

# ANNUAL REPORT

(2018-19)

## BOLPUR MANAB JAMIN

Registered under West Bengal Societies Registration Act, XXVI 1961

Donation Exempted U/s 80G of I.T. Act, 1961

### **Our Mission**

*Mission of Bolpur Manab Jamin is to actively serve vulnerable communities specially women, girls, children, disables, senior citizens, indigenous people with encouraging innovations for developing collective and inclusive social change in West Bengal .*

### **Our Vision**

*Bolpur Manab Jamin envisages a society where people cooperates, empathies, trusts and become sustainable to protect social, economic and cultural interest of every living being and environment.*

***From the desk of Secretary:***

***“Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time and always start with the person nearest you.” – Mother Teresa***

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.

Bolpur Manab Jamin, an NGO, believes that all its interventions need to bring about change that is systemic, sustainable and replicable. The organization, closely works with Scheduled Tribe, Scheduled Caste and economically weaker section people. In order to carry out our mandate we have thematically focused on the area of Sustainable Agriculture, Education, Health, Women Empowerment, Environmental Activities, Local self-government, Income generating, Institutional development, Capacity building and social awareness as the tools to usher in new Socio-Economic Paradigm.

I take this opportunity to thank the people and organizations that were associated with BMJ for undertaking the programmes successfully. I am also thankful to various District and Block-level officials who helped the organization in carrying out its activities. I also thank our donors who reposed their faith on us. Many organizations and people came forward to help the activities of the organization in time of crisis. The organization is thankful to them.

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 2018-19.

**Secretary**

**Bolpur Manab Jamin**

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Bolpur Manab Jamin would like to express special thanks of gratitude to all the Government Departments, Banks, local youth clubs and their leaders, villagers for their support.

We have taken efforts for different projects. However, it would not have been possible without the kind support and help of Shining Eyes, Germany; International Center for Agricultural research in Dryland Areas (ICARDA); Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, Institute of Agriculture, Palli Shiksha Bhavana, VisvaBharati, National Child Labour Project of Birbhum District, Asst. Labour Commissioner Office, Bolpur; Consumer Affairs and Fair Business Practices, Regional Office, Birbhum; DattopantThengadi National Board for Workers Education and Development, Asansol , National Dairy Research Institute, Kalyani, govt. of India, Regional Research Station Seckampur, BCKV, Ahimsha Trust, New Delhi and many individuals and organizations. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of them.

We would also like to express our gratitude towards Sri Chandranath Sinha (Minister of Fisheries, Govt. of West Bengal), Sri Bikas Roy Choudhury (Sabhadhipati, Birbhum Zilla Parishad), Dr. Monika Golembiewski, Dr. Ashutosh Sarker, Dr. Kuhu Chatterjee, Mr. Peter Enderle, Late Ajit Majumdar, Mrs. Chandana Dey, Dr. Somnath Saha, Prof. Shakti Bhattharjee, Mr. Shantum Seth and PRI representatives for their kind co-operation and encouragement which help us in completion of different projects.

Bolpur Manab Jamin is thankful to all the well-wishers, visitors and guest who enriched the programmes of our time to time.

## INTRODUCTION

Bolpur Manab Jamin, a Non-Governmental Organization was established in the year 2010 with the motivation to take an active role in the civil society development through different programme keeping in mind sustainable development concept.

Bolpur Manab Jamin (BMJ) project has now completed 9 years of its service in Bolpur-Sriniketan block of Birbhum district of West Bengal. It is located in the arid zone of West Bengal. The soil is Red Laterite along with Vindhya-alluvial soil at places. The landscape is undulating. It rained when it was not expected and did not rain when it was expected. The temperature was very high during the summer months. The winter was mild but had severe cold. Occasionally soil erosion is very high.

BMJ is working in 51 villages especially with ST, SC and under privileged section of the community. We are working on the fields of Sustainable Agriculture, Education, Animal Husbandry, Environment, Health, Nutrition, Right Based Approach, etc. in our project area.

