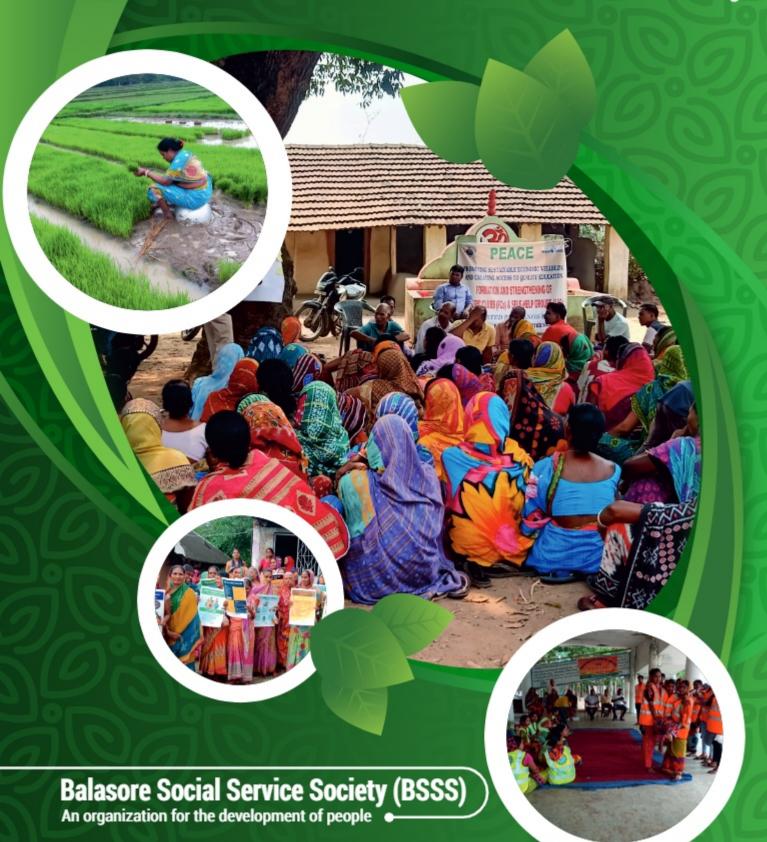
ANNUAL REPORT 2024









We envisage a transformed society where love, peace and justice prevail



We undertake the mandate of promoting, facilitating and enabling sustainable human development of all, especially the poor and the marginalized by fighting poverty, diseases, enhancing quality education, ensuring livelihood, food security and addressing emergencies.

Acknowledgement

"We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the individuals who have graciously permitted us to share their stories and images, and to the photographers, who have allowed us to publish their work in this issue.

The publisher assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized use or reproduction of these images."

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MESSAGE



'Reach out to suffering fellow human beings in every challenge of life' is the motto and inspirational principle of Balasore Social Service Society (BSSS). I am proud to note that BSSS has continued with this principle and has passed one more milestone at the service of thousands of poor and needy of the districts of Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak and Keonjhar of Odisha State. The organization is rendering service in four thematic areas of Education, Livelihood, Health and Disaster management. It is the symbol of solidarity with the most deserving people irrespective of caste, race, and religion.

I appreciate the committed and dedicated BSSS team for the tremendous efforts in marching forward to reach the goals through systematic and innovative planning. I am grateful to all our partners, funding agencies, government officials and well wishers who have been part of the journey of BSSS and look forward to the same collaboration in the coming years towards achieving a transformed society where love, peace and justice prevail. Wishing you all the best in finding the true joy in serving.

Rev. Dr. Varghese Thottamkara Souru Bishop of Balasore

MESSAGE



This annual magazine of BSSS showcases the impact of organizational service, highlighting stories of resilience and achieved transformation. It is a testament to the power of community and the human spirit. This organization has provided great scope to various communities and groups to come up in their lives and make a qualitative life.

As we reflect on another year of serving our community, I am filled with gratitude and hope. BSSS has continued to grow in her mission to support the most vulnerable in the community.

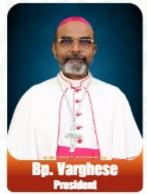
Through our various programs and services, we have touched the lives of thousands, providing hope, dignity, and empowerment.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our committed staff and volunteers, generous donors and supporters, partners and collaborators, beneficiaries, whose trust and resilience inspire us. As we embark on a new year, we remain committed to deepening our impact through innovative programs and services, strengthening our community relationships & partnerships and advocating for policy changes that promote social justice.

Together, let us build a more just and compassionate society.

Roy Antony K

Governing Body





Fr. Paul Koonamparampath Member



Fr. Joseeph Areeseril Member



Fr. Cherian Member



Roy Antony K Director



Beena Varkey Member



Mita Mohanty Member

BSSS Team

Fr. Hemanta Dalai Satyaranjan Mohapatra Binita Singh Chakradhar Rout Sangram Murmu Jayasmita Das Sambid Giri Anirudha Patra Silu Saha Barsha Priyadarshini Satyajeet Behera Chandrasekhar Panda Lulu Soren Julie Hembrom Rajib Giri Sarmistha Sen Sandhyarani Sahoo Sibayan Jena Aurobinda Patra Uttam Kumar Biswal Alok Nayak Jay Behera Binsen Joseph Juli Gomes Puja Marandi Hrushikesh Mohanty Surendra Singh

Field Staff

Education Instructors

70

Volunteers

320



Balasore Social Service Society (BSSS) a registered voluntary organization. It caters to the socially and economically disadvantaged section of the society, irrespective of caste, creed and religion, in a special manner poor, marginalized, neglected, needy and differently abled. BSSS helps the poor people in multiple ways as well as in different areas of Odisha. Our operational area comprises four districts namely Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak, and Keonjhar.

BSSS is a ray of hope to villages with different developmental and educational activities, always looks forward to improve the living standards of the community by providing food, shelter clothing, agricultural support, employment and education, to increase productivity in rural areas and reduce poverty. It involves people in planning and development through their participation in decision making and through centralization of community administration. It also to ensure distributive Justice and equalization of opportunities in the society. At present BSSS helps more than 9450 families in 251villages with multiple developmental and educational activities. There are 55 Farmers clubs, 112 SHGs and 45 education committees. BSSS helps more than 650 tribal children for their education and other developmental areas. For this particular task we have more than 43 young teachers. BSSS have three farmers producers companies (FPOs) and 100 Task forces.

BSSS always have an effective collaboration with district administration, specifically the Emergency Department, NABARD, Krishi Vigyan Kendras and Agricultural departments in implementing districts.

BSSS always looks forward the sustainable Agriculture for the poor and marginalised farmers. We study the area and people and support them with the persons who are trained to optimise the use of available resources and contribute to social and economic sustainability. BSSS also helps for strengthening the local institutions for sustainability, ensuring with the quality high yielding seeds to the farmers, in order to help the quality production and productivity. We too have integral farming models in the District of Mayurbhanj. It includes orientation, seed treatment, seed bed preparation, timely plantation, line transplantation, proper use of manure, and pesticides and quality paddy seed support, increasing the soil productivity by recycling the waste generated from different crops, organic farming, bio fertiliser, azola, vermin compost, linking farmers to agro Advisory and Machinery Hub, training on various techniques, etc.

BSSS also supports SHG for various income generating activities like phenyl making, incense stick making, tailoring, pickle making, chicks rearing, producing turmeric powder, pigs rearing, etc. This helps the individual to keep up the economic standard of living in the society. BSSS too provide to combat malnutrition through the kitchen garden. It helps woman folk for a source of income as well as fresh vegetables for the household. BSSS helps them to make income through various ways, rearing of cattle, goats, pigs, chicks etc. for the poor families in rural areas. It helps them to increase their income.

BSSS always has a good rapport with the Govt. departments for any programme. BSSS maintains working relationship with all the Govt. departments. BSSS is a part of the district level GO, NGO coordination committee. BSSS give much importance on right to protection of girl children. Special days are given its importance and give awareness in club of the students.

BSSS has proven its capacity to respond to natural disasters such as floods, cyclones, and droughts. Appointed by OSDMA, it implements village disaster management plans (VDMP) in 100 villages and provides agro-advisories and agricultural contingency plans. BSSS works on flood-resilient models, linking communities with authorities like NABARD, DDMA, and KVK.

BSSS also supports poor people with daily cooked food. Through SHARING TO CARE campaign today BSSS feeds 25-30 street dwellers everyday with the support of the people willing to share meals with someone who is in need of food.

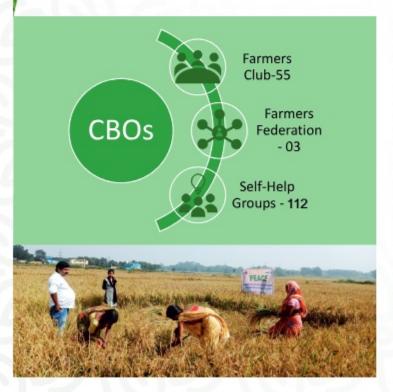


SDG8 - LIVELIHOOD: THE CORNERSTONE OF WELL-BEING

BSSS recognizes the importance of enhancing food production to meet

household needs, as it directly impacts rural livelihoods. To achieve this, a comprehensive approach has been adopted that reflects all aspects of rural life. This includes studying the various livelihood options available to people and provide training to optimize resource utilization. The goal is to promote

social and economic sustainability within rural communities.



