

26 years of SSVK's Journey



# Samajik Shaikshanik Vikas Kendra

An Initiative in Grassroots Mobilization,  
People's Action and Coordination of Voluntary Efforts  
For Policy Advocacy, RTI, Development, Environment, Disaster Mitigation and Social Change



Winner of  
Green Globe Foundation  
Award 2010

Nominee of  
Noble Peace Prize  
2005

Winner of  
Outlook Speak Out  
Award 2006







SSVK , North Bihar Training Cum Field Office, Jhanjhapur, Dist - Madhubani (Bihar)



Lok Shakti Bhawan, SSVK State Coordination Office Patna

## BACKGROUND AND GENESIS

Samajik Shaikshanik Vikas Kendra was registered as a society in 1986. Shri Deepak Bharti, the founder of this organisation, had his initiation into social commitment in the course of the 1974 students' movement that broke out all over Bihar. Subsequently, he stayed in student politics involved in issue-based rather than party-based activity. In 1982 he took to journalistic activism, starting off with a daily called Janmat in Dhanbad. In 1984 he moved to Madhubani and launched a weekly called Samachar Darpan from there. Financial difficulties led to the winding up of this weekly. Next, he worked as a journalist for the Patliputra Times, Navbharat Times and Hindustan. As a journalist, Shri Bharti, consistently focussed on issues relevant to the welfare of the deprived and marginalised sections of society. Moved by the phenomena of discrimination, deprivation and disintegration of the society as a whole and inspired by the ideals of Jai Prakash Narain and Mahatma Gandhi, he, along with other young minds, formally registered SSVK under the Societies Registration Act, 21, 1860. Its registration under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) of Government of India followed subsequently in 1989.

## AREA OF OPERATION

The organisation is at present working intensively in Madhubani, Saharsa, Madhepura, Darbhanga and Supaul districts of Bihar. Over the years the organization has geographically extended its coverage around mobilisation of identical target groups in 13 other districts of Bihar (India)



## PROBLEMS OF THE AREA

The problems of the area where SSVK is intensely working are unique owing to its location and the socio-economic political set up. The major problems of the area which cumulatively impact on perpetuating the marginal status of the organisation's target group are:



## INIQUITOUS LAND HOLDING

- Improper & indifferent implementation of land reforms
- Redistribution of ceiling-surplus and bhoodani land not enforced
- Displacement of bonafide title holders who had benefitted from redistribution of bhoodani lands
- Illegal encroachment of the gairmajarua lands by the dominant sections
- Tenurial rights not secured
- Depressed wages





### Recurrent floods and the consequent restricted period of agricultural operations - low wage - large scale migration.

- Period of agricultural operations severely restricted by the recurrence of floods.
- The target group, largely landless and at best a marginal holder: opportunities of agricultural wage labour consequently uncertain and limited. Absence of alternative employment opportunities further depresses wages.
- High incidence of seasonal migration in search of wage earning opportunities
- Displacement of the flood affected
- High incidence of water borne diseases



SSVK Boat & Relief Materials with flood victims

### DEPENDENCY ON MONEYLENDERS

- Poor dependent on moneylenders for meeting their consumptive needs. Exorbitant interest rates ranging from 5 to 10% charged per month. Makes the poor fall into the debt trap. Often have to forfeit their homestead plots. Inability to pay and fear of reprisal make some even flee their villages.



SSVK Initiated Grain Bank

### SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS

- Low literacy level
- Lack of safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation
- Problem of housing
- Child labour and child marriage
- Exploitation of women at times even sexual
- Discrimination on lines of caste, class and gender
- Superstitious beliefs and practices
- Poor functionality of health and educational services
- Poor credit outreach of the banking institutions



Then Opposition Leader Sri Sushil Modi with Lok Shakti Sangathan/SSVK Sit ins at Patna stressing on the issues of PRI, RTI & livelihood

- Apathetic implementation of government development and welfare programmes resulting in poor outreach to the target population
- Inadequate strengthening of Panchayati institutions
- Appropriation of institutions of local governance (panchayats) by vested interests
- Political, social, cultural, economic and educational neglect of the area

### INFRASTRUCTURAL BACKWARDNESS

- Communication linkages are extremely weak. Riverine regime leaves water as the main channel of communication. Floods and insufficient boats leave even this mode of communication extremely weak. Pitch roads are virtually absent and unpaved roads are grossly insufficient. The area is extremely deficient in public utilities like hospitals and schools. Given the extreme backwardness of the area, even the government remains apathetic to the needs of the area.



