



People's Rural
Education Movement

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President's Message

My dear friends,

Greetings from PREM !

We are extremely glad to present this edition of E-News to you. 2013 is a very significant year for the communities with which PREM and its network are involved in the field of development.

PREM always think that civil society's responsibility is to bring innovations, creativities and new models to the state and to the country so that the Government can scale up the same in different places. For example PREM spent almost 12 years to educate the tribal and dalit children in Central and English medium schools with quality education. We are very glad that they succeeded in 10th and 12th standard and doing very well in engineering, medicine, nursing and hotel management courses. We are very sure they will come out successfully and will get placements without problems.

This edition brings some examples of excellence like Duryodhan Sabar who got the 2nd position in the national level and Pratap Majhi who was the only person selected from Odisha to attend the National Conference on Child Right at New Delhi.

PREM together with its networking organisations is campaigning for approval of the National Early Childhood Care and Education(ECCE) policy for last two years and we are very happy to inform you that the Govt. of India has approved this policy and is requesting all the state governments. Union territories of India to implement in true spirit. We were campaigning for Mother Tongue based Multilingual Early Childhood Education in all ICDS centers in tribal areas of India to include in the ECCE policy and finally this has been included in the national ECCE policy.

Now it depends upon the Women and Child Developments of each state and civil societies to implement this policy so that 158.7 million children under 6 years will get the benefit in education for their foundation, which will help them to become good citizens of India.

It is very important that every Indian should think positively, live with secular credentials and scientific thinking; so that we will able to create a new India as per the vision of our Former Prime Minister Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Thanking you

Dr. Jacob Thundyil,
President, PREM

Highlight of the Issue

What did opportunity make Duryodhan, an Adivasi child? Amazingly excellent!

"I am very thankful to PREM and to AXIS Bank Foundation for the support extended to me. The PREMA Project has opened up opportunities for my development and kept me in close watch and guidance. This invigorates me to tread on the path of success", said Duryodhan Sabar. He is currently doing his Three years **Diploma Course in Mechatronic Branch** (six semesters) in Nettur Technical Training Foundation Training Centre(NTTF), Gopalpur with the support of PREM's new initiative Project PREMA—an innovative professional and vocational



training initiative—in collaboration with Axis Bank Foundation of Mumbai.

“PREM is leading my community on the path to liberation. My development and successes are part of that process. The PREMA project has kept on its efforts inspiring and boosting my self-confidence to move along my most aspired career— Thanks to the project PREMA”(Duryodhan)

Duryodhan, is the son of Mr. Ega Sabar an Adivasi from Padampur village—a small interior village inhabited mostly by indigenous people of Gajapati district. His father is a poor agriculture farmer and his mother, a house wife. He has five brothers and a sister.

As a sponsored child of the former PREM-Plan project, Duryodhan started his schooling at a reputed English medium school in Berhampur. From the beginning of his study, he secured high percentage of marks till he completed standard 10th.

After successful completion of his secondary education, in the year 2011, he got an opportunity through Project PREMA doing the Diploma Course and he made the best use of the opportunity given to him. He worked hard with sincerity and proved himself to be intelligent enough to grasp lessons easily during the classroom transactions. This helped him perform remarkably well in the semester exams. **He secured the first position in the list of students who appeared the third semester examination conducted by the institute, and was surprisingly found to be in the second rank at the national level.** This indeed has been a matter of pride for PREM, AXIS Bank Foundation, NTTf, the community and family of his own.



Duryodhan was felicitated by Mr. Babu Joseph, Executive Trustee cum Chief Executive Officer of Axis Bank Foundation in the Convocation 2013 of 'Project PREMA'

Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM, congratulates Duryodhan for the latter's achievement and terms his success as a vivid example of PREM's efforts towards mainstreaming the tribal children in Odisha.

Duryodhan attributes all his successes to PREM and is confident enough to build up his career according to his dream of becoming an engineer in future. He also expresses his gratitude to AXIS Bank Foundation for its support in pursuing the career.

In his words, "PREM is leading my community on the path of liberation. My development and successes are part of that process. The PREMA project has kept on its endeavors inspiring and boosting my self-confidence to move along my most aspired career. Thanks to the project PREMA".

