

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH TRAINING & ADVOCACY



Dalit development is our core intension for which we are united and committed. Many tremendous changes in the lives of Dalit community of Bihar have inspired us to work more effectively. We want a just society where Dalits can be treated equal and just. The development of the society cannot complete without Dalit development. By the end of Feb-2015 we have successfully initiated the planned activities for the year 2015. We had prepared the Baseline, organized orientation training for the regional coordinators, community level leadership trainings, campaign on cleanliness, motivational training for the “Roshni Ki Toli” (adolescent girls), media and life- orientation training for the adolescent girls, central level workshop on quality education etc.

- 1) By the end of Feb-2015 we have successfully organized village level leadership training program across four different districts of Bihar. We have renewed the village level committees where maximum members are young. The trainings were fully developed for the village level units. These units are the actual changing agents to whom we are trying to strengthen in different aspects. In these trainings at least 500 youths had participated who were facilitated to acknowledge various community problems and also to recognize different resources available in the communities which can be used by their leadership only for the betterment of the community. They were taught about sensitivity of their problems and also their role in solving those problems.

2) As we know the influence of media is greater than any other methods of disseminating



information especially in the context of rural Bihar. Usually rural people do not like trainings and workshops but they are more interested in drama and street plays. From 24/02/15 to 28/02/15 we had organized five days of media training for adolescent girls. 33 girls participated in the training from four different regions. They were trained to perform street plays on different issues like alcoholism, gambling, importance of girl's education, quality education, cleanliness, governmental provisions, etc.

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3) Dalit community needs to improve their leadership quality. In-order to develop leadership quality among Musahar girls we had formed **Roshni Ki Tolis** in ten different villages of Kharagpur Block of Munger district. On 26/02/15 we had organized a training program for these groups where at least 70 girls participated. They were taught about motivation for community based reformation, skills of leading communities, need of accessing government facilities, gaps in the local education system, and different leadership skills in the context of local communities. We had one resource person from Patna who conducted very effective sessions.



4) Education situation of Bihar is quite disastrous. By the end of 2014 an organization called



Pratham had published *Asher* educational report of Bihar which reflects many heart shocking findings regarding the quality of education in Bihar. Hundreds of students are under threat of a dark future. No doubt, the maximum victims belong to Dalit community. We tried to sensitize the issue among the leaders, CBOs and communities of different districts. On 21/02/15 we had organized

one workshop at BDVS administrative office premises on this issue. We had many teachers, CBOs, leaders, NGO representatives, women and other community people as participants. At least 95 persons participated in the workshop. BDVS had prepared one presentation based on the report through which we initiated a good discussion and facilitated to reflect on the problems. Participants got time for group discussion and they came up with action plan and strategies to improve the educational situation in their own villages. The chair person of the workshop was Fr. Dr. Anto Joseph (Director- BDVS) along with Fr. Benny (Assistant Director- BDVS).



5) Youth are the foremost changing agents of communities. The youth of Bihar are in need of close guidance, special observation and persistent motivation. BDVS always encouraged community youth for their development as well as that of the communities. On 16-17 March, we had organized a motivational training for the youth of two districts. These youth are somehow

involved in studies as well as in social works. They have courage and interest for bringing development in their own communities. During these two days motivational training, they were encouraged to form groups in communities in which they can be united and can sensitize the issue of quality education. They could give time in monitoring and ensuring quality education in government schools at their locality. They were made to become aware of the present educational status of Bihar, facilitated to discuss the ground reasons for this problem, and possible solutions to solve the problem. All the sessions were led by Mr. Ethwari and Mr. Nayak.



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