Chapter-5
Programmes and Intervention of NGOs

The Present chapter deals with programmes and intervention activities of selected four NGOs in respective two districts of the state. It deals with various activities of these NGOs for welfare and development of beneficiaries. This section mainly outlines the strategies and techniques of respective NGOs in supporting the beneficiaries through description of their programme contents.

5.1 Association for Serva Seva Farms (ASSEFA):

The intervention activity of Association for Serva Seva Farms (ASSEFA) is premised on philosophy of strengthening people’s self-managing bodies to realise a sustained development process in favour of the poor and the deprived sections of society (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). This organization adopted the strategy of formation of people’s collectives like farmers’ organization, management committee, women’s Self-Help Group (SHG) for collective work. It is working through a network of various associated groups like SHG, Community based Organizations (CBOs), Village based Organizations (VOs) for enabling the poor people to develop their livelihood, health facilities, educational access to deprived sections inside the village (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). The resources are built at the community level to manage the respective body (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). It has continued its intervention programs for educational support and innovative development ideas. It is functioning in 42 villages of Deoghar district. The respective NGO has been proactively involved in various programmes ranging from micro-finance programmes, social awareness programs, political awareness programs, livelihood promotion, community development programmes, health activities to educational programmes (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14).

5.1.1 Micro-Finance Programmes:-

The NGO ‘ASSEFA’ has been active in assisting the villagers through its robust micro-finance program. It has formed two micro-level institutions namely Sarva Jana Seva Kosh and Federation of Sarva Seva Nidhi Foundation which are important strategies of handing over of capital resource management responsibilities to the people (http://www.assefawr.org/sjsk.htm). The role of ASSEFA is also in terms of mobilizing
and distributing external resources among people. The membership to this institution is open to all inhabitants of the village either men or women (http://www.assefawr.org/sjsk.htm). The organization has ventured into the area of promoting self-help group through Sarvodya Mutual Benefit Trust which utilizes the collective savings to provide credit to the people on mutual benefit basis (http://www.assefawr.org/sjsk.htm). In March 2008, there were 32,000 WSHGs bringing together 500,000 women in 113 Sarvodoya Mutual Benefit Trusts (SMBT). In 1996, SMBT became owners of Sarvodaya Nano Finance Limited, a financial institution recognized by the Bank of India (Poirier, 2009). The SHGs have been quite active in the village in terms of thrift and credit activities for the socio-economic development of the disadvantaged people (Poirier, 2009). These SHGs have been supported to form big community-based collectives at the block level for their financial assistance by ASSEFA (Poirier, 2009). It has set-up Nidhi Foundation in each village for the purpose of managing the revolving funds. These collective groups work as advisory for the organization and support local community comprehensively. This Trust enables it to better manage the finances, access a higher amount of credit from other financial institutions and to provide other financial services such as insurance, technical assistance and support services for promoting livelihood for the poor women members (Poirier, 2009). The main purpose of ASSEFA is to empower village women to cater to their needs with local resources.

5.1.2 Social Awareness Programmes:-

Apart from micro-finance activities, ASSEFA has been proactive in social awareness programs also. They also intend to bridge the societal gaps between various communities. The tool through which ASSEFA develops social awareness among people is formation of collectives like Village Development Committee, Farmer’s Club, Women’s Self-Help Group, Community based Organization (CBO) (Poirier, 2004). In various blocks of Deoghar district, the organization has been organizing anti-alcohol campaign. In order to facilitate the Gram Swaraj, this organization has also ventured into forming informal Gram Sabhas, Women forum, Youth forum to prepare the villagers for their own welfare (Poirier, 2004). In Deoghar district, it has organized Padyatra, Sports program, village library to generate awareness.
5.1.3 Livelihood Generation Programmes:-

Agriculture being the primary source of livelihood, the emphasis of ASSEFA has been on agricultural development. ASSEFA has been addressing these problems by enhancing and integrating the natural resources of land, soil, water, cattle wealth and agriculture under “Farmers Renaissance Scheme” (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). In village called “Karnal” of Deoghar block, the organization has been supporting the milk cooperatives of farmers. The groups in each village collect the surplus milk from the members and transport to the nearest dairy plant for processing (ASSEFA Report, 2005-2006). The Federation of dairy groups in each area co-ordinates the collection and transportation activities. In village called “Foriparan”, the organization has formed the CBO of villagers engaged in Pattal making (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). In the village called “Jamuni” of Deoghar block, ASSEFA has formed “Kisan Club” with a membership of 12 farmers who are engaged in cultivation through scientific methods (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). In terms of agricultural development, the farmers are supported through various means like building of rainwater harvesting structure, introduction of efficient water usage, support for improved farming practices of paddy, cereals, groundnuts, assistance in terms of livestock development (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). The organization has also worked in the area of promoting Seeds Producers’ company, Milk Producers’ company to enable cooperative society (ASSEFA Report, 2005-06). It has also supported the WADI program and irrigation through Joint Liability group. Under WADI project, the farmers have been given nearly 60 saplings of mangoes and citrus fruits per 1 acre of land (ASSEFA Report, 2005-06). In the process of livelihood generation, the organization has identified some land in coordination with NABARD for wasteland development. The program is expected to benefit nearly 1850 hectares of land in Jharkhand (ASSEFA Report, 2005-06). In terms of dairy, ASSEFA has facilitated a large scale rural youth employment in various blocks of Deoghar district (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). The interested farmers are identified and credit facilities are arranged to set up mini dairying. During the reporting period, 1650 farmers were arranged with such supports (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). The farmers were made aware on the importance of rearing heifer calves. During the reporting period, 435 farmers were assisted to purchase heifer calves including 65 calves reared at the ASSEFA-promoted Centers (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). The individual entrepreneurs engaged in some micro-level enterprise are also supported to improve their
business. The organization is supporting through different types of marketing services also (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). ASSEFA acts as mentor and guiding these Trusts to create opportunities for their members to overcome their challenges and enhance their socio-economic status (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). In addition, many women were provided support to take up animal husbandry, particularly with cows and heifer calves (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). Women are also supported with non-farm activities such as tailoring, petty business, kirana store, tea shop, street vending business, etc, based on their interest and skill (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). During the reporting period, 1,256 women were identified with the help of women self-help groups (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). ASSEFA always focuses on organic farming method in cultivation and enables reduction in the cost of production. Apart from dairy and agricultural activities, ASSEFA has been venturing into supporting local artisans also (ASSEFA Annual Report, 2013-14). It has established Sarva Seva Gramodhyog Samithi which is a form of collectives to support artisans through its bargaining power in the district. The rural youths have been trained in market driven vocational courses through ASSEFA’s Industrial Training Centers (ASSEFA Report, 2005-06). The courses include that of electrician, mechanics in air conditioning and refrigeration, wireman, fitter, diesel motor mechanics, computer operation, tailoring, embroidery and needle works (ASSEFA Report, 2005-06). Apart from promotion of livelihood, ASSEFA has also established “Livelihoods School” for the purpose of providing in-house professional inputs for livelihood promotion (ASSEFA Report, 2005-06). This School supports even dairy development program through extension and subsidiary services. In other words, it provides support for capacity building activities also. Under Comprehensive Area Development Projects, many women have been supported for the purchase of milch animals in Jharkhand (ASSEFA Report, 2005-06). It has incapacitated the local artists also for the purpose of encouraging local skills development (ASSEFA Report, 2005-06).

5.1.4 Social Security Programmes:-

ASSEFA has been active in ensuring social security to women members of SHG in various villages of Deoghar district (ASSEFA Annual Report 2010-11). The involvement of the women in rural economy has also been immense. They play a major role in not only managing the families, but also economic activities, mainly animal husbandry and agriculture sector (ASSEFA Annual Report 2010-11). Their participation in income
generation activities has been encouraged via women self-help groups. To create productive assets out of their savings, ASSEFA has been supporting them through ASSEFA Chits Program. To have a means of control over the immovable asset, ASSEFA has been supporting them in construction of new houses with title in their names (ASSEFA Annual Report 2010-11). Under SHG, the majority of women are found to be from poorer section of the society. Additionally, their wages are also not equal to their work (ASSEFA Annual Report 2010-11). At the time of pregnancy or illness, these women are deprived of their due entitlement. During the period of their work, they are not compensated for loss of certain organs. In the wake of these financial crises, ASSEFA has ventured into “CHIT Scheme” for these SHG members (ASSEFA Annual Report 2010-11). This scheme is primarily aimed at helping the women SHG members to create productive assets out of their monthly savings. Every month, one SHG who required fund for investment, would receive the savings of all other SHGs on auction basis (ASSEFA Annual Report 2010-11). The SHG, who quotes the lowest bid, will get the prize money. The members, who receive the prize money, will be guided properly to invest in immovable assets such as purchase of housing plots or construction of new houses (ASSEFA Annual Report 2010-11). Furthermore, the organization has registered this scheme for legal sanctity. Three schemes are offered mainly to benefit the SHGs. It includes Rs 25,000/-, Rs 50,000 and Rs 100,000. In each scheme, about 25 SHGs are enrolled (ASSEFA Annual Report 2013-14). Therefore, the poor women members of SHG are not on the verge of losing their economic independence despite their unorganized working condition in the villages of Deoghar district (ASSEFA Annual Report 2013-14). ASSEFA has, for example launched social programmes such as maternity and bereavement support. Women now have access to jobs that were previously reserved for men through their commitment to the self-help groups. Due to social security, these women are empowered to grow their immovable assets (ASSEFA Annual Report 2013-14).

