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People's Cultural Center (PECUC)

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ORIGIN AND BACKGROUND

With a right based approach to work for a just society People's Cultural Centre (PECUC) got legal entity in July 1990. Since then it has been undertaking various developmental works for the rights of the people in both rural and urban areas of the state. From the beginning PECUC's focus has been to help the downtrodden to join mainstream and have their rights. The Strategic Plan of PECUC identified five major issues of interventions and three cross cutting issues, which form the basis of the work of PECUC.

During 2007-08 PECUC has undertaken several activities for promotion of Child Rights, Women Empowerment, Aged Right, Alternative Livelihood Options, Good and Participatory Governance, etc. Since Orissa is prone to varieties of natural calamities, PECUC has strengthened and initiated relief, rehabilitation and risk reduction interventions in the flood-hit areas of the state.

PECUC's area of operation is spread all over the State. Currently it has direct micro-level interventions to create alternative development models in the districts of Keonjhar, Khurda, Balasore, Kendrapara and Cuttack. Besides, the organization is active in Policy Research and Advocacy at state and national level.

Vision: “Another world in which peace, justice and equality prevails. Individuals and communities live in dignity and harmony respecting cultural and natural diversity. A world in which people participate and have say in their social and economic well being, prosperity and exercise their rights to a life of dignity””.

Mission: “Our mission is to empower and enable people especially children, women, the aged and other disadvantaged in society, to participate powerfully in their overall development. Our mission is to create and strengthen people's institutions that sustain, promote and fulfill their development needs and rights to a life of dignity.”

Core Issue

- ◆ Child Rights Protection & Promotion
- ◆ Livelihood & Household Food Security
- ◆ Right of the Old aged
- ◆ Access to information & deepening Democracy
- ◆ Community Health Management

Cross cutting Issues

- ◆ Human Rights
- ◆ Gender Justice
- ◆ Disaster Management & Preparedness

KEONJHAR

Quality and Inclusive Education

Swampatna is one of the remote and thickly tribal populated blocks in Keonjhar district of Orissa. Most of the villagers are landless and poor. Besides agriculture and allied activities they subsist on daily wages. Illiteracy coupled with ignorance does not allow people access to their basic rights. Education is considered meaning less as the performance of schools have little to do with the qualitative improvement of the child. Depletion of natural resources and increasing mining activities along with globalization has worsened the situation. Child labour is practiced more to meet basic requirements of the households than anything else. The results are grave social issues of – consequence.

The project was meant to implement for three years (2007-2010) in 40 villages of Swampatna block to strengthen the formal school system and arrangement of remedial classes with the help of community and children's participation. The project is supported by Save The Children & European Union

Major Action Interventions:

1. Improve the participation of community, parents and children in education planning, monitoring and management

Training to the staffs and volunteers:

44 project staffs on broad objectives and corresponding out puts such as child rights and right-based approach, community mobilisation and community organisation etc.

Develop a resource team at project level taking retired teachers/educationists, lawyers, media persons, social activists etc as members:

An 18-member resource team was constituted from diverse fields and imparted on child right, value education and, child protection etc. The team is in place and providing intellectual support to the project.

Capacity Building of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) like SHGs, CPC, SEC, PTA, MTA and PRIs on Child Rights, Child Protection and Value of Education:

A total 305 members from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) like Self Help Group (SHG), Child Protection Committee (CPC), School Education Committee (SEC), Parents Teachers Association (PTA), Mothers Teachers Association (MTA) and Panchayatiraj Institutions (PRIs) of 40 villages were given training and instilled with a sense of responsibility for protection and promotion of child rights. They have been regularly monitoring teachers' attendance in 39 government schools, specially 36 primary schools of the operational villages, helping in minimizing leakage of funds meant for improvement of infrastructure of the school and streamlining Mid Day Meal programme in these schools.

Social Map and Vulnerability Mapping Exercise & Develop each child profile database and follow up for 10408 children:

The activities are meant to develop a Community-based Education Information and Management System (CEIMS) to track and monitor each child in 40 operational villages. Altogether 20 villages have finalized CEIMS and individual profile and database of 5000 children have been completed. The profiles would help for future analysis and plan of action to ensure the enrolment and retention of each and every child in the village. Besides, the children and their parents have been involved in

micro-level village education plan through Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercises that will help to check school drop-out and instill in them the importance of education.

Formation and strengthening of children group:

Children have rights to express their views on the matter which affects their lives. To promote their participation for their overall growth and development including education, school infrastructure, health, Day-Meal to other developments 40 child right groups with membership of 1789 children, including 917 boys and 872 girls have been formed in the project area. While some of them have participated in the National Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL) held at Bhubaneswar, some others participated in the Central Zone Regional Process and state process of CACL. Trainings were provided to 182 child club leaders on leadership and child protection issues to enhance their skills.



Shradha Bhavan - community level child friendly centre:

Shradha Bhavan is nothing but a point of mediation between the parents and children and the villagers. It acts like a motivation centre at community level to motivate the children for enrolment and retention in schools. So far 36 Shradha Bhavans have been established which has been creating a positive environment in the villages to unite the communities to give importance on children issues.



Community level awareness programme:- Community children and youths conducted on puppet show and street play. Total 30 members were trained during a training camp at PECUC office including 10 children in puppet show. IEC material developed on two themes, namely child education, child protection.

Children Assembly

A children Assembly was organized to impart them knowledge about the functions of governance and discuss local issues like education, health, sanitation and sports besides making recommendations for corrective measures to the government. The leaders of child rights club played the role of Speaker, Chief Minister, Opposition Leader and other council of ministers.