Projects like SWAAD, DREAM, and PEACE, through various Farmers' Clubs, Farmer's Federations, and SHGs, have successfully improved agricultural practices, benefiting a total of 15,492 farmers.

In Gobardhan Panchayat of Keonjhar, 13 Farmers' Clubs with 312 members cultivated 350 acres of land using high-quality Kharif paddy seed, yielding excellent results. The production was estimated to be approximately 18 to 20 quintals per acre.



My name is Ramesh Munda, a resident of village Banua. This year, I planted paddy on 1 acre of land using the Kalachampa seed variety. With 20 kilograms of seed support, I was able to harvest 23 quintals of paddy. This is an increase of 6 quintals compared to my previous harvests on the same land. The Kalachampa variety has shown great promise and the intervention has been crucial in achieving this increased yield. I am grateful for the assistance, as it has made a substantial difference in my farming outcomes."

FARMER'S CLUB

Project Name	District	Name of CBOs	No. of CBOs	Key Progress Activities
PEACE	Keonjhar	Farmer's Club	13	 Out of 13 Farmers' Clubs 12 clubs cultivated vegetables, paddy, cash crops, and pulses. Additionally, 4 Farmers' Clubs are engaged in chick rearing, with each group raising 100 chicks (Assile AP) Goat Rearing
SWAAD	Mayurbhanj	Farmer's Club	17	Goat Rearing Seed Village Programme Bamboo Cultivation Sabai Rope Making 50 members of the Farmers' Club participated in the exposure visit
DREAM	Mayurbhanj	Farmer's Club	25	1-Good Linkage with Govt. agency like ITDA (Integrated Tribal Development Agency) and received benefits like- 10 water pumpsets, 26 weeders, and 16 Ponds through Mo Pokhari Yojana. 2- The FC members are executing works like paddy, vegetables, pulses and cash crops cultivation and earning good income.



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Project Name	District	Name of CBOs	No. of CBOs	Key Activity & Progress
SWAAD	Mayurbhanj	Shree Jagannath Farmer's Federation	1	1- Linkage with government departments and tapped the schemes meant for them.
DREAM	Mayurbhanj	Marang Buru and Anchalika Gosthi Unayana Farmer's Federation	2	1-Engaged in Pig rearing that brings a good profit.



"Through the BSSS under the PEACE project, I had the opportunity to cultivate Green Gram on 1 acre of land using the PU-35 seed variety, with 8 kg of seed support. I was able to harvest an impressive 297 kilograms of Green Gram. The PU-35 variety has proven to be highly productive and well-suited to our local conditions. This experience has reinforced my belief in the potential of improved seed varieties to enhance agricultural productivity and secure better yields."

- Pratima Mahanta from Sendkap, Gobardhan, Keonjhar

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0.04 acres of land using the Kufri Jyoti seed variety, with 40 kilograms of seed support, which played a crucial role in the success of my farming process. The results have been remarkable: I harvested 195 kilograms of potatoes, a significant increase of 95 kilograms compared to my previous harvests using traditional methods." -Suresh Mahanta, Sendkap, Gobardhan,

Keonjhar

Project Name	District	No. of SHGs	No. of Members	Key Activities & Progress
PEACE	Keonjhar	26	270	13 SHGs have started chick rearing 12 SHGs are making Badi and selling every month 1 SHG is engaged in mushroom cultivation.
SWAAD	Mayurbhanj	34	353	6 SHGs are engaged in vermi composting, 15 SHGs are involved in Sabai rope making, 6 SHGs are involved in mushroom cultivation. 2 SHGs in chicks rearing. 5 SHGs are engaged in growing & Selling Sal Leaves
DREAM	Mayurbhanj	30	312	Each SHG has received loan for agricultural purposes.
MEDP NABARD	Balasore	22	220	Dish wash Liquid, Phenyle & Detergent making

Exclusive training program by an expert under the PEACE program benefited 221 farmers from Gobardhan Panchayat, resulting in the adoption of various types of cultivation, such as pulses and cash crops. Approximately, 136 farmers cultivated cash crops on 6 acres of land, producing 8 to 10 quintals per acre. Meanwhile, 85 farmers harvested 5 to 6 quintals of pulses per acre.



In the Sargachhida GP under the SWAAD project, 577 farmers received a range of support services. During the Rabi season, 37 farmers were provided with 1,000 kgs of paddy seeds (600 kgs of Khandagiri, 200 kgs of CO51, and 200 kgs of MTU 1010). In addition, 97 farmers received paddy seed support during the Kharif season, leading to successful cultivation following the training guidelines.

In the villages of Saragachhida 5 and 6, Tangasole, Bholbeda, and Chalunia, 11 farmers sowed 20 kgs each of black gram and green gram for the first time, receiving input support from the project. Additionally, 14 farmers planted 50 kgs of Kulthi (horse gram), yielding 180.5 kgs valued at Rs. 10,830. Further more, 13 farmers cultivated 20 kgs of mustard, producing 155 kgs worth Rs. 10,815.

Similarly, vegetable cultivation in the Sargachhida Gram Panchayat have seen significant success despite limited irrigation. During the Rabi season, 162 farmers used 200 packets of vegetable seeds, generating a production value of Rs. 63,990. In the Kharif season, 83 farmers cultivated 200 packets of vegetables, producing crops worth Rs. 49,700. Additionally, 160 farmers received support for cash crop cultivation, with 117 focusing on ginger and 43 on turmeric. They applied the

knowledge gained from the training to effectively grow these crops, making their families self-sufficient in meeting their consumption needs.

Furthermore, these comprehensive support and trainings have remarkably improved the agricultural output and economic stability of the farmers in these villages.



TUBER CROPS INTERVENTION

Nearly 100 interested farmers in Kuliana and Bangriposi Block of Mayurbhanj district, Odisha, received support for cultivating crops like Tapioca, Arum, Sweet Potato, Elephant Foot Yam, and Yam, through the Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (CTCRI). On average, these 100 farmers earned a profit of Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 8,000, while one farmer harvested 10 quintals of Elephant Foot Yam, earning a profit of Rs. 40 thousand.

District	Mayurbhanj	State of	A Company	Name Victor
Block	Gram Panchayat	No. of beneficiaries	Support	Result in Rupees
Kuliana	Sargachhida	50 farmers	Tapioca, Arum, Sweet potato, Elephant Foot yam and Yam	6-7 thousand profit after own consumption
Bangriposi	Brahmangaon and Sorisapal	50 farmers	Tapioca, Arum, Sweet potato, Elephant Foot yam and Yam	Average 7-8 thousand profit



"I planted 250 elephant foot yam plants and successfully harvested 150 of them, yielding a total of around 4.7 quintals. I sold 2.7 quintals as seeds to the Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (CTCRI) at a rate of Rs. 40/kg. From the remaining 2 quintals, I reserved 50 kg as seeds for future cultivation, sold 1.2 quintals in the local market at a rate of Rs. 50/kg, and the family consumed 30 kg.".

- Prasant Giri, Kanchhinda, Sorishapal, Mayurbhanj.

This season, I cultivated Yam on a 0.3 acre land. I got a seed support of 35 kg and managed to harvest 390 kg of Yam. I could earn a profit of ₹12,250. This was possible due to the seed support and my interest. I express my gratitude to BSSS, CTCRI and I am happy with my achievement.



- Binod Murmu, Brahmangaon



This season, I cultivated Yam and bean on 0.25 Acre of land. Through my hard work, I was able to harvest 250 kg of produce. We consumed 20 kg and my family could get nutritious food. The remaining was sold and I earned a profit of ₹11,400. I am grateful for the support from BSSS and CTCRI."

Lambodhar Nayak, Baghuasole, Mayurbhanj

TRAININGS CONDUCTED

Types of Trainings	Area covered	Benefited population
Training on various Improved Agriculture Practices & Livestock Management	17 villages (SWAAD) and 5 villages (PEACE)	833 HHs (SWAAD), 1200 HHs (PEACE)
Trainings on Various Income generation activities (IGAs)	17 villages (SWAAD) and 5 villages (PEACE)	34 SHGs & 17 FC (SWAAD), 26 SHGs and 13 FCs (PEACE)





Trainings on organic cultivation, climate resilient crops and crop rotation, water and soil management, soil testing, seed and seedling treatment, organic pesticides and manure preparation, Seed storage etc. are provided to the beneficiaries by subject specialists which capacitated them to adopt sustainable agriculture. Furthermore, beneficiaries are also provided hand outs (IEC materials) on various subject related topics which continuously guides them during the time of execution.



EXPOSURE VISITS

of Farmer's
Clubs of SWAAD
project were sent for
exposure visit to
KVK, Shyamakhunta,
Baripada to learn onfarm components

Exposure for 50 SHG members of PEACE project to KVK, Keonjhar to learn various innovative IGP models 100 Lead Farmers of SWAAD project were sent for exposure visit to Bangiriposi block to learn successful farming models

As the famous proverb says, "Seeing is believing", the exposure visits increased the knowledge and motivated the farmers to take up various components which they observed practically during the visits.



During the Rabi season, I decided to cultivate Black Gram on my field. With the support of 5 kg of high-quality seeds, I was able to cultivate an area of 0.50 Acre of land. Despite the challenges, I was able to harvest 65 kg of Black Gram. This was possible due to proper seed selection and my commitment to farming.