Success Story

Ms. Moriyam Raito, of Engereda village of Gumma block of Gajapati district is one of those who went through the Grihini-women's life style management training and Advanced agriculture training, of Kerala Agriculture University, Thrissur in the year 2011. Soon after receiving these above trainings she took interest in different development works in her village and nearby villages. She was encouraged by PREM and community members to contest the three tier Panchayatraj election for the position of **Block Chairperson** of Gumma block in February 2012 and she won the election with maximum 400 votes.



Presently Moriyam, is working successfully as a Block Chairperson in Gumma block for the development of the communities, which covers 19 panchayats. She was successful for the allotment of NREGA works, construction of culverts and bridges, implementation of food security schemes, housing etc for the communities of 19 panchayats of Gumma block. Besides these she is also constantly

monitoring the village level services such as ICDS centers, schools, residential schools for better functioning and development of the children.

As block chairman she was able to bring a bus for the community people. Currently the bus is running daily from Serang to Parlakhemundi—district headquarter of Gajapati district for the transportation purpose of the people. This facility is very helpful for the people of the area and it has minimized the communication problems of the people, which is a major success of her.

She expresses her gratitude to PREM for continuous inspiration and encouragement and also for giving an opportunity to be a part of Grihini-women's life style management training and Advanced agriculture training, which encourages her to work with the community for their development. She is now committed to work for the education development, sustainable livelihood for the communities of her block. In her future aspiration she wants to work for the community in future. She also expressed her interest to contest in the next three tier Panchayat election.

PREM congratulates Moriyam for her success and wish her for her future commitment towards development of the community.

Notes from the Field

Village level micro planning

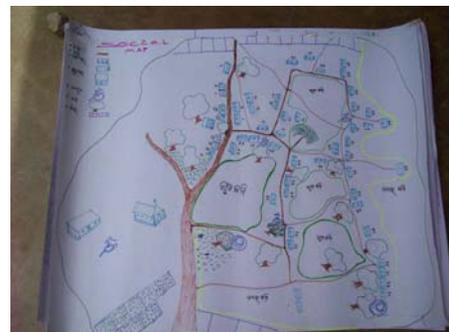
In the month of July PREM has completed micro planning in 5 villages in Juang project area of Keonjhar district. The main objective of the micro planning was to analyze and review the completed tools of the micro planning process of the five villages. In the micro planning the tools covered and information collected such as problem analysis, historical transact, trend analysis, wealth ranking, social mapping, resource mapping ,employment chart, ven diagram, community income and expenditure and SCOT analysis. PRA method has been adopted to collect the information during micro planning. Community members, SHG members, youths and children were actively participated in this process. A village wise action plan was prepared by the village people for next 3 years for development of the village. Now the project is consolidating the collected information and by end of August 2013 project will get the village wise complete micro planning document.



Baseline and vulnerability survey



In June there was a baseline and vulnerability survey through PRA conducted by PREM volunteers in two Gram panchayats (Portamaha and Badabanga) of Daringibadi Block of Kandhamala District. Through this exercise the team could assess *the socio-economic condition of the people*. Few activities have been carried out such as social mapping, resource mapping, service



centers and distance mapping, SWOT analysis, problem identification and prioritization, women consultation, children consultation, historical

background mapping, wealth ranking and visioning exercise etc. to access the required information. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) and Participatory Appraisal of Natural Resource (PANR) made the local people creative, interactive and analytical. The Participatory processes have been done by means of share dialogue and conversation with the local communities.

Telecommunication media interview

The Media reporters of Naxtra channel, MBC channel and the Communication Manager of BVLV, Bhubaneswar visited to the Preschool center of Toranipani and Upar Baitarani village of Bansapal block of Keonjhar district in the month of June. There they found the centres were decorated by the local context mother tongue based multi lingual teaching learning materials. They had interviewed with the teachers and children about their performance and changes by the implementation of mother tongue based ECE. Besides this they had also interviewed with the community and program coordinators about their involvement in this process. They appreciated to PREM for implementing this program in the Juang operational area and the villagers also sensitised more through this program.

PREM Program Activities

Education

In the month of May, PREM organized a two days **Workshop on career counselling** for 10th pass out students at Carry Retreat Centre, Gopalpur-on-sea. A total 40 students participated and different resource persons and program Manager, Plan India facilitated the sessions.



