

A GLANCE INTO PREM IN PEOPLE'S EMPOWERMENT & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



40 Years of Commitment





40 Years of Development Journey.....



15 Villages to 15 Districts & 15 Districts to 15 States of INDIA.

Village Level

1. KHARIKUA
2. MALLIPADAR
3. BADA KHANI
4. SANAKHANI
5. DEULAKHANI
6. KESAKA
7. KHARIGUDA
8. KHARIGUMMA
9. KHAJURIPADA
10. BALIPANKA
11. HUNDIPADAR
12. BADPUR
13. DENGASARGI
14. KENDUPADA
15. KUKUNI

District Level

1. GAJAPATI
2. GANJAM
3. KORAPUT
4. RAYAGADA
5. KANDHAMAL
6. KALAHANDI
7. SUNDARGARH
8. SAMBALAPUR
9. KENOJHAR
10. MALAKANGIRI
11. PURI
12. BOUDH
13. DHENKANAL
14. BALASORE
15. MAYURBHANJ

State Level

1. ODISHA
2. ANDHRA PRADESH
3. TELANGANA
4. TAMILNADU
5. PUDUCHERRY
6. KERALA
7. KARNATAKA
8. MADHYA PRADESH
9. RAJASTHAN
10. UTTAR PRADESH
11. BIHAR
12. JAHRKHAND
13. CHATISHGARH
14. WEST BANGAL
15. ASSAM

15 Villages to 15 Districts &

15 Districts to 15 States of India.

**Reached More than 1 Crore (10 million) People
&
Supported more than 1 Lakh (100 thousand) Children
for their Education**

PREM

From the President's Desk



Dear Friends,

I would like to share with you our joy of having completed 40 years of long journey committed to the empowerment and development of people of Odisha and some other states of India; the pages to follow will brief you all about it.

This is not an exclusive story about PREM. It includes also the journey of the people, particularly those from the marginalized communities, we work with; the Tribals, Dalits, fisher people, marginal farmers, other ultra-poor families, with a special focus on women and children. The forty years, referred to, have taken these communities, through a process of transformation in their lives and I am inclined to call it 'a new history', they have created.

The reminiscence of forty years comes to my mind hunting me with a question about what exactly I have gained out of my being part of this process. The only response that comes from within me or from the inner most corner of my heart is 'meaning in life', that is, I find myself fulfilling by having supported the socially, economically and politically marginalized and vulnerable human beings, other than me, in shaping them into masters of their own destinies and captains of their own ships. This is my firm conviction that this process can help others to become good human beings at the same time making me a good human being as well. The process of humanization is very crucial to every human life. Tilted commercially, the so-called education of today can hardly generate any humanizing process. This is possible only when all the members of a community live together in an environment of unity, peace, love, caring and sharing without any form of discrimination.

Many in the past have questioned the justification behind my involving the Civil Societies in the process when according to them we ourselves were capable of doing things in many an area. Obviously enough, the forces of oppression, the opinion makers, the media and other vested interests did undermine the roles, responsibilities, potentialities and performance of the Civil Societies.

The only answer to this is the slavery/vulnerability to the value system handed down to us by the patriarchal society of which we all have become victims and from it follow many things. The institutionalized religions divide the communities and the world. Caste system divides human beings in India by their names and their operation/vocation, political parties, by means of their ideologies and plan and gender brings in dominance of man over woman and thus we all function as true followers of the patriarchal society without being aware of it. The only means of assembling people regardless of their caste, colour, creed, religion and gender under one umbrella of equality in all respects is the secular Civil Society Organization. It is then imperative to promote and sustain Civil Society Organizations from village to national levels for the survival of the society and the world.

PREM

From the President's Desk

If somebody asks me of the most important of the interventions made by PREM's network in India, my answer would be support to lakhs of children for their education, many of whom have well been equipped professionally and others who have improved their livelihood status. From the political view point, women are empowered to participate in PRIs and, above all, 'the social changes which PREM initiated in Odisha and other parts of India'; this is of far more significance than any other factor. Economic changes can happen in a month or a year. But social change takes longer span of time to take place- in some cases a decade or a generation and in others, never ever.

Our involvements among Dalit communities for their empowerment to have equal status with their counterparts in caste communities have rewarding results. Discrimination of Dalit children in schools and education institutions has been surmounted. The debarment of Dalit communities from many provisions which they had their right to has been done away with. On the whole, I am considerably satisfied with the development of Dalit communities. The education we provided them has been a tool of their empowerment and they have, without any scruples, asserted their rights to their development- I take this as a landmark achievement.

PREM always works in network with the organizations/networks of Adivasis, Dalits, the fisher people and likeminded Civil Society organizations. Our tribal network, the Odisha Adivasi Manch which spreads over 15 districts of Odisha and NACDIP, over 15 states of India are ever vigilant to take actions for the rights and entitlement of tribals. Many pilot projects on education health, livelihood, and child rights have been replicated and scaled up by the government of Odisha, the government of India and by some international agencies.

The Civil Society Organization has its limitation taking into consideration its geographical area of operation and resources for interventions. The government has the responsibility and has enough resources for scaling up any program throughout the country; our role in the main is to do advocacy and lobby, which can well influence the policy makers to scale up interventions of any kind at the state and the national levels. .

I therefore take this opportunity to thank everyone who was with us in our journey and so did support the cause of the poor, the marginalized and the oppressed. The success of the process was the fruit of the team work done from village to national level.

Dr. Jacob Thundyil

PREM

From the Secretary's Desk



Dear Friends,

When all the people of India enjoy equality of opportunities, freedom and unity, irrespective of socio economic and cultural differences, the vision of India to be a federation of free villages (Gramya Swaraj or Village Republics) as envisaged by the Father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi, and "We the People of India" as described in the preamble of the Constitution of India, becomes a reality. For the last 40 years PREM has been promoting this vision among the marginalized communities like the Tribals, Dalits and other backward communities directly in the villages and indirectly through its network organizations through multipronged educational activities.

Realizing the natural attitude and behavior of sharing and caring of the tribal communities, PREM invested most of its resources among them to be most effective, efficient and sustainable. As a result many tribal villages have become model/ smart villages achieving 100% Immunization, organic farming, school education and water and environmental sanitation, drinking water, clean toilets, smokeless chimney kitchens, outdoor play facilities for children and adults. 100% free from Litigations, Alcohol and tobacco, all forms of violence especially against women and children, child labour and marriage, Child and maternal mortality and malnutrition. When the above are achieved the people naturally become economically, politically and culturally empowered. Moreover Use of Tobacco and lack of environmental sanitation, as per recent study, are the major reasons for most diseases including cancer. Model villages thus contribute best for a holistically healthy India. This model has been appreciated by many agencies and hence are to be emulated as a sustainable process for human development.

The UN has set 17 sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030, and these are some of them: poverty elimination, zero hunger, good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, affordable clean energy, decent work and economic growth reducing inequality and others. Among these all the goals related to rural communities have been mostly achieved by the model villages promoted by PREM.

All our initiatives have been and are to deconstruct the social constructs of caste, religion, gender etc., so that all can express and enjoy the pristine and essential oneness of all humans and humans with the whole universe. This is an action –reflection- action process in which people move from magical to naive to critical consciousness. When a critical mass of people emerge the whole village or community is on the steady path of sustainable and inclusive development.

PREM

From the Secretary's Desk

Humans, as the youngest species, are evolving and hence all activities or initiatives of PREM are only processes to accelerate this human evolution. The processes or interventions too evolve as per the stage of human development. Our innovative initiatives do accelerate the evolution of rural women and men to express and experience their unity and harmony with all.

Mottos: One for all and all for one, community centered child development, child centered community development, support life and life will support us, Each one teach one. Power to the powerless and asset to the asset less, Justice and not charity, Trade and not aid, Ammu, or togetherness is our strength, Entra or voluntary service for the community.

Processes /interventions / strategies: Since humans are evolving no activity is permanent. Hence as per any given stage of evolution PREM has initiated many relevant program, or strategies Like: Adult education, community health, Bridge course, Micro credit to women's self-help groups, Decentralized (i.e. village level or Grama Sabha level as per PESA Act (Panchayat Raj Extension to Scheduled Areas), Micro planning, grain bank, Malaria control, registration of Birth, death, migration, child right, women's empowerment, village pharmacy, Availing government facilities or entitlements, Sericulture, vermin culture, bee keeping, Agricultural trainings, Rural housing, Solar pumps for irrigation, Handloom production and marketing, WES water and environmental sanitation, Agro forestry, People's health Promotion scheme (health assurance scheme), Cash crops like rubber, coffee, pineapple cultivation, Animal husbandry, Nutri-garden, Mother tongue based multi lingual early child hood education, check dams to prevent soil erosion and for irrigation, Monthly news and views publication called Gaon khabar, cultural programmes for awareness building, Processing and marketing of Turmeric, coffee, sprouted Ragi (Finger Millets) powder, handicrafts with screw pine leaves(Kewda), Mushroom cultivation, Education of thousands of children by providing hostel facilities, vocational education for girls and boys in nursing, engineering and tailoring. Besides the above PREM has done a relevant emergency activity during all natural calamities, mostly during cyclones. Ongoing training programmes, evaluation and planning programmes consolidate and accelerate people's integral development. Some of the above interventions have been institutionalized by respective communities. PREM being a Movement will remain as a facilitator of relevant processes for sustainable development.

The way ahead at the present stage of development is to invest resources to improve organic agriculture, with a special emphasis on the production and consumption of millets, and agro-based activities together with village reconstruction activities as done in Model villages. PESA has to be implemented in its true spirit to protect the heart of India, the tribal communities.

Dr. Chacko Paruvany





Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Pattnaik, Govt. of Odisha in the inaugural function of State Level Workshop on Quality Education at Jaydev Bhavan, Bhubaneswar.

PREM's Vision

PREM's vision is to create a new social order in which the present unorganized and marginalized people have a say in decision making, where education creates awareness and develops skills and fosters the growth of talents, where culture is ever creative, where men and women are totally liberated from all dehumanizing and oppressive forces and where the decisions of individuals and communities are based on the values of social justice, equalities, truth, freedom and the dignity of human life.

PREM's Mission

The mission of PREM is to support, empower and facilitate people's organizations for sustainable development in education, governance, health and livelihood; for access to knowledge, resources and innovation to achieve quality of life; and for mainstreaming gender equality, child rights, social inclusion and human rights for Adivasi, Dalit, Fisherfolk and other marginalized communities of India.

PREM's journey

In 1980 a group of social activists, led by Dr. Jacob Thundyil and Dr. Chacko Paruvanany, initiated a functional literacy program in 15 disadvantaged communities of Mohana block of Gajapati district, Odisha.

The land marks of the achievements, proved replicable models that you might not like to miss the sight of:

Universal Birth Registration:

PREM spearheaded a mass awakening and strategic action movement with Civil Society Organizations in network and succeeded considerably in having registered in Gram Panchayats, the births of 52,00,000 under-18 children from 22500 villagee belonging to 22 districts of Odisha. Besides being a major breakthrough along Universal Birth Registration, it has established the identity and nationality of so many children stamping out their invisibility; what is more, the health department has subsequently taken over the task of registration following continuous consistent advocacy by the network to make the Birth Registration easy, timely and the date of birth, exact and accurate.

