

## **Final Report**

### **National Education Programme and the Devi Charan Chatterjee and Raylaxmi Chatterjee scholarship for higher education**

**Implementing Agency:** Association for Promotion of Creative Learning

**Supported by :** Action Aid India

#### **Objectives**

- To provide support to 25 young people from poor and excluded communities to complete university education
- To support 80 Government elementary schools to provide quality, non-discriminatory and universal education.
- To strengthen school governance system in the 80 target schools through genuine and empowerment of Panchayat, SMC and PTA members.
- To ensure access to quality and free elementary education for all children for poor marginalized and excluded groups in the target areas and beyond through media mobilization and advocacy work.
- To reduce the no of children participating in child labor and increase ex-child laborers enrollment and retention rates in elementary schools in the target area.
- To build a strong alliance of like-minded organisation and people to influence education policy at state and national level to ensure quality and universal education for all.

#### **Area**

The project is being run in Bahadurpur Block of Darbhanga District.

Panchayat - 22

Villages covered - 60

School- 60

## Scholarships for higher education

Scholarships were given to 25 girl students from the poor and marginalized community to pursue higher studies. Among these girl 15 belong to SC community, 08 belong to Muslim community and remaining two belongs from EBC community. One girl was physically challenged. The scholarship were given to cover admission fee, examination fee, travelling expenses, purchase of material like books, notebooks, pens, pencil and uniform for studying in higher education.



In 2015 25 girls were given Rs 10000, in 2016 22 girls were given Rs 8500 each and in 2017 22 girls were given Rs 9000 each. Detailed list is being attached as annexure 1

These girls were also encouraged to take part in social activities so that they become a social change agent.

### Meeting with Scholarship Recipient Girls

Meeting with 25 scholarship recipient girls was done on quarterly basis at the Action Aid office. Of these 25 selected girls, 14 girls belong to SC Community, 8 girls belong to minority community, 2 girls belong to EBC community and 1 girl is differently disabled. The main purpose of this meeting was to sensitize them regarding their higher studies and other social issues such as child marriage, child labour, anti liquor policy of the government, Right to Education etc. Dr Mridula Prakash Executive President APCL, Prof. (Dr.) Sunila Das and Sri Vijoy Prakash I.A.S (R), Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth also counselled these girls on different issues. Among these 25 selected girls, three girls have been dropped from the list due to their completion of graduation and marriage.



## Community Awareness

### Panchayat level community meetings

During the project period Community meetings were conducted in the project area at local level on regular basis.

In 2015 Two Panchayat level community meetings at Aaganwadi Kendra Mushar Tola Kapchahi and Primary School Bhatani on RTE were organised in Bahdurpur Block of Darbhanga District. The participants were community members, PRIs, teachers, govt. Officials, and community volunteers. The purpose of the meeting was to make conducive and discrimination free environment at the village and in the schools. During the meeting issue related to Right To Education, child marriage, child labour, corporal punishment, discrimination, increase in quality education, increase in the enrolment and retention of the children in the schools were discussed.

In 2016 Community meetings also were conducted in the project area at local level on regular basis. These meetings were facilitated by community animators and attended by parents, PRI members and school students. In the meetings, community animators discussed various provisions of Right to Education (RTE), Bihar Public Grievance Redressal System (BPGRS) and other local issues and problems. Through these community meetings, community animators collected and solved 22 cases related to BPGRS. It has been observed that community people are very happy with the government decision to ban on alcohol. Community animators also discussed about the enrolment of the children in the schools for the session 2016 - 2017.



### Sensitization on Early child marriage and child labour

In 2015 The community was sensitized on issues of child marriage and child labor. Awareness creation to condemn practices of child marriages was made. There are many children of the communities who work with the parents in the field/farm lands. These issues were discussed in detail.

### Orientation and capacity building of community animator and community volunteers.

The community animators and volunteers were trained for addressing issues of the respective community and take follow-up actions to resolve the problems.

### Panchayat Level Community Meeting

Four Panchayat level community meetings were held in the year 2015. The meetings were organised at Anganwadi Kendra Kapchahi Mushari, Primary School Bhatani, Ramashray Rai Public School Laheriasarai and Harizan Darwaza Baruara. In the meeting the participants were PRI members, Community members, Govt. Officials, Community volunteers. Total 240

persons (180 female and 60 male) participated. In the meeting the main issues related to Right To Education Act, Discriminations related to women and children, Child Labour and Child marriage were discussed.

The meetings resulted in orientation and sensitization about RTE and child marriage. Participants raised various issues related to violation of RTE and various discriminations, especially in terms of difficulties being faced by girl child.

### **Sensitization on Early Child Marriage and Child Labour**

In 2016 a meeting was organised at the Middle School Ba ruara of Baruara Panchayat. The theme of the meeting was sensitization on early child marriage and child labour. The total no of participants was 248 (Female 180 and male 46). The selected girls also participated in the meeting.

Children working as Child labour have been reenrolled in the schools. The attendance in the school has increased. People are better aware about the schemes of the government and taking better advantages from them.

## Capacity Building

### Training of SEC Members

In 2015 a SEC training was organised at Middle School Birniya. The participants were community members, teachers from Middle School Birnia and Primary School Birnia, and SEC members.

### Orientation of Children's Group On Quality Education, corporal punishment And discrimination

Four trainings were organized at the Panchayat level at Biuni Ram Tola, Primary School Dilawarpur Primary School Fekla and Primary school Purkhopatti. The issues discussed were quality education, corporal punishment, and discrimination (caste basis and gender basis), child marriage and child labour. 275 children (170 boys and 105 girls) were present.

