

GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY



ANNUAL REPORT

2015-16



To Communicate To Empower To Sustain

GGSS Profile:

Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS) is the Social Work Wing of the Archdiocese of Guwahati, having its principal office at Peace Centre, G.N.B. Road, Ambari, Guwahati. The Society was formed in 1992 with the aim of supporting and empowering the poor and marginalized people irrespective of their caste, creed, or religion, living in the operational areas of the Archdiocese. The Society lays its focus on livelihood promotional activities among rural farmers with sustainable farming practices and initiating agri-product marketing, group wise viable income generation activities among the rural SHG women and vocational trainings for school dropout and unemployed tribal youth. Disaster Risk Reduction is also an important focus area. It also tries to tap various Govt. schemes and benefits for the target groups.

Legal Status:

GGSS is registered under Societies Registration Act 1860, with registration number 2163/1992-93. It is also registered with the Ministry of Home Affairs under FCRA 1976 vide FCRA No., 020780064. It has also 12 (A) registration for tax exemption vide Registration No.12A/38/2001-02/1272-74. The Society's PAN No. is AAATG5227D.

Vision

A self Reliant Society based on Love, Justice, Unity and Peace.

Mission:

To empower the poor and marginalized ethnic groups by promoting self reliance among them through awareness creation and people's Organization

Objectives:

- To create awareness and mobilize the less privileged groups of the society and help them to improve their conditions and find solutions to their problems.
- To assist and train the Animators to integrate, mobilize and develop human resources.
- To formulate and undertake different developmental projects on education, health and agriculture for improving the socio-economic status of the people.
- To collaborate with government and other secular organizations to promote development for humanitarian activities.
- To undertake relief, rehabilitation and welfare services for the victims of flood, ethnic violence, fire etc. as the situation demands.
- To initiate and undertake research, field study and documentation for the better planning, monitoring, and evaluation of our developmental activities.

Major thrust areas of interventions:

- Socio-Economic Development
- Community Health, Nutrition, Communicable Diseases, HIV/AIDS
- Water and Sanitation
- Emergency Response and Community Focussed Disaster Risk Reduction
- Education of poor children
- Vocational Training
- Peace Building and Conflict Resolution
- Natural Resource Management

CONTENTS

From the President	1
From the Director	2
Year in Brief	3
Operation Area	4
IRDP Phase II	5
IDRT	9
FARM	11
Vocational Training	14
Promotion of Herbal Medicine	16
Resource Mobilisation Project	17
Highlight of Scheme and benefit received	19
Promotion of Livelihood	21
Emergency Relief- 2015	22
Micro Project	23
Income Generation & Children's Clubs	24
RAISE	24
Vitamin A Supplementation Programme	25
Household Level Baseline Survey	25
POHAR Educational Aid	25
Staff Capacitation	26
Financial Report	27
Core Team	28
Acknowledgement	29





From the President

Most Rev. John Moolachira
Archbishop of Guwahati



Archbishop's House
Post Box 100, Guwahati - 781 001
Assam, INDIA

☎ : +91-0361-2547664
Fax: : +91-0361-2515588
Email : jmoolachira@gmail.com
URL : www.guwahatiarchdiocese.org

As Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS), the Social Work wing of the Archdiocese of Guwahati is nearing to cross the silver lines next year; it is indeed glad to notice that GGSS is becoming more professional in its development interventions and ever committed to the welfare of the target communities. The recently revised organisational strategy plan for the next five years is really an evidence to prove that it aspires to be an effective organization of the Archdiocese with proper systems and policies to facilitate the community led holistic development of the poor and marginalized.

I am happy that GGSS strives to mobilise people to make community led actions for common problems; be it is in the area of health, rural development, education, farming, disaster and so on. Community based structures such as SHGs, Federations, Farmers' Clubs, Producer Organisations, Youth and Children's groups that are formed under GGSS in various parts of the operational areas are becoming change makers for themselves and others. GGSS team is very much available with their expert service and experience providing need based handholding support to the targeted communities then and there, resulting in bringing joy and peace in their lives in various forms such as: improved living conditions and increased income for the targeted families; better education and employment for the students and school dropout boys and girls, improved knowledge on health and nutrition and access to various schemes and benefits.

I take this opportunity to appreciate the entire GGSS team- the staff, the consultants and the community volunteers for their valuable services and working in par with the organisation's Vision and Mission. Let GGSS be able to make more change makers in the communities and introduce and undertake more and more people led sustainable development activities.


+ John Moolachira
Archbishop of Guwahati &
President of GGSS



From the Director



GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY

(REGD. No. : 2163 / 1992-93)

☎ : 0361-2132853
✉ : abhggss@yahoo.com

'PEACE CENTRE'

G.N.B. ROAD, AMBARI
GUWAHATI-781 001
ASSAM, INDIA

Dear Friends,

Guwahati Gana Seva Society (GGSS) is solidly committed to its vision and mission, retaining strong focus in the programs on the principle of preferential option for the poor. All our development interventions are designed in such a way to improve the socio-economic conditions of the people especially the poor and marginalised tribal communities in our area of operation. We are very particular to reach out to the rural tribal villages where many lag in attaining various schemes and benefits.

The last one year has seen visible involvement of people from the interior villages specifically the women and school dropout youth taking initiative to form and run Producer Organisations, Cooperative shops, Tailoring centres, Canteens, Petty shops, Rural agri- marts etc.

GGSS feels proud to be part of the Government's Swachh Bharat Mission Scheme (SBM) resulting in constructing more than 100 individual household latrines. The opportunity provided for the village youth on various vocational trainings is also bringing good results as they start doing meaningful activities to support their families. The promotion of herbal medicine and low cost home based nutritional remedies are reaching the villagers by setting up model herbal gardens and providing trainings on preparation of various herbal remedies.

Let me thank all who have offered us their ongoing support, energy and co-operation to assist our efforts during the year. My special thanks to GGSS Governing and General Body Members, Staff, Consultants, Partners, Volunteers, Donors and other such supporters for the immense contribution to our mission again this year.

Thanks to one and all for supporting GGSS to cross the silver lines in its journey of working for the poor and marginalised people in Assam. We look forward to continue to work to promote Unity, Justice, and Peace; and thus uphold the dignity of everyone.


Fr. Anil Joseph
Director, GGSS



Year in Brief

April 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Monitoring Field Visit to IRDP Project area, Baksa District, by Mr. Rajkumar Toppo, Andheri Trust, India ↳ Household (HHs) Level baseline survey consolidation conducted in 30 rural Villages in Goalpara District
May 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Participation in Training on Accounting for FARM Project partners organised by Caritas India ↳ Interaction with officials of PHED & Coir Board on future programme collaboration ↳ Field visit to IRDP Project area, Baksa District
June 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Observation of World Environment Day in collaboration with rural Schools in FARM Project villages, Kamrup Metro District ↳ Participation in Pre- Monsoon Consultation Meeting at Seva Kendra, Kolkatta, organised by Caritas India ↳ Participation in NEDSSS's Annual General Body Meeting-2015 ↳ Appointment of Agriculture consultant for GGSS ↳ Field visit by officials from Dept. of Agriculture and NABARD for SRI paddy harvesting at Baksa District
July 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ GGSS Governing Body Meeting ↳ Meeting of survey team from AFRO and NEDSSS to be conducted in 2 villages each in Rangjuli, Sonapur and Mallang parishes ↳ Participation in workshop planning meeting at DBI (Don Bosco Institute) Guwahati, organised by FVTRS ↳ Training on Management of Cooperative Society to SHG federation members in Baksa District ↳ IDEA Team, Itanagar visit to GGSS and FARM Project fields
August 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Reflection workshop on - GGSS Gender Policy facilitated by NEDSSS Staff ↳ Participation in FARM Partners Review Meet at BAKDIL, Tura ↳ Participation in project proposal development workshop on FARM-2nd phase, organised at NEDSSS by Caritas India
September 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ GGSS Annual General Body Meeting ↳ GGSS Governing Body Meeting ↳ Appointment of CBO (Community Based Organisation) Consultant for GGSS ↳ Teacher's Day observation in all the Alphabetisation Centres under IDRT Project, Nagaon District ↳ Workshop on GGSS- Strategy Plan Revisit facilitated by CRS & NEDSSS Team ↳ Relief material distribution at flood affected villages in Chandrapur Block, Kamrup Metro District ↳ Medical Camp at Pachim Mayong flood affected village in Chandrapur Block, Kamrup Metro District
October 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Organisation visit by Caritas France Representative ↳ Participation in Andheri Trust Partners Meet held at Bhopal ↳ Participation in DRR (Disaster Risk Reduction) International Conference at Delhi, organised by Caritas India ↳ Participation in National Skill Conference -2015 at DBI, Guwahati organised by FVTRS, Bangalore



