

Students should be drop outs during their studies.
Motivate the parents and make their child to send their children to school
early.
Help the poor families financially for the children education.

Students must discontinue their studies.
Do not ally with drunkards.
Motivate the parents to send their child to school.
There must be 50 graduate students in each Anchaliks by 2030.

(Students Forum)

Collects yearly collection which is used for the students who cannot afford in
studies.
Motivate the parents who do not send their children to school.
Reduce the drop outs to continue their studies.

(Child Club)

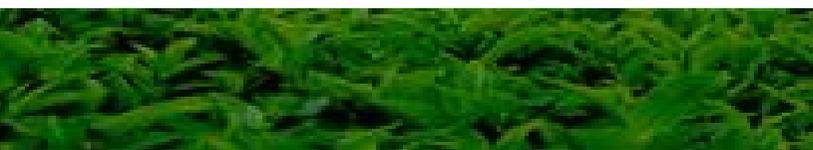
Work play with regard to different issues like child labor, education and trafficking
Recently, 5 children who were engaged in child labor joined school and were
motivated by APD
Organized meeting and charged penalty of Rs 200 from the people who fought
against their school

and Achievement

Parents have understood about the importance of education
Children were re-admitted in the school
There is increase in the number of passed students in HSLC
In 2013, 17 students have successfully passed HSLC and
In 2014, 40 students

an

APD has a future plan that all the children in their respective areas should be
in the schools and have a protective environment among the children of the tea



OUR COMMITMENT :

PAD works towards liberating the tea garden community from unju
that keep them on the fringes of society, we also believe in the rights-based
development. We aim to achieve a positive change in the following areas:

1. Sustainable livelihoods and microfinance
Goal : More and more from the marginalized communities will secure
sustainable living. To empower the group both socially and financial
individual level and collective level.
2. Rights and Entitlements
Goal : The community realizes their right to work and proper dignity of labor
achieving a positive change in protection of property.
3. Basic services
Goal : Progress in areas of healthcare, education and food through training and
and making essential services more accessible.
4. Local governance institutions
Goal : Grass-root institutions will be more democratic and government schemes
security and education are better monitored.
5. Community Development
Goal : Improvement in life skills, leadership and confidence of the community
6. Disaster Mitigation & Preparedness
Goal : Generating and improving awareness about disaster preparedness and
basic needs of flood affected population.

PAD uses a range of interventions in the areas mentioned above:

1. Engaging partners and communities in programs
2. Mobilization through awareness campaigns in tea plantations and villages
3. Effective small institutional collaborations with the government on important
development issues



to be very specific about the Youth Forum of Lakhimpur district, it is an organization for youths including both boys and girls. It was started by forming Anchalik. Simultaneously, various units have been formed in the project areas under the district.

to solve problem related to youths.

to help Adivasi people in any conflict situation.

to do a survey and awareness programme done on school drop-outs

to improve the economic condition of the students in their studies

to raise awareness on Adivasis land issues in various clusters

to get a representation forwarded to MLA for community hall

to conduct meetings in various locations to get chance in the governing body of

to form panchayats

to get a representation forwarded to the Tea Garden management to recruit local youths for

to work in the tea gardens

to do one of the social audit, 667 families had applied for job cards.

Case Study

"I PASSED MY SENIOR SECONDARY EXAM"

Students passed in senior and secondary school examination. John, a teacher of the primary school run by the community in Ananda Tea Estate, said, "I passed my senior secondary examination with the help I received from the ActionAid team and I am a teacher now. I am able to see a tremendous change in the performance and attendance level of the students in the schools. Thank you ActionAid for taking pains to bring changes in the lives of these children."

This year 90% students have passed in the 12th standard examination, which is comparatively very high than the previous years. With your support ActionAid has conducted a literacy campaign and necessary support and assistance were provided and this led to formation of 4



Students Clubs.

Through students clubs 200 students have been made aware of the importance of education, the harmful effects of child labour and encouraged to be regular to school. Also necessary guidance has been provided on learning difficult subjects which resulted in 90% of pass in 10th and 12th standard board examinations.

With your support we continue to work to ensure 100% literacy in the district.

secure an alternate sustainable living. It was observed that the Adivasi community faces the burning issue of Land Alienation. Besides, that people do possess land but do not have land documents and thus vulnerable. This is due to the historical reason. The Adivasi community owned land on a traditional basis. However, it is otherwise in Assam. Also it has been observed that they rarely visit offices as they do not get time from their tea garden work. In order for these issues are addressed, several awareness meetings were organized and Village Development Committees were formed to take up land issues. The VDMCs were formed after the different land related issues like solving land dispute, registration of land, Lok Adalats etc. In connection with the capacitating of members of VDMCs a training on "Land Rights" was organized by PAD.

Belemcius Surin was the resource person. He dealt with the Assam Land Rights Act and informed the participants on how they could register and get patta for land, land ceiling and myadi. There were 50 participants from the Village Land Development Committee. The participants also got firsthand experience in filling up forms for land. What is achieved?

50 participants from the villages were aware of the process of land registration. The participants were also aware of the provisions of Assam Land Rights.

