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ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY INDIA

NEWSLETTER

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Bringing Hope, Changing Lives



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HYGIENE IS LIFE

by Tapashya Singh



India is a country of an ancient civilization and is considered to be a pious nation. But the reality is that today India faces many challenges when it comes to cleanliness especially in the streets, lanes, parks or other public places.

Realizing these facts, Reckitt Benckiser has initiated the “Dettol Banega Swachh India” a 5-year ambitious program to address the rising need for hygiene and sanitation in India, as part of a 100 Crore initiative from the Dettol Company, intended to:

- Drive behaviour change towards hand hygiene, through numerous awareness initiatives such as the School Hand Wash Program and Young Mother’s Program.
- Improve sanitation facilities by working with NGO partners to identify areas across the country, to support the development and maintenance of cleaner toilets.

India face many challenges when it comes to hygiene reason why the Dettol Banega Swachh India Program was initiated.

ADRA India, which works for the welfare of society to create positive changes, realizing the utmost need of cleanliness, sanitation and hygiene, is implementing the project “Hygiene education in primary schools” as a part of Dettol - Banega Swachh India Campaign in U.P. and Bihar. The objective of this project is to:

- Create a healthy environment for the children in different schools
- Helping children to develop life skills, hygiene and health.
- Stimulate activities that benefit not only the children but also the families and communities.

We believe that good hygiene and the habits developed in childhood remains lifelong and this initiative to educate children and change their attitude will definitely bring, a very positive change in many communities across the country of India.

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The Musahar Youth Empowerment Project (MYEP) was a six-month project that started in the month of August 2015 and was implemented in five villages (Agiaon, Kharicha, Narayanpur, Sahyogi Tola and Baruna Musahar Tola) of Bhojpur District, Bihar. The MYE Project focused on empowering the Musahar people in Bihar to increase their income by adopting any of the livelihood options provided to them, increased awareness on TB and health related issues with nutritional support to TB affected beneficiaries, increased awareness on WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) practices and advocacy with government and stakeholders for access to schemes and entitlement.

The MYE Project directly benefited 92 Musahar beneficiaries in the field of livelihood options, nutrition, and support to TB patients, as well as kitchen gardening. WASH awareness activities included: Home visits, community meetings, Nukkad Natak and wall writing in the same villages. Also Musahar People were linked to the schemes and entitlement by advocacy meeting involving the government, stakeholders at block as well as District level. TB patient counseling was done to aware about the TB treatment and proper care of TB disease.

The MYE Project has brought a very positive impact in the communities but the challenges still remain. Sensitization on livelihood, awareness on TB disease and WASH are in need.

Bringing better opportunities to those who are in need is the way ADRA India transforms lives one step at a time.

Opportunities= Better life

By Monazir Hussain



The MYE Project focused on empowering the Musahar people in Bihar to increase their income by adopting any of the livelihood options provided to them, increased awareness on TB and health related issues with nutritional support to TB affected beneficiaries, increased awareness on WASH.





Supporting the Vulnerable

By Bulbul Moshahary

ADRA India through ADRA Germany, with the support from European Commission Humanitarian and Civil Protection has been working in the conflict affected states of Assam, Manipur and Tripura to ensure protection of the most vulnerable groups, especially women and children through various interventions such as: Livelihood assistance for them to meet food gaps and restore livelihood, WASH intervention, creating access to safe-drinking water, sanitation facilities, and creating awareness on the importance of hygiene for health. Through this project 946 families have been supported with livelihood assistance through Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT), Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) and Cash For Work (CFW) activities and also supported 1997 individuals to have access to safe drinking water and 80 community toilets have been provided for 1616 people.

ADRA has been working in the conflict affected states in the North East to ensure protection of the most vulnerable groups, through various interventions such as: Livelihood assistance, WASH interventions and psychological support for the most affected families.

The psychosocial support need is covered and provided through basic counseling, group therapy activities and also referring special and affected cases to trained psychiatrists. An important component of this project is the establishment community based protection mechanism for community resilience through women's groups. This is an important intervention which has been success among some of the groups. Women are capacitated not only for self-sustenance but also they are motivated to support other vulnerable women.

Help in Difficult Times

By Bulbul Moshahary

There are six villages in the West Maligaon area in the locality of Guwahati in Assam that were burnt in the afternoon of 24th December 2014 as a result of the ethnic conflict. The villagers started shifting to one Relief Camp in Joypur ME School on December 23rd evening. There were around 250 households in the six villages. Most of them lost all their belongings, livestock and household assets.

This was the situation of Sukiya, she is about 60 years old and her husband Rupal Murdy is 67. During the conflict they left everything and went out in search for shelter as their house was burnt and they had lost all their belongings.

ADRA supported Sukiya with the sum of Rs. 6800 through the Unconditional Cash Transfer Component.

With this support and the compensation given by the Government (Rs. 50,000) she bought livestock, rice,



clothes, and medicines for them as they were suffering from skin disease.

The support provided by ADRA India is giving them the chance to live a better life as they do not get help from any other source.

The UCT support given has helped them to get the necessary items to live comfortably while they are looking to explore their skills to create livelihood opportunities.

Welcome Note

Dr. Suchitra Lisam is a Public Health Specialist with a medical background. She had obtained Master of Public Health (MPH) Degree from Chulalongkorn University with specialization in Health Systems Development and Strategic Planning, Management. She completed a Post Doctoral Diploma Course in Epidemiology from UCLA (University of California, Los Angeles). She has a work experience of nearly 15 years and has served in various reputed organizations including Government, NGOs research bodies, etc. She had successfully contributed towards HIV/NHM (National Health Mission) Programme in the planning, management, monitoring and evaluation, and evidence generation under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, with Government of India and towards Regional HIV Programme for South Asia under IFRC (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies).



Dr. Suchitra Lisam joined ADRA India as Health Program Manager. We would like to welcome her to the ADRA India Family. We are very blessed and fortunate to have her support and contribution. May God bless her as she continues to work and help us to change lives in India.