

# ACTIVITY REPORT

(Nov.07- July'08)



Dalit Watch Bihar

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## Review: 2007 Flood in Bihar & formation of DW

The flood of 2007 in Bihar caused widespread loss in about 21 Districts of north-east Bihar. The situation demanded immediate attention from the Govt./ non-govt. organizations, media's contribution in bringing out the devastative picture of remote villages was appreciable but it only focused on the grimness of disaster, the real picture of disaster and sufferings for the marginalized communities were much more abject and horrifying that had not been noticed before. State govt.'s effort for disaster mitigation was proved skimpy after 4-5 rounds of flood, most of the river embankments collapsed in flood-acted areas, which washed away hundreds of villages.

The state formed state disaster cell and put all its machinery into action to take up the immediate relief measures, it had to coordinate with the non-state actors too to get as much support as it could have been managed at that point of time. BIPARD invited all the state and non-state social organizations to present their reports and concerns to look at the situation and requirements as better as it could be possible. But, though it was not sufficient knowingly or unknowingly in the process of loss and damage assessment in the times of disaster the loss among Dalit/marginalized communities is often overlooked. Information is generally gained from the villages near to road or from dominant caste or influential people in the village. This generally results in underestimation or sometimes complete ignorance of loss and concerns of Dalits. The non-recognition and non/under registration of the loss and destruction suffered Dalit communities in disaster results in scanty relief measures to them and limited provisioning in rehabilitation.

A rapid assessment of 51 villages done by NCDHR and DSS brought out the immediate picture of Dalit's sufferings. The findings were so dreadful that it compelled to undertake another rapid assessment in other 2000 villages. The survey covered 11 out of 19 affected districts at that period of time, 123 blocks, 818 Panchayats were covered. The assessment further confirmed the facts that relief distribution was far short of actual need many villages are yet to receive them, even where relief was distributed Dalits and other marginalized communities had very low access and discrimination was extensive. This was raised in the coordination meeting between the state and INGO/NGOs. There was consensus among a few organizations to work together on eliminating discrimination and ensuring equity and inclusion in relief measures. '*Dalit Watch*' emerged as the platform of these organizations. Members include Bachpan Bachao Andolan, Bihar Baad Sukhad Mukti Andolan, Dalit Samanway, Lok Shakti Sangathan, Nari Gunjan and NCDHR.

The vision of DW is, "a society where all communities irrespective of caste, gender, religion, age, physical ability, class are able to mitigate disaster with equity and dignity".

### Strategies of DW

- Assessing damaged of life, habitation and livelihood of marginalized communities through rapid assessment, accessing government database, building data base.
- Building a network of cadre at panchayat, block and districts level and orientating them on rapid assessment monitoring mechanisms
- Monitoring state and civil society relief and rehabilitation programme by establishing block, district level Dalit watch center, bring out manual for monitoring of relief and rehabilitation packages, facilitating complaints and demands for equitable humanitarian aid.
- District level advocacy for strengthening demands from the community

## Institutionalization of Dalit Watch: A need

The most vulnerable victims of the adverse outcome of flood are the lower castes and classes of people with no organized mechanisms to fall back. They continue to survive and cope resiliently with the minimum they have and provided by the state, but are caught in the cycle of recurrent floods negatively affecting the chances for development. The recurrent flood situation has created an all round situation of apathy in the state administration providing minimal relief during the disaster. Other resource agencies also contribute to the relief process during disaster. The need to go beyond and develop effective disaster management strategies with the participation of the affected communities is critical to the long term human resource development and growth of the state. Making disaster management equity based and inclusive becomes imperative to developing long-term solutions and benefits for all, in particular critical to the most vulnerable sections themselves.

After the emergence of Dalit Watch it was decided to focus more on community empowerment and awareness creation in the beginning to develop a strong ground for advocacy. In this direction it was decided to develop a strong task force at the district and block level with voluntary support from panchayat leaders, the entire process will be coordinated by state secretariat office at state level. The involvement of Praxis (a research organization) with DW has given an edge to develop more strategic intervention plans.

It is felt that all caste are equally vulnerable and suffer during floods but the rapid assessment of flood-acted villages in 2007 by NCDHR and Dalit Samanway (local network partner) has proved that Dalits are much more vulnerable during such disastrous condition. The data from the survey reveals that Dalit population has been affected in greater proportion compared to other population. This can be attributed easily to the historical and current vulnerabilities of their habitations, housing and livelihood opportunities.

The extent of fully damaged houses while being high among Dalits, their access and presence in the temporary shelters is negligible raising questions on the quality of their protection and safety during the flood situation. The lack of adequate housing and protection has serious implications to their access to all relief materials including food, clothing and other essentials.

This places infants, children, elderly, pregnant women and others in vulnerable situations without access to minimum facilities and services. This also places serious questions on how much of the loss and damage among these vulnerable sections are recorded and what will be their future access to recovery and rehabilitation. The fact that despite damaged houses, Dalits are not in the temporary shelters and are making their own arrangements for housing, however bad, is an indicator of the existing prejudices and stereotypes about them in society. It is also an indicator of their inability to access entitlement and demand their rights though promised and made available by the state and other resource agencies.

These realities compelled partner organizations to think for a more stable and continuous monitoring of the situation and strong advocacy by institutionalizing DW. DW is conducting different studies of the vulnerability in all selected districts which is being supported by ChristianAid, ASK, and Cordaid. Which would be further used for advocating Dalit's rights to entitlements and equal access to Govt. services.

## Accomplishments

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Till<br/>October'07</b></p> | <p><b>Trainings and task force development</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dalit Watch after its formation, in the first week of November organized one TOT with 30 members (50% women) representing all partner networks during 1-3 November 07.</li> <li>2. Network partners identified leaders for task force in 22 districts, covering 2604 panchayats</li> </ol> <p><b>Preparation of related materials</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Training Manual for trainers and a handbook for panchayat leaders on entitlements during disaster was developed.</li> <li>4. A pictorial poster prepared on CRF guidelines was drafted.</li> </ol> <p><b>Macro-level Intervention</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. A meeting was arranged with Hon. Chief Minister of Bihar to present the status report of Bihar floods, he appreciated the effort and assured for his support if he finds data authentic.</li> </ol> |
| <p><b>Till April'08</b></p>       | <p><b>Trainings</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In November'07 a TOT of panchayat representatives was organized in 6 districts namely, Madhubani, Saharsa, Supaul, Darbhanga, Purnia and Khagaria, with the objective to orient panchayat coordinators about scope and objectives of DW, its plan of action, and strategy. These trainings were facilitated by the identified District Coordinators with little support from the organizing partner organization.<br/><i>(Ref. Annex I)</i></li> </ol> <p><b>Quarterly Core Group Meeting</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Sister Sudha was nominated for the Convener of DW and Ghanshyam will be Co-Convener. Their tenure will be for six months on rotation basis after six months this responsibility will be given to another partner<br/><i>Ref. Minutes of 17<sup>th</sup> January</i></li> </ol>   |

### Proposal Submission

3. Proposals on 'Audit of Distribution of Relief as per CRF Guidelines in 540 *Dalit*-inhabited villages of North Bihar' was sent to ChristianAid and it has been approved by them, the period of support will start from May'08.
4. An integrated proposal on 'Vulnerability Mapping and Instances of Exclusion of *Dalit* Communities in the aftermath of 2007 Floods was sent to Cordaid, though they are interested but looking for some changes, confirmation from them is awaited.
5. Another proposal for 'Establishing a Community-led Mechanism for Securing the Entitlements of *Dalit* Communities in Bihar relating to Disaster Mitigation' was sent to Cordaid. Response from them is awaited.