### Orientation & Capacity Building Of Community Animators, Community Volunteers On Quality Education and RTE

In 2016 a two day programme was organized at Parrari village. The issues covered were quality education, Right to Education, Child marriage and child labor. The participants were community animators, community volunteer and local residents. The total no. of participants 112 (Female 70 and Male 52).

The community volunteers and local people got sensitized on RTE. Different provision made under RTE act were discussed. As right to education is severely affected by the issues of child marriage and child labour they were also discussed in detail. Community animators and community volunteers are much aware about the issues related RTE and able to find the issues of discriminations in a better way.



### Training of SMC on School Development Plan

In 2016 Four training workshops of SECs on School Development Plan were organised to improve the functioning of the SEC in schools, time to time programme review and re-planning, proper tracking and utilisation of school fund, development and strengthening of SEC member, increase in awareness of RTE and better planning of RTE implementation at school level. The training was held at Middle School Birnia, Middle School Kokat, Primary School Kamalpur, and Primary School Dilawarpur. The participants were SEC members and secretary, PRI member, School teacher, and local people. The total numbers of participants were 227 (180 female and 47 male).

### **Training and Capacity Building Program with Animators**

Training and Capacity Building Program with animators was held on 30th May, 14th June, 11th December and 27 December 2016. Dr Sharad (Program Manager, Action Aid), Prof. (Dr) Sunila Das and Mr Manish Anand (Program Manager) conducted the training program. In the training program, they discussed about various provisions of Right to Education, Bihar Public Grievance Redressal System, gender discrimination, child marriage, child labour etc.



### **Orientation and Community Meeting Including PRI**

Orientation and Community Meeting including PRI was conducted at primary school Dashrathpatti of Mahapara panchayat on 28th September, 2016. The basic purpose of this meeting was to sensitize the communities on the provision of Right To Education Act, learning achievement among students, discrimination issues, child labour, child marriage, domestic violence, and women empowerment.



Programme Manager Manish Anand discussed about the different schemes run by government for the school children and society. Chandreshwar Das briefly discussed about the Bihar Public Grievance Redressal System. Complaints from local people have also been collected on that meeting. A total of 179 participants attended the meeting.

### **School Level Intervention and SMC Orientation Meeting**

School Level Intervention and SMC Orientation meeting was organised at primary school Ammapatti on 17th September, 2016. The main purpose of this meeting was to ensure proper functioning of School Management Committee and its funds. Sri Awadhesh Narain resource person talked about Right to Education and basic infrastructure available in the schools.



Manish Anand program manager discussed about Bihar Public Grievance Redressal System. A total of 98 participants attended the meeting.

### **Orientation and Community meetings Including PRI**

A Panchayat level community meeting was organised at Biuni Panchayat Bahwan on dated 04/05/2017 on Right to Education Act, Discrimination issue, Child labour, child marriage, women empowerment, adverse sex ratio, dowry system, etc. The participants were PRI member, community people, APCL members, headmaster of the school, actionaid programme manager sharad Kumari, APCL ececutive president Dr. Mridula Prakash and



Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth Sri Vijoy Praksh (Retd. I.A.S.) and Programme Manager of action aid Dr Sharad Kumari. Total no of participants were 76 out of which 63 were male and 13 were female. The purpose was to make conducive and discrimination free environment at the village and in the schools. Another purpose was to increase in the enrolment and retention of children in the schools.



The meeting started with the welcome note of the programme manager APCL Mr chandreshwar Das.

After that Dr. Sharad Kumari discussed about the importance of girl education, domestic violence, child marriage and child labour, contribution of Bihari women in anti-liquor policy, more prominently on dowry system. She said the girl can change the society after getting education.

Sri Vijoy Prakash Retd. I.A.S. talked about the importance of RTI act and BPGRS. He told to the community people about Satyagrah Andolan of Gandhi jee and about the tinkathia pratha. He briefly discussed about the importance of ward member in Panchayati Raj System. He has emphasised the role of ward member to improving the functioning of the school.



The PRI members, school teachers and community volunteer also shared their experience in the meeting. It was vigorous to listen the confident speech of community volunteers and PRI members.

15 ward members and headmasters were awarded for god performance by Dr Sharad Kumari, Sri Vijoy Prakash and Dr. Mridula Prakash.

At last the executive president of APCL Dr. Mridula Praksh gave the vote of thanks.

### **Orientation of SMC & School Level Intervention meeting**

An orientation of SMC & School Level Intervention meeting was organized at Middle School Biuni on dated 14/10/2017. The participants were member of School Education committee, School teacher, ward member and villagers of Biuni, Secretary of ward member association of Bahadurpur block Mr. Rajeev Yadav, Headmaster Saroj Singh. Total no. Of participants were 98 (30 Males and 50 Females)

The purpose was to make the proper functioning of the SEC in schools, time to time programme review and re-planning, proper tracking and utilisation of school fund, development and strengthening of SEC member, increase in awareness of RTE and better planning of RTE implementation at school level. The chief guest of the meeting was Bahadurpur block Pramukh Mr. Mohit Kumar.

Welcome note was addressed by APCL Programme Manager Chandreshwar. He briefly discussed about Regarding RTE. He discussed about infrastructure of the school, it includes building of the school, toilet, kitchen shed, ramp for the handicapped children, hand pump for drinking water, road for communication, etc. He discussed about roles and responsibility of the School education committee. It includes monitoring of the schools like timely opening and closing of the school, teachers attendance. To ensure 100% attendance of the children of the age between 6- 14. To ensure proper and regular implementation of MDM as per menu. He also discussed about the corporal punishment, and discrimination. He briefly discussed about the school development plan, proper utilisation of the fund.

