



JUST Newsletter

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From Director's Desk.....

Dear Friends,

We have begun our new year with the words of Pope Francis, "To serve human life is to serve Divine. All life, from life in the mother's womb to that of the elderly, the suffering and the sick, and to that of the troublesome and even repellent, is to be welcomed loved and helped."

The last quarter of 2017 had been an eventful one for JUST family. We had a lot of events and activities from October 2017 to December 2017. There were number of trainings and capacity building workshops and Seminars organized both at the central level and field level. We have also linked the farmers and SHG women with NABFINS for financial assistance to take up various Income Generation Activities.

One of the highlights of the quarter was the annual gathering and Advance Christmas Celebration of JUST family together with the Staff, G.B. members, Stake holders and well wishes. This was a day of unity, strength and happiness. Let me also take this chance to thank all of you for your partnership with JUST in various ways in establishing a just, peaceful and self reliant society during the year 2017. Let us also promise to be there, for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word in the New Year 2018 .

Wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year.

Fr. Jeevan Kennedy, SVD
Director, JUST

IN THIS ISSUE

Activity Reports Project wise....

Networking Programs...

Success Story....



Motivation Youths



Awareness programs on the topic 'Motivating youths on valuing the rich cultural values and ethics' was conducted in the month of October 2017 in 15 Farmers' Clubs by the animators. The Main topics discussed in the programs were Hukbar, Traditional Dress and Traditional food habits.

Hukbar: The Animators shared about our traditional way of practicing Jhum, how people used to go for finding suitable plot for cultivation and how signs were marked for booking the plot. They explained about how people did most of the works together helping one another. They also shared about how people called each other for works and how in the calling tune (Jadu ni Kolija) the traditional song especially sung during Jhum cultivation came in to existence.

Traditional Dress: The resource person then shared about the traditional dress of the tribal's of Tripura. He spoke about Chamwthui Bar, Risa, Rangbwtang and many other traditional dresses of all the different sub tribes. He shared that our traditional dress is that which reveals our identity and it is very important to value and preserve it. He shared that each and every one should pass the knowledge of preparing the traditional dress and its importance to their children and the generations still to come.

Traditional Food Habits: The resource person then shared regarding the traditional food habits namely, Gudok, Awandru, Chakhui, bermabwtwi and many other ways and systems of food habits. He shared that now a days our traditional food habits are also getting mixed with different other styles. We should give more importance in preserving our traditional food habits rather than losing them. He shared about how people did not need fermented fish earlier and how they managed to make it by themselves. Many other points were discussed.

By Robert Lushai

Malaria Control



As part of Malaria control programme JUST from October 2017 to December 2017, organized a series of Behavioral Change Communication activities at Dhalai

and Khowai districts of Tripura under IMCP-3 project assisted by Caritas India. The programs were conducted in order to create awareness regarding Malaria among the people of the target villages. 79 Community Consultation & Message Dissemination, 80 Infotainment, 68 Mikings and 14 Local School Activities were conducted during this period. All the activities were conducted successfully by the FSS and CHVs working in the field.

By Vincent Debbarma

Livelihood Support to SHG



To promote Income Generation Activities (IGA) and boost the income of the SHG's weaving materials were provided to the SHG's by JUST in the month of October 2017. It will provide livelihood to around 50 Reang SHG women. Weaving is a traditional activity among Reang women who used to make dresses at home using the traditional loom. This support will also provide them a sustainable livelihood for a dignified life. After receiving the assistance they thanked JUST for the support and said that they will make full use of this benefit and expand their livelihood.

As a part of skill up gradation training for the Reang PTG women, Vocational skill development training on tailoring was provided to the unemployed SHG's women belonging to different groups under Ganganagar R.D. Block. 10 women were trained successfully and all of them were provided 1 sewing machine each by JUST with the support of IBC.

By Lilmohan Reang

Bamboo Preservation Techniques



Two days training was conducted by JUST in collaboration with CFLE for the farmers on "Bamboo Harvesting and Preservation for Earthquake Resilient Green Buildings" at Borgachhia para from 15th to 16th November 2017.

The resource persons were Mr. Preetam Chawdhury and Mr. Pratab Datta. There were 36 participants from Wabussa, Khamper and Borgachhia Farmers Clubs. On 15th November the training started with an introduction on the training by Dr. Pawan K. Kaushik, Regional Manager CFLE. He spoke about the importance on the preservation of bamboo which was followed by video clips of what happen when earthquake occurs. Then the session was taken by Mr. Preetam explaining on what are the ways to do treatment. He shared that there are 3 ways, Boucherry method, boiling method and soaking method. He also shared on how to cut the bamboo from the garden, etc. The participants were then taken to nearby bamboo garden to show how to cut the bamboo and then started doing practical Boucherry method of treatment. The second day started again with a practical on treatment and then there was discussion on making a group of 15 persons who will take care of the treatment machine and the business which will be done in the future. Then in the afternoon the farmers were taught on how to do soaking method practically and the program ended with vote of thanks by Mr. Kanta Debbarma.

By Robert Lushai

Awareness



Awareness Program on the eroding traditional farming practices were conducted from 1st to 8th December 2017 at 15 target villages. The main topic discussed in the programs was Jhum cultivation. The Facilitator shared that it is one of the most important cultural practice among the ethnic groups. He told that jhum cultivation involves clearing vegetative, forest cover on land, slopes of hills, drying and burning it before onset of monsoon and cropping on it. This means that there is a collective work in it. The Facilitator also shared one of the most important things which is a knowledge lacking by the farmers. The Farmers do not think to plant new trees after cutting down the trees for jhum cultivation. He also told to those farmers that they can plant Betel nuts around the surrounding as a landmark or boundary which will also gives them income.