Malaria prevention and control campaign: PREM forged ahead the campaign with the groups in network on the factors accounting for malaria and the preventive measures moving through 4500 villages belonging to 8 malaria prone tribal districts; it brought about awareness among 61.7% households against 6.7% that was at the beginning along with drastic reduction in the blood smear PFR positive to 16.6% from 35.4%, the pandemic related maternal mortality to 16% and that of under 5 children, to 12% from 49%. (Findings of end line survey).

People's Rural Health Promotion Scheme (PRHPS): The scheme was purely an innovative initiative for promotion of people's holistic health with the allied function of micro-health insurance participated by 100000 people from the 500 program communities who availed themselves of a three tier service- at village, CHC and tertiary/medical college levels by payment of a token premium of Rs.20/-per head annually. The scheme was quite effective in rendering timely service and effecting drastic decrease in the rate of mortality and morbidity. A highlight of it, made subsequently by a study of international Labor Organization (ILO), as one of the best underprivileged people friendly schemes in Asiatic continent, followed by advocacy/presentation at the central health secretariat, persuaded the ministry of health and labour department (Government of India) to accept the concept and adopt scheme as the Rashtriya Bima Yojana as we find it today.

Agro-Forestry: Under a DFID funded major Agro-forestry project of PREM, 223 communities and individuals planted 4.5 lakh fruit bearing seedlings in 30000 acres of shift cultivation area and barren lands with a fourfold impact: the program converted these lands into cultivable ones, restored the forest ecology, turned horticulture into their substantial and sustainable source of livelihood and checked thereby distress migration and malnutrition.

English Medium Education: PREM made a paradigm shift from Odia medium education to English medium education of the children from the excluded sections in order to make them as competent as their counterparts from the mainstream society; it was but a dream for the ST and SC children and PREM made an unprecedented move towards this end. Surmounting the initial apprehension of the school authorities about the capacity of these children, PREM has succeeded in getting 3000 children complete secondary education from the Kendriya Vidyalaya and other English medium schools. The children have surpassed their counterparts from the general communities in their academic and co-curricular achievement and performance to the surprise of and high praise by the authorities. Pleased and impressed with PREM's genuine interest, efforts and experience in this direction, the Ganjam district administration has handed in the urban hostel (Berhampur) situated in a newly constructed building to PREM for its management. The overwhelming success in empowering the Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste children through English medium education inspired the government of Odisha, to open up new such hostels and English medium schools in all the other districts for English medium education.

Mother Tongue Based Multi-Lingual Early Childhood Education (MTMLECE): MTMLECE is an Adivasi child friendly and local resource based pedagogy envisaged taking into account the ground realities of tribal communities and the cognitive and psychological condition of children below 6 years of age in general. The state official languages, for the most part, are alien to Adivasi children. Hence, PREM has structured MTMLECE, with a two years of home based care of the child (0-2 years) and another two years (+2-4years) of center based education in mother tongue and the last 2 years of center based education in additional languages (Odia, Hindi and English) not only to make a child's learning faster, but also to build its habit of going to a center of education and then the transition to schools smoother at the appropriate age.

The process started in 2007 with 350 centers under a Child Based Community Development Project that focused on Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Early Childhood Education (MT ML ECE). After 4 years of the project's implementation, it was, in the year 2011, observed that the children who had undergone through this process were all found retained in schools studying in different classes, attending school regularly, performing well and were happy, outgoing without fear and shyness. Not a single case of drop-out was traced among them. The phenomenal success and empirical evidence encouraged PREM to initiate state and nation wide lobby and advocacy campaign to influence the policy makers for up-scaling PREM's MT ML ECE in the tribal areas.

In consequence of intensive advocacy, the government of Odisha, declared to introduce MTMLECE in 20000 Anganwadi centers in tribal areas, initially in 19 tribal languages to start with. Likewise, the ministry of Women and Child Development department, Government of India, decided to replicate the approach and incorporated MTMLECE in to the National ECCE policy on 27th September, 2013 to be followed by all states and union territories, a landmark achievement indeed.

Model Village: The object behind the concept of model village was to build a village with essential attributes for its holistic development so that it stood as a model attracting villages around to follow it. The attributes were 10 mandatory and essential components and so were termed the 'ten commandments'. Undoubtedly, it was the fruit of development endeavours over the years.

The first village that proved to be a model was Gudang Garjang, a Saura tribe community situated on a hill top of Gumma block; the community arrested the attention of people from all walks of life-government and non-government and gained enormous appreciation. More than 150 villages from the operational area stand models today. The Ten Commandments are as follows:

1. 100% enrollment and retention of children with appropriate age in ICDS centre and Primary School
2. 100% child and mothers' immunization
3. Supply/ availability of safe drinking water
4. Well ventilated kitchen and smokeless Chula
5. 100% households with Toilets kept neat and used by 100% inmates
6. Family income minimum 1.5 lakhs to 1.7 lakhs per annum
7. Saving and food security in each family throughout the year
8. Village, free of alcohol.
9. Village, Litigation free
10. Zero distress migration

PREM's Journey



Dr Prasanna Acharya, Hon'ble Minister of Health, Govt. of Odisha, lighting lamp in the Inaugural ceremony of a State Level Workshop on improvement of rural health held at Pantha Nivas, Bhubaneswar.

1982 – Social Mobilization

Motivating men & women to understand their social and economic situation.

1983- Community Health Program

Formation of village level medicine depot managed by trained village volunteers.

1984 – Functional literacy - Through Paulo Freire's approaches (Pedagogy of the Oppressed)

In 1984, a team of young social activists participated in a training held in Pune on Paulo Freire's approaches to popular education, political empowerment and functional literacy. On its return, the team shared the learning with and imparted functional literacy to the adult of 200 villages in Mohana Block (then in Ganjam district). In consequence of the program, besides the gain of skills and knowledge in the daily life, people became more conscious of the causes of poverty and the miserable life situation and formed community based organizations for action on their issues, needs and the fulfillment of their fundamental and human rights. It was in this year that the education movement took a formal shape as People's Rural Education Movement and got registered under the Societies' Registration Act, 1860.

1985 – Initiation for women's participation

Till this day, only men became part of the decision-making meetings/bodies in the villages as done traditionally from time immemorial. The team from PREM began forming Mahila Mandals and initiated the process for women's participation in the village decision making institutions. Children's education and their participation too became the subsequent attempts.

1986 – Call through Marma Dhwani (Voice from the suffering heart)

As part of the poverty cycle, the ST and SC fell prey to the usurious and exploitative loan extended by village money lenders and land lords. To bring about critical consciousness among the exploited mass of people on the demerits of private lending and the alternatives for redemptions from such situation, PREM compiled heart touching relevant awareness building songs composed in Odia on the causes of the depressed plight of communities, got them printed and published in the form of a book called 'Marma Dhwani'.

1987- From Shift Cultivation to Horticulture

A survey conducted in 1986, revealed the fact that deforestation had taken place in an appalling rate in tribal areas, the primary reason being shift cultivation. A source of livelihood, it had some cultural link to polygamy for more children as manpower necessary to enlarge the respective 'Podu Area' and for cultivation although the more area went into shift cultivation the more was the ecological deterioration by way of massive soil erosion and landslides. A small team from PREM visited a project in the Philippines and learnt on the merits of horticulture over shift cultivation. On its return, the members shared their learning and experiences with the tribals in Mohana Block through a pilot project implemented there. The team motivated people to plant fruit bearing trees including cashew and pineapple, unlike the practice before in Gajapati, and instructed them to adopt intercropping on five acres of land per family. The pilot project was a success demonstrating the yield from the five acres to be four times greater than in the five acres of land under shifting cultivation.

1988 – Replication of horticulture in other blocks by Government department, a turning point

Persuaded by the advantages over shifting cultivation and the success of the pilot programme, 120 tribal villages embarked upon horticulture as an alternative source of their livelihood while there was also at the same time the protection of the forest environment. Impressed by the double advantages of the program, the District Administration and the departmental Officials recognized the new initiative as commendable and approached PREM to extend its support in rolling out the program in other blocks of Gajapati.

Horticulture with a better source of income and an eco-friendly remedy to the long lived ecologically detrimental practice of shifting cultivation has in a way proved for PREM to be a historic intervention.

1989 – Federation of People's Organizations

PREM facilitated the network of the People's organizations that evolved in more than 20 blocks, in the process of its awareness generation, into the Federation of People's Organizations, in accordance with the model 'Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement and BYAN' which the President, Dr. Jacob Thundyil, had visited and had drawn inspiration from. The objective behind the federation was to unite groups to strengthen them for concerted action and initiatives.

1990 – 'Each One Teach One' a campaign on literacy

The third component of Paulo Freire's approach to popular education was functional literacy. In 1990 PREM tried to adopt the approach to mitigate the issues of low literacy rate among the people of its programme areas-as low as - 23% among men and 8% among women- with a functional literacy program centered around a core guiding principle of 'Each One Teach one'. Supported by OXFAM Australia, the program was implemented in 1,000 villages of Ganjam, Gajapati and Kandhamal districts for a period of 100 days with an object of 100% literacy. The source of inspiration for the program was a project that had been initiated in Kerala for marginalized communities and had achieved 100% functional literacy. PREM had sent a team of programme staff, village leaders and PRI representatives to Kerala for an exposure and study of the program which made the implementation smooth. PREM developed communication materials to popularize the concept that spreading literacy was the responsibility of everyone; this motivated mostly college students to come forward helping people become literate by using the learning materials in the communities. At the end of 100 days, 86% of the people in the project area was able to write their names and 53% able to read and write Odia at a basic functional level.

Struggle against discrimination in Chilika

In the 90's there run a decade long Community Development project funded by Community Aid Abroad, in 3 adjacent blocks of Puri district, namely, Brahmagiri, Krishna Prasad and Delang. Rigid casteism, caste discrimination, atrocities, socio-economic and political exclusion including encroachment of Dalits' land and water resources by people from caste communities and other kinds of abuse were the intense, rampant harsh realities to be addressed. Intensive engagement in building awareness, people's organization and facilitation of strategic action on issues, needs and rights became the main task of the project. Deepica, block level women's organisation and Yuba Shakti, an organization of Dalit youth were the two apex action groups that emerged out of the critical consciousness acquired in course of time over the in-depth analysis of issues followed by legal action on every issue taken. Positive response from the police although a bit late after persevering follow ups and mounting pressure helped build self confidence and courage among the people. The groups grew stronger and the movement wider with influence over the police and civil administration bringing drastic fall in discrimination and caste atrocities.



His Excellency Shri Chandrakant Bhandare, Hon'ble Governor of Odisha visiting at Bharatmata Training & Resource Center, Paralakhemundi, Gajapati

1991- Fellowship towards shaping lay activists into able catalysts

By 1991, PREM's program staff, volunteers and communities were found working together on a variety of development issues in Ganjam and Gajapati. The success of the approach to social mobilization prompted PREM to employ more skillful activists for geographical extension and quality of work. The agency then identified socially committed people from universities and colleges based in 30 Blocks of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh and got them trained with fellowship support from OXFAM Australia. The trained activists worked in the blocks they hailed from as successful catalysts.

1992 – Micro-Finance introduced

People of the marginalized communities had undertaken business enterprises of diverse sorts with PREM's support by the early 1990's. The progress however was not hurdle-free. Potential trading enterprises faced challenges for their growth as formal financial institutions declined to advance credit to the economically poor for want of security. PREM with the funding support of NOVIB Netherlands, sent its program staff to Bangladesh and Sri Lanka for an exposure to and learning from the microfinance projects then run in villages and got them trained on management of microfinance. On returning to Odisha the team devised and implemented a pilot microfinance scheme in 1,000 villages.