Mr. Mohit Kumar Block Pramukh addressed teacher and guardian of the school about the challenge of quality education. He told apart from the school teachers the role of guardian is very important to make bright future of the children although the government made provision is being properly implemented in the school in spite of that there is lackness in the school. He told that properly functioning of school education committee is very important for well-functioning of the school.

The community people discussed about the non- payment of scholarship and poshak rashi of their children and non-availability of book.

The HM of the middle school told that due to heavy work load in bank the amount of scholarship have not transferred in the account of the children. There was a grievance from the headmaster side that member of school education committee are not actively participating the school meeting. He requested the SEC member and guardian to come and take active participation in parent's teacher meeting.



At last vote of thanks was given by APCL community animator Dhiraj Lal Dev.

### **Orientation of Children's Group on quality education**

Two orientation pogrammes of children's group on quality education was organised at Middle School Laxmipur and Middle School Mahapara on dated 12/10/2017 and 13/10/17 respectively.



The purpose was to create awareness in children on quality Education, caste discrimination, gender discrimination, corporal punishment, women education, child marriage, domestic violence, dowry system and RTE etc. Total no of participant's were as follows.

Date	School	Male	Female
12/10/17	Middle School Laxmipur	37	25
13/10/17	Middle School Mahapara	28	41

The participants were school teachers, Children's of Meena Manch, Bal Sansad and SMC members of the respective schools.

Meeting started with welcome note by APCL Programme Manager Mr. Chandreshwar Das. He briefly discussed about the quality education and RTE. He told that until and unless the children will not be regular in the school they can't get the quality education. Exercise is the key point of the education. He told that many children becomes absent from the school examination. He discussed



about importance of the examination for a successful educational life. He interacts with the children about the reason for absenteeism in the school examination. He also interacts with the children about the corporal punishment in the school and the any type of discrimination whether it may be caste discrimination, gender discrimination, and economic discrimination.

The headmaster of the Middle school Mahapara Mr. Ramakant Lal Das briefly discussed about the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan importance of the worm medicine, dowry system and regular attendance of the children and more important the importance of girl's education for civilized society and importance of toilet for healthy life.



The headmaster of the school Middle school Laxmipur Mr. Sunil Kumar Pandit briefly discussed about the roles and responsibility of parents towards their children. He also discussed about the importance home work of the children for achieving quality education.

The children of the school complain was the unavailability of books in the school on the time. The children also complain about the unavailability the subject wise teacher.

Vote of thanks was given by APCL community animator Mr Dhiraj Lal Dev.

## Advocacy

### Public Hearing on Quality Education

In 2016 a meeting on Public Hearing on quality education was organised at Middle school Pingi of BaruaraPanchayat of Bahadurpur block of Darbhanga. The participants were govt. officials, teachers, PRI member and community people. The total numbers of participants were 241 (Female- 180 and male – 61).

The stakeholders became much aware about the problems related to implementation of RTE. They became better equipped to deal with the issues of discriminations and the gap between the education administrators, teachers, SEC members and community was also bridged.

### Meeting with Government officials on Quality Education

Meeting with Government officials on Quality Education has been organized at primary school Baraur on 23rd December, 2016 and attended by Cluster Resource Coordinator (CRC), Headmasters and teachers of Baraur sankul, community animators, ward members and Vikash Mitras. In the meeting, APCL program Manager Manish Anand, Headmasters of the various schools in the project area and community animator Mr Chandreshwar Das said adverse teacher - student ratio, lack of parents willingness towards education, discrimination between regular teachers and niyojit teachers, too much clerical job and burden of mid day meal preparation on teachers are the major hurdles in the quality education. All of them said that the teacher should himself set as an example. Students attendance should be 75% thereafter the quality of the education can be improved. A total of 51 participants attended the meeting.



### Interface Meeting with the Government Departments and SCPCR

An interface meeting with Government Department and SCPCR was organised at Ritu Sinha Knowledge Centre for Creative Learning, Danapur on 31st December, 2016 and attended by Mrs Sujata Chalana Secretary SCPCR, Mrs Rekha member SCPCR, Dr Y L Das, Mr Ajit Kumar, Dr Sharad and some scholarship recipient girls from Darhanga. In this meeting they discusses about educational rights of a student. Sri Vijoy Praksh I.A.S(R), Chairman Bihar Vidyapeeth discussed about the 'Samaveshi Shiksha' and said that until we did not leave the traditional way of teaching, all the students can't be educated. A total of 46 participants were participated in this meeting.



## Watchdog of schools

### School Visits

Community animators visited the schools in the project area on regular basis. During these visits community animators met Headmasters and teachers and discussed about enrolment of students, school education committee, parent - teachers meetings, school infrastructure, mid - day meal and quality of the education. The Headmaster told that for the improvement of quality of the education, it is essential for children to attend the class regularly and teachers should also track non attending students and find the reasons behind it. Teachers should also get their salaries in time.



### School Level Intervention and SMC Orientation Meeting

School Level Intervention and SMC Orientation meeting was organised at primary school Ammapatti on 17th September, 2016. The main purpose of this meeting was to ensure proper functioning of School Management Committee and its funds. Sri Awadhesh Narain resource person talked about Right to Education and basic infrastructure available in the schools. Manish Anand program manager discussed about Bihar Public Grievance Redressal System. A total of 98 participants attended the meeting.