Training on Agriculture

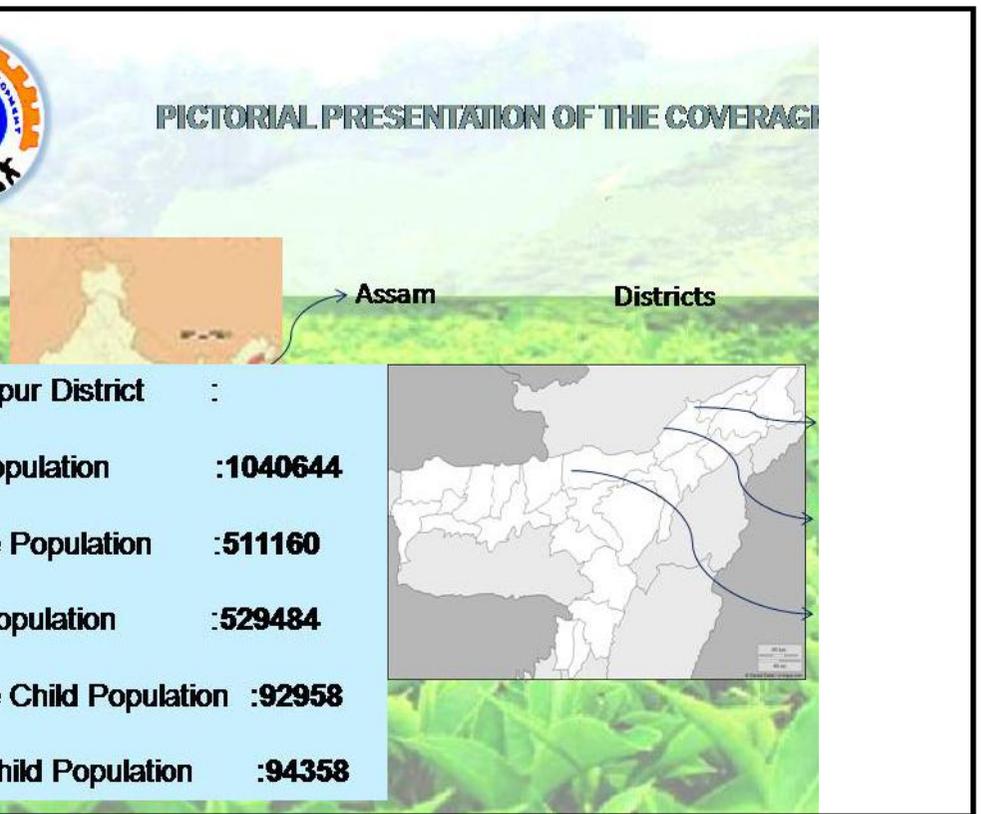
Training on Agriculture was organized by PAD during the year 2013 for the land holding farmers. There were 35 farmers who benefited from the training. Process: The Adivasi people who comprise around 8 percent of the total land holding in Assam are still unable to use the land to its maximum utility in terms of Agriculture. They cultivate paddy only once during the year and the land is kept uncultivated for the 5/6 month. It has also been observed that they are the hard workers. However, due to lack of awareness and expertise they keep the land unproductive for quite a long time. Therefore, in order that they make the optimal use of the land they possess, in their income a training was organized by PAD as per the future plan of PAD. It is committed to sustainable livelihood of the marginalized Adivasis. Agriculture training was held at Dhekiajuli, Pajhra Training centre. There were 35 participants at the training programme.

What is achieved?

35 farmers of the Adivasi community are trained in multi-purpose farming. They are aware of the various high yielding varieties. They are also aware of the local crops that are traditionally grown and have good amount of nutrition. Strengthening and capacity building of the community forums

meetings because some of the women thought that it is waste of time
 some were also not allowed by their spouse to come from their house but the
 influenced and enrolled all those women through its activities.
 The president of Women's Forum Mrs. Fransiska Minj also says that after being
 in Women's Forum, the Adivasi women of this area has equipped essential growth in
 in different developmental activities. Through this forum several land issues
 issues have been solved peacefully. She says that they can see lot of positive
 change in the life of Adivasi women.

Women's Participation
 Women have better concern towards their children education and future
 reduction of alcohol in few villages
 change in the thinking pattern and lifestyle among women
 regular weekly meeting in the villages
Plan
 Women's Forum has planned to form 4 (four) legal team in the Lakhimpur district and
 training programme on the right based issues to the Adivasi women living in the
 the tea gardens.



(MGNREGA) was notified on September 7, 2005. The mandate of the
 act is to provide at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in
 financial year to every rural household whose adult members volunteer to
 manual work.

Indira Awaas Yojana

Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Rural D
 has since inception been providing assistance to BPL families who are either
 having inadequate housing facilities for constructing a safe and durable shelter
 has been part of a larger strategy of the Ministry's poverty eradication effort
 the development of an environmentally sound habitat with adequate pro
 incremental expansion and improvement.

National Social Assistance Programme

National Social Assistance Programme is a set of 5 (five) welfare/pensi
 They are:- Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, Indira Gandhi Nat
 Pension Scheme, Indira Gandhi National Disable Pension Scheme, National Fa
 Scheme and Annapurna.
 The participants were also enlightened on how they should keep close relatio
 the GP and local government departments.
 What was achieved: (i) People are aware about PRI; its functions especial
 Sabha (ii) People are aware about the MGNREGA. (iii) Know about the F
 social Assistance schemes.