### Area of operation: **Changes**

6. Initially 22 flood affected Districts had been identified as a major areas of operation in which 250 blocks and 2604 panchayats were supposed to be covered but it was found little difficult to get support for this large number of panchayats, thus it has to be reduced, and it was decided to primarily focus on 10 districts only, 3 blocks and 6 panchayats will be targeted from each district and gradually with time and the availability of resources other pre identified districts will be included in the plan. The selected districts are as follows:

| Sl. No. | Districts      | Partner Networks           |
|---------|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1.      | Patna          | Nari Gunjan                |
| 2.      | Vaishali       | NG                         |
| 3.      | Darbhanga      | Lok Shakti Sangathan       |
| 4.      | Madhubani      | LSS                        |
| 5.      | West Champaran | Badh Sukhad Mukti Aandolan |
| 6.      | Katihar        | BSMA                       |
| 7.      | Samastipur     | Bachpan Bachao Aandolan    |
| 8.      | Arariya        | BBA                        |
| 9.      | Banka          | Dalit Samanway Samiti      |
| 10.     | Khagariya      | DSS                        |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Till July</b> | <p><b>Trainings</b><br/>A two days state level training of district coordinators was organized in Patna on 14-15<sup>th</sup> May'08 at Bihar Voluntary Health association. All the 40 coordinators participated in this training that had been conducted with an objective <i>to orient leaders before starting the audit of distribution of relief and rehabilitation as per CRF guide lines in 10 districts</i></p> <p><i>Ref. Annexure III</i></p> <p><b>Audit</b><br/>The Audit of distribution of relief has been completed in almost seven districts, West Champaran, Katihar, Patna, Vaishali, Araria, Khagaria and Banka. Rest of the districts could not start it yet because of unavailability of funds.</p> <p><b>Project approval and Orientation</b><br/>The Vulnerability mapping proposal has been approved and merged with Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction Project of ASK (Delhi) and is being funded by Cordaid. The period of support will start from August end. Thus, in this direction an orientation of District and Block coordinators on Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by ASK on 16<sup>th</sup> of July at Bihar Dalit Vikas Samiti, Patna to orient coordinators with the scope of the study to be carried out.</p> <p><i>Ref. Annex IV and 4<sup>th</sup> July Minutes</i></p> |
|------------------|--|

**Major Out comes:**

1. District level Panchayat leader's TOTs were organized in six districts namely, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Saharsa, Supaul, Purnia and Khagariya.
2. Manual for monitoring of relief and rehabilitation was prepared but yet to be printed.
3. A Meeting was arranged with Hon. Chief Minister of Bihar Nitish Kumar to present the status report of Bihar floods 2007 and got an assurance of support if he finds the data authentic.
4. Core group meets regularly every month, Sis. Sudha vargheese has been selected as DW convener, Ghanshyam ji will be co-convener and this position will be on rotation basis. The tenure will be for 6 months after that other partners will be nominated for convener's position.
5. Audit of distribution of relief has been completed in 7 districts in rest of the three districts it could not be started because of financial constraints. They'll finish it by the end of August.
6. Mapping proposal has now been merged with CMDRR project of ASK (Delhi) and the first phase of orientation has already been done. From 11<sup>th</sup> August onwards next phase of coordinator's orientation will be started.

7. Jadaav has now started releasing funds; coordinators will be paid for two months together.

**Challenges:**

1. Because of continuous delay in mapping and audit exercise due to unavailability of fund, an important opportunity to negotiate with govt. for having the names of dalits in the list of beneficiaries was lost.
2. It has been realized that the activities that had been planned before could not be taken up so promptly because of financial constraints and this has been realized as one of the major hurdle in last few months. DW has developed a very active and enthusiastic team of coordinators in the districts and they have worked with great motivation without getting any monetary support from DW in last few months.
3. Complicated time taken accounting procedure is being followed.
4. Lack of resources.
5. Indifferent attitude of state administration.
6. DW coordinators/ leaders are threatened by the dominant/ influential families in the village to stop enquiring about the distribution of relief. On saying that they belong to some organization they are asked to show ID cards.
7. Hostile approach of feudal forces.

**Enabling Factors:**

1. Collaboration with ASK (Delhi)
2. Good linkage with local groups and better understanding among partner networks.
3. Having Praxis as one of the constituents of Dalit Watch.
4. Each constituent organization is having a good rapport and strong base in the field, with large number of small Dalit organizations as their member.
5. Development of strong task forces at district and block level.
6. Better understanding of exclusion.
7. Good linkage with media.

**Annexure-I**

**Dalit Watch Task Force**

| <b>Organization</b> | <b>District &amp; Dist. Coordinator</b> | <b>Block &amp; Block Coordinator</b> | <b>Panchayats</b> | <b>Panchayat Leader</b> |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| DSS                 | <b>Khagaria-Birju</b>                   | <b>Khagaria-Anshu Kumar</b>          | Marar North       | Ghaneshwar Paswan       |

|     |                                   |                                  |               |                        |
|-----|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
|     |                                   |                                  | Gaura Shakti  | Gautam Kumar Thakur    |
|     |                                   |                                  | Sansarpur     | Sunita Kumari          |
|     |                                   |                                  | Bhadesh South | Gautam Kumar Sada      |
|     |                                   |                                  | Jahangira     | Parmita Devi           |
|     |                                   |                                  | Olapur        | Shyama Devi            |
|     |                                   | <b>Alauli -Nandan sada</b>       | Dhama Khutha  | Shailendra Kumar Ram   |
|     |                                   |                                  | Amba Echaure  | Shravan Kumar          |
|     |                                   |                                  | Raun          | Pushp Lata Kumari      |
|     |                                   |                                  | Bahadurpur    | Rina Kumari            |
|     |                                   |                                  | Gaura Chak    | Rajesh Kumar Chaudhari |
|     |                                   |                                  | Meghauna      | Mahesh Kumar ram       |
|     |                                   | <b>Beldaur- Suresh Kumar</b>     | Kurdan        | Raj Kishore Sada       |
|     |                                   |                                  | Beldaur       | Mantu Kumar Sada       |
|     |                                   |                                  | Beghauna      | Kailash Sada           |
|     |                                   |                                  | Sakrohar      | Sadan Kumar            |
|     |                                   |                                  | Belawat       | Pawan Kumar            |
|     |                                   |                                  | Pachaur       | Press Kumar            |
|     |                                   |                                  |               |                        |
| DSS | <b>Banka-Kamal kishore Bharti</b> | <b>Banka-Kamdev Prasad</b>       | Kakwara       | Kumari Sapna Bharti    |
|     |                                   |                                  | Kajiya        | Raghubir Das           |
|     |                                   |                                  | Lakhoriya     | Arun kumar             |
|     |                                   |                                  | Domuhan       | Shyam Sundar Paswan    |
|     |                                   |                                  | Lakdi Kola    | Rajendra Kumar         |
|     |                                   |                                  | Chattarpal    | Jitendra Kumar         |
|     |                                   | <b>Shambhuganj- Bhikho Baudh</b> | Kamatpur      | Mantu Kumar            |
|     |                                   |                                  | Mirapur       | Suresh Das             |
|     |                                   |                                  | Bharat shila  | Hemali Majhi           |
|     |                                   |                                  | Betari        | Kailash Das            |
|     |                                   |                                  | Maldih        | Krishna Kumar Das      |
|     |                                   |                                  | Pakri         | Anita Kumari           |

|      |   |                                      |                     |                    |
|------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
|      |   | <b>Phuli Dumar-</b><br>Rampal Sharma | Teliya Pahad        | Ramchandra Ajad    |
|      |   |                                      | Bhitiya             | Renu Kumari        |
|      |   |                                      | Dhawa varan         | Virendra Pratap    |
|      |   |                                      | Rata                | Usha Bharti        |
|      |   |                                      | Lodhiya kaitha      | Chandradev Shwami  |
|      |   |                                      | Satpur              | Jitendra Kumar     |
|      |   |                                      |                     |                    |
| BSMA | <b>Katihar-</b> Anuj<br>Kumar                           | Pranpur-Poonam<br>Devi               | Sahja               | Yashwant Kr. Sethi |
|      |   |                                      | Barjhalla           | Utpal Kumar        |
|      |   |                                      | Pranpur             | Vijay Kr. Sinha    |
|      |   |                                      | Kehunia             | Santosh Kumar      |
|      |   |                                      | Kewala              | Suman Kumar        |
|      |   |                                      | Dharhan             | Rahul Kumar        |
|      |   |                                      | Pathrwar            | Devendra Kr.       |
|      |   |                                      | Bastoul             | Gunja Kumari       |
|      |   | <b>Kadwa-</b> Dilip<br>Mandal        | Bhogow              | Mamta Devi         |
|      |   |                                      | Gopinagar           | Manju Devi         |
|      |   |                                      | Kantia              | Gotam Kumar        |
|      |   |                                      | Pailagar            | Subodh Kumar       |
|      |   |                                      | Dhapsria            | Bipin Bihari       |
|      |   |                                      | Kantnagar           | Anal Kumar         |
|      |   |                                      | Bharry              | Babi Devi          |
|      |   |                                      | Kadwa               | Ram Kalyan Mahto   |
|      |   | <b>Hasanganj-</b><br>Abhay Sharma    | Baluwa              | Shashikala Devi    |
|      |   |                                      | Rampur              | Sima Devi          |
|      |   |                                      | Dherwa              | Ajay Kumar         |
|      |   |                                      | Gagnathpur          | Vishakha Devi      |
|      |   |                                      | Kalsar              | Ranjna Devi        |
|      |   |                                      | Saria               | Jay Kishore        |
|      |   |                                      |                     |                    |
| BSMA | <b>West</b><br><b>Champan-</b><br>Raj Kumar<br>(Betiya) | <b>Bagha-1-</b> Ajad<br>Alam         | Baswariya           | SohanRam           |
|      |   |                                      | Raivari<br>Mahuaawa | Mahant Ram         |