### Child tracking and dropout Identification

We had identified 240 dropout children. Earlier it has been seen that the children who has 75% attendance will get the scholarship and other benefit. The excluded group parents are first generation learners, the children who did have the scholarship due to below 75% attendance they became dropout. From this year the government had made mandatory that the children who had 85% attendance will get the benefit of the government scheme. Generally it has been seen that the student who is brilliant the teacher pay more attention on them and less attention on poor student. As a result they become dropout. Poor quality of education is also the reason of dropout. In some cases it has been seen that generally due to the domestic work girl does not go to the school regularly, as a result the teacher drop her name in school and she became dropout. Less no of middle school and high school it means the middle school and high school are far away from the most of the helmets which also become the reason of dropout especially for girl children. Since last two years the government had upgraded several primary school and middle school in middle and high school. According to the up gradation the teacher had not been appointed. This year several landless schools have been merged in another school, as a result several primary schools shifted far away from the hamlet. Seasonal migration of parents for lively hood is also one

of the main reason for migration. These are the reasons which have been identified for the dropout of the children.

Number of dropout boys and girls were 110 and 130 respectively.

### **Orientation of children's group on quality education, corporal punishment and discrimination.**

In the activity orientation of children's group two types of competition were organised. One was Painting competition and another was Sulekh competition. The purpose was to make conducive and discrimination free environment at the village and in the schools. Another purpose was to increase in the enrolment and retention of children in the schools. The participants were school teachers and students. In both the activity total 401 children participated (Boys – 235, Girls – 166).



**PAINTING COMPETITION:** - In second quarter painting competition was organised by APCL members in the nine middle schools of Bahadurpur Block Darbhanga. The participants were students of class six, seven and eight. The total no. of participants was 201 in which 118 were boys and 83 girls.

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Sl. No.	Name Of School	Dated	Boys	Girls	Total
01	M.S. Biuni	22/04/17	15	12	27
02	M.S. Birnia	24/04/17	10	10	20
03	M.S. Jogyara	25/04/17	15	5	20
04	M.S. Mahapara	26/04/17	12	8	20
05	U.H.M.S. Kapchahi	27/04/17	13	7	20
06	M.S. Kokat	28/04/17	12	8	20
07	U.H.M.S. Dagarsam	29/04/17	13	14	27
08	M.S. Iaxmipur	01/05/17	13	14	27
09	M.S. Pingi	15/05/17	12	8	20

In this competition the student has to make drawing and paint to it. This painting and drawing was based on Model Schools as per RTE 2009. For this purpose the drawing paper size 26cm x 27cm and the colour sketch pen was provided by the APCL office. In every school the best three painting was selected by the teachers of that school. The best three selected candidate was awarded by the Headmaster of that school and other participants was awarded consolation prize by the school teacher. A pen and a book were given to the best three students and a pen was given as consolation prize to the rest participants.

**HINDI SULEKH COMPETITION:-** Hindi Sulekh competition was organised by the APCL members in the ten primary schools of the Bahadurpur block. The participants were students and the school teachers. Total 200 hundred students participated in this competition in which 117 were boys and 83 were girls. Following are the details of the schools and organising date.

Sl. No.	Name Of School	Dated	Boys	Girls	Total
01	P.S. Bhatani	16/05/17	9	11	20
02	P.S. Baraur	17/05/17	14	06	20
03	P.S. Ammapati	18/05/17	13	7	20
04	P.S. Kamalpur	19/05/17	11	9	20
05	P.S. Andama	20/05/17	10	10	20
06	P.S. Hasanpur	22/05/17	11	9	20
07	P.S. Gothi	23/05/17	8	12	20
08	P.S. Gangia	24/05/17	15	5	20
09	P.S. Mekna	25/05/17	13	7	20
10	P.S. Kapchahi	26/05/17	13	7	20

Hindi Sulekh competition means beautiful handwriting i.e. clearly and neatly. The purpose was to sensitize regarding and honour Hindi language. This competition was organised for the class one to five. For this they have been given a lined A4 paper and written paper. In this page biography of Dr. Ambedkar was written. In every school the best three hand written page was selected by the teachers of that school. The best three selected candidate was awarded by the Headmaster of that school and other participants was awarded consolation prize by the school teacher. A pen and a book were given to the best three students and a pen was given as consolation prize to the rest participants.





# Women Empowerment

## Meeting with Meena Manch

Meena Manch meetings were conducted in eight middle school in the project area in every month to fight against social evil such as dowry system, sexual abuse, child marriage, female foeticide, child labour, benefit of education for women, physical changes appearing in growing young children, benefits of using sterilized napkin etc. with the help of community animators. Community animators also discussed about Swachhta Abhiyaan and reason for dropout of the girls from the school. The girls promised community animators that they will go to the school and surely will get higher education.



## Beti Zindabad Rally

Between 15th August to 30th August, 2016 meetings and rallies were organised under the program 'Beti Zindabad' at the middle schools of Pingi, Birnia, Mahapara, Laxmipur, Bela Yakub, Chatria, Dekuli, Jogiyara of the project area. The theme of the meetings and rallies was 'Aazadi Rally - Betiyo ki shiksha ki, Ghumane ki, Khelne ki' and raised the voice against dowry system, child marriage, female atrocities, female illiteracy, female foeticide and similar female related issues. The meeting and rallies was attended by Headmaster, teachers, APCL program manager, ward members, scholarship recipient girls, Meena Manch children and people of the villages.



## Sunaina Janak Samman

During the community meeting six women has been awarded with the "SUNAINA JANAK SAMMAN" by the school headmaster. The purpose of the "SUNAINA JANAK SAMMAN" was to motivate the community for girl child and their education. These women had only the girl child and they are educating them in spite of poor economic condition.





## **Mahila Evam Balika Hinsa Ke Virudh Rally**

Rallies and meetings were organized under the programme “**Mahila Evam Balika Hinsa Ke Virudh Pakhwara**” from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December at different villages of Bahadurpur Block in Darbhanga District. The theme for the rally was to raise awareness about domestic violence, adverse sex ratio, to promote girl education and to promote women empowerment in projected area".