1993 – Vocational Training to the Adolescents

Save the Children Fund, UK had preferred PREM as its partner to work on the control of the epidemic of meningitis, when it broke out in Gajapati District. The donor was happy thereafter to work with PREM on a long term basis and started funding for a project on vocational education to children aged 14+ who were not attending or had dropped out of school then in order to build in them livelihood oriented - life skills and prevent them from distress migration. Over a couple of years, 150 adolescents acquired skills in masonry, carpentry, driving, motor mechanic and fish processing from the training camps held at Chandragiri and Mandiapalli, adequate enough to be economically self sufficient and be supportive of their own communities.



Inauguration of a Calendar on Silver Jubilee Celebration of PREM by Shri. Joe Madiath, Director, Gram Vikash, Ganjam.

1994 – Cooperatives for Coastal Fisher Women

The traditional fisher communities of the Odisha coast were found struggling with scanty income to meet their daily needs; one of the reasons was the sale of their catch of fish locally at cheaper rate; they had neither cold storage facilities nor any idea of processing fish hygienically. In 1994, PREM organized training programs for women from the fishing communities in collaboration with the Odisha University of Agriculture at the fishery college Gopalpur. The training focused on hygienic methods of processing fish and developing skills in diversified products such as fish pickles and shark fins which could be exported to Japan. In order to support the trained women in marketing their products, PREM assisted them in establishing six cooperatives and applying for credit from the Government to set up small business enterprises and so did help increase their income.

1995 – Food Security through Grain Banks

In all its development interventions, PREM has been sensitive to the inherent wisdom and traditional positive practices of the communities it works with. Tribal culture is characteristic of shared ownership, collective responsibility, mutual care and share. The cultural ethics of the community inspired PREM to envisage a community owned and managed grain bank to ensure food security of communities during lean seasons. The system was that every household would deposit the surplus amount of grain at the community level grain bank and that there would be redistribution of the same among all the households in times of need. The vision and practice of the grain bank was made popular among all the program communities and grain banks were established in the communities with the financial support provided by Save the Children Fund on the 1:1 ratio- matching fund support for every Kg. of grain deposited in the community grain bank. Within the first year 80% of need during the period of food shortage was met by the deposits in the bank. The concept of grain bank as a remedial measure to food crisis during a year got enrooted in the program communities beyond Gajapati district.

1996–Child Centered Community Development- A Mega Sponsorship Based Intervention

PREM's pre-dominant approach was and has been rights based. It worked for women's emancipation and children's education. However, an evaluation study made by the Indian Social Institute, New Delhi, unfolded that children had received less attention than their adult; PREM's initiatives had been more adult-centric and focus needed to be laid upon children's rights as well. This prompted PREM to have dialogue with Plan International, a sponsorship based INGO in U.K. and succeeded in obtaining from it a mega child centered community development project. It was a long term project that lasted for 19 years from 1996 till 2015. An integrated project, it contained interventions of all domains and spheres of human life such as education, health, WES, habitat, livelihood, gender equity, participation in governance, disaster risk reduction and the rights of the child.



Submitting Memorandum to Shri. Biswa Bhusan Harichandan, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, Govt. of Odisha and Present Governor of Maharashtra State.

1997–Livelihood Initiatives in Phulbani (Upgradation of Turmeric)

The undivided Phulbani district has turmeric as its main product and is one of the districts with turmeric as their major production and primary source of income. Unfortunately its selling price was (Rs15/- per kg) much less than the cost of production in the year 1997. The factor that accounted for it was low curcumin content (1.9%) in the turmeric as per the finding of a test conducted by the Spice Board of India on PREM's request. To be exported, its quality needed to be upgraded at least up to 5%. In a pilot project varieties of turmeric from Assam and Kerala were provided to 60 tribal villages of Kandhamal for cultivation. When tested at the first harvest the turmeric was found to have 5.9% of curcumin, increasing its market value to Rs.45/- per Kg. The pilot scheme was extended to 500 villages and 40 co-operative societies were established to process and market the turmeric with the support of NORAD, Norway.

1998 – Bharat Mata- a Center of Education

In 1997, the sponsorship caseload rose from 1,000 to 3,000 children within the same year. Many of these children, and particularly girls were deprived of education due to lack of school facilities close to their villages. Low family income caused many staying at home to take care of younger siblings, attend household chores and work in local agricultural fields. There were no residential schools for girls either in Gajapati. PREM apprised Plan international of the situation followed by an approval of fund for a building for residential education of girl children. As per the approved plan, a colossal building, named Bharat Mata, with all required facilities, was constructed at Parlakhemundi as a safer convenient space for girls' stay and education. In 1998 the school – Bharat Mata – was ready to enroll children and had 400 girls admitted. Since then have as many more girls as 5000 received residential schooling and vocational training at the centre.

1999 – Multi-Pronged Response to the Super Cyclone

The October 1999, cyclone was the worst ever super cyclone of the century that hit the coastline of Odisha with devastating effects: 10,000 people lost their lives, thousands were driven out homeless and destitute. Domestic animals floated away and agricultural farms remained submerged under water. Fish and shrimp farms overflowed letting the fish and prawn off.

In response to the dreaded calamity, PREM formed briskly a network of 25 coastal NGOs for emergency interventions like relief and rehabilitation measures in five coastal districts of the State with the support extended by Save the Children Fund, Plan International, OXFAM Australia and the Lutheran World Service.

The immediate services rendered were shelter, food, clothing and basic equipment for 62,000 families who had lost their homes and livelihoods. In the weeks and months that followed the disaster, the network worked towards the restoration of livelihoods especially with farmers to help them redeem their lands through desilting, pumping out excess water from the fields through the help of water pumps supplied to them and supplying seeds for planting. Some 25,000 families were supported for animal husbandry. Special support was given to schools for repair of school building and replacement of roofing materials to get children back to schools as soon as possible. Cyclone shelters were also constructed at places. PREM implemented a construction project in Gopalpur-on-Sea with the direct participation of the people who had lost their homes in the effort to rebuild houses.



State-Level Workshop on Tribal Rights Addressing by Shri. V. Kishore Chandra Dev, Hon'ble Minister of Tribal Affairs & Panchayat raj, Govt. of India at Gopalpur-On-sea, Ganjam.

2000 – Bridge Course

A baseline survey conducted in 1998 by PREM in Gajapati District disclosed the fact that there had remained a high proportion of children in Tribal and Dalit communities out of schools either not having been enrolled at all or having dropped out of formal education. Looking for a solution to this, PREM studied the work of Professor Sanchar Sinha who had initiated a pilot study in Andhra Pradesh to assist children from Scheduled Castes to resume education. In applying the principles to the needs of the children of Odisha, PREM opened up three-month' full-time Bridge Courses in Mohana and Chandragiri with support to children for tuition and accommodation, food and care. After two months of study, children on the course were sent back to their villages motivating them to pursue/resume education. Between 1998 and 2000 a total of 2,250 children completed the Bridge Course and all got themselves enrolled in the mainstream educational institutions. PREM established a tracking cell to monitor attendance of these children and found 90% of them to have retained in schools continuing education.

2001 – Inclusive strategy to subvert discrimination in Chilika

PREM, in 2001, with the support of Plan International, began a positive process of liberation from discrimination through child-centered community development. PREM took an inclusive approach addressing the needs of the needy from the caste communities as well. Attempts for upgrading schools, committees, ICDS centers, health infrastructures, children's cabinets etc. that included people from either community brought about a kind of reconciliation, built a bridge and understanding between the two factions reducing the then existent gap. their homes in the effort to rebuild houses.



Tribal & Dalit Students of Gajapati District at Bharatmata Residential School, Paralakhemundi, Gajapati.

2002 –Mega resource base through Agro-Forestry in Tribal Areas

The success of PREM's pilot project on horticulture in 1997 had influenced the State Government of Odisha to take similar steps toward people's economic advancement. However, many villages in the tribal areas had not been covered under the pilot project and these continued without resources despite their desire to go for horticulture activities that had proved so alluring and eye catching.

PREM approached the UK Government Department for International Development (DFID) with a proposal for a five years horticulture project to reach out to 223 villages with resources necessary for the conversion of 30,000 acres of land under shifting cultivation to horticultural agro-forest; this was expected to be a substantial source of income effecting therewith simultaneously the restoration of forest ecology. On the approval of proposal, PREM trained people on the techniques of stone bonding, irrigation, multi and intercropping and provided seedlings followed by the activities necessary along the line. The horticulture program has been perhaps the best kind of attempt towards resource creation for people who earn lakhs of rupees per year today to meet family needs squarely and live quality life.

2003- Professional & Vocational Training

In order to make Adivasi and Dalit children as competent as their counterparts from mainstream communities, PREM envisaged two strategic actions: study by the children from marginalized community in English medium schools and vocational skill building of those who could not go beyond secondary school education.

In 2003, PREM succeeded in getting enrolled 200 tribal and Dalit children in English Medium schools as well as in the Central School, where these children became successful in surpassing the students from mainstream societies in terms of performance.

For many of those who were unable to go for further studies after secondary education, PREM opened up opportunities for vocational skill building training along various fields such as hotel management, nursing and micro-enterprises in collaboration with accredited institutions up to the completion of nationally recognized professional qualifications.



PREM and NAC-DIP team meeting with Shri. Omen Chandy, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala along with other MLAs on signing of agreement to implement MT ML ECE in Wayanad District of Kerala.

2004 – People's Rural Health Promotion Scheme-PRHPS a model initiative

The ultra-poor communities PREM worked with had financial constraints to access holistic health services. Communicable and water-borne diseases, complicated infirmity, infant and maternal mortality were almost common place. The villages in far-flung interior pockets were naturally vulnerable to the exploitation by private health practitioners and village quacks without any guarantee of their recovery. Illness also kept the wage earners away from daily labour affecting families living. To address such issues through a micro-health insurance scheme, PREM launched forth the Health Promotion Scheme that was in its entirety owned and managed by the people. 100,000 people from 500 program villages participated in it and tapped into a three tiered health services with a token premium of Rs.20 per head paid annually. Common ailments were treated by trained village volunteers with medicine depots at hand in villages. PHC level services were available for a little more serious diseases. Complicate and still more serious diseases got treatment at the tertiary level-in district hospitals or medical colleges. The entire process was monitored and managed well with people's cooperation and participation. A health committee was established in each community to manage the village depot and make decisions on referral cases. The scheme, with its affordable and accessible health care provision, resulted in improved health condition among the target population; there was drastic decrease in the rate of mortality owing to timely treatment of cases. The scheme attracted ILO (International Labour Organization) which made a study of it and opined it to have been one of the best ultra poor friendly schemes in Asia and the government of India subsequently replicated it in the form of "Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana".

2005 – Major Relief & Rehabilitation measures for Tsunami affected in India.

The catastrophic South East Asian Tsunami in the concluding week of 2004 was quite devastating to many communities on the eastern seaboard of India. OXFAM Australia invited PREM to coordinate the relief measures and the emergency interventions for 42,000 families who had been driven homeless and become annihilated in terms of livelihood. PREM in network with 15 NGOs from Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Puduchery provided shelter, food, water, clothing and basic cooking equipment for each of the affected families. Necessary training and financial support was extended to Self Help Groups (SHGs) for restoration of livelihoods through purchase of fishing equipment (crafts and gears), animal husbandry, fish vending, petty shops and such other micro-enterprises.



