

## **DISTRICT LEVEL WORKSHOP ON ADOLESCENT HEALTH**

Bhubaneswar (15-Dec-2018): Adolescence is a phase of rapid growth and development during which physical, physiological and behavioural changes occur. They constitute more than 1.2 billion worldwide, and about 21% of Indian population. Adolescents are the young people aged between 10 to 19 y. It is a transitional stage of physical, physiological and psychological development from puberty to legal adulthood. Lack of accurate information, absence of proper guidance, parent's ignorance, lack of skills and insufficient services from health care delivery system are the major barriers. For creating awareness about these problems and to address the issues, a district level workshop on adolescent health was organized at Khordha, for sharing issues and challenges with regards to adolescent health, ICDS Programme, School Health Programme etc, by People's Cultural Centre (PECUC) in collaboration with Adoptioncentrum. More than 100 participants from Bhubaneswar block, Bhubaneswar Municipality, Baliana Block & Khordha district participated in the workshop.

The workshop was chaired by Smt. Adaramani Boral, Chairperson PECUC, Anuradha Mohanty, Executive Director PECUC, shared the objective of the workshop along with various issues and challenges related to adolescent health & behaviour. The panelists were Ruby Rout, Country Head, Adoptioncentrum, Amrita Pattanaik, DPC Khordha, Gitanjali Dash, DPM, NRHM, Smt. Rashmiprabha Mishra, Programme Officer, ICDS Khordha & Protection Officer DV Act, Smt. Swayamprava Pattanaik, Principal, P.N. College, D.Padmaja, ICDS Supervisor Khordha and they discussed different programme & schemes of Govt. with focus on provision for adolescents, young women & girls. Various issues like absence of proper sanitary facility in schools and communities, teacher problems, health relating issues, anaemia, malnutrition, early marriage, depression due to failure etc were discussed in this workshop. The guests mainly empathized on including life skill education in school, development of positive parenting etc. Vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Jyotirmayee Mohapatra, Programme Manager, PECUC, among other Mr. Panu Behera supported the programme.