

ANNUAL REPORT

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2014-15

***Society for Research and
Rudimentary Education on Social
and Health Issues***

About the Organisation: SRREOSHI Society for Research and Rudimentary Education on Social and Health Issues, founded in 2005, works in Bankura district of West Bengal issues of land rights of women and violence against women. Land is a basic asset and Srreoshi aims to help women access land through the exercise of their rights as individuals and in groups. It forms women's groups or works with existing ones to improve their livelihood strategies

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and this platform develops into a space where issues of land rights in terms of ownership, access, use and control are also discussed and tackled. Srreoshi also aims to help women access various government schemes that are meant to benefit women especially from BPL, tribal and dalit sections.

Aim and objective of the Organisation:

- Strengthening and exploring work on land and women's rights.
- Livelihood – land and property rights and the issues of livelihood, particularly those of women
- Women's Rights – their access to and control over resources and the different kinds of violence they face, as linked to their land and property rights and also as a separate issue
- Organization development as a means of working with people on the above issues.
- Formation of women's group to organize mass movement.
- Self Management skills for adolescent girls
- Income generating program for women
- ARSH issues.

Area of work:

Dist	Block	GP	Village	Group
Bankura	3	8	60	300
Burdwan	2	2	3	30
Asansol	18 ward	5	10school	2300
		slum		
Asansol	37		3	5



Projects and Activities at a glance:

1. **Gramodaya Project at Ramarbhui Village Bankura District Supported By OASIS Bhopal MP.**

2. **Tribal women leadership development for land and other rights to cope up with livelihood issues and enhancing quality of life ,a project supported by Jamunanlal bajaj Foundation**
3. **Programme on Adolescent Reproductive And sexual health Issues at Asansol & Durgapur Supported by United Ways Kolkata**
4. **Handicrafts training on IGP supported By IISCO Burnpur SAIL**
5. **Organic farming cope up with livelihood issues at Durgapur supported By SAIL CSR ASP Durgapur**
6. **Income generating programme at Ramarbhui village supported by lilaboti trust.**
7. **Set Up in Organic Seed preservation center In Durgapur Office.**
8. **Computer and office furniture supported by Pinnacle Infotech solution Durgapur.**

Join In International conference TISS Mumbai

Exposure visit In elgar prathisthan paromita goswami Asoka fellow at maharastra and TISS Mumbai

Meeting join in Ahemedabad

Visit in Kapil Mondal (Ashoka Fellow) South 24 paraganas

OUTCOME

- ☐ Awareness generation.
- ☐ Healthy relationship between groups.
- ☐ Group members are ready to fight for their rights on land.
- ☐ Capacity building of group members and staffs. Participation and decision making power established.
- ☐ Coordination with Local Govt and Lok Adalat Dept, Bankura and Burdwan District. Service providers are being supportive towards this movement.
- ☐ Youth group development work at Ramarbhui village. Training reached 40 youths
- ☐ Youth club formation at ramarbhbhui village at Bankura
- ☐ Training On ARSH issues at school and Villages reached 500 girls
- ☐ Piggery set up for revenue model generating at Ramarbhui.
- ☐ Jute bags for IGP AT ASANSOL reached 30 women and linkage with bank.

TANGIBLE CHANGES:

- Strengthening the work on land and women's rights at individual level:** SRREOSHI's present work on land and women's rights issuing of **joint patta**, giving priority to women, issue of single patta in names of women and inclusion of women's name in the pattas already issued. Earlier mostly *patta* was issued in the name of husband or other male member of the family. Thus women were deprived of land rights. SRREOSHI have been intensively working on this issue to sensitize women, society and service providers to ensure women's legal rights to land by including their name in joint *patta*. A total of **200 such applications (70 tribal families and 45 women)** were made by group members and individual family of target villages is under process.
- Group acquisition of land and issue of pattas:** Identifying land through the Panchayat, BLRO for acquisition of the groups. Advocating with panchayat for issuing pattas in names of women and advocating with group for joint cultivation are one of the major activities carried out during this year.
- In Bankura District a total of 36 names have been enlisted at Gram panchayet for issuing patta. Four women got *patta* and eight such applications are on the process.
- A total of 49 women (widow and married) secured their right to land and property on family property.
- A total of 20 acre vested** land was acquired by women's group and applied for NREGA work on this land. 6 tribal groups consisting of 180 tribal women and 63 Non tribal women were benefited from these. 240 families got forest land patta entitled to women .
- SRREOSHI has always given importance on advocacy work. Through advocacy initiatives NREGA schemes are being implemented on the land acquired by women's group. This creates livelihood options for tribal women. Women's participation on NREGA is increasing as they get chance to work on their own land within village. Earlier they use to go far for doing NREGA work and digging pond or construction of road was only option for them. Now women are engaged in Nursery plantation which is much easier and women friendly compared to earth work.

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- A total of 300 women received job card under NREGA during 2012-13. During this period the scheme was implemented very well and the women benefitted by getting paid for 70-75 days of work done on the field. The work of nursery plantation was done under the scheme.
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- A total of tribal 20 groups (200 members) worked nursery work under NREGA.
- A total of 45 cases related to VAW and land were discussed and handled in Lok Adalat.
- 100 delay payments cases have been registered and applied in Gram panchayets.
- Under ICF supported project a total of 1700 adolescent girls (09-19 yrs) undergone various training programme for developing personal skills and confidence necessary to master the present phase of their transformational change. This programme also intended to provide various information regarding sex, sexuality, reproductive health etc among the adolescent girls. It also helped to create a space where girls can open up freely, raise, discuss and address issues concerning their lives and learn ways to negotiate
- Apart from these Women's groups of Ramarbhui, Simulberia, Rajbandh at Bankura got benefited under various income generating programme like Mushroom cultivation, vegetable garden, babui Grass, Jute products making, handicrafts made by using grass and animal husbandry.
- Gamadaya project on Rural Education programme at Ramabhui Tribal Village Bankura.

CHALLENGES:

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- ☐ Women's land and property right is itself a challenge.
- ☐ Political intervention.
- ☐ Identifying land still remains a challenge and an area of concern.
- ☐ Lack of people understanding on existing policies regarding women's ownership to land and property especially for tribal people.
- ☐ Patriarchy which prevents women to demand their share on land.

FUTURE PLAN

- ☐ Build up leadership among group members to sustain the movement in future.
- ☐ Reproductive health issues relating to adolescent girls
- ☐ Networking with other NGO's working on land rights (special focus on women) within and outside West Bengal.
- ☐ Advocacy and policy change at state level.
- ☐ Ensure active participation of PRI in Srreoshi's work and work together.
- ☐ Process Documentation for policy advocacy work.
- ☐ Gramodaya Rural Education Programme
- ☐ Revenue Business Modal set Up for sustainability
- ☐ Linkage with Essex business school at UK
- ☐ Social Entrepreneur model set up
- ☐ IT vandita

Learning

- Political intervention is a major concern area that would impeditment the execution of the project because this cannot be achieved without the active participation of the government at local levels. Though West Bengal is recognized as pioneer among Indian States in implementing land reform measures to benefit share croppers and to redistribute ceiling surplus land to land less, largely failed to target women. Identifying land still remains a challenge and an area of concern. In the present political context of West Bengal developmental works are facing political threat. It is difficult to work neutrally for
- the sake of marginalized, poor people irrespective of political colour.
- Few existing policies regarding women's ownership to land and property especially for tribal people and lack of people's understanding are considered another challenge to secure women's rights over land and property.

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