Mr. V.K. Pandian, IAS, Special Secretary to Chief Minister, Govt. of Odisha and Mr Aditya Prasad Padhy, IAS-Commissioner, SC & ST development, Govt of Odisha visited SC & ST Hostel, Ambapua, managed by PREM for Kendriya Vidyalaya Students of Berhampur.

2006 – Strengthening of the People’s Organizations

The poor are weaker as individuals. They are stronger and powerful when they are united and function as a collective entity. People’s organization is the life and strength of any movement. Without movement there can be no structural change possible as we find the complexity of the situation today. PREM, from its very start knew the significance of people’s organization as a crucial tool of bringing about change within and outside in the society. In the process of building consciousness, people’s organizations came up at different levels and then they were brought together in network to higher levels—district, state and national. Odisha Adivasi Manch, Kalinga Fisher People’s Forum and Odisha Dalit Manch and NACDIP - National Advocacy Council for the Development of Indigenous People came into being this way. Similar was the process for fisher people on the east coast. Frequent meetings and workshops were organized to discuss the issues of marine and inland fishermen communities and to strengthen them till there came about a platform of theirs namely East Coast Fisher People’s Forum (ECFPF). Its next development was the Bharat Multi State Cooperative Society, a micro-credit network.

These networks were further strengthened. Women’s SHGs too were developed into block level federations and confederated at the state level as Utkal Mahila Sanchaya Vikash. As the apex micro-finance institution of SHGs it was incorporated as a member of the Indian National Federation of Self Help Groups (INFOS).

In 2006 an intensive training programme was initiated with representatives of these organizations to help strengthen their ability to participate in Governance and development processes.

2007 Program Highlights

PREM’s Collaborative efforts with Dist. Administration on English Medium Education of ST & SC Children

Increasingly more children were enrolled into English medium schools on account of PREM’s effort and support. The children so admitted performed much better than their counterparts from the mainstream society and passed out matriculation in flying colors. The district civil administration came in direct experience of PREM’s achievement along the domain of Education, particularly its successful endeavor on scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste children’s education in English Medium schools. This paved the way for PREM’s collaborative effort in furthering the English Medium Education of ST and SC students. PREM could reach out to 3000 under privileged students from these communities with the opportunity of English medium education.



Different Pictures of Mother Tongue based Multi-lingual Education program & Special Committee of MLAs visit on Child Development Program with Shri. Surya Narayan Patro, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister, Govt. of Odisha.

Early Childhood Education for Tribal Children

Traditionally Adivasi communities live in outlying interior pockets throughout India away from the mainstream society with a secluded culture and distinct language. 62 tribal groups living in Orissa have their own specific languages and the state language Odia is as alien to them as English is to India. For young children below 6 years of age from these communities, learning in a different or official language has proved counterproductive from various view points; the child's mind was unable to understand and grasp what they were told making learning difficult. The class room transaction aroused no interest nor did it build any habit to come to the center. Overall, it had not much contribution to the molding of the child's personality for its post-ECE (Early Childhood Education) development in primary schools.

PREM, in 2007, through the Child Based Community Development Project funded by Bernard Van Leer Foundation from Netherland, established 350 Early Childhood Education centers in 350 hamlets of tribal villages spread across Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. Early childhood education by local Adivasi teachers in their respective mother tongues was given focal attention to. Learning tools were based on local socio-cultural context and made up of locally available or low-cost materials. Play way methodology and joyful learning environment were among the aspects stressed upon. The program made available ECE to the hamlets deprived of it making children's learning accessible, their attendance in centers of learning regular and their transition to schools smooth and the retention and performance in schools noteworthy. In all, 9650 children had been enrolled and transited successfully to primary schools.

2008 Program Highlights

Advocacy and Lobby for Tribal Land Rights

In 2006 the Government of India passed a ground-breaking piece of legislation – the Forest Rights Act (FRA). This Act recognizes the legal rights of tribal people and other traditional forest dwellers over the land which they have, for generations, inhabited. Since the Act's notification at the beginning of 2008, the process of implementing its provisions at grass-roots level and enabling tribal people to apply for ownership has been slow and obstructed by legal objections and lack of clarity on the legislation at state level. By summer 2008 applications in some states were not processed. To advocate the cause of the tribal people, PREM, in collaboration with National Advocacy Council for the Development of Indigenous People (NAC-DIP) and Orissa Adivasi Manch (OAM), resumed activities of advocacy and created pressure upon the government of India to pass another act in favor of the Adivasi communities in the form of the Forest right of tribals.



Interaction with Shri K.P.Mohan, Agriculture Minister, Govt of Kerala regarding agriculture training program for the Odisha Team at Kerala Agriculture University, Trichur.

2009 Program Highlights Inter-Community Solidarity & Peace Building

In August 2008 communal conflict erupted in the Kandhamal district of Orissa resulting in many deaths and leaving thousands of people homeless and destitute. Communities where PREM's programs were run by network partner organizations were instructed to keep guard against circumstances and chances for violence and disorder in keeping with the secular morale of the organization.

PREM was approached by an international NGO to assist the riot affected children. With the support of NEG Fire, PREM devised a programme of intensive revision of lessons for 7th and 10th standard students whose preparation for the critical board exams had been disrupted by the social disaster. In February and March 2009, community educators, trained by PREM, coached 1887 students in 67 locations, including the relief camps, for the board exams then impending in April. Shortly after this project was completed, Concern Worldwide approached PREM to initiate a peace building project in the villages affected by the communal discord. PREM and its network partners did work together with communities and PRIs to build peace and establish secular spirit in the affected villages.

Implementation of Mother Tongue Based Multi-Lingual Early Childhood Education in Tribal Areas of Odisha.

Prompted by the success and experience gained in the previous years on ECE, PREM initiated an innovative child friendly pedagogy, namely, Mother Tongue Based Multi-Lingual Early Childhood Education for these Adivasi children in the then existent 350 early childhood education centers under the CBCD project. The goal of the project was to demonstrate the potential success of mother-tongue-based Multi-lingual ECE in tribal areas for its replication in all the existing ICDS centers of tribal areas of Odisha as well as of India.

The project was so designed as to facilitate holistic development of tribal children between 0 and 6 years of age through two devices i.e. Home based Care and Center Based Care intended to ultimately lead to successful transition of young tribal children from home to preschool center and from preschool center to formal primary school at one's appropriate age.



*Government Supported SC & ST Hostel at Ambapua, for the Students of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Berhampur
Managed by PREM from 2007 onwards.*

Home based Care of children: Infants below 2 years (0-2 yrs) were naturally to be given care at home but it needed to be oriented to their psycho-motor and cognitive development. This called for the caregivers as well as parents' capacity building training on the diverse aspects of care necessary during pregnancy, neo-natal and post neo-natal stages, the feeding of colostrums, exclusive breast feeding till the baby was six months old, routine immunization for children, expectant and lactating mothers, intake of nutrition and ways of stimulating the babies and the processes of early childhood education. The extent of impact upon the infants' development depended on the extent of care was rendered adhering honesty to the training received.

The center based care was divided into two sections of children from two different age groups between 2+ and 6 years; one within 2 to 4 years and the other within 4 to 6 years. The project continued delivering education in mother tongue to the first and introduced multilingual education orally in Odia, Hindi and English in addition to the mother tongue to the children of second age range, 4 to 6 years. As mentioned above Low cost /no cost learning tools made of local materials and the curriculum built around local cultural context were used to make education more relevant, simpler and easier. Local girls were trained on play-way teaching methods including songs, dances and storytelling as part of the pedagogy.

The impact of the pedagogy upon children was tremendous and rewarding: children were regular in attendance, overcame fear and shyness; curious to learn, they approached teachers for clarification of doubts and performed well in the exams held for them. 10500 children from tribal communities completed thus the Mother Tongue based Multilingual Early Childhood Education and transited successfully to primary school for formal education.

2010 – Program Highlights

State Govt. handing over a newly constructed Building with full-fledged hostel facilities for ST & SC students of English Medium Education

A new building was constructed at Ambapua of Berhampur city by the government of Odisha for the ST and SC students to stay and study in the central school situated nearby; the hostel building was inaugurated by the Honorable Chief Minister Sri Nabeen Patnaik. Subsequently, the district collector, Ganjam handed in the urban hostel, first of its kind in the entire state, to PREM for its management and care of the students from the weaker sections. PREM was requested to admit children from other districts and areas additionally to avail themselves of the hostel facility and study in the central school. The commendable unprecedented initiative of this kind taken by PREM for the English medium education of ST and SC children, arrested the attention of district education and civil administration of different other districts and concerned officials at the state headquarters. Consequently, the Government of Odisha pledged to and did open similar hostels in every other district to empower the children from the ST and SC communities by means of English Medium Education for them.



A State-Level Conference on Malaria Prevention & Control by His Excellency Shri. Rameswar Thakur, Governor of Odisha and Shri. Surya Narayan Patro, Hon'ble Cabinet Ministers, Govt. of Odisha.

2011– Program Highlights

Professional & Vocational Education of the Children from Marginalized Communities

PREM was able to support nearly 100000 Tribal and Dalit children from Gajapati and Puri district to complete secondary education successfully with the support of Save the Children fund (SCF) and Plan International over the last 20 years. PREM found also the need for further study of these children to be competent for employment in government sector as well as private sector companies; If not anything, at least for self employment to stand on their own. The poor children were badly in need of further financial support for their progress into higher studies, professional and vocational courses like Engineering, Nursing, Hotel Management and so forth.

At this state of things, Axis Bank Foundation came forward to PREM's collaborative effort in fulfilling the ambitions and needs of the poor ST and Dalit children. There was an MOU arrived at between the two institutions in April 2011 and agreement made to support 10,000 Tribal and Dalit young men and women for professional and vocational courses for a period of five years. The Honorable Chief Minister of Odisha Sri Nabeen Patnaik inaugurated formally the launching ceremony on April 26, 2011 along with Ms. Shikha Sharma, Managing Director cum Chief Executive Officer of Axis Bank Foundation, Mumbai. About 80% of the prospective trainees in this project comprised adolescent girls and adult women. The project was also searching for avenues of employment prospects for the trained candidates. This was indeed a landmark achievement for PREM's interventions in Odisha that 50000 of the trained have been employed in different sector.



PREM & OAM team presenting Memorandum to Sri Bijaya Kumar Patnaik, Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha and Sri Ranendra Pratap Swain, Minister of food supplies & consumer welfare cooperation, Govt. of Odisha on introduction of MT ML ECE in tribal areas of Odisha

2012 – Program Highlights

Massive awareness program for promotion of Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Early Childhood Education in Tribal districts of Odisha- Through OAM Network-Advocacy & Lobby by OAM

PREM in association with Bernard Van Leer Foundation (BVLF) conducted massive awareness campaign on promotion of the mother tongue based multilingual early childhood education in 22 tribal dominant district of Odisha with Odisha Adivasi Manch (OAM- a tribal peoples network of Odisha) alongside The purpose of the expedition was to sensitize people from all walks of life -parents, caregivers, PRI members, elected political representatives, village leaders and media persons on the utility and effectiveness of mother tongue based multilingual early childhood education for young tribal children. This campaign was carried forward from Gram Sobha to Bidhan Sobha. Meetings, trainings, and workshops had been organized at village, GP, block, district and state levels. There were post card campaigns and Panchayat level resolutions sent to concerned officials and policy makers of the state. . All together 3 lakhs people of Odisha participated in this massive campaign to influence the policy makers. and submitted memoranda before Sri Bijaya Kumar Patnaik, Chief Secretary of Odisha and Tribal Welfare and W & CD department. Impressed with PREM's pedagogy in the context of ECE in tribal areas, the Government of Odisha brought in finally on 31st July 2012 a notification to adopt the pedagogy of Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Early Childhood Education in 20000 existing ICDS centers of tribal areas of Odisha in 19 tribal languages to start with.