Strengthening the Quality of elementary education in order to ensure access and retention of children

Develop minimum standards in 39 Schools using Child Led Indicators (CLIs):

Child led indicators have been prepared in 19 schools of the 39 schools taken up under the project. The objective of CLI is to prepare a list of prerequisites for a model child friendly school. Suggestion boxes have been put in 19 schools and corresponding committees comprising students, teachers, representatives from PTAs, MTAs, SHGs and PRIs formed to draw the suggestion and divide the responsibility among the committees' members for their accomplishments.

Adoption of Child Rights education in Schools: Experts consultation meeting was organized involving educationists, human right activists and social activists to interact with teachers and students to develop the content and structure of curriculum for the students. A sample curriculum has been developed by the committee members and it would be distributed in schools for use.

Regular coordination with local SSA, education officials and line departments on planning and management:

The project staffs have interacted with the Head Masters of all the 39 schools under the project. Regular meetings held with the local BDO, AWWs, District Social Welfare Officer, CWC members, DLO etc. for proper implementation of the project.

Publication of quarterly child bulletin - highlighting local issues, learning and sharing capturing creativity of children:

A literary & News/Feature magazine is being published quarterly titled as "Bole Hun Ti" which is being written and edited by the children of the project area. A total 34 Child reporters and seven child editors mostly from tribal community were identified from the project area. The children were trained with the basic skill of reporting and writings by senior journalists to enhance their creativity and write different issues of their interest including news, short stories, local issue and problems etc. Their own and other children's articles/news were compiled & edited by the child editors under the guidance of an expert team. 4 issues of Bole Hun Ti was published in the whole year.

Strengthening child protection mechanism within school and community level

Formation and strengthening of child protection committees:

40 Child Protection Committees, one in each of the 40 project villages, have been formed, taking members from different walks of life. Regular meetings of the CPCs have been conducted at village level and community level on child right protection and violation.

Documentation and Monitoring of Child right violations

Training on Documentation and Monitoring of Child right violations was organized with participation of 85

Total 85 nos of Participants have been imparted training on child rights violation, monitoring, reporting & documentation. The staffs and volunteers that include SHG members, volunteers, PRI members, were oriented on concept of child rights, UNCRC, Violation of child rights, JJB, CWC, Human rights, reporting and documentation.

The project is being implemented with close coordination with Local/District School /Education Authorities, District/Block Administration and all other stakeholders.

Key Achievement

- ◆ 1237 children (609 boys and 628 girls) get enrolled in 36 Shradha Bhawan.
- ◆ 40 no's of Child protection committee formed in 39 village
- ◆ Total 34 Child reporters and 7 child editors identified from the project area and trained ,who are contributing in “.Bole Hunti” a Chil;dren’s Bulletin by and for children
- ◆ Child Led Indicators are now displayed in 19 schools and all stakeholders are working towards making the school child friendly
- ◆ 15000 people aware on Child Education, Child Protection through different awareness programme.
- ◆ 18 no's of local resource team were trained on child right, value of education and child protection and promotion of child rights
- ◆ Corporal punishment reduced in most of the project schools.
- ◆ 40 child Rights clubs have been formed includes 1789 children (917 boys and 872 girls)
- ◆ 1272 No. of people participated in PRA/PLA exercises. And 20 villages finalized the CMEIS .Village level education plan in 20 villages ready for action.
- ◆ 305 members from different CSOs were trained on protection and promotion of child rights.

Participatory Action for Eradication of Child labour

In view of the appalling condition of people predominated by child labour in the 10 villages of Swampatna block in Keonjhar district PECUC ,with the support from Terre Des Hommes [Germany ,India Programme] initiated a project to eliminate child labour from the area by ensuring education for all children.

Education as a Strategy:

The project has again proved that education is the prerequisite can be used as a major strategy for eradication of child labour.

A motivation camp was organized for child labourers for 15 days .total 107 children rescued from Labour participated in the camp .Shradha Bhawans-Child Friendly Centres were established and functioning in all the project villages with the support of Multi Purpose Volunteers (MPV). The MPVs are regularly visiting formal schools to support teachers in performance of their duties and to track retention and drop out etc. TLMs provided to SB centres and parent counseling ,creating demand at community level for education through social mobilization has worked effectively .

Vocational Training

Fifty children within the age group of 15-18 ,who were rescued from labour were given vocational trainings on Terracotta and Leaf plate stitching by master trainers.

Child participation Activities:

Children Club in each of the 10 project villages operates with 763 children. Weekly meetings take place with the support of MPVs. In the meetings children use to enjoy games. Besides they discuss about child rights and different issues and decide action points on the same. Children take part in counseling parents of working children.



Livelihood Activities:

Along with the traditional attitude of parents ,Poor Economic condition is also a factor which contributes for increasing trend of child labour. Hence the project has tried to address the issue by empowering the mothers economically also.

Sixteen numbers of Mother's Self Help Groups have been formed . Four groups are also supported with Rs40, 000/- as a seed money to start their own income through leaf plate making and marketing ; rice processing.

Project is also lobbying with the local authority to link the child labour families with various poverty alleviation schemes of the Govt.

Community Capacity building

Trainings were organized for the mothers' groups. The trainings were participated by 123 women . Training for the community level volunteers and staffs was organized covering different aspects of child labour issues, education, programme planning and process documentation. 50 needy local youth were identified and imparted need based skill development training on terracotta making and Leaf plate making. 54 nos of PRIs, PTA, MTA, Teachers, school teachers, School Education Committee members and Anganwadi workers trained on the issues of child rights, power and functions different committees. The training organized for 2days in two phases. An interface workshop between children and different stakeholders was organized in which total 137 participants were participated including Educational officials etc.