|     |  |                                     |                        |                    |
|-----|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
|     |  |                                     | Hardi Nadwa            | Radha Devi         |
|     |  |                                     | Chandrapurratwal       | Sobhawati Devi     |
|     |  |                                     | Lagunaha<br>Chautarwa  | Narad Ram          |
|     |  |                                     | Patilar                |                    |
|     |  | <b>Lauriya-Prem<br/>Kumar</b>       | Kataiya                | Laichi Devi        |
|     |  |                                     | Belwa Lakhanpur        | Ramchandra majhi   |
|     |  |                                     | Dobini Sugauli         | Munni Devi         |
|     |  |                                     | Gonauli                | Amit Kumar         |
|     |  |                                     | Gograura               | Anita devi         |
|     |  |                                     | Daniyal parsauna       |                    |
|     |  | <b>Yoga Patti-Asha<br/>Devi</b>     | Siswa Mangalpur        | Punam Kumari       |
|     |  |                                     | Chaumukha              | Uendra manjhi      |
|     |  |                                     | Fatehpur               | Saryug Majhi       |
|     |  |                                     | Siswa Bhumihar         |                    |
|     |  |                                     | Khutwaniya<br>Jaralpur |                    |
|     |  |                                     | Baluwa<br>Bhawanipur   |                    |
|     |  |                                     |                        |                    |
| LSS | <b>Madhubani-</b><br>Surya narayan<br>sada | <b>Jhanjharpur-</b><br>Jitendra ram | Naruwar                | Bahur Paswan       |
|     |  |                                     | Lohna North            | Jivad sadai        |
|     |  |                                     | Lohna South            | Dinesh safi        |
|     |  |                                     | Navani                 | Lutan ram          |
|     |  |                                     | Chanauraganj           | Ram Chandra pandit |
|     |  |                                     | Simra                  | Ghuran Sadai       |
|     |  | <b>Lakhnaur-</b><br>Yugeshwar Ram   | Baliya                 | Shatrughan Rai     |
|     |  |                                     | Kachuwa                | Jitan Sadai        |
|     |  |                                     | Maivi                  | Rajesh Kumar       |
|     |  |                                     | Laufa                  | Amirka Devi        |
|     |  |                                     | Tamuriya               | Saroj Mallik       |
|     |  |                                     | Belaucha               | Ajurj Ram          |

|     |   |  |                                |                     |
|-----|---|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|
|     |   | <b>Madhepur-<br/>Rameshwar sadai</b>                       | Bakuwa                         | Shimla Devi         |
|     |   |  | Bhargama                       | Umakant ram         |
|     |   |  | Dwalakh                        | Ram Swaroop Sadai   |
|     |   |  | Rahuwa Sangram                 | Gopal Sadai         |
|     |   |  | Mahasingh<br>Hasauli           | Gulab Devi          |
|     |   |  | Parvalpur                      | Raghunandan Ram     |
|     |   |  | Kusheshwar<br>Sthan South      | Umesh sada          |
|     |   |  |                                |                     |
| LSS | <b>Darbhang-<br/>Amrendra<br/>Sadai</b> | <b>Kusheswar<br/>Sthan East-<br/>Vijay Kumar<br/>Sadai</b> | Kewat gama                     | Kiran Devi          |
|     |   |  | Ujjuwa Simar<br>toka(reserved) | Mira Devi           |
|     |   |  | Tilkeshwar<br>(reserved)       | Laxmi Devi          |
|     |   |  | Ithar                          | Indradev Sada       |
|     |   |  | Ussri                          | Shyama Kumari       |
|     |   | <b>Viraul- Laxman<br/>Sada</b>                             | Viraul                         | Nand kishore Sada   |
|     |   |  | Supaul                         | Vipin Sada          |
|     |   |  | Uchhati                        | Annu kumari         |
|     |   |  | Afjala                         | Shyamlal Paswan     |
|     |   |  | Ladho                          | Nilam Devi          |
|     |   |  | Pokhram South                  | Pano Devi           |
|     |   | <b>Kiratpur-<br/>Ramprasad Sada</b>                        | Kiratpur                       | Anil Kumar Ram      |
|     |   |  | Jhagrua Tarwara                | Vinod Kumar Yadav   |
|     |   |  | Narkatiya<br>Jhandariya        | Umesh Sada          |
|     |   |  | Jhagarua                       | Garib nandan Paswan |
|     |   |  | Rasiyari                       | Lalita Devi         |
|     |   |  | Dhanga                         | Ranjana Kumari      |
|     |   |  |                                |                     |
| NG  | Patna                                   | <b>Phulwari sarif-<br/>Satyendra Kumar</b>                 | saurabhpur                     | Laxmi rajak         |
|     |   |  | Nerua                          | Bimla Devi          |
|     |   |  | Gonpura                        | Shailendra Kumar    |

|            |                   |                             |                |                   |
|------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
|            |                   |                             | Phulwari       | Mina devi         |
|            |                   |                             | Beur phulwari  | Amita Devi        |
|            |                   |                             |                |                   |
|            |                   | <b>Punpun-Mintu Ravidas</b> | Samanchak      | Rita Devi         |
|            |                   |                             | Dumri          | Archana Devi      |
|            |                   |                             | Paimar Ghat    | Shubhilata Kumari |
|            |                   |                             | Samkush        | Kumari Anita      |
|            |                   |                             | Chand dih      | Renu Kumari       |
|            |                   |                             |                |                   |
|            |                   | <b>Naubatpur-Tej Kumar</b>  | Gadaipur       | Lalbabu Kumar     |
|            |                   |                             | Tiskhora       | Sabita Kumari     |
|            |                   |                             | Gonwa          | Bija Devi         |
|            |                   |                             | Gopalpur       | Sharbhu Kumar     |
|            |                   |                             | Badipur        | Saroj Kumar       |
|            |                   |                             | Amarpura       | Manju Kumari      |
|            |                   |                             |                |                   |
| <b>NG</b>  | <b>Vaishali</b>   | <b>Patepur</b>              | Ladho          |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Khesrahi       |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Govindpur bela |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Agrail         |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Baligaon       |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Mandaideh      |                   |
|            |                   | <b>Mahua</b>                | Samaspura      |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Muhua Singhrai |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Mahurahi       |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Kushar         |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Supaul         |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Chatwara Kapur |                   |
|            |                   | <b>Mahnar</b>               | Vishanpur      |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Lavapur        |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Hasanpur       |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Chakeshar      |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Goregama       |                   |
|            |                   |                             | Chamrara       |                   |
|            |                   |                             |                |                   |
| <b>BBA</b> | <b>Araria-Md.</b> | <b>Araria Block-</b>        | Pokharia       | Vidya Devi        |



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## Annexure: II

### TOT of Panchayat Leaders

Dalit Watch was formed with an objective to strengthen Dalit's voice and community demand. It realized the importance of short term and long term strategies for disaster mitigation and making govt. accountable of its duties. Monitoring state and civil society relief and rehabilitation programme by establishing block, district level Dalit watch center, and facilitating complaints and demands for equitable humanitarian aid was one of its strategies for mass mobilization and community awareness in this direction. Thus, all the partner networks identified district, block and panchayat level leaders in their respective areas of operation and in the month of November panchayat leader's training was organized in the identified districts.

The objectives of this training were as follows:

- Orienting coordinators with the scope of Dalit watch and its objectives.
- Discussion on some prominent reasons of flood in Bihar
- Experience sharing on floods and discrimination with Dalits in disaster.
- Information to participants regarding disaster management and rehabilitation provisions by the government and their role.
- Identifying the effects of flood through social mapping.
- Preparing disaster diary.
- Surfacing prominent cases of discrimination with Dalits during floods.
- Communicating roles and responsibilities of panchayat leaders in the coming days with Dalit Watch.
- Preparing action plan of panchayat leaders.

Among the partner organizations of DW, *Lok Shakti Sangathan* first organized the TOTs in the districts namely, Supaul, Madhubani, Saharsa, Darbhanga and Purnia. Around 330 men and 183 women participated in these trainings. Out of total 513 participants, 320 participants were Dalits.