November 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Awareness Seminar on use and benefits of herbal medicine and low cost home based nutritional remedies for touring sisters under Archdiocese of Guwahati ↳ SWOT analysis Exercise of SHG federations at Tamulpur, & Kumari katta, under IRDP Project, Baksa District ↳ Participation on Seminar on FCRA Rules at DBI, Guwahati ↳ Participation in FARM Partners Review Meeting at NEDSSS, organised by Caritas India ↳ GGSS-Strategy Plan Document Revisit
December 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Interaction with District Development Manager (DDM), NABARD for Nalbari and Baksa Districts on possible future collaboration ↳ GGSS Governing Body Meeting ↳ Training on Reporting for GGSS staff, facilitated by Capacity Building Team, NEDSSS ↳ SWOT analysis Exercise of SHG Federations at Nagrijuli under IRDP Project, Baksa District ↳ Pre- Christmas Celebration
January 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Participation in Project Coordinators Meet organised at Kolkata, by FVTRS, Bangalore ↳ Distribution of HRE (Human Rights Education) books to various schools under Archdiocese of Guwahati ↳ Initiated vocational trainings on Garment making and Embroidery works, Bag and Handicrafts making for school dropout youth, supported by FVTRS, Bangalore
February 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Participation in Project orientation meeting for Project Partners on Resource mobilisation-Phase III at NEDSSS, organised by NEDSSS ↳ Exposure programme for Touring Sisters working under Archdiocese of Guwahati to Research & Development Centre for Medicinal and Aromatic plants Khetri, Kamrup Metro District
March 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Training on Financial Management for GGSS Core staff at GGSS Office, facilitated by Financial Officer Caritas Northeast Zonal Office ↳ Women's Day Observation in Morigaon, Baksa, Nagaon and Hojai Districts ↳ Interaction with Northeast Regional Coordinator, CEE (Centre for Environment Education) on possible collaboration in GGSS interventions

Operational Area



ENHANCED LIVELIHOOD THROUGH EMPOWERED CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN BAKSA DISTRICT, ASSAM (IRDP PHASE II)

The Enhanced Livelihood through Empowered Civil Society Organisations in Baksa District is a three years intervention implemented in 23 villages under Tamulpur and Nagrijuli Blocks in Baksa District, Assam financed by Andheri Hilfe Bonn, Germany. The reporting period included various activities to empower the target groups i.e., SHG and Federation members and youth, with need based capacitation to bring social and economic changes in their lives as well as in the target villages.

Project Duration: 3 years (July 2013 – June 2016)

Activity Highlights:

- ❖ **Public consultation meetings with Government departments, local government, police etc:** Organised public consultation meetings under four project centres with representatives from Govt. Departments and PRI members. The SHG Federation leaders raised the common social and economic issues in the villages and sought the possible areas of collaboration to improve the living standard of the people. Officials from the Block Development Offices, Dept. of Health and PRI representatives were present during the meetings.



- ❖ **Anti alcoholic awareness classes:** Conducted Anti alcoholic awareness classes under four project centres to encourage women to take viable initiatives to reduce the sale and use of alcohol in the villages.
- ❖ **Women's Day Observation:** The SHG federations observed Women's Day by organising public functions, rally and various cultural and sports competitions. It was also an occasion for the SHG members to come together and share the progress of their activities with each other.

- ❖ **Monitoring Visit by Andheri Trust- India:** Mr. Rajkumar Toppo, Regional Officer, Andheri Trust, conducted monitoring visit to the project area to track the progress of the project in terms of achieving its goals and objectives. The visit enabled the project team and the target groups to reframe their involvement and actions to bring about better outcomes in the areas of tapping various schemes and benefits, undertaking viable Income Generation Activities (IGAs) and strengthening group efforts.



- ❖ **Training on bookkeeping:** Ms. Popi Marak, MASSK, facilitated 2 days training on book keeping for 25 SHG Federation members organised at Shanthi Mahila Vikas Kendra, Tamulpur. The sessions included the topics on relevance of record maintenance, writing meeting minutes and financial records, record maintenance of bank accounts of SHG Federations, loan application and repayments etc.
- ❖ **Advanced training in tailoring:** Organised 5 days training for 10 women SHG members in gaining skills in making cloth based purse and bags facilitated by Sr. Silche, Vocational Instructor, Women Development Centre, Guwahati. Also conducted a further 5 days training in cutting and designing of salwar, blouses, based on latest trends at Shanti Mahila Vikas Kendra, Tamulpur under the facilitation of Mrs. Geethanjali, Fashion Designer, Guwahati.



- ❖ **Training on advocacy and lobbying skills:** Mr. Jaison Varghese, In charge - Donor Relations, NEDSSS, facilitated 2 days training on advocacy and lobbying skills organised for 30 SHG federation members held at GGSS Regional Office, Rangiya. The participants were familiarised with the importance of acquiring the skill on advocacy and lobbying to bring positive changes in the villages
- ❖ **Training on Women's Rights:** One day trainings were organised in 2 Project centres (Sashipur and Kumarikatta) clubbing participants of the 4 Project centres facilitated by Adv. Sr. Asha Preethi, Coordinator, Prison Ministry, Northeast India. A total number of 60 SHG members participated in the trainings.
- ❖ **Awareness Seminar on projects and schemes from Government and R & Ds:** A two days awareness seminar was organised for 30 SHG federation members at Tamulpur under the facilitation of Mr. Bishnu Das, Resource Mobilisation cum Linkage and Networking Officer of GGSS and Mr. Hitendra Sharma, Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati. The participants were informed about the latest available schemes from various Government departments such as Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Handloom and Textiles, Food Processing Mission, National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), District Rural Development Authority, Block Development Office, NABARD etc.
 
- ❖ **Participation in Exhibition cum sales:** Six members representing SHG Federations participated in the exhibition cum sales and sold various SHG products (traditional *gamocha*, handicrafts items and cloth based bags etc) during the two days FVTRS - National Skill Conference 2015 held at Guwahati.
- ❖ **Monthly SHG Federation Meetings:** Field Monitoring Officer and Federation Supervisors attended meetings of the four federations every month. The meetings enabled the federation members to share and take appropriate strategies to market various SHG products, evaluate the functioning of federations and gain knowledge on various steps to avail different Govt. schemes and benefits.
- ❖ **Networking with companies, shops and other institutions such as schools, restaurants, church etc:** Federation leaders under the guidance of Federation Supervisors maintain networking with schools and colleges to get orders for stitching school uniforms and salwars.
- ❖ **Training on RTI:** Conducted two days training on Right to Information (RTI) Act 2005 for 25 SHG Federation representatives enabling them with the skills and knowledge on writing and filing RTI applications. The training also briefed on the RTI Act, its objectives and relevance in terms of acquiring information from Govt. Offices as citizens of the country.
- ❖ **SWOT analysis Exercise:** The SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat) analysis exercises for the SHG Federations under the project centres were conducted in each centre to make them aware of the current strengths of the SHG Federations as well as identifying the weaknesses, various opportunities available and the threats they are facing. The exercises facilitated by Mrs. Jaisy George & Sr. Jessy Mathew helped the participants to make future plans based on the learning from the exercises to improve the functioning of the SHG Federations.
 