5.1.5 Health Care Services:-

ASSEFA has not only been focussed on livelihood promotion and social security services but on comprehensive health care services also (ASSEFA Annual Report 2013-14). It has been supporting both women and children through health care services. It has trained nearly 328 women of various SHGs on Reproductive health (ASSEFA Annual Report 2013-14). Concurrently, this organization has also organized the health awareness
camps in various parts of Deoghar block. In the area of health check-up camp, the contribution of Mutual Benefit Trust is quite marvellous (ASSEFA Annual Report 2013-14). During health awareness programme, the major focus remains on tuberculosis, diabetes, kidney and eye-sight which are considered to be common ailment in the region. ASSEFA in coordination with government hospital has provided consultation to people regarding nutrition also (ASSEFA Annual Report 2013-14).

5.2 Network for Enterprise Enhancement and Development Support (NEEDS):

In all these intervention activities, the organization called “NEEDS” works through Self-Help Group (SHG) and skill development process. The organization works through supporting poor women and men through financial inclusion programmes (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). NEEDS has three major thrust areas of intervention namely livelihood program, Reproductive health services and Child Protection programme (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). Under each thrust area, it has diversified its intervention through various micro level projects. The crux of all these programmes lies in fostering livelihood opportunities, robust health and educational facilities for poor and deprived families of Jharkhand (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). The organization also puts its attention on promoting human, economic, social capital while carrying-out these varied forms of intervention programmes. The organization is working with 340 SHGs and 42 VOs in Palajori block of Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). It is supporting various communities like tribal community, marginalized sections in order to develop a holistic approach for development. The organization has been quite involved in formation of micro-level institutions for the growth of livelihood sector, health issues, educational scenario in Deoghar district of Jharkhand (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). It has worked in the area of empowering the women members through a network of Self-Help Group (SHG). Some of its intervention activities are as follows:-

5.2.1 Livelihood Generation Programmes:-

The Livelihood generation programme is promoted through an assistance of SHG, VOs. The homogeneity of members in terms of their tribal status is maintained while forming these collectives (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). The entire livelihood activities are classified into watershed development, livestock development, food security through
sustainable agricultural development based on SRI (System of Rice Intensification) methods (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13).

The Palajori Livelihood Augmentation (PLAUGH) is the major livelihood programme started by NEEDS NGO in Palajori block of Deoghar district in 2007 with a financial support from Sri Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT) (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). This project intends to achieve food security and bring livelihood options for enhancing cash income of the tribal and other marginalized families. It aims at extending food security and livelihood opportunities to nearly 4633 tribal families of the Palajori block (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). This programme seeks to develop land and water based livelihood options for the community. In this area of intervention, the organization aims at strengthening 170 new SHGs and equipping existing 160 SHGs with professional expertise (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). It also aims at enhancing sustainable income for more than 3000 households along with livelihood credit for 4000 families through strengthening of 330 SHGs in the respective villages (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). Therefore, the NGO has strategized certain implementation plan for achieving these ends. In 42 new villages, there has been conducted village sensitization programme on socio-economic and political aspects through coordination with village Panchayat (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). In addition, the training of 2 members from each SHG in financial management, administrative affairs is also conducted by the organization (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). Each SHG member has been imparted training for conducting performance evaluation, grading so that efficiency may be maintained in the group. For intensive capacity building of SHG members, the NGO has formed local Land Resource Persons (LRPs) along with SHG coordinator who will review cluster and unit level performance of SHGs (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). The integration of all SHGs into a federation is also on the lines of concurrent evaluation procedure (NEEDS Annual Report, 2012-13). The SHGs have been federated at the cluster level of 10-15 SHGs who have to regularly participate in its cluster level meetings. Through cluster level group formation, nearly 2500 households have been brought under agricultural productivity programme initiative (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). The coordinated participation of people in livelihood generation programme has also ensured food security in some selected villages of Palajori block. The target of reducing mortality rate of goats has also been achieved among 700 families with a rate from 40 percent to 2 percent during intervention period (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-
In terms of collectives, the organization has successfully formed 43 VO s in the block. This livelihood programme remained quite successful in fostering scientific cultivation process in interior blocks of Deoghar (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). This made their life financially sound to enhance their livelihood and also a better standard of living for their family. Agricultural activities have been majorly taken up by the participating families for getting incremental income. A good environment has been created for taking up goats as livelihood in the target villages (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14).

Under livelihood generation programme, the NGO has initiated another milestone through starting Shekhar Nawadih Watershed Project with a financial support from NABARD (National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development) in Palojori block of Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). The project is for a period of 5 years having a target to cover four Gram-Panchayats of the block. The NGO intends to intervene in livelihood through implementation of soil and water conservation activities and watershed planning. This watershed planning is also done through participation of CBO (Community-based Organization). In the entire process of water conservation, the respective NGO focuses on formation of watershed committee which may be active in field bunding, horticulture and agro-forestry (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). Some of the activities include Drainage Line Treatment: Gabion Structure, Construction of New Concrete Nala Bund, Renovation of Earthen Check Dam (ECD), New Concrete Check Dam, Earthen Check Dam, Drum Check Dam and Loose Boulder Structure etc (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). The empowerment and mainstreaming of men and women group in the project area and work towards inclusive growth is a prime vision for this project (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). This project has a target of treating 837 hectares of watershed area. The probable benefits of this programme is set for recharging ground water, ensuring availability of drinking water, helping crop diversification and growth of agricultural productivity (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). The significance of this programme can be estimated through this incidence that one village called “Gopalpur” had soil erosion as major problem during rainy season but due to intervention through this project, 100 percent agricultural land is covered with kharif crop mainly paddy and there is an expectation of an income of Rs. 45,000-50,000 from fish culture till March, 2015 (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). On similar lines, the NGO has also ventured into Technology Transfer Program for livelihood generation.
through value added Mahua production by SC and ST population in Sarwan block of Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). This programme was launched in the year 2011. This programme is aimed at developing entrepreneurial skills among these families. In addition to employment, this programme also addressed the issue of malnutrition among tribal families. With an assistance from this project, the tribal families of this block have started making pickles, kismis, chikki, jam, jelly, barfi from mahua flower (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14). The members of SHGs initially from six villages got trained in this project. In Sarwan block of Deoghar district, the SHG members have been trained in various spheres of sustainable livelihood activity (NEEDS Annual Report, 2013-14).

In addition to livelihood activities, the NGO has incapacitated the women members in leadership skill development activity also. The NEEDS NGO started the project called “WE LEAD (Women Leadership and Action for Development)” in 2010 with an availability of budget worth Rs. 7,83,400/-. It aimed at developing sustainable livelihood, food security and educational opportunities for girl children by 2013 (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). This project plans to help self-help groups to federate with a legal entity, help them establish their own system of operation. NEEDS has initiated a process of women empowerment in the block with 48 villages, in which it has formed 105 women self-help groups (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). During 2013-14, nearly 8 clusters have been strengthened and 153 women skill workers from SHGs have been created for paddy and maize. 1800 families especially women have become aware on PRI(Panchayati Raj Institution) issues and rights regarding access to NREGS activity in the village along with Right to information, Right to education (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). A Women Resource centre at the Block level has been established for providing training to the women members on developmental issues. Regular trainings and meetings of the federation are being held at the resource centre. 30 percent families have opted for non-farm activities such as Poultry, Goather and small establishments. 70 percent of the families have opted for farm-based livelihoods (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).
5.2.2 Health Intervention Programmes:

Apart from livelihood, the NGO ‘NEEDS’ has ventured into health sector also. Premised on the vision of healthy life in an enabling society, the organization has intervened into the areas of Reproductive & Child Health, HIV/AIDS, Sanitation and Hygiene etc (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). In the area of Maternal and Neo-natal healthcare, the organization has initiated a project in Sarwan, Palajori and Devipur blocks of Deoghar district in Jharkhand. Maternal and Neo-Natal Health (MNH) programme is being implemented with the support of SIMAVI, Netherlands (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The goal of MNH programme is to make pregnancy safer to all women through community action by improving access and practice to reproductive health service and better sanitation practice in the district of Deoghar (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

The Program participants are pregnant and lactating mother, newly married couples, couples with one or two child, adolescents, youths, VHC members of model five Panchayats of three blocks in Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The project has certain objectives like reduction in maternal mortality by 25 percent by 2015, decrease in neo-natal mortality by 25 percent by 2015 and improved hygiene and sanitation practices (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The committee also took the initiative to shift the Anganwari centre of Chandraydih and Mathadangal from rented house to its own new building which was already constructed two years back. IFC (Individual, Family and Community) of Kumghadha has taken the initiative to shift their Anganwari centre from a rented house to its own new building (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). 11 HSCs of Devipur block in Deoghar district are running either from their own building or from any other type of govt. building (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

