



**ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012
DIGAMBARPUR ANGIKAR
(AN ORGANISATION FOR INTEGRATED
RURAL DEVELOPMENT)**

www.angikar.org

Email: angikar.2012@gmail.com

Mobile No: 9830568630

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY

Dear President, Members, Guest Invitees and Volunteers,

First of all I welcome you in the great mobilization of members in the annual general meeting of the organisation for the year 2011-12. It was an eventful and fruitful year in terms of achievements for the poor. The benefit of our initiatives has reached directly to 15126 beneficiaries through awareness sensitization, mainstreaming education, strengthening self help group activities, vocational skill up gradation and rehabilitation for livelihood development. If we take account of indirect benefits through our environment conservation programmes, than it will be about five lakh rural people. Women, children and youth of most vulnerable section are the main target groups of our organization.

The activities of our organization mainly concentrated in Sundarban region. People in this region are the sufferers by the adverse impact of climate change and global warming. Natural calamities, flood and cyclone are in increase. So during the year we had given special efforts on environment conservation activities. But we are to move forward and continue the initiatives through community involvement.

During the reporting year 2011-2012 our organization has conducted various development activities very successfully with the great support of internationally reputed organizations like Tiger Widows Organisation, Ireland, Tzedek, UK, Action Aid Kolkata, UK, IGSSS, Germany, People for Progress in India, USA. The West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society, West Bengal Women Development Undertaking, Sundarban Development Board, Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt of India, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Govt of India, Central Social Welfare Board, NABARD, Sanitation cell, South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad and block development officials have also been providing assistance for the empowerment of vulnerable section of people.

I convey my sincere thanks to all the members, associates and well wishers, support partners, staff personnel, volunteers and community people who are extending helping hands to us for the noble causes.

Thank you and with best wishes,

Swapan Kumar Mandal
Secretary, Digambarpur Angikar

ABOUT DIGAMBARPUR ANGIKAR

Digambarpur Angikar is a Non Government Development Organization striving for the empowerment & mainstreaming of deprived village people of Sunderban region with emphasis on backward rural Women, Children and Dalit SC ST Communities. Striving to establish an alternative and prosperous rural social order; this mercurial organization has projected itself as the harbinger of grassroots liberty and empowerment of Coastal Sunderban Islands for last two decades

A handful of academicians, visionaries and professionals of Sunderban at Patharprastima have established Digambarpur Angikar unto the limelight driven by a desire to live as members of a group doing things for themselves, their fellow beings and for the community as well. Construed to extend a helping hand to the suffering mass against recurrent vagaries of nature (flood & cyclone) in the coastal Sunderban of South 24 Parganas district, Digambarpur Angikar have been engaged since 1979 in the empowerment and mainstreaming of socio-economically marginalized and vulnerable rural sections by viewing development as a process of increasing the personal and institutional capacities of members to mobilize and manage resources to produce sustainable and justly distributed improvement in their quality of life consistent with their own aspirations.

Legal Status:

Registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act XXVI of 1961;

Registered under the Foreign Contribution Regulations Act, 1976 of the Govt. of India;

Registered under section 12A and exempted under section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961;

Vision:

Digambarpur Angikar visualizes an egalitarian society where people irrespective of caste creed religion can enjoy their basic human rights with equal access to resources for quality in life and livelihood.

Mission:

It is our mission to strengthen the empowerment process of the most vulnerable women and children so that they can realize and protect their basic human rights.

Goals:

- Develop the livelihood status of disadvantaged people in rural communities;
- Promote empowerment of women and child rights;
- Mobilize community people and make them aware of education, health and livelihood opportunities;
- Provide access to health services and promote the adoption of better health practices;
- Facilitate sustainable livelihoods development through training on agriculture, animal husbandry and handicrafts;
- Strengthen self help groups and other community based organizations;
- To stop discriminating factor based on caste, creed, sex, clan and colour.

