Annual Report 2013-14

From the desk of Secretary:

An NGO is a powerful way to create lasting change for a community. Through it, one can

mobilize others and build something bigger than what can be achieved alone. Although it is a

long journey and a lot of work and takes years & many kinds of skills, resources and

relationships to build and to sustain the effectiveness.

In order to carry out its mandate it has thematically focused on the area of Education, Health,

Women Empowerment, Environmental Activities, Local self-government, Income

generating, Vermicompost, Institutional development, Capacity building and social

awareness as the tools to usher in new Socio-Economic Paradigm.

I take the privilege to express my sincere thanks to all our well-wishers and Donor Agencies

for their support and encouragement and solicit further help, co-operation and guidance in

our endeavor to strengthen the condition of the under privileged sector of the society.

I take the opportunity to thank all the members of the Bolpur Manab Jamin family who has

contributed to various stages of developmental work and betterment of this document. This

Document draws on annual activities of the year 2013-14.

Secretary

[Bolpur Manab Jamin]

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Bolpur Manab Jamin would like to place on records its appreciation and gratitude to all the Government Departments, Banks, local youth clubs and their leaders, Eco Group members for their efforts. We also thank all the villagers for their support.

The Society takes the privilege to express its sincere thanks to Shining Eyes, Germany; International Center for Agricultural research in Dryland Areas (ICARDA); National Child Labour Project of Birbhum District, Asst. Labour Commissioner Office, Bolpur; Consumer Affairs and Fair Business Practices, Regional Office, Birbhum; Central Board for Workers' Education, Asansol.

We express our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Institute of Agriculture, Palli Shiksha Bhavana, Visva Bharati.

We express our sincere thanks to PRI representatives,
Non Government Organizations, Dr. Monika
Golembiewski, Dr. Ashutosh Sarker, Dr. Kuhu
Chatterjee, Mr. Ashijit Ganguli, Society for
Equitable Voluntary Actions, AHIMSA Trust.

INTRODUCTION

Bolpur Manab Jamin, a Non-Governmental Organization situated in a dry zone area that has Laterite soil and Vindhya Alluvial soil. The area has mono cropping with rice, which is entirely rain fed. The project area is near Santiniketan; however, the area is underdeveloped and has a large population of landless farmers.

The district of Birbhum lies between 23° 23′ 30″ and 24° 35′ 0″ North Latitudes and between 87° 05′ 25″ and 88° 01′ 41″ East Longitude. The district is bounded on the north and west, by the district of Santhal Pargana of Jharkhand, on the east by the districts of Murshidabad and Burdwan and on the south by Burdwan, from which it is separated by the Ajay River.

BMJ is working at 15 villages of 4 Gram Panchayats (5 villages in Ruppur Gram Panchayat, 7 villages in Raipur-Supur Gram Panchyat, 2 villages in Sattore Gram Panchayat and 1 village in Kankalitala Gram Panchyat) of Bolpur-Sriniketan Block.

Programme Objectives:

- To improve Food Security
- To increase the Nutritional Status of families
- To reduce school dropout
- Improve financial inclusion
- Involve more people in Income Generation Schemes.
- Increase environmental awareness

ON GOING PROGRAMMES:

Hand Washing & Sanitation Programme

"We shall not finally defeat AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, or any of the other infectious diseases that plague the developing world until we have also won the battle for safe drinking water, sanitation and basic health care."

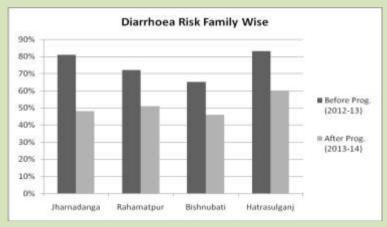
~Kofi Annan, United Nations Secretary-General

In rural scenario, sanitation and better health care cannot become fruitful without Hand Wash activity because it prevents many infections, controls bacteria, and other water borne diseases.

So Bolpur Manab Jamin set its goal and had implemented this programme with the support of Dr. Monika. Golembiewski, Shining Eyes, Germany in 2 primary schools, 1 Shishu Shiksha Kendra and one ICDS centre in 4 villages i.e. Jharnadanga, Rahamatpur, Bishnubati and Hatrasulganj.