- ❖ **Participation in Andheri Trust Partners' Meet and National Workshop on Children:** Sr. Jessy Mathew, Project Manager, participated in the Partners Meet and the Workshop on Children held at Bhopal. The three days programme focused on possibilities of making interventions among the children incorporating with the current development projects by the partners.

Highlights of Achievements:

- SHG federations under the four centres set up tailoring units to support the SHG members to earn better income through garment making and embroidery works.
- *Natun Jiban* SHG Federation, under Nagrijuli Project Centre has been selected as the project implementing partner of the one month tailoring course for 25 ladies under CAP (NE-2015-16) sponsored by SSB-Rangiya Division, Kamrup District.
- All SHG Federations put up small market outlets under project centres to market various SHG products. 105 SHG members sold their various products and shared the profit; 1:10 to the respective SHG federations on sale of every product. The SHG members also sell their products through the Cooperative Shop called '*Akansa Mahila Seva Kendra*' set up at Tamulpur, Baksa District.
- SHG members from all the 4 federations participate in the village level weekly market and they sell vegetables, rice, soap powder, herbal medicines, traditional dress items etc. They also participate in various sales *melas* and exhibitions organised during festival seasons.
- *Basundhara* SHG federation under Tamulpur Project formed and registered a Women Producer Organisation (WPO) on Pig husbandry under the name '*Basundhara Producer Organisation*'. It consists of 75 women out of which 50 of them are part of the SHGs under the *Basundhara* SHG Federation. The WPO is supported by NABARD with 8.85 lakhs for a 3 years period to establish pig rearing business under its PRODUCE FUND.
- 1397 members availed various individual schemes, 10 SHGs availed group wise schemes which indicates that the SHG federations are improving their skills in pooling various resources for the SHG members and other villagers.



Way Forward:

- ✓ Conduct project consultation cum exposure visit to Government Departments
- ✓ SHG grading exercises under the Project centres
- ✓ Project end evaluations and developing Project sustainability plans at every project centre
- ✓ Networking with companies, restaurants, schools, colleges etc
- ✓ Strengthening the IGAs and sales and marketing strategies

Success Story:

Natun Jiban Women SHG Federation from the tea garden villages, Nagrijuli Block, Baksa District is becoming progressive change makers.....!

The *Natun Jiban* SHG federation was formed in 2014 by the SHG groups from six tea garden villages under Nagrijuli Block, Baksa District. From then onwards with the active support of the Project Team, they initiated various activities to improve the socio-economic conditions of its members and villages. The highlights of the federation's initiatives in the villages are as follows:



- ✓ Opened one market outlet and tea shop in one of the tea garden villages
- ✓ Opened garment making centres both individually and in group
- ✓ Started marketing homemade items, handicrafts, stitched garments through the common cooperative shops set up at Tamulpur
- ✓ Participate in village level weekly marketing
- ✓ Gained regular orders for stitching school uniforms from nearby schools
- ✓ Tapped various resources from different agencies related to IGA development
- ✓ Supported SHG members to obtain various individual or group schemes from different agencies
- ✓ Involved in local social issues like stopping selling the alcohol near the schools, playing gambling among villagers
- ✓ Cleaning the village surroundings
- ✓ Encouraging villagers to send their children especially girls to schools

The most remarkable achievement of the *Natun Jiban* SHG Federation is that it got selected as the project implementing partner of the one month tailoring course for 25 ladies under CAP (NE-2015-16) sponsored by *Sashastra Seema Bal* (SSB) Rangia Division, Kamrup District.

The SHG federation successfully implemented the project from 1st March 2016 to 30th March 2016. The members who are well versed in garment making took the lead role in arranging training facilities like finding out the training hall, raw materials, screening and selection of trainees etc. Two SHG Federation members got the opportunity to be appointed as the Instructors of the course. In fact, the ladies themselves arranged the tailoring machines from their SHG members to conduct the course. They also ensured that all the trainees completed the course. The training has enabled to have free basic tailoring training for the poor tribal women through the support of SSB and active involvement of the *Natun Jiban* SHG Federation



The SSB team well appreciated the SHG federation members for implementing the project successfully. The SSB officials shared to the Project team that they were happy to see the involvement of the SHG federation members from the beginning to the end of the project.

The SSB is further planning for organising such trainings and support with tailoring machines for the neediest persons in the tea garden areas under Nagrijuli Development Block. It will definitely be done in collaboration with the *Natun Jiban* SHG Federation. It is the unity and group work of the members which helped to grab such an opportunity to improve their lives as well as other women in their villages.

For further information: Contact Mrs. Kerotha (the Secretary of *Natun Jiban* Federation)

Contact No: 07086394950



Integrated Development of the Rural Tribal (IDRT) of Nagaon District of Assam

The IDRT Project is implemented in 20 villages in Nagaon District, Assam supported by Manos Unidas, Spain for a three years period since July 2013. The Project aims at the improved socio-economic conditions of targeted people in the 20 rural interior villages.

Activity Highlights:

- **Awareness on Right to Education:** Created awareness in the project target villages especially among the parents of the children of the Alphabetization centres on the relevance of education in order to ensure regular schooling of the children.
- **Conduct Alphabetization Centres:** 10 Alphabetisation centres are running in the project area with a total number of 300 children benefiting from the services of the instructors through joyful method of learning.
- **Capacity building of Alphabetisation Centre Instructors:** Conducted 6 days training for 10 Alphabetization Instructors at NDWDC Hojai, facilitated by Sr. Assunta SND. The Instructors follow joyful method of teaching by using various aids like charts, pictures, blackboard, action songs, games, poem recitation and group activities.
- **Admission of children to formal schools:** Out of the 300 children who were enrolled in the Alphabetization Centres, 95 children gained admission in Govt. schools with the active and timely interventions by the Instructors.
- **Sports Day and Cultural Contests:** Organised Sports Day and Cultural Contests in every Centre to have opportunity for the children to showcase their abilities and talents in extracurricular activities. All the children actively participated and the winners were awarded with special prizes and the participants with complements.
- **Teachers' Day & Children's Day:** Observed Teachers' Day in all the centres marking the occasion as an opportunity for the children to understand the importance of respecting their teachers and elders who play active role in their socialisation process. The children greeted their teachers with fresh flowers, traditional *gamochas* and gifts. Similarly, Children's Day was also celebrated in every centre by organising cultural programme and games for the children. The leaders of the villages also supported in organising the events.
- **Women's Day:** The SHG women in the project target villages organised Public functions in connection with the Women's Day observation. The events consisted of various cultural programmes, besides messages by dignitaries on the role of women in the community development.



- **Capacity Building trainings for SHG leaders and PRI representatives:** Conducted training for selected SHG leaders and PRI representatives on CBO Management. They guide the SHG members to properly function in order to avail various schemes and benefits from different agencies. They are also involved in cleaning the village surroundings and promoting awareness to the villagers on human trafficking issues.