The rallies were organised at four places

Date	Venue
29/11/2017	Middle School Biuni
30/11/2017	Middle School Birnia
1/12/2017	Middle School Laxmipur
8/12/2017	Middle School Mahapara

Participants were Headmaster and senior teacher of the school, APCL Programme manager with their team members, Ward member, adolescent girls, Meena Manch, children of the village and Women's of the village.

The rally started from the Middle school, passed through village streets and finally terminated at the school where the program finished with a meeting. The girl students, APCL team member, women etc. Raised following slogans collectively at top of their voice:



**“Gharelu Hinsa Ab Na Sahege, Apna Haque Leke Rahenge”,**

**‘Mahilaon Ka Samman, Desh Ka Samman’**

**“Naari Evam Bachchon par Hinsa, Desh Par Sabse Bara Kalank”,**

**“Naari ko Badhaali Se Bachao, Samaj Main Khushhali Lao ”**

**“Hum Mahilayen Nahin Darengi, Atyachaar ab Nahin Sahengi”,**

**“Ghar Main Naari Hai Bad-haal, Samaj Kaise Bane Khushhaal”,**

and such similar slogans.

In the meeting different issues related to female children was discussed such as female illiteracy, sex ratio, dowry system, and female feticide, female atrocity, child labor, child marriage and such other



similar women rights. Headmaster, school teachers, girls, women etc. also present their views on the issues related to the women empowerment.

In the end everybody took an oath that they will protest against female feticide, dowry system, child marriage, female atrocity, illiteracy and they resolved that they will not be abuse the women rights. Girls particularly took oath that they will attend school regularly and become educated.

The program ended with a vote of thanks by APCL Program manager Shri Chandreshwar Das.



## Campaign on declining Sex Ratio (2012-13)

During the year 2012-13 the massive contact established with the all sections of the community in Bahadurpur block of Darbhanga district. The purpose behind it was to create awareness regarding the declining sex ratio in the nation as well as Bihar. It was also aimed at identifying volunteers at village / Panchayat level. The representatives of Local Self Government, members of SHGs, Angan Wari Workers (AWWs), ASHA, teachers and common public participated in the meetings. During the contact the constitutional provision, traditional values, ritual believes etc was discussed. In this way the issues related to unequal treatment with the women was discussed in detail. Such treatment is not only violative of human dignity but are also violative of human and constitutional rights. Declining sex ratio has emerged as a major cause of concern in the society.

- During the mass contact community meetings were for comprehensive discussion on the issue and chalk out strategic planning for future activities. On 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 meeting was held in both panchayats (Darhar & Dilawarpur) at 12 pm and 3 pm respectively. Members of SHG, AWWs, ASHA, Teachers, PRI members, youth leaders, Volunteers of NYK and several officials, professor, doctors also participated.
- **Dr.Mridula Prakash** welcomed all guests. Thereafter introduction session was organised.
- Thereafter, **Sri Vijoy Prakash** presented the scenario of sex ratio, which has been declining gradually. He asked people to go to the root cause of the problem. Comprehensive discussion took place on the issue. All the participants particularly women actively participated in the discussion.
- The participants told that:
  1. The government policy of 'Family Planning' is one of the responsible factors of inclination towards girl child. Parent are now in favour of one or two children. They prefer male child who they think would take care of them in old age and carry on the family hierarchy.
  2. Although biologically males are responsible for the sex of the child but they are never held responsible by either family or society. Generally, women are accused even by husband, if second and third birth girl child is born. Sometimes, males go for second marriage in search of the male child.
  3. Dowry was identified as one of the major issues responsible for the decline in sex ratio. It should be abolished through effective implementation of the existing law The provision of the act should be changed / amended, if found ineffective to stop dowry system. Quality education should also be promoted among women.
  4. Low literacy rate among women is also responsible for the same. They welcomed the decision of providing cycle, dress, scholarship and other facilities to girl students. Other facilities should also be planned to promote quality education among girls. This will lead to empower girls and will change mindset of the society.

### **Meeting of District level forum**

On 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 a meeting of District level Forum (DLF) was organized at Conference Hall of Divisional Commissioner, Darbhanga.

Sri Vijoy Prakash,(IAS), Principal Secretary, Planning and Development, GoB, Sri R.Lakshmanan (IAS) District Magistrate of Darbhanga, Kumar Aikley (IPS) City SP of Darbhanga and other officials, professors, journalists, students and members of civil society participated in the meeting.

After inaugural ceremony, **Sri Vijoy Prakash** was requested to present his views on the issue. Accordingly, **Sri Prakash** started his presentation through Power Point Presentation (PPT).

### **Major facts and issues raised during presentation**

- In 1901 Bihar had highest SR (except Goa and Lakshdweep) i.e 1016 while in 2011 Bihar reached at 23<sup>rd</sup> position having 916 SR.
  - According to census 2011 Gopalganj has highest SR (1015) and Bhagalpur and Munger have lowest (879)
  - The SR of Darbhanga is 910
  - Rural Bihar has better SR in comparison to urban Bihar
  - India witnesses more than 27 lakhs child deaths a year, with the figures for female children being much higher than male children
  - One in every two girls in India is malnourished
  - Out of the 12 million girls born in India, 1 million die before the first year of life.
  - One out of six girl child dies due to gender discrimination.
  - 500,000 unborn girls—one in 25—are aborted.
  - About 1 crore aborted over the past two decades — almost equal to population of Delhi
  - Educated families (Class X) report double the number of missing girls as compared to illiterate families
  - Religion is immaterial where female feticide is concerned.
  - Termination of pregnancy on the basis of sex was made illegal in India in 1994 but better-off families find ways to overcome the law.
  - Religion is immaterial where female foeticide is concerned
  - Profound demographic impact in the years to come.
  - In effect, it will mean bachelorhood for many men.
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- **Sri Rajiv Ranjan**, Secretary, District Legal Aid Authority told that the continuous decline of sex ratio of the state is a reflection of our deep rooted belief in patriarchy, which results into preferential treatment towards male child. Even we discriminate in treatment of sons and daughters in terms of providing love and affection, food, dress, education, treatment of diseases. Decline in sex ratio has profound

implications and may lead to serious social evils such as kidnapping and selling of women, immigration of women, enhancement of Sexual Transmitted diseases etc.