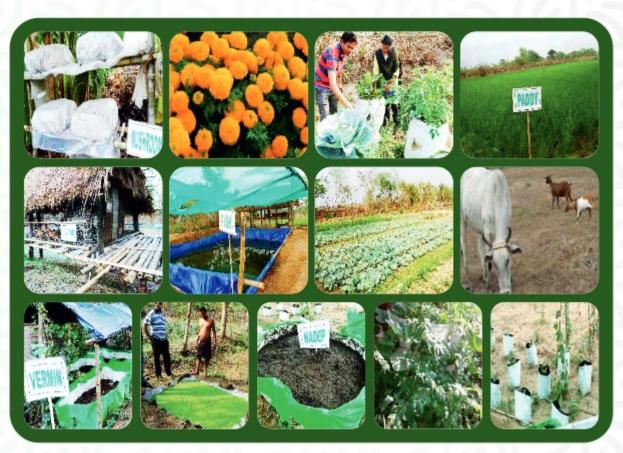
Laxmidhar Singh,
 Tangasole



IFS MODELS IN DIFFERENT FIELD AREA

Sustainable Livelihood Promotion

Integrated Farming System (IFS) is an approach towards sustainable livelihood which integrates agriculture with livestock, crop production, pisciculture, poultry, horticulture and other off-farm activities which are interdependent and inter-related aiming at maximum utilisation of land and resources. Besides, it focuses on waste recycling which can provide food / income around the year.



District/Block/GP	No. of IFS models	Components
Mayurbhanj/ Kuliana/ Saragachhida	20	Vermi composting in cement rings, azolla, NADEP pits, silpaulin fish pond, livestock, vegetable and horticulture items
Keonjhar/ Sadar Keonjhar/ Gobardhan	14	Silpaulin fish pond, vermin, local NADEP, azolla, vegetables, cash crop, pulses cultivation, chicks, goat and cow
Bhadrak/ Basudevpur/ Balimeda & Andola	15	Pisciculture in cement rings, vegetables, chicks, paddy (swarna sub-1)

This year, 20 new farmers of SWAAD - II project have been promoted on the IFS concept who have started to integrate different components in a systematic manner to develop successful models. Similarly, in Keonjhar and Bhadrak IFS models have been adopted successfully.



JOURNEY OF PRITI RANJAN WITH BMZ GLOBAL PROGRAM:

Motivated by community staff member Dipanjali Bala, Priti Ranjan learned about various government schemes and initiatives under the BMZ Global Program. With the help of the Village Disaster Management Committee (VDMC), he availed 20 kg of Swarna Sub 1 paddy seeds and cultivated on one acre of land. He reaped a good harvest of 20 quintals of paddy. Later under the Spices Mission of Horticulture Department, he received seeds and saplings of different vegetables that includes brinjal, tomato, cucumber, chilly, beans, cauliflower, and cabbage. He invested ₹5,000 in vegetable cultivation and earned around ₹20,000. Multi-cropping proved beneficial for Priti Ranjan as he earned a good income from such crop diversification.

PISCICULTURE IN CEMENT RING

In addition to vegetable farming, Priti Ranjan also ventured into fishery ring cultivation with the support of the BMZ Global Program. He received essential materials, including rings for fish, green net, lime (Chuna) fish feed. The fishery ring construction began in December and was completed by April. through cement ring pisciculture he earned ₹1,800 by selling 9 kg of fish initially.

IMPACT AND CONCLUSION:

The BMZ Global Program played a pivotal role in transforming the life of Priti Ranjan Mohanty. Through the Integrated Farming System (IFS) Model, he successfully diversified his farming activities, leading to a significant improvement in his economic condition. His monthly income increased, enabling him to provide better education for his children and improve his family's overall well-being. Gradually, he is moving towards economic stability coupled with increased happiness in the family. He has set an example for others too, through essential crop planning and diversification.



SDG15 - SOW, GROW, AND GLOW: BAMBOO CULTIVATION ON UNUSED LANDS SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES AND BENEFITS

In a commendable initiative to generate additional income and ensure financial stability, 106 farmers have successfully planted bamboo on the unused barren lands of Saragachhida gram panchayat. Making approximately tune of 82.24 acres of land usable to these farmers have planted a total of 8,224 bamboo plants. This innovative approach promises to give a substantial income with minimal risk, providing an alternative source of financial support during their hour of need.



Bamboo, known for its rapid growth and low maintenance requirements, is an ideal crop for transforming unproductive land into a reliable source of income. The farmers' efforts not only strengthen their economic resilience but also contribute to the environmental sustainability by improving soil quality and preventing erosion. This initiative exemplifies how traditional farming communities can adopt sustainable practices to secure their livelihoods and promote ecological balance.



The experience of planting 100 bamboo saplings on 0.70 Acre of land has not only boosted my confidence but also inspired me towards right use looking at the structure and texture of the soil. I am grateful for the support from BSSS that made this possible. I am committed to continue my efforts to improve my farm and provide a better life for my family. The progress I have made so far is just the beginning. I look forward to see the result in future. Dharanidhar Nayak, Bhugudakata, Mayurbhanj

CHANGE-ORIENTED APPROACH (COA): EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES WITH SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS.

To empower the community to identify and solve their own issues, a Change-Oriented Approach (COA) workshop was convened in Hatibari Village of Saragachhida Gram Panchayat. This innovative concept of Caritas France (SCCF) was implemented by BSSS under the aegis of Project SWAAD-II with the aim to address pressing local issues through community involvement and action.

During the workshop, the villagers spotlighted core issues like child marriage, school dropouts, and migration. The COA process facilitated open discussions, enabling the community to develop effective strategies for addressing these challenges. As a result, there has been an attitudinal change among the villagers to act upon the local and critical issues. The villagers of Hatibari have shown greater unified action demonstrating commitment to enhance their social conditions and future prospects.



COA-ALife Changer

Mindsets "People change when mindset change". This happened with Sunaram Singh with regard to his son Akash's education. Akash once a dropout again went back to school and continued his education. This was the impact of COA process and formation of core team in the village. His father was convinced by the core team members on the importance of education and its impact on his child's future. The collective approach of the core team compelled him to think on it. There happened due to change in the



mindset of Sunaram. He could understand his responsibility well and took Akash to school regularly. He has shown interest in his studies and is inspiring others to attend school regularly. Sunaram expresses his gratitude to BSSS and his fellow villagers for this change of his mindset.



SDG8- EMPOWERING FARMERS WITH KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS: WELCOME TO OUR FIELD SCHOOL, WHERE LEARNING AND INNOVATION YIELD SUCCESS

In Saragachhida-5 village, located in the Kuliana Block of Mayurbhanj District, a groundbreaking initiative under Project SWAAD - II has led to the creation of a Field School which is spread across 2 acres of land. Managed by the Shree Jagannath Farmers' Federation of Saragachhida G.P., the school incorporates the members of 17 FCs from 17 villages. This Field School showcases a variety of livelihood models, including pulses, cash crops, vegetable farming, seed production and bio composting, all serving as practical demonstrations for local farmers.

In addition to presenting these diverse agricultural practices, the Field School organizes training programs and field exposure events in partnership with government agencies. These initiatives aim to equip farmers with the knowledge and skills necessary to adopt sustainable and profitable farming techniques. Through hands-on learning and expert guidance, the Field School plays a crucial role in fostering agricultural innovation and improving the livelihoods of farmers in the said village.





SDG13- CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION INITIATIVES

BSSS, in collaboration with the Forest, Environment, and Climate Change Department of India, is implementing the "Enhancing Climate Resilience of India's Coastal Communities (ECRICC)" project in the Talsari landscape of Balasore district since April 2023. The project aims to enhance the resilience of vulnerable populations, especially women, by addressing climate change and extreme events through an ecosystem-centered, community-based approach. Key activities include awareness, training, climate-adaptive livelihoods and capacity building.

Funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Government of India, the Government of Odisha and UNDP, the project is coordinated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (India) and the Department of Forest, Environment and Climate Change (Odisha). The Integrated Coastal Zone Management Society supports implementation, with BSSS acting as the grassroot-level Facilitating NGO (FNGO). The project covers 49 villages in 15 Gram Panchayats, impacting 14,093 households and 59,661 people, including 1,133 Women's Self-Help Groups and 11,795 women members.







PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SI. No	Major Activities	Key Achievements (Quantitative)	Key Achievements (Qualitative)
1	System of Rice Intensification (SRI)	2,381 households practiced SRI.	57% income increase in Kharif, 59% in Rabi. 40% reduction in chemical fertilizers, increased organic manure use, and lower methane emissions.
2	Crab Farming	One farmer selected for crab farming.	MPEDA RGCA sourced crab larvae from Chennai, benefiting local farmers with chemical-free farming and strong market demand.
3	Fish Value-Added Products	One SHG selected for fish products.	SHG's fish products were inaugurated by the district collector, strengthening market linkages and boosting 11 households' income.
4	Honey Farming	40 beneficiaries supported.	Beneficiaries received beekeeping equipment, with bees collecting honey from mangrove sites, fostering local production.
5	Chili and Coriander Cultivation	54 beneficiaries cultivated chili (10.8 ha), 56 cultivated coriander (5.6 ha).	40% income increase; 110 farmers replicated the model, boosting their income.
6	Hybrid Vegetable Cultivation	14 farmers cultivated vegetables on 2.8 ha.	Significant income increase for 14 farmers.
7	WSHGs Revolving Fund	11 WSHG mothers received revolving funds.	WSHG mothers grew businesses with ₹10,000 for fisheries activities.
8	Scholarships for Fishermen's Students	15 students received scholarships.	Scholarships supported higher education for fishing community students.
9.1	Backyard Poultry (State Plan)	76 farmers benefited.	50% income increase for 76 households.
9.2	Rural Duck Farming (State Plan)	5 farmers benefited.	50% income increase for 5 households.
10	Black Gram, Green Gram, Mustard Cultivation	110 beneficiaries cultivated 0.4 ha each of gram and mustard.	40% income increase for 230 households during Rabi season.
11	New Registration for CAA License	30 shrimp farmers applied for CAA licenses.	Enables shrimp farming with a valid license and eligibility for crab farming.
12	Training for Fish and Prawn Value Addition	30 beneficiaries trained at KVK, Baliapal.	Trained beneficiaries produced and sold value-added fish products for profit.
13	Nutri-smart Bio-Fortified Crop & Zinc Rice Distribution	20 farmers benefited.	Increased zinc content in crops, improving food nutrition.
14	Matsya Pokhari Yojana	2 farmers applied for the program.	Farmers joined the Matsya Pokhari program for enhanced aquaculture.
15	Ecosystem Restoration	184 hectares of mangrove planted.	Community sensitized to forest protection and use of barren lands for mangrove and salt marsh cultivation.











STORIES OF CHANGE FROM THE ECRICC FIELD PROGRAMS



Empowering Dreams: Swadhin SHG with Fish Value-Added Products

'Swadhin' is a Women Self-Help Group (WSHG) located in NM Padia village, formed in 2019 with 11 members. Initially struggling to find income-generating opportunities, the group's dreams began to materialize through the ECRICC project. Pushpita Rani Dash, Climate Champion, and the cluster coordinator introduced the group to the project's activities. The group, interested in fish valueadded products, received training, exposure and essential inputs like solar panels from the DPMU team. Members trained at KVK, Baliapal, and learned about marketing and business development.



On 08.10.2023, the group launched its "Fish Value Added Products" project, with the Collector of Balasore delivering an inspiring address. The group, showing dedication, participated in an exhibition at ITI ground, selling their products and earning Rs. 4000. The SHG president expressed gratitude to the DMPU, SPMU, FNGO and others for their support and aims to improve in future exhibitions, as advised by OLM and Mission Shakti officials.

The SHG envisions its dream coming true within a short period, as it has had a very good start with ECRICC.

ECRICC brings hope: A smile on Santilata Mahisal's face.

Santilata, 48, from Jayarampur village in Bhograi Block, Balasore, is married to Anil Mahisal, a daily laborer. They have four children and live in a thatched house without land, sharing others' fields. Last year, they cultivated 0.90 Acre of paddy using 'Kala Champa' seeds, yielding 17 quintals.

During a village meeting, Santilata learned about paddy cultivation using the SRI method and showed interest. Through the ECRICC project, she received necessary support like other selected women farmers. The climate champion guided her and her husband at various stages of their paddy farming. Using the same 'Kala Champa' seeds, they harvested 2,677 kg of paddy.

Santilata joyfully shares, "This method has increased rice production, assuring my children won't face food scarcity year-round. My husband's daily wages can now be saved for other needs. We've decided to continue using the SRI method next season"

Discover how Prabhati Das revolutionized her farm and transformed the future of her community

In the village of Gobindpur, Prabhati Das, 28, has become an inspiring figure in sustainable agriculture. With the support of her husband, Ranjit, Prabhati embarked on a transformative journey after attending a meeting organized by the ECRICC project at her Self-Help Group (SHG). Motivated by what she learned, she joined Gram Panchayat Level Federation (GPLF) and Cluster Level Federation (CLF) meetings, which sparked her interest in adopting the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method.



Despite her limited education (9th grade), Prabhati attended ECRICC training on SRI techniques, including plant protection, nutrient management, pest control, and disease management. She dedicated 0.25 Acre of land to SRI, investing ₹6000, significantly lower than her previous ₹9000. Using organically treated H 2233 seeds, she harvested 8 quintals, an increase from the 5.75 quintals using traditional methods.

With the support from FNGO and DPMU staff during transplantation and continuous training, Prabhati's success improved her family's food security. She now consumes all the rice she grows, reducing reliance on the Public Distribution System (PDS) Prabhati's journey highlights the power of community-driven projects and the resilience of individuals transforming their lives and communities.

From Landless to Leader : Taposhi Pradhan's Path to Sustainable Farming

Taposhi Pradhan, a 42-year-old member of the Bibhuti Self-Help Group in Jayrampur, is a landless sharecropper cultivating paddy on 4 acres. Facing low productivity from traditional farming, she sought a sustainable method to improve yield. Through the ECRICC project, she received the necessary support and implemented the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) method on 0.25 acres, using DRR 67 (Zinc Rice) seeds with organic practices like Bijamruta seed treatment and multiple rounds of weeding.

For the remaining 3.75 acres, she invested ₹52,100, producing 50 quintals of rice. In contrast, for 0.25 acres under SRI, she invested ₹7,300 and harvested 6 quintals with lower seed usage and higher efficiency. Grateful for the training and support from the ECRICC, Harvest Plus and the FNGO, Taposhi plans to consume the zinc rice for her family's nutrition and expand SRI across her land. She now advocates for organic farming, inspiring others with her success.

From Adversity to Prosperity: Letter from Gouri Dalai

Dear Friends,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Gouri Dalei and I'd like to share my journey. Life hasn't been easy. As a member of the Shubha Laxmi Self-Help Group in Jayrampur village, Balasore, Odisha, I faced many challenges, especially after my husband, Janmejay, fell ill and could no longer work. Without land, we relied on sharecropping and a small grocery shop. Then, I attended an ECRICC meeting where I learned about the System of Rice Intensification (SRI). Though skeptical at first, I decided to try it. Applying SRI to a small plot, I saw remarkable results. Despite a 5-month food deficit, the improved yield eased our financial burden. From 0.75 acres, I harvested 20.3 quintals and from 0.25 acres using SRI, I harvested 10.7 quintals. I'm grateful for the ECRICC team's support and am now advocating SRI to others.







SDG16 - "SURAKHYA" A JOINT VENTURE TO SAFEGUARD THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF CHILDREN IN BANGRIPOSI & KULIANA BLOCK OF MAYURBHANJ DISTRICT





Street plays on child abuse issues

Surakhya is an attempt to create an environment where Children are able to enjoy their child rights, especially the right to protection. This intervention at Kuliana and Bangriposi Blocks in Mayurbhanj district aimed to protect Children form various child related issues where 50% cases have been resolved with proper action by the duty bearers. Further more 50% of the key stakeholders like families, school teachers, hostel in-charges, caregivers of children and local PRI members are taking proper actions to prevent and reduce issues related to child protection and child trafficking.

The cases of child protection/trafficking have reduced to a great extent. It is due to the realization of people followed by the presence and active involvement of the promoted structures like Gram Panchayat Child Protection Committee (GPCPC) Community Child Protection Committee (CCPC), Adolescent Girls Group (AGG), School Vigilant Committee (SVC) as well as the involvement of the concerned departments by taking up cases reported to them.

Raising awareness among the people including school students through promoted SVCs and AGGs in the hostel has brought a sense of securing the rights and dignity of children. The key stakeholders of the communities i.e. the members of CCPCs and GPCPCs including AGGs are also making themselves well aware of the departments concerned and their roles and responsibilities so as to avail the supports as and when needed.

The AGGs and the CCPCs have involved themselves not only in finding out the cases but also engaged themselves in solving those issues including rehabilitating the victims.

The project has already established an effective way of reporting the cases. As per decision in the communities, the stakeholders have been asked to report the cases either to the CCPC or to the AGG including project staff as soon as they get any information about child abuse.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- More than 54% of stakeholders of 80 communities have understood the issues of child protection as important for the child and their future.
- 43% of communities with the support of CCPC and AGG are proactively involved in tracing out the issues around them and are solving them
- Child marriage has reduced by 47% (base year case no 21 and this year case no -11)
- Drop-out has reduced by 57% (base year case no 248 and this year case no -106)
- Child labour has reduced by 88% (base year case no 92 and this year case no 11)





Producing an orphan child at CWC

Looking at the rural people especially the tribal residing in the remote areas, the project "SURAKHYA" a joint initiative to safeguard the rights and dignity of children in Mayurbhanj is supporting them and their situation as they are prone to the negative effects of numerous socio-cultural, road blocks.

The community structures (CCPC 80, AGG 80, SVC 17 etc.) promoted to take ahead and to own the systems of protecting and safeguarding the rights and dignity of children, have also come up taking responsibilities.

