPI started a prototype since June 2018. In the last prototype phase Sikshasandhan was working in 100 hamlet villages of Muniguda Block of Rayagada district under the following modules:

#### Module 1

Community will take responsibility to take Ration from nearest Anganwadi centre and mother committee will cook the food as per the guideline of ICDS and distribute the cooked food to the 3-6 years of children.



## Module 2

One member selected from community will prepare the meal and distribute the same among the children, the honorarium for the work will be paid from Sikshasandhan.

## Module 3

We had sensitisation programmes with the community to take their responsibility and raise their voice to Anganwadi Worker and Supervisor for providing cooked meal from time to time to all the children of the community.

## Achievements

- The beneficiaries have become more cautious about their rights towards getting Dry Rations from AWCs.
- Now a days they are much more interested for preschool learning of their children in ECCEs .
- The mothers are asking about uniforms of their kids of Preschool learning at AWCs
- The mothers are inquiring the Mamata Card Money .
- The Mothers Group in the project area have engaged themselves towards maintaining Children Nutritional Garden .
- At present the mothers are more vigilant towards nutritional aspects of their children.
- The PRI Members are taking part towards Padapustee Programme in their respective areas.
- Hon'ble Minister , ST\SC and Minorities Development , Govt. of Odisha appealed the PRI Members to be involved for successful implementation of PadaPustee for Vulnerable Groups.
- The status of pregnant, anemic and lactating mothers have been changed after taking extra meal and counselling by our intervention



- The Mothers Group are taking lead role towards learning of their children.
- The Office of DSWO and CDPO have discussed our functionalities time to time about the activities we have undertaken
- We had organised a number of awareness programme related to COVID19 in village and sector level , as a result the people became aware about what to do and not to do during pandemic situation of CORONA19. In this connection we distributed Personal Protection Kits to front line Covid Warriors like ASHAs, Doctors, ANMs, Health Workers , AWCs Workers etc . and masks to the people also.
- Streamlined the hot cooked meal system for children at their doorstep.
- Children got a full meal as prescribed.
- Community involvement in the activities was achieved.
- Family members started supporting the initiative by their active involvement.
- Mothers groups came forward to take the initiatives like bringing the dry ration, cooking, etc.
- The periodic weighting of children and mothers created confidence in their minds and made them accountable for their health.
- Anganwadi workers became cooperative with this intervention.
- Regular and timely supply of THR became practical.

### Case Study Bada kandulapada

Hamlet villages are comparatively small villages, where few dwellers residing with their families in a close vicinity to the main village. Indian culture promotes unity in diversity, but it has an age-old history of clash and distresses among peoples of different social ladder and lower-class peoples are being forced to live separately from the main resident's i.e. general caste population. The peoples living in revenue villages availing all facilities



and benefits, but in hamlet villages, peoples still don't have access to some very basic facilities like: road, electricity, drinking water, housing and health. It has its own dynamics and complications, where peoples living without much amenities and resources. They have lack of choices to decide but have to live in a distressed condition even though thousands of govt. programs, lakhs of govt. employees, hundreds of departments and civil society organizations working for their upliftment.

Bada kandulapada, a small tribal village of Thuapadi, under Sardhapur GP of Muniguda block, located 2.5Km, 7Km, and 30 Km far away from their revenue village, GP headquarter and block respectively, where 11 tribal households are residing.

Demography of the village as follows:

Pregnant Mother	Lactating Mother	Children 7M~3Y	Children 3Y~6Y	Others	Total
5	0	6	6	53	70

Male	Female	Total
33	37	70

All the households settled there are landless; so they are cultivating by burning the forest, but mostly they depends on nonagricultural works like: stone breaking, Kendu leaf collection, and daily laborer. Goat, poultry and pig rearing are also helping them in managing domestic requirements by selling in local market. All households have PHH card which is helping them in getting rice, but still facing food scarcity during rainy season.



Not a single person of that village had never ever visited any school, which means 0% literacy. It reflects in their physical hygiene, cleanliness, and environment. The domestic animals like pig, goat, dogs and hens making their environment even polluted.

Peoples living in houses builds decades ago are not in human livable condition, despite of this they have neither electricity connection nor clean drinking water facility, even though the village has a bore well but peoples are preferring to use canal water instead of tube well due to iron content of tube well water.



The village was included to the list of 100 hamlet village spot feeding program,

after seeing and interacts with the villager's couple of months back, but that time the villagers were not in a mood to accept due to prolonged deprivation, betrayal and suppressed feelings, but after conducting round of meeting, interaction, and engagement still it was a challenge to win their confidence.

In this very month, the team again visited with the same spirit to win their confidence for start the spot feeding program. Fortunately few mothers were found at the Thuapadi anganwadi centre waiting for their part of food stuffs. The anganwadi worker has a prolonged history of providing 4 eggs per beneficiary, but that day the mothers were get 16 eggs, 2Kg rice for preschooling childrens and 12 eggs each for lactating and childrens below 3





years. It was the day they have first time received such a huge number of eggs and rice with the help of the team. ANM and AWW not even visited their village once in last six month; neither has provided any medicine for mother and children.

