

# Annual Report 2017-18

## JJVS

### About Jagran Jan Vikas Samiti (JJVS)

JJVS is a Udaipur (Rajasthan, India) based voluntary organisation (established in 1985) promoting rural development by enhancing community knowledge and strengths for peoples development. To support the cause the organisation is working majorly with tribal communities to empower them by raising their knowledge based leadership and restoring traditional health practices.

The organisation works with those communities which are deprived of basic amenities and commodities necessary to sustain life. To bring in social change the organisation is revitalizing traditional social institutions to enhance peoples' capacity for sustainably accessing and managing natural resources and mobilizing government schemes.

With the support of government and private organisations the organisation deals with agriculture for increasing crop productivity; animal husbandry for milk breed improvement and enhancement; land development for improving ground water level; women development for their livelihood enhancement, health and education; and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for their capacity building in IFR, CFR and leadership issues.

The uniqueness of JJVS lies in dealing with traditional health healing practices. Since 1989 JJVS is identifying traditional health healers, known as Gunis, building their capacities, and skills, and creating floral biodiversity based resources to maintain the regular supply of herbal medicines.

Tribal communities with which JJVS work belong to Gameti, Bhil, Meena and Garasiya tribes. The organisation has direct interventions in Rajasthan. Districts covered in Rajasthan are Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Dungarpur, Banswara, Pratapgarh, Bhilwara, Jodhpur and Sirohi. In Udaipur the organisation works in Schedule V area covering blocks – Sarada, Girwa, Jadhola, Gogunda, Salumber, Lasadiya, Kotda, and Kurabad. Indirect interventions are in 8 States – Gujarat, Orissa, Chattisgarh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Karnataka. The indirect interventions are active in support with national and international networks and organisations.

#### **Goal:**

JJVS would like to see self-dependent communities through social encouragement and promoting holistic development in the villages. The change will be in the form of creation of local leadership; judicious use of natural resources; promotion of locally acceptable technology; educated masses; minimization in migration; and institutional development. On the other hand promotion of traditional health practices will possibly reduce health disorders in the remote areas; bring in inexpensive treatment technologies; enrich local knowledge base/traditional knowledge; and protect and conserve herbal flora.

#### **Vision:**

The organisation foresees a society which is fully aware for its rights; have issue based knowledge and skills; and institutional base framework. Thus, self capable people will bring out motivation, prosperity and wellbeing in the society.

## **Objectives:**

- Training and capacity building and skill enhancement of people for developing leaderships, and efficient use of technology for enhancing livelihoods. The trainings will also aware people of their social, natural and economic gains.
- Introduction of locally accepted technology in the sectors of agriculture and animal husbandry for best use and conservation of natural resources.
- Identification and capacity building of Gunis (traditional health healers) for promotion and conservation of traditional knowledge.
- In-situ and ex-situ conservation of herbal flora for sustainable access of herbal raw products.

## **Work themes:**

1. Traditional Health: Guni identification and capacity building through workshops; development of Guni Training cum Treatment Centre (GTTCs) and Guni Aashrams as institutions for holding treatments and interactions; development of home herbal gardens and designating community conserved area.
2. Sustainable Natural Resource Management: Breed improvement of animals; health camps; fodder development; infrastructure development; dairy development. Irrigation, water harvesting and conservation; organic farming; improved crops, nursery raising; Farmer Field Schools (FFS).
3. Women development: Women enterprises development; education; mobilizing welfare schemes; access to microfinance; creating opportunities through SHGs.
4. Strengthening Grassroot democracy: Training Panchayat officials on effective peoples' leaderships; promoting good governance; facilitating community to access their social rights.
5. Local livelihoods: Training local youths; capacity building on issue based themes of agriculture, animal husbandry, microfinance; farm field technology interventions.
6. Knowledge exchange: Training and research based national and international volunteer programmes.

## **Annual Report pattern**

The annual report describes the thematic approach of JJVS to bring out the intended outcomes supporting the national issues in the sectors of traditional health, strengthening grassroot democracy, restoring local livelihoods, and knowledge exchange.

## **From Director's desk:**

### **Traditional Health**

Traditional medicine refers to the knowledge, skills and practices based on the theories, beliefs and experiences indigenous to different cultures, used in the maintenance of the health and in prevention, diagnosis, improvement or treatment of physical and mental illness.

Most of the population in the rural areas lacks access to proper health care. If the health care is available it is very expensive. They have to reach cities to receive treatment. Often people do not receive proper health care due to these barriers. JJVS is functional to promote Traditional Health care through its programmes based on training the Traditional Health Healers, *Gunis*.

***Activity highlights:***

JJVS with the support of the Hands on Health Australia (HOHA) is functional to promote the age old traditional health care Aditherapy. JJVS focuses on improving health outcomes for the elderly and providing increased livelihood, morale and training options for elderly traditional healers (Gunis).

The research on such practices opened the doors to the Preventative Health Care (PHC) solutions for the rural community surrounding the Southern Rajasthan with major focus on women's health, sanitation and drinking water quality.