Lok Shakti Sangathan organized these trainings in the month of November. The details are as follows:

| Districts | Madhubani                 | Saharsa                   | Supaul                    | Darbhangha                | Purnia                       |
|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Date      | 19-20<br>November'07      | 21-22<br>November'07      | 23-24<br>November'07      | 25-26<br>November'07      | 29-30<br>November'07         |
| Venue     | Prerna Sthal<br>Sabhagar, | Prerna Sthal<br>Sabhagar, | Prerna Sthal<br>Sabhagar, | Prerna Sthal<br>Sabhagar, | Auditorium of<br>Brij Bihari |

|                           |   |  |   |   |   |
|---------------------------|---|--|---|---|---|
|                           | Jhanjharpur, Madhubani  | Jhanjharpur, Madhubani   | Jhanjharpur, Madhubani  | Jhanjharpur, Madhubani  | Memorial Purnia   |
| <b>Trainer</b>            | Prof. Ratan Ravi, Tilia Devi, Lalo Devi<br><br>Support : Deepak Bharti, Kapileshwar and Ganesh  | Prof. Ratan Ravi, Tilia Devi, Lalo Devi<br><br>Support : Deepak Bharti, Kapileshwar and Ganesh   | Prof. Ratan Ravi, Tilia Devi, Lalo Devi<br><br>Support : Deepak Bharti, Kapileshwar and Ganesh  | Prof. Ratan Ravi, Tilia Devi, Lalo Devi<br><br>Support : Rambabu, Deepak Bharti, Kapileshwar and Ganesh   | Neha Jha, Firdaus Begam and Anuj Kumar  |
| <b>Blocks covered</b>     | Ghoghardiha, Madhepur, Phoolparaas, Ladniya, Rajnagar, Venipatti, Lakhnaur, Jhanjharpur, Andhrathathi   | Simri, Bakhtiyarpur, Salakhua, Mahishi, Sonvarsha, Vanma itahri, Navhatta,   | Marauna, Supaul, Nirmali, Saraigarh, Kishanpur  | Nardeh, Kusheshwar Sthan East, Kusheshwar Sthan West, Alinagar, Gaura baurai, Ghanshayampur, Manigachi, Biraul, Baheri, Kiratpur, Benipur.  | Purnia East, Dagrua, Waisa, Rupauli, Bhamdaha ken agar, Bhawanipur, Bayasi, Jalalgarh, Shrinagar, Banmankhi, Barhara kothi, Amaur, Kaswa  |
| <b>Process / Out come</b> | - Sharing of DW objectives.<br>-----<br>- Participants were educated about the history of floods in Bihar, its causes and the impact of river embankments on their lives.<br>-----<br>- They were | The objectives of DW and its importance were realized in context of floods. Focus was given on history of floods in Bihar, disastrous impact of embankments, Government's provisions, rights and | -Sharing of DW objectives<br>-----<br>-The focus was given on history of floods in Bihar, embankment politics, discrimination with Dalits in relief distribution.<br>-----<br>-Participants | -Training Changed the outlook of participants before training they used to consider it as a natural happening but discussion on history of floods in Bihar, impact of embankments, government's | -Sharing of DW vision and mission.<br>-----<br>-They were sensitized for demanding their rights and educated about the history of floods in Bihar and the current embankment politics, participants expressed that they have been |

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|--|--|--|---|---|---|
|  | <p>informed about the legal provisions for managing disaster and distributing relief in such situations.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>- Participants found mapping and disaster diary useful and enjoyed the whole process.</p> | <p>rehabilitation programs for the victims.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-Mapping and disaster diary were found to be useful by the participants.</p> | <p>were made aware about rights, rehabilitation and relief provisions by the state government.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-Participants liked the concept of disaster diary and they found it useful for them.</p> <p>-Participants appreciated the formation of Dalit watch and realized its importance for Dalit solidarity.</p> | <p>policies &amp; practices and the truths of relief distribution and rehabilitation changed their outlook, they realized it as a disaster created by man.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-Participants were aware about the discrimination with dalits but through traing they realized the grimness of situation.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-They got to know only through training that disaster mitigation and rehabilitation is their legal rights.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-They realized the importance of mapping and disaster diary and appreciated the efforts made to train them.</p> | <p>waiting for this kind of Sangathan to be emerged and hoped for something good to be done.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-Participants presented the real picture of discrimination with dalits during floods in the training.</p> <p>-Participants were made aware about the provisions and rights given to them.</p> <p>- Participants found mapping and writing disaster diary useful.</p> |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|

|                            |  |  |  |  |   |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| <p><b>Shortcomings</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Less women participation</li> <li>-----</li> <li>- Participation from elderly people was not realized to be of much importance.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>- Uneducated participants and women with small children were felt to be a challenge in carrying out the training successfully.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Less women participation</li> <li>-----</li> <li>- Evaluation was managed in very less time.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>- Uneducated participants and women with small children were felt to be a challenge in carrying out the training successfully.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>- Participation from elderly people was not realized to be of much importance.</li> </ul> | <p>The participation of women was not much.</p> <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Many of the participants were uneducated so it was felt little difficult to complete the training procedures with them.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>-Participation from elderly people was not realized to be of much significance.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>- During harvesting period this training had been organized thus many participants could not join this training.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Unequal ratio of men-women participation.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>-Uneducated participants were a challenge for the challenge.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>-The number of participants in the training was very high thus, it was difficult to interact and manage training smoothly.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The participation of men and women participants was not equal.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>-The ratio of SC participants was very low.</li> </ul>       |
| <p><b>Suggestion</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training duration should be of 5 days at least.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>- Aged, uneducated and women with small children should not be</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Training period should be increased to 4 days.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>- Strength of participants should be limited to a certain number so</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Educated people should be considered for trainings.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>-Participation of women should be equal</li> <li>-----</li> <li>-Travel</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Duration of training should be increased.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>-Laborers were also the participants in the training. Daily wages should be</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There should be training period of minimum four days.</li> <li>-----</li> <li>-Travel allowance should be given as per the Government's</li> </ul> |

|  |  |  |   |   |                    |
|--|--|--|---|---|--------------------|
|  | <p>selected for the training.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>- T.A should be increased and daily wages should be given to them.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>- Sufficient learning materials should be provided.</p> | <p>that they can directly converse with the trainer.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>- Educated participants should be selected for training.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>- Disaster mitigation related techniques or ways should also be there in the training syllabus.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-TA should be increased and daily wages should be given during training.</p> | <p>allowance should be increased and daily wages should be given to the trainers during training period.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>- Training days should be increased.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>- Disaster mitigation techniques should also be included in the training subject.</p> | <p>given to them apart from travel allowance to encourage their participation so that their family needs not to sleep empty stomach.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>- Extra effort need to be made to ensure 50% participation of women.</p> | <p>daily wages</p> |
|--|--|--|---|---|--------------------|

**Conclusion:**

The two days training of panchayat leaders was successfully completed, and all the participants expressed their enthusiasm for this initiative as they felt there was a great need of this kind of alliance and a platform that would strengthen dalit's voice. They are filled with energy and new hopes and keenly waiting for the further activities of DW and their confluence as a task force for this cause.

From the details collected it was found that during training all the participants faced same kind of problems and they have given almost same kind of suggestions as well. During training the major challenges that they faced were the participation of women with small children and the participation of elderly and uneducated people. It is analyzed keeping these information in view that as selected participants would need to give their maximum time in the field for surveying the selected panchayats so, in such situation women participants with small children may not be able to cope up with the requirements of job so the selection of such women need to be done with the child's perspective. Now, if we look at the case of elderly people, it's perceived that their participation may not be very significant but there is

always a way out to educate and mobilized uneducated people as the major segment in the village are not educated.

**Thus, after analyzing the given information it is concluded that,**

- There should be an age limitation for the participants.
- Women with children less than 5 years of age should not be considered for task force.
- Trainer and training module should be made keeping the people in mind who are not educated.
- As per the suggestion from participants disaster mitigation technique can be included in the technique.
- It has been raised by the participants that many of them are daily laborers thus; during such trainings in the future they should be given wages as per the govt. standards.

**Number of Participants in the TOT**

From fig. i, it is found that the maximum number of participants attended TOT in Darbhanga and Purnia districts. The number of participants is quite less in Supaul districts; it's only 68 as in other four districts the number of participants is more than 100.

