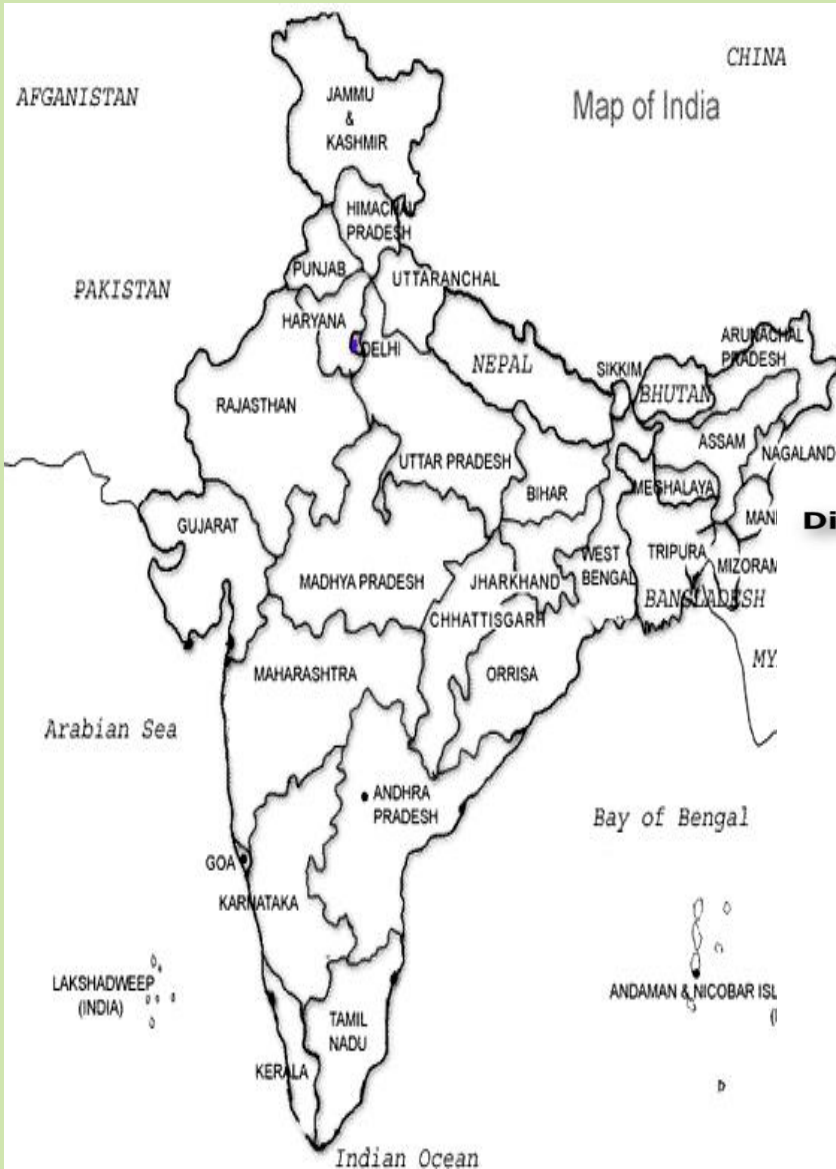


# **Annual Report**

## **2019 - 2020**

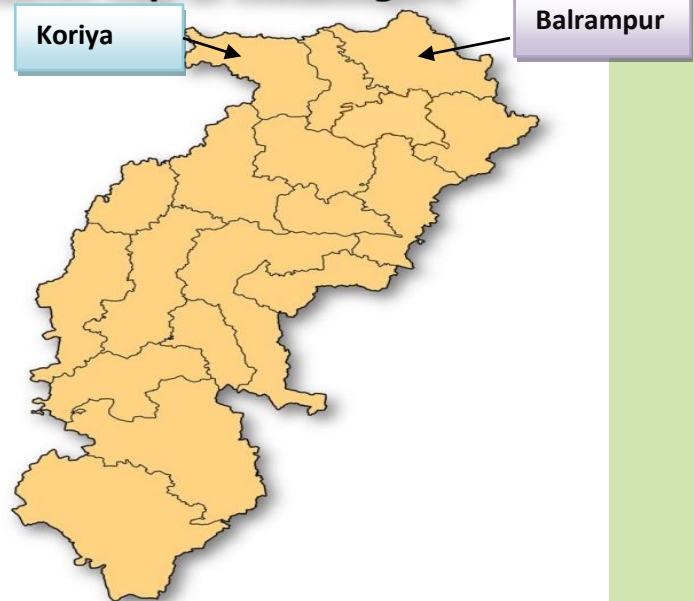
# JJVS Operational Area – Chhattisgarh



## JJVS Programme Area Profile

- FRA, PESA and their collective rights as indigenous peoples;

District Map of Chhattisgarh



and rights of women

- Limited role of women in community activity
- Human trafficking source and destination
- Agriculture is the prime livelihood sources with small land holdings,
- sustainable natural resource management including sustainable livelihoods and traditional knowledge
- Indigenous women have strengthened their institutional and network building capacities

Glimpss of  
JJVS  
Programme  
Area



## Mission

JJVS is committed to strengthen the tribal communities specially women to promote and protect their rights, culture and identities, and their sustainable resource management system for their development and self determination.

## Approach

Jaspur Jan Vikas Sanstha (JJVS) is a non profitable organization formed by the group of members for development actors in 2003 and was registered under the society registration act 1973.

The organization approach to development on the peoples participatory action at the village community level. The main focus of the area is poor and women.

## Developmental Programme

The organization (JJVS) realizes the importance of self governance and management of available natural resources which provides ample of opportunities to enhance for their livelihoods. With over 70- 95% of the tribal population live in the forest area and depended on Forest Produce, Agriculture, Land, Water, Animals, and Vegetation for their survival. The only sustainable route to their survival is increase the knowledge of management and use the power of constitution.