There are 800 Gunis working throughout Rajasthan and other states who have been trained over the last 31 years. This project is being designed to support JJVS's knowledge exchange Volunteer program in order to introduce Gunis to take forward complementary health modalities and exchange knowledge with the international community.

The program includes all preparatory activities such as updating the course material, translations, identifying project needs, identifying trainees in the field, and implementation of the learning. The program through the outreach camps for trainees applies to practice and treatment of elderly patients in rural villages.

To spread the outreach of traditional health care systems and establish their existence in the society a case study booklet "Measuring the impact of Aaditherapy" was also published by JJVS. The booklet evaluates Guni practices by receiving the feedback of the patients who received treatment from Gunis. There are 10 Gunis and 9 patients who were recorded for their experiences with Aaditherapy.

- 50 new gunis identified by JJVS along with the partner organisations working in Udaipur.
- 45 Gunis were trained in 3 batches.
- 57 Health Camps had been organised in Udaipur in which 2275 patients, including rural and urban, received treatment.
- 12 Health Camps were organised at BSF New Delhi where Master Gunis provided treatment to 618 people.
- JJVS hosted 59 International Volunteers in four different groups of different modalities. Most of the participants were all complementary health practitioners. Local Gunis learned many new skills apart from their traditional knowledge from practicing manual therapists which is helping them to cure more patients with different ailments.

***Aaditherapy training course module:***

The first module comprised of basic principle of Ayurveda. During the first phase training of seven days the Gunis were given training for treatment of general seasonal disorders through

herbal medicines. They were also imparted knowledge for treatment of general paediatric disorders, gynaecological diseases and geriatric disorders.

In the second module teaching assessment and palpation of musculoskeletal system, treatment of disorders related to musculoskeletal system by Myotherapy, herbal oils and traditional medicines was made an integral part of training.

In the third module of Aaditherapy the Gunis were introduced to the concept and history of Bowen therapy. The Gunis were taught about the treatment techniques under Bowen therapy and the various diseases that can be treated by it and the precautions that need to be taken. In this module Gunis were taught use of Panchkarma technique and treatment of various diseases using Ayurvedic treatment methods as under the following therapies – Abhyanga, Steam Bath, Valuka Sweda, Patra Pinda Sweda.

### **Strengthening Grassroot democracy**

India's forests are home to hundreds of millions of people, including any Scheduled Tribes, who live in or near the forest areas of the country. Nearly 250 million people live in and around forests in India, of which the estimated indigenous Adivasi or tribal population stands at about 100 million. Forests provide sustenance in the form of minor forest produce, water, grazing grounds and habitat for shifting cultivation.

The Forest Rights Act 2006 allows the forest dwellers to continue their existence in the forest by allowing them to access the natural resources which they are practicing since traditions, thereby strengthening their relationship with the forests. In this way the rights over the forest land maintains the land cover by appropriate management and making it available for the future generation.

### **Activity highlights:**

- Out of total 387 claims prepared so far in the project area 147 had been submitted and accepted at the Gram Sabha level. 184 people have reapplied for the claims. 81 claims were rejected and 198 are still pending.
- 11 CFR Claims in Rajasthan are submitted in Gram panchayat level. 100 Gram Sabha had been organised in different villages to make follow ups on the claims for revisions and reapplying them.
- An exposure meeting was organised at Lok Shangharsh Morcha, Songardh, Gujrat in which discussion on IFR & CFR claim, their preparation and current status of submission had been discussed.
- Dissemination of available IEC material has been done widely which includes booklets, posters and some of the documentaries and videos during the various village meetings and exposure meetings held.
- Three state level initiatives had been planned in state of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Accordingly 3 states leads were identified. These are Vikalp from Gujarat, Bread for tribal village from Madhya Pradesh and JJVS from Rajasthan. These lead partners had further identified local institutions to collaborate and extend the outreach of these state level initiatives. The states leads were further capacitated to promote a cadre of local youth for facilitating FRA related actions.
- Aadiwasi Sangama was held at Vali in which West Zone NAA partners from Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh interacted and shared knowledge regarding PESA, Biodiversity Act and FRA. Briefing and discussion about provisions, rules and functional

modalities were held which explained the importance of localizing the important laws such as FRA, Biodiversity Act and Panchayati Raj Extension to Scheduled Areas Act.

- Mr Pankaj Paliwal from JJVS participated in the Asia Pacific Community Conservation Resilience Skill share and Women 2030 Media and Gender Training held at Bangkok, Thailand from 19<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> March. The meeting provided an opportunity to share views and knowledge about practical tools and methodologies on how to promote and strengthen the resilience of community conservation.
- Mr. Ganesh Purohit from JJVS participated in General Body of the National Adivasi Alliance organised from 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at Bangalore. During the meeting Review of FRA intervention was done along with State wise implementation process, causes and consequences. State wise suggestion, strategies and final action plan was been discussed regarding CFR & IFR Act.
- He also participated in Policy Dialogue on Local Health Traditions organised at Delhi by Trans Disciplinary University (TDU) in collaboration with Quality Council of India (QCI), World Ayurveda Foundation, Azim Prem ji University (APU), SADED, Tata Steel Rural Development Society (TSRDS), and UNU IAS RCE.