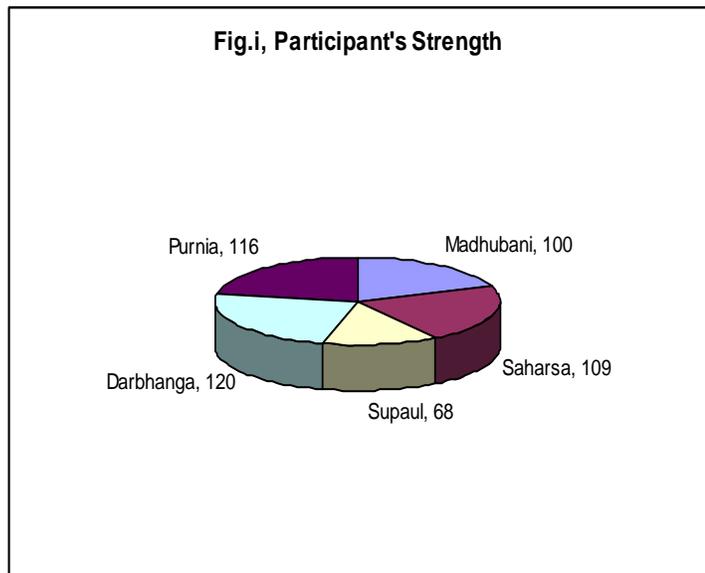
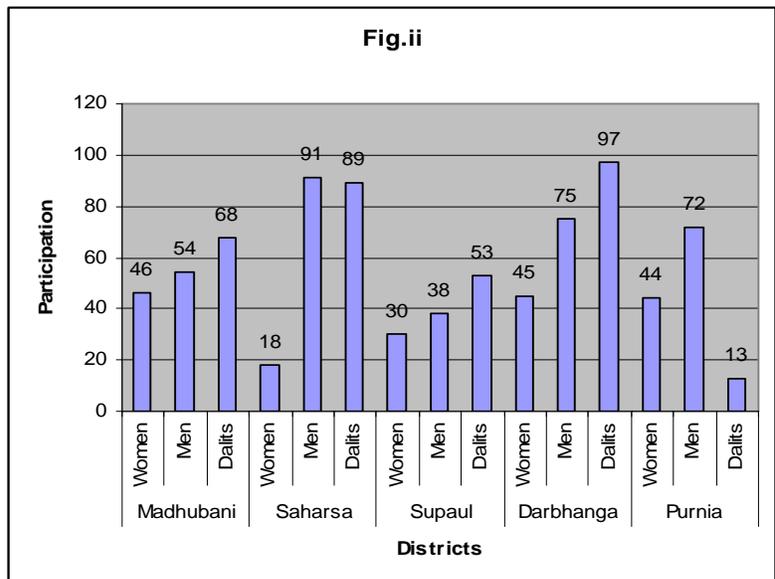


Fig.ii shows the actual number of men – women participation in the trainings in five districts. If we consider the whole figure together out of total 513 participants 320 participants were Dalits. In which Darbhanga shows the maximum participation of Dalits, about 97 Dalits out of 120 participants next comes Saharsa and Madhubani respectively.

The participation of Dalits has been dismally low in Purnia, it's only 13 out of total 116 participants. Though, the figure of Dalits participation in Supaul seems quite less in comparison to the other districts but it's a significant participation as the total number of participants in Supal



is 68 out of which 53 are Dalits.

Manav Adhunik Utthan Samiti one of the partners of network *Dalit SamanwaySamiti* organized training at Khagaria on 10-11 December'07, where almost 110 people participated in the training. The main objective of the first day training was to build awareness on the roles of identified leaders during disaster and the government's special provisions for the people during such situation, they were motivated to identify their needs and take a lead to mitigate the sufferings of community to be worked for. During training they proceeded with group discussions, games, etc. to develop the whole process as an association. During discussions major focus was given on the cases and experiences of Dalits in disaster after lunch a small play was performed by the participants in which they tried to present, how dominant caste people and other powerful authorities tries to suppress the weaker communities and what all these communities need to do to come out of this monopoly.

This training was inaugurated by Shushila Devi (Zila Parishad) and it had been organized at 'Dugdh Shitak Kendra, Parmanandpur, Khagaria'; Ms. Nilam Sthani was the trainer in this training other speakers were Mahendra Kumar Raushan, Rambabu, Birju, Santosh and Hans Kumar.

On 11<sup>th</sup> dec. also the session started with group discussions and a social map was prepared in which participants demonstrated the pre and post flood conditions of their village and how it affected the lives of people at various levels. Participants shared their experiences and on the basis of that future action plan was prepared. The training culminated with a rally on Dalit rights, which started from venue, Parmanandpur to Samharnalaya.

### **Annexure III**

#### State level TOT of DW District Coordinators 14-15<sup>th</sup> May'08

A two days training of district coordinators was organized in Patna at Bihar Voluntary Health association. All the 40 coordinators participated in this training that had been conducted with an objective to orient leaders before starting audit of distribution of relief and rehabilitation.

#### **Day 1**

On 14<sup>th</sup> training started a little late around 12 am because all participants couldn't reach in time. Mr. Anindo (Praxis) was the trainer for this training. Session started with introduction of participants, after this they were briefed about the objective and need of this orientation.

Participants were divided in groups and each group was asked to discuss about the experiences of 2007 flood and each group were asked to present their views on the qualities of an ideal relief distribution process and prepare disaster diary.

The outcome of the discussions is as follows:

| <b>Group 1</b>   | <b>Group 2</b>  | <b>Group 3</b>   | <b>Group 4</b>   |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p><b>28/8/07</b><br/>In Nautan block of Patna, Gandak river embankment collapsed. In which 60 dalit families displaced. No safety arrangements made.</p> <p><b>29/8/07</b><br/>On getting the news, DM made a visit to the areas early morning and reached block office where he didn't find Panchayat Sevak thus, suspended him immediately.</p> <p><b>1/9/07</b><br/>Block officer made a visit to the affected villages where he distributed 5kg beaten rice, 1packet mach box, 4 candles, and 1kg sugar. 5meters of plastic sheet was immediately distributed to needy families.</p> <p><b>2/9/07</b><br/>Panchayat Mukhiya made a list of relief materials and sent it to block office from where it was</p> | <p><b>14/8/07</b><br/>Mahananda Dam in Kachaura village of Katihar collapsed around 11pm, 25 families washed away.</p> <p><b>15/8/07</b><br/>Flood hit Pranpur block of Katihar. No arrangements of boat.</p> <p><b>16/8/07-30/8/07</b><br/>People took shelter on dams. No arrangements of food and safe drinking water.</p> <p><b>18/8/07</b><br/>NGOs distributed match box, candles and plastic. But that was insufficient to meet the requirements.</p> <p><b>20/8/07</b><br/>Govt. officials made a visit on dam.</p> <p><b>1/9/07</b><br/>Displaced families again came back to home.</p> <p><b>5/9/07</b><br/>Diarrhea spread in the village. Unavailability of medical facilities.</p> | <p><b>8/8/07</b><br/>Flood hit Alauli block of Khagaria.</p> <p><b>10/8/07</b><br/>Dalit families started running for high lying lands to take shelter. They took shelter on railway tracks and river embankments. Many of them had to take shelter on unhygienic places which was not fit for living.</p> <p><b>5/9/07</b><br/>Small visit from Govt. officials in the nearest villages of Khagaria.</p> <p><b>10/9/07</b><br/>Some people were distributed relief which was insufficient to meet the requirements.</p> | <p><b>30/6/07</b><br/>Flood hit Bhagwanpur block of Vaishali. No relief reached to Dalit tolas.</p> <p><b>15/7/07</b><br/>In Kitratur block of Darbhanga, river embankment collapsed in night and about 60 houses of Musahar community washed away. No relief from Govt.</p> <p><b>4/8/07</b><br/>Flood hit Khagaria, no relief was provided till 12<sup>th</sup> August.</p> <p><b>10/8/07</b><br/>Flood hit Manihari block. No arrangements till 20<sup>th</sup> of August.</p> <p><b>15/9/07</b><br/>People were horrified in Ajamnagar block seeing the possibility of collapse of Kankar embankment. Even after informing block administration about this, people</p> |

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| <p>forwarded to DM.<br/> <b>3/9/07</b><br/> In Mankota block officer distributed 50kg wheat and 200 rupees among affected families.<br/> <b>5/9/07</b><br/> In Kandapa village of Punpun block, a boat drowned in which two women, two children and a man died who had gone to receive relief from distribution center which was 5km far from the village.</p> | <p><b>5/9/07</b><br/> Two women and three children died from diarrhea.<br/> <b>20/9/07</b><br/> A list of affected people was prepared in which names of half of the dalits of village were not included.<br/> <b>28/9/07</b><br/> Relief was distributed in the village but didn't reach to Dalit families.<br/> <b>2/10/07</b><br/> MPs made a visit to flood affected villages but only met influential dominant families.</p> |  | <p>were not provided shelter or food.<br/> <b>20/9/07</b><br/> Flood hit Kusheswar sthan of Darbhanga Dist. About 10 panchayats submerged in water, no transportation, relief reached in the month of January.<br/> <b>1/10/07</b><br/> In Samastipur, Laguniya embankment collapsed. Impeded transportation. From 10 to 20<sup>th</sup> October Medicine and plastics were provided by NGOs, no relief reached from Govt.<br/> <b>15/10/07</b><br/> In Samastipur, during flood few pregnant women died due to impeded transportation to health centers.</p> |
|--|---|--|---|

The suggestions came for ideal distribution process is as follows.