Awareness generation :

Besides door to door campaign, village awareness meetings and counseling and motivation activities by the MPV, Puppet shows, Enrollment campaign, Daskathica (local folk dance) and documentary film show on child labour were organized along with exhibition of posters to build environment against employment of children and to create a demand for education

Key Achievements

- 107 child labours have attended the motivation camp for 15 days , out of them 47 are boys and 60 girls
- 166 children (boys 96 and girls 76) have been enrolled in the Govt.Schools
- Total 255 non school going children including (dropouts and child labour)of the project villages belonging to different age groups are regularly attending the Shraddha Bhawans (education centers) to get bridge course & Preparatory Education.
- 763 children including male 271 and female 246 belonging to the age group of 6-18 in 10 child clubs are regularly attending the Sisu sabha meetings and participating in different activities of sisu sabha.
- Fifty 15-18 years of age were provided with need based skill development training and imparted training on terracotta and Leaf plate making..
- 214 women from child labourer families formed 16 mother's Self help groups and able to generate savings of Rs. 85,206.00.Started Micro credit activities to members for strting income generation programmes.
- Four groups started group activities on leaf plate making and marketing and rice processing. This activity of income generation shall bring a change in their socio economic condition.
- PTA, MTA and SEC meeting are regular in all schools and the members are strongly participating in discussion and monitoring the Mid-day meals.
- Corporal punishment is almost way out from all schools of the operational area.

Health and Education Programme For Children

The “Health and Education programme for Children” is now operational in 20 villages of Swampatna block of Keonjhar district , aimed at recognizing health as a fundamental pre-requisite along with education for the overall growth and development of children particularly in a tribal dominated area. Multi-faceted activities encompassing preparatory education for beginners and bridgecourse to drop outs, mobilization of community for creation of community education fund, health camps, counseling and awareness, Immunisation, promotion of Mothers SHG, Promotion of indigenous and traditional health practices by using locally available medicinal plants so that people use it when and where doctor is not available, increasing access to available health services and promotion of community-based organizations are integral part of the intervention. The project is being

Key Achievements

- 15 child Clubs formed and taking initiative for enrolment and retention of children in schools..
- 676 children in Shradha Bhawan(Boys-354,Girls-322)
- 109 Children (boys-9 & Girl -50) enrollment in formal school
- 331 children have been immunized in linkage with Govt.system.
- 2256 children got treatment by the project.
- 16 no. of Mothers’ selfhelp groups promoted with a total membership of 189 & could save Rs.1187597
- Rs. 6773/- collected for Sikhya Vikash panthi (Education Development Fund)in seven villages –The fund is being managed by the community and deposited in a Local Bank.

PECUC with support from District NCLP as part of Govt. of India, Ministry of Labour’s programme ; has established a NCLP School at Patna . 50 children rescued from labour force now joined in this school. The children were engaged in Hotel, transport, tea stalls, hotel,domestic Sectors.

The children were also getting training on different vocations i.e. woolen crafts, cycle repairing stitching.

KHURDA DISTRICT- BHUBANESWAR UNIT

GENDER IN LOCAL SELF GOVERNANCE

The poor representation of women representatives in different stages of local self-governance has much to do with such a state of affairs. The overall objectives of the project is to ensure complete participation of elected women members in local self governance (panchayatiraj) system and develop leadership quality among frontline women leaders to create competitiveness PECUC is working in 15 Grampanchyat of Baliana Block of Bhubaneswar subdivision in Khurda District. The project was supported by The Hunger Project.

Objectives programme are as follows:-

- Capacity building of women PRIs to ensure their effective participation on local self governance and fight for women right
- Leadership quality development among elected PRIs
- Develop strategic alliance to access support from various stakeholders through media linkage, publication and documentation

Major Activities

Orientation, Workshops & Trainings:

Workshops and trainings of women leaders conducted by the project for capacity building of women PRIs especially. These training programmes included the subject matters on Indian democracy, constitutional provisions and spirits, powers and functions of the PRIs, issues of human rights violation and role of PRIs, right to information (RTI), problem analysis and development planning for Panchayat, Schemes and provisions for people and area including poverty alleviation schemes,



Sl.no	Name of the Programme	No. of GP	No. of PRIS / SHG leaders	
			M	F
01	Block level workshop	15	85	47
02	Women leadership workshop (WLWS)	15		68
03	Follow up workshop (WLWS)	15		62

Gram Sabha & Panchayat Mobilization Gram Sabha, the village level assembly, authority to take decisions on their respective village matters. Initial meetings were hold with the Gram Sabha members of more than 57 villages in order to create a basic understanding among the Gram Sabha members on the need of gender integration in local self governance, which will be strengthen during coming days. The project also focused on giving a direction to the participation of members of Gram Sabha .

Coordination

The project has established a good rapport with the Panchayatiraj dept., officials, SIRD & local representatives of the Panchayatiraj system. A cementing coordination with the line dept. gives a fruitful result to accelerate the programme. Particularly the supporting hands extended by the Block Development Officer, Baliana in each & every programme of the project gives it's a new momentum to yield fruitful results. Discussed with the Secretary, State Election Commission regarding the reservation of the seats

IEC materials development:

A series of meetings and consultations have been made to develop materials i.e. booklets, posters on women & panchayatiraj issues. After the meeting booklets and posters on the said issue developed and distributed to 15 Panchayat offices, 82 villagers and women PRI members.