The IFC committee at Lokhariya, Sarwan block, has taken stand for regularizing the health sub-centre by regularly visiting in HSC and demanding for regular OPD (Outpatient department) and delivery. The committee also took initiative to regularize the VHND (Village Health and Nutrition Day) activities in their sub-centre (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Community based social audits of 20 VHNDs were conducted in Devipur & Palajori blocks on pilot basis with the help of UNICEF & CINI, Jharkhand. The findings of the Social Audit were disseminated among govt. officials & community representatives, like PRI members and service providers at district and state levels as well (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Due to its robust intervention programme in
Deoghar district, there has emerged several successful cases of proper monitoring of women and child’s health (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

The NGO has initiated another project in the Reproductive and Child Health called “UDAAN” in 2013. This is basically a volunteering programme to build the capacity of local youths to act as local service providers in the villages (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The aim of this project is to develop community volunteerism and participation of youth in strengthening of health care services. It is also slated for enhancing knowledge and understanding of community members on significance of health rights and increase people’s access to institutional health care services (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). It also develops skills of community members for providing effective healthcare services. During 2013-14, there has been witnessed a remarkable progress in the area of volunteerism in health sector, soft skill training, health annual action plan, monitoring and counselling (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Community participation has been increased because of joint monitoring & counselling along with Sahiya (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Lead Volunteers have given training on case management diary to Sahiya for joint monitoring, tracking & counselling of pregnant & lactating women in twenty panchayats (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Decision has already been taken to train VHSNC (Village Health and Sanitation Committee) at grass root level by lead volunteers. Mukhiyas in six panchayats of Borio block have taken the responsibility to monitor VHND in their respective areas for strengthening PNC (Prenatal care) & immunization after public hearing (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

Apart from direct intervention into health sector, NEEDS has also taken care of water and sanitation needs of villages of Deoghar district. In January’ 2011, it initiated a project called “WASH (Water and Sanitation Hygiene)” to work simultaneously on demand generation for sanitation system and related services as well as to establish an effective supply chain so that the demands of the community for water and sanitation services are met promptly (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The Water and Sanitation Hygiene Sector of NEEDS aims at improved hygiene outcomes through changed sanitation behaviours of the community/population residing in selected geographical location of Deoghar (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

During 2013-14, the NGO ‘NEEDS’ has progressed a lot in this sphere. It has demanded a toilet construction of 6000 in Deoghar district. It has created sanitary mart at village
Pahariya of Sarwan Block and Village Nawadih of Palajori Block in order to ensure regular supply of inputs for toilet construction (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Nearly eight villages in Palajori block have been selected and community is mobilized for solid and liquid waste management where community themselves have started village cleanliness drive (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Sessions have been held with adolescent school girls from three schools on menstrual hygiene in Sarwan Block of Deoghar district which helped the adolescent girls to understand the myths and facts on menstrual hygiene (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). 12 women SHGs are oriented in MHM (Menstrual Hygiene Management) and adolescents were trained in menstrual hygiene (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). 20 MHM peer educators are trained in MHM for school and out of school adolescent girls (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). NEEDS has facilitated over 123 VWSC (Village Water and Sanitation Committee) meetings and submission of applications for NBA (Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan) funding for toilet construction (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Over 45 villages have become Open Defecation Free during this reporting period with 2000 toilets constructed and used. We are able to mobilize NREGA and NBA convergence and funds are disbursed to VWSC for 10000 toilets (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Due to this consequent intervention, the NGO “NEEDS” has become an effective organization to create best practices in the area of sanitation, hygiene, maternal health, child health in Deoghar and adjoining districts of Jharkhand (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). In the last six months, NEEDS engaged its sanitation worker, hygiene educator and social mobilizer to intervene with package of IEC (Information, Education and Communication) and interpersonal communication to help community understand the importance of sanitation, hygiene, environmental sanitation, making villages open defecation free and access to safe and clean water for a healthy living (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). In each village, 2 days’ IEC camps were conducted and NEEDS intervened in schools to communicate with children (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). At each level, our idea was to ensure community readiness through decision making for a Nirmal village (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Adolescents and women are trained in menstrual hygiene management and helped in addressing their myths and misconception surrounding menstruation (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). People have stopped throwing solid waste in common places or on the road. Over 245 households had started constructing their own toilets (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).
On the similar lines, the NGO ‘NEEDS’ has initiated another project called “Integrated Water and Sanitation Model for Rural India (WATSAN)” in 2013 (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). This programme aims at improving access to safe drinking water and open defecation free status in nearly 6-8 villages in Palajori block of Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The programme and allied activities are being implemented in close collaboration with community organizations including Self-help groups promoted by NEEDS (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The integration of community based organization with existing health programme is leading to robust community based initiatives. During 2013-14, the organization has done community preparedness in eight villages of Palajori block of Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The community readiness is achieved to mobilize resources for tap water supply scheme from drinking water supply department, for which eight detailed project reports is under preparation which will be submitted to government for hardware support (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The baseline survey and micro-planning on sanitation issues have been undertaken. The organization has also worked in the area of conducting solid and liquid waste management like construction of dustbins, soak pits, drainage for household waste water (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

In addition, the organization ‘NEEDS’ has initiated another project called “Mobile Medical Unit” in Sarwan and Devipur blocks of Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The major aim of this project is to provide accessibility to the poor villagers with basic health care services. It also seeks to undertake curative and preventive health services such as immunization, antenatal and postnatal care and general OPD service within the identified regions with the aim of reducing the incidence of common illnesses and lowering maternal mortality and infant mortality (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). It provides diagnostic services in the rural areas. Due to its intense intervention, the organization has achieved a remarkable progress in mobile healthcare services. It has treated nearly 17395 patients, completed 253 X-Ray examinations and 92 follow-up cases during 2013-14 (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

In addition to it, the organization has also worked in improving access to safe-abortion in Deoghar Sadar block of Deoghar district in 2012 (NEEDS Annual Report 2012-13). This project provides an enabling environment to increase young women’s access to sustainable and comprehensive abortion facilities. It improves knowledge of young women on legality and availability of safe abortion facilities (NEEDS Annual Report
It also improves medical knowledge and clinical skills of local service providers and health intermediaries (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). As a result, during 2013-14, nearly 400 PRI members were provided orientation on SRHR (Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights) issues. Nearly 795 Sahaiyas, 11 BTT, 1 STT, 250 Sevikas and 60 ANMs were given orientation on the SRH issues with special emphasis on issues related to Comprehensive Safe Abortion & Care (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The main objective of the training was to make the staffs understand how body mapping, physiological and psychological changes in the adolescent, menstrual cycle & hygiene, pregnancy, contraception and comprehensive safe abortion care, immunization, ANC and PNC, RTI/ STI affect our normal health (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

The organization “NEEDS” has started a very unique programme in the area of maternal health namely “Mobile for Mother” (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). This is a project for the application of multimedia capabilities of common phones to deliver educational and health care information to pregnant women regardless of their literacy level (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The project was architected with the support of SIMAVI & with the technical support from Digital Empowerment Foundation which has launched a cloud-based platform to deploy M4M (Mobile for Mother) (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The Mobile for Mother (M4M) programme is the development of application based technology which monitors services received by pregnant women during ANC, PNC and also examines the behaviour changes among pregnant women. This project has targeted nearly 416 sahiyas in Sarwan and Sonaraithadi blocks in Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). It has initially done real life field testing of mobile application with 50 pregnant women in the district. The Baseline was conducted in four blocks in Deoghar district, where Sarwan and Sonaraithadi as implementing block and Devipur and Mohanpur as controlled block for the study (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

5.2.3 Child Rights and Protection Programmes:-

The NGO ‘NEEDS’ has worked in the sphere of Child Rights also. It has initiated various programmes for safeguarding their rights and privileges (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). In July’ 2012, the organization started a project called ‘Integrated Child Protection Scheme’ which aimed at generating awareness and safeguarding rights of children in Sarwan and Palajori blocks of Deoghar district. Initially, it promoted the
programme in 116 villages of these blocks (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Six open houses in school and nine open houses have been conducted in the village. Due to this open house gathering, children themselves have spoken about problems they have been facing in schools and villages (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Similarly, the organization has also started a project named “Save Childhood” in 2012 which is basically aimed at mainstreaming left-out children with educational facilities. This project was started in Deoghar, Devipur blocks of Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). During the period of 2012-13, the quality education for 2000 children through school intervention was started (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The Project also aims to provide quality education to nearly 1900 children of the deprived community. It also provides them the remedial teaching classes so that they may develop their skills. It is running nearly four centres for bridge courses for identified 320 girl children (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). It has also conducted leadership training for nearly 60 children to ensure sustained school intervention. During the year 2013-14, nearly 75 children have been targeted for mainstreaming in the school (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The centre is now functioning to produce TLM (Teaching learning material) on language barrier and also produce brail books for visually-impaired children to support them in schools (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