It was inroads the concept of spot feeling programme in their village and in that very place a discussion was held and finally they were agreed to start the programme. From the next day the feeding programme was started as discussed.

The team reached the spot and helped them in starting the programme.



After that a round of weight tracking of the childrens and pregnant mothers



was held, where the parents got to know their childrens weight for the first time, and shout for medicines as couple of childrens were found fever and few are internal warm and skin problems.

Health checkup of pregnant mothers and childrens as well as medicine



distribution to the affected persons was done by the APPI team, but still there is lots of problems need to be addressed. It was since last two month the team has been trying to bring changes in their sanitation and personal hygiene but not succeed.



But the mothers are very happy for this initiative, so they are providing hot cook meal to their childrens regularly. It is made possible due to continuous engagement with the mothers.

### Case study- Baisnababahal

Baisnababahal a small hamlet village of Jabaguda revenue village under jagadalpur gp of muniguda block. 24 families are residing their and all are belongs to tribal caste. Total population of the village is around 90. The village located just one KM far away from its main village and 7 km from its GP headquarter. The village has a primary school which was established in 2011, but the AWC is located in the revenue village. The villagers have the very basic facilities like: electricity, drinking water, road connectivity, school etc.



The educational scenario of the village is not good but availability of schools giving childrens an opportunity to access. Family economy mainly based on agriculture, forest and goat farming, but only one person from the village working in Vedanta Alumina Company located at Lanjigarh.

Believes and cultures are two parameters where tribals are very rich and strong, it reflects in their cultural festivals. Community sentiment is high and feelings too.

The village has better communication facility as compared to other hamlet villages, so medical services reaching the village easily reaching to the peoples, resulting institutional deliveries increased.



## Beneficiary status

Pregnant mother	Lactating mother	Childrens		Total
		7M~3Y	3Y~6Y	
1	2	1	4	8

The village was included to the spot feeding programme in march, 2019 after had a meeting with the villagers. It was in the initial days few mothers were taken the initiative to bring food stuffs from the AWC and started cooking, thereafter all the other mothers were involved. The feeding programme has been going on regularly without fail, as the village comes under SAMPURNA programme of health department, so two high risk

mothers has also been included to the mothers feeding programme last month and provided with food stuffs, now they are taking hot cook meal with the childrens.



During the meeting with the mothers a SAM child was spotted, after going through his medical reports and weight taken thereon the family members were advised to admit the child in hospital.



In a very next step the mother along with the family members were counseled about the issue. Engagement continues with health and ICDS department as well, for referring the issue to Rayagada.

Ms. Anjali Nundruka W/O: Pabitra Nundruka give birth to a baby boy on dated: 2/12/2018 at Muniguda CHC. The child was weighted 2.695 kg at birth. The child was normal till one month after the birth but deprivation of his health marked afterwards. The child started crying all the time, but the family members thought he is a BUD child, so started to treat accordingly. The tribals are believe that BUD childs cries a lot, due to high temperature of their body, so they need to take a bath. Then they started their traditional way of treatment by taking the child to a Nayak. The Nayak is a person of that village, they have strongly believed. He has the answer for all happenings to the villagers. When they asked about their childs health, the Nayak said “DOMBA” ( Ghost) has taken over the childs body. Coincidentally the maternal grandfather of that child was sick at that time, so the nayak linked the case with the childs health, and asked if the child treated than the grandfather may loss his life, it is the child who can save the life of his grandfather.

The parents are semi educated, and the father of the child is working in Vedanta alumina, started following the nayaks saying blindly. After few months the parents again taken the child to the Nayak, there he applied the burn treatment (Chenka)in the childs hand and provide some ayurvedic medicines. By believe the nayaks saying, the parents gave the medicine to the child by mixing in water. It was the narrative explained by the mother who is also receiving food stuffs under mothers feeding programme.



During the last three months of intervention, the parents and family members and community members were counseled various times through organizing village meeting and personal interaction, but they deny taking the child to medical until they done the last warship under another Nayak of Pandramunda village of sardhapur GP, but conditionally agreed to take medical after the worship. They done the worship in a new moon day last month, where they offered cock and other amenities to the Nayak as well as Rs. 250 towards eliminate the ghost from the childs body, but after that also he did not take his child to hospital.



During these period of time, the AWW, Ms. Kalpana Khuntia of Jabaguda AWC along with LS MS. Purnabasi Mandangi paid a visit to the childs house. They also tried to convince their parents and family members but did not succeed. Medical professionals, ANM and ASHA of the concerned sector also tried separately to convince them but failed.

