

Annual Activity Report of
Sisu Vikas Samiti
From 01.04.2010 to 31.03.2011

The '**Sisu Vikas Samiti**' is a non profit making and non religious, and non political organization founded for the Welfare of the poor, abandoned neglected and orphan children and registered under Under Societies Registration Act, 1860, way back on 31st Dec, 1984 and also having PAN Under Indian Income Tax Act, 1961

Children in Difficult Circumstances: An Action Oriented Intervention Project in Mayurbhanj, a district in North Orissa, during 2010-2011 Financial Year:

After remaining dormant for so many years we decided to work for the Children in difficult circumstances. India has the largest number of Children in difficult circumstances in the world. Children in difficult circumstances in our programme included Child labourers, destitute children, and orphans, neglected and ill treated children.

A special Intervention programme was launched in Orissa in July, 2010. The aim of this programme was to help these children overcome their difficulties and bring them in to the mainstream by improving their educational, health facilities.

Child Labour (Domestic Help) in the Unorganised Sector

We have rescued the girl child labour/ child worker and brought her to our children's home. Among the children 5 (five) were irregular school goers and 5 (five) were **non starters**, and 1 (one) was a **drop out**. All these were in the primary level.

All the inmates in the children's home are destitute (lost either father or mother), orphans, (some have lost both the parents) majority of them were either neglected or ill treated.

Intervention Benefits

Various intervention programmes were drawn up according to the needs of the children but most important is education programme.

We have admitted 14 (fourteen) children (11 (eleven) girls & 3 (three) boys) in our children's home during 2010-2011 financial year.

Out of 14 (fourteen) children, 3 (three) are for adoption. We started with a 17 hour old baby and approximately 4 month Old girls. As soon as we received the children we rushed to the District Head Quarter Hospital and put the Children in Intensive Care Unit and the Children are with us and we are looking for families.

We have admitted 5 Children (4 Girls and 1 Boy) in Debendrapur Primary School, run by the State.

We are also making necessary arrangements to admit the rest of children of our Children's Home in Debendrapur U.P School after the Right to Education became an Act. The Education Authorities of the District have agreed to admit the rest students on 15th April, 2011 i.e., in the next Educational Year.

The Organisation has also rescued one child labour, brought to the Children's Home, and is taking care of the Food, Accommodation, Clothing, Educational and Medical Expenses of the Children. Without our intervention the Children would not have any access to education.

We had also organized picnic and outings, organized annual sports meet and celebration of different festivals during the year under the report.

In order to achieve this aim and reach out to larger sections of the society, we planned three strategic objectives.

1. *To extend our reach to more orphan children through strategic partnerships with child focused organizations in the district, neighbouring districts and later on in the state.*
2. *To develop a sustainable model we need to take up some sort of income generation activities.*

3. *Constitutional and legal provisions view the child as a homogeneous entity, where as, in reality, there is a mark difference in the treatment of girl children. Now, it is time to think in terms of revisions in legal statutes so as to accord preferential treatment to girl child workers/ labour/ domestic help etc.*

Boy Found:

We found a boy, aged about 12 years, unable to speak his name and whereabouts. The boy was immediately taken to the emergency OPD of the District Head Quarter, Hospital and later on met the Chief District Medical Officer, (CDMO), Mayurbhanj (who was in the ward) directed to meet the District Disability Rehabilitation Center (DDRC). The boy was taken to the DDRC for check up. The concerned Doctor could not check up due to failure of electricity. Finally, directed to bring the child to the hospital on 2nd December at 9 AM. We got the boy examined several times in the DDRC and also in the district Head Quarter Hospital as per their direction given from time to time. And the process continued up to 10th December 2010.

We published the news with photographs of the child in the following news papers

SI No.	Date	Name of the News Paper	Edition	Page No.	Remarks
01.	03.12.2010 Friday	Ama Rajadhani, Orissa's First Midday daily	Midday	p-7	News with Photo
02.	04.12.2010 Saturday	Pragativadi	All Edition	p-2	News with Photo
03.	04.12.2010 Saturday	Pragativadi	BBSR	p-7	News with Photo
04.	06.12.2010 Monday	Sambad	Balasore	p-13	News with Photo
05.	07.12.2010 Tuesday	Sambad	Balasore	p-9	News

Thanks god, we found the parents and handed over the boy after completing the formalities in the presence of two CWC members.