- **Trainings for Farmer's Club Members:** Conducted field level trainings on Farmers' Club functioning and financial literacy for the members facilitated by NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development). More than 150 farmers participated in the trainings.
- **Training on Fish breeding and Poultry Vaccination:** The farmers' club members were capacitated on the process involved in Fish Breeding and Poultry vaccination in which 133 farmers from the target villages participated.
- **Training on IGAs (Income Generation Activities) for SHGs:** Conducted trainings under 4 Centers on pineapple jam and tonic making for 82 women and in bakery items making for 115 members. The participants have in turn started making trials at home as well as train the other members in their SHGs.
- **Monthly SHG Meetings:** The Field Animators and Project Coordinator make it possible to attend the SHG meetings to track the progress of the SHG functioning, IGAs initiated, various schemes and benefits received or applied, checking the SHG records etc.
- **Capacity Building of Staff:** Conducted 5 days training for the Field Animators at NDWDC, Hojai, facilitated by Mr. Pavitro Sangma, Coordinator, GGSS. The Animators were capacitated with the knowledge and skills to work with SHGs and Farmers' Clubs. They are supporting the target beneficiaries to access various schemes and benefits for the groups and other villagers.
- **Monthly Staff Meeting and Field Monitoring:** Conducted monthly review meetings of Field Animators and Alphabetization Centre Instructors and field monitoring visits by GGSS Director and NDWDC Team.

Highlights of achievements:

- 95 children gained admission in Govt. Schools
- The target groups received various schemes and from various agencies:
 - ✓ 2 SHGs received Rs 10000/- each for weaving from Block Development Office, Hojai
 - ✓ 300 Households from Singari Basti Village are sanctioned with free toilets under Swachh Bharat Mission Scheme from Kumarikatta Panchayat
 - ✓ 2 SHGs received interest free loan worth Rs 25000/- each for initiating IGAs.
 - ✓ 3 SHGs received 25000/- for weaving and poultry from Assam Garmin Vikas Bank.
 - ✓ 6 Farmers Club members received Rs 5000/- for vegetable cultivation from Panchayat
 - ✓ 3 Farmers received 40 kg paddy seeds from Office of the Agriculture



- ✓ 2 farmers received Kissan Credit Cards
- ✓ 3 disabled persons received Rs 10000/- each as subsidy from Block Development Office to begin income Generation Activities
- ✓ 4 SHGs received loan worth Rs 10000/- each for vegetable cultivation from Bandhan Bank
- ✓ 9 SHG members have undergone tailoring training under RUDSET (Rural Development and Self Employment Training) Institute, Regional Centre, Nagaon and have applied for 5 sewing machines

Way forward:

- ✓ SHG grading and evaluation
- ✓ Developing project sustainability plan with appropriate strategies
- ✓ Project end evaluation meetings
- ✓ Follow up of the Income Generation Activities (IGAs)
- ✓ Support SHGs to access schemes and benefits from various agencies



Facilitating Agriculture Regeneration Measures (FARM), Northeast

FARM Northeast is a three year Project supported by Caritas India & implemented in 16 villages of Dimoria Block under Kamrup Metro District since June 2013. It focuses on improved income for the rural and marginalized 2000 farmers through sustainable livelihood options mainly through agriculture and allied activities. People Led Development Approach (PLDA) is the centre of implementation strategy that puts forward people and their action first.

Activity highlights:

- **Market outlet at National Highway, Khetri**– The farmers' club members jointly opened a market outlet for selling various agri-products of the target farmers. Lead farmers collect the products from various collection points daily and reach to the market outlet. A sales person is appointed to run the shop, keep the daily sales record and maintain the shop. The farmers started selling local eggs, homemade vegetables, fruits, rice varieties, honey, turmeric etc.
- **Cattle Vaccination Camps:** Organized routine cattle vaccination camps in the 16 target villages in collaboration with Dept. of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Sciences.



- **Training for women farmers on Primary Processing and marketing of medicinal and aromatic plants:** Organized training for 45 women on producing, primary processing and marketing of medicinal and aromatic plants in collaboration with North Eastern Development Financial Corporation (NEDFi) Guwahati.



- **Interface Meetings:** Interface meetings with *Rastriya Gramin Vikash Nidhi* were organized for the Farmers Clubs to create awareness among the farmers on various micro finance schemes.

- **Observation of World Environment Day:** Planted 300 saplings of different varieties of plants in four village schools in the project target area:

S.L.No	School	Village	Gram Panchyat
1	Jiyong Par L.P School	No. 2 Oujari	Topatali
2	Rewa L.P School	Rewapathar	Tetalia
3	Khaloibari L.P School	Khaloibari	Khetri
4	Gaon Dimoria M.E School	Gaon Dimoria	Malaibari

- **Strengthening School Kitchen Gardens:** The school level kitchen gardens that were initiated during the 2nd year of the FARM Project were further strengthened by availing the services of the farmers' club members in expanding the area of cultivation, supplying good saplings, seeds and in preparation of bio-inputs. The schools are now able to produce chemical free vegetables to use in the mid day meal for the children. The children under the guidance of the school authorities take care of the gardens.

- **Demonstration on soil collection for testing:** Demonstrations were conducted in the project target fields to train the farmers on the process and methods of collecting soil for making scientific tests before initiating cultivations.

- **Kissan Sammelan (Farmers Meet):** *Kissan sammelans* were organized to provide platform for the farmers from the target villages to share their farming experiences. It was an opportunity for the participants to learn the various sustainable agriculture practices carried out by farmers in each village.



- **Training on Fodder Management:** Organized training on feeding practices, fodder treatment and livestock management for 45 selected farmers from the project villages in the project villages with the support of Fodder Management Cell, Dept. of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Sciences.

- **Training on Banana Cultivation:** Organized training on banana cultivation for 45 farmers in collaboration with Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) supported by Assam Gramin Vikash Bank (AGVB).

- **Entrepreneur Development Program (EDP):** Organized EDP training for 45 farmers who own petty shops of vegetables, fruits, fish, grocery etc with the support of Assam Gramin Vikash Bank (AGVB)



- **Awareness on relevance of participating in Gram Sabhas:** In order to improve the people's participation especially the women in the *Gram Sabhas*, conducted awareness sessions in all the project villages. The topics covered were: what is *Gram Sabha*, when and where it is organized, minimum quorum of the meeting, why people should participate, how it can influence the better functioning of the *Gram Panchayats*, preparation of village plans, the role of people to point out the needs and development priorities of the villages and improving the service delivery system etc.
- **Training on Financial Management for Farmers Club Members:** In order to strengthen the financial management capacities of the 16 farmers clubs in the project villages, trainings on the maintenance of accounts register, pass book etc were organized.

Highlights of Achievements:

- ✓ A common agri-market outlet is set up to benefit all the FARM beneficiaries
- ✓ The collaboration with Dept. of Animal Husbandry resulted in conducting routine vaccination and treatment of 730 cows, 54 buffalos and 154 goats from the project target villages.
- ✓ 45 women started growing medicinal and aromatic plants with the support of NEDFi.
- ✓ More than 50 to 60 project beneficiaries from every project village participated in the *Gram Sabha* held on 2nd October 15.
- ✓ 164 families rejected hybrid seeds and started using local seeds for cultivation. They are also developing home based seed banks.
- ✓ More than 80 farmers of Khaloibari and Teteliguri villages have taken initiatives to conduct soil test.
- ✓ 33 farmers received Livestock Insurance Schemes and insured their cattle for the period of one year.
- ✓ 24 farmers cultivated paddy on SRI method in 2 *bighas* of land each.
- ✓ Most of the farmers started preferring local variety of vegetable and paddy seeds for cultivation
- ✓ Department of Irrigation sanctioned a concrete irrigation canal with the length of 2.5 km with the active initiative of Ulubam Kasmuri farmers club of Ulubam village.
- ✓ 25 families of Teteliguri village developed a running stream into a fishery pond and started earning income through fishery.
- ✓ A road with the length of 200 meters connecting the agriculture land of 150 families of Gaon Demoria village was repaired with the initiative of the community.
- ✓ The initiative of Farmers Club of Ulubam village resulted in sanctioning an 800 meter length road by Khetri Gram Panchayat.