The stakeholders specially the girls have immensely been benefited by the project. They along with their parents have started thinking about the ill effects of child abuses and are growing up with new thoughts to safeguard the child rights. The project has saved many girls from ruining their future by being married at early age, being drop out of the schools etc

TABLE OF VILLAGES WHERE CHILD ABUSE CASES HAVE BEEN REDUCED & STOPPED SO FAR

SI.No.	Type of case	No. of villages out of 80	%
1	Child marriage	51	63.75
2	Child labour	66	82.5
3	Dropouts	21	26.25
4	Physical torture	77	96.25
5	Orphan	75	93.75



CASE 1: PREVENTING CHILD MARRIAGE THROUGH COMMUNITY ACTION

During the team's visit to Fuljhara village in the Kuliana block, a notable case of preventing child marriage came to light.

An underage boy from Fuljhara had brought an underaged girl from a neighboring village with the intention of marrying her. Upon learning about the situation, the CCPC members swiftly intervened. They convened an immediate meeting with village elders, the parents of the boy, girl and other community members. In a sensitive manner, they explained that child marriage is

unlawful and harmful to the well-being of both children. Through open dialogue, they successfully convinced the parents to reconsider their decision.

The CCPC members played a pivotal role in formulating a resolution that addressed the situation responsibly. The resolution involved an agreement that the boy would wait until he reaches the legal age of marriage (21 years) and the girl attains adulthood (18 years). This case exemplifies the CCPC's ability to prevent child marriage by leveraging community connections, raising awareness and encouraging parents to prioritize their children's well-being over cultural norms.



CASE 2: RESCUING ORPHANED CHILDREN THROUGH TIMELY INTERVENTION

In G
CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

WAYURBHANJ DISTRICT

(A MENDER OF A POST AN MACROT TARKS)

A MENDER OF A POST AN MACROT TARKS

A MENDER OF A POST AN MACROT TARKS

COMMITTEE

(A MENDER OF A POST AN MACROT TARKS)

(C)

In Ghatkunari village, Brahmangaon Gram Panchayat, a heartwarming case highlighted the CCPC's role in advocating for the rights of vulnerable children. Two orphan children, with no means of support or protection, were reported by CCPC members to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) in Baripada. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, the CCPC members acted as advocates for the children's rights to protection and care.

Through their close collaboration with the CWC, the CCPC members ensured that swift action would take place. The children were rescued from their vulnerable situation and placed in a Child Care Institute in Baripada, where they were provided with a safe and nurturing environment. This case showcases the CCPC's commitment to protecting the most vulnerable members of their community and their proactive efforts to engage with external stakeholders to secure a better future for these children.



CASE 3: STOPPING IMPENDING CHILD MARRIAGE THROUGH COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

In Rangisole village, Keutunimari Gram Panchayat, the CCPC members encountered an imminent case of child marriage. A 14 years old girl had been selected as a potential bride for a boy from another village. The CCPC members swiftly intervened to prevent the situation from escalating. They initiated dialogue with the families of both the boy and the girl, emphasizing the detrimental effects of early marriage on the physical and mental well-being of children.

Through compassionate counseling and awareness-raising, the CCPC members successfully convinced the families to reconsider their decision. The boy and girl were counseled on the importance of education, personal growth, and development before entering into marriage. This case underscores the CCPC's role as advocates for children's rights, their ability to initiate dialogue, and their determination to protect children from harmful practices.







SDG 3 & 4 - ENSURING HOLISTIC CARE: DISTRICT INSPECTION COMMITTEE VISIT TO CHILD CARE INSTITUTION IN MAYURBHANJ

A dedicated team comprising the CDMO, D.H.H. Mayurbhanj, a Member, of the CWC, Mayurbhanj; a Mental Health Expert from DHH Baripada; Representative from NGO - BSSS and the DCPO, Mayurbhanj, conducts extensive visits to all 11 Child Care Institutions (CCI) in the Mayurbhanj district every quarter.

During these visit, meticulous attention is given to assessing the overall functioning of the CCIs. Records such as children's attendance, staff attendance, visiting registers, CC camera functionality, Aadhaar card updates, online uploads and children's bio-data registers are thoroughly inspected to ensure smooth operations and the well being of the children.







The well-being of the children is a key focus. Health check-ups are conducted by the attending doctors and the mental health expert provides counselling to the children. Personal hygiene standards are inspected, including checks on bathrooms, bedrooms, clothing, and bedding. Any lapses in cleanliness are addressed promptly, with instructions given to staff for immediate rectification.

Daily meals are monitored to ensure adherence to routine menus and the kitchen facilities are inspected. The children's study areas and extracurricular activities, such as music, handicrafts, dance, drawing and games are also evaluated. The team reviewed government-provided assets to ensure their proper utilization.





Personal counselling sessions are conducted to address individual needs and observations from each visit that are recorded in the DIC visit Register. Suggestions for improvement are shared with the CCI staff and all team members sign the register as a record of their observations and actions.

This comprehensive inspections underscores the commitment of the DIC visiting team to ensuring the safety, well-being and holistic development of children under the care of CCI in Mayurbhanj.







SDG4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Education is a vast ocean, an unfathomable realm, where we acquire a little and impart a drop to the greater sea of knowledge. This collective wisdom enkindles the minds of communities across various age groups, guiding them towards real-life ventures for a better and brighter future.

Aligned with its mission to provide quality education, BSSS is currently implementing several project interventions across three districts. These initiatives focus on supporting diverse groups of children and women, aiming to empower and uplift the underprivileged sections of the society. Projects such as Mainstreaming Low-Performing Tribal Students through Bridge up Centres, PEACE, SEED and WLC are designed to integrate marginalized groups into the mainstream.



DISTRICTS

Village 15

Village 22

Village 18

No. of BuCs 15

No. of BuCs 22

No. of BuCs 18

Children Covered 229

Children Covered 288

Case Story: In the remote village of Unchabali, Sumati Munda, a Class 3 student, had been struggling with her studies. She was enrolled at the Birsha Munda BuC as part of BSSS's educational interventions. With the support of dedicated teachers and access to learning resources, her academic performance showed remarkable improvement. She scored 102 out of 150 in academics and actively participated in extracurricular activities, scored 21 out of 30 points.



Children are taught not only formal education but also encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities designed to showcase their innate talents. They are also taught basic family etiquettes, emphasizing respect for parents and elders, as well as promoting values of obedience and gratitude.





To enhance the children's talents. various competitions are organized, such as drawing, essay writing, singing, dancing and monoacting. These activities are aimed at bringing out the best in the children and sparking their interest, ultimately encouraging them to excel in all areas of their development.

Teachers play a crucial role in shaping students' futures and therefore, all the educators at the education centres are trained to deliver quality education using, joyful methodology. Experts are brought in to equip the teachers with various techniques and approaches to actively involve students, ensuring that the curriculum is taught more effectively and participatively.





Case Story Empowering Children through Education and BSSS Interventions

Nandini's Determination: Carving Her Path to Success



Nandini Munda
Class – V
D/o – Tande Munda
Village – Kathakata
Block – Anandapur
Dist - Keonjhar
BuC Name - Birshamunda

Nandini Munda 12 years old, is the eldest daughter of Tande Munda. She is from village Kathakata of Ananadpur block of Keonjhar district. She is from a poor family. Her parents are daily wage earners. They go out for work early in the morning leaving other two children under her care. Nandini has to take care of her younger brothers as well as do some household chores as asked by her parents. This engagement made her remain absent from school and finally became drop out in class—IV. Nandini being dropped out found herself unhappy. There were no options to avoid the responsibilities given to her. So, amidst the attraction towards education and the difficulties of family she silently bore the pain.

One day, she went to the BuC instructor Bela Purty and informed her about the family situation and her interest toward education. Understanding the situation of Nandini, the instructor Bela Purty, welcomed her and assured her to support her in continuing her study in the BuC.



Now, Nandini is happy.

Throughout the day she engages herself in taking care of her brothers and in the afternoon, she attend the BuC. The instructor found Nandini polite and keen toward education. Within few days of attending BuC, she improved her standard in different subjects. For this opportunity Nandini is very grateful to the instructor, BSSS and the funding agency.



EDUCATING WOMEN FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

BSSS places strong emphasis on women's literacy and has successfully empowered 1,200 women through its literacy program, which has been supported and designed by Tata Power Northern Odisha Distribution Ltd. (TPNODL) The program, implemented in two phases across the Districts of Mayurbhanj and Balasore, Focuses on providing basic education to help women read and write. In addition to practicing their own initials has significantly boosted their confidence, enabling them to manage their day-to-day activities more effectively.





It was observed that, through functional literacy program, 72 women were able to benefit from government schemes. During the intervention, women were assisted in opening their AADHAAR accounts with the relevant department. Additionally, 15 dedicated teachers of the Women's Literacy Program (WLC) motivated their students to showcase their talents within their own class groups. The teachers employed followed by joyful and participatory teaching methodology, making the classes lively and engaging.



The program addressed critical social issues by raising awareness among women on essential topics such as, Sukanya Yojna, Right to education, child marriage, personal hygiene, early pregnancy and family planning. Many women lack access to vital information, leaving them vulnerable to social injustices and health risks. Through education and empowerment, the program equips women to overcome challenges social norms and protect their rights. It also fosters confidence and knowledge to combat harmful practices like child marriage and early pregnancy. This initiative plays a crucial role in creating a more informed and empowered community.