He also stressed that women should be economically empowered. It will help in removing discrimination on the basis of sex. It would also result in minimising dowry deaths. Rate of divorce will also be minimized. He said that like sections like 498 A and should also be abolished or amended, as it is being grossly misused.

- **Sri Kumar Aiklay**, City SP, Darbhanga, told that it is more in the nature of social problem so social actions might prove more effective, yet the role of police is also important in tracking out the centres of sex determination and taking lawful actions against them. But it needs support from health department and the society. NGOs can also play an effective role in this direction.
- **Dr. PN Jha** of AIR Darbhanga told that poverty, dowry, low literacy rate are the major causes for preferential choice for male sex. Our cultural beliefs are also in favour of male child. Even in folk stories male are shown in better light. It is said that '**Ram ne Dhanush Toda tha**' it is not said that '**Sita pratidin Dhanush uthati thi**'. Like this the poem '**Khoob ladi Mardani wo to Jhansiwali rani thi**' has been deleted from the syllabus. These are also related with the declining sex ratio in the society because our interventions also help in creating a pro male child environment.
- **Ms. Bhanu Shikha**, a graduate of Symbiosis School of Economics, Pune also expressed her view and told that she has done research work on the topic "**Scouting for Gender Bias in India**". Differences in intra-household allocations in food and healthcare expenditure using NSSO data (66<sup>th</sup> Round) and found that even in family there is no separate budgeting provision for girl child. The traditional views by the parents in some families are increasing these biases. The problem of declining sex ratio in the society is the manifestation of deep rooted patriarchy. It creates gender biases mindset for son preference and through the mechanism of differential treatment of sons and daughters in terms of allocation of food, prevention and treatment of diseases etc. Therefore, traditional value in the family which increases the bias has to be changed. A film like '**MATRUBHOOMI**' – A Nation without women, which examines the impact of female foeticide and female infanticide on the gender balance, and consequently the stability and attitudes of society. Its storyline bears some resemblance to real-life instances of gender imbalance and economics resulting in fraternal polyandry and bride buying in some parts of India. The movie can be shown in villages during awareness programme. Every problem has to be targeted in a unique way with lots of field experiment and research find a sustainable solution.
- Delivering presidential speech **Sri R. Lakshmanan** (IAS), District Magistrate, Darbhanga, said that problem should be addressed in two ways: pre birth and after birth. We have mechanism for tracking live birth but not for death or missed births which have to be maintained. In Bihar, there is no separate department for women. There is a Women Development Corporation which runs under the Social Welfare Department. Other schemes related to women empowerment and child care are also run under its aegis. During the decade the rate of institutional delivery and

immunization has gone up due to effective implementation of the health programmes / schemes. He quoted the PPT presentation of **Sri Vijoy Prakash (IAS)** that the drastic declination in sex ratio occurred after census of 1961. In this situation there is a need to identify the issues/ factors responsible for the declining sex ratio and take steps to attend to the responsible factors. Claiming to education system **Sri Lakshmanan** added that present education system has been greatly influenced by western culture. The traditional values have been missing which needs to be incorporated. There are only male religious leaders. Women should also enter in this field. The religious leaders should be oriented on the issue to maintain sex ratio. Besides these, the Angan Wari Workers (AWWs), ANM, ASHA, school teachers should be oriented on the issue and ensure their role for its effective implementation. He welcomed the 'Kanya Vivah Yajana' ' Kanya Suraksha Yazana' and other schemes like this introduced by the government but its amount should be enhanced and such amount should be invested for higher education of girls. Finally, he suggested organizing more and more such seminar / workshops in rural areas.



## Major Achievements

- Dropout student brought back to school Total students 550, Boys 312), Girls (238)
- Number of new children admitted: Total students 1245,Boys(678),Girls(567)
- Number of child labor admitted in school: Total Number (13), Boys (10) ,Girls(3)
- In 10 school Toilet constructed
- In 28 schools water tubewells were sunk
- In 25 School classroom was made by our intervention
- In 16 schools kitchen sheds were constructed
- In 12 schools boundary walls were constructed
- 55 teachers were appointed
- In 45 Schools midday meal was regularized
- In 3 School caste discrimination case solved
- In 1 school sex discrimination Case solved
- In 1 school sex Discrimination Case solved
- In 2016, Our 22 community volunteers were elected as P.R.I. member
- In 2017, 82 community volunteers were elected as S.E.C. member
- 17 cases were solved under Bihar right to public grievance redressal Act
- Baruara Ramtola was electrified due to our intervention.
- In 2015, student of class 4 and class 5 in primary school Bhatani got books due to our intervention
- Due to our effort , In 5 school, member of Meena manch does not agree to marry
- Due to our effort, bridge was constructed at Dhanaila village
- In 2015, Total 342 legal student got scholarship through our intervention in different primary and middle school in projected area
- One case of corporal punishment was solved at Middle school Biuni
- Our community animator protested use of inferior quality building material used in construction of two school building (Primary school Mekna, Kutti Tola and Primary school Dasrathpatti)
- In 2012-23 22 ultrasound machines were closed due to our campaign against female infanticide