In addition to it, the organization has initiated another project named “Dristee” which aims at providing tools and technologies for visually-impaired children (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). NEEDS has collaborated with the local level Committee under the chairmanship of the Deputy Disability Commissioner and has approached Education Department for the recognition of the center for needful collaboration and be able to extend technical support to special teachers and to mainstream children after remedial coaching (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Under this project, several facilities like Braille Scanner and Printer, Daisy Recorder, laptops, MP3 Players are provided to children. During 2013-14, the organization has successfully been able to enrol nearly 70 visually-impaired children into mainstream schools out of a total of 6300 visually-impaired persons of Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The centre is also successful in providing bridge education to these children. Dristee project has collaborated with the school for blind children in Deoghar to offer technical support and technological enhancements which will benefit the children with visual impairment in the school (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).
5.2.4 Volunteering Services:-

NEEDS in collaboration with Department for International Development (DFID), U.K has ventured into the area of volunteering programme for encouraging youths to contribute for development of the marginalized communities (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). This project was based on development of collectives of youths for welfare activities. It was started in 2013 (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). It also creates change agents for national and international level community development. During the reporting period, NEEDS conducted only one cycle of ICS (International Certification Services) for 3 months which started from June’ 2013 and ended in the month of August (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). In this cycle, NEEDS hosted 12 International youth volunteers from the UK and 12 national volunteers from Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The entire group was divided into 2 groups, one group was engaged in Anganwadi Chalo Abhiyan and other group was assigned to conduct Impact assessment on Pilot phase of Mobile for Mother Project (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). In Sonaraithai block of Deoghar district, the organization has targeted nearly five Anganwadi Centres which has to be converted into model Anganwadi Centres by these change agents. Furthermore, the respective volunteers conducted various activities in order to transform their condition (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). It held interactive sessions with Anganwadi children to raise their level interest which reduced the degree of absentees among the children. There was organized training on TLM (Teaching Learning Materials) management for the Anganwadi workers, through an external TLM Expert (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). Apart from internal development, the volunteers also did advocacy with local district administration based on projection of their success in these centres (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The volunteers were supposed to conduct Impact Assessment of M4M project by using methodologies like KAP survey, FGDs, etc. and as an end result, provide Impact Assessment Report which will help the organization to develop implementation plan for the second phase of the M4M project (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). These change agents also conducted some Focus Group Discussion (FGD) in various selected villages of Sarwan block in Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). This aimed to establish, according to the Sahiyyas perceptions, a focus on tracking behavioural changes related to ANC (Antenatal check-up) practices, a change in attentiveness to women getting prepared for child birth and an increase in institutional delivery (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The
entire programme was based on creation of a group of volunteers and support group which may transform services in the interior areas of Deoghar district (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The challenges of health, education have been addressed by this programme. One of the remarkable progresses of this project was evident through increased general interest in AWC (Aanganwari Centre) from local community, noted increase in numbers of attendance among children at Anganwadi Centres (AWC) and increase in the level of volunteerism among the community to make the AWC as Model AWC etc (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14). The participation of volunteers in community awareness programs in remote villages has mainstreamed their cause and concerns. Even the district administration of Deoghar has appreciated intervention of this project in this sphere. As part of a performance analysis of the Sahiyyas, the group also conducted four Focus Group Discussions with 16 Sahiyyas (NEEDS Annual Report 2013-14).

5.3 Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN):

The organization called “PRADAN” which is Professional Assistance for Development Action, has been working very closely with rural communities in Jharkhand for the last 15 years (PRADAN Annual Report, 2012-13). Its focus is basically to help people in marginalized communities to develop their own skills and initiatives. It also aims for a holistic and positive change in their social, psychological and economic condition so they can take total charge of their lives and engage with the world around them (PRADAN Annual Report, 2012-13). The NGO has been proactive in terms of fulfilling its desired objectives through social mobilization, ensuring food security, building models of alternative livelihood, linking farmers with market and effective governance procedures. In this entire process of development, the organization is underlying various steps like monitoring of target groups, inculcating suitable technologies, training people for future challenges (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). One of the intervention areas of this organization is located in Santhal Pargana in Jharkhand which comprises Dumka and Godda districts. In Dumka district, PRADAN has ventured into key livelihood issues like Tasar silk rearing, growth of rice cultivation based on SRI (System of Rice Intensification) method, promotion of alternative livelihood through livestock, development of watershed activities, strengthening of financial power of women through credit-linked SHGs and various advocacy related support to the aggrieved people in
various blocks like Saraiyahat, Shikaripara, Kathikund, Ranishwar, Dumka (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). In Dumka district, PRADAN helped community organizations access government funds from various mainline poverty alleviation programmes (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). The professionals of this NGO have strived very hard to facilitate the collectives and networks to trigger change. The main aim of clustering is to group people and villages into various levels of socio-cultural profiles (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). The organization has created the collectives for confronting the unjust arrangements of privilege and ensures life of dignity. In terms of women empowerment, the organization has done remarkable works. The organization has initiated “Tola Sabha” in various villages of Dumka district for strengthening of local level organization (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). This process has helped in strengthening of mutual bonding, trust and reciprocal relationship among farmers and other villagers. For financial strength of SHG members, the organization has started an accounting tool called “HISAB” (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). This software keeps accounting related to SHGs transparent and robust. In terms of data management, the organization has developed a tool called “Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)” which collects the data from Community Data Collector (CDC) (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). The major intervention programmes of this organization are as follows:-

5.3.1 Sustainable livelihood Programmes:-

PRADAN has advanced very fast in the area of sustainable livelihood. In Dumka district, it has intervened in the area of cultivation of crops through SRI method, promotion of livestock rearing, Tasar silk rearing, growth of fruit orchards, scientific approach in wheat cultivation etc (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11). The plantation of fruits has been raised in this district. In most locations, food crops taken-up are paddy, wheat, maize and some minor millet. As the food insecurity reduces, PRADAN helps families diversify into other cash crops (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11). During the severe drought of Jharkhand in 2010, there was witnessed a high level of shortage of water for irrigation. Therefore, PRADAN insisted on crop diversification so that less water may be consumed. It focussed on cultivation of crops like oilseeds, pulses. There was an almost 60 percent jump in the number of families participating in cultivating wheat (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11). Similarly, it encouraged more families to take up vegetables on small plots of land using a variety of existing water sources (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11).
This is the area which experiences the drought concurrently. The organization has also adopted the Integrated Natural Resource Management (INRM) in this district (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11). This programme creates a close bond between individual farmers and organizational professionals so that the hazards of various seasons may be mitigated. Apart from these families, PRADAN continued to work with families whose land and water resources had undergone improvement in the past (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11). The engagement is in the nature of helping them change and improve the cropping system after the land and water resources have been improved. It may be mentioned that over the past decade, PRADAN has promoted over 1,200 small irrigation systems creating around 15,000 hectare of net irrigated land (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11). In Dumka district, the organization has empowered even women to do cultivation. The Women’s Collectives worked with nearly 47 percent of total families in the cultivation process (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11). Nearly 70 percent of total cultivating households are growing vegetables through modern techniques like grafting, use of nylon threads, nurseries etc (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). Despite the odd weather, some of these households earned an average net income of Rs. 6000/- to 8000/- in cultivation of cucumber while Rs. 15000/- to 20000/- in potato cultivation in the year 2016 (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). For this purpose, a huge number of families have got integrated with Development Clusters in Dumka district. The Tomato cultivation has been started for the purpose of bettering small and marginal farmers (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16).

Apart from farm-based livelihood, the organization has ventured into forest-based activities and micro-enterprises also to enhance their income (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). The Women producers are engaged with broiler poultry rearing. Through techno-managerial guidance from National Smallholder Poultry Development Trust, the poultry producers are grouped into cooperative society (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). These Cooperative societies have marketed live birds to serve the growing needs of small town and urban markets. In terms of goat rearing, the organization has adopted various activities like shed construction, induction of good quality bucks so that they may get sustainable income (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). Nearly 8,185 families have been engaged with goat rearing activity. The goat rearing activity has potential for growth in forest fringe villages. In goat-rearing activity, the NGO provides services which include weekly health check-ups, awareness building, medicine supply at the door.
step and de-worming (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). All these services are run and managed by the community. In different project locations, the community has come up with informal producer bodies to deal with the system for delivery of these services (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09).

