

# SRUJAN

Society for Rural and Urban Joint Activities, Nagpur

At "Srujan Pod", Village: Mangurda, Post Box No-1, Pandharkawada - 445 302

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Registered Under Societies Registration Act 1860, No. MAH/181/98

Registered Under Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950, No. F-14446 (Nagpur)

## ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES 2014-2015

Society for Rural and Urban Joint Activities Nagpur was registered as society in 1998. The organization is working in the rural and tribal belt of Yavatmal and Gadchiroli district since then. The organization takes up study and action research projects. It strives to evolve self reliant and sustainable societal patterns with the help of locally available resources.

SRUJAN continues its emphasis of its activities towards strengthening the cause of PTGs with whom it works. The office established in Bhamragad for this purpose and a sub-office has been established in Lahari to facilitate the work in the Abuj Mad area of Maharashtra. Work on Food and Nutrition Security and Saving Newborn initiative amongst Kolam in 25 villages and more than 15 hamlets continue in Yavatmal district. In the current year SRUJAN in collaboration with UNICEF has continued work on "Child Protection and Promotion of Education Rights of Children in Kolam dominated Zari Jamni Block of Yavatmal district. SRUJAN advocate's the PTG issues at the national level and work towards evolving a policy for primitive tribes in India along with likeminded people and institutions. Following planned activities were conducted during the year 2014-2015 for this purpose.

### 1 Livelihood security

SRUJAN with the help of Oxfam India continued Strengthening Particularly Vulnerable Tribal groups in Vidarbha, Madias in Gadchiroli and Kolams in Yavatmal district, to educate and inform tribal communities about Provisions of Acts like Tribal Self Rule Act, Biological Diversity Act, Forest Rights Act, MREGA. Community organizations like Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) and Forest Rights Committee (FRC) were formed. Members of this committee later on prepared Peoples Biodiversity Registers (PBR) for their villages and prepared a plan for biodiversity restoration. This being implemented in 10 villages in Zari Jamni block, 40 villages in Gadchiroli district.

This program is being implemented in Chattisgarh in 6 gram panchayats. Here the community members are being assisted in documentation for raising individual forest rights claims, community forest right claim under the provision of Forest Rights Act, 2006.

### 2 Bamboo Based Livelihoods

SRUJAN continued the program on developing bamboo based livelihood in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra. This program has been supported by Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, Mumbai.

The program envisages developing high quality bamboo sapling appropriate for use as building material, for handicraft, for food, for housing, for furniture and for handicraft. It envisages developing small scale enterprise that shall develop products that could be marketed.

### **3. Diversion based irrigation system**

SRUJAN is carrying out the program 'Diversion Based Irrigation' with association of DILASA ( Jamshedji Tata Trust) in Zhari block and Bhamragad block. 12 farm ponds and 3 diversion based irrigation sites have been developed so far enhancing the irrigation capacities of farmers and making water available for entire year for back yard kitchen gardens.

### **4. Kanha Pench Landscape symposium**

SRUJAN collaborated with De fries Bajpai foundation, USA for hosting International symposium on Kanha Pench Landscape for corridor management for tiger conservation in Central India. 32 researchers from India and abroad, key functionaries from Forest Department of India participated in the symposium. Need for evolving corridor management strategies for tiger conservation were discussed by the participants.

### **5. Promoting Mental Health Services**

SRUJAN's staff capacitated through trainings and exposure visit held by Basic Needs India from time to time arranged for 7 mental health camps at Mulgavan in Anandwan campus in collaboration with Maharogi Sewa Samiti. Dr Dinesh Narukar an psychiatrist from Mumbai is making regular visit once in two months and examines patients and recommends prescription. Dr. Narukar also brings with him medicines that are provided to patients free of charge.

This program is being carried out for PWMI from Zhari Jamni, Kelapur and Maregaon block people.