Way forward:

The 1st Phase of the FARM Northeast is to end by March 2016. It is planned to have the 2nd phase for the project with prior focus on revival of traditional agricultural practices and systems and document them for future reference and also address issues related to livelihood and health of the targeted population through PLDA (People Led Development Approach).

Success Story:

An unutilized running stream is changed to a fishing pond- a model for People Led Action

Teteliguri is a Karbi village under Tetelia Gram Panchayat, Dimoria Block where there are 123 families with the population of 593. Agriculture is the main occupation of the villagers but they also work as daily wage labourers in the nearby tea garden.

The members of the farmers clubs in the village, promoted under the FARM Project identified a brook that came on their path on the other side of downhill. The brook water running downstream from the hill used to get accumulated in a plain area, and when the water becomes full, it used over flow further downhill. The spot where the water used to get accumulated had a perfect setting to further develop it into a fish pond. Since the plot was kept unutilized, the villagers decided to develop it into a fishery pond by constructing a guard wall just like a dam and store the water.

The members discussed the issues during one of the meetings of the farmers club and then in a village level public meeting in which the Village Committee entrusted the farmers club members to construct the pond with the condition to have equal share and ownership for every family in the village. The village committee insisted that all the families should contribute either in cash/kind towards developing the pond. A Committee was formed to take care of the work. The farmer's club members took the lead role during the entire process of the construction. All the villagers as agreed provided need based support through out. The villagers raised the guard wall up to 9 – 10 feet. The length is around 40 feet and width is 6 feet. Now the guard wall has the capacity to hold enough water and that has increased the size of the pond up to 2 bigha with plenty of fish being cultivated in it. During the current year the villagers could sell fish and get a profit of Rs. 15000/- to Rs. 20000/-. The profit has been kept for further development and maintenance of the pond.

It is the farmers club members initiative that has resulted in changing an unutilized running stream to a useful fishing pond for the villagers. People Led Actions become effective once the decisions are taken for everyone's good and everyone act together.



Vocational Training

The collaboration of GGSS with Functional Vocational Training and Research Society (FVTRS) on providing vocational training for the school dropout and unemployed youth in its area of operation is resulting in creating meaningful changes in their lives. During the reporting year, GGSS successfully completed one year Project on Vocational Training for 100 youths in Baksa District on Garment making and Embroidery works (42), Beautician Course (30) and Solar Lantern Assembling (28). The year also marked with the initiation of another one year project (January 2016 - December 2016) to equip 100 youths with skills in Garment making, Bag and Handicrafts making and Food processing and bakery making in various parts of the GGSS's area of operation.

Activity highlights:

- ✓ **Monitoring visit by FVTRS:** As part of the FVTRS' organisational external evaluation, Mrs. Rosy Chowdary, the external evaluator visited GGSS together with Mr. Sajeesh, Programme Officer – FVTRS. The team interacted with GGSS staff, verified all the project documents and collected the organisation's feedback on



FVTRS programmes. The evaluator also interacted with trainee representatives of various trainings to understand the effectiveness of the project support from FVTRS.

- ✓ **Participation in National Skill Conference 2015:** Fr. Anil Joseph, Director, GGSS and Sr. Jessy Mathew, Project Coordinator participated in the National Skill Conference 2015 held at Don Bosco Institute, Guwahati. During the occasion, selected seven trainees of vocational trainings, who successfully completed the trainings under GGSS were given the opportunity to share their experiences. The trainees were felicitated by the FVTRS Team with mementos, cash prize worth Rs 500/- each for their initiatives to make use of the opportunity to learn a viable trade and earn income for their families.



- **Participation in Project orientation for implementation partners organised by FVTRS:** Fr. Anil Joseph, Director, GGSS participated in the programme on *Partner orientation and preparation of project implementation plan* organised at Frontier Management Centre, Bangalore by FVTRS for the newly approved projects on vocational training for school dropouts and unemployed youths across India.
- **Participation in Project Coordinators Meet:** Sr. Jessy Mathew, Project Coordinator participated in the Project Coordinators Meet conducted at Seva Kendra, Kolkata, organised by FVTRS. The meeting urged the participants to make strategies to implement the projects in accordance with the FVTRS vision and mission to make the underprivileged youth employable and become productive members of the society. The meeting also emphasised the need to support trainees to register their names in the respective Employment Exchange Offices and maintain updated placement records of the trainees to track the progress of the employment/self employment details.

Highlights of Achievements:

- ✓ **Best Case Study Award:** GGSS, as the Project implementing agency was selected for the award for the '**Best Case Study**' by FVTRS during the National Skill Conference- 2015 held at Guwahati. As a token of appreciation, GGSS received cash prize worth RS. 5000/- for preparing and sharing a case study document on inspiring remarkable changes in the lives of the trainees through the project intervention.
- ✓ **Trainees on job/self employed:** Majority of the trainees who underwent trainings have started doing group wise or individual works to support their families.
- ✓ **Trainees' enrolment in National Open Schooling (NOS) scheme:** Six trainees were enrolled in NOS Scheme and all appeared for the Metric Examinations.
- ✓ **Strengthened Collaboration with USHA International Sewing School:** The trainees of Garment making and Embroidery works are linked with the USHA International Sewing School to enrol for examinations conducted for the sewing course. The benefit of gaining the certificate from USHA International is that the trainees get clear evidence of the skills they acquired and also become eligible to get tailoring machines in subsidised rates from the respective Block Development Offices.



Way forward:

- Link the trainees with prospective employers, NOS Scheme
- Conduct EDP trainings
- Conduct exams for the trainees of Garment making and Embroidery in collaboration with USHA International Sewing School



Promotion of Herbal Medicine

GGSS has initiated one year project focusing on promoting natural remedies for common illness among the rural villages, titled "Training on herbal medicine making and low cost home based nutritional remedies for touring sisters working under Archdiocese of Guwahati" supported by Missio Munchen, Germany.

Project duration: 1 year (October 2015 to September 2016)

Activity Highlights:

- **Project launching cum Awareness seminar for the target groups:** A three days awareness seminar on the use and benefits of herbal medicines for touring sisters under Archdiocese of Guwahati was organised at Archbishop's House, Guwahati. As a symbol of initiating the project, Rev. Fr. Varghese Kizhakevely, the Vicar General of Archdiocese of Guwahati planted *Alovera*, one of the most used herbal plants. Sr. Deepa Mundadan, Regional Coordinator, Health and Sr. Deepa Scaria, Health Supervisor, CHARM Project, NEDSSS facilitated the sessions on creating awareness among the participants on various common illness found in the rural villages and the natural remedies to treat them.



- **Exposure visit to herbal garden:** An Exposure programme was organised for touring sisters and ASHAs (Accredited social and Health Activists). The team visited the Research and Development (R& D) Centre for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants of North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi) located at Khetri. The team had the opportunity to interact with the staff and learn the theoretical and practical aspects related to herbal plants growing and the medicinal values of each plant. The team



visited the herbal garden set up at the premises of R & D Centre. It was enlightening for everyone to learn about the oils prepared by lemon grass, citronella etc. The team also had a glimpse at the handicrafts making unit from water hyacinth run by NEDFi.