Primary Activities

- Study cum survey and need analysis through participatory processes
- Community mobilization and promotion of grassroots Community Based Organizations;
- Capacity building, skill up gradation, entrepreneurship development of women, artisans through trainings, demonstrations and exposure visits;
- Income generation and savings initiatives among Self Help Groups;
- Promotion and protection of Women & Child Rights;
- Rehabilitation through education and livelihood development programme for empowerment of women and girls at risk;
- Prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and promotion effective reproductive health practices;
- Watershed management and environment conservation;
- Land shaping and rain water harvesting;
- Total sanitation Campaign and construction of IHHL, School Toilets;
- National Environmental Awareness Campaign;
- Establishment of productive market linkages

Fields of Initiatives of the Organisation:

- Education
- Health
- Women & Child Rights
- Livelihood
- Environment Conservation
- Sanitation

EDUCATION SECTOR

CRÈCHE UNDER THE RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL CRÈCHE SCHEME:

Little kids with full of joy enjoy their childhood in the crèches run by the organisation at villages Uttar Digambarpur, Paschim Sridharpur, Ramnagar Abad and Taranagar under Patharpratima block. 100 children of 0 – 6 years of low income working women of BPL/APL/SC/ST/OBC families have been enrolled in these crèches. The Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi and the West Bengal Social Welfare Board have been continuing its assistance to run 4 crèches under the Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Scheme. The target children are provided with education, supplementary nutritional and emergency medicinal support, hygienic care under the supervision and guidance of expert and trained crèche workers. Education materials play materials etc are used. The crèche centers are maintained in neat and clean environment.

Construction of Creche Building:

The crèche centre at village Digambarpur has been functioning since 2007 in the verandah of a villager. In rainy season or in summer and during natural calamities we are to face critical problems for protection the target babies. In this situation Tzedek, U.K has extended helping hands for construction of permanent infrastructure for the crèche measuring 400 sq.ft. Thus the child protection and childhood development for the babies of SC/ST/OBC communities in hygienic environment has been ensured. Mothers of the babies are relieved from anxiety to see their babies in safe place.

Angikar Kishalay Niketan (MODEL SCHOOL):

The primary level school “Angikar Kishalay Niketan” has been functioning for providing model education to non school going and dropout children under the innovative and attractive education system from classes I to class IV. The Angikar Kishalay Niketan is the starting point from where the children can be mainstreamed to formal schools by arranging four hours teaching as per mainstream requirements, life skill and art craft classes once a week, nutritious mid day food for students every school days, awareness on personal hygiene, adolescent health care etc. During the reporting year 21 children are mainstreamed to formal school out of 89. In the management of school and mother groups are very active and they meet once a month to assess the progress of students and other issues. A Group of Doctors, UK has been extending support for the model school.

CHILDHOOD PROMOTION FOR GIRLS OF CSWs

Once these girls were at risk and socially excluded. But now they are empowered with capacity for mainstreaming. A total of 42 girls of CSWs at Ghutiary Sharif and Canning have been provided with education, teaching learning materials, play materials, and nutritious tiffin, life skill education and vocational training on zari craft. Qualified and experienced two educators, one vocational trainer and a counselor have been providing education. The children are involved in various cultural skills like songs, dances, role-plays, games etc. The target girls, their mothers and other commercial sex workers of the area have been made aware of best healthy and hygienic practices and preventive measures to protect reproductive health. They have also enjoyed an excursion tour from Canning to Kolkata Zoo and Victoria Memorial hall. During the reporting year Ms Sharmila Basu, representative of People for Progress in India, USA, visited the education centre at Ghutiary Sharif and satisfied with the progress achievements.

Condensed Course of Education for Adult Women:

The Central Social Welfare Board has sanctioned project for condensed course of education for 25 adult women at Patharpratima block. The target women were dropouts. Digambarpur Angikar has taken the initiative for educating these women at least Madhyamik level under the coaching of four teachers. They have also been provided with vocational training on tailoring under the guidance of an expert trainer.