Compliance of legal formalities

Information to the Police

We used to inform police as soon as we get / receive the child in the Children's home/ adoption center, officially by Speed Post.

Information to the District Social Welfare Officer

We also follow the same principle for the District Social Welfare Officer.

Information to the Child Welfare Committee

We also follow the same principle for the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) as well.

Advocacy & Lobbying

As a part of proper implementation of The Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2000 submitted petition to the following.

- ✓ National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi
- ✓ National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, New Delhi
- ✓ Indian Council of Child Welfare, New Delhi
- ✓ National Institute of Social Defence, New Delhi
- ✓ Central Adoption Resource Authority, New Delhi
- ✓ Special Rapporteur, National Human Rights Commission located in Bhubaneswar.
- ✓ Commissioner-cum Secretary, Women & Child Development Department, Govt. of Orissa.
- ✓ Governor of Orissa,
- ✓ Nearest Child line, BASUNDHARA, Cuttack.
- ✓ Member Secretary, SANJOG. Voluntary Coordinating Agency, Cuttack
- ✓ Chairman, CWC, Mayurbhanj for taking action immediately.

National Human Rights Commission has registered the case and forwarded it to Orissa State Human Rights Commission. Similarly, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has also registered our case for further action. Others are yet to respond and react. We would like to give the following examples for your ready reference.

Based upon the following facts in case wise respectively, I would like to bring your notice about the following children for intervention as it occurred in the jurisdiction of this Mayurbhanj CWC. The CWC deals in the matter of the Children in need of care and protection. (Section-29, J.J. Act-2000/06)
Details information Case wise-

Case Study -1

1. Name of the Child : Not known
2. Approximate age : 28 days approximately
3. Background of the Child : We presume that the child is abandoned child who has been staying with Sri Bhima Bag without any. Knowledge and sanction of the concerned authority (CWC), District Administration, Police etc.
4. Address of the Person who has kept the child : Name- Sri Bhima Bag
S/o- Late Dariha Bag
At- Janardanpur, W.no-15, P.O./P.S.-Baripada
Dist- Mayurbhanj

Case Study -2

1. Name of the Child : Not known
2. Approximate age : 8 months approximately
3. Background of the Child : We presume that the child is abandoned child who has been staying with Sri Mahendra Singh without any knowledge and sanction of the concerned authority (CWC), District Administration, Police etc.
4. Address of the Person who has kept the child : Name- Sri Mahendra Singh
At- Dhada Sahi, Kirpaduma P.O.- Budhikhamari
P.S.-Bangriposi, Dist- Mayurbhanj

Case Study -3

1. Name of the Child : Not known
2. Approximate age : 40 days approximately
3. Background of the Child : We presume that the child is abandoned child who has been staying with the relative of the Postmaster of Genda Pokhari P.O. without any knowledge and sanction of the concerned authority (CWC), District Administration, Police etc.

It is the fundamental **principle** of the Juvenile justice System that at all stages juvenile or child shall not be subjected to any harm, abuse neglect, maltreatment, corporal punishment or solitary confinement and extreme care shall be taken to avoid any harm to the sensitivity of the Juvenile or child?

As the CWC is the final authority to deal and dispose the matter of the children in need of care and protection, is seriously in opinion for ensuring that all the needs of the child are met and that her basic human rights are fully protected as per the provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act- 2000/06.

Therefore, it is requested the CWC to intervene the cases under Section 33(1) (J.J. Act-2000/06) in regard to the shelter, safety-custody, care, protection and rehabilitation of the children.

Relationship with CARA

We have received the child through documents of Surrender on 20th October 2010 and immediately informed CARA, New Delhi. Surprisingly, CARA responded immediately with a format to be completed and sent back soon, which we happily did next day.

We have also received another circular 1-2/2010/NOC/CARA dt.21.12.2010 through regular post as well as through net to send the completed information in a format as on 31st December 2010.