Way forward:

- ✓ **Training on Herbal Medicine:** Organise a seven days residential training programme on herbal medicine and low cost home based nutritional remedies for the village touring sisters and selected village representatives.
- ✓ **Model Herbal Gardens:** Set up model herbal gardens in parish premises under Archdiocese of Guwahati.
- ✓ **Monitoring Visits:** Conduct project monitoring visit to follow up the status of the herbal gardens and the preparation and use of herbal medicines by the villagers.



Resource Mobilisation Project (Phase II)

The project is supported by Caritas India as the 2nd phase of the Resource Mobilization Project titled 'Capacity Building of DSSSs in Assam and Meghalaya in Resource Mobilization' with the aim of strengthening the partner organizations' capacity towards building better collaboration with various Government Agencies and avail schemes and benefits for the target groups of the organization.

Project period: July 2014-March 2016

During the reporting period, the Coordinator built rapport with various agencies like Depts. of Agriculture, Horticulture, Veterinary and Animal Husbandry, Irrigation, Public Health Engineering (PHE), Krishi Vinjan Kendra (KVK), NABARD, PRI's, Assam Garmin Vikas Bank's Rural Self Employment Training Institute (AGVB- RSETI) etc.

Activity Highlights:

- ✓ Project implementation on FSPF - Promotion of System of Rice Intensification (SRI) intervention in Baksa District of Assam, Supported by NABARD
- ✓ Consultation meetings with various Govt. Departments such as NABARD, RSETI, Dept. of PHE, Dept. of Agriculture, KVK, Dept. of Horticulture, to bring in schemes and projects to benefit the target groups in the GGSS's operational areas



- ✓ Submission of project proposals to the above said departments to benefit the target groups
- ✓ Participation on project proposal development workshop organised by NEDSSS at NEDSSS, Guwahati
- ✓ GGSS strategy plan document revision facilitated by CRS and NEDSSS



Success Story on SRI:

'Increased production of paddy is possible with less seed, water, and land'- A farmer's testimony

Mr. Ali is a 31 yrs old small holder farmer, hailing from Lahapara village in Tamulpur Block, Baksa District, Assam. He is supporting his family that consists of his wife, one child and his sister and brother. Agriculture is his main source of income and he has been cultivating paddy and seasonal vegetables in 3 bighas of land adjacent to his dwelling. Like most of other farmers in the locality, he also cultivated one time paddy in monsoon season and during winter season cultivated some vegetables. Water scarcity is very much present in the village even though some of the farmers cultivate paddy on a small scale during winter season.



Mr. Ali happened to participate in one of the Focused Group Discussions on SRI conducted by the GGSS team in the village prior to the project implementation. Gaining inspiration from the FGD, he started encouraging and leading the other farmers to become project participants emphasizing the importance of SRI cultivation which is possible during winter season. Along with other 33 farmers, Ali started participating in the trainings and demonstration programmes organized by GGSS, supported by NABARD. He then cultivated paddy in 1 bigha of land through SRI method and the other 2

bighas following traditional method. He really wanted to convince himself that SRI method will bring better yield compared to the traditional one as well as how *paddy* cultivation is possible using less water.

Like other farmers he also shared doubt whether the single seedling will remain in the field and grow; even then he followed the instructions and applied them time to time from transplantation to the harvesting stages. He was really surprised to see the number of tillers (40-45) that came up from every single seedling in his fields.

During the harvesting he was again surprised to see the production that he could make out of 1 bigha of land, compared to the traditional farming done in 2 bighas of land. *He harvested 12.32 Quintal paddy from 1 bigha of land cultivated through SRI method where as he got 9.6 Quintal paddy from 2 bighas of land cultivated in traditional way.*

He was very happy sharing *the joy of getting the huge production through SRI method*, with less input cost and that too from just one biga of land. This news became viral among the neighbouring farmers making them to come and see the differences. The increase in the yield and income earned by Mr. Ali is encouraging him and other farmers in the village to go for SRI cultivation on a larger scale in the coming years.

Over all, the project implementation on SRI promotion among the 196 rural and marginalised farmers in Baksa District has resulted in creating positive attitude among them towards SRI and its role in addressing the food security and in decreasing the production cost of paddy which is the primary food crop of the country.



Highlights of Schemes and Benefits Received

1. Swatch Bharat Mission (SBM) Scheme:

Construction of 105 Individual House Hold Latrine (IHHL) Units, Kamrup Metro District

Under the Swatch Bharat Mission Scheme, GGSS facilitated the construction of 105 IHHL units worth Rs 12000/- each in 3 villages under Chandrapur Block, Kamrup Metro District in collaboration with Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), Assam. The beneficiaries included women headed families, small and marginalized farmers and SC/ST families belonging to BPL/APL category.



1. Promotion of Producer Organisation:

NABARD sanctioned a 3 years project on 'Promotion of Producer Organisation on Pig husbandry worth Rs 8.85 lakhs to be implemented in Tamulpur Block, Baksa District under its PRODUCE Fund. The project target beneficiaries are women farmers who rear pigs from 3 villages under the Tamulpur Block, Baksa District. The main objective of the project is to capacitate the rural tribal women on Profitable Pig husbandry as an Agri business.

Project duration: 3 years (1st February 2016- 31st January 2019)

Activity highlights:

- **Formation and Registration of the WPO (Women Producer Organisation):** As per the guidelines of the NABARD, formed and registered a Women Producer Organisation (PO) on Pig Husbandry namely, *Basundhara Producer Organisation on Pig Husbandry*, Tamulpur, with 75 members.
- **Household level baseline survey of the target beneficiaries:** Conducted household level baseline survey of the target beneficiaries to track the family status, current income sources, number of pigs reared, annual income, etc



Way forward:

- ✓ Organise Exposure visit for the target groups to NRC (National Research Centre) on Pig Rearing in Guwahati.
- ✓ Conduct training on pig rearing for the target members in collaboration with the Dept. of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences.
- ✓ Participate in the training on project implementation strategy to be organised by NABARD.
- ✓ Building the capacities of the WPO members on:
 - How to run a Producer Organisation (PO)



- Developing viable business plan on pig husbandry
- Financial Management
- Developing marketing skills
- Market Linkage
- Gaining various govt and related schemes
- Reporting and Record maintenance



- Promotion of Farmers Clubs- NABARD:** 25 farmers clubs (9 in Baksa & 16 in Kamrup Metro District) are promoted and linked with NABARD, Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Horticulture, KVK and Banks for getting schemes and benefits for Agri and allied activities.

Achievements so far:

- All the Farmers Clubs received Rs 7000/- each from NABARD towards strengthening Farmers Club activities.
 - All the Farmers Clubs received seeds and seedlings (vegetables, paddy and mustard) and fertilisers from Dept of Agriculture.
 - 2 Farmers Club members received power tillers and 12 others received Water Pumps under RKVY Scheme from and Dept. of Agriculture.
 - Conducted 6 days training on Organic Banana Cultivation for 35 Farmers Club members in Kamrup Metro District in collaboration with Assam Garmin Vikas Bank's Rural Self Employment Training Institute((AGVB- RSETI).
 - Linked the 35 farmers with AGVB, Sonapur and Khetri branches to avail loans to initiate banana cultivation and 12 of the farmers received Rs 50000/- each under KCC (Kissan credit Card) Scheme.
- Vocational training for unemployed youths- Assam Garmin Vikas Bank's Rural Self Employment Training Institute(AGVB- RSETI):**
 - Conducted 6 days General Entrepreneurship Development Programme for 35 unemployed youth under Demoria Blok in Kamrup Metro district in collaboration with the AGVB- RSETI.
 - 4 tribal women from Demoria Block, Kamrup Metro District attended 21 days training on Weaving organised by RSETI.