## Annexure1

## List of scholarshipholders

Sl. No	Name of scholarship holders	Age	Sex	SC/ST/General/OBC/Muslim	Presently Studying (course, etc)	First Generation Learner (yes/No )	Year of beginning Scholarship	Passed(topper) /failed/ Back/ discontinued	Last year results (% scored)
1	Nanki Kumari	32	F	SC	BA-part-2Hons-Socio	Yes	2014	Passed	45
2	Siviya kumara	21	F	SC	BA-part-2	No	2014	Passed	53
3	Rita kumara	24	F	SC	BA-part-3Hons-Socio	Yes	2014	Passed	46
4	Priti kumara	18	F	SC	I.A.	No	2014	Failed	Fail
5	Bibha kumara	16	F	SC	I.A.	Yes	2014	Passed	51
6	Pooja kumara	21	F	EBC	BA-Part-3Hons-Soco	Yes	2014	Passed	50
7	Ragini kumara	19	F	SC	ITI	Yes	2014	Passed	57
8	Arti kumara	20	F	SC	BA-Part-1 Hons-Home sci	Yes	2014	Passed	62
9	Pooja Kumari	22	F	SC	BA-Part-1 Hons-Home sci	Yes	2014	Passed	60
10	Rukmani kumara	22	F	SC	BA Part -1 Hons-Geography	Yes	2014	Passed	53
11	Raigni kumara	21	F	SC	BA-part-2 Hons-psycho	Yes	2014	Passed	65
12	Rani Kumari	19	F	SC	BA-Part-1 Hons-psycho	No	2014	Passed	53
13	Guncha Praween	20	F	Muslim	BA-part-1Hons-Homsci	No	2014	Passed	62
14	Tarannum Praween	20	F	Muslim	BA-part-1Hons-Homsci	Yes	2014	Passed	60
15	Iffat Praween	20	F	Muslim	BA-part-1Hons-History	Yes	2014	Passed	68
16	Afsana Khatoon	20	F	Muslim	BA-part-1Hons-History	No	2014	Passed	51
17	Pooja kumari	20	F	SC	BA-part-2Hons-History	Yes	2014	Passed	48
18	Afsana Ajmi	20	F	Muslim	BA-part-1Hons-pol.	Yes	2014	Passed	56
19	Sahista Praween	19	F	Muslim	BA-part-1Hons-pol.	Yes	2014	Passed	52
20	Shabnam Aara	20	F	Muslim	BA-Part-1Hons-Soco	Yes	2014	Passed	51
21	Heena Yasmin	21	F	Muslim	BA-part-1Hons-pol.	No	2014	Passed	49
22	Kumari Jyoti	20	F	EBC	BA-part-1Hons-Homsci	No	2014	Passed	62
23	Priyanka kumari	21	F	SC	BA-Part-1Hons-Soco	No	2014	Passed	49
24	Anandi Kumari	21	F	SC	IA.	Yes	2014	Passed	45
25	Ranjita kumari	19	F	SC	BA-part-1Hons-History	Yes	2014	Passed	62

## Case Study 1

### Saiful Khatun fights for discrimination

There is a primary school in Ammapatti village in Ughara Mahpara panchayat in Bahadurpur block of Darbhanga District of Bihar. The population of Ammapatti mainly comprises of Yadavas, Saha and Muslims. During community meeting organised by APCL at Ammapatti it was known that in Primary School of Ammapatti Hindu and Muslim children were being served mid day meal separately. Our community animator Mr. Dhiraj Lal Dev met with committee volunteer Ms Saiful Khatoon, who is also a member of School Education Committee. During the monthly meeting of School Education Committee Ms Saiful Khatoon raised this issue of discrimination with Muslim children in midday meal at primary school Ammapatti. All SEC members of the school agreed and resolved that this discrimination should end immediately. The headmaster of the school Mr. Parmeshwar Paswan promised that he would ensure that this discrimination will not happen in future. Now children of both communities are being served mid day meal without any discrimination.

## Case study 2

### Parikshan Manjhi fights for school land

Parikshan Manjhi son of Ramswarup Manjhi is a resident of Laxmipur Village, Panchayat Mekna, Block Bahadurpur, Dist. Darbhanga. In earlier days Middle school Laxmipur had only two rooms. It was situated in 10 dhur. So it was difficult to run the school successfully. The government allotted the fund for constructing the six room building. Due to lack of land it was difficult to construct the building. The headmaster Uma Ram told to the community people to give the land of Dihwarsthan for constructing the building. But they refused. At the same time ParikshanManjhiwith help of APCL community animator DhirajLalDeoorganize a meeting of the community people and motivated them for giving the land for constructing the building. Lastly the people agreed for land donation of Dihwaarsthan and one villager Baleshwar Sahni also agreed for donating his land about 1 kattha at the cost of thirty thousand. Then Parikshan Manjhi collected money from villagers. Now a days this school has a good ranking in Darbhanga District.



### Case study 3

#### Fight for toilet

Middle school Biuni is situated in Biuni Andama Panchayat, Bahadurpur Block Dist. Darbhanga. The student of this school comes from Kamalpur village, Baraur village, Bhatani village and Biuni village. In earlier days in Middle School days Biuni there was only toilet for the children. The strength of the children in the school was 532. It was a big problem for the children of the school for urination especially for girl child. The



Headmaster of the school Saroj Kumar Singh told our APCL volunteer to cooperate the school for constructing the toilet. Since there was no response from the education department after doing several communication by me. APCL Volunteer Dhiraj Lal Deo gave the application to the then BEO Bahadurpur Umesh Roy and the Mukhia Phool Kumari Devi. Lastly the budget has been sanctioned and separate girls and boys toilet has been constructed.