Key Achievements

- Grievance cell: Notification on Grievance Day(third Saturday of Every Month) by the Block Development Officer of Baliana block for the women PRIs and working women ,it is first in its kinds in Orissa.
- Eighty one women PRI members out of 230 PRI members are aware of the plans and programmes of the government, take active part in the decision making process and demonstrated their capability to take initiatives .
- Participation of women PRIs in Palli sabha and gram sabha meeting has increased
- Women representatives preside over the Palli sabha and Gram sabha meetings and thereby dismantled the anarchical rule of sarpanchs.

Sponsor A Grand Parent - Programme-Rights of the Aged

"Old Age needs special protection to have its rightful place, which it does not have in this age of advancing technology and distancing relations. "Sponsor A Grand Parent" 2 village of Bariant Block Bhubaneswar Municipality area in Khurda district is fill up the vacant spaces in the lives of older people. The project is supported by HelpAge International & HelpAge India

Major Activities:

Home visits and counseling: ,Income generation activity, Health camps, Monthly Ration - Food ,Cloth, Pocket Money ,Motivating younger generation, Lobby and advocacy for aged right.

Key Achievements

- Creation of space for the old aged within the social set up
- Ensured Food security through monthly ration
- Increased dignity in the family & community
- 18 person linked with Income Generation Programme .(Gotary, Paddy Processing , Beetle shop, Tea Stall)& Increase in income .
- CBO's like SHG, youth clubs and children are taking care of old people
- Increased access to government plans and programmes including health facility

National Child Labour Project

National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme was launched by Govt.of India in the areas of child labour endemicity in the country. The Scheme envisages running of special schools for child labour withdrawn from work. In the special schools, these children are provided formal/non-formal education along with vocational training, a stipend of Rs.100 per month, supplementary nutrition and regular health check ups so as to prepare them to join regular mainstream schools. Under the Scheme, funds are given to the District Collectors for running special schools for child labour.

PECUC is running 2 such schools in Khurda District.

One school is running at Ashok Nagar ,a central area in Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation with 50 children rescued from Rag picking and Domestic Sector.

The school is running at Bhainchua Village, outskirts of Bhubaneswar Municipality & coming under Barianta Block. 50 children rescued from Brass metal Units, Brick kiln, Dhaba, and Automobile Garages are now attending this special school .

Vocational Training on Tailoring, Paper Craft, Clay Toys are being imparted to children.

Training & Capacity building:

The Project teachers trained by Govt of Orissa labour dept and in pecuc's different children training programme on joyful learning, child rights, child protection issues etc.

Presently, the students are in class one to five. The school time is 10 O' Clock morning to 4 in the evening. Besides, Morning Prayer, mathematics, vernacular and English the students learn dance and music and also imparted vocational training. The government syllabus is followed to facilitate mainstreaming process. The school

also caters to the food and nutritional need of the children through provision of Chhatua and Mid day meal (rice, dal, vegetables, boiled egg). Children also observed different days such as Republic days, Independence day, Child Rights days etc.

Supports Services & Linkages: The school received support and attention from the district administration and public in a number of ways. The CDPO in Ashok Nagar and Block office in Bainchua have made provision for the Mid day meal. The DPC arranges books; the implementing agency made provision for school bags, water bottles, notebooks, pen, pencil, colours and drawing sheets etc.

Child Participation & Exposure: Four students of two schools attended the inter district Sports competition held in Deogarh. There was a two days workshop programme on Child club strategy building at Yatri Niwas, Bhubaneswar. It was participated by two children from each of the two schools along with teachers. Two children represented in the Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL) event at Shradha Mandap. Anil Kumar Dash of Bainchua school stood first in a school level drawing competition organized by PECUC.

Women Empowerment-Self Help Group Promotion

The women SHGs are being promoted to give fillip to the socio economic status of women so that they can play the role of a salvager in the long run. On the other hand, PECUC also facilitated the marketing linkages for the women groups by way of participating in different exhibition and displaying the rural product to the urban buyers. In this connection PECUC participated in many exhibition organised by different marketing organisations. Major objectives of the programme are to capacitate womenfolk on their rights, make them aware about laws related to women, different trades, orient the SHG group members on the need, relevance and process for effective documentation of the entire process.



Aiming to strengthen the self help capacity of women, developing better understanding, cooperation and information sharing and information sharing within the women groups, creating pressure group at grass-root, developing a self management system, PECUC has initiated the process of federating women groups at panchayat and block level also.

116 SHGs promoted and strengthened in 8 gram panchayats of Baliantha Block and One Word (Word No.4) under Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation

Total Group	Total Member	Monthly saving	Internal loan	Bank deposit	Cash in Hand	Total fund
116	1920	41,020	39,50,782	15,02,714	50,000	55,03,496

Microfinance linkage with Bank	Recovery	SGSY Loan (14 Group)	Recovery
475000	395000	4139800	2446800

Trades (Under SGSY loan)

Dairy farm (5 Group), Poultry (3 Group), Goatery (1 group), Shipery (1 group), Garment (1 group), Spices (1 group), Mixture (1 group), Homeopathic bottle (1group)

Inter loan / Microfinance loan	SGSY loan
<p>SHG group members took individual loan in 3 % P.M. and they invest in making for individual product like (Badi, Agarbati, Bettle shop, Mudi making, Rice processing, Agriculture, Sweet stall, Homeopathic Clinic, financial support to family). Group members also taking loan from existing group fund and invested it in different trade individually to get more money as well as increase the group fund.</p> <p>Due to the SHG group, they are now felling more self sufficient to participate in the village development matter, like political, social, economical matter, as well as participate in MTA, Food committee, VEC committee, Health committee, Community Based disaster management committee member for overall development of the village.</p>	<p>14 SHG group taken loan Under the SGSY scheme. The groups have started income generation programmes on various trades like - Dairy farm ,Poultry ,Goatery Shipary, Garment, Spices ,Mixture ,Homeopathic bottle production .</p>

Capacity Building

To capacitate womenfolk so that for awareness and to increase their negotiation with the external training are arranged by us.