Delivering the Speech by Mr Sreeranjana, IAS, Joint Secretary, W & CD Department, Govt. of India in National Consultation on Implementation of MT ML ECE in true spirit in tribal areas of India.

2013 – Program Highlights

NACDIP's successful advocacy for MTMLECE in India.

After the successful advocacy done in collaboration with BvLF, Netherland, in Odisha pertaining to MT based MLECE; the joint campaign strode into 16 states of tribal concentration in India with NACDIP (National Advocacy Council For Development of Indigenous People) on the fore front. NACDIP is a national level network of civil society organizations working for the realization of tribals' rights and entitlements in India. The purpose of the venture was similar to that of the Odisha Adivasi Manch that is, sensitizing people of all walks of life from Palli to Delhi. All together 35 lakhs people from the 16 states of India participated in the collective campaign to influence the central policy makers to include a separate chapter on MT MLECE in the national ECCE policy.

Inclusion of MTMLECE in the National ECCE Policy-2013, Govt. of India

As part of the advocacy effort, the network had a meet with leaders from different parties and ministers in New Delhi and handed memoranda over to them.

In this process, NACDIP had the opportunity to meet Dr. Sreeranjana, IAS, Joint Secretary of W & CD department, Govt. of India, and was able to convince him of the relevance and need of Mother Tongue based multilingual Early childhood Education in the tribal areas of India. The secretary realized the magnitude of the methodology from the view point of the tribal children's ECE and did his best to find room for it in the national ECCE policy that was in a drafted status. At last, the Government of India brought in, on 27th September 2013, a National ECCE policy that had incorporated and ensured the implementation of Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Early Childhood Education in the existing ICDS centers of tribal areas of India- a landmark achievement of PREM, BvLF, NACDIP and tribal People of India indeed.

Scaling up of the MTMLECE in 22 Districts of Odisha State by OAM Network and 16 states of India- through NACDIP Network

Implementation of National ECCE Policy 2013 in true spirit

It was a land mark achievement accomplished by PREM, BvLF, OAM and NACDIP to have got approved and declared incorporated the Mother Tongue Based Multilingual ECE, the evidence based tribal child friendly pedagogy, in the respective ECCE policies of the state and the central Governments. Nevertheless, it does not follow that its execution will be done to the letter and spirit of the pedagogy. It needed more consciousness building and persuasion among the stakeholders for honest and full-fledged operation of it. Hence the network continued the awareness raising efforts across the state and the nation by means of meetings and workshops at places time to time so that the true vision behind the pedagogy was realized. Community level committees were empowered and equipped with all the aspects of the pedagogy so that they remained vigilant to the functioning of the centers for close supervision and monitoring the holistic and joyful class room transaction under the methodology and the delivery of allied services entrusted to ICDS centers.

The process made aware 20, 00000 people from 22 Districts of Odisha and 50, 00000, from the 16 States of India of the importance of MT MLECE. Moreover, the WCD department, government of India, circulated a letter dated 29th June, 2016, to all the states and Union Territories for the implementation of the National ECCE policy with a special focus on MT MLECE for tribal children in Anganwadi situated in tribal regions to ensure and expedite the process of implementation. The letter had also acknowledged the noble initiative of Dr. Jacob Thundyil, National Convener, NACDIP.

Integrated Development Initiatives for Juang Communities in Keonjhar District

An additional geographical area for operation was given on request to PREM this year was by the District Administration of Keonjhar district, Odisha; invited to take up the education program in Juang tribal belt of Banspal block of the district, PREM replicated this initiative there with the support of BvLF, Netherlands and the District administration. PREM had an integrated development approach by providing support in the field of education, health, livelihood, community empowerment and housing.

Urban Slum Development:

BvLF (Bernard Van Leer Foundation), Netherlands handed on to PREM another project entitled, “Integrated programs for the development of Urban Slums focusing on Safe and Healthy Environment for young children living in Urban Slums” to implement from the year 2013 through its campaign program of Humara Bachpan. The project was, as per its objective, to provide safe and healthy environment for children living in Berhampur slums in the midst of unhygienic environment at utmost risks of life without basic amenities. Their rights were found violated and their dignity, downgraded.. 40 clubs of Children and the Youth were formed in 40 wards of Berhampur Municipal Corporation. PREM organized the youth and people to advocate before government and at City Development Authorities for the fulfillment of their rights and needs like the safe and healthy environment for and the integral development of the children living in urban slums.

The project worked for 6000 children and on the availability of basic infrastructure and amenities like road, drainage, toilet, electricity, drinking water, play ground, personal hygiene, and environmental cleanliness. By the end of the project, the 40 clubs were found on their advocacy at the municipal authorities for all other basic faculties and needs.

Response to the Disaster - Phylin

Disaster prone, Odisha had another natural calamity named Phylin in the year with devastating adverse effects on people, especially those of Ganjam district. Its vast past experience in encountering situations created by natural calamities, PREM was more eligible and trustworthy to mobilize resources, volunteers and partners to respond swiftly and efficiently to the crises caused by the storm.

PREM approached its funding partners —Bernard van Leer Foundation, Axis Bank Foundation, Help Age India, Handicap International, Kinder Not Hilfe, Rashmi Group of Companies— to grant resources towards the emergency relief and rehabilitation activities in the affected communities of its program areas as well as the periphery areas of the district. The affected people were very happy and thankful to the agency for the measures taken and the relief materials provided to them which they acknowledged as very helpful to them during the critical period in the post —Phailin period.

Besides the affected population, the district administration highly praised PREM for its systematic and peaceful approach to addressing the post disaster emergency situation It was indeed a learning point for the administration to adopt the same approaches in similar situations.



Professional and Vocational Education support to the students from the marginalized communities and life-skill management support to the Grihini Mothers, supported by PREM – Axis Bank Foundation.

2014 –PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Grihini Training leading to Entrepreneurial spirit among Rural Women

As one of the unique interventions of PREM, young married women were imparted 20 days intensive training on life skill management, income generation activities, preventive and curative health measures, mother tongue based multilingual early childhood education, early stimulation for young children, importance of children's education, government schemes and services and on participation in local self governance. Under income generation activities, the feasible trades/business they could undertake individually and in groups were thrashed. The areas and aspects of individual and group business plans including communication skills and risk management were dealt in detail. The main objective of Grihini Training was to empower the rural women economically, socially and politically so that they spent their own income on education, health care, quality life and were able to take active participation in democratic institutions and local self governance.

About 10636 women from PREM's operational areas underwent the Grihini Training and are found involved in different individual and group income generation activities; they have better income to meet household needs and are capable of raising voices in the village and Gram Panchayat level meetings and do effectively participate in the PRIs.

Integrated Development of Juang Communities of Keonjhar District in Odisha

The school teachers and Anganwadi workers, who usually hailed from Odia communities, did not know the mother tongue of the Juanga community. They communicated in Odia, as usual unhesitatingly, without getting into the minds of children. The issue got further compounded by the banking system of education. As a result, not only the transition from Anganwadi to primary school got hampered, but the overall educational intervention of the government was of little impact too; dropping out of schools became quite phenomenal among the children of the community. Seemingly, alien language stood as a stumbling block to the development of this community. The culture and the language of the community gradually came across threat and underwent a course of erosion unwittingly owing to the intrusion of the outsiders. It was at this juncture, PREM in collaboration with BvLF came forward to intervene into the situation on a request from the then collector of Keonjhar and PREM created an enabling environment for JUANG children for their holistic development by providing mother tongue based multilingual ECE, health, nutrition facilities at the community level and strengthened the Juan communities by helping them access and manage health, education and livelihood services at the community level for their integrated development..



Shri Janaki Ballav Pattnaik, Former Chief Minister, Govt. of Odisha and former Governor of Assam with Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM in the State Level workshop on Tribal issues at Bhubaneswar.

2015 – Program Highlights

Child Focused Community Development & SHA

PREM in collaboration with KNH (Kindernothilfe) launched the project “Bal Vikas Child Focused Community Development” in 2014 for implementation in 30 tribal villages of Daringbadi block belonging to Kandhamal district, Odisha state, India. The project aimed at and has been involved since then in women’s socio-economic and political empowerment and gender equity through a process of Self –help approach; the Self help approach believes in the abilities and potentials of the SHG members to plan, to observe, and to analyze changes and the reasons for these themselves. It moves with setting goals, planning, periodical self assessment, re-planning and execution basing on certain core indicators such as sufficient income, medical/health facilities, nutrition and food, education and leveraging government schemes and resources.

Attempts and advocacy for fulfillment of goals, as a result of capacity building training camps, exposure to well developed Cluster level Associations and federations of self help groups and handholding support, have brought about a fair range of socio-economic and political changes among women, children and the communities. All sorts of stakeholders including ICDS workers, ASHA and grass root level OLM workers and their authority and so on were sensitized of their services and duties towards the fulfillment of child rights as duty bearers, who turned to be proactive and cooperative in rendering services. Women have grown critically conscious, vocal, and entrepreneurial eventually. They have gained capacity to bargain and raise voice in the PRIs and do command more respect, attention and shared responsibility with men in their families than before. People tapped into government resources and have picked up growth in individual and common assets and amenities in the communities. Preference to girl child education and care towards the Right to protection has mitigated child marriage and labor, enhanced children’s level of and grades in education



National Resource and Training Centre on MT ML ECE at Mandiapalli, Berhampur visited by Shri Surya Narayan Patro, Hon'ble Cabinet Minister and Members of Standing Committee, W&CD, Govt. of Odisha

National Resource and Training Centre on MT ML ECE

The great stride of having gifted the package of MT ML ECE to the numerous tribal children across the state of Odisha and those in different pockets of India, not only begets an overriding sense and feeling of fulfillment but also calls for a Center of a national stature as an ideal and reliable source of holistic learning to keep up the tempo and ethos of the product that emanated from a long standing experiment, creativity and proved to be irrefutably realistic and relevant to a community that had remained closed to the outer world for quite a bit of time.

This is how there came to stand a new building as the National Resource and Training Centre (NRTC) on MT ML ECE at PREM's headquarters, Mandiapalli, Berhampur, Ganjam reposing trust on the positive responses and the measures taken by both the state and the central governments that MT ML ECE would have no impediment for its progress ahead in future.. The resource center has, as the only necessity, been resourcefully equipped with every element of a full-fledged MTBMLECE center to inspire and educate both the children and the facilitators as well as other stakeholders from within the state and from without. As was the objective, the resource centre provides a holistic picture and has succeeded in educating well the stakeholders from diverse sections and sectors on MTMLECE Program.

There are 5 pillars of the MT ML ECE Resource centre as follows.

1. MT ML ECE TLM Corner
2. Information Hub
3. Documentation, Communication & Research Material
4. Training Centre
5. Structure of Model MT ML ECE -DEMO Centre

To this day, the resource center has attracted many government and non-government agencies, individuals, universities, Child Development departmental officials and people from other line departments, who came for an exposure to the Resource Centre and have attained experiential learning on various aspects including the skills of transaction.