ANGIKAR RURAL LIBRARY:

Digambarpur Angikar has been running a rural library at Digambarpur – ANGIKAR RURAL LIBRARY. More than 300 students and readers are members of the library. There are a total of 2300 books on various streams including 25 rare books and 16 manuscript/records of historical importance in the library. Every 30 students and readers visit the library for exchanging books. But it is not possible for us to enhance reading room opportunity for the readers. These rare books and manuscripts are not properly maintained by the owners. Our organisation is interested to purchase these items from the individual owners and preserve in the library. The project area is disaster prone and there is immediate need for preservation of rare books and manuscripts. One expert and experienced librarian maintains the library work.

CULTURAL PROGRAMME:

People of Sundarban region has rich traditional cultural heritage. But this cultural heritage has been diminishing day by day. There are some old aged cultural folk singers who hold the rich cultural practice. However, the new generation is lacking interest on their traditional cultural heritage. So Digambarpur Angikar has organized cultural programmes at Digambarpur. 30 cultural activists of Sundarban areas participated in the cultural programme.

HEALTH SECTOR

Targeted Intervention Project for FSW at Ghutiary Sharif and Canning:

It is a vital health related project to protect female sex workers directly from the deadly disease HIV/AIDS. Indirectly every day at least 1000 clients of FSWs benefit from the project. West Bengal State AIDS Prevention & Control Society (WBSAP&CS) has been providing support to Digambarpur Angikar since February 2010 to run the TI project. Female sex workers at Ghutiary Sharif and Canning are the target beneficiaries. 300 flying and brothel based Female Sex Workers at Canning and Ghutiary Sharif has become sensitized through awareness meetings hotspots, counseling, behavioural change, promotion of use of condom and social marketing and referral services. The trained project staffs have been implementing the programme very successfully. Despite the untiring fight against the disease it has been revealed that there are some infected female sex workers and persons at Ghutiary Sharif. The project personnel and volunteers of the organisation has detected such FSWs and referred to proper place for treatment.

Children with HIV+

In fact the organisation is in a critical situation to find out about 6 children infected with HIV through its confidential investigation and it is assumed the number of such child will be more than 15. This has prompted our organisation to carry out more confidential investigation and draft a separate action programme for the protection, care and treatment of the target children in the near future.

Observance of World AIDS Day:

By organizing preparatory meetings with various stakeholders, local prominent persons, government and panchayat personnel finally the programme has been chalked out. In this connection the Sub Divisional Officer, Canning, OC, Canning Police Station, Block Development Officer, Canning – I, Sabhapati and Upa Sabhapati, Canning Panchayat Samity, Block Medical Officer Health, Canning, ICTC and Laptecurition, local youth clubs, Canning Bazar Byabasayee Samity and many others have participated. A temporary Stall has been set up at Canning Bus Stand to disseminate information about HIV/AIDS among people in general. The stall has been decorated well with the banners and posters highlighting information about HIV/AIDS and measures for its prevention and control. Among the activities from 1 – 3 December 2011 were propagation, distributing leaflets, condom distribution, publicity in the bus stand, individual interaction, group discussions, awareness building among mobile people, visitors, students, TV Show, quiz contest on HIV/AIDS prevention and control.

Awareness on Malaria, TB, Diabetes and Cancer Control:

Poor people in Sundarban region are the victims of Malaria and Tuberculosis. Recently it has been revealed that cases of Diabetes and Cancer are in increase rapidly. People are unaware of preventive measures to protect themselves from these diseases. Considering the situation Digambarpur Angikar have organized 5 awareness programmes at Patharpratima and Kakdwip blocks. A total number 543 participant benefits from these programmes.