### *Programme Objectives:*

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

## **::OUR ONGOING PROJECTS::**

### Kitchen Garden

A kitchen garden is the garden you keep as close to your back door as possible where you grow all your vegetables, herbs, and fruit that you will eat fresh all year. The idea of having it as close to your back door as possible is that you will walk by it often and be continuously harvesting from it. This year Bolpur Manab Jamin have distributed seeds, sapling and plants to the beneficiaries under the project area. The details of the distribution is given below:

| Sl. No. | Village       | KG          |         |      | Farm Yard Manure | Vermicompost | Liquid Manure | Ginger | Turmeric |
|---------|---------------|-------------|---------|------|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------|----------|
|         |               | Pre Khari f | Khari f | Rabi |                  |              |               |        |          |
| 1       | Kantabagan    | 11          | 16      |      | 1                | 2            | 7             | 16     | 16       |
| 2       | Borobagan     | 13          | 14      |      |                  | 1            | 7             | 14     | 14       |
| 3       | Ramchandrapur | 19          | 31      |      | 3                | 2            | 11            | 28     | 28       |
| 4       | Binodpur      | 12          | 33      |      | 3                | 3            | 5             | 31     | 31       |
| 5       | Konrapara     | 18          | 33      |      | 1                | 2            | 6             | 5      | 16       |





## Sesame & Moong

As like last few years this year also we are supporting the farmers under our project area through Sesame and Moong seeds. This year we have distributed Sesame and Moong to the under given villages:

| Sl. No.      | Village        | In KG     |           | In Area Bigha |              |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|--------------|
|              |                | Sesame    | Moong     | Sesame        | Moong        |
| 1            | Amradanga      | 7         | 6         | 7             | 1.50         |
| 2            | Bidyadharpur   | 4         | 1         | 4             | 0.25         |
| 3            | Binodpur       | 5         | 4         | 5             | 1.00         |
| 4            | Borobagan      | 3         | 2         | 3             | 0.50         |
| 5            | Borodanga      | 1         |           | 1             | 0.00         |
| 6            | Chandanpur     | 6         | 2         | 6             | 0.50         |
| 7            | Darpasila      | 6         | 1         | 6             | 0.25         |
| 8            | Hatadanga      | 4         | 1         | 4             | 0.25         |
| 9            | Hatrasulganj 1 | 2         | 1         | 2             | 0.25         |
| 10           | Hatrasulganj 2 | 1         | 1         | 1             | 0.25         |
| 11           | Itedanga       | 3         | 2         | 3             | 0.50         |
| 12           | Kankutia-2     | 3         | 1         | 3             | 0.25         |
| 13           | Kantabagan     | 2         | 1         | 2             | 0.25         |
| 14           | Konrapara      | 6         | 6         | 6             | 1.50         |
| 15           | Koyetpukur     | 3         | 1         | 3             | 0.25         |
| 16           | Mitradanga     | 5         | 2         | 5             | 0.50         |
| 17           | Mohisdhal      | 4         | 2         | 4             | 0.50         |
| 18           | MulukKalitaka  | 1         | 2         | 1             | 0.50         |
| 19           | Natundanga     | 2         | 1         | 2             | 0.25         |
| 20           | Paruldanga     | 1         | 2         | 1             | 0.50         |
| 21           | Raipur         | 5         | 2         | 5             | 0.50         |
| 22           | Ramchandrapur  | 8         | 5         | 8             | 1.25         |
| 23           | Ramlaxmandanga | 4         | 2         | 4             | 0.50         |
| 24           | Sarpukurdanga  | 4         | 2         | 4             | 0.50         |
| <b>Total</b> |                | <b>90</b> | <b>50</b> | <b>90</b>     | <b>12.50</b> |

## Pulse Production cum Demonstration Programme

**Lentil Cultivation:** As like last few years this year also we have supported the tribal farmers of our project area to cultivate lentil in their fallow land. This year with the support of Berhampore Pulse & oilseed research Station 5 farmers of Akamba cultivated 8 bigha of land with 32 kg lentil seed.

**Lathyrus cultivation:** This year with the support of Berhampore Pulse & Oilseed Research Station 5 farmers of Raipur village cultivated in 7.5bigha of land with 60 kg of lathyrus seed.

**Gram:** This year 7.5 bigha was cultivated with the support Berhampore Pulse & Oilseed Research Station. The demonstration was done at Ramchandrapur village. Seven (7) farmers participated where 60 kg seed was distributed.