PROMOTION OF LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AND PREVENTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

The project is being implemented in 25 villages in Nagaon District with the support of Archdiocese of Guwahati. It has a thrust on prevention of human trafficking, poverty reduction through sustainable livelihood opportunities for the 1250 socially and economically marginalized and downthrown families in Nagaon District, Assam.

Project Duration: 3 years (1st October 2014 to 31st September 2017)

Project operational area: 25 villages in Nagaon District

Major activities carried out during the reporting period:

- Awareness sessions on safe migration, rights of domestic workers.
- Capacity building of women leaders on prevention of human trafficking.
- Awareness creation training on safe migration among prospective migrants and their family members.
- Training on rural employment and marketing for women and youth.
- Capacity building trainings for the SHG leaders and farmers club members on: micro credit, income generation, SHG management and book keeping.
- Skill development trainings for SHGs on candle making, bio inputs preparation, herbal medicine making and detergent powder making etc...
- Skill development training on tailoring embroidery, knitting for the unemployed women.
- Awareness creation on the issue of Food Security in villages.
- Trainings on potato and mushroom cultivation for farmers club members.
- Linkages with banks and various agencies to avail various schemes and benefits.



Highlights of Achievements:

- 32 farmers from the target villages received KCC (Kissan Credit Card).
- A Rubber Producer's Society is formed and 12 farmers availed schemes from Rubber Board of India.
- 45 BPL families under Derapathar Centre, received IAY (Indira Awas Yojana) housing scheme.
- 2000 BPL families from the 25 target villages availed Job Cards under MGNREGA Scheme.
- 2000 BPL families joined in the insurance scheme under the PMJDY (Pradhan Mantri Jan- Dhan Yojana- Prime Minister's People Money) Scheme of the Govt. of India.
- 32 elderly persons from the target villages were linked with the Old age Pension scheme and they started availing the benefits.



- Four hand pumps were sanctioned at Derapather No.2 & No.4 under MLA Development Fund Scheme.

Way Forward:

- Preparation of village level data on PDS (Public Distribution System).
- District level consultation meet of NGOs and CBOs on food security issues.
- District level workshop on rural employment guarantee scheme for the unemployment youth.
- Workshop on entrepreneurship development for the women, men and youth in the district.
- Promotion of technical skills (driving, mechanic, computer) among the school drop outs.
- Advocacy and interface programs with development authorities such as KVIC, DIC, NABARD, SIDBI, local nationalized banks, NEDFI etc, to avail various schemes and benefits for the target groups.
- Network and alliance building for issued based signature campaign at Block and District.
- Placement of domestic workers in safe places with better payments.
- Interface meeting with law enforcement authorities on the issue of trafficking in the district.
- Prepare a pre-departure module for safe migration.
- 2 week certificate course on household keeping, baby caring, food preparation, home management for 100 prospective migrants.



Emergency Relief -2015

Relief Material Distribution: GGSS distributed relief materials to worst flood affected families from nine villages under the Chandrapur Block, Kamrup Metro District. Each family received rice, dal, flat rice and salt. Village head men, ward members, school teachers, and ASHA workers from the villages supported in identifying the eligible beneficiaries and in distribution.

Vaccination Camps for the Livestock:

GGSS in collaboration with Dept. of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science organised vaccination camps for the livestock for sixteen villages in Chandrapur and Demoria blocks in Kamrup Metro district. The domestic animals such as cows, goat and buffalos of the flood affected families were vaccinated to be free from various diseases to be caused by the flood like situation. 1741 domestic animals were vaccinated.





Medical Camps:

GGSS in collaboration with St. John's Hospital and PHCs organised medical camps for the flood affected people of 16 villages of Chandrapur and Dimoria Block in Kamrup Metro District. A total number of 1715 persons benefited from the camps with general health checkups and availing medicines on free of cost.

Micro Project

Promotion of Community owned TARA pumps towards having permanent drinking water sources in 5 rural tribal villages in Goalpara District, Assam, Supported by Caritas India

Project period: 4 months (July 2015- October 2015)

GGSS with the support of Caritas India undertook a micro project on constructing common TARA hand pumps in 5 rural tribal villages under Balijana Block, Goalpara District. A total number of 200 HHS has directly benefited from the project.

Activity Highlights:

- Awareness creation on the use and benefits of *TARA hand pump* among the beneficiaries to ensure the community ownership and participation.
- Formation of village level user committees in 5 villages with a membership of 10 members.
- Construction of *TARA pump* one each in 5 villages.
- Practical demonstration on use of *TARA pumps*.

S.L No	Direct beneficiaries: 200 BPL Tribal HHS from 5 villages			
	Village	Block	No. of Beneficiaries	Indirect beneficiaries
1	Buglamari A	Balijana	35	175
2	Buglamari B	"	40	160
3	Buglamari C	"	30	125
4	Raikushi		45	145
5	Maijunga	"	50	200
Total	5 Villages	1 Block	200 HHS	805 HHS



Income Generation & Children's Clubs:

The Project is supported by NEDSSS (North East Diocesan Social Service Society) towards promoting IGAs among BPL families and Children's Clubs in the rural villages.

Project Period: August 2015-January 2016

Activity Highlights:

- **Formation of Children's Clubs :** Formed Children's Clubs at 6 villages in Morigaon District
- **Children's Club Meetings:** Conducted Children's Club meetings every month to know the progress of the functioning of the clubs.
- **Sports Day & Cultural competitions:** As an initiative of the Children's clubs in the villages, organized village level sports day and cultural competitions for the children. The events were organized in due support of the parents and elders from the villages.
- **IGA support to BPL families:** Supported 15 BPL families from Goalpara District to initiate Viable Income Generation Programmes.



Regional Action for Initiating Safety and Empowerment (RAISE) of Women in North East India

Project duration: 3 years (2014-2017)

The Project '*RAISE Women*' supported by Northeast Diocesan Social Service Society (NEDSSS) focuses on capacitating the women led community organisations to become channels of peace and in taking initiatives to address women related issues. Also to strengthen the women leaders with the knowledge and skills to support the villagers to tap various schemes and benefits. The project also tries to institutionalise the Gender Concept in all levels of interventions among the Project Partner Organisations in Northeast.

Activity Highlights:

- **Reflection workshop on Gender Policy:** A workshop to have reflection on the Organisation's Gender Policy was organised for GGSS Staff at Peace Centre. Ms. Alphonsa Monsang, Regional Coordinator, Gender, NEDSSS facilitated the sessions leading the participants to have better understanding on the concepts of Gender, Gender equity, Equality, Gender related problems etc. The importance and need to have a Gender Policy in an organisation and its implementation at all levels was very much emphasised throughout the workshop.



- **2 days orientation programme on Gender for women leaders:** Organised orientation programme for the Women Leaders on the Concept of Gender at Silchang in which 300 women leaders from various villages participated.
- **Women's Day observation:** Observed Women's Day by organising a public function that included cultural performance by the Women's Day messages by the chief guests.



Vitamin A Supplementation Programme



The project on Vitamin A supplementation programme for children below 5 years which initiated in January 2015 in collaboration with Vitamin Angels, USA is being continued to benefit the target population through the distribution of Vitamin A tablets and de worming tablets. During the reporting year, GGSS has made it possible to reach a total of 5500 children out of which 4500 children are between 1 to 5 years and 1000 infants (6-months). GGSS collaborates with the seven (7) Health Facilitation Centres run under the Archdiocese to distribute the tablets and capsules in the project targeted areas.