This short of belief is still prevailing in tribal society, which is creating many problems. Nayaks are the first and last doctors for them, and without their treatment they never visit any medical. Weight tracking of all beneficiaries taking place monthly, where everyone showing improvement in their health except that child.

Growth status of the child





It is a challenge for all departments working for wellbeing of mother and childrens, including ICDS and health. But still struggling to find a way.

### Case study- Turukupa

Turukupa one of the hamlet of Kalikolatha village under Jagadapur GP of Muniguda Block. The village was included to the 100 village spot feeding programme on couple of months ago. The village giving residence to 21 no of households and



the demography is 107. The village located 22 Km from block, 7 Km from GP headquarter and 4 Km far away from the main village.

As like other tribal villages this village also had the same experience of deprivation of ICDS services.

Geographical location of the village, non availability of all weather road connectivity and distance from the main centre are three reasons has been keeping the villagers out of reach from availing basic facilities.

Village meeting and counseling was held together, and the villagers were informed about the ICDS services for mothers and childrens. Slowly they





have started to assemble strength and unanimously decided to visit the AWC to take their part of food materials, by this way they have started the spot feeding programme in their village too. Mothers group has taken the responsibility to cook regularly.

Now 7 preschool childrens are taking hot cook meals regularly. As that village is comes under SAMPURNA programme of govt. of odisha, so five mothers has also been providing with food stuffs to eat.

The villagers were stunned, the day when they received such huge quantity of eggs and other food materials from the AWC. “We have never had provided with such items in such quantity, rather our childrens are being provided with 4 eggs once in 2 months, and one floor packet for mothers” said Ms. Baidei Sakadaka.

To keep the parents informed about their child's growth, periodic weight tracking and sharing meeting happening, as it was such a new thing for them so, parents taking their child for weight.

To maintain the spirit and give the parents interest a new direction,

preschooling activity has also introduced in that village in the sideline of cooking. Where childrens are enjoying different activities under the



guidance of mothers. It is not only creating a space for learning new things but also making them confident.

The whole activity has now changed the viewing angle of parents as well as all the residents settled on the top of the hill.

Now they are feeling confident and have decided to continue the spot feeding programme.

### **Early Grade Reading Programme with the support of Unicef.**

Sikshasandhan with the financial support of Unicef implemented a project in selected 150 schools of Rayagada and Mayurbhanj district in the year 2018-19. The project covered approximately five thousand children in Muniguda, Bisam-Cuttack & Chandrapur blocks of Rayagada district and Kaptipada, Morada & Suliapada blocks of Mayurbhanj district of Odisha.

All these blocks are having high tribal population with challenges of multilingual environment. Here another challenge was that the children's home language is different from school language. The general academic competencies of children were extremely low in comparison to their peers in rest part of the state.

The focus of the programme was on building an environment in schools for developing the reading ability among the kids of early grades.

The strategy it adopted was as follows:

- Capacity building of stakeholders like teachers, field practitioners and key frontline functionaries on technical and communication skills required for reading promotion among students.
- Supportive programmes like Assessments, Material development & Collection in support of the core programmes.



- Support In-School Activities in support of reading and development of module to support training of State Resource Group for their ongoing trainings for replication in other districts and at –scale implementation.
- Developing an integrated plan, where a number of in-school activities are woven into regular curricular activities.
- Community dialogue, Periodic follow-up and Assessment will be conducted.

The focus was more on in school activities. And after a year of intervention, the results are as follows:

1. There is a significant improvement in reading ability among children in grade 3
2. Teacher’s and community volunteers’ understanding regarding the need of early grade reading is developed.
3. There is an improvement in classroom transactions of the teachers in early grade classrooms.
4. Many Grade appropriate Materials are created by volunteers and teachers.
5. School libraries are organised. The books are graded, and more early grade appropriate books are supplied to each if these schools.
6. Library period and library activities are streamlined.



### Site 3: Morada & Suliapada Blocks, Mayurbhanj District.

Sikshasandhan started its field project at Moroda in the year 2015 with the support of the district administration. Subsequently with the support from Karl Kubel Stiftung (KKS), Germany it enhanced its work for the Lodha Community. Sikshasandhan interventions here is not limited to education and child rights. It has adopted here multipronged intervention. During the 2019-20 financial year Sikshasandhan conducted the following activities for the development of Lodha Community.

#### Joint workshop for parents, teachers and community:

The joint workshop has organized with parents, teachers and community to make their relationship stronger and make them aware about their rights. In this reporting period 13 joint workshops have been organized in all 12 village of our project intervention area. The main objective of this programme was, to aware the community about their rights and make them raise voice for their rights. Discussion was held about their rights as well as their children's right. Discussion was held about involvement of parents and teachers in regularity of the dropout children. The IEC materials on children's right were displayed and discussion was also held on the message given through the IEC materials.