## Focus Area

- Field level intervention in community based natural resource management, community mobilization, sensitization of FRA and PESA, right based self governance, women violence and human trafficking, implementation of land and natural resource , Agricultural production activity based livelihoods, promotion of community based organization, capacity building, training, institution development of community as well as Panchayat Raj Institution.
- Linkages with NGO partners, government departments and all the donor agencies in the above area.
- Policy advocacy through documentation and dissemination.

## Statistical Overview 2019 – 2020

Parameter	Unit	Progress during 2019-20	Progress (Cumulative)
States implemented programme	No.	2	2
Districts under operation	No.	9	9
Blocks under programme	No.	4	4
Villages under programme	No.	81	81
Families covered under programm	No.	4536	4536
Staff Members	No.	8	8
Community organizer or Fellow workers	No.	10	10
Offices	No.	2	2
Expenditure ( Direct)	INR	3733152.85	3733152.85
Expenditure ( Non Direct) by community contribution and facilitation by JJVS	INR	50000	50000
<b>Right based approach program</b>			
Goan Ganrajya samiti	No.	45	45
Pargana Samitit	No.	12	12
Garh Samiti	No.	2	2
<b>Agriculture productive Activity</b>			
➤ Traditional seed promotion productive	No. Farmers	65	65
➤ Traditional vegetable seed promotion productive	No. Farmers	33	33
<b>Skill development</b>			
➤ Youth members trained	No.	9	9
➤ Youth members place	No.	9	9
<b>Community Training</b>			
➤ Training / Exposure visit	No.	1124	1124
➤ Participants	Female/ Male	735 / 620	735 / 620

## Nurturing Communities and Institutions

The core program of JJVS work in social organization, participatory approach, building poor people's capacity, gender equity, self governance and women violence are the key element in the project implementation schemes of institutional building. JJVS promotes **Rights-based approach development** to achieve a positive transformation of power relations among the various development actors. At the most basic level communities are organized for specific purposes of different community groups such as:

- Self Help Groups ( SHG) as the foundation of institution
- Mahila Mandal committee as inculcate women leadership
- Youth committee to understand the self governance system
- Promotion of Self governance- Traditional Paramparik Gram Sabha

JJVS realizes the primary focus of nurturing theses groups and their day today activity based work they do, such as livelihood, agricultural, FRA etc. In the village total households and living family members may have multiple in these groups that are formed and nurtured at the village level.

Community based organization promoted and supported the existing group by the JJVS where projects are being implemented are illustrated below.

Community based organizations	Units	2019-20	Cumulative
Self Help Groups	No./ Mem.	87/ 1141	87/ 1141
CBOs	No./ Mem.	81 / 4536	81 / 4536
Youth committee	No./ Mem.	16 / 238	16 / 238
Mahila Mandal committee	No./ Mem.	52 / 732	52 / 732
Goan ganrajya samiti - Traditional Paramparik Gram Sabha	No./ Mem.	45 / 586	45 / 586