### **6. Women Empowerment**

SRUJAN is actively involved in a number of programs and processes for working towards a safe environment for girls and women, towards building a violence free society. SRUJAN is member of various networks in Maharashtra and India working on women empowerment issues.

### **7. Child Protection and Child Education Initiative**

SRUJAN in collaboration with UNICEF continued the project on "Child Protection and Promotion of Education Rights of Children in Cotton Growing Zari-Jamni Tribal Block of Yavatmal district". SRUJAN entered into a yearlong agreement to implement program designed by UNICEF through Zari based volunteers. Capacity building of staff members has been taken up through trainings and workshops from time to time. In all 35 Village Child Protection Committees have been formed.

### **8. ASHADEEP**

Survey of the status of children of migrant laborers working in coal docks in Wani and Chandrapur district was carried out with financial assistance from The Stitching Mitra, The Netherlands. The education status, families' financial status, health status of children and life care facilities available for children of migrant laborers were surveyed. A detailed report has been prepared.

### **9. Human Potential Development Initiative**

SRUJAN supported four students for pursuing their higher studies in Pune, and 21 students in the age group of 8 to 19 from Pandharkawada and Gadchiroli district to continue education in respective classes. **This program is financially supported by Stitching Mitra, the Netherlands.**

### **Placement of MSW College Students**

8 students from TISS Tuljapur, 3 students from Jyotiba Phule Social Work college Yavatmal were placed with SRUJAN for a month long internship program. The students were given information on the projects implemented by the organization, management systems, accounting systems of the organisations.

### **JOY of SHARING**

Collection of reusable clothes, blankets, bed-sheets, copies, pencil-pen, drawing material, sweaters for distribution in the field to the .

The major donors were LAD college Nagpur, Rotary club west, Shankar Nagar Mahila Mandal, Ms Iyer, Ms. Joshi, Mrs. Prajakta Joshi from Nagpur.

Detailed activity reports and financial reports are available in SRUJAN's office, those can be provided on request.

We sincerely thank all our institutional donors and individual donors who have made it possible to conduct the activities mentioned above.

Institutional Donors:	<b>Oxfam India</b>
	<b>Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, India</b>
	<b>UNICEF, Mumbai</b>
	<b>Stichting Mitra, The Netherlands,</b>
	<b>DILASA, Ghatanji</b>
	<b>De fries Bajpai Foundation, USA</b>

Individual donors: 43 individuals contributed in SRUJAN's activities to make all the initiatives more effective.

**I hereby present the annual report of SRUJAN.**

**Yogini Dolke**  
**Director, SRUJAN**

Date: 01.05.2015

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## **6. Women Empowerment**

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## **7. Vidarbha Women's Rights Conference- Ratnagiri**

SRUJAN is the co-host in this event. Every year the women activists and researchers come together to discuss the issues of women; the ways to strengthen women volunteers working in remote areas for equality and good governance. This year the 3 day program was organized in Ratnagiri. The major issues of discussion were on the newly drafted National Women Policy and subsequently Maharashtra Women Policy.

Outcome of this workshop was a draft Policy on the additions and modifications required as per the needs of the tribal women from Vidarbha.

## **8. Child Protection and Child Education Initiative**

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This project is being run in 20 gram panchayats of Zhari and kelapur block. Awareness and trainings for adolescent girls, mothers and teachers are being carried out to bring awareness regarding forms of exploitation and their right to complaint. PHF has supported this program.

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## **8. Anemia Free Vidarbha**

SRUJAN is part of the Anemia free Vidarbha. 110 vegetable – back yard kitchen gardens have been raised especially to address anemia in 15 villages of Zhari. Hb testing camps were held in these villages. Records are being kept to track the Hb level improvements in women and adolescent girls.

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	<b>Anemia Free Vidarbha</b>
	<b>Shudhakar Shashtri Memorial Fund</b>
	<b>Uday Raje Memorial Fund</b>
	<b>Solar Energy support group Nagpur</b>
	<b>Ecological Society Pune</b>

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