## **TECH TRANSFER**

### **System of Rice Intensification**

Bolpur Manab Jamin organize different agricultural training for the skill upgradation of farmers along with technology transfer. The trainings are provided mainly to the members of Farmers' Club, youth leader and lead farmers. This year training was given on the subjects of SRI Method of paddy cultivation. Total 9 farmers from 9 villages participated in this programme. We demonstrated through 8 Gobindabhog, 2 Badshabhog, 1 Tulaipanji and 1 Mallika variety of aromatic rice.

### **System of Mustard Intensification**

Bolpur Manab Jamin always wants to give proper advice to the farmers for improvement of their agricultural products. As like last year this year also the farmers under our project area got technical support and training from us to demonstrate System of Mustard Intensification at their plots. One (1) farmers meeting organized for the same. The farmers demonstrated with Divya and NRCHD-101 variety of mustard in their field. This year 15 farmers of 11 villages participated in the demonstration programme.

### **JujubeUpgradationProgramme**

As like last year this year also the programme was done mainly for poverty alleviation. Sour jujube plants are upgraded into sweet one by this programme. This year we covered 6 villages under this programme.

## **HEALTH**

### **Village Health Checkup Camp**

With the help and technical support of Dr. Monika Golembiewski member of Shining Eyes e. V. and a team of doctors we are looking after the health development of the children and their mothers. The vitamin, Iron tablets, folic acid tablets are provided by the Health Care centre for the health development of the children and protect mothers from anemia. This is very important for the healthy development of the child and prevention of anemia.

In a time period of every 3 months St. Mary's Child and Mother Care Centre, Paruldanga. Team of Doctors from Germany and India goes to the remote villages with several instrument and gadget such as weight, height, MUAC, Hb measurements for spot checking up of the children and mothers of the respective village. The programme covers 380 children and 120 pregnant/lactating women in 21 tribal villages of Bolpur-Sriniketan Block.

Distribution of free medicine is done if and when required by the villagers. After the checkup, if required or in a case of emergency the representatives of the Health Care Centre sends the patient to Hospital with the help of their Ambulance. If needed they also refer them to outstation Hospitals of Suri, Durgapur, Burdwan, Kolkata where the patients get subsidized rate for their treatment.

## EDUCATION

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 60 students studying in Class XI and XII got text book support. Where 37 students from Class XI and 23 students from Class XII got the support.

### Special Training Centre for Child Labour under National Child Labour Programme

Bolpur Manab Jamin is running smoothly two Special Training Centers; one at Bilati village (50 students) and the other one at Koyra village (45 students) at Illambazar Block under Birbhum District Child Labour Rehabilitation Welfare Society with the support of Ministry of Labour and Employment.

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 9 to 14 years especially used to become 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 per month. Lessons on vocational training also given to them along with the regular course of study.

## LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT THROUGH ASSET BUILDING PROJECT

### Animal Husbandry Health Camp

Eight (8) animal husbandry health camp was organised at 7 different villages (Binodpur, Bidyadharpur, Paruldanga, Taltore, Amradanga, Darpashila, Kantabagan) where animal were provided vaccines, medicines, fodder seed and nutrients. Nearly 2000 livestock were benefitted by this programme. The programme was supported by Block Livestock Development Officer, Bolpur- Sriniketan Block.

### Livestock Distribution

The livestock are declining in the rural area because of high price and less availability of fodder. To mitigate this scenario we under Asset building project distributed 15 cows, 50 goats and 180 ducks in 15 different villages. These livestock will increase their income and treated as asset which will help them to sustain for a long time. This alternative income will help them to counter many needs in their household. The idea of replication will help increase animal population in rural area. It will also provide organic manure which will help to maintain the kitchen garden in better way.

| Sl. No. | Village       | No. of Livestock Distributed |      |      | No of Beneficiary Family |
|---------|---------------|------------------------------|------|------|--------------------------|
|         |               | Cow                          | Goat | Duck |                          |
| 1       | Taltore       | 1                            | 2    | 12   | 5                        |
| 2       | Darpashila    | 1                            | 3    | 12   | 6                        |
| 3       | Banspukur     | 1                            | 3    | 12   | 6                        |
| 4       | Natundanga    | 1                            | 3    | 12   | 6                        |
| 5       | Uttar Sehalai | 1                            | 4    | 12   | 6                        |