Village level meetings on PDS & MGNREGA :

20 nos.of Village and Tea garden level meetings on PDS & MGN
 organized during the year.

Process: The cluster coordinators and volunteer after having received training
 the awareness meeting in their respective areas. They give the inputs on wha
 and its provisions for BPL - Under the scheme, the families have been provid

Key issues	Present Status of our community	Our vision
Literacy rate	23%	100%
Daily average income(Livelihood)	Rs.77/-	Rs.330/- daily
Land holding	61.3% No Land	91% should hav
Malnutrition	62% (women labour)	0%
Child Labour (bellow 14 yrs)	1.3% (engage in income activities)	0 %

are always controlled by her spouse. As a result the women cannot
freedom. Majority of tea garden women have no choices to live her life in her
the women in the tea garden areas get very less opportunities to be part of any
because of their daily heavy duties in the tea garden and household activities.

Forum has highlighted the women of the tea gardens and adivasi women
villages who are often neglected in the various sectors. The number of adivasi

gardens
ages are
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emerging
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women are
major
the life of
men. The
e domestic
trafficking



are always seen in the life of Adivasi women. The ignorance of government
life of the Adivasi community is also one of the major causes for the
nt of Adivasi women. The busy life of the Adivasi women in tea garden areas
they get very limited sources to engage themselves in the prosperous life.

the Women's forum working in the different areas of Assam is a means to bring
provide a better platform for the Adivasi women's in the present days. The
hallenges that the forum has adopted in the recent years are providing an
upport to the Adivasi women.

Women Forum was formed and initiated on 7th, 8th, and 9th November 2003
ate level women's gathering with the collaboration of PAJHRA and Adivasi
na held at District Library, Tezpur. The president of the women's forum was
ata Tiru and Secretary Mrs. Juli Purty. The Women forum is an organized
working for the Adivasi women living in the tea gardens and the villages. The
established to strengthen and empower the socio economic and the rights for
men. After the formation, the Women's Forum has started working in the
istrict and the state level adopting different issues of the life of Adivasi women.
ame way the Women Forum of Lakhimpur district has also created a conducive
t among the life of Adivasi women living in the villages and tea gardens of

Therefore, in line with the above plan during the month of August 2013
training was arranged at Ananda in Christoson Munda Memorial Train
Centre.

The mothers and women from the 4 clusters were identified through
meetings with the women. It was the village community that selected the par
the training programme. The participants 53 mothers were given training on n
at Pathalipam, the resource person was the local ASHA worker. The partic
given inputs on the nutritious food items which are naturally available. The reso
discussed on the benefits of consuming green leafy vegetables containing good
vitamins, minerals and irons.

What is achieved?

53 women especially the mothers are aware of the various vegetable
locally available and contain good amount of vitamins, minerals and irons.

Basic training on computer and Spoken English

One month basic training on computer and spoken English was organ
Garden students during summer holidays during the month of July 2013.

Process: The students from Tea Gardens are unable to afford for their comp
and spoken English courses. They feel the importance of basic computer course
English. It was from the students that the need for this type of training ar
Action for Development organized the training for the students as per their su
need. During the month of July when the schools had summer vacations the
planned.

The students from the four clusters were identified by the student g
villages through meetings and discussion. Then the participants were selected a
there were 42 of the students who attended the program. The resource per



follows:-

- of awareness with regard to health, hygiene and sanitation.
- le day long hard labour; exposed to heat and rain.
- proper and sufficient medicines in the Tea Garden Hospitals.
- proper and regular doctors for the Tea Garden Hospitals.
- of sufficient staffs and nurses in the Tea Garden Hospitals.
- proper treatment in the local Hospitals.
- ted income restricts them from going for proper and better treatment.
- consumption of balanced diets and nutritious food due to lack of knowledge
- ell as lack of money.
- ng addicted to local wine (handiyasharab) and tobaccos.
- health and medical facilities for the temporary labourers.
- aternity leave for the temporary women labourers.
- safety measures for the labourers engaged in spraying medicinal liquids.
- of safe drinking water.
- l thatch houses (labour quarters) and congested living rooms.
- of a proper and planned drainage around the labour quarters, which results in
- ge of highly dirty and contaminated stagnant water near the quarters.
- of sufficient well-
- structed toilets leads
- pen air defecation,
- h in return pollutes
- environment and
- ts the health.



Considering the above
 strives to better the
 of the community
 g and intervening
 ous possible ways.
 of its intervention
 PAD organizes
 camps on health &
 nutrition, availing
 medical facilities and also conducts free health & referral camps. Medical
 also being provided to very poor families, with special focus on children. The
 ken by PAD had resulted in making the community conscious about their
 s and many are now seen to be availing the government facilities, including
 08” during emergencies. PAD is hopeful that continuous intervention within
 these communities would bring commendable changes in their life and they
 day live as healthy citizens of the nation.

The majority of the students were girls whereas boys were comparatively less.

They students were visited by the director of PAD who gave the students a speech and songs, he was accompanied by his daughter and cousin.

What is achieved?