Resource centre is a Learning centre as well as an Information Hub : The resource center would help different stake holders of the state as well as of other states in India to understand the meaning of Mother Tongue Based Multi Lingual Early Childhood Education, the process necessary to include this in the present ICDS program, the teaching and learning materials of the pedagogy for transaction in the existing ICDS centers of tribal areas, basic information about different tribal groups in the state and in India and basic information about different existing government policies, schemes and services related to Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE).



An innovative approach of PREM to create Model Villages with 10 commandments in Tribal areas of Odisha accepted by Niti Aayog, Govt. of India.

Acceptance of MTMLECE Approach of PREM by Kerala Government:

A five membered team consisting of Program Officer ICDS, CDPO, ICDS Supervisor, ICDS Worker and the helper from Wayanad District of Kerala visited PREM on 29th February 2016 and visited the newly established National Resource and Training Centre (NRTC), got inspired and was convinced to replicate the methodology.

Model Village

Creating Models is one of the development approaches of PREM and the model village concept is a by-product of the approach. This is an effort to build a village with necessary attributes so that it emerges holistic to attract surrounding villages to follow it. The first attempt was made at Gudang Garjang of Gumma block and the community was enriched and embedded with 10 components/ virtues to mould it into a model, which are termed as 10 commandments for they are mandatory and obligatory to become a model.

The commandments are as follows:

1. 100% enrollment and retention of children with appropriate age in ICDS centre and Primary School
2. 100% child and mothers' immunization
3. Supply/ availability of safe drinking water
4. Well ventilated kitchen and smokeless Chula
5. 100% households with Toilets kept neat and used by 100% inmates
6. Family income minimum 1.5 lakhs to 1.7 lakhs per annum
7. Saving and food security in each family throughout the year
8. Village, free of alcohol.
9. Village, Litigation free
10. Zero distress migration

In the development and empowerment process by the agency nearly 150 villages have found themselves as equipped with the 10 commandments as Gudang Garjang, which has been their center of inspiration. Model villages are thus mushrooming attracting people of all walks of life and communities around.



Country Director of UNFPA-India visiting PREM's Program at Gajapati & Inauguration of Common Service cum Resource Centers in different places of Gumma block by Dr Deepa Prasad, SPO, UNFPA-Odisha & Shri. Surya Rao, MLA-Parlakhemundi.

Action for Tribal Adolescent Girls- Through SHG in Gumma Block

The adolescents, more specifically adolescent girls are most vulnerable and marginalized who need age appropriate information and services. They encounter multiple challenges such as structural poverty, lack of information, sub-optimal education, inaccessibility to vocational training opportunities and social inequities compounded by socio- culturally predisposed norms and practices like early marriage and child-bearing. The Annual Health Survey 2012-13 unveils the profundity of vulnerability among adolescent girls of Gajapati district to early marriage, adolescent pregnancy and dropping out of school.

Keeping in view of the situation, PREM with the technical and financial support of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) implemented a program meant for the empowerment of tribal adolescent girls in order that they were capable of overcoming the usual challenges that came across their lives and the vulnerabilities especially towards child marriage and pregnancy in adolescence. The project was put into operation in Gumma block of Gajapati district of Odisha since July 2015 till the end of December, 2017 covering 201 villages from 19 Gram Panchayats of Gumma Block reaching out to more than 7136 adolescent girls out of which around 3386 were enrolled in 211 Adolescent Self Help Groups (ASHG) formed under the project. Week long training camps were organized for the peer leaders on Reproductive and sexual health and the life skills including hygienic practices, financial literacy and self defense techniques, which in turn reached the clubs of the adolescent girls through the trained peer leaders/educators.

2016- Program Highlights

Children Movement for Climate Justice

CMCJ (Children Movement for Climate Justice) is a nationwide movement toward a healthy climate congenial to children's development. The movement is spread across the states of Karnataka, Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telengana, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha. There are 1100 children as members of the association in Odisha and more than 7000 members at the all India level. The Children after understanding fully the issues of climate change and their roles in the movement to address the issues have joined the movement and they had to pay a token fee of Rs.10/- each towards membership. In Odisha there were two coordinators for spearheading the movement and PREM was and continues to be the convener of the state chapter, CMCJ. Campaign on membership, training camps on Rights of the Child and CMCJ, exposure visit, cleaning drive, expeditions against child labor, girl child trafficking and child marriage were some of the activities that have taken place as of now. 36 representatives of young men and women from Gajapati, Ganjam, Kandhamal and Koraput districts assembled at the National Resource and Training Center of PREM, Mandiapalli, Berhampur and did review situations, chalked out plan of actions and reformed and revived the state steering committee. There is growing consciousness among children on the ensuing catastrophes on account of the emission of the green house gas and other reasons of environmental pollution. Large scale plantation has taken place to control carbon dioxide and generate oxygen.



PREM & NAC-DIP team with Shri. Lokonath Behera, Director General of Police and his team, Kerala State during the program visit at Trivandrum, Kerala.

Financial Inclusion – a means to reach out the ultra-poor and very poor women

PREM in collaboration with Trickle Up implemented a MetLife funded project called Financial Inclusion in order to educate the ultra-poor and very poor women through various visual and audiovisual aids and help them open bank account, save money, have access to financial services, invest money for income generation activities, insurance and pensions. Financial planning, savings, investment, insurance and credit were the main mantras/catchphrase of the project. PREM's volunteers and active women from Puri, Gajapati and Kandhamal mainly played the role of facilitation in the education process. Bankers and Bank Mithras too were invited to motivate women. 18600 women have gone through the financial literacy program and 18000 of them have opened accounts in different local banks.

19000 project participants (very poor women) were trained by the 80 trained active women and 18600 of the trained opened accounts in their respective banks under Pradhan Mantry Jan Dhan Yojana and do continue their savings regularly. Many have gone for different income generation activities. 5055 of them have been linked to insurance and 2000 others, to pensions under different schemes of the government.

Strengthening Implementation of Biju Kanya Ratna Programme in Three Districts of Odisha

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) partnered with the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Odisha in strengthening implementation of "Biju Kanya Ratna Yojana", a flagship programme of State Government, through its partner NGO Peoples Rural Education Movement, Berhampur launched on 3rd September 2016. The programme focused on addressing discriminatory practices against girls and women such as gender biased sex selection, child marriage, girls dropping out and promoting value of girl child in three selected districts of Odisha having low Child Sex Ratio such as Dhenkanal(877), Angul(889) and Ganjam(908).

2017 - Program Highlights

Computer Based Adult Literacy Program

The adult literacy programme targets to enhance the learning, reading, writing and cognitive skills of adults from the most marginalized communities in Odisha. The project strives to address the functional literacy of adults, women in particular. This will lead to higher self-esteem and self-confidence enabling them to engage in economic activities. Improved functional literacy will directly impact on people's ability to understand their rights, and claim their entitlements, enabling them to be able to influence Govt. policies that affect them. PREM in association with Development Focus, Bangalore aimed at improving functional literacy among the most marginalized communities of Odisha and with the following specific objectives.

1. To reach 8,000 learners in three states, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Karnataka.
2. To enhance the confidence level of individuals and families, enabling them access and capitalize economic/livelihood opportunities.
3. To improve awareness among rural households that enables them to demand and access their rights and entitlements

Laptop with bag, speaker, adapter and a projector with carry bag and study materials has been issued to individual Adult Literacy Facilitator with installing the TCS software in the knowledge of village Adult Literacy Committee. The receipt note was received by the project from the individual facilitator bearing signature of the facilitator and the village Adult Literacy Committee.

Key achievements :

1. 2400 women and men from the marginalized communities who never attended the schools are now able to read, write and do small arithmetic.
2. They are now quite happy and feeling proud because they never expected this in their life.
3. 100 learners' Clubs have been formed and they sit weekly once to help each other's learning and discuss social issues and possible solutions thereof.
4. Their participations in different meetings and gatherings have increased as compared to previous years.
5. Now they understood the importance of education and help their children in education.



*Organic Farming & Marketing outlet with the support of Mr Babu Joseph, Ex-CEO, AXIS BANK FOUNDATION
with Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM*

Focused Area Development Programme (FADP)

PREM In association with ITDA, Gunpur Government of Odisha has been implementing a Project called Focused Area Development Programme (FADP) in 7 blocks of Rayagada district and managing simultaneously OTÉLP Program at Nandapur block of Rayagada district.

The perspective plan of ITDA Gunpur do extend support to ST families with viable alternative livelihoods, identified farm and non-farm based livelihood opportunities suitable to local conditions and available resources and capacities of the tribal communities. FADP is implemented in convergence with SCA to TSP & Art 275(1) and with other flagship programmes of state/ central Govt. i.e. - MGNREGA, National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Rashtriya Krushi Vikash Yojana (RKVY), OLM etc. In respect of work with the people of tribal area, the ITDA Gunpur and PREM have committed to implementing FADP programme for the enhancement of the livelihood status of tribals in 7 blocks of Rayagada district under ITDA Gunpur.

ORGANIC FARMING & MARKETING outlet with the Support of Mr. Babu Joseph

PREM with the support of Mr. Babu Joseph, Ex-CEO, Axis Bank Foundation has been working on Organic Farming and its Marketing since 2017. PREM run this project covering 297 villages of 40 Gram Panchayats of 3 blocks of Gajapati district. The key objectives of this program were to create awareness among the farmers on the importance and the market demand of organic Products and to encourage the farmers to initiate organic farming and linking them with other Govt. services. To share the achievement briefly

1. PREM mobilized fruit bearing trees from the horticulture department and planted in 1000 acres of land to obtain organic fruits.
2. Organic vegetables cultivations have been done in 200 acres of land.
3. Paddy cultivation with SRI PADDY has been done in 250 acres of land.
4. Organic pulses cultivation have taken place in 150 acres of land
5. There are 297 master trainers on organic farming in the 297 villages who have trained 7981 young farmers of 297 villages
6. At present there are 150 PREMA Organic Farming Outlets in the project operational area.
7. Demands for organic products are now on the increase galvanizing farmers' interest and zeal for progress further
8. Application of organic farming technology has resulted in the conversion of some barren lands into productive fields.
9. Now the villagers prepare organic farming oriented village action plan and Present it before the Pali Sobha and Gram Sobha for approval.

2018 -Program Highlights

Youth Empowerment through a flagship program of Govt. of Odisha-Biju Yuva Vahini

In 2018, a new sub-scheme called Biju Yuva Vahini was launched by the Department of Sport and Youth Services, Govt. of Odisha to promote leadership, voluntarism and a healthy lifestyle through sports and social action interventions.

The Department of Sports and Youth Services, Government of Odisha, selected People's Rural Education Movement (PREM) for setting up a District Programme Management Units (DPMUs) for Cluster-B covering 5 districts such as Ganjam, Gajapati, Kandhamal, Boudh and Nayagarh to facilitate the implementation process of Sub-Scheme BIJU YUVA VAHINI. The operational areas of Cluster- B under Biju Yuva Vahini project consists of 1086 GP s in 52 Blocks and 311 wards in 28 Urban Local Bodies and 40 wards in the Berhampur Municipal Corporation(BeMC) spread over the afore said 5 districts of Odisha. A total of 105 staff were deployed at the Block/ULB and district levels under this cluster to facilitate the BYV programme. In total 1192 BYV units have, at the GP/Ward level, been formed and around 38000 volunteers, registered under Cluster-B.



PREM and NAC-DIP team discussing with Shri Pinarayi Vijayan, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala on implementation of MT ML ECE in Wayanad District of Kerala.