|              |                |           |           |            |           |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 6            | Koyetpukur     | 1         | 4         | 12         | 7         |
| 7            | Bidyadharpur   | 1         | 3         | 12         | 6         |
| 8            | Amradanga      | 1         | 4         | 12         | 7         |
| 9            | Hetedanga      | 1         | 3         | 12         | 6         |
| 10           | Ramchandrapur  | 1         | 3         | 12         | 6         |
| 11           | Kantabagan     | 1         | 5         | 12         | 7         |
| 12           | Ramlaxmandanga | 1         | 3         | 12         | 6         |
| 13           | Paruldanga     | 1         | 5         | 12         | 8         |
| 14           | Borodanga      | 1         | 3         | 12         | 6         |
| 15           | Hedodanga      | 1         | 2         | 12         | 5         |
| <b>Total</b> |                | <b>15</b> | <b>50</b> | <b>180</b> | <b>93</b> |

### NDRI goat distribution

National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Govt. of India scientists visited our project area and they are surprised to see our activities regarding livestock. As they were interested in Public Private Partnership with us they supported 101 tribal families by distributing 104 goats under tribal sub plan. With the help of NDRI we organized 2 daylong programmes on 24<sup>th</sup> July'18 at Bidyadharpur and 25<sup>th</sup> January'19 at Ramchandrapur where tribal people got training, nutrients, and fodder seeds for their livestock.

### NDRI's 3 days residential training

Along with distribution of goats to the tribal families NDRI organized for 3 days residential training for each group of 18 tribal women and 22 tribal men on 18<sup>th</sup> September'18 and 25<sup>th</sup> September'18 respectively. The training programme had given a very high impact on the life of these tribal people. They themselves are rearing livestock sidewise giving training to their peer group to replicate the same.

### **AWARENESS PROGRAMME**

#### Financial Education Workshop with SEBI

This workshop is intended to spread basic financial awareness among people, so that they can make sound financial decision. The workshop was very interactive in nature. Study material in Bengali for the participants was also been distributed to the participants. Sri Angshuman Bhattacharya, certified financial education Resource Person of SEBI was the key speaker of the programme. This year we have organized Financial Education Workshop with the support of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) at MulukKalitala, Mitradanga, Sehalai, Dighipara. This programme have covered 200 participants.

#### Legal Aid Camp

Legal Aid implies giving free legal services to the poor and needy who cannot afford the services of a lawyer for the conduct of a case or a legal proceeding in any court, tribunal or before an authority.

This year one (1) awareness camps was held on Legal Aid Services at Darpashila village on 25th April 2018 where 48 participants attended. The programme is being provided for the legal relief and to give easy access to the backward sections of our society. Mr. Sidhartha Roy Chowdhury, Additional District

Judge, First Track Sub Divisional Judge of Bolpur Court, Anand Chattopadhyay, Judge, Suri Court and Manebendranath Bhowmik of Bolpur Court delivered their valuable speech in the context.

### **Consumer Awareness Programme on Consumer Rights**

The consumer movement in India is as old as trade and commerce. 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. This year we have organized 17 Consumer Awareness Programmes at 17 different villages.

### **Consumer Awareness through PousMela Stall**

Pous Mela is an Annual Fair and festival that take place in Santiniketan. The Fair is held for six days. This year, Bolpur Manab Jamin had organized a Stall at Pous Mela for 6 days from 23rd December to 28th December 2018, in collaboration with Consumer Affairs and Fair Business Practice, Birbhum Regional Office, Suri, Birbhum which created awareness among the consumer's on their rights. The Stall was inaugurated by Sri Naresh Chandra Bauri, MLA, Dubrajpur Constituency. Various cartoons related to consumer rights were exhibited and few documentary films of the said department was shown. Wethroughout 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.

### **Vigilance Awareness Week**

The Vigilance Awareness Week was observed by Oriental Bank of Commerce with the collaboration of Bolpur Manab Jamin at Supur Debdut Club, Supur on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 where 45 participants participated in the said progamme.

This programme seeks to motivate stakeholders to collectively participate in the fight against corruption and also aims at raising public awareness regarding the harmful consequences of corruption. This year, the theme was "Eradicate Corruption-Build a New India".

### **Awareness programme for Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe Unorganised Sector Labour under Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Workers Education and Development, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Govt. of India**

Awareness programme for Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste for unorganized sector labour had been organised with the support of Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Workers' Education and Development, 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. There had also been discussion on the availability and accessibility of different Schemes and programme for unorganized sector labour. The programme organized in 7 villagers and covered 280 ST and SC community people of 2 blocks.