42 students from the tea garden know the basic of computer. 42 students speak Basic English through the training. They have got the developed the learning computer and spoken English.

Promotion to MTB – MLE Adivasiya School

4 nos. of MTB- MLE Adivasia schools have been established in An around 320 children are learning their lessons in their own mother tongue.

Process: About 80 % of Adivasi children in North Lakhimpur are either school or never went to school at all. Apart from the reason that parents had no monitoring them as they had to go early for daily wage, one of the major re medium of instruction. The medium of instruction in the Government run Assamese - the regional language, but these children speak Adivasia language go to school, the language seems to be different and thus confusing to them. them feel alienated and they tend to dissociate themselves or discontinue the school. The remaining children of this community who by any means still co become de-motivated in the later stages. As days go by, they start realising the children who speak Assamese at home picks up fast and performs better t school. They are thus slowly pushed towards the back seats and are less ad consequences affect their thoughts and actions and they start developing a v



negative and dark future of the Tea Garden Dependent Communities/ seems that the present trends and the highly modernized and technologically world which demands a highly competitive, qualified and experienced degree no place for these communities as all the above mentioned qualities and degrees a far distant dream for them.

continues to strive for bringing a change in the present educational status of realized communities by involving the community themselves. As a part of its PAD had introduced Student Clubs, named as "AdivasiPad' aiyamanakDera constantly organizing awareness campaign and education drive in collaboration students Club which is owned by the students of the community. Use of various meet play, drama, audio-visual aid during campaign or awareness programmes to be highly effective in changing the mind-set of many. Additionally, the of meritorious students, coaching for Class X and XII students and promotion classes, community run school and Mother Tongue Based Multi Lingual (MTB-MLE) schools have slowly boosted up the interest of the students, youths higher education and even parents have started showing interest to send their school. In the year 2009-10, there were around 7 students who passed in their class, but with initiative from PAD the number has now rose to 40 students Now, there are even few students pursuing professional courses, like MBA in and elsewhere.

eful that continuous intervention for a couple of years more with help from and private agencies would definitely bring a drastic and major change to educational status of these deprived communities.



confidently continue their higher studies in the Government schools with much enthusiasm and sense of belongingness. We hope that one day this Adivasi would gain popularity in whole Assam and the community would put pressure on government to recognise and provincialise these MTB-MLE (Adivasia) Schools.

What is achieved?

The Adivasia schools are the houses of change it has the power to overcome backwardness, the schools have given the platform to the local children to learn to the fullest, and the children learn to respect their own culture, learn folk songs and dances. Moreover, they get to learn traditional games.

Training on Cultural dance and musical instrument

Training on Cultural dance and musical instrument was organized by PAD. 46 students from Ananda and Doolahat participated.

Process: It was seen that the children in the Adivasi society have got alienated from their cultural dance and music. While promoting their culture and identity, it was necessary for the present generation be trained and upholds their culture. Therefore, keeping in mind the Peoples' Action for Development had planned for this much needed training for the year. And accordingly, this year in 2013 a training was organized. 46 students from Ananda and Doolahat participated in a 7 days training held at CMMTC Ananda. They learnt about the folk dances and music they learnt about lahsua, Bandai ka jador karam etc. the teacher was Lawrence Hans an expert in traditional Adivasi dance. On the last day they presented dance and music to the public. It was observed that they had learnt their dance and music so well.

What is achieved?

12 nos. of boys learnt to play mandar and songs while 34 girls learnt to perform folk dances. The team has also been able to present the music and dance at different public functions.



... fail to send their children to even local schools, the question and for sending them to better schools for quality education remains just a dream. In this highly challenging and competitive world, the children are left with no choice rather than to work as labourers in the tea gardens. It is also so well planned environment is also set up in such a way that even the interested and brilliant children are forced to discontinue their studies and start to work in the tea gardens. It is estimated that majority of the Tea Garden Dependent Communities/Adivasi children are school dropouts or illiterate. The main reasons behind their poor educational status are school dropouts and being illiterate are as follows:-

- 1. Poverty and limited income restricts the parents to properly provide their children with their basic needs, especially the needs with regard to education. This in return forces the children to both stop going to the school and start supporting their parents by joining them in their labour works or not going to school at all.
- 2. Lack of awareness among the parents with regard to the importance and value of education or educating a child.
- 3. Lack of proper guidance and motivation from the parents, teachers and other socially responsible individuals/ groups/organizations.
- 4. High teacher student ratio also becomes a major factor because majority of the schools consist of just one or at the most two teachers against 150- 200 students.
- 5. Being out of purview of the 'Education Department, Govt. of Assam'.
- 6. Lack of commitment, negligence or non- adherence of the Tea Garden Management Boards implementing the Plantations Labour Act (PLA) with regard to education in other aspects.

poor living condition and the influence of the 'Chalta hei chalne do' or to

the non-competitive environment. The medium of instruction completely differs from their mother tongue or the most commonly used 'Adivasi' language. The pressure. Lack of proper communication and good roads leading to schools.



their children. One of the major concerns is that the children are taught in Assamese language which is not their mother tongue. Due to language barrier the children find it difficult to understand their lessons well. Therefore remedial classes for children in their initial stages of schooling are being held. There is strict monitoring in monitoring the sponsored children. These classes are held regularly. In remedial classes the students are helped to learn their lessons. Their doubts are cleared and they get their home works under guidance of the teacher. Moreover, in these classes children get to learn many new things beside the lessons. Moral stories, folk stories of the community are narrated to the children and some General Knowledge lessons are taught. To break the monotony of the class the children are taught action songs, dance and games. The children attend the classes regularly after school. The remedial classes are being held in 8 villages. The villages are as follows: Kashipathar Okrabasti, Moridirgha, Kadam, Kadam Jangalbasti, Dakhin Rupohi and 27 no Line. During this year 150 nos. of such classes and 352 students are benefitting, we are planning to double by the next year.