In terms of *tasar* rearing, the organization “PRADAN” has also prospered. *tasar* yarn production programme made significant progress towards becoming a profitable women’s rural enterprise (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). The major forest-based livelihood is *tasar* silk rearing and lac cultivation. In the villages across Dumka district of Jharkhand, the poor tribal families are shaking off the shackles of poverty because of *tasar* sericulture (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). Energising and broad basing *tasar* sericulture sector has been one such successful livelihood programme by PRADAN. About 150,000 families, mostly from tribal communities, seek out a living from *tasar*. Initially, no one from the village got forward for earning living from *tasar* silk but with its sustained effort and integration with Women’s collectives like SHG, they got successful in encouraging them (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). PRADAN pioneered village-based private enterprises called grainages to produce DFLs (disease free layings or eggs) of *tasar* moth (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). In Dumka district, the organization is encouraging poor families to grow arjuna and asan trees for *tasar* rearing. These plantations have the potential to benefit the poor farmers for nearly 40-50 years. PRADAN has promoted new rearing practices in coordination with Central Silk board (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). The farmers are assisted by grainage entrepreneurs for seed rearing. The organization is helping rearers through disease-free layings (DFL) (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). In some teams like that of Dumka, support has been provided to *tasar* rearers under the NREGA to raise more host plantations on private land (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). Due to sustained effort, the number of rearing farmers has increased upto 70 percent (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). Through this activity, lakhs of Cocoon seeds are processed in order to produce DFLs. Plantation rearers in Mahulbona village in Dumka district of Jharkhand, for instance, harvested more than 85 cocoons per DFL in 2006 (PRADAN Annual Report, 2006-07). The systematic efforts are made by the teams to expand the pool of community resource persons in villages, whose services were regularly used by the rearing community for technical and knowledge inputs. In this course of time, the plantation of *Arjuna* trees has been done by PRADAN. It has undertaken nearly 160
hectares of plantation (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11). In coordination with Central Silk Board, the organization has set-up Basic Seed Multiplication Centre for promoting this occupation (PRADAN Annual Report, 2010-11). The respective NGO has worked towards establishment of an integrated Company for coordinating with tasar silk rearers. The PRADAN promoted tasar yarn producers are organised as a producer company called “MASUTA Ltd” (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). MASUTA Producers’ Company emerged out of the tasar yarn production based enterprise that PRADAN promoted among the women SHG members in its operational area (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The women SHGs have borrowed from the banks for silk yearning. The women reelers have got upgradation in their socio-economic status due to vast work of tasar silk rearing (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The producers are organized into a two-tiered structure. The company procures required inputs like cocoons, production chemicals, etc. and makes it available at competitive rates to the producers (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). Once the tasar silk yarn is produced, the company markets the yarn in distant markets. The company has recently promoted a joint venture company to expand its market by converting yarn into fabric (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). Due to it, the average income of tasar silk rearer has grown upto Rs. 500/- per kg (PRADAN Annual Report, 2012-13). In addition to tasar Silk rearing, the organization has worked in terms of lac cultivation also. The organization has helped the tribal families to develop this venture also. The natural lac has been reared by tribal people in Jharkhand (PRADAN Annual Report 2006-07). PRADAN took up a programme four years ago in collaboration with the Indian Lac Research Institute (ILRI) and the Jharkhand Government to revive this occupation (PRADAN Annual Report 2006-07). Possibilities have emerged to raise Lac as a plantation crop, which can ensure much better control over rearing and enhance yield and incomes.

In terms of micro-enterprises, PRADAN has worked in assisting people for fish rearing, dairy development, Mulberry Sericulture, vermi-composting, siali leaf plate making, poultry development (PRADAN Annual Report 2006-07). In terms of dairy, the organization has achieved a huge success in Dumka district (PRADAN Annual Report 2006-07). There is a large untapped potential for dairy development in Jharkhand as the State presently imports most of its milk from neighbouring Bihar, the climate is relatively moderate and the per capita land and water availability is favourable (PRADAN Annual Report 2006-07). The dairy is a very profitable occupation. In
Dumka, the tribal villagers are engaged with developing this occupation at a very large scale. The major interventions is around induction of quality cattle, training and capacity building of woman rearers, preventive and curative veterinary care, supply of balanced feed and marketing support (PRADAN Annual Report, 2007-08). The respective NGO has formed the Cooperative Society through organizing cattle rearers in Dumka district. Expansion of dairying as a livelihood for a large number of poor people in Jharkhand would require access to mainstream processing and marketing mechanisms (PRADAN Annual Report 2006-07). With a view to set up alternate processing and marketing infrastructure, the State Government and PRADAN have been carrying out negotiations with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) (PRADAN Annual Report 2006-07).

Fish rearing has also emerged as one of the important livelihood options for the tribal community in Jharkhand. The fish rearers have formed their collectives called “Kisan Matshya Upadak Samuh” for effective intervention in this area (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). In the area of poultry development, the organization “PRADAN” has coordinated with Jharkhand Women Poultry Cooperative Federation (JSWPFL). In Dumka district, the small-holder poultry has been initiated (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). With techno-managerial guidance from the National Smallholder Poultry Development Trust, the Poultry Producers have been united into cooperative society (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). The aim of development of these cooperative societies is to integrate these scattered communities into one for effective marketing.

5.3.2 Land and Water Resource Development Programmes:-

During the given period, PRADAN has helped communities to develop micro-lift irrigation system, a small dam, common grazing land development. In conjunction with livelihood promotion, the NGO “PRADAN” has worked towards development of land and water resources also (PRADAN Annual Report, 2006-07). The creation of bunds, ponds, irrigation well in coordination with MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) is the outcome of this programme. Management of the land bound part of the hydrological cycle is central to enhancing productivity and carrying capacity sustainably in this region (PRADAN Annual Report, 2006-07). Following a watershed approach, one needs to develop and promote integrated natural resource management systems that would sustainably enhance livelihoods (PRADAN
Developing land, judicious harvesting of water so that it contributes to production locally and does not erode and degrade land and promotion of farming systems that maximise production and minimise risks are the only way to eliminate widespread poverty and spur growth in this region in the medium run (PRADAN Annual Report, 2006-07). Under Integrated Natural Resource Management (INRM), water harvesting, land levelling, in-situ soil moisture conservation activities have been undertaken by the respective NGO (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The majority of PRADAN’s intervention has been on improving farmers’ income. The Community Service Providers have been deployed for supporting the groups for implementing various development plans. PRADAN has also helped women SHGs for developing farmlands and water resources for agricultural growth along with conservation (PRADAN Annual Report, 2012-13). The NGO has created various community based assets like micro lift irrigation system, water harvesting tanks, small dams, common grazing land, dug wells with support from MGNREGA programme (PRADAN Annual Report, 2013-14). The engagement is in the nature of helping them change and improve the cropping system after the land and water resources have been improved. The organization has focussed on watershed development programme. The organization has dealt with SC, ST and other marginalized groups to generate assets for land development (PRADAN Annual Report, 2012-13). Apart from this, PRADAN staff provided regular handholding to train people on technical issues on one hand and to engage with the government system to ensure regular fund flow for the land and water plans in the village. A lot of focus was on helping families take up multiple crops aimed at ensuring 12-month food sufficiency and Rs. 7,000 to 8,000 as cash income (PRADAN Annual Report, 2012-13).

5.3.3 Self-Help Group (SHG) Promotion Activities:

PRADAN has been one of the pioneer organizations for empowerment of women through Self-Help Group (SHG). As compared to other programmes of PRADAN, the women empowerment programme has been at the forefront (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). Being premised on the vision for sustainable development, the organization has highlighted the need for strengthening women’s condition (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). The growth in income and social status may not suffice if it is not supplemented by empowered status of women in the community. The mass rural poverty and marginalization of women results from imbalanced interactions between people,
institutions and resources (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). Hence, the promotion of SHG is one of the strategies for integrating women on common platform. These groups are addressing the issues of discrimination and ensure that women get their due respect (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). These women are able to meet government functionaries to tackle their local issues. Under the banner of SHG, women have got prestige and independence to flourish (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). Due to their integration under one group, the women are participating in cultivation process. The SC and ST women get an opportunity to raise their social concerns through this group. They provide an opportunity for the disadvantaged communities to link with each other, help each other and build on each other’s capabilities (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). SHGs, their cluster associations and federations are an essential part of all our social mobilisation initiatives (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). SHG-Cluster-Federations are emerging as an integrated model, where the primary groups are at the hamlet level, the intermediary federation (called cluster association) is at the village level or in a set of contiguous villages and the apex federation is at the Block level (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). Cluster associations have been involved in peer review of member SHGs, resolving conflicts in groups and acting collectively at the local level to address issues affecting the SHGs and their members (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). Federations, on the other hand are providing an “identity” to the mass of SHGs and their members (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). The SHGs have created a platform in the village where the women from the very poor families collect together, setting aside differences and deliberate on matters close to their lives and plan for development (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). The basic values of collaboration, trust and mutual help and the management skills they have been inculcated with in the SHG stand them in good stead as they push frontiers and shoulder responsibilities that challenge the gender barriers (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). The clusters are basically solidarity grounds. Efforts were made in many locations to promote and give shape to robust apex level federations that could emerge as the poor peoples’ own institutions that would give the women an identity different from her gender, caste and occupation (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). Even in terms of livelihood development and relative developmental activities, the growth of SHG has been quite contributory. Due to its significance, the SHGs have been primary units of social mobilization for grassroot people in various project locations (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). During the year, 12,294 trainee days of technical inputs on accounts were provided to group accountants.
The SHGs have moved beyond empowering women economically but ventured into the area of social and political upliftment also. In Dumka district of Jharkhand, the SHGs are systematically helping the members to address these issues (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). During the given year, various SHGs have been given opportunities for facilitating growth of poor women. The women have expressed their interest in developing their skills and know-how (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). The women have shown tremendous courage and wisdom in helping their fellow members to cope with problems and resolving them. Under one SHG banner, the geographical and social diversities have been respected (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). Through SHG, the women influence local governance through concerted efforts for improving functioning of public institutions and its functionaries (PRADAN Annual Report 2008-09). They have also influenced over decisions of gram sabha and gram panchayat through integration with SHGs. In its project areas in Dumka district, the organization has assisted the SHG collectives to facilitate the inclusion of small and marginal farm households to access public investments to create durable assets (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). The organization recognizes one’s values and asserts them as equal decision maker. Due to presence of SHGs, the availability of Creche has been ensured in Saraiyahaat block of Dumka district (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). These crèches provide freshly cooked nutritious food, build awareness of parents on health care and are visited by a local government doctor periodically to monitor the children’s health and growth (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). Local women who are selected jointly by PRADAN and trained by Mobile Crèches, the well-known Delhi based NGO, run the crèches (PRADAN Annual Report, 2015-16). In collaboration with BBC World Service Trust, PRADAN promoted four radio listeners’ groups with members of four SHGs. SHG members heard weekly episodes titled “Aangan Ke Paar” every Friday (PRADAN Annual Report, 2006-07).