Education Committee: Strengthening Educational Centres

To ensure the effective functioning of 55 education centres, BSSS has established education committees at the village level. These committees consist of selected parents, anganwadi workers, village leaders, and ward members, who are regularly monitor the centres' activities. Members are trained and made aware of their roles to systematically guide and oversee the centres. This collaborative approach not only enhances the centres' performance but also ensures their long-term sustainability. By involving the community, BSSS fosters a shared responsibility for quality education.





Children's Clubs A Drive Towards Promoting Leadership

Children's Clubs play a vital role as the social arm of the organization, driving positive change within the community. Operating in 55 villages, these clubs empower children to address issues impacting their surroundings. Initiatives such as cleaning around tube wells, improving village roads and submitting applications to local leaders have led to improvements in community hygiene and infrastructure.

Through participation in talent-building activities held twice a month, children have develop leadership skills, build confidence and gain awareness of their fundamental rights. These clubs not only nurture future leaders but also instil a sense of responsibility and active citizenship, creating a ripple effect of progress throughout the community.



Children's Parliament: Catalysts of Community Transformation

The Children's Parliament nurtures the next generation of leaders by empowering them to address both local and global challenges. Acting as ministers for various villages and gram panchayats children identify community issues and implement practical solutions.

Around 13 Children's Parliaments have indulged themselves in impactful activities, including improving sanitation, advocating for child rights, promoting quality education and leading environmental campaigns such as plantation drives and say "No to Plastics" initiative. By addressing injustice and protecting the vulnerable, these young changemakers are inspiring transformation within their communities.

The Children's Parliament serves as a powerful platform that fosters leadership, accountability and a vision for a sustainable future.







Boosting Education with Essential Learning Resources

Access to basic educational materials is crucial for fostering an exuberant joyful and effective learning experience, especially for underprivileged Tribal children in rural areas women recognizing the need, BSSS has provided essential supplies to 55 bridge up centres serving 895 children and 30 Women Literacy Centres (WLC) serving 1,200 women learners. These supplies (TLM) includes slates, pencils, practice books, notebooks, pens and sketch pens etc.

To create a conducive learning environment, additional resources such as tarpaulins, blackboards, chalk, dusters and attendance registers were also distributed. Visual aids, including charts of vegetables, fruits, animals, flowers and national leaders, further enrich the teaching atmosphere.

By equipping children with these tools, BSSS ensure the resources needed to learn effectively, fostering enthusiasm and ensure engagement in education.





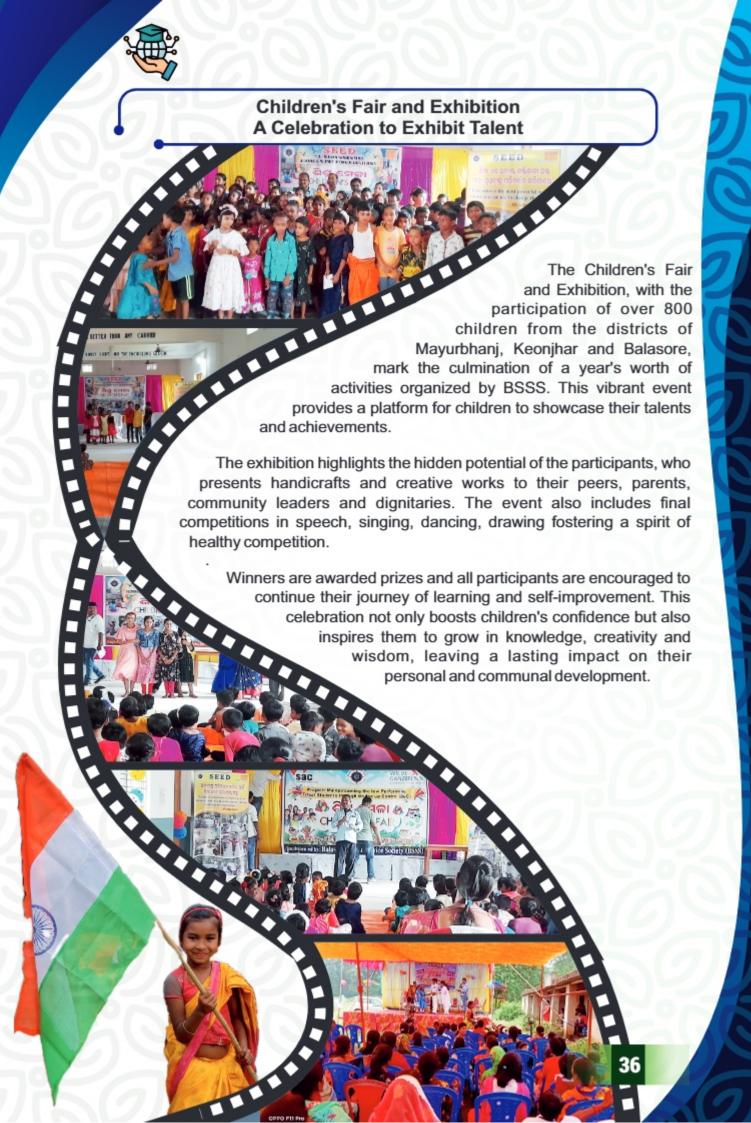


Empowering Women through Literacy: Anita Behera's Journey for Economic Justice

Anita Behera, a 51 years old woman from Baisinga village, was an active member of the Maa Durga Self-Help Group (SHG), contributing Rs. 200 regularly. However, due to a data entry error, her contributions were recorded as Rs. 100 for almost a year. Unaware of this mistake, Anita continued her payments until she enrolled in the TPNODL Women Literacy Center (WLC) program.

Through this program, Anita gained basic literacy and numeracy skills, which empowered her to read, write and understand her financial records. Upon reviewing her SHG contributions, she discovered the discrepancy. With the support of her WLC teacher, Anita approached the SHG leaders and successfully rectified the records, ensuring she received credit for her full contribution.

Anita's story highlights the transformative power of education in rural areas, demonstrating how literacy can empower women to address injustices and confidently engage in community matters. Her journey not only led to financial justice but also inspired other women in her village to pursue education for their personal and collective growth.







Subhadra Bindani Instructor,Birshamunda BuC Unchabali, Badasahi Mayurbhanj



When Nihar Ranjan Tudu first entered the Birshamunda BuC in Unchabali, where I am an instructor. He was hesitant and often replied, "Why do you ask me so many questions?" When I asked, "Don't your parents ask you questions?" he told me that he had lost his mother and there was no one at home to ask him anything. I was struck by his response and felt deeply empathetic towards him. After a brief silence, I hugged him and consoled him.

Since then, I have considered him my own child and have supported him not only with his studies but also with his personal and emotional well-being. The motherly affection that I gave helped him to build his confidence and reignited his interest in learning.

With this newfound confidence, Nihar Ranjan went on to win 1st prize in both the drawing and dance competitions at the block level.



Reward and Recognition Ceremony (R&R) Celebrating Excellence



The Reward and Recognition Ceremony is a powerful initiative that highlights the significant contributions of women to the society. This ceremony honours the remarkable achievements of 600 selected women who have actively participated in various activities under the Women's Literacy Programs. This event recognizes their dedication, resilience and the transformative impact they have in their families and communities.

The ceremony not only boosts their morale but also encourage continued participation in developmental programs and inspire others to follow suit. By recognizing their efforts, the event fosters a sense of pride and empowerment. Reinforcing the organization's commitment to uplifting women and promoting gender equality.

This celebration acknowledges individual achievements and strengthens the collective spirit of progress within the community. Two such events were organized to felicitate the women learners and teachers, graced by the CEO of Tata Power Northern Odisha Distribution Ltd. (TPNODL) and other department heads from the funding agencies.







Through the **EMPOWER Asia** pilot project, a collaborative initiative by **Caritas India (CI)** and **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**, BSSS has undertaken innovative efforts to strengthening its organizational capacity across various departments of its social wings. **EMPOWER Asia** focuses on enhancing systems and building resilience for the organization.

The initiative unfolds in three distinct phases, emphasizing inclusive strengthening and capacity-building activities. The key focus is on legal framework and manpower development. Organizational policies have been thoroughly reviewed, updated and necessary changes were made to align with the vision of Caritas India's mission of "Reaching millions through strengthened systems."



Additionally, the project prioritizes empowering personnel, recognizing that, skilled and prepared manpower is essential for effectively addressing emergencies. Training sessions on specialized topics have been conducted for stakeholders across BSSS, equipping them with the knowledge and tools to manage challenges and contribute to the organization's resilience.

According to the Caritas Internationalise Management Standard (CIMS), BSSS achieved a benchmark score of 48% based on an evaluation across six thematic areas: laws and ethical codes, governance and organization, program finance accountability, stakeholder involvement, cash transfer preparedness and gender (HOCAI).