What is achieved?

From these remedial classes 352 students are benefitting. They are able to understand and learn their lessons well.

MEDICAL HEALTH AND REFERRAL CAMP

Eight Medical Health and Referral Camp were held and around 3000 people from the project area have benefited

Process: Medical Health and referral camp was organized by PAD, where the nurses from the Government Hospitals conducted health check up for the people in the target villages. The people were able to avail free check up and medicines. There was a provision for referral. However, no persons were referred so far. What was achieved? Around 3000 people from the target villages have benefited



Personal Guarantees that are meant specifically for children include:

Right to free and compulsory elementary education for all children in the 6-14 year age group (Article 21 A)

Right to be protected from any hazardous employment till the age of 14 years (Article 24)

Right to be protected from being abused and forced by economic necessity to enter vocations unsuited to their age or strength (Article 39(e))

Right to equal opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity and guaranteed protection of childhood and youth against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment (Article 39 (f))

Right to early childhood care and education to all children until they complete the age of six years (Article 45)

Besides, Children also have rights as equal citizens of India, just as any other adult citizen, male or female:

Right to equality (Article 14)

Right against discrimination (Article 15)

Right to personal liberty and due process of law (Article 21)

Right to being protected from being trafficked and forced into bonded labour (Article 34)

Right of minorities for protection of their interests (Article 29)

Right of weaker sections of the people to be protected from social injustice and all forms of exploitation (Article 46)

Right to nutrition and standard of living and improved public health (Article 47)

PAD too believes that today's children are today's future and citizens of the nation

and respects as well as respects all the above rights as mentioned in the constitution of India

Sadly, the survey conducted by PAD reveals a bitter story and state of the children belonging to the tea garden dependent communities and Adivasis as well

Though the issues and problems related to children are vast, PAD presently and focuses on 2 broad but common issues – 1) Education and 2) Health.



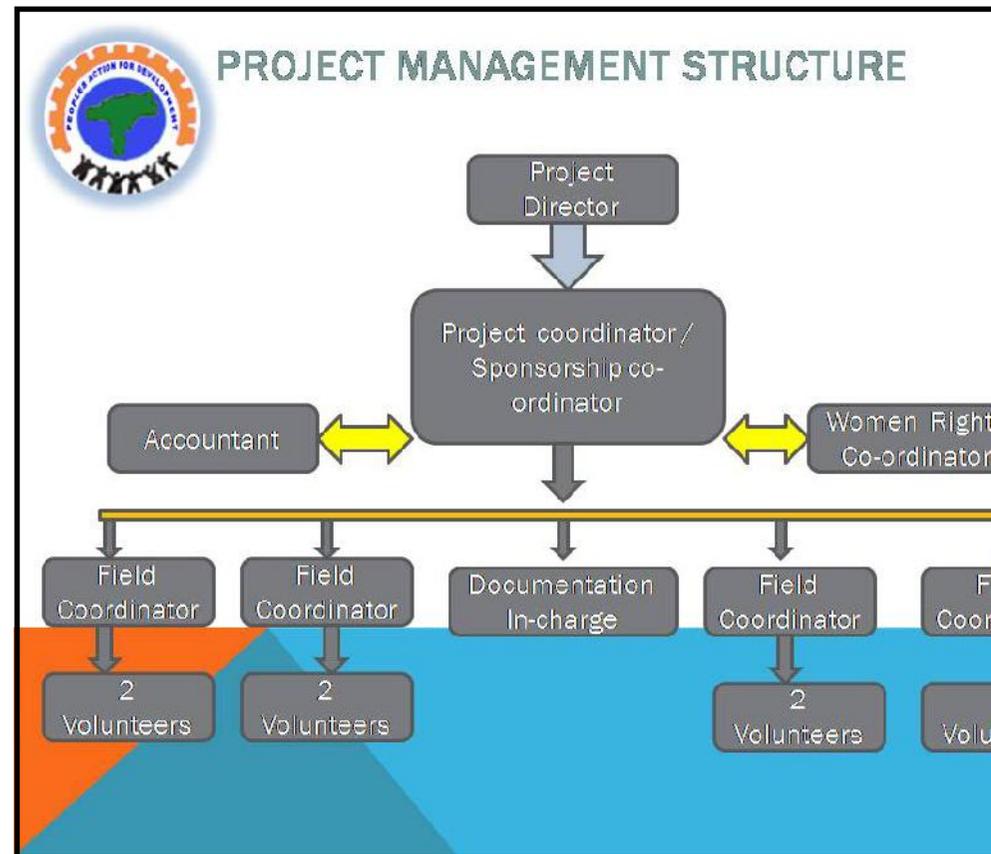
committees have been formed at different levels and what are their responsibilities. The participants decided to form Village Child Protection Committees and keep in touch with the CPC at the district level.