We have send the information to CARA as per their direction and confirmed on 5th January 2011. We have been directed to send the organizational profile and also send a request for forthcoming training programme.

Relationship with NIPCCD Regional Training Centre, Guwahati.

We were in touch with training coordinator of NIPCCD, Regional Training Center for participation in the training programme in the area of adoption and directed to get in touch with in the middle of December. We were in touch in December but the training programme they were conducting was exclusively for the north east. Hence, we did not fit in. Still we are expecting the day, when they will be having the training programme in near future.

Participation in Conferences, Seminars, Workshop, Consultations and Training Programmes at the National and International Level:

April 2010 to March 2011

Dates	Topic	Venue	Sponsor
16 th – 21 st August 2010	International Research Mission on Impact of Proposed Haripur Nuclear Power Plant on Food Security	Kolkata	FIAN, West Bengal
14 th Nov,2010	Programme on <u>Adoption week</u>	Basundhara premises, Cuttack	Basundhara, Agency involved in Inter country Adoption
30 th November 2010	Safe School Campaign- District Level Stakeholders workshop	Rotary Bhawan, Baripada	Odisha Alliance on Convention on Rights of the Child and UNICEF
18 th - 19 th December 2010	Agenda for the Regional Strategy Meeting of Food Sovereignty NCT work South Asia	Kolkata	Facilitated by IMSE, Kolkata
22 nd – 24 th December 2010	Regional Level Consultation on Community Radio Awareness, 2010	Yatri Niwas, Konark	Ministry of I & B, GoI & Organised by Commonwealth Educational Media Center for Asia, New Delhi.
12 th January 2011	Regional Consultation of Margaret Sekaggyua, the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights Defenders with Human Rights Defenders from Odisha & South India	Red Cross Bhawan, Bhubaneswar	Peoples' Watch, Tamilnadu
29 th – 31 st January 2011	Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisation (FIAPO) India for Animals Conference	CP Ramaswami Aiyar Foundation, Chennai	FIAPO
3 rd February 2011	District Level Workshop & Press Meet on "Census 2011 & Disability"	Municipality Conference Hall, Baripada	Supported by WCD Department Government of Orissa
23 rd – 24 th March 2011	Two day <u>Annual Meet on Adoption</u>	Hall No. 6, Bigyan Bhawan, New Delhi	Central Adoption Resource Authority, Ministry of Women & Child Development, Govt. of India
29 th – 30 th March 2011	State Level Conference on "Involving Scheduled Castes , Scheduled Tribe, Minority Communities on Literate India"	Red Cross Bhawan, Bhubaneswar	State Resource Center (SRC), Govt. of Orissa.

Present Staff Strength

There are 6 (six) full time and 1 (one) part time staff employed by the school after an interview.

- Mr. Rashmi Ranjan Panda, Diploma in Vocational Training & Mental Retardation, (Manipal University) is a professionally trained teacher meeting the standards of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), New Delhi.
- Mr Pankaj Ku. Behera, +2 Pass, Teacher
- Ms. Dhani Murmu, Cook.
- Ms Gouramani Murmu, House Mother ,
- Ms. Raimani Hansda, House Mother ,

- Mr. Santosh Kumar Naik, Caretaker, Guard and Handyman.
 - Mr. Abhay Kumar Jena, Part Time Accountant.
- Apart from these 7 (seven) persons there is a part time office clerk and 1 (one) computer personnel.

Resigned

- ✓ Ms. Sumitra Patra, Cook, Mr. Damodar Panda, Part Time Accountant.

Problems and challenges encountered:

We applied for registration with the Women & Child Development Dept. of Govt. of Orissa on 24th August 2010 and sent an advance Copy and the Second Copy was routed through the District Social Welfare Officer, Mayurbhanj, through the proper Channel for Grant of Certificate of Recognition of a Home, Form-I, See Rule 11 as per their Notification in the Orissa Gazette, No .2146, dated November 22, 2002.

The District Social Welfare Officer (D.S.W.O),Mayurbhanj recommended our application Vide Letter No.4321 dared 24.11.2010 after lapse of 90 days in the District Headquarter, to the Government of Orissa, ,through their regular Post, using Service Stamps of Government of India.