As a result of which, the villagers of Patharnesa submitted an application for a new Anganwadi building in their village, as it was running at the community hall. The AWC building has been constructed and Pre-primary classes is going on in the new AWC building. In Patharnesa village application was also submitted for a new School building. After several follow up by the teachers and community construction of new school building has been started. In Samaidihi village application was submitted to the BDO for drinking water facility and it has been sanctioned. In Dhobani village the community with the school teachers checked the supply of



alcohol to their village. 221 women send their children regular to school instead of sending them for work. Community involvement has been addressed in Dhobani village to prepare the school nutrition garden for their children.

### **Mobilization of youths and women for village development and education:**

The Lodha youth and women were being mobilized for various developmental work of their village as well as they have involved in IGA for their economic development. Youth are teamed as football team and played with other community for integration. To motivate the team shoes and dress has been provided to the member of football team. To build the capacity of the youth and to sensitized them capacity building training has been organized for the youth by Sikshasandhan. The youth are also being involved in home visit and counselling of parents for regularity of children in school. 126 youth and 101 women are being sensitized towards children's right.

### **Sports and Cultural events for children and youth:**

Sports and cultural festival is an entertaining programme organised at village level with local contribution of the community to bring them together and develop team spirit among the community. This year the programme has been organised at Lodha villages of Morada and Suliapada block by Sikshasandhan with support of KKS & BMZ. The main motive of the festival was to integrate Lodha with other community.

In this year Sikshasandhan has organized 8 Cultural programme with both Lodha and other community. An annual cultural festival was organized with 141 members (63 male and 78 female) from 12 villages of our intervention area. In this programme 12 Cultural teams have performed All the staffs and community volunteers were facilitated the programme.



12 cultural programmes in all 12 villages of our intervention area have been organized for the Lodha women, as the women are the base of all families. It was for strengthening the women power and enhances their internal qualities. They always being involved in all activities of their house and got no time for themselves. This kind of programmes have been organized to make them realize that they are so special and can do anything. Beside all these programmes there was a main motive to involve the women in children education. Along with this programme cultural programme for children was also organized in all 12 villages.

As a result of which intercommunity relationship of Lodhas with other community become stronger. The Lodha football team members are organizing friendly matches with non Lodha community and also participating in matches of non Lodha areas. Intercommunity disputes decreases accordingly. 100 youth and 69 women are respected socially because of strong intercommunity relationship.

### **Street Play:**

Street play has a motive to aware the Lodha about their Children's Right, health and hygiene and to integrate them with other community. To ensure Children's Right and aware the Lodha community about Children's Right street plays have been organized in all 12 villages of our intervention areas. It was organized the center of a village or at the end of the village, so that other community people also be a part of this.

This year street plays have been organized in all 12 villages of our intervention area on Child right and de-addiction. There were plays on theme like child marriage, child labor, child education, de-addiction etc. Many non Lodha members were seen at the place of street play with the Lodhas.



## De-addiction

It is quite difficult to check addiction within a very short time period. The Lodhas are addicted from a long ago and now a day they could skip their meal but not alcohol or rice beer. In such circumstances the most sufferers are the children. They could not get enough attention and care from their parents. We found it very difficult to mobilize the Lodha community against alcohol, but up to some extent, it could be possible.

9 Counseling programme for de-addiction has been organized in 8 village of our intervention area to aware the community about de-addiction.

Activities related to **SMC**:

### SMC Training:

The SMC members play a big role in education of children. The SMC in every Lodha area villages were in inactive form before intervention of Sikshasandhan. Several training, meetings and exposures have been organized to strengthen the SMC so that they could be active enough to play their role and responsibility properly. Now in all Lodha area schools SMC training is being organized and the members are participating in the meetings. In this year 4 SMC trainings have been organized with the SMC members of both Morada and Suliapada Block. In these SMC trainings a total of 179 members (55 Female & 124 Male) have been trained about their role and responsibility and about Children's Right.

As a result of which in Dhobani and Bhadrasole village SMC members help in preparing the school nutrition garden. The SMC members are now visiting school the quality and quantity of MDM too. In Tiansi, SMC members started asking the teacher to come on time. 60 SMC members from both Morada and Suliapada block are active and aware about their role and responsibility. Parents are become aware about education and sending their children to school regularly. 221 Lodha women are sending



their children to school instead of sending them for work. SMC members are involved in preparing nutrition garden.

Activities related to **Curriculum, teachers' training, TLM:**

### Training program for Government school teacher:

A two days training was organized on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019 with 29 Govt teachers (11 female & 18 male). This training was on early grade education and use of library book for increase reading ability of children. Another two days training was organized with the Government teachers of Morada and Suliapada Block on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Sep 2019 with 18 numbers (6 female & 12 male) of teachers. This training was based on activity based teaching learning process and use of TLM. Both training was organized in participating method so that active involvement of the teachers could be addressed.

The activeness of the Government teachers could be seen in our intervention area. Many TLM has been prepared with involvement of the teachers and being used in the classroom. The children attendance in primary schools has also been increased up to 64%.