5.3.4 Livelihood Collectives Promotion Activities:-

In conjunction with formation of SHGs for welfare of women, PRADAN has emphasized over creation of community-based collectives for male groups also (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). In the wake of developing livelihood, the respective NGO has strengthened formation of various Community-based Organizations, Village-based Organizations and Kisan Sabhas in Dumka district of Jharkhand (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The key focus of PRADAN’s engagement in this
phase is the family’s transition from a subsistence producer / non-producer to an economically active producer (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The second stage is about configuring the family level production system with its intrinsic idiosyncrasies for creation of marketable surplus, linkages with input-output markets and detailing of social-technical-institutional model (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The third stage is one of developing institutional mechanisms for facilitating growth and sustenance, including promotion of producer community-based collectives, market exchanges and service entrepreneurs (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). In the fourth stage, producer community-based collectives focus on the sector imperatives by associating with other community-based collectives for opening space for small-holders and developing backward and forward integration in favour of the poor (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The organization has created different community-based collectives in the light of differential demands. In the areas like tasar, dairy, poultry, cultivation, the organization has formed the Community-based collectives or community based coalition for generating significant revenue for their members (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The producer community-based collectives have been effective in addressing identified gaps in the production system which require economies of scale like quality and timely procurement of inputs in agriculture and sale of milk in dairying (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). PRADAN’s engagement with community livelihood community-based collectives intensified with specific focus on building membership, governance and business systems. Training events to strengthen member control were conducted in tasar, poultry and agro-horticulture cooperatives (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). As the community livelihood community-based collectives emerge as instruments for enhancing livelihoods of marginalised rural and tribal communities, it offers possibilities for in-situ scaling-up and making impact in the local economy (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). In terms of tasar rearing, the organization called “PRADAN” has established MASUTA Producers’ Company Limited in 2005 under Companies Act’ 1956 (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). This Community-based collectives focuses on serving existing and new members by pooling, aggregation, segregation and distribution of materials and services, development of new yarn types, making the producers aware of the market and membership development (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). This Community-based collectives is an effective link between tasar silk rearers and market. It purchases the cocoons and distributes among rearers and sells their produce in terms of silk in the market (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The
fluctuation of market price is controlled by this collective because of scope of collective bargaining with market players. In the financial year 2008-09, the transactional turnover was Rs. 179.5 million (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). The gross sales turnover was Rs. 87.8 million out of which yarn sales turnover was Rs. 45.1 million that generated revenue of Rs. 14.9 million (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09). Similarly, the Cooperative Society has also grown in the area for developing collective bargaining power of farmers. PRADAN has established more than eight primary cooperative societies in Jharkhand and two state level federations in the state (PRADAN Annual Report, 2008-09).

5.4 Badlao Foundation:

Badlao Foundation is one of the NGOs working in the area of women empowerment in Dumka district of Jharkhand. It has promoted women’s welfare through multiple factors (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2014-15). The respective NGO has promoted nearly 730 Mahila Sabhas with assistance from NABARD, DRDA and other funding agencies (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). It has adopted a long term strategy of initiating village level women’s group called “Mahila Sabha” (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). These women’s groups function as SHG for providing credit and thrift activities. The Badlao Foundation’s programmatic intervention in women empowerment is associated with promotion of income generation activities among girls, entrepreneurial skill development, equal share in parental property, equal wage for women (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). Badlao Foundation has emerged to address the need of the displaced mostly tribals and dalits of Santhal, Paharia and Bauri communities (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). The NGO “Badlao Foundation” is working in the areas of women empowerment, sustainable rural livelihood, education, health & nutrition as well as advocacy and networking in Dumka and adjoining districts of Jharkhand (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). It is committed to bring fundamental changes in the lives of excluded people for a better future (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2014-15).

5.4.1 Women Empowerment Programmes:-

The principal strategy of Badlao Foundation is to empower women in the area of not only livelihood but education, health, sanitation sectors also (Badlao Foundation Annual
It was only in the year 1990 that a set of by-laws was framed for the organisation of the Mahila Sabhas and a manual was developed (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). The NGO has intervened into the field of women empowerment through creation of their community-based collectives. It has formed Mahila Sabha with an assistance from NABARD, DRDA (District Rural Development Agency) in various villages (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). This body at cluster level is called Cluster Level Association (CLA) which is registered under Mutual Benefit Trust Act (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). These are important forums for community development. This NGO is premised on the principle of associational development of women so that they may gain empowered status (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). With this understanding, Badlao Foundation empowers, educates and sensitizes the women, extends required handholding support to the village level institutions and federations to work for their rights and entitlements through a collective and organized manner (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2014-15). The village level newly elected PRI representatives, govt line depts. and networking with like-minded institutions provided greater leverage to the women groups to fight for their rights (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). In Jharkhand, the condition of women has been very pitiable not only on economic front but its socio-political front also. The prevalence of child marriage is one of the most challenging issues in current scenario (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). In this affair, the contribution of Badlao Foundation is to ensure that women are informed of their legal rights and bring an enabling environment to prevent their victimization (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). Badlao Foundation’s intervention in terms of women empowerment is replete with various micro-level strategies. For the last three years, Badlao foundation is facilitating around 900 Mahila Sabhas, 90 cluster level associations and 6 block level community-based collectives to adopt a more learned approach towards livelihood and financing activities (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). The Badlao Foundation has played an important role in integrated community development programme where the main change agent will be poor tribal women. It has established a community-based collectives called “Village Development Committee” which is empowered to mobilize resources for the area development and hold accountability of SHGs (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). The emphasis has been put on integrating Mahila Sabhas under one umbrella named ‘Samarthan Weakling Development Foundation’. The Badlao Foundation has also spearheaded a micro-finance
movement at the grassroots through village level women’s self-help groups for their economic empowerment (Srivastava, 2011). The Mahila Sabhas are organizing oppressed and marginalized women through literacy and consciousness-raising activities (Srivastava, 2011). It has also challenged various social evils like dowry, polygamy, child marriage and strived to promote animal husbandry, horticulture, small village industries, development of water and land resources (Srivastava, 2011). The Mahila Sabha is also responsible for the proper functioning of the community health facilities in the village (Srivastava, 2011). One member is designated as a Swasthya Sadasya (Health Member) who coordinates the effort with the Multi-Purpose Worker, AWW and the ANM (Srivastava, 2011). The Sabha provides information on health and nutrition, arranges for health camps, motivates mothers to immunize their children, register births and avail of the pre and post-natal services offered through health post of Badlao Foundation in the village (Srivastava, 2011). The Mahila Sabha helps members to gain access to government schemes for the poor and marginalised. Regular inputs of information and increased awareness regarding governmental schemes and programmes have enabled a large number of women and their families to have access to social security schemes such as Matritva Labh Yojna, Vriddha (Old Age) and Vidhwa (Widow) Pension Yojna, Indira Awas Yojna and NREGA etc (Srivastava, 2011). To enforce empowerment, Foundation has been supporting a wide variety of livelihood opportunities which are traditionally practiced in the community. As the land holding is highly fragmented and the availability of cultivable land is limited, the appropriate livelihood promotion strategies promoted a number of existing opportunities which are inter-related (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2014-15). Village level Mahila Sabha brings the village level matters to the notice of the Panchayat level. The village level functionaries also ensure that members pay their dues regularly, return loans taken for income generation on time (Srivastava, 2011). Bank accounts were opened for 46 Mahila Sabhas in Kewatjali and seed capital for all income generation activities was transferred by cheque to the Mahila Sabha account (Srivastava, 2011). All monetary transactions between the Foundation and the Mahila Sabha were undertaken on the basis of a written agreement. Towards the end of the 1990s, the Mahila Sabhas were federated into Panchayat Mahila Sabhas and Prakhand Mahila Sabhas (Srivastava, 2011). Furthermore, in Dumka district, the organization formed District Mahila Sabha consisting of representatives from block level Mahila Sabhas in 2000 (Srivastava, 2011). The NGO “Badlao Foundation” has been successful in consolidating various village, block level
community-based collectives of women into district level federation. Badlao Foundation in coordination with Department for International Development (DFID) has implemented gender-based community empowerment in various blocks of Dumka district (Srivastava, 2011). Apart from the existing Mahila Sabha structure and State level Mahila Sabha Federation, which are primarily meant for taking up public advocacy on women's related issues, Badlao Foundation is now striving for 12 Women's Federations, comprising of an average of atleast 50 grassroots level women's SHGs each, to carry forward and strengthen micro-finance movement (Srivastava, 2011). Under this, there is an effort to organise 12 Women's Federations and mould them in the form of cooperative societies as holding groups (Srivastava, 2011). The Foundation is in the process of forming 100 Mahila Sabhas in Dumka in the current year in partnership with NABARD. By 2017, the foundation envisages linking of 1200 Mahila Sabhas with credit from formal sources catering to the need of 15000 households in six districts of Santhal Pargana (Srivastava, 2011). The sense of job responsibility has improved among the members and initiated good understanding for functioning of SHGs. The women's federation called Mutual Benefit Trust has covered tribal villages in terms of dairy development also in Dumka district (Srivastava, 2011). It also develops milk production clusters which not only manages veterinary services but promote fodder cultivation also. The Mutual Benefit Trust has adopted the dual strategy for serving the needs of individuals as well as the entire sector (Srivastava, 2011).