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Bolpur Manab Jamin has been evolved as a result of its experiences of working with communities, its organizational set-up, the skills of its team-members, and its focus on empowerment of communities. Based on these experience, envisages the development of basic health and hygiene in different areas with the support of the community. This year 413 families were aware and had access to hand washing which includes under-privileged SC, ST, OBC and economically weaker section primary students and their parents. Sanitizing kit was distributed to the children and their families to safeguard their health which will sustain better habit of the community.



Beside the reduction of the Diarrheal risk in the community few other outcomes are also noticed:

- Decrease in the rate of School Dropout which is caused by illness,
- Less expense for Doctor's fees and medicine,
- Increase rate of man days, thus creating more income.

These factors symbolically represent a better condition of the communities where the programme was implemented.

Village Health Camp

The basic need of a community fulfills when it gets better health services. In rural sector it is observed that the Child and Mother health are under threat creating more vulnerability. Indicating toward this factor Bolpur Manab Jamin felt the need of health service among the rural community and make a linkage with St. Mary's Child and Mother Care Centre, Paruldanga.

Support of International Centre for Agriculture Research in Dry land Areas (ICARDA)

Lentil the tiny nutritional giant and the poor man's meat can not only combat malnutrition but can also increase household income in rural areas.

Being inspired by this thought International Centre for Agriculture Research in Dry land Areas (ICARDA) entrusted Bolpur Manab Jamin to initiate pulse seed production and demonstration programme under India – Morocco Food Legumes Initiative (IMFLI) through South to South cooperation for dryland farmers in Birbhum District.

Increasing food legumes productions by small & marginal farmers to strengthen food and nutrition security through adoption of improved technologies and governance within South-South cooperation are the main aims of the programme

The outcome will be:

- *Increase in Lentil production.*
- *Increase in household income.*
- Decrease Labour Migration
- *Increase in cropping intensity.*
- Increase in Legumes consumption.
- Combat Malnutrition.
- *Increase soil fertility.*

This year Bolpur Manab Jamin with the technical support of Visva Bharati University implemented the programme in 84.40 ha. area in 40 villages where 565 farmers benefitted . 2532 kg of special Variety Breeder, Foundation and Certified seeds were distributed. Each farmer got special variety of Lentil (Moitree, Subrata, HUL-57 and PL-6) for demonstration and cultivation. Apart from that, farmers own labour created forty man days per hectare for lentil cultivation in dry zone, rain fed, mono crop area. Besides this, Bolpur Manab Jamin demonstrated Line Sowing at 6 plots in 5 villages for comparative study on production and pros & cons of the varieties.

This year, 3 most successful farmers were honored at a ceremony which was attended by Prof. Gopal Chandra De, Ex Principal Palli Sikha Bhavana, Visva Bharti University.

Programmes under Central Board for Workers Education, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Govt. of India

a) Quality of Life Training for Unorganized Sector Labour

The term Quality of Life is used to evaluate the general well-being of individuals and societies in a wide range of contexts, including the fields of development, healthcare,

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policies and schemes. Quality of life should not be confused with the concept of standard of living, which is based primarily on income. Instead, standard indicators of the quality of life include not only wealth and employment, but also the built environment, physical and mental health, education, recreation and leisure time, and social belonging. For that reason, 3 no of training on Quality of Life were organized for unorganized sector labour with the help of Central Board for Workers Education Centre, Asansol Regional Office at the Campus Office. There were 60 couples to participate in the trainings. Every participants got a stipend to at the end of the session.

b) Awareness Programme on Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

Five awareness programmes on Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act have been organized with the support of Central Board of Worker's Education Centre, Asansol Regional Office. 240 villagers of 2 villages under Bolpur Manab Jamin Project area participated in this training programme. The key speakers were Assistant Labour Commissioner, Industrial Development Officer, Assistant Director Agriculture, Social Audit Coordinator, MGNREGA Cell of Bolpur-Sriniketan Block who gave a clear idea about the act of MGNREGA's programme and its implementation.