What is achieved?

35 participants attended the training program and got an idea of the difficulties the children are facing. The participants got inputs on how they could form committees at the village level and give protection to the children.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF PAD

- The different sections of the Communities have been organized into collectives, like Youth forum, women forum, Students Club, VLDC, SHG, etc.
- PAD has successfully initiated good network with the Adivasi organizations like Garden community which is one of the marginalized community in a region.
- One of the regular community based activity is Adivasi Vision 2020 (AV2020).
- PAD has been able to reach out to 10,000 Households through the community based approach. Approximately it has been indirectly benefitting around 10,00,000 people.
- In the field of Education PAD has been a pioneer organization in establishing of MTB-MLE School and 1 English Medium School, through its initiative to promote education among the marginalized communities.



SOME OF THE TARGET POPULATION

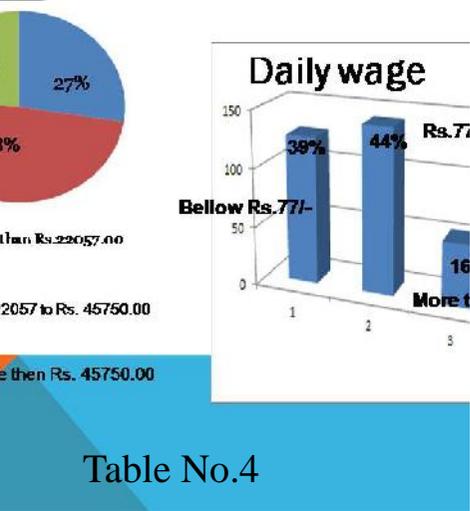


Table No.4

Therefore the economical condition of the target people is very poor. The poverty driven community has limited capacity to improve in the field of education to children and avail health facilities. Because of low income there are very limited chances for business and commerce for the community and thus the development is slow. PAD as an NGO is trying different methodology to improve lively hood op-

Daily wage of the tea garden labourer is a meagre Rs.98/-only which is below minimum wage of state (Rs.169). After deduction take home wage is Rs.70/-



griculture training have been or- with the support of Agriculture de- t and SIRD Chauldhua- ar. Skill development training like and netting was also provided. ent schemes like MGNREGA and important schemes for livelihood.

brought the community nearer to this schemes through awareness generation

g them to the scheme.

land document is one for the illiterate com- at PAD has supported et land puttass and end ownership.

other networking or- n have started wage in the Tea Gardens t compelled tea indus- e-think on the wage issue. The kind of created on tea owners erent Advocacy strat-

CAO Complain, Study on PLA.) has resulted to several benefit to tea labourers.

WAY FORWARD

PAD is growing with experience in development work. It strategic changing. It decides its interventions as per the necessity of the community, the community and capacity of the organization.

The Organization would continue to work with Right based activities awareness on different Rights and entitlements. It would also initiate and take campaigns, intervention, file cases and RTIs.

It would also work on issues concerning the children – trafficking, de rights, education, healthcare etc. We would work towards upholding the Right that the women of the community enjoy equal status with that of their male c It would work for the development of the Adivasi community. Promotion of t Identity, language and History Research would be the some of the main focus is also committed to work for promotion of Education MTB-MLE School.

Lastly, PAD is committed to work for the Disaster Risk Reduction mitigation.

In accordance with its capacities and relevance to the community, the key strat next year would be as mentioned below:

1. Ensure educational rights focused on children and youths: Ensure that the in the tea gardens increase through promotion of education and establishme through community participation.
2. Labour rights with special focus on tea garden issues: Emphasize on R Documentation, Consultation, Advocacy, Lobbying and Legal Aid suppo various tea garden and labour rights issues with an aim to benefit more t population in Assam.
3. Rights focused on women and children: Build up an effective legal supp with an aim to arrest trafficking and child labour; address land and labour minimize violence against women and violation of human rights as a w women and child rights, etc. The legal support would deal and address the issues.
4. Community Development Initiatives: Initiate, promote and support intellec forums/institutions of the community at State level for developing of pl and strategies; for monitoring of its implementation/execution as well as the gap and loopholes for overall growth and development of the commu
5. Enhancement and Development of Local Capacities focused on liveliho development: Capacity building of the progressive farmers and promote establishing a model farm and resource centre for the people to adopt the be
6. Disaster Risk Reduction and conflict mitigation: Providing humanitaria to the population affected by disasters promptly and quickly and help the from their situations they are pushed to thereby through disasters.

BRIEF BACKGROUND OF TARGET COMMUNITIES

Tea garden labourers were brought to Assam by the Britishers from midland to work in the extensive tea plantations in Assam. They cleared the jungles, and planted the tea. However, they were denied of the promises that they while they were being brought to Assam. They survived with meager rations, in the hope that someday the situation would change. India won freedom and became a republic in 1950, 67 years have gone by since then. Now, the tea garden labourers in Assam constitute around 20 percent or 45 lacs of the total population of the state. They are landless workers employed in the tea estates spread out in entire Assam. These communities have remained underdeveloped. Their socio-economic condition is poor. Their score on health and education indicators is hardly satisfactory. They are denied of their basic rights and entitlements. They are engulfed by an extreme marginalization.