5.4.2 Sustainable Rural Livelihood Programmes:-

The NGO “Badlao Foundation” has been active in promoting sustainable rural livelihood also. It has experimented with various forms of livelihood activities which may assist economic development of families. Badlao Foundation has emerged to address the need of the displaced mostly tribals and dalits of Santhal, Paharia and Bauri communities (Srivastava, 2011). Due to uncertainty in agricultural production and deficiency in its return, the respective NGO has considered the options of sustainable growth of agriculture and allied sectors (Srivastava, 2011). The concept of ‘Sustainable Rural Livelihood’ has been one of the central issues for eradication of poverty, unemployment and economic deprivation (Srivastava, 2011). Sustainable livelihood is achieved through access to a range of livelihood resources (natural, economic, human and social capital) which are combined in the pursuit of different livelihood strategies (agricultural intensification or extensification, livelihood diversification and migration) (Srivastava,
2011). A small land base, low agricultural productivity and low incomes have aggravated indebtedness pushing tribals into a vicious circle of exploitation. Shrinking of the resource base has made the life of the tribals vulnerable. In this area, Badlao Foundation in coordination with NABARD has formed Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Dumka district (Srivastava, 2011). It has established nearly 100 SHGs in Dumka district. In terms of agri-based industrial activity, the NGO has ventured into Tasar silk rearing in Dumka district. In Jamundi block of Dumka district, the respective NGO has started giving training to tribal people in plantation, Cocoon rearing, spinning/reeling and weaving of silk cloth (Srivastava, 2011). Not only was the organization’s own silk khadi products on sale but efforts were made to obtain other khadi products from KVIC (Khadi and Village Industries Commission) certified organizations within and outside the state (Srivastava, 2011). The involvement of the NGO is in all six stages from plantation work to marketing of finished products (Srivastava, 2011).

Apart from allied activities, Jharkhand has witnessed the upsurge of agriculture also. But still, most of agricultural field is rainfed and depends upon subsistence activity (Srivastava, 2011). In addition, lack of plant cover and the absence of natural barriers to control the flow of water on the undulating slopes have led to rapid soil erosion, especially during the monsoon months (Srivastava, 2011). As a result, the water retention capacity and fertility of the soil has decreased. This has had an adverse impact on agriculture. Badlao Foundation has undertaken a number of steps to address the deteriorating sustainability problem (Srivastava, 2011). These interventions include promotion of sustainable agriculture, land development, plantation work, forest protection and development of water resources (Srivastava, 2011). The training and capacity building of tribal people in Jamundi block of Dumka district has been initiated. The selection of farmers for introduction of sustainable cultivation, training was major component of work. Non-formal education centres in all programme villages were involved to spread awareness about sustainable farming (Srivastava, 2011). In this entire effort of sustainable agriculture, women have got limelight. The respective NGO began the process of uniting women for this cultivation process. The awareness generation programme was started in nearly 80 villages in Dumka and adjoining districts of Jharkhand (Srivastava, 2011). It has insisted on Low Cost Input Agriculture Practices. The local people have been trained in the process of broadening their knowledge of sustainable cultivation. During the given period, the publicity for high yielding variety of
seeds and fertilizers was started by government agencies (Srivastava, 2011). Under the cooperative loan scheme, eight sacks of urea were distributed to each villager almost in every village. Groundnut seeds, wheat, paddy and oil seeds were given free of cost to small and marginal farmers, so that they could get at least one square meal a day (Srivastava, 2011). Badlao Foundation concentrated on revival of the traditional practices for paddy because it was the major cereal crop. Farmers have also developed small kitchen orchards to grow at least Jack fruit, papaya, custard apple, mango, wood apple, ber, guava, drumstick, mahua and sal trees (Srivastava, 2011). In order to bring home the idea of Sustainable cultivation, Gram Vikas Samitis were formed comprising both men and women (Srivastava, 2011). They were motivated to join G.V.S. meetings where issues were raised, discussed and solved. Training was provided to the members of GVS on the procession of sustainable cultivation. Women were given a large number of participation in social life (Srivastava, 2011). The sustainable cultivation has brought food security among tribal community. The sustainable cultivation has experienced a remarkable achievement in terms of improving participation of people and removing any kind of apprehensions (Srivastava, 2011). People’s contribution in the form of labour for the construction of the well and building of school rooms are examples to show how people have come to own development programme introduced by Badlao Foundation in the area (Srivastava, 2011). This process of sustainable cultivation should focus upon increasing productivity for sustaining the growing population. In Dumka district, the respective NGO has taken the initiative for construction of water harvesting tanks and irrigation wells so that the problem of irrigation may be sorted-out (Srivastava, 2011). In the area of sustainable agriculture, another important step taken by Badlao Foundation is Watershed development. It is a clear sign of inter-relationship between availability of water and growth of Santhal Pargana region (Srivastava, 2011). Badlao Foundation has constructed 25 water harvesting tanks, prepared 40 irrigation wells, renovated 26 irrigation wells, renovated 31 ponds, developed 16 lift irrigations and constructed 14 irrigation wells (Srivastava, 2011). Besides, it has developed 492 acres of land, developed 592 compost pits, prepared 950 moisture conservation pits, developed 26 gully plugs and developed 56 vermi-culture areas (Srivastava, 2011). Each Watershed may have a comprehensive village development plan which seeks to enhance leadership skills among villagers. Four defunct open wells for irrigation purpose have been renovated through the watershed committee which benefits 134 families in the command area (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). Further, 32 acres of undulating land
belonging to 25 families have been brought under plantation of fruit bearing trees to provide them a secured income annually (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14). The economic backwardness, illiteracy, ignorance, geographical inaccessibility have posed a great challenge in the way of sustainable livelihood (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2013-14).

In terms of natural resource management, the respective NGO has worked very hard. It has attempted to touch the tribal community over the issues of forest resources (Srivastava, 2011). It has taken an assistance from Panchayati Raj institutions also. Community sensitisation and awareness building on various rights and entitlements to the target communities are made through mediums friendly to them (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2014-15). Group meetings and interactive sessions were organized in these 200 villages to make aware the tribal population of their rights on the forests and also about the wider implication of the law (Badlao Foundation Annual Report, 2014-15).