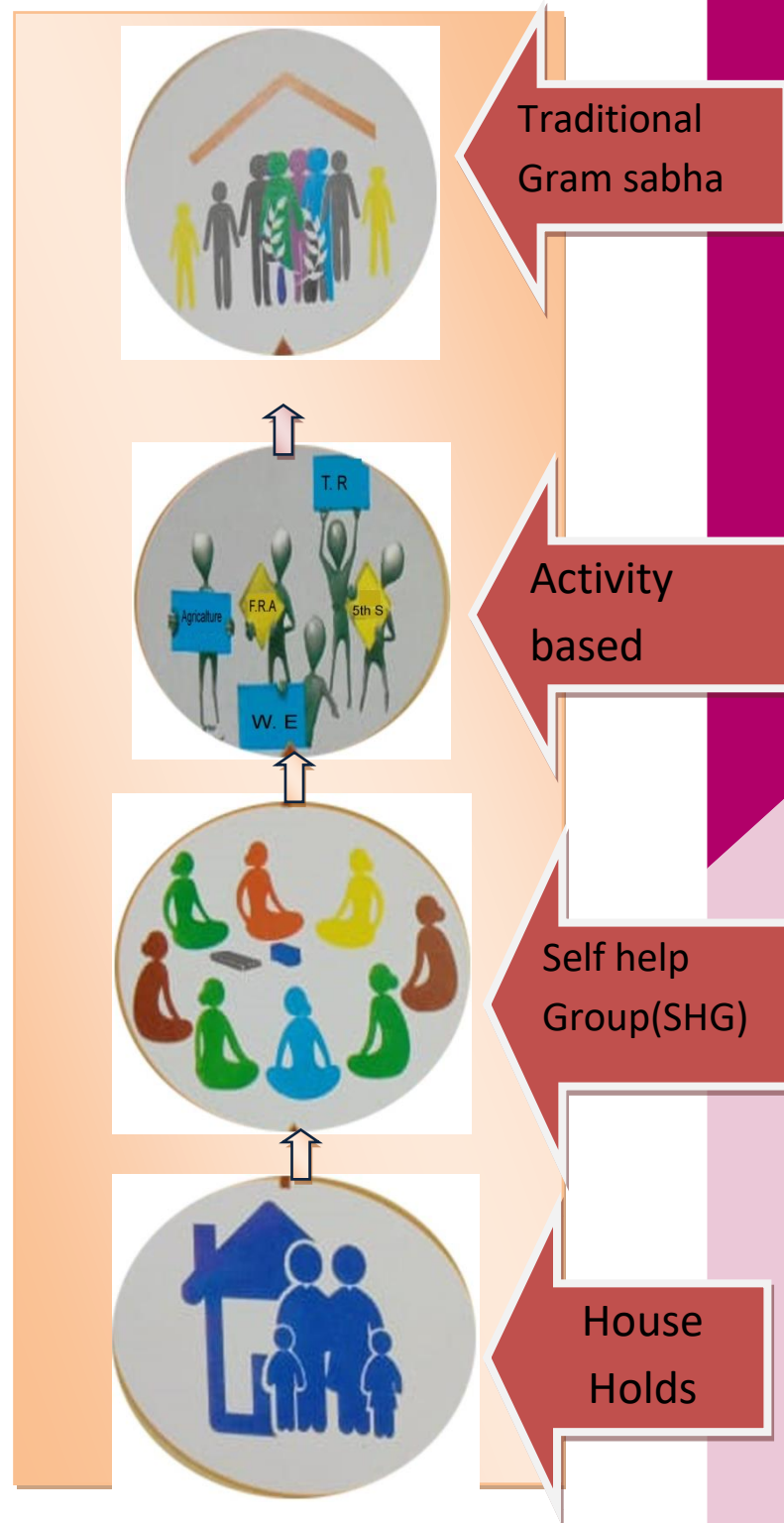




## CBOs Level Institution

A Self Help Group (SHG) is a village Based organized platform committee with whom very easily to discuss and plan for the development activities. In the mean time women members regularly save the minimum amount to have financial support at the moment great requirement through the system of inter loaning and returning according to their convenience. They play the vital role in implementation of the project. The organization JJVS have major focus to the female beneficiaries for all its initiatives

and it is followed in word and spirit. To address gender dimension in all its programme, women's participation in CBO, gram sabha and in all the training, meetings are closely monitored. And the SHG members create empowerment to take decision making process in the house, gram sabha within community. All the SHG members made aware to take part in village level Mahila Mandal to increase the women's voice in decision making process especially village ,panchayat level planning process. Among these members promoted to be a member of traditional gram sabha to have clear understanding of village level issues and to access the government schemes for the better livelihood of each family. All the project activities, interventions related to trainings/ capacity buildings inputs are provided to women of a family along with male members because whole family is depended on farming livelihood activity to survive. At the primary level villages are in cluster of 10-15 which are adjacent to each one so easily monitored and supported the field staff.



## Progress of Self Help Groups

Details	Units	2019-20	Cumulative
Self Help Groups	No.	87	87
Female SHG	No.	87	87
Total Members	No.	1141	1141
Total savings	Amt.	870235	870235
Total Internal Loan Taken	Amt.	230125	230125
Total Bank Loan Received	Amt.	520300	520300

## SHG capacity building, meetings





## Village Youth plays as village Resource Person

JJVS basically involves all the stakeholders in the development activities especially in planning process. In every project villages JJVS tries to form youth group to get their support in implementation of the project to reach out maximum outputs. Developmental activities of local youths through trainings, meetings, agriculture techniques, vegetable cultivation are increasing knowledge about government working system as well as different schemes available at panchayat level. These youths are playing major role in implementation of the project in the local area. The leaders of youth members are creating awareness and mobilizing communities, organizing farmers to practice new technologies in agricultural activities.

Parameter	Units	progress 2019-20
Youth committee formed villages	No.	16
Youth committee actively participated	No.	10
Agriculture training conducted villages	No.	16
Agriculture activities started villages	no.	8
Tomato crop area	Ha.	10
Chilli crop area	Ha.	5
Potato crop area	Ha.	5
Skill training - Driving	No.	4
Skill training - Tailoring	No.	5



## **Collaboration with Gram Panchayats for technical support for accessing government schemes, strengthening of gram sabha and exiting groups**

The organization from the first day entrance of the village starts to build cordial relationship with all the PRI members as well as gram sabha. Keeping in view of this organize combine meeting to understand the major issues, resources accessed and implementing, getting feed backs for further necessary steps to take up with the support of gram sabha.

In the same meeting organization gets the approval to work and provide support mechanism. With their support discuss the objectives, working system and supportive systems of the organization by the field staff.

Trainings program conducted for Gram sabha and CBOs to build collaborative approach with gram sabha.



Village level planning



GPS planning with JJVS staff and villagers

## Convergence with Gram Panchayat for MGNREGS

Ample of schemes availability gram panchayats tries to access schemes from the different departments. As organization starts working approaches to different departments to collaborate and provide support in their activities. With this idea provide support in the process of accessing schemes. In the mean time government officials are invited to share the process mechanism. As per the community demand and their conveniences accessed funds from the MGNREGS. The progresses of the different activities are mentioned in the table.

Intervention	Unit	2019-20
Gram panchayat provided support	No.	35
Land development- FB, LL families	No.	33
Land development- FB, LL area	Ha.	15
Water harvesting structure	No.	12
Small water harvesting structure	No.	6
Dug well	No.	3
Horticulture - Tree plantation	Ha.	4.5
Agriculture convergence	No.	87





## Community Institutions for Self Governance

The importance of gram sabha with different rights JJVS ensure sustainability of the village interventions and to build social empowerment in the community especially to women group. *JJVS always promotes community institution building around Self Governance such as Goan Ganrajya Samiti (Paramparik Gram Sabha), Pargana Samiti and Garh Samiti.* The formed committees of such institutions are regularly strengthened and supported in accessing different programs from the government departments. In every village Goan Ganrajya Samiti formed with its members of 12-15 members, in Pargana samiti 12-15 villages of selected members form the committee and Garh Samiti members of Pargana Samiti members form to manage the self governance system in the village. Self governance systems followed are given in the table.