The objective was *to help the students to explore their own talents and to chose a better course (Engineering, Science, Social Science, Vocational, administrative service coaching, Finance/Banking and industry) for future to attain better livelihoods and academic improvements.*

Experienced career guides of different career guide institutes conducted the career counseling sessions. This program was exclusively for the 50 students who completed their education from secondary to higher secondary level in the current academic year. The resource persons provided appropriate guidance for professional and technical career for the present generation youths—students who have cleared 10th are at a work road in their career with the ever increasing studies and multitudes of career options. Different sessions on building values for youth towards achievement of better and positive career pathways, child psychology, issues and barriers in youth development, ethical value of education, holistic development of youths, case studies, various opportunities, loan for higher studies and new information for banking career, media career, management, publication and technical career etc were discussed in this program.



This two days program helped the students a lot to explore their own talents and to choose a better course for their future to attain better livelihood and academic improvement. The workshop was very useful, colorful and very essential for this right time and right age of the students for building of the foundation. Resource persons have given as relevant important information towards the students through the career counseling workshop.

To provide computer knowledge to the 50 students for their development in computer operational skills with basic computer knowledge, ideas, skills and other competencies to understand the basic terminologies, weaknesses of computers, and potentialities of computers



Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM giving certificate to a student in the valedictory function

PREM in collaboration with Plan India has organized computer education program for 50 students--9th and 10th standard—for one month at PREM central office training centre dated on May 2nd to May 31st. this one month training course was provided by Dataline Computers, Berhampur.

MS-OFFICE-2003.MS WORD, MS EXCEL and MS- POWER POINT. During the classes all the 50 students were divided into two-groups for easy and comfortable learning. The training was very smooth and disciplined. After one-month course the students appeared an examination and everybody passed with an average above 75% marks as 'A' grade. In the end of the course every students got certificates from the institution, which was distributed by Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM in the valedictory function. The students got very good knowledge on different aspects on computer education in this one month course.



The subjects covered during the one-month period of computer education were fundamental of computer, operating system (WINDOWS-XP),

A workshop on preparation of tribal context specific story, song, riddles and game book was organized on 28th July at PREM project office at Gonasika, of Keonjhar district for preparing stories, songs, riddles and game books in Juang tribal languages. Pre-school supervisors, MPWs and project staffs were the main and active participants. The pre-school facilitators and MPWs composed small songs in different themes like identification of different colors, different months, on different seasons, on different animals, types of birds, on different sounds of birds, animals, insects, on daily activities, daily routines and on safe environment. The participants referred small Odia song books on different topic for composing these songs into Juang languages. The participants were actively and innovatively kept busy themselves in preparing, composing and creating new and varieties of stories, songs riddles in Juang language and to make these songs more popular and friendly among the children in their respective Pre-school centers.



In the month of June the **Mid Term Evaluation dissemination workshop** was organised at Carrey Retreat & study centre, Gopalpur-on-sea, Ganjam, Odisha. More than 127 persons—girl children, youth of both the sexes, teachers, tutors, members/leaders of Panchayat Raj Institutions, members of women's SHGs/Village Development committees, area volunteers, hostel authorities, PREM's management and the project staffs—participated in this program. Dr. Chacko Paruvanany, Secretary, PREM facilitated a discussion on holistic, value based education. Mr.

Santosh Patro, the PC, PREM-Plan elaborated the success stories of the project interventions, the findings of and concerned areas stemming out of the Mid Term Review/Evaluation. Valerian D'Lima, the Grant Manager, brainstormed on the 4 baskets of child rights and suggestions along the areas of improvement for hostels, tuition centres and

the project ‘**Scholarship & Allied support for Education**’. The sessions were very interactive and highly participatory. The suggestions made by the participants were extension of support to children from primary school, sensitisation workshops for all the stakeholders, protective environment in schools; teachers’ attitude towards girl children and licentious gesticulation/ motion on the part of male teachers. Schools should be free from such behavior, child and student friendly teaching methodology in schools makes schools and class room transactions discrimination-free and interactive-dialogical..