### Training of community teachers:

In this year, Community volunteer's capacity building training for contextual teaching learning process of Language and Mathematics was held on 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019 with all the community volunteers of our project. Another four days training of community volunteers have also been organized from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> Sep 2019. This training was held on activity based contextual teaching learning process. In this training the volunteers were trained for one day and for the rest three days, they were visited to different school of our intervention areas to practically teach the children at school. At the end of every day the volunteers have to evaluate themselves and others according to their performance.





### Development of Teaching Learning Materials (TLM):

This year 3 school level workshops have been organized on TLM development with involvement of the community volunteers, Government teachers and children. Along with this, this year focus was given more on use of these TLM by our community volunteers and Government teachers.

Many low cost TLM has been prepared by the Govt. teachers along with children and displayed in the classroom. Teachers are using these materials while teaching. Directly or indirectly, this is also a reason of increasing in attendance of primary children. 82 children have basic concept of Math and 81 have basic concept on Language in Pre- primary school. 103 children have basic concept on Math and 103 have basic concept on Language in primary schools.

Activities related to **child rights:**

### Summer camp & Creative workshop:

It was seems difficult to bring the children again to school after summer vacation every year. This year Sikshasandhan has organized Summer camp and creative workshop for children during summer vacation, so that the Lodha children will be attached with education during the vacation. And it will make easy to bring the children to school after summer vacation.

During vacation in every Lodha village, two days creative workshop has been organized with the Lodha children and daily summer camp cum morning classes have been organized by the community volunteers. In the Creative workshop children were involved in various creative works like drawing, mud work, origami, dance, song, storytelling etc. And in village level morning classes, the community volunteers were engaged the children in various activity based work by using Teaching Learning Materials (TLM). It was for increasing the reading and writing ability of the Lodha



children. 12 Creative workshops have been organized in all 12 Lodha villages of our intervention area.

### Workshop for children:

Sikshasandhan always focus on activity based teaching learning process to ensure education. Activities create interest among the children towards education. For which activity based creative workshop were being organized for children. Some of these activities were organized at school with the Government teachers, so that the Government teachers will follow the way of activity based teaching learning process. And some of the workshops have been organized at block level with a number of Lodha children of one block at one place. These kinds of workshops were being facilitated by the community volunteers with help of staffs.

In this year 5 Creative workshops have been organized at 5 Lodha area schools by involving the Government teachers. We focus on increase the learning level of children. For which we have conducted activity based mathematics and language teaching, along with this, action song, dance and games were also included. All the activities have been conducted with use of teaching learning materials (TLM).

### Children Festival:

At village level programmes and even in schools too, the Lodha children are always found interested about sports and cultural activities. They have many hidden talent inside but could not get chance to express them. Sikshasandhan has created a platform for the Lodha children of Morada and Suliapada block to express themselves and that is Children Festival. Before children festival school level sports and cultural programmes have organized in every school and the selected children participate in children festival. It is organized at the end of the year and a grand get together took place among the children. They met each other, share their experience,



play together, eat together and many more. Children of other community are also get chance to participate in children festival.

This year Children Festival has been organized by Sikshasandhan on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019 at play ground of Chikitamatia High School with support of KKS & BMZ. A total of 200 children from 12 Lodha area schools, participated in this programme. Along with children, Government teachers from 12 Lodha area schools, high school Head Master of Chikitamatia, Local leader, Sarapanch, Block Education Officer of Morada Block, District Planning Coordinator of SSA, and Member Secretary of Sikshasandhan have also attended the Festival. The programme was facilitated by the staffs and volunteers of Sikshasandhan. Different sports like 100 meter race, 50 meter race, math race, needle and thread race, save your balloon, spoon balance, bit the drum, three leg race, long jump, high jump, short foot, music chair, etc, other competition like drawing, Alpana, Application writing, drama, speech, song and dance etc have been organized. Center of attraction was the stalls. There were different stalls like TLM, Different organization which helps us, local instruments and local grains. Out of 200 children 94 children have got prizes from various competitions and all rest children have got some prizes.

We found increase in confidence level of the Lodha children. Last year number of participants was 185 but this year it has increased up to 200 and all children have participated in one or more than one competition. Children have involved in preparing TLM, the result could be seen at the TLM stalls of children festival. Leadership among children has been increased. Children for the very first time perform a drama in the festival in front of a large crowd. It could be calculated as the increase in confidence level of the children.

### Publication of IEC materials:



IEC materials with logos of KKS, BMZ and Sikshasandhan has been printed and displayed at school, community hall, common meeting place of village etc for awareness of community. The theme of IEC materials are Children's Right and De-addiction. Total 10 pictures has been developed on Children's Right and De-addiction out of which 100 copies each of two picture had been printed in last year and in this year, 50 copies of each rest of the pictures have been printed and displayed at village level.