➤ Women & Law

A training camp for two days was organised by PECUC to aware women regarding different legal aspect which they face in their day to day life.

➤ Training on Documentation of SHG

To orient the SHG group members on the need, relevance and process for effective documentation of the entire process, this training was conducted. The course was designed so that group get well acquainted with the process of filing, maintaining cashbook, ledger, loan agreement format, loan register and other such necessary information.

Federation of SHG

Aimed at strengthening the self help capacity of women, developing better understanding, cooperation and information sharing and information sharing within the women groups, creating pressure group at grass-root, developing a self management system, PECUC has initiated the process of federating women groups at block and panchayat level.

Skill Development Training to Women Group on the following Trade : Dairy farm ,Poultry ,Goatery Shipary, Garment, Spices ,Mixture ,Homeopathic bottle

Children Festival/ SISU MELA-2007

To mark the Child Rights Week ,since 1990 ,PECUC is organizing SISUMELA (Children Festival week) for participation of children, highlight the issues relating to children and to provide a platform for wider section of the children for development of their inner qualities, creativeness, cultural exchanges, expression of thoughts and perception .This year SISUMELA was held at Eakmra Hat, Exhibition Ground, Unit - III, Bhubaneswar during 14th to 20th November' 2007.Around .

Objectives :

- ▶ To create an atmosphere for a child friendly society.
- ▶ To create a scope for children to share their views, creativeness, potentialities and exchange culture.
- ▶ To inculcate the spirit of freedom, participation and integration amongst children.
- ▶ To sensitize children, parents and civil society regarding the "Convention on Rights of the Child"

Components:

- ▶ Competitions (Music, Dance, Art, Quiz, Fancy Dress, Baby Show etc.)
- ▶ Cultural Programmes by children.
- ▶ Campaign for promotion of child Rights
- ▶ Observation of world day for prevention of child abuse
- ▶ Annual award distribution

World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse

On the day a poster competition was organized at Bhubaneswar among the school children from LKG to Class 10th on Child sexual abuse and the prizes distributed to the children on 20th November on child rights day.

Rally organized in 40 villages of keonjhar district of orissa by the child club members to raise awareness within the village more than 1000 children participated and also in this month all the children club discussed this issue in their child club meetings .Also in 36 schools in those area children along with the school management committee sensitized on the issues, Child protection committee formed in 40 villages to handle this issue.

Human Rights Education in Schools of Orissa :

PECUC in cooperation with Institute of Human Rights Education has initiated human rights education programme in Orissa as part of National Programme on Human Rights Education. The programme aims at building an universal culture of human rights through sharing of knowledge, empowering of skills and molding of attitudes which directed towards strengthening respect for human right & fundamental freedom, around development of human personality with promotion of understanding tolerance, gender equality and friendship. Which also helps in reducing dropout rate as well as enhance the values attitude and behaviour

Lead Agencies of Jana Adhikar Abhijan in concern Districts are involved in identification of schools and to monitor the programme. An advisory Board has also been constituted with many eminent dignitaries & Senior Citizens as its members.

Presently the programme is going on in 56 schools in 18 Districts i.e puri, Jajpur, Kendrapara, Cuttack, Boudh, Keonjhar, Khurda, Sambalpur, Baragarh, Sundargarh, Dhankanal, Bolangir, Mayurbhanj, Kandhamal, Balasore, Ganjam, Gajapati, Koraput

Major Activities:

SAC meetings: the first meeting took steps to form committees to prepare Child Rights module, an editorial board for quarterly news letter “Manavik Adhikar” and a delegation team to meet Education minister to discuss about govt. permission. The second and third meetings outlined incorporation of local culture, local knowledge and social conditions in the module.

Capacity Building: A Summer Training camp for HRE teachers was conducted successfully to build understanding and skill about Human Rights, HR knowledge and participation in social issues by the HR teachers. 49 teachers from different corner of Orissa were participated as trainees. The trainees were oriented on the subject of “ rganized on and its impact on Social, Political and Economical situation of Orissa”, deepening Human Rights, child sexual abuse, rganized and dealing with teachers, students & parents, fundamental rights of the citizen provided by Indian constitution and Human Rights mechanism, Right to food, cloth, shelter, health, education, water and its impact, child rights and its different aspect, Right to information Act. They also worked on Child Rights module – II. The camp was educative, enthusiastic and brought commitment among the teachers to march forward with the Human Rights Education program in schools. Similarly, three days syllabus training for 45 teachers from 44 schools was organized and copies of Child Right modules distributed to be imparted to students in the concerned schools.

Discussion with Education Minister, education departmental officials, Director SCERT, Secretary Secondary Board, expert committee of Sarba Sikhya Abhiyan, Vice Chancellor Utkal University, Director Department of SC/ST and various educationists were conducted for seeking govt. permission for HRE. A meeting with officials of SC/ST department was held and order obtained to introduce HRE in SC/ST residential schools.

Balasore

Flood Response – Disaster Risk Reduction

Bhogarai block in the northeastern part of Balasore district of Orissa is one of the worst affected blocks in recent floods. Relief & Rehabilitation programme was implemented in 25 villages in 3 G.P with the support of Save the Children The major component are as follows.