| Group 1   | Group 2  | Group 3   | Group4   |
|---|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Developing a fair list of beneficiaries</li> <li>-Distribution of stipulated amount of relief as per CRF guide lines.</li> <li>-Early information to</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Separate distribution centers for Dalit community.</li> <li>-There should be display boards in each distribution centers displaying the</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Formation of monitoring committee.</li> <li>-In gram sabha meeting list of beneficiaries should be circulated among</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fair distribution of relief.</li> <li>- Information of distribution should be given in every village, and everyone should know the</li> </ul> |

|   |  |   |   |
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| <p>people regarding distribution and distribution centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Distribution of quality grains/readymade foods.</li> <li>-Direct involvement of Govt. officials and panchayat representatives in distribution process.</li> <li>-Timely monitoring of flood affected areas and distribution as per need.</li> <li>-Involvement of NGOs and individuals in relief distribution.</li> </ul> | <p>amount of relief to be distributed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advertisement of distribution through loud speaker in every village.</li> <li>-There should be a monitoring committee for distribution.</li> <li>-Development of DW samiti at ward level who will be preparing the list of dalit beneficiaries.</li> <li>-There should not be two centers at one place.</li> </ul> | <p>everyone.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Under the monitoring of NGOs govt. should distribute relief.</li> <li>-before flood, stock of food grains should</li> <li>-Boats should be made available before floods.</li> </ul> | <p>place, date, amount of relief they should get, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-distribution centers should be established at high lying areas.</li> <li>- there should be dalit committee to monitor the distribution.</li> <li>- distribution should be done at right time.</li> </ul> |
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## Day 2

On second day, session started from 9:30 am with a small discussion on previous group exercises. The after a small interactive session participants from different district were asked to share their experiences of last floods. The following information was presented by them:

| Sl. No. | Districts | Experiences of 2007 floods   |
|---------|-----------|--|
| 1.      | Arariya   | In Pokhariya panchayat of Arariya block, those dalits who didn't have any land, cattle or house, were not given any type of relief or compensation as they had nothing that they lost during floods thus, it is believed that they are not entitled for any kind of relief.  |
| 2.      | Madhubani | During last year floods, Pradhan (Raj Kumar Sadai) of Bakua block wanted to start the distribution of relief from the hands of dalits as he himself is dalits, but this was not accepted by the dominant casts and they started creating obstacles and manhandled with the concerned peoples as a result distribution of relief was completely impeded for around 10 days. |

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|    |            | <p>There are cases where caste seems to be the major factor in getting entitlements. Many of the dalit families have not received their compensation but majority of the dominant caste communities have been successful in getting their entitlements.</p> <p>Women were facing more problems during floods, services in PHCs were almost nil during that time and many of the dalit women in critical pregnancy condition had to struggle for their life as they could not afford the charges of a private hospital.</p>  |
| 3. | Katihar    | <p>In Budh nagar panchayat of Pranpur block, during relief distribution many of the dalits were beaten and returned without giving their share of relief.</p> <p>In Kirora panchayat of Balrampur block, because of inadequate distribution of relief and ignorance of BDO, Mukhiya and police dalits started showing their rages and protested against it the situation soon got uncontrolled and police started firing in which one dalit, Devendra Mahaldar died.</p>  |
| 4. | Samastipur | <p>In sarairanjan block, those dalits whose houses had completely washed away in floods have no proof to claim against it as they can't produce photograph of their damaged house. These people are being asked to deposit 5000/- rupees to get their names in the entitlement list.</p> <p>Relief camps were set up in dominant caste areas which was far from the dalit tolas, very few could reach their and those who reached didn't get the fair amount of relief.</p> <p>Dalits couldn't access the medical facilities during floods.</p> <p>During floods boats were made available in those areas where its requirement was minimum, but in dalit tolas which was completely submerged in water authorities didn't provide a single boat.</p> <p>In Madwa panchayat of Vidyapai nagar Musahars were given only rice whereas others got wheat and rice both.</p> |
| 5. | Banka      | <p>In Shambhuganj village of Pipra block Musahars were beaten by the dominant caste people for using hand-pump in their area which compelled them to drink flood water.</p> <p>In Bhadrar village, Bhudev Das was murdered by the dominant caste people during floods. This was a result of an uproar aroused for using handpump by dalits in the village. Dalits were</p>  |

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|    |            | <p>forced to drink flood water.</p> <p>In Rata village of Fullidumar block, a dalit woman was raped by the dominants when she went to ask for relief materials.</p> <p>In lakdi kola village, Resoturi (dalit) was brutally beaten, and made blind by the dominants when he went to ask for relief.</p> <p>In Sadhpur village of Fullidumar block, a dalit woman was beaten when she asked for relief and her son was made accused of stealing 3 quintals of wheat.</p>   |
| 6. | Vaishali   | <p>In Village Asatpur satpura, Mohit majhi's name was not included in the list of distribution of relief by Anushravan Samiti.</p> <p>In village Harivanshpur, relief distribution to musahars was done in last after distributing it to dominant castes.</p> <p>Dalits were not given the adequate amount of relief as advertised by the government.</p> <p>In village Varishpur, the name of Krishna Kumar Singh (Dominant caste) was not there in the list but at the time of distribution he was given the share of relief which was supposed to be given to Sunil majhi (Dalit).</p> <p>Relief center was set up in dominant caste locality which was far away from the dalit tolas.</p> |
| 7. | Darbhangha | <p>In Kusheshwar Sthan (East), dominants were opposing the distribution of relief among Musahars because few years back Govt. had already announced to allot one bigha land to about 70 mushar families. Although, because of the disinterest of govt. officials this could not be done till now.</p> <p>In Biraul block, Musahar tola, Nathuni Sada was told by the Panchayat representative that, "you people didn't give me vote during election thus, I'll not give you relief too, do whatever you can do."</p> <p>Distribution of relief among dalits were less than the stipulated amount.</p>   |
| 8. | Betiya     | <p>In Bankatwa Musahar tola distribution list was prepared by panchayat sevak Mahesh Ram at the door of an influential person Chalan Jha who belongs to a dominant caste.</p>   |

|     |           |   |
|-----|-----------|---|
|     |           | <p>Inferior quality of grains is distributed to dalits.</p> <p>In Mangalpur Dalits were harassed by the Mukhiya Ajay Rai, they kept visiting him to get relief.</p> <p>Mukhiya earned eight thousand rupees from Rajendra Ram for getting him compensation for the death of her daughter during flood.</p> <p>BDO Mukul Kumar too ignored the rights of Dalits</p> <p>In Kotraha musahar toil, ward member acquired the relief materials of eight dalit families by their fake signature.</p> |
| 9.  | Khagariya | <p>Distribution centers are established in dominant caste areas or far from dalit tolas.</p> <p>They were not distributed the stipulated amount of relief.</p> <p>Rena Devi is a dalit ward member and all members in his ward are dalits, in his ward distribution was not made.</p> <p>Non-cooperation from dominant castes even at the time of emergency.</p> <p>In Sinhauli village Govt. boat was captured by dominant castes that could not be used by needy dalit families.</p>        |
| 10. | Patna     | <p>Distribution was made among dominant caste families first.</p> <p>Needy dalit families were ignored and dominant castes got the maximum benefit.</p> <p>Dalit families didn't use to get information before distribution.</p> <p>Panchayat representatives and Govt. officers made money in the name of relief.</p> <p>Dalits didn't get the specified amount of relief they were supposed to get.</p>   |

The sessions got finished around 6pm in the evening and they were distributed and detailed about filling audit forms. The queries of the participants were cleared and they were asked to photocopy the forms as per their requirement.

#### **Annexure IV**

**ORIENTATION ON COMMUNITY MANAGED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION-  
A SITUATIONAL ASSESSMENT/ MAPPING PROCESS  
16<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

#### **Background:**

In the sequence of previous exercises of DW in 10 districts, mapping of damages due to floods and access to relief and rehabilitation provisions exercise had also been planned for the month of August –October, but it was proposed in the meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> July that this mapping exercise will be merged with the CMDRR project of ASK, thus orientation of District and Block coordinators on Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction that was organized on 16<sup>th</sup> of July at Bihar Dalit Vikas Samiti, Patna was the first step towards orienting participants with the scope of the study to be carried out. The orientation was facilitated by Mr. Prakash from ASK(Delhi). Ms. Anuradha was assisting during the process.

#### **Session I:**

The session started from 10:30, with a brief speech from Vijeta on the purpose of this orientation and the objectives of mapping process, Prakash also added to it and talked a little about the indigenous coping mechanism of community in the time of floods. After a quick round of introduction with the participants, they were informed about the norms to be followed during the training. Participants themselves decided the norms they'll be following during orientation, i.e., keeping mobile in silent mode; only one participant will speak in one time, timeliness etc.

The session continued with a presentation on the components of CMDRR project that is capacitation of Dalit leaders that has already been completed, audit of distribution of relief, mapping of damages due to floods, district level campaign, state level advocacy etc. He also talked about the role of ask in this whole process that is capacity building of taskforce, facilitating the process and demonstrating the tools to be used for the study, monitoring of the study to ensure quality of the study, etc.