Household Level Baseline Survey in 1134 HHS Goalpara & Kamrup Rural District

GGSS undertook a Household Level Baseline Survey with the support of NEDSSS in Kamrup Rural and Goalpara Districts covering 1134 HHS. The survey was conducted to gather basic village information, demography, basic amenities, agriculture pattern, education, other live hood sources, presence of civil society organisations, health issues and facilities, household level income and expenditure, debt, political participation of the villagers, availability of various schemes and benefits etc.

POHAR EDUCATION AID

Aim: *POHAR* aims to ensure better education and personality development of the socially and economically backward students in the rural villages of Assam

Target group: Students of the schools functioning under the jurisdiction of the Archdiocese of Guwahati. The fund reached 5 students in the current year and supported to meet the cost of admission, tuition & computer fees, books etc

LIST OF STUDENTS SPONSORED FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2015

Sl. No.	NAME OF THE STUDENT	NAME OF THE SCHOOL	CLASS
1	Preniash Momin	St. Francis School, Rangjuli, Goalpara District, Assam	V
2	Acnasiush Sangma	St. Francis School, Rangjuli, Goalpara District, Assam	IV
3	Aiby Dora Marak	St. Paul's School, Panishali, Goalpara District, Assam	III
4	Jonitha Sangma	St. Paul's School, Panishali, Goalpara District, Assam	II
5	Suman Rabha	St. Vincent's School, Amsoi, Nagaon District, Assam	VII



Staff Capacitation Programmes:

S.L No	Name of the training/workshop/seminar/meeting	Date & Venue	Organised by	Participants
1	Training on Accounting for FARM project partners	27 th & 28 th May 2015 @ NEDSSS	Caritas India	FARM Project staff
2	Pre-Monsoon Consultation Meeting	22 nd & 23 rd June 2015 @ Seva Kendra, Kolkatta,	Caritas India	Fr. Anil Joseph
3	Reflection workshop on GGSS Gender Policy	5 th August 2015 @ GGSS Office, Guwahati	NEDSSS	GGSS Staff
4	Project proposal development workshop on FARM-2 nd Phase	20 th & 21 st August 2015 @ NEDSSS, Guwahati	Caritas India	Mr. Prabin Minj
5	Workshop on GGSS's Strategy Plan Revisit	18 th & 19 th September 2015 @ Archbishop's House, Guwahati	NEDSSS	GGSS Governing Body, General Body members and staff
6	Andheri Trust Partners Meet	17 th -18 th October 2015 @ Bhopal	Andheri Trust, India	Sr. Jessy Mathew
7	International Conference on DRR(Disaster Risk Reduction)	6 th & 7 th October 2015 @ Delhi	Caritas India & NDMA	Mr. Bishnu Das & one Lead Farmer from FARM project area
8	National Skill Conference-2015	27 th & 28 th October 2015 @ DBI, Guwahati	FVTRS	Fr. Anil Joseph & Sr. Jessy Mathew
9	Project Orientation Workshop	23 rd November 2015 @ Bangalore	FVTRS	Fr. Anil Joseph
10	Training on Reporting	4 th December 2015 @ GGSS Office, Guwahati	NEDSSS	GGSS staff
11	Project Coordinators Meet	29 th – 30 th January 2016 @ Kolkatta	FVTRS	Sr. Jessy Mathew
12	Project orientation meeting for Project Partners on Resource Mobilisation-Phase III	4 th & 5 th February 2016 @ NEDSSS, Guwahati	NEDSSS	Sr. Jessy Mathew & Mr. Bishnu Das
13	Training on Financial Management	4 th March 2016 @ GGSS Office, Guwahati	GGSS	GGSS core Team



Financial Report

GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY, G.N.B. ROAD, AMBARI, GUWAHATI : ASSAM RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2016

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT (Rs.)	PAYMENTS	AMOUNT (Rs.)
To Opening Balance		By Project Expenses (Sch B)	4,871,954.50
Cash in Hand	936,890.90		
Cash at Bank	1,387,086.54	Programme Expenses	
	2,323,977.44	Training on System of Rice Intensification (NABARD)	671,554.00
Project Receipts (Sch- A)	5,251,919.00	Programme on Capacity Building	49,880.00
Program Receipts	2,240,811.00	Programme on Women Empowerment	68,000.00
Bank Interest Received	82,218.00	Programme on Resource Mobilisation	155,154.00
		Social Survey Expenses	58,180.00
		Training on Water Making	90,507.00
		Swachh Bharat Mission Expenses	888,000.00
		Educational Help to Poor Students	22,744.00
			2,013,019.00
		Administrative Expenses	
		Travelling Expenses	1,900.00
		Repair & Maintenance	14,699.00
		Printing & Stationery	13,910.00
		Refreshment Expenses	200.00
		Miscellaneous Expenses	5,607.00
		Bank Charges	63.00
		Duty, Taxes & Professional Fee	35,127.00
			73,506.00
		Capital Expenditure	
		Vehicle	58,546.00
		Closing Balance	
		Cash in Hand	350,086.40
		Cash at Bank	2,531,773.54
			2,881,859.94
Total (Rs.)	9,898,925.44	Total (Rs.)	9,898,925.44

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY,

PLACE: GUWAHATI
DATE: 18.07.2016



AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE
FOR: H.K. AGRAWALA & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
FRN-319293E



CA. HARISH K. AGRAWALA
PARTNER
MEMBERSHIP NO.: 054726

GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY, G.N.B. ROAD, AMBARI, GUWAHATI : ASSAM

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH, 2016

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT (Rs.)	ASSETS	AMOUNT (Rs.)
GENERAL FUND		FIXED ASSETS	
Opening Balance	1,846,918.44	(As per Schedule 'B')	766,020.00
Add: Net Surplus Transferred to General Fund	154,888.00		
	2,001,806.44	CURRENT ASSETS	
PROJECT FUND		Cash-in-hand	350,086.40
(As per Schedule A)		Cash-at-Bank	2,531,773.54
	1,666,073.50		2,881,859.94
Total (Rs.)	3,666,879.94	Total (Rs.)	3,666,879.94

SCHEDULE 'C' OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES & NOTES ON ACCOUNTS

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY,

PLACE: GUWAHATI
DATE: 18.07.2016



AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE
FOR: H.K. AGRAWALA & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
FRN-319293E



CA. HARISH K. AGRAWALA
PARTNER
MEMBERSHIP NO.: 054726



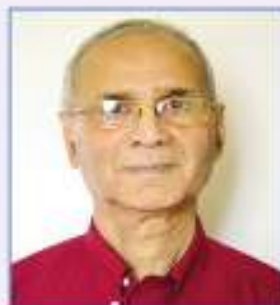
Core Team, GGSS



Fr. Anil Joseph
Director



Sr. Jessy Mathew
Administrator



Dr. D. N. Dutta
Consultant



Dr. P. J. Lukose
Consultant



Sr. Assunta Murmu
Co-ordinator



Prabin Minz
Project Coordinator



Bishnu Das
Marketing Coordinator



Jaisy George
Documentation Officer



Povitro Sangma
Co-ordinator



Joseph Joshi
Accountant



Pulen Talukdar
Field Co-ordinator



Sanju Sangma
Driver



Jaya Kakoti
Office Assistant



Anjali Wary
Support Staff



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*I can do things which you cannot
You can do things which I cannot
Together we can do great things.*
- Mother Theresa



ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16



GUWAHATI GANA SEVA SOCIETY

Peace Centre, G.N.B. Road, Ambari
Guwahati - 781 001, Assam, Phone : 0361-2132853
E-mail / fb : abhggss@yahoo.com
Website : www.ggss-guwahati.org