Health & Water: Sanitation of open water sources and distribution of water purifiers, dinking water bottles and 2500 Hygiene Kits . Distribution of IEC materials on health & Hygiene was meant to strengthen the coping capacity of the communities both during peacetime and during any eventuality. ‘Pallas’- Local Street plays involving children and community help disseminate the message of health and hygiene to larger sections of the community.Raising of platform of 25 number of tubewell

Shelter: 2500 polythene was distributed in most venerable family and 292 family get shelter support.

Livelihood: Agriculture being the main occupation of the majority of the rural communities . Agricultural input i.e paddy Seeds 30kg per family for 2500 family .

Education: 6500 Children provided school dress & 2800 children get education kit ,14 school building repair & 10 school get furniture & playing materials for ensure the retain in school .

Child Protection: Volunteers and Child Protection Committee at the community level were oriented and capacitated on child protection in the wake of emergency situation

in the affected areas. Information, Education and Communication materials targeting health and hygiene of children help strengthen child protection. Child participation in their own issues was ensured through Children Club (Sradha Bhawan) activities. **Disaster Risk Reduction** : Formation of 25 Disaster Risk Reduction committee, This committee have Disaster plan in each the villages, preparation of a model School Safety Plan, training to SEM and DRR committee members on PH testing of water, 25 water testing kit provided to 25 villages.



Key Achievements

- 2800 children get education kit for restoration their study
- 2500 family get temporary shelter
- 30 health camp organized in flood affected areas.
- 71 no. of pond Liming in 25 villages.
- 131 other places sanitation with bleaching in 25 villages.
- 50 volunteers aware about water purification & sanitation . .
- 12550 geoline distributed to 2500 family for safe drinking water purpose.
- 2500 packet alum distributed to 2500 family.
- 25 children club formed in 25 villages.
- 25 child protection committee formed in 25 villages.
- Repair of 14 Primary School.
- Created 980 person days labour intensive work
- 25 tube well Platform raising
- 292 family get shelter support
- 350 person days skill labour created
- Distribute material to 10 school (Steel Almirah – 1, Table – 2, Chair – 2, Filter with Stand – 2, Glass – 4, Playing Materials & Carpet – 3)
- 2500 Poor farmers availed paddy seeds(30 kg per family) to cultivate their land during coming Kharif Season.
- 30 no of Masson trained on flood resistance construction.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHILD LABOUR – National Secretariat

PECUC (Peoples Cultural Center) was hosting the national secretariat of Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL) from 2003 to 2007. The Secretariat was supported by Stichting kinderpostzegels [SKN], Netherlands, The Advocacy Unit at Delhi, working closely with CS was supported by Terre Des Hommes, Germany and a Campaign for freeing the Girl Child from Labour was supported by Christian Aid. Various activities were undertaken during the year as part of the National Secretariat of CACL.

Training on facilitation of children process/ child participation

Follow up training (Training of Trainers) on facilitation of children process/ child participation was organized at Hyderabad on 25 & 26th August 07. 58 participants from 19 states participated and trained in the programme. The topics include :- facilitation of Children process, Methodology, understanding on different childhoods, Understanding child rights, child labour, Education as a strategy for eradication of child labour, Life cycle and Gender issues, Various Creative Games to facilitate children process etc.

Intervention in Trafficking for Labour

Several children are trafficked to Goa from Orissa and mostly employed for domestic help. CACL-CS collaborated with Jan Ugahi a trust in Goa for their rescue and rehabilitation. The process is still continuing in regular basis. By the year Central Secretariat has intervened in 4 cases.

Media Advocacy

Wide publicity of CACL activities was made in electronics as well as print media. Press meets were organized at different places in India by the Central Secretariat. Some of them are in places like –Pune, Bhubaneswar, Delhi, Hyderabad

Development of IEC materials & publications

Five posters are developed. One Media Kit, One Resource kit for Parliamentarians, Tool Kit for Resource Educators. The newsletters "Update" were published and circulated widely. 3 issues in English and 1 issue in Hindi Update was published during the year.

Campaign for freeing the Girl children from labour

Massive campaign for freeing the girl children from labour continued by all the state chapters.

Children Together Against Child Labour- A National Event

A National Convention of Children "Children Together Against Child Labour" was held at Bhubaneswar on 20th – 22nd November 2007. 865 child delegates, 597 adults including accompanying adults, volunteers, facilitators, media, etc 500 child observers and 500 adults in inauguration, closing and Rally/Procession participated in the programme from across the country.

- Children Against Child Labour – A national platform of children is formed to combat child labour.
- Children participated in the event are well informed and sensitized on the issues of child rights, in specific to child labour issues.



- Children came out with strategies for eradication of child labour.
- Initiation of a process to build public pressure on the employers to release and rehabilitate children employed and further desist from employing children;
- Children encouraged to take the message back to their home town/locality and propagate against child labour;
- Children against child labour adopted as a concurrent agenda by all the CACL state chapters and the national chapter.
- Experience and good practices for the eradication of child labour is documented for future references.

Before the event state process completed by the CACL state chapters, Provides inputs on developing a benchmark or protocol in sharpening the understanding level, equipping the children before the National event A team of 60 facilitators “Hulchul Group” were constituted representing different states and trained by expert trainers who later facilitated the regional, state & national level processes.

Children Process

This process was to provide the children with right information and space for a meaningful participation. This exercise had a parallel line drawn with the theme of “participation and empowerment” of children, with the purpose of pushing them into an invincible role of protagonists of their own rights. This was an interactive process of school going and non-school going children and enabled them to discuss issues relating to them. This platform created a space for the children to help them in building their understanding on the issues relating to child rights and child labour; also explored their potential, leadership quality and enhanced the level of confidence and team building attitude; it enabled them to share their experience and expertise and created a supportive environment where children expressed their sorrows and sufferings and lastly this evolved a strategic plan for the children to envision their future.