Parameter	Units	progress 2019-20
Goan Ganrajya Samiti formed	No.	45
Pargana Samiti	No.	12
Garh Samiti	No.	2
Trainings/meetings conducted	No.	12
Number of Village Covered	No.	314
Number of Panchayat Covered	No.	215
Number of HH Covered	No.	30234

## International Women's Day

International Women's Day was celebrated on 8<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> March at village level of seven districts namely Jaspur, Surguja, Balrampur, Surajpur, Korea, Chatra, Simdega, Raigarh, Baster, with focusing on this year theme - "Balance for better" in Education, Health, Economic Developments and Traditional Governance in Indigenous Community. In this occasion total 401 (M –



55, F- 346) participants were there from different villages along with from different organisation attended the program and encouraged women leaders.

## Women violation

JJVS is committed to strengthen the tribal communities specially women to promote and protect their rights. Keeping in view of this human rights violation issues addressed and protection acts sensitized. In the beginning women groups feared to share the issues but now coming forward to take family counseling at sakhi one stop center.

Self help group and mahila mandal platforms are commonly used to address and solve the cases by convincing male members of different especial protection wings for females.

Three human rights violation cases documented (Land Grabbing Chichli, Pathalgadhi follow up Sihairdand, Trafficking - Kuladore.



Women violence		
Intervention	Unit	2019-20
Trainings/meetings conducted	No.	35
Number of Village Covered	No.	80
Number of Panchayat Covered	No.	53
Number of HH Covered	No.	1305
Number of Victims	No.	42
Number of victims Registered at shakh one stop center	No.	7
Number of families solved the issues	No.	36
Action Taken by Police		
Deapatment	No.	5
Number of victims counseled by JJVS	No.	30
Number of victim families rehabilitated by the project	No.	

With the support of Women child department and JJVS district level sensitization program conducted. Presently department of field staff members are supporting to implement the project and maximum out put from the program.



## Human trafficking



Earlier villagers were taking very lightly about the issues of human trafficking. JJVS addressed the issues and sharing of victims cleared the source and destination of different issues. Capacity building and exposure visits enlightened the mind of parents who were sending their children to work out side. 95% of the families send their children with proper registration at panchayat and prior information of mahila mandal, youth groups.

Intervention	Unit	2019-20
Number of Village Covered	No.	15
Number of Panchayat Covered	No.	11
Number of HH Covered	No.	2816
Community Vigilance Group at GP level	No.	11
Number of Victims	No.	9
Counseling of Girls	No.	45
Number of training conducted (Specify the training)	No.	14

## Preservation and Reviving Tribal Culture

Indigenous peoples live in nature and love to preserve nature for their future generation. As per the program and seasonally tribal cultures addressed and celebrated with youth group members to learn more and more about the culture. Youth leaders have taken steps to have local dialogue at home and parents must teach their children how to talk and the meaning of title.



## **Strengthening and Mobilization of Forest Right Committee (FRCs) at Village Level:**

Mobilization of the villagers for FRA and FRC were going on through various meetings at hamlets/ toli level at different villages.

9 follow up training had been conducted on FRA and community mapping

(Chhatisgarh)Community Forest Right Entitlement Receive by 19 Gram Sabha( 9out of 15 in project villages area covered-587.757 Hectors, 8 are in adjoining villages area covered- 4229.487 which were influenced by project advocacy and lobby). Total Areas of forest land received under FRA is 4817.224 Hectors

9 Gram Sabhas namely-Korengenga, Beldih, Chhichli®, Surjula, Ordih, Khonga, Ghatgaon, Kandora community members are protecting and initiating the management and regeneration process.

These are some of the glimpse of the meetings conducted for, FRA, FRCs, and strengthening and identifying women group for the livelihood trainings:

135 from 15 Gram Sabha have the active representation of the indigenous women and also in the Forest rights Committee in the project area.



## **Submission and Follow-up of Collective Forest Land Claims including dialogues and Community Mobilization**



Three Collective Forest Land Claims of Nanesera, Dumardih and Sarkhutoli were submitted in April 2019, filling up of other claims are going on through mobilization of FRCs and women groups of other villages also, follow up of the community in filling up the community claims is done in regular basis.

## Leadership and Advocacy training for Indigenous Women Representatives of Gram Sabha

Formation of Women groups at village level are going on for their representation and participation at gram sabha and making them aware about their rights through the gram sabha, the meetings were conducted in Sarkhutoli, Khejurdih, Jhakhra, Paledih, with the total participation of women from these villages are 112.

In Chhattisgarh(15/15) and 12 adjoining villages( in Jashpur district have increased understanding of FRA, PESA and their collective rights as indigenous peoples; and rights of women.

In Chhattisgarh due to strong advocacy the state government had issued notification to reform the Gram Sabgaha committees to implement the PESA gram sabha in the state the Governor of state also has written letter to the C.M for formulation of rules and implementation of the PESA Gram sabha in the state.

## Agricultural Development activities to increase the Productivity

Agriculture development activities based on livelihood has three fundamental resources such as land, water and seeds. Today we know that a family has 2 – 5 acres lands. To increase the productivity farmers have to adopt intensive cropping pattern. Presently farmers are promoting to cultivate and preserve tradition / local seeds to afford to by high cost of seeds for cultivation.

11 SHGs have been supported financially for cultivation of Ragi( Madiya), purchase and sale of Mota Anaj, Millets, Cultivation of Turmeric and Ginger.

### Agriculture good practices

Parameter	Units	progress in 2019-20
Traditional seeds demonstration villages	No.	16
Families	No.	800
Area coverage		
Raggi crop	Ha.	15.4
Maize crop	Ha.	5.6





Bajra crop	Ha.	1.5
Bedo cro	Ha.	4.3
SRI technical practices	No.	45
Agriculture convergence		

## Campaign against the use of Chemical Fertilizers and Promotion of Traditional

### Seeds

There is planning of creating traditional seed banks at village level, for which there were simultaneously discussions during the FRCs and Women Group meetings for the collection of these traditional seeds at their villages. The responsibilities of collection of the seeds are given to the local women groups of those same villages.