By Robert Lushai

Inter School Peace Meet



JUST in the month of November 2017, organized Inter-School Peace meet at Don Bosco School Nandanagar, Don Bosco School Baijalbari, Synod Foundation School Lefunga, Saint Andre School Bodhjungnagar, Montfort School Dugli (Ranirkhamar) Don Bosco School Kairai, and Holy Cross School Panisagar under Peace Project. The facilitators of the peace meet were Ms. Larisa Debbarma and Ms. Momita Reang (District Coordinators) under peace project. During the meet, the peace club members were trained on "Leadership Skills" with aim to create good and effective leaders. The peace meet was organized successfully in all the Schools.

By Cyril R. Darlong

External Evlution



External Evaluator Mr.A.Patra visited our JUST BDPO (Block level Disabled People's Organization) Project in Belonia and Sabrom areas on 8th and 9th December 2017. The visit was divided into two segments. In morning (9 am to 12 am) session he met with 10 DPO leaders from the Project area. By discussing on project activities with them he got information about the project. He gave his valuable suggestions about strengthening the DPOs.

After the morning session he visited the field area. He first visited Karunamoyee VDPO of I.C.Nagar pan-chayat area and discussed about the activities of the DPO. He checked the meeting register, Bank Pass Book, Loan Book, Micro saving Register and other documents of the DPO and gave his inputs on proper documentation. After that he visited Joyram VDPO, Loknath VDPO, Baba Brahamma VDPO and Agrabami VDPO. At the end of the visit he discussed about the activities of the project with the project Coordinator and gave suggestions to him for the betterment of the project.

By Tapas Datta

Campaign Against Drugs



The Facilitator Mr. Amit Debbarma started the program explaining why awareness on Drugs, Alcoholism and Domestic Violence is important in our society. He shared that the three points are connected to each others. He then further explained to the farmers by giving the examples like in the family if the couples have only one child, parents love so much that they don't even correct if the child does any mistake leading the child to wrong ways. Different negative impact of Drug abuse and alcoholism were explained to the participants. He then told that women making alcohol for income generation activity is also bad habit which will lead to domestic violence in the family.

By Robert Lushai

Good Governance



Awareness program on Good Traditional Governance Systems were conducted from 14th to 21st December 2017. The Resource Person was Mr. Rabindra Debbarma. He began the program by describing what is good governance system? He said that Good Governance is about the processes for making and implementing decisions. It's not about making correct decisions, but about the best possible process for making those decisions. He then continued to share by identifying some good points about traditional governance systems practiced in our society. Likewise, helping hand among the community when someone is in need of help i.e. death or marriage in the village. Secondly, he spoke about selecting leaders in the group in which the person should have leadership quality, good relationship with others, understanding person and having the quality of helping nature. He also shared about self governance like Musukhua, a practice created by the community to control open grazing from destroying the crops and paddy. He also explained how community took ownership of solving petty issues by creating a platform for both the parties to explain their views.

By Robert Lushai

World Disabled Day



JUST Agartala observed World Disabled Day at State Level and District level on 2nd & 8th Dec 2017 in collaboration with Social Welfare Dept. and DDRC respectively. Social Welfare Minister and Sports Minister inaugurated the events. Many CwDs and PwDs participated in the sports. Master Chandra Shil from JUST CBR project area won 3 first prizes from the following events: (i) long run (ii) ring throw and (iii) shot put Whereas Master Kishan Debbarma won the first prize in spoon race event. Mr. Rathayatra Jamatia and Manti Shil participate in Cultural program in Rabindra Bhavan.

On 8th Dec. 2017, JUST organized District Level World Disabled Day in collaboration with DDRC, at Teliamura. The program started at about 11 am. Smt. Gauri Das, MLA inaugurated the program by lighting the lamp. Panchayat Samiti Chairperson Sri Sajal Kumar Dey, Chairman, Teliamura Municipal Council, CDPO, Teliamura, Fr. Jeevan, Director, JUST attended the program. Sports event were organized at 11.30 am. Events played: Shortput, running race, biscuit race and musical chair. Each participant received the certificates of participation from DDRC. It was a memorable day for the CWDs and PWDs.

By Prasanta Chowdhury

Gathering & Christmas



On 19th December 2017, JUST organized Annual gathering and Advance Christmas at JUST premises. The celebration had two parts of which Capacity building of the staff on "Media Documentation" in the morning and Advance Christmas in the evening. Fr. J. Sahaya Lourdu Raj, CSC was the resource person for the morning session who trained the staff on understanding the meaning of Media and how photo shots can be taken at different angles. The evening celebration started at 6:00pm with prayer and carols by JUST team. The Chief Guest of the celebration was Most. Rev. Bishop Lumen Monteiro DD, of Agartala and the Guest of Honor was Rev. Fr. Maxim SVD, Regional Superior of SVD Northeast Region. There were many other guests present for the celebration. The Director of JUST, Fr. Jeevan Kennady, SVD welcomed the Chief Guest, Guest of Honor and all the other guest after the prayer. It was followed by other cultural items of the evening. The Chief Guest delivered Christmas message during the program. The meaningful celebration ended at about 8:00pm with a festive meal.

By Vincent Debbarma

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