Adult Process To create a just and joyful world for children where they can express themselves and have opportunities to grow and contribute as responsible citizens. The adults were told to visualize the world for children by closing their eyes – in a family where in all children & adult play with each other and share with each other.

In the event working on three thematic perspectives as follows :-

- New trends and approaches to Child Labour
- Child Participation
- Good Practices

Public Hearing: The unique feature of this public hearing is that, along with the adult jury members consting of Hon’ble Justice Samaresh Banerjee, Mr.A.B.Tripathy, Advocate Ashok Agarwal, Mr.Sarat Pujari, Ms.Namaratha Chaddha, & Dr.(Ms) Jayanti Jagdev and a Child Jury Board also was constituted consisting of Kumari Arundathi Sridhar,Kumari Sunita Gemel, Kumari Farida Bano, Kumari Shambhavi, Kumari Sonali Mhaske, Master Anil Kumar Dash.

After careful consideration of the depositions of victim children and the Children’s Jury Verdict The Jury Board had delivered verdict in following lines:

After considering all aspects of the matter, we are firmly of the view that to prevent and to combat the problem of child labour, we have to make a comprehensive, all round and multi pronged approach. On the one hand, we take advantage of the

existing law and obligation of the State to create an infrastructure for free and compulsory education under Art.21-A of the constitution. All measures need to be taken to the process of sensitisation to prevent the child labour. But the same in our view, cannot succeed unless simultaneously, all our efforts for rehabilitation of children are undertaken. The guidelines of the Supreme Court in MC Mehta case of 1996 will indeed be of great help in this regard. It inter-alia directed for such rehabilitation by providing employment to atleast one member of the concerned family. The scheme of self help groups should also be taken advantage of. There are many other methods that should be examined and followed. If necessary, to find out what other such methods should be, the CACL may in the near future, organize seminars or workshops to frame specific guidelines in this regard.



Right to Education Campaign

A national level consultation was organized at New Delhi by the Central Secretariat of CACL at PECUC. The Meeting was chaired by Dr. Vasanthi Devi , PCCSS, C.J.George, CACL , Prof. Vijay Kumar, National Coordination Committee of Indian Teacher's Organisations. Major decisions to Develop page position paper for the campaign .The position paper shall be aimed at communicating with the larger masses and shall be translated in all vernacular languages apart from being in Hindi and English. It shall also contain the earlier efforts/ work done in this area.

- A rally was rganized in Delhi –DEMANDING RTE Central Legislation –
- Meeting with parliamentarian on the issue of RTE.
- BUILDIND ALLIANCE ON RTE –

Consultation at Hyderabad : A national level consultation was organized on 04.05.07 at Hyderabad on Right to Education by CACL-CS,National Campaign Committee on RTE &CSS ,Various Teachers' Organisations and Civil society Networks .

Building Alliance

Jana Adhikar Abhijan [JAA]

Jana Adhikar Abhijan a network of NGOs , Senior citizens ,Representatives of Medea Houses has been initiated by PECUC to promote a human rights culture, Strengthening Right to information movement in the state , promoting democratic values and good governance.

Orissa Alliance on CRC

Policy, Advocacy and Capacity building on child rights

During this year different child rights groups / networks of Orissa met and after 3 rounds of talk had a state level consultation during May 2007 the groups came together and formed Orissa Alliance on Rights of the Child. OACRC .PECUC was nominated as the Coordinating Agency of the alliance and take forward the planned actions in the state.The major achievements of the alliance during the year are

highlighting the issues relating to female foeticide, making the existing Govt. mechanism at different level responsive to address various issues, monitoring & advocacy and finally preparation of a Citizen's Report on the Status of Child Rights in the state of Orissa..

The broad objectives of the alliance are :

- Building capacity of the alliance members and bring clarity on different aspects of child rights.
- Influencing change in policy making at the state/national level
- Monitoring the implementation of UNCRC/Child Rights Monitoring and Advocacy.

Major Actions by OACRC Secretariat at PECUC

- regional workshops at Cuttack, Sambalpur, Koraput, Balangir, Berhampur.
- Participation in country report process by OACRC members
- Fact finding and highlighting the issues relating to female foeticide in Nayagarh District
- Providing suggestive measures to govt. in making implementation of PNDT ACT more worth-revealing.

WE CAN CAMPAIGN end violence on women

PECUC is the State core committee member and attended various activities at state level, PECUC is the Nodal agency for Deogarh, Anugul, Dhenkanal and Keonjhar Districts. Also as District partner for Keonjhar district PECUC has conducted rural change maker event at Patna block and created 1525 change makers

Research & Study

Study of women harassment cases during Orissa Panchayati Raj Election 2007"

The main purpose of the study was to Document the women harassment cases in different districts of the state of Orissa and disseminate the same with different stakeholders to put forth the inside story and thereby find out appropriate strategy to combat violence against women contestants to a considerable extent in future. The Samples taken from five Districts of Orissa namely: Dhenkanal, Anugul, Puri, Keonjhar, Kalahandi

Suggestions

- Education as a vital instrument plays major role in the personality of an individual. Hence, education among women folk should be largely promoted to understand their roles and responsibilities first, prior to contesting elections.
- women should be encouraged to participate in the panchayat elections to define a strong place of women in Local Self Governance.
- Massive awareness needs to be created about the Panchayatraj system thereby enabling the women folk to understand the system and act accordingly without any biasness.
- Self Help Group and self help movement is the best remedial measure for promoting women force at micro level, this platform should be strengthened to promote women leaders with support from the fellow women groups in their respective areas.
- Non-acceptance to women leadership by some power hungry male members, criminalizing panchayat elections including sexual auscultation and murder is prevalent in the rural context, which needs to be addressed urgently.
- Involvement of self-help groups should be encouraged and group leaders should be promoted and trained to develop themselves as potential leaders.
- Line of instruction with specific direction should be designed and the line officials should be oriented sufficiently to give protection to the women folk participating in election.
- Low socio-economic status of the candidates, especially the women compels them to become playing cards in the hands of powerful politicians. Here, it is pertinent to mention that though Panchayat Elections are not participated by the Political parties directly but still major political powers are playing crucial roles in panchayat elections, serious steps should be taken up in this direction to conduct free and fare elections at grass-root level.