### Case Study 4

#### Overall development of Bhatani village

Laxman Paswan son of Chedi Paswan is a ward member of ward – 9 of Biuni Andama Panchayat of Block Bahadurpur, Darbhanga. He is our community volunteer also. Earlier Primary School of Bhatani village was not functioning properly as per the government rules and regulation for example in 2014 – 2015 session student of class 4 and class 5 didn't get his book due to the negligence of the headmaster and MDM was also not regular. In Bhatani village only two to three tube well was present for drinking water. There was no electricity in village. After taking the oath as a ward member Laxman Paswan made a committee in Bhatani for the development of the village. Our community animator Dhiraj Lal Deo also is a member of that committee. Through the effort of this committee Arjun Sahni MLC allotted two new tube well for Bhatani village. Electric transfer has been allotted for electricity. Primary school Bhatani is functioning now properly. Many other development works are in progress by the effort of Laxman Paswan. For this development work Laxman Prasad was awarded by the APCL.



## Case Study 5

### Subhkant Lal Dev fights for girl child education

Subhkant Lal Deo son Ram Raji Lal Deo is inhabitant of Village Pingi in Baruara Panchayat of Bahadurpur block Darbhanga. A meeting was organised by APCL at M S Pingi to sensitize for community people about child marriage and child labour. Subhkant Lal Deo raised the problem of Girl Child education in Pingi village. After 8<sup>th</sup> class the girl child became dropout in the Pingi. The high school is not far away from the village. He told to the programme manager of APCL and C.A. for motivating the parents of girl child. After that Subhkant Lal Deo ward member of ward - 6 who is also our community volunteer and our Community animator motivated the community people by door to door canvassing. As a result of this all the girls of that village are now going for higher school education in Hukumdev Narayan Yadav High School Sonki. Four girls of that village took admission in engineering last year. With effort of Subhkant Lal Dev "SWACHHATA ABHIYAN" has also been started in the Pingi School.



## Case Study 6

### Kajal fights against child marriage

Kajal Kumari is inhabitant of Mahapara Village of bahdurpur Block of Darbhanga district. Her father's name is Jivan Saday and mother's name is Salita Devi. They belong to Mushar Community. Her father is Daily wage agriculture labour and mother is house wife. Kajal Kumari also prerak of Meena Manch at M.S. Mahapara. In Mahapara village child marriage is main hurdle of girl's education. Most girls got married after the eighth class. No one girls of Mahapara village is matriculate. Under the guidance of Action Aid Programme Manager Ms Sharad Kumari APCL Programme Manager and Community Animator started the meeting with Meena Manch in different Middle School of Bahadurpur on regular basis. He oriented adolescent girl of Meena Manch against girls child marriage and dowry system. First Kajal herself refused to get married at only fifteen years. Kajal and her Meena Manch members motivated the guardian who wants her daughter to marriage in childhood. He also told the guardian about the demerits of child marriage. As a result in 2017 no child marriage case has taken place in Mahapara Village.



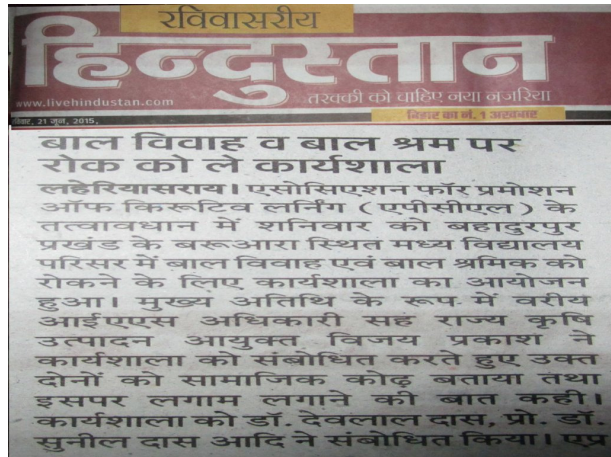
**Fight for higher education in SC community.**

Sivya Kumari daughter of Parikshan Manjhi and Divya Devi is inhabitant of Village laxmipur Panchayat Mekna of Bahadurpur block. Her father is a agriculture labour and mother is house wife. Sivya Kumari got married on 2013. When she was studying in class 12. Sivya belongs to Mushar Community and her father was not interested for continue her study further. In 2014 Sivya Kumari got scholarship by APCL for higher education. Sivya herself was not interested to continue her study after graduation. In April 2016 Action Aid programme Manager Shard Kumari motivated her to continue her study after graduation. APCL programme manager motivated her to take part in B.Ed. Combined entrance exam. Finally she passed the entrance exam and took the admission in B.Ed. and also is doing P.G. in Hindi form distance education L.N.M.U.









**भारत रिजल्ट** जिला कार्डिनल 68.21% 81.85% 79.84% 67.80% 71.16% 66.90% 88.85% 75.06% 72.80% 81.00%

प्रतिशत में

75.17 परीक्षा का वृत्त

5,02,362

5,65,571 19,29,79

14,08,778 10,59,346

7,61,918 5,92,354

6,67,260 4,69,392

**प्रभात खबर**

विचार करने ... 24 घंटे

दिल्ली 76.05% 78.68% 72.50% 72.32% 70.9%

का रिजल्ट 2014 2013 2012 2011 2010

**बाल श्रम सामाजिक कोढ़**

**दरभंगा.** बाल विवाह एवं बाल श्रमिक सामाजिक कोढ़ है. आमजन जबतक इसके प्रति जागरूक नहीं होंगे, तब तक इसे समाप्त नहीं किया जा सकता. एसोसिएशन फॉर प्रमोशन ऑफ क्रिएटिव लर्निंग के तत्वावधान में बहादुरपुर के बरूआरा में आयोजित समारोह में कृषि आयुक्त विजय प्रकाश ने उक्त बातें कहीं.