## **OTHERS**

### **Internship Programme for Social Work students**

To provide the student with a great opportunity to tackle challenging assignments, utilizing the combination of theoretical knowledge and on-the-job training the programme allows to attain insight on how attempts are made to solve problems through purposeful learning of field based study. For this reason, Department of Social Work, Visva Bharati University sent 2 BSW students and Vidyasagar School of Social Work under Vidyasagar University sent 2 MSW students as Interims to Bolpur Manab Jamin. They got a month's field based training for serving the purpose.

## **OBSERVATION**

### **Meen Mangal Utsav**

The programme was started by Late Pannalal Dasgupta. Bolpur Manab Jamin organized this programme on 19<sup>th</sup> August. The Meen Mangal Utsav was held at Supur with the collaboration of Supur Debdut Club at the bank of Ajoy River. Around 300 participants had participated to celebrate this day. Prof. Sakti Bhattacharya, Dr. (Mrs.) Madhusree Ghosh, Sri Mrinal Kanti Roy Chowdhury, Smt. Ishani Roy Chowdhury, Smt. Jayashree Munshi, Sri. Banaspati Biswas, Sri Sushil Ghosh, Sri Subhankar Ghosh, Sri Arun Das spoke on the importance of the day. A short cultural programme was performed by the children around the village. At the end of this programme 2000 fishlings were released at the river Ajoy.

### **World Environment day observation**

India is excited to host the World Environment Day this year on June 5 so do we in our Community Mancha at Bidyadharpur. The children rallied and urged to reduce the production and excessive use of single-use plastic polluting our oceans, damaging marine life and threatening human health. A meeting with the villagers was also organized to give understanding of this year's theme "Beat Plastic Pollution".

### **Mother's Day**

As like last year this year also BMJ observed Mother's Day at Supur with the help of Supur Debdut Club on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018. This year 50 children and their mother attended the celebration. A drawing competition was organized where the children drew pictures for their mother. As per the mother's this is the best gift from a son/daughter to mother. All the children got a token gift as for attending the programme. There was a new game introduced this year which is a set of questions are given to the mothers and their son/daughter. The mother will give answer as she knows about the preference of her child and the son/daughter will give answer about the preference of his/her mother. But nobody will show their sheet to each other. Next a Quiz Competition was organized with the mothers where they enjoyed a lot leaving behind their day to day work under same circumstances.

### **Earth Day**

We observed Earth Day at Borodanga, one of our project villages on 22nd April 2018. The villagers actively participated in the same. Smt. Supriya Mondal, Sri Srikanta Mondal and Sri Debashis Mitra spoke on the occasion. 58 nos. of villagers participated in the programme.

### Women's Day

It's incredible and unbelievable that a woman plays various roles and that too with love and full enthusiasm. "Woman", she is a mother, a sister, a wife, a daughter and the most dedicated employee at her work place. As Bolpur Manab Jamin is working towards uplifting women organize gender sensitive, girl child education, eradication of dowry culture and empowerment of women. Women's Day is celebrated to make people aware of all the progresses that have been done till date and the work that still needs to be done. This year we celebrated this day (March 8) at Hatrasulganj villager with 78 villagers.

### World Water Day

World Water Day is celebrated every year on 22nd of March by the people all across the world. This year we observed the day at Borodanga with the villagers and BMJ staff members. This campaign is specially done this year for involving and encouraging the people to listen and understand about the water issues and the problem arising around the world.

### World Health Day

This Day was celebrated on 7<sup>th</sup> April which aims to universal health coverage. The programme was organized at Amradanga with 42 villagers. This year, 'Universal Health Coverage: Everyone, Everywhere' is the theme for World Health Day, and rightly so for India, with the country playing host to the world's poorest.

### Saak Utsav

Innovative by its name this year we started this Utsav which will reintroduce saak into the cuisine of indigenous people. Alongside it is also very important to include Saak in our daily food habit for better health. Long ago people used to eat saak but today it's just disappearing from the dish. To keep the essence of the programme we cooked 15 kinds of Saak in different way.