5.4.3 Educational Programmes:-

Education is one of the important components for human development. It equips an individual to not only fight against evils but remove poverty and deprivation (Srivastava, 2011). Although the Government has made provision for free and compulsory education since 2010 yet, the condition of Jharkhand is very stark. The tribal community is not able to ride the ladder of education in Jharkhand. It is an irony that out of 26 lakh poor tribal children nearly 7 lakh in Jharkhand continue to be deprived of the primary education (Srivastava, 2011). The literacy in the state is around 67.63 per cent; male literacy rate 78.45 percent and female literacy rate at 56.21 percent as per 2011 census (Srivastava, 2011). This picture of overall literacy in Dumka district is mere 26 percent as per 2011 census. So, it may be called that these are islands of illiteracy. In such a dark situation, Badlao Foundation has taken initiative for raising awareness among people (Srivastava, 2011). Education has been in focus for this NGO from various perspectives ranging from availability, access, acceptability and adaptability in the region (Srivastava, 2011). The Foundation has also launched an advocacy campaign to build a platform to ensure free and compulsory equal education for all; promote the indigenous education system; build a secular society; build an environment of society based on equality and educate children on this (Srivastava, 2011). For this, it mobilised masses to create an environment for
secular and indigenous education and networked with light-minded organisation and forums nationally and internationally (Srivastava, 2011). In terms of promoting education, the NGO has adopted a universal strategy of raising awareness, doing advocacy, lobbying and setting up non-formal education centres. It has established nearly fifteen Non-Formal Education centres in various villages (Srivastava, 2011). The Badlao Foundation has worked in terms of modifying existing syllabus also so that tribal children may read and write in Santhali and Paharia dialects (Srivastava, 2011). It has also established experimental schools in various villages around Dumka district. The purpose of this programme is to mainstream the disadvantaged children from 6-14 years of age in Santhal Pargana region (Srivastava, 2011). These schools provide physical training, multi-grade teaching to marginalized children. Badlao Foundation is implementing an education programme in partnership with REACH India (Reaching and Educating at-Risk Children), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi (Srivastava, 2011). The focus of this programme is to enrol and retain children who are at-risk of dropping-out and children who have never been to the school (Srivastava, 2011). The programme also emphasises on educating girl children. The program also includes a supplementary teaching component in the formal schools as well as after-school coaching programs to support retention of mainstreamed children (Srivastava, 2011). 72 Bal Batikas and 72 Lok Kishan Kendras were also established in 72 villages of 6 blocks in Pakur, Godda, Dumka and Sahebganj districts. It also extended education and care support to 2880 at-risk children who belonged to Paharia, Santhal tribes, dalit communities and muslims (Srivastava, 2011).

5.4.4 Health and Nutritional Support Programmes:-

Badlao Foundation is not only concerned with livelihood promotion but emphasize over health and nutritional aspects also. The tribal regions of Dumka district is replete with backwardness and malnutrition leading to high death rates (Srivastava, 2011). The awareness and information regarding health issues among people is almost nil. Therefore, the NGO “Badlao Foundation” is coordinating with existing government healthcare programmes (Srivastava, 2011). This organization is very committed towards fostering better health, water & sanitation in the area. The NGO in coordination with village panchayat, is attempting to strengthen village health institution (Srivastava, 2011). Badlao Foundation organized regular coordination meetings of GKS (Gaon
Kalyan Samity) and involved govt functionaries, PRIs, health workers to ensure a functional GKS at the village level (Srivastava, 2011). It has ensured that community people are oriented about various preventive steps regarding disease in the village. The school level awareness generation programmes have been organized by the respective NGO. Badlao Foundation has started the comprehensive community health programme in nearly 108 villages of Dumka and Godda districts since 1995 (Srivastava, 2011). Another important issue in the area of health intervention is; health insurance initiated by Badlao Foundation (Srivastava, 2011). Under the provisions of this programme, a villager was required to register himself at Badlao Foundation’s weekly clinic for Rs.25. By virtue of this he/she was eligible to get medicine up to the tune of Rs.2500 (Srivastava, 2011). The Integrated Nutrition and Health Project (INHP II) and the Chayan are two of the most important constituents of the Reproductive and Child Health, Nutrition and AIDS (RACHNA) Programme of CARE (Srivastava, 2011). These are being implemented by Badlao Foundation in 13 blocks of Jamtara and Dumka districts covering 194 villages - in partnership with CARE India, Department of Women and Child Development, Department of Health and Family Welfare (Srivastava, 2011). These Projects aimed to promote health services provided for mothers and children by health service delivery system and ensure quality services reaching at family’s door step through regular contact and monitoring of ANMs, AWWs and ICDS workers (Srivastava, 2011). Badlao Foundation introduced a new component of promoting herbal plantation and herbal treatment in its community health programme (Srivastava, 2011). In partnership with Badlao Foundation and David and Lucile Packard Foundation, USA, the “Development Initiative for Supporting Healthy Adolescents (DISHA) Programme” was implemented in one panchayat (Raikinari) of Dumka district to improve the reproductive health and general well-being of 2,000 married and unmarried boys and girls aged 14-24 years (Srivastava, 2011). In the area of nutrition, the respective NGO is putting emphasis over kitchen gardening. It has encouraged the process of kitchen gardening with an assistance from community resource persons (Srivastava, 2011). With support of community resource persons, the beneficiaries will be mobilized and supported from time to time to take up vegetable cultivation – more particularly of green vegetables including bitter-gourd, green-gourd, pumpkin, brinjal, ladyfinger etc (Srivastava, 2011).
5.4.5 Collectives formation and Advocacy Activities:-

The NGO “Badlao Foundation” has initiated its intervention in multiple sectors through formation of community-based collectives of both men and women. The Center for Policy Research has been created for social research and policy advocacy by the foundation to promote participatory action research on rights, entitlements and related socio-economic issues (Srivastava, 2011). The NGO has created a Not-for-Profit institution called ‘Samarthan Weakling Development Foundation’ which is consolidating thousands of SHGs under micro-finance programme. It has organized nearly 2940 members under SHGs and 423 Grameen Joint Liability Groups (Srivastava, 2011). At present, Samarthan operates in three districts of Jharkhand: Jamtara, Dumka, and Deoghar with 1293 existing clients and Rs 86.62 lakh of loan outstanding as on May’ 2009 (Srivastava, 2011). This community-based collectives not only provides finance but provides assistance in tactical management by imparting training in specialized skills, information & training relating to administration, production, processing, storage, transport, marketing, distribution, diversification, research and development as also in maintenance of accounts to any individual, firm, co-operative society (Srivastava, 2011).

Apart from it, the respective NGO has established Mutual Benefit Trust in Dumka district to facilitate economic emancipation of tribals. Another important step in the sphere of community-based collectives formation is Mahila Sabha and Mutual Benefit Trust (Srivastava, 2011). The Mahila Sabha would be the vanguard for any development programme as it is crucial for the empowerment of the society but Mutual Benefit Trust is a people’s initiative; a movement (Srivastava, 2011). This has happened for the first time in the history of Jharkhand. It has advanced in the sphere of founding federations and Producer’s Company. The Federation covers 132 SHGs with proven track of performance and standard set of practices that emerged out of the process of formation of federation (Srivastava, 2011). In terms of SHG, it has got financial assistance from NABARD. Apart from SHG-bank linkage and livelihood financing facilitated by Mutual Benefit Trust, Samarthan Weak link initiative continues to extend credit and remittance service to individual clients or groups (Srivastava, 2011). In addition to existing community-based collectives, the NGO has also emphasized over coordination with government-initiated committees (Srivastava, 2011). 10 Farmers’ Clubs and 01 WADI Sammittee have been formed to carry-out the activities in a better way. In the sphere of community-based collectives, the respective NGO has formed
Child Clubs and Adolescent Clubs to deal with issues of child marriage and ill effects of domestic drudgery (Srivastava, 2011). The club members are promoted to spread awareness on such issues across villages to have a greater impact. The NGO has also coordinated with village development committee for proper monitoring of education system in the region (Srivastava, 2011).

In summary, it is quite obvious through this chapter that the respective programmes and intervention activities of these NGOs are putting primary focus on formation of community-based collectives in the region. The intervention activity of an NGO called “ASSEFA” is based on the philosophy of strengthening people’s collectives towards sustainable development process. In various programmes ranging from micro-finance programmes, social awareness programs, political awareness programs, livelihood promotion, community development programmes, health activities to educational programmes, the role of NGO “ASSEFA” is basically in strengthening of people’s collective. They have formed Farmer’s Club, Women’s Self-Help Group, Community-based Organization (CBO). The women’s collective has been pro-active even in health care issues also. Similarly, another NGO called “NEEDS” has also been engaged with formation of Village-based Organization (VO) to empower tribal and non-tribal communities. In promotion of livelihood, the VOs are quite active. In order to bring consensus towards scientific cultivation techniques, the farmers have been integrated with VOs and a collective decision is taken over the issue. Furthermore, the NGO has also worked in the area of developing macro-level collectives through initiation of federations especially in the area of women empowerment. Following the similar pattern of intervention, the NGO “PRADAN” has also shown exemplary contribution. In case of livelihood generation programme, the contribution of NGO called “PRADAN” is noteworthy. They have created a plethora of social network of men and women in livelihood sector. Through these collectives, people have tremendously got benefited in the area of tasar rearing. The tasar rearers have successfully formed the tasar cooperative society with technical support from NGO “PRADAN”. These collectives have been formed in the area of fisheries also. Another very significant contribution of NGO “PRADAN” is development of milk cooperatives. On the other hand, the similar approach has been adopted by an NGO called “Badlao Foundation”. It has created a women’s collective named ‘Mahila Sabha’. These Mahila Sabha has further been federated into macro-level clusters. The NGO has formed farmers’ club and WADI...
sammittee for betterment of existing programme. In the area of child-care programme, the NGO has established Child Club and Adolescent Club to deal with issues of child marriage and domestic violence.

Therefore, a brief sketch of formation of all these respective collectives by different NGOs indicates towards crucial role of NGO-led programmes in uniting people through community-based collectives. The initiation of these welfare programmes is aligned with fostering of social network of people. The divergent people have been brought into a unitary form through these collectives in order to ensure success of respective development programmes. Therefore, the contribution of programmatic intervention of these NGOs in mobilization of social capital is well depicted.
References