WOMEN & CHILD RIGHTS SECTOR

PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF WOMEN RIGHTS:

Power to Women of Sundarban region has been ensured to some extent as a result of untiring efforts of programme personnel and volunteers of the organisation and target women action groups at 204 villages under 24 GPs of Patharpratima, Kakdwip, Namkhana and Mathurapur – I blocks. The project has been sponsored by Action Aid, UK and it is a continuing project since 2007. The ultimate goal of the project is to work towards ensuring a life for women and girls in the projected areas of Sundarban where their rights are respected, protected and promoted. 813 women groups, 125 Muslim Groups, 135 Adolescent Groups, 94 NREGA Fortnight Groups, 146 Fisherwomen Groups, 57 PDS Monitoring Committees, and 151 ICDS Mother Committees under community people alliances have been mobilized for their rights. Till reporting period 1521 women's groups have been formed which has emerged as district level women's federation 'Sundarban Jagaran Mahila Maha Sangha' with a total of 15140 members. Community fisherwomen of Ramganga Block have decided to set up new cooperative for them to control the market under the name of Gangotri Marine Fisherwomen Khuti development Cooperative Limited. The lead 30 fisher women have been provided with training on capacity building and cooperative formation.

As a whole the Rights based and PWDVA achievements:

Received jobs under MGNREGA: 4529, New ICDS opened: 2, PDS made functional:24, ICDS made functional: 34, Old Age Pension: 181, Widow Pension: 30, Janani Suraksha Yojana: Continue- 939; New- 132, Indira Awas Yojana:102, New Ration Card: 163, Application for Patta:30, Received house from Marine Fisheries Department: 7, Received house from Forest Department: 25, Received Schedule d Cast Certificate – 18, RTI – 1, Total case registered: 20, DV: 12, Trafficking:1, Physical torture: 2, Child marriage : 1, Other kind of violence: 4

The International Women's Day has been observed on 8th March 2011 by sharing the vision of International Women's Day with marginalized women in their village. Members of the Sundarban Jagaran Mahila Mahasangha visited the houses, explained about rights of women, PWDVA, aware against early marriage, not to encourage dowry, circulated handbills and leaflets. Thus 10238 village women have been made aware of their rights.

Child Rights:

63 meetings with 135 adolescent groups have been conducted and discussed on early marriage, trafficking, healthcare, and education.

Digambarpur Angikar has also started works on the educational issues with ensuring scholarship to minority girl students.

Child Sponsorship Programme:

Six child activity centers have been functioning to encourage the children to recognize their potentiality by involving different extracurricular activity and sensitization exercises. 498 numbers of girls who are at risk for ensuring continuation of education, dropped out from their school life because of financial problem have been provided with educational support under the sponsorship programme. Like previous years on 14th November the Children's Day has been celebrated to aware the children and mother about their rights and to develop their skills by their own performing competition of recitation, song, dance, art and quiz contest.

Kishori Shakti Yojana:

CDPOs of Kakdwip and Patharpratima blocks have sanctioned the project Kishori Shakti Yojana. 25 adolescent girls in each block have been covered under sensitization programme on health and hygiene. They have also educated on life skills. They have also provided with vocational training on soft toys making.

LIVELIHOOD SECTOR**Rehabilitation of women and girls rescued from trafficking and victims of domestic violence:**

Digambarpur Angikar has identified more than 200 vulnerable women with critical socio economic conditions. In fact violence against women has been increasing day by day in the Sundarban region. Trafficking of young women and adolescents girls exists. These deserted oppressed neglected women in Sundarban region are in need of immediate rehabilitation through livelihood development support. The Tzedek team in UK, an internationally reputed agency has been continuing support for rehabilitation of such women and girls. During the reporting year 40 women have become self sufficient and socio economically empowered by undergoing soft toys making training and agriculture and animal husbandry training. The target women and girls have also been made aware and sensitized on trafficking, self help group promotion, life skill.