c) Sensitization programme for parents of Child Labour under NCLP special School This year a sensitization programme had been organized for the parents of child labour with the support of Central Board for Worker's Education, Asansol Regional Office for the parents of Child Labour under National Child Labour Programme at NCLP Hansra School. The Field Officer of NCLP, Birbhum and Minimum Wages Inspector of Illambazar Block had spoken on the importance of the school. There had been also discussion on the availability and accessibility of different Schemes and Programme for unorganized sector labour.

d) Special Awareness programme for Schedule Tribe Unorganised Sector Labour

Special programme for Scheduled Tribe had been organised with the support of Central Board for Worker's Education, Asansol Regional Office at different villages of Bolpur Sriniketan Block. The objectives of this programme was to make a bridge between the under privilege section of the community and Government offices. Assistant Labour Commissioner of Bolpur Regional Office, Assistant Labour Commissioner of Bolpur-Sriniketan Block, Assistant Director CA&FBP, Industrial Development Officer and Inspector BCW spoke on different schemes; there had been also discussion on the availability and accessibility of different Schemes and programme for unorganized sector labour. The programme covered 280 tribal people of 7 villages.

National Child Labour Programme School

According to Nelson Mandela - Education is the most powerful weapon which can be used to change the world. Unfortunately in the communities, children often face extremely difficult circumstances and forego their childhood. Violations of their

basic rights and limited access to resources, like education, are part of their reality which turns them to child labour.

Our activities focus on providing access to quality education and educational support, to vulnerable children who need special attention and care. We work closely with communities to build awareness on child education.

Bolpur Manab Jamin is running smoothly the two NCLP Special School at Labpur and Hansra (Illambazar) under National Child Labour Programme of Birbhum. The objective of the programme is kept in focus to combat child labour as well as to rehabilitate them in different trade which would make his/her world better.

The children at the age group of 9 to 14 years especially child labour working in brick field or as a maid servant or working in a tea stall are the pupil of this special school. Each student is getting regular mid-day meal and the allotted stipend of Rs.150 per month. Lessons on vocational training also given to them along with the regular course of study.

Child labour cannot be totally eradicated unless it is supplemented by comprehensive socio-economic programmes and educational uplift of the under privileged sections of the society and by a change in the attitude of the society towards child labour.

In short, the general improvement in socio-economic conditions of people will result in gradual elimination of child labour.

Social Security Schemes

a) WBBOCWW

Bolpur Manab Jamin has been involved for the development of unorganized sector labour through the scheme of West Bengal Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare.

The building and other construction workers in the age limit of 18 to 60 years and have worked for not less than ninety days in the subsequent 1 year are eligible for registration as a beneficiary under this scheme. Annually contributions of Rs.30/-is to be deposited along with relevant documents against which a receipt will be issued by the office and an equal amount has been released by the Government as Matching Contribution.

During 2013-14, 136 villagers under 10 villages benefited by the scheme of WBBOCWW. All identity cards of the registered beneficiaries under WBBOCWW have been distributed.

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Under the scheme of WBBOCWW, this year 48 beneficiary got the support for purchasing tools and 14 beneficiaries got assistance for education for their children for further studies of Higher Secondary and Graduate.

b) SASPFUW

Bolpur Manab Jamin has also facilitated 92 beneficiaries under social assistance schemes for the benefit of unorganized sector labour with the help of labour department, Govt. of West Bengal. The name of the Scheme is state Assistant Scheme (SASPFUW) for provision of future.

The subscribers who are involved in the self employment occupation and work at unorganized industries may get the benefit from these schemes.

c) Transport worker

For the benefit of unorganized workers engaged in automobiles Bolpur Manab Jamin implemented the scheme of **West Bengal Transport Workers Social Security Scheme** through West Bengal State Social Security Board, Labour Department, Govt. of West Bengal. The scheme shall apply to all unorganized workers engaged in automobiles used for commercial purposes namely cars, taxies, luxury taxies, light commercial vehicles, vans, auto-rickshaws, tempos, lorries, trucks, bus, etc or by whatever name called, other than those solely owned by an individual for his personal or family use. This year, 11 beneficiaries got the benefit of the scheme.