District wise training of teachers & tutors was conducted for both the districts—Gajapati and Puri—for secondary school teachers and tutors on advanced learning in the month of May. District and state resource persons of RMSA (Rastriya Madhyamik Shiksyas Aviyan) had come to impart training. The training revealed through many new things had come into the curriculum and that there had been conceptual changes in some areas of learning. The methodology to be adopted for teaching the subjects like Math, Science and English that the children opined to be most difficult, was found pretty child friendly, enriching and stimulative. There were some practical sessions too for science. The common methodology consisted of 5 ,Es such as Engagement, Exploration, Explanation, Elaboration and Evaluation. The participants not only found the training pretty essential, interesting and instructive but their participation too was of optimum scale. Altogether 55 teachers underwent the training .“ The teaching process of the resource persons was highly commendable. Although well-versed in their respective subjects, they were very humble. The stay was comfortable and the food, delicious and healthy. The training was indeed so enjoyable that we were not able to know how soon the three days of training passed away“, opined Ms.Truptirani Das, a participant-cum-evaluator of the third day program in Puri.

In July a 5 days **training program for supervisors** was organized at Gopalpur to enhance the capacity of the field supervisor for the all round performance in both CBCD demo and Angnawadi centers.



There were 30 participants attended this training program and the training team of PREM conducted the training program. The subjects covered during the program were home based care and centre-based care and education, age specific—0 to 2 years—child care and development and importance on child education in formative years. different developments of the children, different development specific activities. In this training the participants were trained through various methodologies—participation, question & answers, lecture method, demonstration, small group discussion, different creativity small group activities, drawings with different stories, varieties of joyful games, and action songs related to subjects and topics and posters. Different context specific teaching learning materials were developed by the participants and displayed in the training hall. These five days training program was very enriching and joyful for all the participants and it also provided knowledge to everybody.

Health



By July 2013, 12 numbers of village health medicine depots are running smoothly in the Juang operational area of Keonjhar district by the preschool teachers as village health animators with the support of communities. The *main purposes of establishment of medicine depot is to access general medicines and minimize the common diseases at community level, management of medicine depot.*

Till now 308 patients have received medicines from depot and their name registered in the patient register.

For proper management of the village medicine depots six village level meetings on management of medicine depot were conducted in 6 villages in the Juang project area by July 2013. The trained village health animators, MPWS and project staff participated in the meetings. The topics discussed with the village people were present health situation of the villages and how to access the health services, PREM's experience on establishment of village medicine depot. In the meetings it was decided that the community will contribute to village medicine depot 50% cost of the medicines. A tin box with medicine was given to every health animator along with dose chart and register. Every patient is paying minimum price contribution to the village health animator and takes the medicine. That contribution money was kept to purchase medicine in future. At the same time the medicine depots are also linked with the CHC, PHC and ZSS to get medicinal support.



Livelihood

By 31st July, 'Project PREMA' enrolled 40 beneficiaries for **Hotel Management** in the current financial year. They were admitted into formal one year diploma course. While 20 beneficiaries joined Imperial College of Hotel management, Visakhapatnam, 20 beneficiaries joined Shalom Institute of Management Studies at Berhampur.

Similarly 8 beneficiaries were admitted to 3 year **degree course in Nursing** at St. Ann's School of Nursing, Visakhapatnam. One candidate in 2nd year of her GNM course is enrolled and would be supported for completing her education at St. Ann's School of Nursing, Visakhapatnam. 9 more candidates are expected to be enrolled at St. Joseph's School of Nursing, Visakhapatnam and Christian Hospital School of Nursing, Berhampur in the month of August 2013.

Similarly 9 candidates, including one girl and 8 boys admitted for **technical course** at Nettur Technical Training Foundation Training Centre(NTTF), Gopalpur. The admission procedure was completed during June 2013. Two batches of students sponsored by 'Project PREMA—an innovative professional and vocational training initiative—admitted during 2011-12 and 2012-13 sessions are pursuing studies at NTTF to complete the 3 year diploma course.

Child right

The Child Health Now campaign is committed for fulfilment of global mandate to ensure health to mothers and children. Addressing MDG 4 & 5, the Odisha process has advocated children's health, and have a decisive impact on the lives of the country's poorest children. In this process CHN-Odisha involved all stake holders and supported to other campaigns led by different groups for the cause of children.