Empowerment of Women through Livelihood Development:

Tiger Widows Organisation has been providing support for empowerment of poor SC/ST/OBC/Minority and fisher folk community women. The target women have been empowered with capacity and skills for livelihood development. During the reporting year 100 SHGs have been functioning successfully. The organisation has conducted refresher training for capacity building of 300 leaders of 100 SHGs very successfully. Training orientation programme on various government schemes like NREGA, PDS, JSY, AAY, ICDS, mid day meal and RTI have also been conducted. The trained women on poultry and duck rearing have been earning income. All members of these SHGs have linked with the local bank. During the reporting year seed money has been given to 28 trained women. At group levels some groups in agriculture have started organic farming and received good return. This example has motivated the other groups towards organic farming. In course of implementation of the project initiatives 240 women of 24 self help groups have intended to undertake organic farming. They propose to grow home gardens and vegetable cultivation, minor millets, oil seeds, multipurpose trees and weeds of indigenous variety using ecologically sound appropriate farming practices. In fact the great support of Tiger Widows Organisation has been strengthening the 'Power to Women' through sustainable livelihood development.

Vocational Training for Women on Soft Toys making and Zari craft:

Digambarpur Angikar has finally identified 100 women for the proposed training. Training on soft toys making for 50 women is undergoing. The women have been learning soft toys making with great interest. It is planned to arrange bank credit linkage to the trained women through their self help groups for starting income generation and enhancing employment opportunities. The West Bengal Women Development Undertaking, Kolkata has sponsored the project. Another 50 women have also getting training facility on zari craft. Both trainings will be for a period of 6 months.

Ambedkar Hasta Silpa Yojana Programme:

The O/o the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India has sanctioned the project under AHVY Scheme. An in-depth survey has been conducted to identify the target artisans. Large group discussion has been organized. After than 35 SHGs

have been formed incorporating 600 artisans from Patharpratima, Kakdwip and Mathurapur I on 3 trades – zari, embroidery and jute. Focus group discussions were organized on skill development and design up gradation, project planning for 5 years etc. The next phase of work will be started from the beginning of the coming financial year.

SGSY Capacity Building Training:

During the reporting year trainings on cash credit management, accounts and book keeping and project preparation has been provided to 820 members of SGSYs. The district resource persons have conducted these training programmes very successfully.

Rural Mart:

Last year a rural mart was set up at Ramganga and NABARD sponsored the mart managed by the SHG - Kanika D Angikar Mahila Dal. The trained women get facilities for marketing of their products through the mart. Digambarpur Angikar has been monitoring the mart activities from time to time.

ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION SECTOR

National Environmental Awareness Campaign

During the reporting year the campaign was organised at Patharpratima in South 24 Parganas, on the theme Forest conservation, agro / social forestry. 100 women and 200 students were the direct beneficiaries. Indirectly about 1000 population of rural areas has been made aware through padayatra rallies, awareness meetings etc. The achievements of the project are given below.

Resource material on 'local medicinal plants' are prepared and used and distributed to the participants in the public meeting.. A rally is organized with posters, banners involving 300 women and student. 30 women of 2 self help groups undertake plantation activity of rare local medicinal plants. They have raised a nursery and planted 500 saplings.

Members of 2 self help groups have undertaken cultivation of medicinal plant for livelihood development. The organization has organized 2 follow-up meetings with the target groups

Rain Water Harvesting & Land shaping Programme:

The Sundarban development Board has sanctioned Rain Water Harvesting & land shaping Programme especially for excavation of tanks. The objective of the project is to rain water recharging to the ground and improve the livelihood of people. Till the reporting year 191 numbers of tanks has been excavated at Patharpratima and Namkhana blocks.

Climate Change and Alternative Eco-Friendly Livelihood at Patharpratima Block, Sundarban under PEOPLE'S EMPOWERMENT FOR ACCESSING RIGHTS TO LIVELIHOOD (PEARL)

The project has targeted 450 potential women leaders of the small farmer's and fisher folk communities with the goal to combat land degradation and mitigate the effects of natural calamities, which are likely to increase as a result of climate change in Sundarban region. The IGSSS, New Delhi has sponsored the project 'PEARL'. 482 women have been made aware of climate change and global warming. The training demonstration on agro-forestry, cropland management, soil conservation measures, use of bio fertilizer and pesticides, livestock management, use of bio fuels etc has been conducted for 25 women in first batch.