After a tea break session again started with the discussion on the study to be carried out. A question emerged during the orientation that whether it is important to include other communities in this study or it need to be Dalit focused only. Participants expressed that the vulnerability comparison of dalits with different communities has already been don during rapid assessment in 2007, and the findings has clearly revealed that Dalits are the most vulnerable community even at the time of disaster.

After getting views on this a little discussion went on the information that has to be collected during the survey and the different facets to be covered. The following points were suggested by the participants:

- Vulnerability mapping of Dalits,
- Accessibility to the services during disaster.
- Indigenous coping mechanisms
- Getting cases of discrimination with dalits.

After getting some ideas on this, Participants were split into five different groups to discuss on the same topic. After a small break all groups presented their discussions which are as follows:

**Topic: What information / facets should be covered during mapping?**

| Group 1  | Group 2  | Group3   | Group 4  | Group 5  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| - Information regarding discrimination at the time of relief distribution.<br>- Information regarding the number of houses damaged.<br>- Regarding health services, education and accessibility to basic services.<br><br><b>CHALLENGE:</b><br>- Dalit watch coordinators are threatened by the dominants for investigating in the village regarding distribution of | -Disputes among dalits itself.<br>-Illiteracy among dalits is a major cause of their unawareness of Govt. services.<br>-Inaccessibility to services provided by the govt. during floods.<br>-Pathetic condition of women and children during floods.<br>- Unavailability of emergency health services.<br>- Unavailability of fodder for cattle. | - Domination by the influential families.<br>-damage of crops and houses.<br>- Unavailability of high lying areas to take shelter.<br>- Children are unable to go school during floods and even after floods as school building and other safe places are used for procuring food grains and taking shelter. | - No fodder and safety for cattle.<br>- Damage of households.<br>- Unavailability of safe drinking water.<br>- Women face more problems during floods in terms of using toilet.<br>- Worst condition of pregnant women and children.<br>- Scarcity of foods. | - Identifying geographical characteristics of village.<br>- Identifying cases of discrimination<br>- Collecting information about the basic services.<br>-Education of children during floods.<br>-Arrangement for the pregnant ladies during floods and accessibility to the nearest PHC.<br>-Collecting information about the epidemics after flood.<br>Cases of snake |

|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| relief. They are grilled for this and asked to show their identity card that they are working for some organization. |  |  |  | bites and other risks during floods.<br>-Community preparedness for flood. |
|--|--|--|--|--|

In the same direction other facets were also focused that whether flood is important and its history in Bihar. Participants were briefed again about the operation areas of DW, its constituent organization and the number of districts, blocks, panchayats and villages to be covered under the study. All the participants were asked to identifying 27 flood prone and Dalit populated villages in each district, where this exercise will be carried out.

They were also shared the time plan to be followed in the coming days. From each organization 10 district coordinators will be participated in the development of tools and all of them will identify one block coordinator from their district who will be accompanying them in process. Thus a team of 20 participants will be participating for tools development.

| <i>Activities</i>  | <i>Time Plan</i>  | <i>Note</i>                            |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <i>Orientation of the members on scope</i>                               | <i>16<sup>th</sup> July</i>                                 |  |  |
| <i>Participation Approach</i>  | <i>11-14<sup>th</sup> August; 16-19<sup>th</sup> August</i> | <i>First group of 20 Participants</i>  |  |
| <i>Finalization on data collection tools. (quantitative/qualitative)</i> | <i>20-21 August</i>   | <i>Second group of 20 Participants</i> |  |
| <i>Pre-testing of tools</i>  | <i>30-31<sup>st</sup> August</i>                            |  |  |
| <i>Finalization of tools</i>   | <i>1-6 September</i>  |  |  |
| <i>Demonstration to the coordinators by ASK</i>                          | <i>7-8<sup>nd</sup> September</i>                           |  |  |
| <i>Mapping and study in 10 districts</i>                                 | <i>9<sup>th</sup> September onwards</i>                     |  |  |
| <i>Monitoring (ongoing)</i>  | <i>”</i>  |  |  |
| <i>Data compilation,</i>   | <i>1-10</i>   |  |  |

|   |                            |  |  |
|---|----------------------------|--|--|
|   | <i>November</i>            |  |  |
| <i>Data Analysis</i>                        | <i>11-20<br/>November</i>  |  |  |
| <i>Report Compilation</i>                   | <i>By15th<br/>November</i> |  |  |
| <i>Advocacy at district and state level</i> |                            |  |  |

## **Annexure V**

### **IMPORTANT MEETINGS**

#### **Minutes of the Meeting 4/7/08**

A small meeting with ASK was organized at Praxis, it started around 11:00am. Monish was there for this meeting from ASK-Delhi. This meeting focused mainly on the possibilities of integration of ASK with the efforts of Dalit Watch, and planning out accordingly to have a more intensive intervention plan.

#### **Agendas:**

1. Joint study with ASK : Community managed risk reduction
2. Liason with cordaid regarding a joint study with ASK
3. Current interventions to be done.

Sister Sudha initiated with a brief introduction of Dalit watch and vijeta talked about the activity accomplishments of DW so far. A quick round of introduction happened and after that Paul briefed about the emergence of DW and financial constraints DW is going through. A proposal for a joint study with ASK on Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction was put forward in this meeting by Paul. ASK is interested to go for this merger. Thus, the discussion went on focusing on this.

#### **Key Discussion:**

Monish initiated with what Community Managed Risk Reduction is all about, and their previous experiences on this. He shared about the studies they have done and shared about indigenous ways of disaster management that communities usually do and how their traditional coping mechanisms could be developed as a model to other NGOs. He briefed

about the role of ASK as a facilitator it's basically about assisting organizations to have develop deeper insights that how communities could be prepared for disaster conditions.

The scopes of ASK and activities of DW could be merged together and a new scope for mapping exercise could be developed. It was decided to have an orientation of 40 coordinators on the scope and methodology of this study would be conducted. And a practical training of the methodologies and pre-testing of formats would be done in the field itself. This whole exercise would require 8 days. The team of 40 coordinators will be split into two, i.e., 20 coordinators in each team. One meeting with core members could be done regarding finalization of interview schedule formats.

ASK has a provision of 1 lakh that can be utilized for the logistic in this orientation.

Paul also asked about the possibility of merging ASK's scope with DW's scope of the study, Monish was not certain about this thus, he asked for a little time to confirm about this.

**Activity Plan:**

| <i>Activities</i>  | <i>Time Plan</i>  | <i>Remarks</i>                           |
|--|---|--|
| <i>Orientation of the members on scope</i>                               | <i>16<sup>th</sup> July</i>                                     |  |
| <i>Participation Approach</i>  | <i>11-14<sup>th</sup> August;<br/>16-19<sup>th</sup> August</i> | <i>Two batches of 20-20 participants</i> |
| <i>Finalization on data collection tools. (quantitative/qualitative)</i> | <i>20-21 August</i>   |  |
| <i>Pre-testing of tools</i>  | <i>30-31<sup>st</sup> August</i>                                |  |
| <i>Finalization of tools</i>   | <i>1-6 September</i>  |  |
| <i>Demonstration to the coordinators by ASK</i>                          | <i>7-8<sup>nd</sup> September</i>                               |  |
| <i>Mapping and study in 10 districts</i>                                 | <i>9<sup>th</sup> September onwards</i>                         |  |
| <i>Monitoring (ongoing)</i>  | <i>"</i>  |  |
| <i>Data compilation,</i>   | <i>1-10 November</i>  |  |
| <i>Data Analysis</i>   | <i>11-20 November</i>   |  |
| <i>Report Compilation</i>  | <i>By15<sup>th</sup></i>  |  |

|   |                 |  |
|---|-----------------|--|
|   | <i>November</i> |  |
| <i>Advocacy at district and state level</i> |                 |  |

It was decided that by 10<sup>th</sup> of July survey of atleast 5 districts need to be completed, and all the formats need to be compiled before 15<sup>th</sup> for the orientation. Partner organizations will be supporting for the compilation.

A joint account will be opened for Dalit watch (Operators: Sis. Sudha and Vijeta). It was also decided that the allocated budget for the audit exercise need to be transferred in partner's account within two days.

**Responsibilities:** Ranjeev ji was given responsibility to have the printing done.  
Posters (5000), formats (500), Manual (1000)

### **Minutes of the Meeting 3/6/08**

A meeting was organized at Praxis office to review the developments after state level coordinator's training that had been organized on 14-15<sup>th</sup> of May in patna.

#### **Agenda:**

1. Discussion on current financial and other relevant requirements of networks to carryout the activities.
2. Developing a system for individual accountability of activity accomplishments and to reduce financial dependency on one another.