Program coordinator attended this program. In this program the children presented their issues and problems on health, education, livelihood, food and nutrition, environment of their surroundings through group discussions.

This program was not only an event but the starting point of serial of programs of CHN-Odisha for the right and interest of the children. The message will be spread out in each district, each block and each village of Odisha. More children will be involved in future to strengthen the demands and raise wider voice. Involvement and commitment of the children will force the political parties of center and state to write children's demand in their manifesto in coming election and to work on the promises.



Mr. Pratap Mallik has been selected to represent Odisha state at national level for demanding and raise wider voice for the right of the children and also for demanding to the Govt. for allocating immediately 9% of G.D.P for education and health of the children.

Ongoing Initiatives

Lobby and advocacy for Mother Tongue based Multi Lingual ECE by NAC-DIP

NAC-DIP (National Advocacy Council for the Development of Indigenous People) is a national level forum, set up in 2002. It has membership of 192 Adivasi groups from 18 tribal dominated states of India. 225 voluntary organizations spread across the states did, in net work with PREM, facilitate the emergence of the council at the national level. NAC-DIP has put up a campaign across the country for the realisation of Adivasi rights and entitlements.



NAC-DIP's advocacy is on for the inclusion of "Mother Tongue based Multilingual Early Childhood Education in the existing ICDS centres all over the tribal areas of India, especially for children within the age group of 3 to 6 years in the 16 tribal dominated states" into the draft National Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) policy of the

Government of India applicable for both the scheduled and non-scheduled areas of India.

Following are the series of programs undertaken by NAC-DIP to promote Mother Tongue Based Multi-Lingual Early Child Education in tribal areas of India from May 2013 to July 2013.

It was decided in a **Regional Level Consultation on Mother Tongue based Multilingual Early Childhood Education in tribal areas** organised by NAC-DIP at Ranchi, Jharkhand on the 14th of May 2013, that each consultation should be followed by media conferencing and continuation of the campaign by selected state ambassadors in each state.



On the 21st May, Dr. Jacob Thundyil, Mr. K. Krishnan, Mr. A.P. Kanniappan, Mr. Jagan met **Sri. Michel Veda Siromony, IAS, Director of Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Mr. M. P. Kaliyaperumal and Dr. Lalitha** in Sriperumbudur and discussed the need of and campaign on Mother Tongue based Multilingual Education as part of ECCE in the 16 states.

Similarly again Dr. Jacob Thundyil, Mr. K. Krishnan, Mr. P. C. Jose met **Sri. Hari Kishore, IAS, the Director of Department of Scheduled Tribes Development & Youth Affairs of Kerala Government** with the same campaign on 22nd May 2013. Sri. Hari Kishore agreed to start the MT based MLE in 100 ICDS centres of Waynad district of Kerala on a pilot basis with the support of NAC-DIP.



The team met also **Sri. P. H. Kurien, the Principal Secretary of Department of Information Technology, Govt. of Kerala** and presented the Memorandum on Mother Tongue based Multi Lingual ECE and the secretary promised to submit the same to the Chief Secretary of the Kerala State.

NAC-DIP organised the first **Regional level consultation of North East region** on the 14th June 2013 at Tezpur of Assam. The tribal leaders and representatives of civil society organizations from Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Arunchal Pradesh participated in the consultation. Mrs. Meenakshi Goswami, Chairperson, IIRM, Ms. Purnima Das, Project Head, IIRM, Mr. Mrinal Das, Regional Co-ordinator, NAC-DIP, Mr. Sudesh Sharma, State Co-ordinator, NAC-DIP, Dr. Jacob Thundyil, National convener, NAC-DIP were present to enlighten the participants in the consultation.

A team of four members, namely, Mr. Dataray from IIRM, Ms. Purnima Das, Mr. Mrinal Das from Assam and Dr. Jacob Thundyil **met the Honourable Governor, Assam** at Governor's house on 15th June 2013. His Excellency Governor appreciated the approach, thanked for the efforts of NAC-DIP for taking this approach forward through a campaign throughout India. Immediately Honourable governor took necessary steps to contact the Chief Minister and Chief Secretary of Assam state for their support. He also assured of his support to introduce the program in tribal areas of Assam.