We tried to locate our application in the Women and Child Development Department of the Government of Orissa in order to Speed up the work but Unfortunately the Application was neither available nor it had been entered in the Dak/Letter Receipt Register of the Department.

We had been advised to resubmit another application along with all enclosures as we did in the first time with recommendation physically in order to speed up the work.

Accordingly, District Social Welfare Officer, Mayurbhanj, gave another recommendation vide letter No 4741 dated 21.12.2010 which was personally collected from the Office of DSWO, Mayurbhanj.

Since it was difficult to get in to the Orissa Secretariat, we approached Smt. Saraswati Hembram, Chairperson, State Commission for the Protection of the Rights of the Children, Orissa, and handed over our application with a request to deliver at the right place to save time and speed up the work, as She was the Minister of State, Women and Child Development and she knew and still knows a quite a lot of people in the Department as well as in the Government.

Accordingly she sent her P.S who submitted the Application at the right place and obtained a Receipt of the same as well. (Signed but without Official Stamp).

Now, again the application is not available in the Concerned Department/with Concerned Desk Officer. As a result of which the Grant of Permission has not been received nor has the application been processed.

Needless to mention that, a number of Children had been sent from this District unauthorizedly to different Institutions and still it is continuing with active involvement of some Officials .We brought out certain irregularities of CWC and filed complained against them before, National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for the Protection of the Rights of the Children, State Commission for the Protection of the Rights of the Children, CARA, Secretary, Women and Child Development Department of Government of Orissa ,Child Line etc.

Challenges:

Needless to mention that we are for ethical adoption, adoption with complete transparency, and accountability and also as per the Laws of the land.

As on today, we have 14 Children with us. Out of 14 Children, 3 are for Adoption. We have complied this information to CARA ,Ministry of Women and Child Development Department of Government of India, in October,2010,as on 31st December,2010 and also on 19 th March we brought and admitted the Child in the District Head Quarter Hospital.

The 3rd Child had been admitted in the Hospital on 19th March and the Child was in the hospital till 28th March, 2011. The Chairman of the CWC, Mayurbhanj, had written a letter to the Chief District Medical Officer, Mayurbhanj not to discharge the Child/deliver the Child to any person institution without knowledge of CWC.

Before we close, we would like to bring to your kind notice that, we are sending reminder after reminder to the Government for issuance of Certificate of Registration, which has been suppressed by some corrupt Officers with unholy alliance of the Agency who are taking the Children from the District. The details will be given during the time of enquiry with evidence.

Outcome

The State Human Rights Commission, Orissa registered our Case, vide Case No 461 of 2011 and Directed the Collector and District Magistrate, Mayurbhanj with a request to get the matter enquired into and submit a factual report to the Commission in four weeks time which has been put up for 31.3.2011.

We had sent a Registered Letter to the Collector and District Magistrate Mayurbhanj, to send a senior and honest Officer for the Enquiry to be conducted and to be submitted to the State Human Rights Commission, Orissa within 4 weeks time.

We had requested the Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Women and Child Development for Early intervention for Grant of Certificate of Recognition of a Home and Release of the Child from the Hospital.

Setback

We have suffered a major setback because of the unholy alliance of the corrupt officers ,NGOs who are taking the children from the district unauthorised way.

Our Visitors

<u>Dates</u>		<u>Name</u>
<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	
26 th Nov	27 th Nov 2010	Leo M. Verzijl, Switzerland
26 th Nov	27 th Nov 2010	Ruth Van der Vliet, Netherland

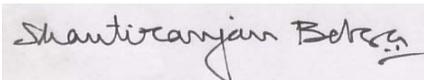
Audit

Mr. Pankaj Panigrahi of A.B.P.S. and Associates, Chartered Accountant, Baghra Road, W. No. -19, Baripada, 757001, Orissa audited our Books of Accounts for the year April 2010 to March 2011.

Thanks

We are thankful to Young Men's Welfare Society, Kolkata, financial contribution to the cause of Children in difficult circumstances, an action orientated intervention programme.

We are also thankful to friends of Children's Home, Parents, Guardians, and Supporters who have helped us during the time of crisis.



(Shanti Ranjan Behera)

Monday, April 25, 2011