Integrated District Interventions for Improving Access to Information and Services for Reproductive Health and Rights

PREM in association with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Odisha has been working on a project called "Integrated District Interventions for Improving Access to Information and Services for Reproductive Health and Rights". This project has been designed to provide quality health services to the Particular Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) of Gajapati and Rayagada districts covering 21 Gram Panchayats of 6 Blocks of above mentioned districts. Through this project PREM focused on Strengthening Health system for improved access to integrated quality reproductive health services for women, girls and young people, to improve access to information and services pertaining to RMNCH+A among the particularly vulnerable tribal groups inhabiting 21 Gram Panchayats of 6 Blocks of Gajapati and Rayagada Districts ; this would strengthen outreach and services at health facilities and reduce child marriage and empower adolescent girls as a result of strengthening implementation and brining in convergence and programs for adolescents such as RKSK, LSE and other initiatives in the District.

2019 – Program Highlights

Gyan Devi Foundation :

Most of the potential college students from the under-privileged communities especially those from tribal and Dalit communities of Odisha cannot afford to do professional studies like: Engineering, Nursing, Hotel Management and other similar courses due to the poor socio-economic condition of their families. PREM was in quest of opportunities for such children. Gyandevi Foundation came forward for a collaborative effort with PREM to address the issue; Now 8 students for General Nurse Mid-wife, 16 students for B.Sc Nursing and 10 students for Hotel Management obtain support from the collaboration. PREM has established tie up with different colleges for General Nursing Mid-wife (GNM), B.Sc. Nursing and Hotel Management for the purpose.

2020 - Program Highlights

Covid-19 Response

Disaster preparedness is part of PREM's strategic approach since its very inception. Resiliency and response to disasters of various time and kind over the years have enriched PREM with varied experience, knowledge and ways of dealing with such situations.

Keeping in view of the distressed situation of the poor people without having alternative livelihood options due to a series of lock downs and shut downs, imposed a measure to prevent Corona Pandemic, PREM appealed to various national and international agencies for collaboration to support the people in distress. Sensitive agencies across the globe extended their support and joined PREM with their helping hand to combat the situation.

Support to the Transited Migrants:

In order to alleviate the migrants' distressed situation, PREM established a stall at the Mandiapalli bus stop on the National Highway for the migrants and dry food, cooked food, water bottles, masks, sanitizers, towels, caps etc. were provided to them with great ease to the migrants who were moving with their small kids, pregnant women and old parents.



Different photos of the COVID-19 Relief Program, inaugurated by Shri. Chandra Sekhar Sahu, MP-Berhampur with Dr. Jacob Thundyil, President, PREM.

Support to the Migrant Families of different Districts of Odisha

PREM, in collaboration with Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives did provide kits of mask, soap, dry food and sanitary items to 1600 migrant families from Goudagotho and Asurbandha Panchayats of Surada block of Ganjam District.

Moreover, PREM with the support of United Nations Population Fund-UNFPA, Odisha State Office, Bhubaneswar supplied kits containing bucket, mug, towel, soaps and mask to 3831 households of 112 villages belonging to the particularly vulnerable tribal groups of eight Panchayats under K.Singipur, Bismcuttak, Muniguda and Gunpur blocks of Rayagada District and 3169 kits to 70 PVTG villages of Mohana Block of Gajapati District. Besides, PREM came forward also to join the Mission Anna Seva of Reliance Foundation and provided 1500 ration kits to the migrants and marginal labourers of nine panchayats of Dharakote, Patrapur, Kukudakhandi, Seragada and Chikiti Blocks of Ganjam District during this pandemic period.

Awareness on Prevention & Control of Covid-19:

It was high time for people to surmount the Covid Pandemic situation that created a menace to human life. The volunteers of PREM created awareness among the people on the use of masks, maintenance of social distance, hand-washing practice and to follow the Covid guidelines of Government as preventive measures.

Awareness and Support Services to the Co-Morbid people in Berhampur City:

During Corona pandemic situation, the co-morbid people were the worst sufferers as they were unable to move anywhere due to fear of Corona and unable to know where they have to go for necessary support. They were unable to go outside to get their daily scheduled medicines even for their diseases. Neither were they able to tell others about their health situation, for fear of the stigma attached to COVID-19 patients. In such a critical situation, the volunteers of PREM in association with Berhampur Municipal Corporation extended supports to the co-morbid people of Berhampur city. The volunteers interacted with the people directly over phone by asking them on their health condition, needs and requirements and informed about the health centers opened nearby during this pandemic situation in Berhampur, available ambulance facilities, phone number of doctors and also provided medicines to the seriously ill. They created massive awareness among the people by providing much information on the Covid guidelines of the government to avoid Corona virus. People of the city appreciated much the services rendered by the volunteers and BeMC during the pandemic period.



Entrepreneurship-Bridge IT Program supported by TATA Consultancy Services in Gunupur block of Rayagada District implemented & managed by PREM.

Digital Entrepreneurship-BridgeIT,

The project, aptly named BridgeIT, is a micro entrepreneurship program that aims to provide livelihood opportunities and bridge the IT gap between urban and rural India by building the capacity of rural youth in e-entrepreneurship. BridgeIT focuses on building the IT and entrepreneurial skills of rural youth, build their confidence, and enhance their life-skills, providing them with the necessary means and support to earn a livelihood through e-entrepreneurship. The initiative not only allows rural youth to be gainfully employed and self-sufficient, but also bridges the IT gap by enabling the youth to bring much needed IT related services into their communities. By promoting rural entrepreneurship, the intervention aims at improving the rural economy, reducing illiteracy, and providing academic inputs to both school going children and adults through computer based education. The overall objective of the project is to provide livelihood opportunities for rural youth through e-entrepreneurship and through these e-entrepreneurs provide computer-based and online services to rural communities.

PREM has been implementing "BridgeIT Project (Phase 5a Odisha Module) in collaboration with Development Focus, (TCS funded project) Bangalore since 1st January 2020 with a mission to create relevant opportunities for the most marginalized sections of society, by engaging and building the capacity of civil society actors, such that it leads to Educated, Egalitarian and Empowered communities. The project identified and strengthens the civil society actors focusing on the tribal and Dalit communities of Gajapati district namely, Mohana and Gumma and two clusters of Rayagada district namely, Padampur and Gunpur, who are socio-economically marginalized for generations. The project is in a process for implementing an innovative Digital Entrepreneurship Program with the object to create rural e-entrepreneurs from socially and economically disadvantaged rural communities. The specific objectives of the project are:

1. To create rural e-entrepreneurs from socially and economically disadvantaged communities
2. To make available much needed computer and e-based services to rural communities through e-entrepreneurship
3. To provide supplementary academic inputs for government primary and middle school children through computer-based education
4. To provide functional literacy to rural adults through computer-based education



Mr. Oscar Fernandez, Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development, Govt. of India, attending a Workshop at YMCA, New Delhi

Women Entrepreneurship-Axis Bank Foundation

PREM in collaboration with Give India Foundation has implemented women empowerment program in 50 tribal communities of Mohana and R.Udayagiri Blocks of Gajapati District from July'2020 to June'2021. The ultimate objective of the project was to bring about positive changes in the lives of the tribal women, their children and families. To fulfill the project Goal, PREM gives more emphasis to strengthen their livelihood through organic agriculture practices. Natural Farming or holistic agriculture is a method of agriculture that counters the commercial expenditure and things required for the growth of plant are present around the root zone. The project team extended their handholding support for livelihood promotional activity.

The overall goal of PREM-GIF was to achieve, enhanced living conditions and reduce poverty of the target group's households. This is sought to be achieved through enabling improved livelihoods and food and nutrition security primarily for 50 tribal communities of Mohana and R. Udayagiri Blocks of Gajapati District. The measures taken towards this end are building the capacity of the target households, improving their agricultural practices for enhanced production, promoting income-generating micro-enterprises for alternate livelihoods.

2021-HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS

Covid-19 Response- Support during 2nd Wave

With the second wave hitting the country, declaration of emergency lockdowns, curfews, acute shortage of oxygen, and the limitations of infrastructure to address the magnitude of the problem of the livelihood of already distressed rural and tribal communities impacted quite adversely.. The nationwide lockdown since 5th May 2021 has pushed them further to the brink. In this time of uncertainty, PREM, believing it to be its moral responsibility to support the vulnerable communities, approached various national and international agencies for collaboration. Sensitive agencies across the globe such as AZIM PREMJI Foundation, Bangalore, Reliance Foundation, Mumbai, Railway Children India, New Delhi, Help Berhampur Breathe, Shree Raghunath Temple Trust, Plano, Texas, USA, and individuals like Ms. Agnes and Mr. Mathew Thundiyil from Taiwan, Mr. Foco Po of Japan responded generously and joined PREM with their helping hand to fight the crises.

Through the grassroots volunteers, PREM once again stepped into activities to reach out to the unreached vulnerable communities of Ganjam, Gajapati, Koraput, Rayagada, Malkangiri and Sambalpur district of Odisha.



State Level Consultation on Prevention of Child Marriage, Child Labour and launch of E-Campaigning against child Labour at Bhubaneswar and different activity photos of RCM project supported by Educo & PREM

The following initiatives were taken by PREM in the districts of Odisha to mitigate the Corona pandemic situation:

Distribution of Dry Ration Kits to the people in marginalized situation in rural, tribal, and urban slum areas. Providing Oxygen Cylinders, Ambulance services, Oxy-meters, Spiro-Meters, Masks, Gloves, Sanitizers, Sodium Hypo-Chloride, PPE Kits and Fogger Machines to

1. District Administration, Ganjam, 2. City Hospital, Berhampur, 3. Rotary Club, Berhampur, 4. District Administration, Gajapati, 5. PHC of Chandragiri, Gajapati District

Reducing Child Marriage Project - Supported by Educo & PREM

In order to reduce the prevalence of Child Marriage in Darigbadi block of Kandhamal district of Odisha and to ensure the well-being of children and adolescents, PREM has undertaken a program in association with Educo, Spain in the month of January 2021. With an objective of preventing and reducing the incidences of child marriage in Daringbadi block of Kandhamal District, the project attempts to achieve the following:

- Empowerment of children and adolescents so that they obtain justice and protect themselves from forced child marriage and child labor.
- Continuation of Children and Adolescents' education till 12th standard at least.
- Sensitization and activating local institutions so that they create protective environment to reduce Child Marriage, child labor and child abuse.
- Strengthening the responsive system to enforce the prohibition of child marriage act strictly so that there is reduction in child marriage.



Activity Photos of Pre-Election Voter's Awareness Campaign (PEVAC) in Seven Blocks of Gajapati District supported by UNFPA & PREM

2022-HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS

PEVAC -Foundation for Increased Participation in Governance

During the last Panchayati Raj elections of Odisha held in the month of January and February-2022, PREM and UNFPA have jointly undertaken a Pre-Election Voter's Awareness Campaign (PEVAC) in seven blocks of Gajapati district. Out of the seven blocks, five blocks i.e. Mohana, R,Udayagiri, Gumma, Nuagada, Rayagada were the Scheduled blocks where tribal population was more than 50%. The other two blocks i.e. Kashinagar and Gosani were the Non-Scheduled ones.