A group of socially conscious, likeminded people from the community began to debate on the issues concerning the Adivasis. They all felt the need for an effort to change the situation of the marginalized community. They formed an organization initially with a few people and then began sharing it with other likeminded people. After much heart searching and debate finally a People's organization was formed as the Peoples' Action for Development (PAD) came into being in December 2001.

For more than 12 years PAD as an organization has served to improve the socio-economic condition of the marginalized communities through its work:

to seek to cover the entire North Eastern States of India and gradually the whole of the Republic of India. PAD's area of intervention is gradually spreading over the years. Its efforts have been to cover the state of Assam. While taking the issues of the target communities we have been able to reach out to entire Adivasis of Assam. However, the concentrated interventions in pockets of 5 districts in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, namely Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Sonitpur, East Siang and Lower Subansiri through the target areas are located in the border areas of Arunachal Pradesh and state of Assam. The area is around 400 – 600 km away from Guwahati city- the head quarter of Assam and 80 km away from Itanagar- the capital of Arunachal Pradesh.

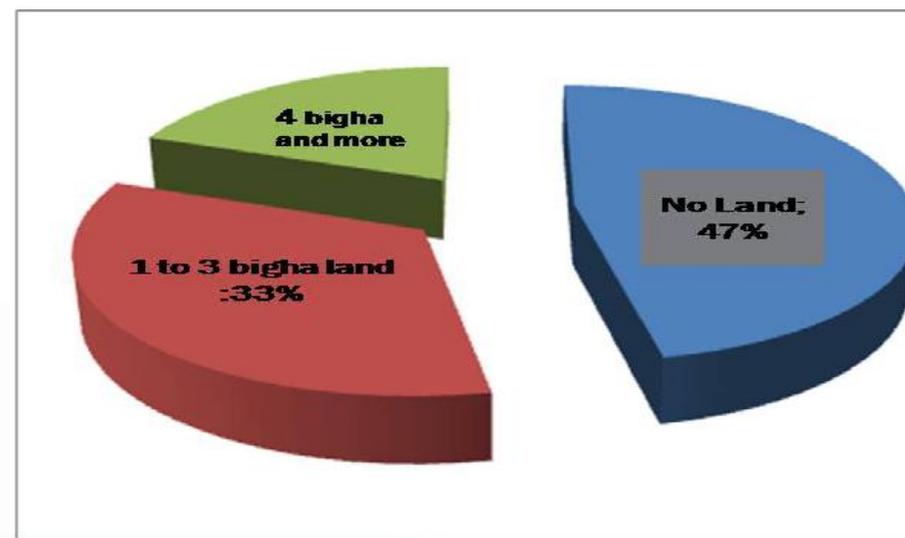


“These trainings had not just boosted up my confidence but has also given me an opportunity as well as a platform to sensitize our people and make them understand that they too can change and start living a dignified life. Thanks to PAD and ActionAid for giving me this opportunity to be a changed person so as to change others”. Like Jharna most of the trained youths have now gained self confidence and are now involved in various activities with an aim to bring change in the lives of their own people and in their society at large. The street play and drama shown by them are mainly aimed at sensitizing people and bringing social transformation and they had indeed been able to influence the attention and life of their people as people keep on enquiring, “When



are you going to organize the street play/drama again?” In order to involve more people and make the process of change more participatory and effective, ActionAid has identified certain areas and accordingly had taken the initiative to introduce festivals in the name of the community heroes/martyrs both for girls and boys. They had started organizing community festivals in the DA/LRP.

LAND OWNERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY



organization has grown and changed its approach from service delivery towards the rights and ensuring the proper implementation of the same by the But in the context of marginalized and voiceless communities the right based and the need based cannot be kept in two water tight compartments, thus the continues to address the needs and promotes CBOs for a sustainable socio-development.

les' Action for Development (PAD) has also prioritized the target groups and work among the Tea Garden Dependent Communities and the Adivasis of Assam ception. It has been observed that the rights' violation and denial of rights are the Tea Industry. The Adivasi community working in the tea gardens are still aged and kept as captured people within the Tea Estates. The entire responsibility after this community is left at the mercy of the Estate authority with little sibilities of the state Government.

strives for socio-economic empowerment of the marginalized tribal/tea-garden s. Since inception, it has been working with these communities by organizing ating them, which has resulted in formation of village level institutions. PAD the community institutions have been engaging with people on different including children education, women empowerment, youth issues, grassroots Disaster Risk Reduction programmes in collaboration and with support from shedji Tata Trust, MM – Netherland, Andheri Hilfe Bonn, Germany (AHB), India, Terre des hommes Germany, Gramin Vikash Bank, Office of the evelopment Officer , NRHM etc.