To enhance this performance and address areas identified in the scoring, the implementing authorities, **Caritas India (CI)** and **Catholic Relief Services (CRS)**, organized numbers of training, workshops and meetings. These initiatives were designed to strengthen organizational capacity and build resilience, ensuring alignment





SL No	Name of the training program	Main notable highlights of the program	No of people trained through BSSS	Impact of the program
1	TOT training on Emergency Response Preparedness	The project partner's capacities are enhanced on emergency response initiatives. The Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) and emergency response objectives that guide humanitarian organizations and project staff in providing effective and accountable assistance during emergencies and crisis.	8	The staff are equipped with skill and knowledge to face the emergencies effectively
2	Volunteers' management and policy guidelines training at Darjeeling.	Generate the pull of volunteers and develop the policy guidelines for the organization	8	Staff are aware of the guidelines and importance of the volunteers in the organization
3	Volunteers training	Provided volunteerism spirit	60	Dedication of the volunteers enhanced
4	Training on SOP, Code of conduct, safeguarding code of conduct and environmental justice	Orientation provided to the core staff on different documents of the organization and policies	27	Staff are aware of the organization's vital documents and policies of BSSS
5	Training given to field staff, CBOs, BuC instructors and community members on Code of conduct, safeguarding code of conduct, Child protection policy and environmental justice	BSSS stakeholder are aware of the norms and policies of the organization to observe.	136	It is to protect the reputation of the organization as well as of each individual





Training on Volunteer Management and Policy Guidelines

This training played a vital role in empowering the organization to effectively mobilize volunteers during emergencies conducted at Darjeeling, It equipped BSSS staff with the skills and knowledge to organize similar sessions for selected volunteers. The training focused on enhancing the capacity of volunteers and deepening their understanding of volunteerism and its service-oriented values. Following this, BSSS organized a training session for volunteers at Kuruda,



Balasore, untressing active participation of 60 attendees, further strengthening their readiness to contribute effectively in times of need.

BSSS Policies: Bridging the Gap Between Institutions and Communities BSSS ensures that its policies are not confined to the shelves but are actively brought to the grassroot level, people in the villages. Stakeholders are trained on key policies such as the Code of Conduct, Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, ensuring widespread awareness and adherence.

This initiative also provided BSSS with an excellent opportunity to develop new institutional policies. These policies are crafted with the collaborative efforts of policy-making experts, supporting agencies, senior experienced BSSS staff and the Project Extension Associate (PEA) of the Empower Asia project. The newly developed policies and documents for BSSS include:



- Safeguarding policy
- 2. Whistle Blower policy



- Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
- 2. Strategic plan
- 3. Environmental Justice



Orientation for BuC Instructors and WLC Teachers on BSSS Policies and Legal Guidelines

BSSS conducted two focused training sessions to upgrade BuC instructors and WLC teachers with its institutional policies and legal frameworks. These sessions underscored the organization's dedication for maintaining legal compliance and promoting ethical practices across all levels.

As part of its commitment, BSSS ensures that every staff member is informed about and adheres to the organization's policies and guidelines. The training sessions provided to instructors and teachers with a clear understanding of critical policies, particularly the Child Protection Policy, enforcing a strict "zero tolerance" stance.

This policy mandates compliance not only among staff in office and fieldwork but also extends to associates such as volunteers, board members, donors, partner organizations, consultants, government authorities and visitors-including journalists, media professionals and researchers-who interact with children supported by BSSS.

BSSS Legal Documents and Policies at a Glance



BALASORE SOCIAL SERVICE SOCIETY (BSSS) Vivekananda Marg, Balasore, Odisha

8¢ 340	9,	
POLICIES OF THE ORGANIZATION	Type of Documents	Number
Human Resources Policy Child Protection Policy	 Certificate of Registration of Societies ACT XXI of 1860 	19342/61 of 1992-1993
3. Gender Policy 4. Finance Policy	FCRA Registration No.	104820098
5. Procurement Policy	Permanent Account Number (PAN)	AAFTS2095G
6. PoSH/Sexual Harassment Policy 7. Safeguarding Policy	* Tax Deduction Number (TAN)	BBNB01279F
8. Whistle Blower Policy	# Income Tax Registration U/S 12A	AAFTS2095GE20048
DOCUMENTS OF THE ORGANIZATION	of the Income Tax Act 1961	
1. Code of Conduct and Alert System	Income Tax Registration U/S 80G	AAFTS2095GF20111
2. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)	of the Income Tax Act 1961	
Strategic Plan Environmental Justice	Darpan Unique ID	OR/2017/0167316
	CSR Registration Number	CSR00029656





SDG 13 - STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR)



We cannot stop natural disasters but we can equip ourselves with preparedness. Under the aegis of Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA), BSSS as Nodal Organization implements the planning process in 71 villages of Balasore Sadar, Baliapal Blocks of Balasore and Basudevpur of Bhadrak District there by covering 8520 households and a population of 34,250. In the interested villages, 71 Village Disaster Management Committees (VDMC) have been formed as community-based structure to manage disasters in their respective villages. The VDMC comprises of 22-25 members with representatives from all hamlets, village level officials and women. Similarly, Task Force Groups have been formed with 45-50 members in each village. As per the planning process, a comprehensive Village Disaster Management Plan (VDMP) has been prepared which lists all available resources, vulnerability, proneness to hazards and a plan for proper response, preparedness and mitigation. The plan also integrates long term development goals keeping in view the infrastructural and human resource development. It has been mandatory to approve the plan in Pallisabha and Gramsabha of the concerned Gram Panchayat. The plan is prepared through conducting PRA exercises, FGDs and meetings in the villages involving community.





As the project involves multi-stakeholders and imbues them for their active participation, interactions are held with district, block and panchayat level officials on multiple occasion. To integrate DRR components in developmental plans, several discussions are held with PRI members in the block area. One step ahead, consultation held at Block level in Basudevpur Block of Bhadrak District with participation of the PRI representatives of 31 Gram Panchayats, the Block Development Officer and the Block heads of all line departments has to discuss on integration of DRR plan in GPDP and the BDP, since integration of DRR in development agenda is one of the major components of the project.









Similarly, a meeting was held at district level to establish GO-NGO coordination where heads of line departments and functionaries of 19 NGOs were participated. The objective was to influence the administration and strengthen NGO coordination at district level for effective functioning of mechanisms on disaster management. The District Disaster Management Authority, Bhadrak, represented to District Emergency Office, other Govt. officials from line departments were appraised on grass root plan to reduce disaster risks and

its unification in development plan so that mitigation measures could be done in every financial planning and allocation. The most important GO-NGO coordination meetings of NGOs and the role of district administration was vividly shared in the meeting. Additionally, the following major outputs were realized in 10 operational villages under the project supported by BMZ Global Programme.



Task Force Groups: In all 10 villages, Task Force Groups comprising 45 members have been formed and strengthened to support the community during disaster. These members are well-trained and acknowledged the responsibilities assigned to them the villagers. Collectively, all task force members from the 10 villages conduct a mock drill on preparedness every year on 19th June which covering activities such as early warning, search and rescue.



Village Development Management Committees: Village Development Management Committees have been established and strengthened in 10 villages to guide the community during emergencies.

Women's Empowerment: A total of 100 marginalized women were trained and supported for poultry birds activities, contributing to their sustainable economic development.

Climate-Resilient Farming: Approximately 40% of the farmers who received climate-resilient paddy seeds continue to use these, ensuring sustainable agricultural practices.

















Resilient Construction:
Demonstration buildings with higher resilience were constructed at the community level for three households. Masons were trained to construct similar resilient houses within the community in the future.





Sustainable Livelihood Initiatives: Sustainable livelihood programs were implemented, with 122 families engaging in horticulture-based cultivation activities.

Social Inclusion: Around 1,128 individuals were covered under the government's social inclusion programs, including schemes such as old-age pensions, widow pensions and the construction of toilets and housing.



ENHANCING CROP YIELDS AND LIVELIHOODS THROUGH EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE A CASE STUDY OF NARAYAN NAYAK FROM KHANTAKHUADA VILLAGE

Narayan Nayak, a resident of Khantakhuada village in Andola Gram Panchayat, Bhadrak is an educated farmer who has embarked on a journey to improve agricultural practices and livelihoods in his community. This case study highlights his experiences, focusing on both paddy and vegetable cultivation. Narayan Nayak began his agricultural journey with a vision to enhance crop yields, support his family's sustenance and uplift his community economically. With a strong educational background, he has been able to adapt modern farming techniques to traditional practices.

In 2022, Narayan Nayak received a significant boost for his paddy cultivation when the Balasore Social Service Society (BSSS) supported 20 kg of 'Swarna Sub-1 Paddy Seed' for one acre of land. This generous donation enabled him to cultivate paddy using high-quality seeds. The outcome was remarkable: his paddy production increased, resulting in an additional 3 quintals of profit compared to previous years. Narayan Nayak was prudent with his resources, storing the surplus seeds, which would later prove invaluable in the next planting season. In 2023, he wisely decided to use the extra seeds, sowing 2 acres of land with 40 kg of 'Swarna Sub-1 Paddy Seed.' This innovative approach demonstrated his foresight and the benefits of selecting quality seeds.

Apart from paddy, **Narayan Nayak** also ventured into vegetable cultivation. Initially, he managed a 25-decimal area dedicated to vegetables, relying solely on his knowledge and hard work. Despite his efforts, he recognized the need for additional support and knowledge to enhance his vegetable production.

BSSS recognized his dedication and enrolled him in a government-sponsored agricultural training program. As a result, Narayan gained valuable insights into modern farming practices and techniques. Additionally, the program provided him with high-quality vegetable seeds, including brinjal, tomato and chilli.

Narayan Nayak's success story is a testament to the power of education and access to quality resources. His adoption of superior paddy seeds and the skills gained from government training programs not only improved his livelihood but also served as an inspiration to fellow farmers in Khantakhuada village.