28 villages (families- 1092 Male- 785, Female-307) have started natural farming using traditional seeds and bio-fertilizers specifically using natural manures (cow-dung).

Parameter	Units	Progress in 2019-20
Trainings conducted	Nos	29
Exposure visit organized	Nos	2
Farmers participated in training / meetings / exposure visits	Nos	2390
Agriculture good practices		
Parameter	Units	progress in 2019-20
Seed treatment	No.	576
Pest management	No.	213
Line sowing & maintenance	No.	765
Preserving traditional local seeds	No.	4397
Using certified seeds	No.	1529

Integrated pest management and seed treatment techniques are initiated in groups are followed by the SHG and their family members.



Seed treatment training conducted



Preparing pesticide management

## Livelihood training for villagers

Good agriculture practices are imparted through training program followed particularly in backward areas. As we know large areas of small and marginal farmers are dependent on rain fed crop cultivation and the risk of crop failure is large. Adoption of some good farming techniques yields more production rather than traditional cropping method.

For the livelihood trainings women group (SHG) of different villages were identified with the need based assessment process, in which the trainings of their interest carrying the traditional values and sustainable natural resource management.



## Protection of natural resources



135 villagers are in frontline of the protection and promotion of their rights and have the role and contribution in natural resources management.

Interstate exchange visit held in Gadchiroli, state maharashtra to understand and explore the forest and community resources management by the gram sabha.

Community institutions building at different stages have started increasing knowledge about their rights and power of fundamental rights.



# JJVS Governance and Institutional Development

## Evaluation and Planning Meeting (office and field both):

This meeting was conducted in JJVS office as well as in field area i.e. Simdega with all the staffs of different project for the better implementation of all the activities and to achieve the objectives, by Evaluation and planning of activities for every month. These meetings were held throughout the year; total members benefited 480(Male – 234, Female -246).



Staff capacity building



Staff Monthly meeting & planning

## Exposure visit to Mendalekha, Maharashtra

Mendhalekha village located 30 Km from the district headquarters (Gadchiroli) and is spread over two small hamlets (tolas). The total area of the village is around 1900 hectors and nearly 80 perant of the village is covered by forest. There are approximately 400 people in the village. In this village there are no class nor caste hierarchies. In 1970 when the Madhyapradesh Government proposed a major hydroelectric project in bastar district. The proposed project would have displaced tribals of Bastar district and adjoining areas of Maharashtra. The tribals of those areas came together under a banner of jangal bachom, Manob Bachao Andolan ( Save



Forest, Save Human Movement). This movement spread to the Gadchiroli district also. Peoples of Gadchiroli protested this hydroelectric project and finally this project was closed.



The self rule of Mendhalekha was initiated by Mohan Hirabai Hiralal, a prominent activist of Jangal Bachao, manav Bachao Andolan and then Devaji Toffaa became village head. They got hold of government official documents relating to the village. Their slogan was Dilli Mumbai Amche Sarkar, Amchya Gawat Amchich Sarkar (our representatives are in Delhi and Bombay and we are the government in our village) This is not only

a slogan but very much practiced by Mendakekha village

Mendhalekha village has a gramsabha (village assembly ) consisting of all adult members of the village (a male and a female from each family) and all decision are unanimously taken by gramsabha. To start any work in the village it is decided in the gram sabha. If anybody has any objection or problem then they conducted gramsabha and find the reason for objection and find the solution of it. To fight for their rights all are united. They are not depending in government scheme only but working for self dependent. Some time they refuse government scheme too. They are aware of health and sanitation, we see that their pig shelters are made outside of the village and village is neat and clean. Alchol preparation in the village is prohibited. Relationship with government is very good. They have kept their traditional culture and practicing them.

### **Forest Management:-**

People of mendalekha owned 1900 hector of forest through the community forest rights claim. Forest is not only used by them but protected by them. Forest committees have divided villagers in to small groups and each groups goes to the forest turn by turn to protect the forest. To protect the forest they have divided the forest in small areas and everyone is given responsibility to protect the forest allotted to them.





Villagers know the trees by numbers and how many trees are there in their area. There is a close relation between forest and villagers. Government department respect decision of Gram Sabha. If someone requires trees for household purpose then he/ she has to ask and it will be decided in the Gram Sabha, then Gram Sabha will decide how much trees he/she is required and he/she has to pay minimum amount of compensation to Gram Sabha.

### **Forest Resource Management/ Marketing of forest Products:-**

Forest resource management is done by the villagers. Forest department is allowed to extract on non timber forest produce and bamboo under the JFM. Gram Sabha decides that what types of Bamboo will be collected from the forest and price are also decided by them. Before yielding the forest produce they perform a traditional ritual to satisfy their gods and goddesses and start the work. All the forest products are marketed by the Gram Sabha and money kept in village fund. Village fund is spent for the development of the village after the decision of Gram Sabha. No money of the fund are spent by an individual or personal interest but Gram Sabha decision is mandatory. The villagers develop their own scheme/ program and seek government's help for implementation only.



The village charges a fee for all outside and commercial activities allowed inside the village by the Gram Sabha, and the funds raised in this way go into the village Bank account. The village funds are used for carrying out developmental activities in the village and for providing loans to needy people.

Mendhakekha is also the first village withstanding natural forest to have come under the Joint forest management in Maharashtra. About 1800 hectares have been brought under the JFM in Mendhakekha. They have also formed a Mahila Mandal (women's council) which mainly deals with savings schemes and improving the status of women in the village. Women are running retail shop and also look after the PDS distribution scheme run by government.

