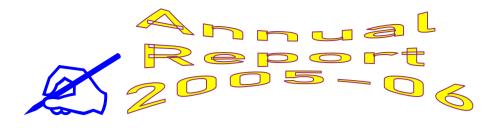


Sabarmati Samruddhi Seva Sangh [Gandhinagar Archdiocesan Social Service Centre]

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# Introduction

Sabarmati Samruddhi Seva Sangh, Gandhinagar (SSSS) is a Voluntary Organization working in five districts of North Gujarat namely Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Mehsana, Patan and Gandhinagar. The Society was registered with the Charity Commissioner on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2003 bearing Society Reg. No Guj/1077/ Gandhinagar, 19.7.2003 & Trust Ref. No. F/1033/Gandhinagar, 19.7.2003. The main aim of the Society is upliftment of the poor and the marginalized from the rural areas of North Gujarat. At present the society is actively involved in empowerment of poor and marginalized through various programs like Empowering Communities for Self-Governance, Community Based Drought Management Program, Watersheds, Programs on Health and hygiene, Education etc. The Society is actively involved in promoting Income Generation programs through Community Mobilization. The Office bearers of the Society are committed social workers who have devoted their lives for the service of humanity.



## 1. Evaluation of Drought Proofing Program (2003-05):

A joint team comprising of a representative each from Caritas India, AFPRO, Udaipur and SSSS along with an expert from outside, conducted an evaluation of Drought Proofing Program in 23 villages. It was completed in 14 days. An Evaluation report was prepared and submitted to the Donor Agency Caritas India.

## 2. Feasibility Study for Watersheds:

Out of the 23 villages of Drought Proofing Program, five areas were selected for Watersheds. Feasibility study was conducted by AFPRO Udaipur in four watershed areas. Out of four, we have taken up three watersheds namely Dabheli (Palanpur), Daiya (Vijaynagar) and Ramela (Nana Kantharia) under 'Integrated Watershed Development Program 2006-2010 (IWDP). The project will commence from June 2006.

# 3. Watershed Program (Food for Work):

Vahighatia Watershed program at Vijaynagar continued as per plan. Out of nine pre-watersheds of last year, Piplivalivav, Kherola and Ravtawada and Amaliya were graduated into full pledged watersheds. Plans were drawn to implement various activities for the new watersheds. As per plans, water conservation activities were implemented and several training programs were conducted to build the capacities of watershed committee and people.

## 4. Empowering Communities for Self Governance Project:

The ECSG project continued for the second year.

- Under this project we have total 434 SHGs having 6853 members as on 31st March 2006. Out of these 28 SHGs are of men having 467 members.
- Their savings Rs. 20,42,214/-
- They have given Rs. 6,01,101/ as internal loan to 665 members from 247 SHGs. The purposes for which they have taken internal loan are agriculture, to buy buffaloes, to start small scale income generation activities like vegetable cart, agarbatti making, petty shops etc, repayment of debt, to make cow shed, medicine, delivery, operation, house repairs, education etc.
- 19 SHGs have got Rs. 2,47,000/- as bank loan from which 95 members have benefited for the purposes: buying buffaloes, purchasing auto

rickshaw, petty shop, brick making, selling of firewood, repayment of debt, agarbatti making etc.

- 390 members have got the benefit of Government Schemes worth Rs. 1,40,000/ in cash and Rs. 2,50,000/ worth in kind.
- 945 women have attended the Gram Sabha meetings and expressed the concerns in the meeting.
- Out of 128 SHGs 1362 members have enrolled in the National Guaranteed Employment Scheme implemented from Feb. '06.

## 5. Community Based Drought Preparedness Program:

North Gujarat is drought prone area. 11 villages of Sabarkantha, Banaskantha, Patan and Gandhinagar Districts have joined together to learn the art of preparedness to face and withstand drought on their own. This program is named as 'Paanire'. This program has a blend of two approaches namely one of preparedness strategy and second is of mitigation strategy. SHGs become the vehicle of implementing this strategy. Under this Paanire project we have formed 65 SHGs having 874 members in 11 target villages. Out of these 54 SHGs are of men with 727 members & 11 SHGs are of Women with 147 members.

## 6. Safe Motherhood training programs:

IPD project, Palanpur (UNFPA) sanctioned 10 training programs on Safe Motherhood for Danta and Amirgadh Talukas of Banakantha Dt. The locations of the 10 trainings were Pansa, Dhabhvalivav, Devaliyavalivav, Piplavalivav, Harivav and Shiyavada of Danta Taluka and Dhanpura, Dabheli, Ajapura and Surela of Amirgadh taluka in Banaskantha District. 715 participants benefited out of these trainings. We also distributed a booklet containing guidelines on Safe Motherhood to all the participants.

## 7. Balwadi Teachers' Training Program:

We run more than 50 Balwadis in remote areas to prepare the little ones to join regular school. 48 teachers of these nurseries were given training in two parts on best methods of teaching by Pratham, a lead NGO in the field of Primary Education.

# 8. Capacity building of Staff:

- Fr. Harry Pinto attended International Conference on Rain water Catchments Systems held at Delhi on 14th to 17 of November 2005.
- Staff members and some field staff were sent for Exposure Visits on Bal Panchayat, Watershed, Micro Planning, HIV/Aids, SHGs.

# 9. Regular Programs:

We have food supported regular programs namely -

- Safe Motherhood and Child Survival program: Under this program the mothers are given health trainings to look after themselves during pregnancy and delivery and take care of the children.
- Boardings with 3290 boys and girls are supported with nutrition.

- 56 balwadies in 9 centres having 1600 students are supported with nutrition.
- We support 200 people who are deprived of their livelihood due to illness, with food for about 12 days.

Gandhinagar 30<sup>th</sup> April 2006 Fr. Victor Pais Secretary