Consumer Awareness Campaign on Consumer Rights

The consumer movement in India is as old as trade and commerce. In Kautilya's Arthashastra, there are references to the concept of consumer protection against exploitation by the trade and industry, short weight and measures, adulteration and punishment for these offences.

Due to rapid industrialization and multifaceted development in India, there appeared a flood of consumer goods and services in the Market, which almost changed the relationship between the consumer and the trader. Lack of consumer awareness, illiteracy, poverty, etc. further led to the exploitation of consumer.

Bolpur Manab Jamin in collaboration with the Dept. of Consumer Affairs & Fair Business Practices, Govt. of West Bengal organised several awareness camps in the District of Birbhum.

The rights of consumer which are being sought to be promoted and protected under the Consumer Protection Act include:

- (a) The right to be informed about the quality, quantity, potency, purity, standard and price of goods or services, as the case may be to protect the consumer against unfair trade practices;
- (b) The right to be assured, wherever possible to access to variety of goods and services at competitive prices;

- (c) The right to be heard and to be assured that consumers interests will receive due consideration;
- (d) The right to seek redressal against unfair trade practices or restrictive trade practices or unscrupulous exploitation of consumers; and
- (e) The right to consumer education.

(c) The right to consumer cancation

Besides these programmes BMJ has organised a Stall at Pous Mela, an annual fair and festival that takes place in Santiniketan, for 4 days from 23rd December to 26th December in collaboration with Consumer Affairs and Fair Business Practice, Birbhum Regional Office, Suri, Birbhum to create awareness among the consumer's on their rights. The Stall had been inaugurated by Prof. Gopal Chandra De, Principal, Palli Siksha Bhavana, Visva Bharati University and Mr. Biswanath Bag, Assistant Director, CA&FBP.

There has been display of various cartoons related to consumer rights and exhibit of a documentary film of the said department. BMJ throughout this fair had aimed to create awareness about the rights guaranteed to consumers under the law and to serve as Guidance Agency to guide consumers to assert such rights.

Consumer Protection Right through a Street Corner

Manab Jamin organized awareness meetings on Consumer Protection Rights at the different villages under Manab Jamin project Area through a street corner with the help of Consumer Affairs and Fair Business Practices, Birbhum Regional Office, Suri on 22nd May, 2013. Posters were displayed. A Cartoon Documentary Film regarding different examples of buying day to day commodities from market was shown. A seminar was also organized on Consumer Rights and its Protection. The programme got in touch with nearly 1000 consumers who are yet to know of their Rights. They moreover learnt the signs and the procedures of checking expiry date marks etc. before buying it through this important programme.

Special Programme on Consumer Right

A special seminar was organized on consumer awareness at the auditorium of Gitanjali with the help of Consumer affairs and fair business practice, Birbhum Regional Office, Suri Birbhum on 24th May 2013. 200 villagers of Manab Jamin project area, members of different NGOs and CBOs and different dignitary personalities participated in this programme. The Deputy Assistant Director of CA& FBP, Consumer Welfare Officer, and Senior Technical Officer of BSNL, District Officer of Small Savings of Malda and Legal Meteorology Officer had participated in this programme.

Movement of Tableau for consumer awareness throughout the District

This year, Bolpur Manan Jamin had moved out a tableau for consumer awareness with the support of Consumer Affairs and Fair Business Practice, Birbhum Regional Office, Suri, Birbhum. This tableau is meant to reach all the sub-divisions along with Block and few Gram panchayets of this district. This tableau consists of banners which create awareness

among the consumers on every purchase with an announcement of the rights of the consumer and its protection, this tableau moved from 20th to 27th of May, 2013.