PADS' OBJECTIVES

1. PAD is committed to provide rural people linkages, resources and proper training on agro based activities.
2. Livestock management for sustainable livelihood.
3. Promote and establish local institutions: SHGs, Wc Groups, Farmers groups.
4. Disaster preparedness through awareness, training formation of disaster risk management committees.
5. Promote cottage industries, handicrafts as means of native livelihood : cane and bamboo works, weaving, try etc.
6. Skill development and training for the youth.
7. Increase literacy rate through formal and non formal education.
8. Promotion of good governance through active participation in the local self governance (Panchayati Raj, Development Councils etc), and monitoring the implementation of welfare schemes and development programmes.
9. Natural resource management: awareness on degradation of natural resources and protection of the environment.

Case Study

WE EAT RICE, CHAPATTI AND VEGETABLES

Sido Kheria(36) and her husband Anil Kheria(38) and their son Sid from a Kheria tribe of the Adivasi community. Sido says “we both husband permanent labourers and we both get Rs. 94.00 per day, we live in a bagan quarter). Our neighbours consist of mainly Adivasis, our day begins with work with work, and we hardly find time for leisure.”He further describes and says that we consume at home is mostly comprises of rice, chapatti and vegetables much accustomed to (lentil) pulses because it is very costly and we cannot afford most prominent pulse in the Kheria tribe is the Matikolai dail (black gram).It small moulds like neutrellas and is cooked as daal or soup. The common name item is bori. It has a very high esteem in the Adivasi community. The preparation is the daal is first broken by stone grinder and then it is soaked so that it gives peel. It is washed thoroughly and excess water is drained out followed by grinding fine paste. Then its small moulds are dropped in a plate and it is sun baked for Then it is ready to be cooked as neutrella. Even during marriages it has a special The making of preparation of bories is done by five persons exclusively with beautiful hymns during festivals and marriages. It is believed to bring happiness formed family and the first drop of bori is adorned with a red chilli so that it does not fall on them, and the paste is applied on the bride's body. The bride and is served bories curry without salt in it.” This traditional food item is very much in the Adivasi families.



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Case Study

'JOYFUL LEARNING IS THE BEST LEARNING'

"I with my friends go to the government upper primary school located in my village. Sunil Kujur one of the sponsored child from Kasipathar, son of Anjulus Kujur and Anjali Kujur. He again says, "I am 10 years old and I read in class VI. I have 3 sisters and 2 brothers. I am the youngest in my family". He again says, "Many of my friends do not given proper guidance at home because our parents are illiterate and they do not have spare time as they remain occupied with their daily house hold work and daily activities. Regarding the curriculum at school he again expresses, "In the initial stage when we go to government school

we find very difficult to understand the language of the books because we are not accustomed to it at home, as we speak our local dialect at home, therefore we just try to pretend that we have grasped or else keep repeating what the teacher says without understanding, because of which



many of my friends bunk from school and started losing interest, we just go to school for fear of our parents and elders, but when Action Aid and PAD started the remedial classes in our village we began to enjoy our school life." Regarding the change in Sunil and his friends Sunil says, "In the remedial class we learn moral stories, folk stories, heroes of the community, general knowledge, local games, action songs, dances, etc. The teachers teach our lessons and we could now easily grasp the subjects in school. We love to come regularly for the remedial classes and enjoy all the activities in the remedial classes. Now myself and all my friends have learnt that education is joyful learning, we enjoy going to school and also compete with other students and get good marks. We always try to capture the front benches in the school and this change has brought happiness to our parents and also our teachers. Thank you Action Aid for changing our lives and making education joyful". There are 13 remedial classes conducted by our volunteers and 'Adivasi Padaya Manak Deka' (APD) members and the Student Club members in the LRP villages and around 644 children are benefited from it. The parents are happy that Action Aid and PAD's initiative has provided an opportunity to their wards which they could not give for their illiteracy and utter poverty.

Women's Action for Development (PAD)

2013-14 Annual Report

In the occasion of 12th year of service to Community

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Mr. David Bhengra

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Johan, his wife and Teresa has left for Arunachal 3 days ago.

Teresa's mother not knowing what to do went back home and on 2 May 2012 reported the case to PAD's staff Binoya Dhan and Rasmi. They took the matter with the women Forum leaders. Around more than 50 women headed to the President and Secretary of Anchalic committee Lalita Topno and Sibirna Topno. Sabina Barla and Biswasi Tete and PAD's staff went to the Joyhing Police station and filed a case against Teresa's uncle Johan for taking away her daughter by force. After that the leaders of women Forum took active role and pressurized the police to return Teresa back home. But the police was not so cooperative. On 20th July the women went to the North Lakhimpur Police Station and filed an application reporting the case of Teresa but still nothing development took place. On 21st July the women along with about 50 women went and gheroud the Joyhing outpost and demanded the return of Teresa or else the situation would go worse. The women leaders also filed the case to Child Development Office Lakhimpur.

But on the other hand Johan was taking all the news from Teresa's village. He came to know that the situation has become worse, on 29th February 2013, he brought Teresa back to her mother. When Teresa reached home she was looking very weak. Her body was full of sores. Teresa expressed that she was working in another village. She had to work whole day without rest, but she was not paid for her work. Teresa came back with the help of PAD and now she is fine. Her sister who was staying in Arunachal came back home. Now Teresa's mother and sister is working in the tea garden. Teresa is helped by PAD's staff to join school. Teresa is happy now with his family. He is grateful to PAD for saving her daughter.

