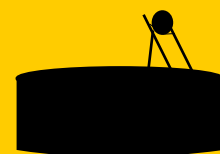


Prayatna Samiti



About Prayatna Samiti

Prayatna Samiti is a voluntary organisation working since 1989, committed to the socioeconomic development of poor and vulnerable rural communities of Udaipur district located in Southern region of Rajasthan state of India subcontinent. The organisation believes in capacity of rural communities to work for their own welfare. It believes in the collective strength of communities to achieve a just society, free of exploitative forces.

The organisation sees its role as a facilitator for community action, to support the efforts of communities to come together to take the responsibility of development. It works to promote self-empowerment and leadership abilities among marginal farmers and rural labourers by developing institutional structures, management capacity and leadership abilities.



Viision

The vision of Prayatna Samiti is to promote self-empowerment and leadership abilities amongst deprived sections of rural communities for their sustainable livelihood.

Mission

Promote self-empowerment and leadership abilities among deprived sections of rural communities. We believe that all people have ability and the right to provide for themselves and contribute to a healthy, sustainable economy. Our efforts are concentrated on developing institutional structures; management capacity and leadership abilities in these people so that they can achieve social justice and equality of their own.



Objectives

- Establish an organization that can work towards rural reconstruction.
- Promote understanding of and participation in democratic institutions.
- Develop leadership abilities amongst local people.
- Facilitate communication among people's organizations and various development organizations.
- Improve situation of basic necessities such as health, education, livelihood and local self governance.

Work Strategy



Thematic Areas

Community Management of Commons

Pasture forms a chunk of land mass fulfilling the fodder requirement. Apart from this most of the timber, fuel and NTFP is collected from the land. The organisation has developed institutions to take up land treatment work for 3,000 ha which consists of commons (forests and government) and private land. The work undertakes Soil and Water Conservation and Afforestation with Climate Change as a cross cutting theme.

Fodder enhancement has contributed to dairy activities. Incomes rose to double. Ground water in turn ensured supply of drinking water and irrigation facilities.



Sustainable agriculture

The focus lies in crop cultivated area. The main crops are maize and wheat cultivated in kharif (June to October) and rabi (October to March) seasons, respectively. The produce is normally used for family consumption.

The organisation deals in providing technological inputs and trainings and testing methods of cropping pattern. To promote food security and address dry land farming seeds of minor millets were introduced. Water resources are pipelines and well renovation activities and harvest structures introduced with the revival of traditional institutions for sustainable management. Improved varieties of crops and vegetable seeds provided to enhance production. Soil productivity improved by developing farm bunds for preventing soil erosion. Organic farming measure like vermiwash and cow urine introduced to replace chemical fertilizers. Trainings provided to the farmers as integral part of the theme.

1,300 ha land has been further cultivated. Farmers understand the importance of climate resilient varieties. 17,550 quintal maize and 35,100 quintal wheat along with 42 quintal vegetables harvested per year in the work area.

Animal Husbandry

Since ages animal husbandry has remained one of the prime sectors of rural interests.

To increase the milk yield from the animals improved breed of goats were introduced. The organisation is promoting fodder and cattle shed management as integrated animal model of animal nutrition. Disease management is functional with the provision of Pashu Sakhis. Regular health camps are organised under government schemes and people are also encouraged to organise the camps themselves.

Fodder banks are operational as independent institutions for purchasing fodder on loans. Improved varieties of fodder grasses like CO2 are been introduced for increasing fodder quality. Availability of fodder from pasture land has improved the milk yield. Training and exposure visits have familiarized the people with improved animal husbandry practices.

With advent of development programme cow milk yield has increased by 1 litre, buffalo by 3 litres, and goat by 1 litre per day. Income enhancement has increased fodder purchasing capacity. Cattle troughs have reduced the fodder wastage.



Fostering gender equity

Woman is an important part of the family and community. She equally toils with man in any of the developmental tasks. However, society has still not recognized her importance in maintain community oecosystem. The Organisation encouraged women to take part in village development. Women power was recognized through formation of Self Help Groups. SHGs also proved to be a strategy for promotional programmes and organising mass campaigning for achieving food security.

The organisation is working with 220 SHGs consisting of 1,680 women. The efforts are also made to fight against women violation.



Enhancing Access to Community Rights

The work area consists of 80 % of tribal community residing in Schedule V area. Tribals residing in the forest region are confined to small land holding barring them of agricultural production. Limited intervention of village Panchayats for peoples' development in health, water restoration, employment, education and, food security.

Prayatna Samiti is dedicated for strengthening people's institutions for creating awareness to access peoples welfare schemes and peoples' rights under PESA Act 1996 (& Forest Right Act 2006). The approach lies in providing capacity building through workshops, trainings and, camps.

For securing women and child health 20 Anganwadi made functional for proper allocation of food and monitored by women committee. 100 kitchen gardens developed to ensure provision of nutritious diet. 20 grain banks developed. SHGs facilitated for developing bank linkages for accessing big loans for agricultural and animal husbandry activities.

People mobilized to apply for land levelling under NREGS. Due to land levelling a 910 quintal extra wheat harvested from 13 ha land. 250 job cards provided. Gram Sabha meetings facilitated to familiarize people with their rights and claim them in Panchayats and Block offices. 500 widow, 700 old aged, 500 handicapped people benefited from pension schemes.

2,019 people benefited from national welfare schemes like Jan Janani Yojana, Laxmi Dhan Shri Yojana, and Antodaya Yojana for food security. For ensuring child education 50 SMCs made functional for monitoring school functioning. Revival of traditional agriculture practices introduced with minor millets cultivation and fruit plants cultivation.

By capacity building of Van Adhikar Samiti 751 households in 30 villages got Van Bhoomi Adhikar Patra (Forest Land Right Letter) for 563.25 ha. The land is used for agriculture. Claim over 1,065 ha for Community Forest Right Act pending.



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