The Mahila Mandal is also responsible for the implementation of liquor prohibition and any other responsibility that the Gram Sabha may entrust with the help of outside agencies, the villages have also formed Adhyayan Mandals (study circles) which act as informal forums for free and frank discussion on various issues ranging from immediate village problems to forest and wild life conservation. These study circles are informal groups which assemble whenever need arises and help the Gram Sabha in the process of informed decision making.

## **Exposure Visit Management:-**

Mendalekha gramsabha is strong enough due to unity among the villagers, regular meeting in the village and total consent in decision making. Every day there are governments and non- government people are coming to mendalekha for exposure visit. Mendalekha gramsabha well organized for the visitors and each visitor are welcomed by the villagers. There are rooms to stay. Meeting room is available where people conduct meetings and learn about forest rights, forest resource management, gramsabha, PESA Act Marketing and other development activities which is going on in the mendalekha village. Documents are available for learning. For visitors villagers prepare food and provide them in turn and it is decided by the gramsabha. There are leaders who guide the visitors to see the village and they also guide them in understanding the rule and regulation of the Mendhalekha gramsabha. To attend the needs of different groups coming to Mendalekha for exposure, there is well organized service system. Different groups are given responsibility turn by turn. Who ever works on that day is paid wages of the day.

## **Co- Ordination with Government:-**

Mendhalekha gramsabha is well organized and all the government official documents relating to the village got hold by the gramsabha. There are good relationship between government officials and gramsabha. Government scheme to implement in the village decide together with consent of gramsabha. Final decision is of gramsabha and not of government. Government respects the decision of gramsabha. There are regular meetings and discussions between government officials and gramsabha. To support gramsabha government



officers come to village and discussion the subject with the villagers. There is good relationship between Government and gramsabha and well coordinate among them.

**Field visits:** all the participants visited mainly 4 villages namely- Medhalekha, Gunjanbadi, Nawargaon, and Erendi. In these villages Community Forest ad Natural resources entitlement has been given. The management part of the natural resources is very good the community has developed very good understanding. There are women Self Help Groups in the villages who mostly generate income from collection of the NTFP and sell to the shop keeper as per the price determined my them. The major self help groups in these villages are- Mahakali SHG, Teresa SHG, Narmada SHG and

Laxmi SHGs. The most important learning about these SHGs are that they determine the prices of the produces, the shopkeeper comes to their door to collect it and have very good maintenance of records and accounts.

**Major Learning from the Exposure:** It were one of the most inspiring and valuable learning's being as a tribal communities, that how our people could be empowered for self development rather depending on the government and on other agencies. They have really opened the door of self determination, self governance and self development. the major leaning are:

- The difference between Gram Sabha abd Gram Panchat is clearly seen and understood. This is the practice of the provisions of Fifth Scheduled area and PESA act.
- Protection and promotion of traditional practices, customs, languages etc.
- Gram Sabha is really strengthened; it is very strong which united the community for their development.
- Prohibition of alcohol through the decision of Gram Sabha good initiative.
- Women SHGs are economically empowered- if women are given opportunity they can change the community.
- The way of protection and promotion of the natural resources is really very good and practical.
- Community members follow the anonymous decisions of the Gram Sabha- which leads the self governance.

## Staff training / exposure during the year April 2019- March 2020

Training/ meetings/ workshop/ exposure visit	No. of members participated		
	Male	Female	Total
Training/Workshops on FRA, PESA and Indigenous peoples right	544	580	1124
Meetings (planning/assessment) of the state and inter-state networks of indigenous peoples including indigenous women network	240	352	592
Institutional and network building trainings	165	198	363
Joint actions and community mobilizations			0



Strengthening and mobilization of Forest Rights Committee (FRC) at the village level	620	735	1355
Human Rights Violations Documentation, Reporting and Monitoring			0
Trainings on Human Rights Documentation and Advocacy (1 training per year per partner)	237	251	488
Annual Partners Meeting			0
Trainings on community mapping and conduct of community mapping and baseline survey	200	123	323
Submission and follow-up of collective forestland claims including dialogues and community mobilizations			0
Leadership and advocacy trainings for indigenous women representation in gram sabha	234	813	1047
Organize inter-state exchange visit	16	11	27
Conduct campaign against the use of chemical fertilizers and promotion of traditional seeds	1445	1875	3320
Livelihood trainings for villagers	160	191	351
Support to the self-help groups for income generation activities.	456	32	488
<b>Total</b>	<b>4317</b>	<b>5161</b>	<b>9478</b>

## Case Studies developed

### Success Story: A small decision changed the life of women in Sardih

Sardih is a small geographically isolated village in Manora, Jashpur Chhattisgarh, India, surrounded by forest and made up of approximately 375 people. Most of the villagers are Oraon people, and depend on agriculture and forest products for their livelihoods. For a variety of reasons, most of the women in this village are illiterate and lack awareness of their rights. Locally brewed liquor, called Desi Mahuwa Daru, is an important traditional and cultural part of tribal life. However, in recent years, many male members of the community have been consuming large amounts of liquor, called Desi Mahuwa Daru, and women have consequently often been the victims of various types of alcohol-fuelled violence such as physical attacks, quarrels, and sexual abuse.

Since 2012 Jashpur Jan Vikas Samiti (JJVS) has been working on a Women's Empowerment and Development programme in the village to try and prevent alcohol-related violence and support female victims of abuse. JJVS has also been involved with a women's Self Help Group (SHG) in the village called the Gulab SHG, which also supports women's income generating programmes. Around 45 women participate in the self-help groups on a regular basis, meeting about once a month.

Mrs Anima Toppo is a resident of the Sardih village who was affected by alcohol-related domestic violence, but successfully took action to improve not only her situation, but also that of all the women in Sardih.