### **Visit / Training / Meeting / Workshop**

| <b>Date</b>          | <b>Participants</b>                        | <b>Participated at</b>  |
|----------------------|--|---|
| 19.04.2018           | 30 trainee & 1 official from BIRDS         | BIRDS trainee & official visited our Animal husbandry programme run by women SHG at Borodanga under livelihood upliftment programme. Ten SHG members shared their experience and show their cow, goat & ducks to the group. |
| 03.05.2018.          | 29 trainee & 1 official from BIRDS         | Community kitchen visited run by women SHG under livelihood upliftment programme. Eight SHG members of Paruldanga show their community kitchen garden and shared their experience regarding the subject.                    |
| 10.01.19             | Australian team (7 female, 12 SHG Members) | Lohagarh for seeing Kantha Stich works  |
| 07.03.19 to 08.03.19 | American Team guided by Mr. Santhum Seth   | Visited to Darpashila, Bidyadharpur, Lohagarh, Hatrasulganj, Supur villages to see the villager's day to day life along with art and culture.   |

## **Case Study 1**

### **Obstacle to face and task to complete**

Amradanga is a village having 100% tribal population. We the staff members of BMJ undertook an assessment of the area and found that the land here is mainly mono cropped. The farmers can hardly cultivate paddy in kharif season. So they are having problem in earning their food in a regular basis. We then introduced Pulse and Oilseed as a second crop. Many farmers got chance to find out a new way of earning. Among them we want to share the facts and figures of Ragda Tudu, a marginal farmer of Amradanga village.

Ragda is a marginal farmer and have 2 bigha of land. He got lentil and mustard seed to cultivate in his land. After cultivating lentil, he got 190 kg yield. He sold 120 kg at Rs. 6200 and retained 70 kg for own consumption. From mustard he got 183 kg production and after retaining own seed and consumption he sold 80 kg for Rs. 2400 and able to get a better income for his household.

Alongside the farmers of this village, we the staff members of BMJ also thank to all because as a Social Changer there is nothing like the rewards you get knowing that you have helped some person improve their livelihood.

## **Case Study 2**

### **Re-establishing confidence**

Self Help Groups (SHG) take a very pertinent role in bringing positive change to the community and livelihood. But lack of activity sometime decelerates their development and they lose their confidence. There are few SHGs under our project which are engaged in income generation activities. Marshal SHG is one of them.

Marshal SHG consists of 10 female member. The group went into a contract with a farmer to cultivate vegetables in Rabi and pre kharif season with their own effort and labour on his land. Besides own consumption they sold vegetables in Local market and got Rs. 3500 profit which they saved in bank for future cultivation. This activity make

the group sustainable. After seeing the progressive effect other SHGs are also applying this model and approaching towards woman empowerment.

Here the guidance of BMJ and support of donors helped the members of the SHG to regain their confidence.

### **Case Study 3**

#### **Age is just a number, not a state of mind**

As the quote goes 'Age is just a number, not a state of mind' the couple **Choto Besra and Laxmi Besra** both senior citizens again have proven it. They resides in Borodanga, an isolated tribal village under Ruppur Gram Panchayat. Other 3 family members are daily labour as they are young. When collecting in depth information from them we got to know that they have received a land from the Govt. of West Bengal but have to sell it to fight poverty. Now they have left with a small piece of land which is about 0.08 bigha for propagating a kitchen garden.

In this small piece of land they are growing wild jute, amaranthus, bittergourd, tomato, brinjal, onion, beans, yam etc. which they have never expected. Now nurturing the kitchen garden have become a hobby of the couple. They also involve their other family members when they are free.

According to them, "This kitchen garden have brought us self-determination and self-sufficiency along with financial support."

### **Case Study 4**

#### **Farmers bonding with trees**

Khokon Bagdi aged about 56 years is a resident of Ramchandrapur village under Raipur Supur G.P. He is a marginal farmer.

He is fulfilling his daily vegetable needs through the kitchen garden he is nurturing in his homestead area with our support. Besides he planted 20 mango, 5 guava, 5 lemon, and 4 coconut trees in the fallow land near his mud house. He regularly looks after the trees and the trees will produce fruit approx. 3 years from now.

He says -"The trees will provide fruits in future, so I take care of them today. If I do not pass away then I will see the fruit trees turning big and I would take rest under them at noon. The land will become greener and fruits will help getting more nutrition to me as well as my entire family members. Thanks to the people behind the idea."