#### **Key Discussion:**

- It's almost 20days after district coordinator's state training, there is an urgent need of circulating manual and survey formats in districts as soon as possible so that audit process can be completed within planned time frame. Although formats have been distributed to the coordinators and they are required to get it Xeroxed as per their sample size but some of them have requested to provide the complete set of formats as they can't afford the cost. Thus, a set of formats need to be provided to them immediately.
- Darbhanga and Madhubani requires 11000 copies of format to start the process, managing things without getting required initial amount has been realized to be difficult by the partner networks.
- Certain reasonable working amount need to be transferred to all the partners to carryout the activities without any delay and dependency on one another. Somehow much awaited training of coordinators was managed under lots of pressure; but this practice should not be repeated every time. There need to be a system; activities should not be delayed when there is a clear provision of funds.
- It was resolved that a clear cash flow need to be designed that how much amount has been allotted to the partners to carryout the activities and expected future

requirements, accordingly all the networks would be accountable for the accomplishment of activities.

- It was felt that in last few meetings same 3-4 members have sat for evaluating developments and constraints, participation of all the members is required for a collective effort to keep up the momentum.
- The date the coming quarterly meeting will be soon communicated to all and participation of all the members is desirable in this meeting.

**Outcome:**

- The audit process need to be completed within a month as per the scheduled time frame, seeing the requirements it was decided that a sum of **15,000 rupees** should be allotted to all the network partners **latest by 15<sup>th</sup> of June** to accomplish the task in time without any delay. (salary of dist./block coordinators: 13,000/- , traveling & contingencies : 2000/-)
- Manual has to be printed in this month. **If possible within a week.**

**Minutes of the meeting 12/4/08**

A Core group meeting was organized at PRAXIS office on 12<sup>th</sup> April around 10:30 am

**Key discussions:**

- Secretariat functions and activities of DW in the context of survey and training conducted so far were discussed and following gaps were realized:
  - Due to lack of funds and other financial support planned activities had to leave half the way.
  - Could not start immediate intervention to monitor post flood relief distribution of govt.
  - Initially it was planned to take up 22 districts, later it was decreased to 10 which has created distrust among the people.
  - People from the community who has been identified for DW taskforce are curious to know when planned activities are going to be started; now it's too late and has become difficult to give them satisfactory answer.
- Paul said, even if we don't get funds in time, we need to mobilize as much as resources on our own to fulfill our commitment and carry out the planned activity on its scheduled time.
- It was decided to organize one orientation of District and Block coordinators in the first week of May and then audit exercise will be started.
- Ajay said, role of Paul in DW is very important and he needs to be there in every quarterly meeting to guide the process apart from supporting in resource mobilization. Paul, comprehended the concern and said it's his duty but he can't be the one leading figure this need to be done the local leaders, he is there for every possible support, guidance and resource mobilization.

- As till now due to lack of grants secretariat could not be set up so Ajoy suggests, in such crisis we should focus more on activities rather than institutionalizing DW but sister Sudha confronted his statement and said it's important to have a separate office for DW to protect it's identity and space for development. Paul also supported her point and said by the time we have a separate office for DW, if PRAXIS agrees it can be operated from here till infrastructure is not available. Anindo accepted Paul's proposal and assured for every possible support.
- Sister sudha raised the concern about salaries of coordinators, Paul suggested now it need to be edited and considered from April.
- Budget was planned for training and materials.

**Outcome:**

- Anindo, Sudha and Vijeta will finalize the proposal for one year.
- Anindo will be the resource person in training and will take responsibility of preparing training materials.
- A state level orientation will be conducted on 6-7<sup>th</sup> May.
- A meeting will be organized on 25<sup>th</sup> in Delhi with Khilesh (ASK) as he will be facilitating the process of DW.

**Minutes of the Meeting 3/3/08**

A core committee meeting was organized on 3<sup>rd</sup> March in Praxis office to discuss about the activities to be taken up in the coming days and other important decisions related to Dalit watch policy/procedures.

**Agendas:**

1. Core committee meeting and issue of nominating representative
2. Paul's responsibility
3. Regarding ChristianAid proposal and three months budget of DW
4. Interventions

**Major discussions/decisions**

***Regarding meetings and nominating representative:***

- Executive meeting: Last Saturday of every month.
- Quaterly General body meeting: with paul & general boby meeting
- In exceptional cases only (illness, visit out of Bihar, other important priorities on the same day) core members can send representative otherwise till DW is not self capable core members have to be there in every meetings.
- Core members need to send their agendas in case it's something very specific one week before to the coordinator so that agendas could be circulated to everyone one week before.

*Members realized the need of Paul's assistance till DW becomes self sustained, Ajay says, DW is a dream of paul and he is the actual visioner, so his backing is really important to get a momentum in the process. Thus, all members decided how Paul could contribute a little more for DW.*

- Key role player in resource mobilization
- Paul need to be present in every quarterly meeting, that is last Saturday of every quarter (Upcoming: Due to the problem of date, this time scheduled date has been extended to 31/03/08)
- Networking, lobbying and advocacy at national level.

***Regarding coming interventions:***

- Though there is lack of funds but interventions need to be carried out even without funds. Thus, Ajoy suggested that space need to be given to DW with partners own ongoing activities for rehabilitation/disaster. Information and materials can be distributed about the government's relief distribution.
- Annindo says, a product need to be designed and accordingly all network partners as per their strength can mobilize human resources and then a mandate can be formulated.
- Paul suggests over phone that immediate survey need to be done to surface information about the houses damaged in floods but members are of a view that by the time survey will be complete all process will be finalized and moreover, there is financial constraint so things cannot be materialized this time.

**Minutes of the Meeting 6/02/08**

A Dalit Watch core group meeting was organized at Praxis office around 11AM to develop an action plan with the district coordinators. Coordinators from Madhubani, Darbhanga and Patna participated in the meeting.

**Objectives of the meeting**

- Finalizing the name of panchayats of selected district.
- Finalizing the tentative dates/ time line for accomplishing planned activities.
- Planning budget requirement to carry out initial major activities.
- Discussion regarding office set up and core member's representative.

**Key Discussions/ Out Come**

Sis. Sudha briefly talked about the discussion and decisions taken in previous core group meeting. She said, from one district, three blocks and six panchayats from each of these blocks would be covered under DW activity plan. Thus, in order to do so a final list of identified panchayats and blocks need to be with DW secretariat for further proceedings.

District coordinators from Madhubani, Darbhanga and Patna presented their list of selected blocks and panchayats, BBA gave the same for two districts Samastipur and Vaishali.

Because of the absence of Mahendra from Dalit Samanway panchayat names from his areas of intervention could not be obtained, district coordinators were given timeline till 15<sup>th</sup> of February to furnish the remaining list of panchayats and the names of block and panchayat coordinators.

It was discussed that initially following information need to be obtained at the district, block and panchayat level:

- Total population
- Dalit population
- Tolas / revenue villages where the concentration of dalit population is high
- List of revenue villages
- Important contact numbers of bureaucrats, superintendent of police, community representatives, etc.
- Contact details of coordinators and DW offices at district, block and panchayat level
- Contacts of concerned persons in disaster management cell in the districts

#### **Important Time Line**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Training  | By first week of March                                   |
| Mapping   | By end of April  |
| Task force formation at panchayat / village level |  |
| Sangathanas at block & district level             | By end of February                                       |
| Printing of materials- Manual, Report & Posters   | By 25 <sup>th</sup> February - Responsibility to Ranjeev |

#### **Minutes of the meeting 17/01/08**

A core group meeting was organized at Praxis office on 17<sup>th</sup> of January at 10 pm to streamline the process of DW and develop activity plan for one year. The objectives of the meeting are as follows:

- Nomination for convener and Co-convener of DW.
- Finalize one year budget requirement for DW
- Identify the Districts and blocks to be covered
- Activity planning

#### **Key decisions:**

- Sister Sudha was nominated for Convener and Ghanshyam will be Co-Convener of DW. Their tenure will be for six months on rotation basis after six months this responsibility will be given to another partner.

- Vijeta will be coordinating DW office and will be responsible for managing the entire process of DW.
- The number of districts was reduced from 22 to 10 districts due to budget constraints. Now in one district three blocks and six panchayats from each block will be selected. The following names of districts were proposed by the DW constituents:

DSS: Khagariya and Banka

LSS: Darbhanga and Madhubani

BSMA: West Champaran and Katihar

NG: Patna

BBA: ----- (Not present in the meeting)

- Following activities were discussed and finalized:
  - capacitation of panchayat/ block/district leaders and committees.
  - Periodic review and planning.
  - Monitoring and legal skills promotion.
  - Advocacy at block/district/ state level
  - Handbook & posters printing
  - Campaign for entitlements at district and state level.
  - Formation of committees at block level.
- A one one year budget requirement for DW was developed.



**\*\*\*Picture Gallery\*\*\***



Participation of Dalit Watch in Stand up and speak out event on 17<sup>th</sup> Oct. at Madhubani.



Dalit Watch Panchayat leader's TOT in Jhanjharpur, organized by LSS.

**दलित बॉय**  
**दो दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यशाला**