Married since 1999, Anima and her husband Mr Satish Toppo are 35 and 38 years old respectively and have two children, a seven year old boy and three year old girl. Prior to their marriage, Satish was working in the Jashpur district police force. However, following their marriage, Satish developed negative alcohol consumption habits and would come home after drinking with his friends to quarrel and beat Anima. When discussing her problems with other female members of her community in the JJVS Women's Empowerment program, it was suggested that Anima visit JJVS.

Anima contacted JJVS staff members who counselled her on her issues and encouraged her to take action to better her family and community. On the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2016 Anima filed a case to the One Stop SAKHI Center, a scheme intended to support women affected by violence. Staff members of the One Stop Center then lodged a first information report (FIR) against Satish at the local police station, following which police officers arrested Satish. This was the first time a woman from the Sardih village had ever filed a case against their husband for domestic violence.

As well as a case hearing, Satish and Anima also received marriage counselling. Within a month of lodging the complaint and the extra judicial trial, Mr and Mrs Toppo reached a compromise whereby the case was withdrawn but Satish received a warning that any further acts of domestic violence or alcohol abuse would result in jail. Satish also promised to be a good husband and father and support his family financially. He recommenced working at the local police department and the Toppo family are now live together again.

After hearing of this case, women in the Sardih village became more aware of violence against women. Women in the community stopped preparing alcohol at home and also started putting pressure on male members to stop drinking. Women also discussed the case in their self-help groups and encouraged each other to raise their voices against violence and promote their rights. Today, women community members actively participate in JJVS's programs and have become aware and united. Gulab SHG members have even begun charging perpetrators of alcohol-related violence and domestic violence a fine of 1000 Rupees (approximately 15 US-Dollars). Men who want to drink must go outside the village as no Mahuwa Daru liquor is distilled in the village, meaning that overall consumption of alcohol has gone down. Male community members have also begun to support women who raise their voices against violence, though they have not themselves yet started taking any initiatives to decrease gender-based violence.

Looking to the future, Anima wishes her daughter to have a safe and secure life, especially in terms of gender relations. The negative effects of alcohol abuse and alcohol-induced violence must therefore be effectively managed and mitigated to ensure the safety and empowerment of women and girls, who must also be educated about their rights and supported to take action against perpetrators of gender-based violence. The Indian government and not-for-profit sector has a role to play in this, by continuing to support the fight to end violence against women through programmes led by organisations like the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Integrated Child Development Schemes (ICDS), Women Cell, One Stop Sahki Center and JJVS. Village-level ICDS workers, health workers and female health volunteers (Mitanins) should also continue to be directly involved in women's empowerment.

## COMMUNITY FOREST RIGHTS

In Chhattisgarh, several factors are affecting the filing of claims and recognition of rights:

- In many villages, Panchayat Secretaries are involved in filing claim forms without the village Gram Sabha being involved, thus making the entire process of filing claims illegal.
- The Forest Department has been given a key role by the State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC) to control the process of FRA implementation on the ground. The SLMC has constituted a sub-committee headed by the Principle Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) of the State Forest Department to help review the FRA implementation process and expedite its implementation. This sub-committee has taken a decision to involve the Van Suraksha Samiti in the formation and reconstitution of the FRC.
- The Forest Department has been entrusted with compilation of status reports on the implementation process in Sanctuaries.
- Most claims are still pending with the SDLCS (Sub Divisional Level Committee) with no decision on the claims being communicated to the claimant villages.



The situation of the forest right act in Chhattisgarh has not improved rather still community members are being deprived and betrayed from their rights. The major problem is that state government still lacking the accurate figure on the status of Individual forest Right entitlement and the entitlement of community forest rights. Only few villages have received some individual entitlement but Community forest right entitlement has not yet issues. Since last few years villages like Sargawan and Daldalia are struggling to get it but is still under the process at block and district level.

In the cases of Semarsot Sanctuaries now it has been converted into Elephant corridor without taking the consent of the residing communities. As per the act the forest department should provide the community forest entitlement after that only it can declare the sanctuaries into the elephant corridors. But the govt. Has failed to comply with its own laws , rules and regulations.

In the cases of Sargawan the consent of the gram sabha has not been taken into consideration and the conflict raised has not been resolved yet. Therefore the situations of the communities have not yet improved as per the Forest Right Act.

Village\_ Sargawan- Community Forest Right leading conflict between Community and Forest Department.

In 2013, community members of village Sargwan, Panchayat Lurgi, District –Balrampur have started the process to claim for their Community Forest Right entitlement, through the consent and approval of Traditional Gram Sabha. As per the act the process of collection of evidence and mapping of the

area was done. After completing the primary stage of claiming process, it was submitted to the gram sabha and even got approval. The community had great hope and even happiness as they are going to be the owner of their community forest resources. Further process was to inform the concern department for the verification of the spot and other documents. A letter had been issued on 27.06.2014 for the respective official to come and attend the special Gram Sabha and to verify the claims. But as per the expectation no one from the Govt. Department came for the verification. On 10.07. 2014 a letter was issued to collector stating the process and verification of the community forest claims but no response came even from the district collector. Seeing the irresponsibility and non cooperation by the govt. officers. Community members as per the resolution of gram sabha started the process of their own way of managing and protecting their forest.

In 2015 the forest department tried to encroach the forest land using some activities such as plantation, fencing and planting grass to breed elephants. Seeing this the community members started opposing and arguing that they are the one who are protecting and taking care of their own forest. After few days the Forest Right Committee had issued a letter to The Divisional Forest Officer Ambikapur, Surguja stating the above issues, along with the completed forms of Community Forest Right Claims and asked for the solution and support but there was no any reply. At last a memorandum was given for the district collector of the Balrampur. The district administration also did not response on it rather, officials of the forest and police department started threatening regularly.