Narayan Nayak's journey as an educated farmer in Khantakhuada village highlights the potential for agricultural transformation when education and resources are made accessible. His achievements in both paddy and vegetable cultivation underscore the importance of knowledge and quality inputs in improving crop yields, enhancing livelihoods and uplifting rural communities. His story serves as a beacon of hope and a model for sustainable agricultural practices in Andola Gram Panchayat.



Establishing connections with government schemes is vital for maximizing the impact of development initiatives. These linkages provide access to funding, technical support and other essential resources that help organizations scale their operations effectively. By aligning efforts with government schemes, organizations can enhance policy implementation, extend their outreach to intended beneficiaries and ensure better program delivery. Furthermore, these partnerships encourage innovation, support research and strengthen resilience by offering training opportunities and introducing new development frameworks.

BSSS under various projects and programs has leveraged support across the operational area. The details of linkages are given below.

Department	Project
KVK, Shyamakhunta, Mayurbhanj	SWAAD II
KVK, Shyamakhunta, Mayurbhanj	SWAAD II
CTCRI (Central Tuber Crops Research Institute) Bhubaneswar	SWAAD II
Horticulture Dept., Bhadrak	BMZ Global Program
KVK, Bhadrak	BMZ Global Program
Agriculture Dept. Keonjhar	PEACE
Horticulture Dept. Keonjhar	PEACE
Agriculture Dept. Keonjhar	PEACE
Welfare dept.	Women Literacy Centres
Welfare dept.	Women Literacy Centres
Welfare dept.	Women Literacy Centres
	KVK, Shyamakhunta, Mayurbhanj KVK, Shyamakhunta, Mayurbhanj CTCRI (Central Tuber Crops Research Institute) Bhubaneswar Horticulture Dept., Bhadrak KVK, Bhadrak Agriculture Dept. Keonjhar Horticulture Dept. Keonjhar Welfare dept. Welfare dept.



QUALITY PLANTS COLLECTED FROM KVK







TRAINING ON GOVERNMENT SCHEMES



BSSS INTERVENTION IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE BAHANAGA TRAIN ACCIDENT, BALASORE, ODISHA

A triple train accident involving two passenger trains and a goods train claimed human lives on the evening of June 2, 2023, near Bahanaga Bazar railway station in Odisha's Balasore district. According to various reports, the accident left numerous people injured and caused significant destruction.

The derailment of 10 to 12 coaches of the Shalimar-Chennai Coromandel Express caused them to fall onto the opposite track. Subsequently, the Bengaluru-Howrah Superfast Express collided with the derailed coaches, resulting in the derailment of three to four of its own coaches.

The trains carried passengers from various parts of

India, namely Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Guwahati, Bihar, Odisha and others regions. Rescuing the affected individuals, including

recovering the dead bodies, was extremely challenging as the incident occurred around 7:00 p.m. on June 2, 2023, amidst complete darkness and extreme summer heat.

The air was filled with the screams of people in pain, suffering from broken hands, legs, hips and other injuries, echoing from inside the coaches. Both young and old passengers cried for help, desperately climbing iron rods to escape. Body

parts were strewn across the wreckage, painting a grim scene that left survivors and rescuers deeply traumatized.

BSSS was present at the site from the first day of the incident, working alongside local brave individuals to rescue those affected by the train accident and retrieve the bodies. That night, BSSS team members assisted the rescued individuals in contacting their neighbors over the phone, informing them about the accident and requesting them to come to the site. Additionally, BSSS took the initiative to update the neighbors about the victims' situation and conditions.



On June 3, 2023, at the request of the Emergency Department in Balasore, the BSSS team reached the locations where dead bodies were being stored, namely NOCCI Business Park and Bahanaga High School. BSSS provided 500 mtrs. white cloth to cover the dead bodies and distributed masks and gloves to the volunteers handling them.

BSSS distributed dry food and water to over a thousand people waiting to identify the bodies of their loved ones. This effort provided much-needed relief not only to the relatives of the deceased but also to the volunteers working tirelessly under the scorching sun. The BSSS team set up a stall to distribute food and essential supplies to those in need. Cooked food was also served to the relatives of the victims and volunteers who worked day and night at District Hospital, Balasore.

On the night of June 3, 2023 and the following day, the BSSS group served cooked food to 1339 people. The MLA of Balasore also joined and encouraged the relief effort. Mrs. Kalika Mohapatra and Mr John Limma from Caritas India visited during the relief work and appreciated the operations effort. The relief work continued until all victims were shifted and unidentified dead bodies were removed from the accident site.



	Relief Intervention - Train Accid	dent
	Bahanaga , Balasore	2101
0	Supported by Caritas India	
SI.No.	Description	Unit
1	Distribution of cooked food	1339
2	Dry food for 1000 people (Biscuits)	1008
3	Water Bottle	288
4	Mask N95	300
5	Cotton Mask	5000
6	Mask (Use & throw)	3000
7	Sanitizer (Bottles)	6
8	Hand gloves (Pkts)	5









OUR EXPERTS

Name of the Staff with their Expertise



Govt. Scheme, Swachh Bharat Mission -1 & 2, Climate Adaptive Livelihood Disaster Management, Water and Sanitation Organic Farming, Improved Agriculture practices Leadership and Conflict Management

FC and SHGs/producer Group (PG), Federation Formation and Strengthening Capacity Building of AWW & ASHA worker RTI (Right to information Act)



Books and Record keeping. Accounts and Finance. Administrative and Fund Management. Taxation and Compliances. Inventory and Logistic Management. Management Information and support. Monitoring, Evaluation and Documentation



Phenyl, Surf, Hand wash and Soap making Pickle, Squash, Sauce and Jam Making

Soil testing, Seed cleaning, Seed treatment, Seed bed preparation, Seed bed treatment, Seed village, Seed Storage, Line transplantation, INM, IPM, weed management, Post harvest, crop cutting etc.

Mushroom cultivation, Ginger and Turmeric Cultivation, Flower cultivation, Bamboo cultivation, vegetable cultivation, Fruit bearing tree cultivation



Community Mobilization, Village Disaster Management, Capacity building, Leadership and Government Scheme Training on protection from Lightning during monsoon season Conduction of Mock Drill under Odisha State Disaster Management Authority module



ingram Murmu nization Policy

Staff Code of Conduct, Child protection and Safeguarding code of conduct, Teachers Code of Conduct, Institutions/Schools security audit, School Teachers role and responsibility training

Children's Parliament, Rights of the Children and constitution, Formation of Children Club

Ethical Behavior of staff of the Institutions/Schools/Organizations



Sambid Kumar Giri IGP & SHGs Trainer

Integrated Farming System (IFS), Mushroom cultivation, Organic compost, Formation of Farmer's Club (FC), SHGs strengthening, Capacity building of the community



Formation of SHGs, Strengthening and capacity building of SHGs and formation of Children's CBOs

ACTIVITIES











'Switch off electricity give on hour for Earth' by TPNODL

































SHARING TO CARE

A Campaign Against Hunger...

It is a fact that millions of people go to sleep hungry in our country even today. Majority of them are homeless, street dwellers and people begging at public places. We see, a lot of people, including children and disabled wandering around in our streets every day and most of them are with empty stomach.

Balasore Social Service Society (BSSS), is a Non Government Organization, rendering selfless service to the people in need, for the last 32 years, regardless of any caste, creed and religion, in the four civil districts of Odisha, i.e., Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Bhadrak and Keonjhar.

BSSS launched a campaign to feed brothers and sisters of ours, deprived of the necessities of life, in December 2019, with the support of many likeminded and generous people. The motive of the Campaign is to feed the hungry at least once a day.

IT IS A CAMPAIGN, NOT OF BSSS ALONE, BUT EVERYONE WHO IS WILLING TO SHARE A MEAL WITH THE NEEDY......

Donate for a cause



Balasore Social Service Society S/B A/C No: 78290100003531 Bank of Baroda, Branch- Balasore IFSC- BARB 0 VJBLSR

Contact Number: 96926 87346

Audited Statement Of Accounts

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		66,000.00	Foreign Account	403,288.00	
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		165,000,00	Bark Charges	1,386.25	
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Audited Statement Of Accounts



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BALASORE

O KOLKATA

27A, Hazra Road, Sarat Bose Boad Kolkata - 700 029 Date 29th September, 2024

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APPEAL FOR SUPPORT





BSSS is a non-profitable organization that continues to render its services with passion in society through financial support of individual donors, national & international organizations that shares a common mission of working for the marginalized without their support we would have not been able to transform the lives of thousands of people and enable them with the decent living conditions. To remain committed & continue its services to community: BSSS seeks the help of people like you. You too can bring smile to the little faces of the vulnerable children, empower the women, reduce the food insecurity in the region and above all prepare the community for natural calamities. We assure you your little actions, in whatever form will be taken note of and appreciated. BSSS promises to account your smallest of the donations and utilize it positively for the improvement of the lives of the poor.

You can send your donations in favour of Balasore Social Service Society through cheque or demand draft at this address

Balasore Social Service Society.

- Vivekananda Marg, Balasore 756001
- **9** 06782 296540, +91 9437264317
- talk2bsss@gmail.com
- www.bsssodisha.org

All your donations would be exempted from Income Tax under 80G.





(f) (in) Balasore Social Service Society - BSSS



OUR ESTEEMED DONOR PARTNERS









