Consumer Awareness in Pous Mela

Pous Mela is an Annual Fair and Festival that take place in Santiniketan. The Fair is held for four days. This year, Manab Jamin had organized a Stall at Pous Mela for 4 days from 23rd December to 26th December 2013, in collaboration with Consumer Affairs and Fair Business Practice, Birbhum Regional Office, Suri, Birbhum created awareness among the consumer's on their rights. The Stall was inaugurated by Prof. Gopal Chandra De, Principal, Palli Siksha Bhavana, Visva Bharati University and Mr. Biswanath Bag was present at the time of inauguration. Various cartoons related to consumer rights were exhibited and a documentary film of the said department was shown. Manab Jamin throughout this fair had aimed to create awareness about the rights guaranteed to consumers under the law and to serve as Guidance Agency to guide consumers to assert such rights.

Consumer Outreach Programme by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

The entry of private service providers brought with it the inevitable need for independent regulation. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) was, thus, established called the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997, to regulate telecom services, including fixation/revision of tariffs for telecom services.

On 9th January 2014 Bolpur Manab Jamin with the help of TRAI organinsed Customer Outreach Programme in Gitanjali (Shantideb Kaksha) Bolpur, West Bengal. This programme primarily intended to outreach to the customers, industry bodies, State Govt. and various government bodies directly associating the CAGs and TSPs.

Education Support Programme: For Immaculate Tomorrow

"There is no friend as loyal as a book."

~ Ernest Hemingway

Education is a process whereby we learn to act in a human, rather than infantile. Through this process we gain a cultural as part of our personal identity.

There are many challenges of education like as children do not have school fees, there is a need to work at young age, text books and school supplies may be scarce, and the government may be forced to attend to other priorities

In spite of the largest education system in the world, India still faces problems of low levels of literacy achievement and poor quality of education with 37 percent of the population lacking literacy skills and 53 percent of children dropping out at the elementary level.

Textbook Support service is committed to helping rural students, of SC, ST and economically weaker sections to become effective users of ideas and information by providing them the text books which enlighten their vision. Bolpur Manab Jamin is

committed to fundamentally improve the education level of these economically weaker students who are meritorious and have strong desire of learning.

This year also textbooks are given to meritorious and economically weaker students. This year 220 students studying from Class IX to Bachelors Degree got the support.

Among them 93 numbers of boys and 127 numbers of girls received the books. The caste wise distribution was 95 numbers of Scheduled Caste, 24 numbers of Scheduled Tribe and 101 numbers of others.

This year we got a donation of Rs. 10000/- as a Corpus Fund from Sri. Saroj Kumar Roy Chowdhury in memory of Late Shila Rani Roy Chowdhury for Education Support Programme. From the interest of the fund every year 1 girl student will get Text Book Support from Bolpur Manab Jamin.

Self Help Group

Self Help Group is creating a new definition for the development of society especially on women empowerment and self sustainability. Formation of Self Help groups is one of the programmes of Bolpur Manab Jamin. At present, Bolpur Manab Jamin is working with 58 SHG. Among them 53 groups are for women and rest of 5 are for men. There are 629 members in the Self Help Groups. All SHG have opened the bank account in Scheduled Banks. The members have deposited their contribution at the Bank.

The members of SHG have taken loan for small business, poultry, animal husbandry, house repairing, handicraft work, treatment for illness, child education etc. They also take loan from their own contribution when in need.

Farmers Club

As agriculture is one of the important sources of our National Income and the farmers are the dominators in this sector it is very important to generate a collective effort to strengthen their position. Taking this on account Bolpur Manab Jamin approached NABARD to get support for promoting Farmers' Club.

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) encourages banks to promote Farmers' Clubs in rural areas under the Farmers' Club Programme. The Programme was launched by NABARD in November 1982. Till date Bolpur Manab Jamin is nurturing 16 Farmers' Clubs in 16 villages within the project area with the support of NABARD. They are involved and implementing different Govt. Scheme on Agriculture and allied sector. Along with they are engaged in practicing different agricultural techniques and using new indigenous crops and thus creating rural development.

Training on Legal Aid Services

This year training was held on Legal Aid Services which are being provided for the legal relief and to give easy access to the backward sections of our society. Mr. Manas Basu, First Track Sub Divisional Judge of Bolpur Court delivered his valuable speech in the context. A documentry film on Woman Rights was also shown in the meeting.