### Formation of Child Right Clubs:

To make both the school going and dropout children aware about their rights 12 Child Right Clubs have been formed in village level in 12 villages of our intervention areas. The children of Child Right clubs were involved not only in meetings but also in home visit and other meetings of the villages. In this year 20 Child Right Club meetings have been conducted in 12 villages of our intervention area.

### Strengthening of 8 Child Protection Committees:

The Panchayat level Child Protection Committee (CPC) of Morada and Suliapada block were in inactive form before intervention of Sikshasandhan. There was neither any meeting conducted nor any active member found in the committees. Sikshasandhan reform all the 8 committees of our intervention area and quarterly CPC meetings were being conducted by Sikshasandhan. Previously there was no support entertained from the Block level CPC and District level CPC. After intervention of Sikshasandhan, a representative from District Child Protection Unit attends the panchayat level CPC meetings. The members of CPC are also being involved actively in all meetings and other activities like addressing child labor, child marriage & orphan children etc. In this year



Sikshasandhan has formed 12 village level CPC in all 12 villages of our intervention areas.

In this year 21 CPC meetings have been conducted in 8 panchayats of Morada & Suliapada Block.

Activities related to **nutrition:**

**Promotion of Nutrition Garden in 12 schools:**

Nutrition garden has been developed in the Lodha area schools and the vegetable are being used in MDM. Out of 12 in 8 Lodha area schools, Nutrition garden have been developed and seasonal vegetable are being cultivated which is being used in MDM. Along with this in 8 villages of our project area, personal kitchen garden has also been developed.

Activities related to **Livelihood:**

**Business development training:** 3 Business Planning meeting was conducted in this year where discussion was held on business planning and profit and loss management. In this year 13 business development trainings have been organized at 11 villages of our intervention area. An exposure was organized with 44 beneficiaries (10 female & 34 male) to KJKS, West Bengal for business development.

**Agriculture management training:** An exposure was organized for the beneficiaries for agriculture management to Darkhuli agricultural farm. A meeting was organized with the Horticulture department, Baripada and pointed gourd root has been collected from there which was distributed to the beneficiaries. Two farmers meeting was organized with total 48 farmers. In this year 16 Agriculture management trainings have been organized at 12 villages of our intervention area. Out of which 5 training was conducted for practical implementation of organic farming by preparing organic seedbed and plantation of the same. In these training organic



pesticide and fertilizer were also prepared with involvement of the beneficiaries.

**Livestock management training:** Livestock have been provided to the Lodhas with support of KKS & BMZ for their economic development. Under this goat and pig rearing has promoted. In this year 11 Livestock management training has been provided to to beneficiaries. An exposure to KJKS, West Bengal was also organized for better implementation of this.

Activities related to **Advocacy:**

In this reporting period, a meeting was held with the in-charge of ITDA, Mayurbhanj to discuss with him about development of Lodhas and coordination from LAD. A meeting was held with Special officer of LDA to discuss about the economic and educational development of Lodhas.

A meeting was held with the Planning Co-ordinator of SSA for better implementation of education in Lodha area schools. Discussion was also held about the process of teaching, infrastructure, dropout children etc in that meeting.

A meeting was conducted with the District Child Protection Officer (DCPO) about formation of village level Child Protection Committee (CPC). After this meeting village level CPC has been formed in all 12 Lodha village of our intervention area. Another meeting was conducted with the DCPO about skill training of Lodha youth under DDUGKY.

Consultation with BEO, BRCC, CRCC and Head Masters of schools was organized by Sikshasandhan to address learning ability of children, reduce dropout, ensure activity based teaching learning process.

### The story of Football Team of Handibhanga Village

Handibhanga village is situated at Godigaon Panchayat of Morada Block. Near about 100 families live in this village. Many of them are PVTG (Lodha).



The previous generation of this community was illiterate. The youth of this village were migrated for search of work to other states. And the rest were at the village without any work and became addicted to alcohol. As they have no work they were involved in illegal works. In this way the youth of Handibhanga village were harassed in different matters. Sikshasandhan has involved the youth in income generating activities and migration rate also decreased. It was very important for Lodhas to make them aggregate. They were always being selfish for themselves and not make any group. This is the reason they could not be involved in any developmental works. The Lodha youth have interest in playing football. Sikshasandhan has enhanced their hobby and through which teams could be formed. In every Lodha villages football teams have been formed and in Handibhanga too. Sikshasandhan provided football to every team. The youth had practiced at their village with that ball. Being a team and with support of Sikshasandhan they have prepared their playground by cleaning up the unused forest land. They started practicing on that field and gradually they started participated in the football matches at nearby villages. By noticing the interest of the team Sikshasandhan has provided jersey and shoes to all members of the team, which encourage the Lodha youth a lot. They are now playing professionally. There is a captain in the team, who is a chosen one, Mr. Chakradhara Paramanik. He is leading the team for play better and better.