SANITATION SECTOR

Total Sanitation Campaign

The District Sanitation Cell, South 24 Parganas Zilla Parishad has entrusted Digambarpur Angikar to undertake house hold sanitation, ICDS Toilets construction at Patharpratima and Kakdwip blocks. During the reporting year we have constructed 125 house hold sanitation at Patharpratima and 48 ICDS toilets at Kakdwip block. The total target of the organisation is to complete construction of 625 house hold sanitation and 202 ICDS toilets.

Governance, Staff and Disclosures

Executive Committee (as of 31st March 2012)

Position in the Board	Name	Address along with Contact Details viz. Telephone, fax, email	Age	Gender	Occupation	Meeting Attended
President	Saibal Patra	Vill+P.O-Purnachandrapur Block-Patharpratima Dist-South 24 Pgs,Pin-743349 9609120873	38	M	Social work	12
Vice president.	Santi Gole	Vill&P.O-Digambarpur Block-Patharpratima Dist-South 24 Pgs,Pin-743349 9593440462	42	F	Social work	10
Secretary	Swapan Mandal	Vill&P.O-Digambarpur Block-Patharpratima Dist-South 24 Pgs,Pin-743349 9830568630 swapankumarmondal@rediff mail.com	39	M	Social work	12
Assistant Secretary	Keya Mishra	Vill&P.O-Digambarpur Block-Patharpratima Dist-South 24 Pgs,Pin-743349 9733881415	41	F	Social work	12
Treasurer	Narayan Samanta	Vill&P.O-Digambarpur Block-Patharpratima Dist-South 24 Pgs,Pin-743349 9593440445	35	M	Social work	12
Member	Anima Pattanaik	Vill Paschim Sreedharpur P.O- Gurudaspur Block- Patharpratima Dist-South 24 Pgs,Pin-743349	42	F	Social work	12
Member	Rajat Bhattacharya	3/75 Mahajati Nagar, Birati, Kolkata – 700051 9836586704	63	M	Social work	10
Member	Dr. Chandra Narayan Jana	Sukanta Nagar, Sonarpur, Kolkata – 150	33	M	Doctor	06

STAFF & SALARY STRUCTURE:

Slab of gross monthly salary (in Rs.) plus benefits paid to staff	Male Staff	Female Staff	Total Staff
<2500	10	39	49
<7000	4	3	7
<15000	3	3	6

Highest paid staff member: Suman Kalyan Mandal Rs.13, 000/- per month

Lowest paid staff member: Sumita Bera Rs.1200/- per month

REMUNERATION OF BOARD MEMBER DURING 2011-2012

Name of the Board Member Staff	Designation	Total amount paid in Rs.	Form of payment
Swapan Kumar Mandal	Secretary	105,600	Honorarium
Narayan Samanta	Treasurer	48,000	Salary
Shanti Gole	Vice President	48,000	Salary

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL: During the reporting year no international travel was conducted by the Board Members, project Staff, Volunteers or any other personnel of the organisation.

Financial Details (Balance sheet, Income and expenditure, Receipt and payment 2010-2011

Balance Sheet	Income	Expenditure	Receipts	Payment
43,16,338.15	77,30,742.50	76,81,380.50	86,17,817.50	85,08,987.50

Registered Office:

Vill. & P.O.: Digambarpur, Via: Kashinagar, Block: Patharpratima, P.S. Dholahat, Dist: South 24 Parganas, Pin: 743349, West Bengal, India

Telephone: 03174 - 214196/03174 - 204195

E-mail: angikar.2007@rediffmail.com/ swapankumarmondal@rediffmail.com

Central Office:

Annapurna Apartment (Near 1 no Platform)

South Noapara, P.O. & P.S. Sonarpur, Kolkata – 700 150

Telephone: 033 2428-3363/ Mobile no - 9830568630

E-mail: angikar.2012@gmail.com

Branch Office: 7 No Dighirpar, Canning town, South 24 Parganas

TI Project Office: Ghutiary Sharif, Bansra, Canning – II, South 24 Parganas