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Mushroom Demonstration Programme

Mushroom cultivation's economic importance lies primarily in its use as food for human consumption. It is one of the programmes of Bolpur Manab Jamin. Oyster mushroom is grown at moderate temperature ranging from 20° C to 30° C and humidity 55-70% from October to February in the project villages.

This year spawn was distributed among 27 numbers of women farmers from 4 villages and 80 demonstrations have been made. Most of them are landless and SHG members.

Ecological Group

As a development organization Bolpur Manab Jamin is very keen to protect the environment which leads to better tomorrow. So to protect our coming generation we took an effort lead by coming generation especially by children of 11 to 16 years. This movement is going on in our project villages named Eco Group activity. We have 10 Eco Group comprising of 307 members in 10 project villages. The group prepares village resource map, water map, drawing different pictures resembling ecological issues, observance of Environment Days along with workshop, meeting and awareness camp with the villagers.

TEAM MEMBERS

Alpana Mete	Kanan Mete	
Anima Garain	Krishna Ray	
Balika Kisku	Madhavi Das	
Bandana Pal	Saunak Kar	
Basanti Kamat	Shefali Das	
Chanchal Pal	Shibani Mondal Mazumdar	
Debasis Mukherjee	Srikanta Mondal	
Debashis Mitra	Supriya Mondal	
Dharam Kisku	Susanta Patra	
Gouri Haldar	Surovita Sarkar	
Hira Rani Pal	Swapna Mazumdar	
Jharna Pal		
Kabita Sardar		

Details of Working Committee Members of Bolpur Manab Jamin

Sl. No.	Name & Address	Designation	Occupation
1.	Pijush Mukhopadyay South Jambuni; P.O.: Bolpur;	President	Retired Principal
	Dist.: Birbhum; PIN : 731204		
2.	Debiprasanna Mukhopadhyay	Vice President	Retired Professor
	Andrewspally; P.O.: Santiniketan; Dist.: Birbhum; PIN: 731235		and Principal
3.	Supriya Mondal	Secretary	Teacher
	South Jambuni; P.O.: Bolpur; Dist.: Birbhum; PIN : 731204		
4.	Chanchal Paul	Asst. Secretary	Social Service
	Nayekpara, P.O.: Bolpur; Dist.: Birbhum; PIN : 731204		
5.	Debasis Mukherjee	Treasurer	Social Service
	Vill.: Surul; P.O.: Sriniketan; Dist.: Birbhum; PIN : 731236		
6.	Santosh Paul	Member	Service
	Trishulapatty, P.O.: Bolpur;		
_	Dist.: Birbhum; PIN : 731204		-
7.	Srikanta Mondal South Jambuni , P.O.: Bolpur;	Member	Farmer
	Dist.: Birbhum, PIN : 731204		

Conclusion

It is important that the future keeps in touch with the past. We have more direct responsibility for the proceedings. Bolpur Manab Jamin primarily puts emphasis on the exchange of experiences between the generations. The members and volunteers create awareness and understanding for the beneficiaries and work for their sustainable development.

Participatory and people-centered approaches to development that were both innovative and experimental, BMJ ascended on the basis of their strengths as local, grassroots-level development organization offering the potential for innovative programs reflecting the needs and wants of local communities and disadvantaged groups.

Their close grassroots linkages meant that Bolpur Manab Jamin was seen to be more than just alternative service providers, also offering a route to empowerment through allowing communities and disadvantaged groups to articulate their needs in programme design and implementation.

YOUR DONATIONS to BOLPUR MANAB JAMIN will

SUPPORT our much needed program, as it will ENSURE the

CONTINUITY of our program in providing an extremely

VALUABLE SERVICE and A DEEP SATISFACTION

to the person/community for having brought about a POSITIVE

SOCIAL CHANGE.

Let us endeavor to build a healthy society with your support.

:: BANK DETAILS BOLPUR MANAB JAMIN ::

Bank Name: UCO Bank

Branch : Raipur Branch

SB A/c No. : 17100110006832

Branch Code : 1710

IFSC : UCBA0001710

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