The Handibhanga football team has been participated in amny matches and tournaments inside and outside their Block. This year the team was organized a football tournament by their own where total 16 football teams from different villages were participated. They have collected Rs.301/- as entry fees and recognized the winner teams by giving the prizes. The first prize was 15 kilogram chicken and second was 10 kg.

Sikshasandhan is always trying to develop the community socially and economically. For integration of Lodhas with other community, the football teams are playing a major role. Village level football matches, sports and



cultural events were also being organized where both Lodha and non-Lodha community are participating. This is a reason for which intercommunity and inter community relationship is becoming stronger day by day.

### Story of an empowered Lodha Lady

Malati lives in Dhobani Lodha Colony with her husband and two sons. Her husband was an alcohol addicted person and was doing daily wedges. Due poor economic condition and addiction of alcohol, problems were the guest of Malati. She used to be sad always. After intervention of Sikshasandhan in Dhobani village, Maliti was appointed as the community volunteer, as she was completed her 10<sup>th</sup>. The realationship of Malati with the Head master of Dhobani primary school become good. Malati shared her problem with the staff of Sikshasandhan and with the headmaster too. Counseling of Babulu for de-addiction started after that. It was takes three and more months but Babulu had a strong willing power to stop drinking alcohol. And finally Babulu stop drinking. At that time Sikshasandhan started implementing the IGA in all Lodha area villages of Morada and Suliapada block. And through village meetings he has become and IGA beneficiaries.

At the starting period of tiem Malati was found as very shy women who do not speak even to the staffs of Sikshasandhan and not at all with any outsider. She has got many trainings and attended many workshops. She has attended some exposures too. Gradually Malati become a bold woman who can talk to anybody. She has made many TLM in Dhobani schools with help of staff of Sikshasandhan and school teacher. She also conducted activities with the children in school and AWC. Almost all problems of Malati were solved but Malati was always against alcohol addiction. She tried always to motivate the women of her village for de-addiction, but it was very difficult for her. It is said that where there is a will there is a way. At that time two people of Dhobani village had died within one month because of





excess consumption of alcohol. Malati at that time aggregate all the women of their village along with some male members. The local leaders were also helped Malati. They all start a campaign against alcohol and banned alcohol to enter in the village. Babulu support her for this. Now Dhobani village, nobody could buy or sell alcohol. The village is now totally alcohol free. But still some addicted people are there who drank alcohol from the nearby village. It was really a big achievement for Malati. Being a Lodha lady it was difficult for her but not impossible.

## Headquarters Level Activities

### Publications

#### Books

Sikshasandhan has been involved in the publication of books (primarily in Odia) related to education, and social change, as well a few autobiographies. The aim of these publications has been to strengthen the vernacular public domain, and facilitate the exchange of ideas and debates regarding education in Odisha. Till date a total of 120 books have been published. These have been extensively reviewed in the Odia language press, thus fulfilling the mandate of creating a public debate on the issues raised in the books.

Care has been taken to distribute the books all across the state in a professional manner, and the organisation has participated in book fairs in Bhubaneswar. The response to the organisation's publications has been encouraging with many of the books going into multiple editions, which is relatively rare in the Odia publication industry.



### Sikha (A Journal on Education in Odia)

Five issues of *Sikha* were published in the financial year. The objective of the journal has been to raise the quality of debates surrounding education, especially primary education in Odisha's rural areas. The journal regularly publishes reminiscences of teachers working in schools managed by the organisation's partners, as well as the experiences of educational innovators from all across the state. It also carries the latest news in the field of education, and book reviews. The journal has been quite widely reviewed by the local press.

### The Sikshasandhan Library

The Sikshasandhan library continued to grow in the year under review. In the recent past the library has been trying to create a definitive collection of biographies and autobiographies in Odia, and books about education related issues. Quite a few books have been received in donation, and attempts have also been made to source second hand books. Now the collection stands at a little over 5,000 volumes, and the library has more than sixty regular users.

### The School Libraries

Sikshasandhan has supplied books for children to 150 government schools and has conducted training programme for teachers on using libraries for improving curricular transaction processes.

### **Printing Press**

For the last few years Sikshasandhan has been running a printing press on a professional basis, and the press employs seven people. It has printed several books and magazines.



The Member of Board of Governors of Sikshasandhan are as follows:

**Sri Jatindra Kumar Nayak, PhD. Chairperson:** M.Litt. (Oxon), PhD. Dip-in-French, Professor, Department of English, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Won the KATHA Translation Award in 1997 and Hutch Crossword Award in 2004, for Indian language fiction translation. He has a large number of translation works to his credit.

**Sri Manmatha Kundu, PhD. Vice-Chairperson:** Former Director, ATLC and ELRI. He was also former Chairman of NCTE. He is engaged in writing innovative textbooks, designing syllabi and training of teachers.