The NAC-DIP team was with the Honourable Governor, Assam

A **National level campaign on Introduction of Mother Tongue Based Multilingual ECE in for tribal areas of India** was organized by NAC-DIP at New Delhi from 18th June to 20th June 2013. There the team met **Dr. Sreeranjana, IAS, the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India** and explained the Mother

Tongue based Multi Lingual ECE and its importance for the tribal areas of India. The team also met **Sri. Munish Kumar Rewari at Sastribhawan** and explained the matter to him.



Mr.K.Krishnan and Sri.Vasudev Rao visited **Andhra Pradesh Secretariat** and had a meeting with the IAS officers including **Dr. A.Vidya Sagar, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government, Tribal Welfare, Sri.Chiranjeev Choudhry IAS, Commissioner and Sri.Veerabadrudu, Additional Commissioner** on 25th July 2013. Dr.A.Vidya Sagar, was pleased with the interaction and thanked NAC-DIP for having taken up the campaign for the rights of tribal children.

Similarly on the 26th July 2013, the advocacy team got an appointment with **Sri. G.S.Shivaswamy, I.A.S., Commissioner of Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department of Karnataka State** and submitted the memorandum and recommendations on Mother Tongue based Multi Lingual ECE in Karnataka state. The Commissioner expressed his interest and promised to take necessary steps in implementing the recommendations.

In the month of September, on behalf of NAC-DIP, Dr. Jacob Thundyil & Sri. K.Krishnan met with **Sri.V.Kishore Chandra Deo, Minister of Tribal Affairs & Ministry of Panchayat Raj** of the Government of India at New Delhi and requested him to take necessary steps for approving the ECCE policy in the cabinet.



Dr. Jacob Thundyil discussing with Sri V.Kishore Chandra Deo, at New Delhi

The team also got an opportunity to meet with The Chairperson **Dr. Rameshwar Oraon, Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) of the Government of India** at Lok Nayak Bhawan in New Delhi and requested him for his assistance for the speedy approval of the ECCE policy. He told that he will ask the WCD department to send the draft ECCE policy and will give the clearance from his office and forward to the cabinet for the final approval.

NAC-DIP team also presented him the issue of the reservation of ST children in the Central school for admission. He promised he will take necessary steps for this purpose.



Dr. Jacob Thundyil was with Dr. Rameshwar Oraon at Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi

NAC-DIP's continuous lobby and advocacy for last two years resulted for the approval of the National Early Childhood Care and Education(ECCE) policy by the cabinet on 19th September 2013. The union cabinet approved this policy and requested all the states and union territories of India to implement and monitor this policy with the principles to promote inclusive, equitable and contextualised opportunities for all the sections of the society. So that 158.7 million Indian children under 6 years will get the benefit.

Because I am a girl campaign

In June PREM organized five **Because I am a girl (BIAAG) campaigns**—a global campaign started to eliminate inequality and discrimination of women—in different areas of Gajapati district—this district is prone to early marriage girls, early pregnancy, growth in IMR, malnutrition, drop out of girl child, child labour, girls trafficking and migration. In these areas 656 participants including Girls, SHG members, AWWs, PRI members, village volunteers and community leaders attended this campaign. To highlight these issues PREM decided to conduct the campaign in this district *to create sensitization among different stakeholders for empowerment.*



The objective of this campaign were *to empower women, girls and different stakeholders through the orientation of their rights entitlements and acts like violence against women and gender sensitization and to enhance the potency of girl child to lead dignified life.*

During the campaign a concept note was distributed among participants which was developed by PREM. The contents of the concept note addressed and grasped the positiveness of the title “Because I am a Girl I am powerful”.



At the end of the campaigns, the participants realized the importance of women empowerment and their rights. Their attitude towards girl child has changed and they took oath to take responsibilities towards the protection of the girl children of their communities. The participatory method of discussion enriched the knowledge of the participants. They were sensitized on the importance of girl's education, gender equity, girl's protection and girls' abuse through trafficking.

Quotes

“If we are to TEACH real peace in the world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war , we shall have to begin with children”.

--Mahatma Gandhi, Father of Nation, India

PREM E-NEWS

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