On 05/07/2016 once again the forest department came to the village for the plantation of grass, seeing this all villagers gathered together and opposed, during this opposition there were quarrels between the community and forest department. After this forest department filed complaint against the members of the forest right committee. The members who had been charged cases are Armel Ekka, Antoni Kindo, Shivmangal Nagwansi, Jagarnath Kujur, Aalash Panika, Ram Narayan Panika, Fagan Ram Nag, Victor Kindo, Ramprasad Kodaku, Joseph Beck and Domen Yadav. These 11 members had been detained for three days and after hearing in the district court of Ramanujganj They got bail. But the cases are going on still in the district court. The current situation is that one of the forest officer who use to deal the case has resigned from his post and the position was vacated for last 6 months hence no one was authorised to deal this case, now on new forest officer has been appointed but the department has not given charges yet to handle the cases. Hence the case is pending in the court and the forest committee members of the Sargawan are still waiting for the justice.

Through the leadership of People's organization( Jan Sangathan) namely- Gram Sabha Adhikar Manch- Sargawan, these members are still fighting for the right of community. The community of the Sargawan village has great hope that they will win one day. The court will give decision in favour of the Gram Sabha.

## ● Struggles for Self Governance in Jashpur

- Ever since the community members of the tribal areas in undivided Madhaya Pradesh came to know or became aware on their rights, tribal communities have always tried to ascertain their rights one or the other way, either traditionally, customarily, culturally which has being their inherited rights that the nature has endowed them from generation to generation. Till then it was OK. But as the tribal communities educationally, traditionally, financially or to say intellectually growing up it is talking the constitutionally rights along with their customary

practices and beliefs.. when we speak about the constitutionally rights for self governance we speak of the Fifth Scheduled and Six Scheduled Areas as per the constitution of India, later many amendments have been done and the concept of Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Area Act 1992(PESA) enacted by the central Government of India. But the fate was non of the 10 scheduled area States <sup>1</sup> drafted the rules and enacted it, no single governor had used their power towards development and up-liftment of the tribal communities, though later on Gujrat and Maharastra government implemented the PESA act, in 2006 Forest Rights Act had been enacted where too power has been stipulated to gram sabha related to ownership, management and governance of tribal resources for the holistic development but unfortunately government agencies failed to implement as it would have been. The major reasons were that the government department related to forest such as Forest and Environment, wild life protection act, Land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement Acts etc.. had lots of agreements and disagreement on their policies and the lastly this act was entangled with the arrogance of the bureaucrats.

In Chhattisgarh there are 27 districts out of that 13 districts are fully scheduled areas and 5 are partially. There are 42 tribes among them 5 are Primarily Vulnerable Tribe Groups( PVTGs) who are day today struggling for their livelihood and have many other social, economic and political indifferences, inequality and lack of administrative will power for the holistic development of the tribal communities. As a reason now the tribal communities are trying to find out their ways and means for the self governance and control over their natural resources as per the article 244(1) of the Indian constitution.

Jashpur is one of the districts of Chhattisgarh state where 64% tribal communities dwell, naturally fully covered by the forest and natural resources. Environmentally one of the best area in the state to live in all the season. Some of the Tribal communities are well educated along with their agricultural occupations. In the year 2018 in some of the villages like Butunga, Sehairdand, Bachrao and Kalia which comes under the Bagicha Block started to practice their traditional governance system in the form of Pathalgadhi( Erection of Stone and depicting on it the various provisions of 5<sup>th</sup> scheduled area, PESA Act under Indian constitution.) to ascertain their rights. This activity was going on in the other parts of the state not only in the Jashpur. But due to the anti-tribal development groups or to say the dominant communities who had always been oppression and through the support of then the ruling party of the states the pathalgadhi movement was tried to crush by destruction of the symbols (Erected stone and its platform) of self governance, arresting of tribal leaders and the community members based on the false charges by the local administration which was done under the pressure of state government. This very act hurt the sentiment of the tribal communities of the state. The incidents took place in the month of April 2018. Later on all the tribal communities from various districts, organizations , institutions and networks came together to support the traditional rights of the tribal communities, many rallies, agitations and discussions started all over the Chhattisgarh. In the month of June a Mega protest rallies had been conducted in the Kunkuri and Baikunthpur to protest the unlawful act of the government and to release the tribal leaders who had been put into the jail. Seeing the protest of the tribal communities at last the government had to accept and the statement was given in favor of the tribal communities. In the same year there was the state election in the Chhattisgarh the tribal communities united and thrown out the ruling government. Pathalgadhi movement was one of the most important movement towards self governance, later the government notified to conduct PESA gram sabha to pursue the self governance just to show that government supports the tribal rights, culture and custom...but there is always



hidden the anti-tribal development agenda which needs to be realized..but a good effort has been began, though it is a long journey to bring the notion of self governance among the tribal communities...

## JJVS In Media



Jaspur District of Government officials visited the JJVS office to see the working system.

## Compliances

The organization management systems are illustrated by the following table chart.

Compliance area	Periodically	Status
Board meeting	Annually	On time
Financial Audit	Annually	On time
Internal audit	six monthly	On time
External audit by donor	As required	Two donors audit in last year
Report submission to donor	Annually	On time
Report submission to FCR	Annually	On time

## Awards and Recognition

- ❖ The Secretary of JJVS has been nominated in the state level Advisory Council of CG.
- ❖ The Secretary of JJVS has been nominated in the district level Child Protection Committee Jaspur.



## Our Partners – Past and on going

Sincerely we express our gratitude's for their contribution of our donors during the year 2019 – 20 has made the work possible

International	
Sr.#	Donors
1	Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)
2	FIMI
3	Tebtebba
National	
4	CASA
5	Dhaatri Trust