**Sri Anil Pradhan, M.A. Member Secretary:** He has 22 years of experience in the field of tribal and rural education and has coordinated several development and research projects. Under his coordination, 100 books have been published, which is a great contribution to Odia literature and education. He has coordinated for developing primers in tribal languages and expert in the field of tribal education.

**Dr. Navaneeta Rath, PhD. Member:** Professor, Department of Sociology at Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa. She has executed various research projects and has several publications to her credit.

**Mr. Ajit Panda, B.A. LLB. Member:** He has been working in the field of rural development since 1985. He is the Secretary of VIKASH - a voluntary organisation working in Nuapada and Kalahandi districts of Odisha.

**Mr. Biren Das, M.A. Member:** A noted filmmaker and social activist, whose documentaries and television programmes have brought him recognition in Odisha.



**Ms. Supriya Mallick, Member:** She is the Principal at District Institute of Educational Training (DIET), Jajpur. She writes articles for various newspapers and magazines.

**Sri Rabindra Nath Sahoo, M.A Member:** Poet, writer and social activist based in Cuttack, Odisha. He has written scholarly articles, a few poetry books and edited a magazine Parents and Pedagogue.

**Sri Sangram Jena, PhD. Member:** Poet and editor of Nisant magazine on literature. He has also translated a few books into Odia. He is a recipient of the Kendra Sahitya Academi Award for translation.

### *Friends of Sikshasandhan*

- *Prof. Gaganendra Nath Das: Noted linguist and essayist*
- *Prof. Swadhin Pattnaik: Eminent mathematician and Director, Institute of Mathematics and Applications, Bhubaneswar, Odisha*
- *Dr. Bob Curie: Noted social scientist, author of "The Politics of Hunger", McMillan, London*
- *Dr. Beate Scherrer: Educational Consultant, Germany*
- *Prof. Jean Dreze: Eminent development economist*
- *Prof. Ramachandra Guha: Eminent anthropologist, biographer, columnist and essayist*
- *Dr. Ananta Giri: Associate Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai and author of several books*
- *Mr. John Creyke: Civil Servant, U.K*
- *Dr. Bhaswati Charaborty: Journalist, Kolkata*
- *Prof. Khageswar Mohapatra: Writer and academician*



- *Mr. Singh Ray Singh Purty: Teacher, alternative education center*
- *Mr. Ganapati Sabar: Social worker*
- *Mr. Dambarudhar Jani: Social worker*
- *Mr. Kamalakanta Mohapatra: Retired Civil Servant, and noted writer and translator*
- *Mr. Aurobindo Behera: Retired civil servant and noted translator*
- *Mr. Shriharsha Mahapatra: Commissioner, Income Tax*
- *Mr. P.K Nayak: Professor, Anthropology*
- *Mrs. Vidhya Das: Social worker*
- *Shri Achyut Das: Social worker*
- *Dr. Purna Chandra Ratha: Reader, Business Management Department, Utkal University*
- *Dr. Jagabandhu Acharya: Noted professional social worker*
- *Shri Manoj Parida: Teaches English at Kesinga College, Kalahandi*
- *Shri Nrusingha Charan Sahoo: Senior Journalist*
- *Shri Gobardhan Dora: Retired Executive Engineer and the author of the book Thesarus of Dates and Events of Odisha*
- *Shri Binay Krushna Pattanaik: Social Worker*
- *Shri Pradeep Kumar Dash: Commissioner Income Tax*
- *Shri Siba Prada Swain: Commissioner Income Tax*
- *Shri Jitendra Narayan Das: Eminent writer*
- *Shri Subash Satapathy: Senior journalist and noted translator*



- *Ms. Nibedita Scudder: Social worker*
- *Ms. Meenakshi Mishra: Award winning teacher*
- *Ms. Subrata Mishra: Reader, Department of Public Administration, Sambalpur University*
- *Dr. Mahendra Mishra: Writer and folklorist*
- *Prof. Ganeswar Mishra: Retired Professor of English and author of several books*
- *Shri Surendra Pradhan: Social Worker, Ex-MLA*
- *Shri H.S Sarkar: Retired Civil Servant and author of "True gods and false gods"*
- *Mr. Bhaskar Parichha: Senior journalist and social worker*
- *Dr. Tyler Tokaryk: Teaches at University of Toronto, Canada*
- *Mr. Rabi Das: Social activist*
- *Dr. Chandra Kishore Mahapatra: Eminent mathematician*
- *Ms. Lauren Alcorn: Social worker from Canada*
- *Mr. Subrat Sardha: Has built a library*
- *Mr. Dharendra Bal: Founder of an Experimental School at Markona*
- *Dr. C.K Mohapatra: Writer and eminent mathematician*



<b>Registration No</b>	<b>KRD 6233-452 1994-95 (Society Registration Act XXI of 1860</b>
<b>FCRA Registration No</b>	105020201 dtd 05 Jan 1998
<b>Income tax Sec 12 registration no</b>	35/96-97 (01-04-`996)