Analysis of Orissa State Education Budget: Priorities and Challenges

A study and analysis of Orissa State Education Budget: Priorities and Challenges was conducted by PECUC with support from Action Aid

Objective:

- To evaluate the priorities laid down for each major heads of development.
- To examine the infrastructural items of allotment and expenditure.
- To find out the trend over a decade in the allocation and expenditure of each item in the ambit of education.
- To point out deficiencies and upswings in allocation and expenditure over years
- To suggest remedial measures to rectify the problems emerged in school.

Coverage

- Both plan and non-plan allocation and expenditure bestowed in the budget are to be assessed and examined for a period of 10 years. Only Primary and secondary School education are included in the study.

Reference Period

The reference period of the budget is 10 years starting from 1997-98 to 2007-08

Findings

- The percentage of educational expenditure out of the total state budget has been gradually deteriorating from year to year .
- While comparing the percentage of expenditure in the said period between 1998-99 and 2004-05 out of the total state expenditure, the diminution is to the tune of 3.80%.
- The percentage of educational expenditure out of the total state expenditure has been drifted lower from 13.5 percent in 1995-96 to 9.3 percent in 2007-08.
- Simultaneously, the educational expenditure out of GSDP also plunges from 3.7 percent in 1996-97 to 2.3 percent in 2007-08 Of the total twelve items , expenditure in government primary schools rules the roost.
- An exorbitant portion of the total expenditure under government primary schools has been spent in the range of 99.4% to 98.89% of total expenditure under the head.
- The trend of expenditure under non government primary schools is frothy while the same for non formal education although improved in later years is slender
- It covers with ten items mainly on inspection (more than 100 percent) followed by government secondary schools (between 98%to 105 %), scholarships (87 percent to 103 percent).
- The bastion of overwhelming investment found to be the item on government secondary schools. From among the schemes on lower expenditures tribal sub plan appears to be significant .

Recommendation

- Since education is the back bone , life line , and corner stone of the society and the bastion of socio economic development , it absolutely needs to augment the present low level of around 7 % provision to higher height of 25 percent in the state budget to spin the accelerated access to success .
- Since education is the backbone, lifeline and corner stone of society and the bastion of socio-economic development, it absolutely needs to augment the present low level of provision to a higher level of 25 percent in the state budget to spin the accelerated access to success,
- Strong awareness programmes to change the mindset and attitude of the parents should be accelerated to improve attendance in schools and check drop outs.
- Stringent application of labour laws and enactments are to be insisted to eradicate child labour.
- The social barrier and stigma should be eradicated to send the grown up girl children to school. Their early marriage should be stopped.
- Quality education should be imbibed in oriya medium schools to stop the flow of children to English medium schools attracting more children from local area.

- Poverty should be eradicated by spruced planning of poverty amelioration schemes and its implementation with honesty and probity.
- Improvement in agriculture, promotion of village and small industries, afforestation, development of marine and inland fisheries, insistence on blue and white revolution all pooled together will generate income of the people enabling them to send their children to school.
- Parents should be made aware of the importance of education and realize the rights of children.
- The teachers and the social workers may have a door to door visit to the house of parents to lure large-scale enrollment of children in schools.
- Mid-day meal facilities in schools should prevail unabated. The meal should be delicious and the dishonest practices should be eradicated.
- Intradomestic discrimination and inequality at school should be avoided.
- All infrastructural facilities including class rooms/ buildings as per requirement should be provided for children and teachers.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT :

Building the capacity of staffs has been an on going inbuilt process within the organizations. PECUC usually organizes staff trainings at regular intervals, Exposer Visits, deputes to Trainings and workshops organized by other institutions, conducts Internal learning sharing and Regular information sharing to update immerging situations. During the year three Senior staffs attended training programme conducted by ASK ,New Delhi for SKN,Ntherland on Result based management on Planning, monitoring & Evaluation ,Training of Trainers .

Our Senior staffs also joined a National level Capacity Building Workshop on use of play and other experimental methodology . Organised by : TISS, Mumbai,.

Representation in Bodies and Committees

PECUC is representing in various Govt. Committees as follows:

1. Ranjan Mohanty,Secretary,PECUC has been nominated by National Commission for Protection of Child Rights to the working group on Child Labour and Education constituted by NCPCR.
2. Non official Advisory body member of the Khurda dist Under ITP Act constituted by Govt of Orissa 2004 cont.,Govt of Orissa
3. Committee member of Khurda Dist DSMS,Govt of Orissa
4. Committee member of Task force Khurda dist [eradication of Child labour],Govt of Orissa
5. Committee member of Bhubaneswar Subdivision PDS supervision, Govt of Orissa
6. Member Dist Child labour society, KHURDA,Govt of Orissa

Conclusion :

Though PECUC has reached at the 18th year in its move , the year 2007-08 has marked many significant events, .Still we have to go miles away to achieve the Goal and to end human sufferings .