The objective of PEVAC was to enhance voters' awareness about electoral process, help them make informed choices and lay foundation for increased participation of citizens in governance in the long-term. The experience over the years reveals that citizens' participation including women's in the election process was still negligible. The presence of competent and appropriate candidates was crucial to good governance i.e. for appropriate and accountable PRIs. Moreover, there was also a need to promote the engagement of aware and informed citizens, especially women and the marginalized mass in the process of elections. The endeavor of PREM and UNFPA referred to above could initiate a trend for alert and aware citizens, responsible and answerable Elected Representatives and a bright future for all. The objectives of the program were as follows:

1. To increase voter turn-out (esp. among women and other politically marginalized groups in many of the hard to reach areas of Gajapati district)
2. To enhance voters' awareness about electoral process, help voters make informed choices and lay foundation for increased citizen participation in governance in the long-term.
3. To raise the issues of women, adolescent girls in the Panchayati elections.
4. To influence voter behavior for elections in Panchayats.
5. To influence the behavior of candidates in the elections.
6. To contribute to enhanced political transparency, accountability, credibility and public trust in governance.



Preliminary meeting with the MLAs of Odisha on formation of Child-Friendly Legislator Forum workshop at Berhampur & Bhubaneswar of Odisha State Supported by EDUCO & PREM.

Girl Friendly Panchayat - Creating an Enabling Environment for Girls and Women in Odisha working through Panchayats and Women Self Help Groups

In alignment with the UNFPA's strategic plan (2018-2021) and UNFPA India's 9th Country Programme Action Plan (2018-2022), the project on "Girl and Woman Friendly Panchayats" addresses discrimination, harmful practices such as child marriage, dowry and violence against girls and women in all its forms. The project aims at providing technical support to strengthen capacities of Government (SC & ST Resource and Training Institute, State Institute of Rural Development) and civil society to enable and empower women, especially young women and girls, with knowledge, life skills and assets.

In 2021, a training module on Building Capacities of Panchayati Raj Institutions for Enhancing the Value of Girls and Women was developed. The Odia version of the module was also finalized and shared with Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) at block and village levels in Dhenkanal district of Odisha. There was extensive engagement with PRI functionaries and block officials for integration of issues on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs). Advocacy workshops were held at the block level to create awareness and understanding among girls and women about existing legislations and the statutory remedies available to them.

In 2022, given the scheduled elections of Panchayati Raj, the existing interventions were adapted to the circumstances wherein successful strategy of PEVAC (pre-election voter's awareness campaign) was planned. In parallel, rigorous activities to contextualize the existing training module to the context of Odisha GP Act vis-à-vis Panchayat Extension in Scheduled Areas (PESA), as well as that of reserved panchayats for women (SC/ST) have also been undertaken. The project has covered 149 gram panchayats across 1499 villages in Gajapati district, focusing on tribal communities, women and scheduled castes.

The project intends to create an enabling environment for development and well-being of the girls by active engagement with the Panchayati Raj Institutions and Women's Self Help Groups with a view to Creating, Developing and testing a nuanced working model of Women/Girl friendly Panchayats for vulnerable communities of ST/SC for state level advocacy and up-scaling across all Panchayats in Odisha.



National Consultation with Stakeholders in Promoting the Well-being and Protection of Children in India at New Delhi towards formation of Child-Friendly Parliamentarians Forum

Child Friendly Legislative Forum

It is a state level forum to take up children's issues and work towards making constituencies child-friendly where all children enjoy their rights and grow in a safe and protected environment. The objective of this forum is to bring together the Members of Legislative Assembly cutting across all the political parties and discuss with them the issues and concerns of children of Odisha. Through this process we have sensitized 75 MLAs of Odisha State Legislative Assembly on child rights and child care and protection mechanisms.

Child Friendly Parliamentarian Forum,

It is a national level forum to take up children's issues and work towards making constituencies child-friendly where all children enjoy their rights and grow in a safe and protected environment. The objective of this forum is to bring together the Members of Parliament cutting across all the political parties and discuss with them the issues and concerns of children of India. Through this process we have sensitized 65 MPs of government of India on child rights and child care and protection mechanisms.

Promotion of Farm Based Sustainable Livelihood

PREM in collaboration with AZIM PREMJI Philanthropic Initiatives Pvt. Ltd. has commenced an endeavour for the socio-economic empowerment of tribal women in Mohana and R. Udayagiri blocks under Gajapati district of Odisha. The project is engaged in the Promotion of farm based sustainable livelihood options for 5000 small and marginal farming households in 160 villages – 110 from Mohana and 50 from R. Udayagiri blocks of Gajapati district in Odisha. The Project enables the young farmers to build resources from different sources such as SRI, Vegetable cultivation, backyard poultry. The marginal farmers will be so enabled to address the food and nutrition crises of the women farmers and their families. The project would also ensure better access to the existing government schemes (Central and State) related to food and nutrition for a better living by the end of the project period.

The main activities are as follows :

1. Promoting SRI to ensure Food Security through imparting knowledge on natural farming methods and agriculture particularly SRI.
2. Doubling the income of the women farmers through various gainful activities such as on-farm (vegetable & horticulture activities) and off farm/ non- farm activities (livestock development)
3. Promoting nutrition related activities to ensure zero malnourished among children in the operational area by the end of the project period.

PARTNERS IN PREM'S DEVELOPMENT & EMPOWERMENT JOURNEY SINCE ITS INCEPTION

Sl.#	Funding Agency	Country	Development Intervention	Year of Intervention	Supported by
1	Swiss Chatholic Lenten Fund	Switzerland	Adult Education	1982	Mr. Max Sigirist
2	Misserio	Germany	Community Health Program	1982	Mr. Zimmerman
3	Indian Social Institute, Bangalore	Switzerland	Training & Guidance	1982	Late Fr. Velken SJ, Switzerland
4	Action Aid	UK	Children's Education	1984	Mr. Rama Chandru
5	Community Aid Abroad-CAA	Australia	Community Development	1984	Mr. Augustin Ulatill
6	OXFAM	UK	Health	1986	Mr. Tushar Bhattacharya & Mr. Ramappa
7	Save the Children Fund-SCF	UK	Community Plantation, Grain Bank, Vocational Training and Children's Education	1992-2002	Mr. John Cambell Mr. Sir Robert Flox Mr. Selvyn Mukath Mr. Rohit Trivedi
8	NOVIB	Netherland	Women Empowerment Program	1994	NOVIB
9	Sight Saver's International	New Delhi, India	Save the Sights of the people with Eye Disorder	1995	Ms. Alish Crasto
10	Plan International	USA	Child Focused Community Development	1996-2012	Mr. Mathew Cherian Ms. Uma Vyas Mr. Prabhakar Verma
11	NORAD	Norway	Promotion of SHGs-IGP	1996	Ms. Renu Wadera
12	Charity Aid Foundation	India	SHG Support	1997	Mr. Mathew Cherian
13	Swiss AID	Switzerland	Community Development	1998	Mr. Joseph Kiv
14	Save the Children Fund-SCF	UK	Relief & Rehabilitation in Super Cyclone	2000	Mr. C.R.Pattnaik
15	SIDBI	India	Housing & SHG Support	2000	Mr. Srikanth Padhy
16	Concern World Wide	Ireland	Capacity building of Panchayatraj institutions in tribal areas	2004	Mr. Mathew Precard
17	Bernard Van Leer Foundation,	Netherlands	Community Based Child Development	2007-2018	Ms. Jinnet
18	SBI	India	Ambulance Support	2008	State Bank of India
19	NEG Fire	New Delhi	Education	2008	Ms. Maria
20	BVLF	Netherlands	Mother Tongue Based Multi-Lingual Early Childhood Education	2012-2018	Mr. Mike Ferguson
21	Axis Bank Foundation	Mumbai, India	Livelihood Support and Women Empowerment in Rural Areas	2012-2019	Mr. Babu Joseph Mr. Anil Kumar Mr. Jacob Nainar
22	Missio International	Germany	Model Village	2013-	Ms. Ursula & Team
23	BVLF	Netherlands	Urban Slum Development	2013-2015	Ms. Lisa Jordan
24	NEG Fire	New Delhi	Nutrition	2014	Ms. Maria
25	KNH	Germany	Community Focused Child Development/SHA	2014-2023	Mr. Guido Falkenburg

PARTNERS IN PREM'S DEVELOPMENT & EMPOWERMENT JOURNEY SINCE ITS INCEPTION

Sl.#	Funding Agency	Country	Development Intervention	Year of Intervention	Supported by
26	UNFPA	USA	Empowerment of Adolescent Children, ARSH, Empowerment of Panchayatiraj Institutions, PSEA	2015-	Dr. Deepa Prasad Mr. Mohd. Nadeem Noor
27	Support by Priyadarshi Mishra , Cuttack, Odisha & Ms. Manjusri Panda, UK	India	Education	2016	Mr. Priyadarshi Mishra & Ms. Manjusri Panda
28	Arpan Foundation	USA	Education	2016-2018	Arpan Foundation
29	Gyan Devi Foundation (Corpus Fund)	India	Training of children from marginalized families in nursing, hotel management and other professional courses	2017-	Ms. Geeta Meheta
30	Support by Babu Joseph, Ex-CEO, Axis Bank Foundation	Bangalore, India	Agriculture Training and Marketing of the product	2017	Mr. Babu Joseph
31	Development Focus	Bengaluru, Karnataka, India	Computer based adult literacy program, Empowering unprivileged children, youth & their community	2017-2019	Mr. Thomas Paul support by TCS
32	Trickle Up	USA	Financial Inclusion-Ultra Poor	2018	Mr. Amarendu Pal
33	Support by Mr. Constantine	Germany	Scholarship Support-Sponsorship		Mr. Constantine, Germany
34	Support by Fr. Mathew & Ms. Agnesh	Taiwan	Education support to children from unprivileged communities & Support to the migrants during Covid pandemic situation, Individual Support to		Fr. Mathew & Ms. Agnesh Taiwan
35	PREMJI Foundation	India	Support for COVID-19 Pandemic Situation	2020	Mr. Azim Premji
36	Reliance Foundation	India	Support for COVID-19 Pandemic Situation	2020	Mr. Dibyakant Nayak
37	Supported by JICA supported IJK	India	Support for COVID-19 Pandemic Situation	2021	Mr. Sanjay Kumar Panda
39	Shree Shree Raghunath Temple Trust	Plano, Texas, USA	Support for COVID-19 Pandemic Situation	2021	Mr. Hari Patro Mr. Rajiv Maini
40	Everex	Japan	Support for COVID-19 Pandemic Situation	2021	Mr. Sudhir Ku. Mishra & Mr. Sanjay Ku. Panda
41	Support by Jinnie Mukath & Mr. Martyn	Bangalore, India	Support for COVID-19 Pandemic Situation	2021	Ms. Jinnie Mukath & Mr. Mr. Martyn
42	Support by Jayson Bhargis	Kerala	Support for COVID-19 Pandemic Situation	2021	Mr. Jayson Bhargis
43	Help Berhampur Breathe	Hyderabad, India	Support for COVID-19 Pandemic Situation	2021	Mr. Sidhanta Mohanty
44	EDUCO	Spain	Reducing Child Marriage	2021-	Mr. Guru Prasad Rao
45	Azim PREMJI Foundation	India	Promotion of Rural Livelihood	2022-	Mr. Azim Premji Mr. Rajiv Kumar Raulo (State Coordinator, Odisha)



40 Years Celebration of PREM at Mohana, Gajapati District of Odisha, where PREM started its development programs.

PREM as a Civil Society Organisation is able to bring all the political parties representatives and participants irrespective of caste, creed and gender on one stage.

This was PREM's dream which has come to reality; which means only secular civil society organisation can become an architect's to bring sustainable peace in any country.

After 40 years PREM is continuing with this same approach; that is PREM's Identity as per the constitution of India.



PREM

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