### **Case Study 5**

#### **Going back to the front line**

When Panmuni Besra got a female goat, she never expected that after 15 months she would become owner of 4 goats. She is a widow and has a small family at Uttar Sehalai. Her elder son is a construction worker and the only earning member in the family. As they have very little homestead area they could only make a small kitchen garden. She got training on animal husbandry and got the goat. Under her care the goat gave birth to a male sibling and after 1 year another two siblings.

Now Panmuni feels that she still can be able to make income and help her elder son by contributing to the family from the profit earned from her goats.

### **Case Study 6**

#### **Right support package**

Badal Hembram, a share cropper of Kantabagan village feels a sense of pride when he speaks about his duckery. Two years ago he was selected for the support of ducklings and kitchen garden.

From the kitchen garden he got the vegetables which are needed for his household and also helps the family nutrition improve. But the real change came from his duckery unit. He started his journey with 5 ducklings supported from the project. Beside consumption, he hatched 22 ducklings and after a year he sold 60 eggs at Rs. 3600 and 10 ducks at Rs. 3000. Now he structured a duckery and cultivates Azolla for their feeding. In this way a landless share cropper is able to become an entrepreneur and he is thankful to the project.

| <b>TEAM MEMBERS</b> |                        |                    |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Anuradha Mondal     | Lakshimoni Kisku Murmu | Saunak Kar         |
| Ashoka Hembram      | Madhumita Soren        | Suchitra Hasda     |
| Balika Kisku        | Mamani Tudu            | Suchitra Lohar     |
| Balika Marddi       | Mungli Murmu           | Sukhi Besra        |
| Budin Hembram       | Paban Murmu            | Sumoni Kisku       |
| Debashis Mitra      | Priyanka Sarkar        | Sundari Murmu      |
| Golapi Murmu        | Raimoni Soren Kisku    | Supriya Mondal     |
| Gupin Kisku         | Rani Murmu             | Tarulata Mete      |
| Helaram Das         | Srikanta Mondal        | Teresa Kisku Murmu |
| Kakali Hansda       | Sonamoni Hembram       |                    |
| Lakshi Murmu        | Subhash Das            |                    |

**Details of Working Committee Members of Bolpur Manab Jamin (for 2016-19)**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Name &amp; Address</b>  | <b>Designation</b>     | <b>Occupation</b>     |
|----------------|--|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.             | <b>Dr. Madhushree Ghosh</b><br>4/25 Fern Road<br>Kolkata : 700019  | <b>President</b>       | Retired Professor     |
| 2.             | <b>Ishani Roy Chowdhury</b><br>54A, Sashtitala Road,<br>P.O – Talpukur<br>Barrackpore, Kolkata: 700123               | <b>Vice President</b>  | Retired Bank Official |
| 3.             | <b>SupriyaMondal</b><br>South Jambuni; P.O.: Bolpur;<br>Dist.: Birbhum; PIN : 731204                                 | <b>Secretary</b>       | Teacher               |
| 4.             | <b>DebashisMitra</b><br>Kankutia, P.O.: Raipur;<br>Dist.: Birbhum; PIN : 731204                                      | <b>Asst. Secretary</b> | Social Service        |
| 5.             | <b>Saunak Kar</b><br>Natunpally, RabindraSarani 2 <sup>nd</sup> lane;<br>P.O.: Bolpur; Dist.: Birbhum;<br>PIN:731204 | <b>Treasurer</b>       | Social Service        |
| 6.             | <b>Santosh Paul</b><br>Trishulapatty, P.O. : Bolpur;<br>Dist.: Birbhum; PIN : 731204                                 | <b>Member</b>          | Service               |
| 7.             | <b>SrikantaMondal</b><br>South Jambuni , P.O.: Bolpur;<br>Dist.: Birbhum, PIN : 731204                               | <b>Member</b>          | Farmer                |

## 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 generosity will make a difference in the community by allowing us to continue our work.*

*Remember that every donation makes a difference, regardless of size.*

### **BANK DETAILS BOLPUR MANAB JAMIN:**

**Bank: Oriental Bank of Commerce**

**Branch: Bolpur Branch**

**Branch Code: 1840**

**IFSC: ORBC0101840**

**For Indian Contribution – SBA/c No.: 18402191009036**

**For Foreign Contribution – SBA/c No.: 18402191003478**