SSVK Volunteers in Kosi







SSVK Child Care Center in Kosi

## TARGET GROUP

The target group of the organisation primarily consists of below poverty line Mushar families. In addition commitment also lies with other below poverty line groups coming from other scheduled castes, depressed backward classes and minorities. These communities comprise the most depressed sections of the society. Embedded structural inequity (class and caste) in a context of extreme ecological vulnerability (recurrent floods) has been responsible for their extreme poverty by limiting their access to, and control over, assets, education, health care and other constitutionally ordained entitlements. The communities tend to depend on agricultural wages or casual non-farm jobs for income, as a large percentage are landless, owning, if any, lower quality livestock. Even such opportunities are rendered scarce by the recurrent floods and the poor evolution of the secondary and tertiary sectors in the region forcing men to depend on seasonal migration to bigger cities or other states to secure their livelihood.



Musahar (Maha Dalit) Community of Bihar

For most of the year, predominantly women, children and elderly people are left in the villages. Historically

marginalised with literally no opportunities to participate in decision-making processes, the marginalisation of the target communities manifests itself even in spatial terms as they reside on the periphery of the settlements in a hamlet at some distance from the village. Dominant social forces coupled with the drudgery entailed in meeting survival needs hardly allow these communities to organise and to resort to development initiatives collectively. Fatalism is a predominant characteristic of these communities who look upon their present state as a fate ordained for them by some superior force which in turn hinders any conscious building of social capital. Thus class and caste characteristics get strongly associated with lack of opportunities with scheduled castes being thrice as poor when compared with upper castes. Lack of education, poor health, inadequate access to safe drinking water and sanitation and poor hygienic conditions get further perpetuated by these high levels of poverty.



Musahar (Maha Dalit) Community of Bihar fighting for survival by eating snails and rats

## ORGANISATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Locating the developmental anomaly in structural causes such as control/ownership of and access to resources; economic, political and social structures; ideological factors (habits, beliefs, cultural preferences); and insufficient awareness and knowledge; SSVK stands committed to the effective empowerment of the



marginalised people. It lays a strategic focus on the element of local action, treating it as an essential part of the development process involving changes, most important of which is, in the attitude and action of the marginalised who become participants in the process itself. Rural development is viewed as a complex process involving continuous reorientation and adaptation of traditional values, practices and institutions in order to facilitate appropriate interventions/technologies to enhance quality of life and welfare, and the consequent bargaining /negotiating powers, of the disenfranchised and the disempowered.

## VISION

The organisation envisions the establishment of an egalitarian society devoid of any kind of discrimination and exploitation based on caste, class, gender, race or religion: a society that would permit the collective flowering of human potential for humane ends.

## MISSION

The organisation's mission is to work for the effective empowerment of the socially, economically, ecologically and politically marginalised people through their conscientisation, mobilisation and organization around issues impinging on their development to ensure their equitable participation in the societal mainstream.

## STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

The methodology adopted by the organisation for the attainment of its goal is one of a harmonious blend of the twin approaches of activism/struggle and development.



### *The Mobilisational Approach:*

Samajik Shaikshanik Vikas Kendra (SSVK), with its project area in one of the most backward pockets of Bihar, has been involved in grassroots mobilisation, organisation, and facilitating mass activities to enable the most marginalised sections of society [the dalits (the scheduled castes) in particular] to access their rights and entitlements. In its perception, the way to effective empowerment is one hinging on and oriented towards evolving autonomous community based organizations endowed with capabilities required for the actualisation of a spirit of self-determination and self-reliance. The organisation's approach received a major thrust in the direction of activism through its extensive capacity building at the

grassroots geared towards creation of a trained and informed pool of social animators, mostly from its target community. A significant fall out of this intervention has been the evolution of a strategic network of community based organisations, under the banner of Lok Shakti Sangathan, a frontal organisation with an avowed aim to facilitate issue based interventions from time to time and advocate for desired changes in the policy framework. This network, now intensively spread over 1709 villages of 18 districts of Bihar, has contributed greatly towards enhancing the self-esteem and self-worth of these families. Strategies deployed for mobilisation involve intensive animation inputs at the village level, periodic larger meets on entitlement related issues and mass contact programmes through 'Padyatras'. Protest strategies involve petitioning, demonstrations, sit ins and legal redressal.



SSVK /LSS members in World Social Forum at Mumbai

### *The Developmental Approach:*

Given the level of government apathy and the prolonged time factor, which inheres in entitlement oriented struggles, SSVK, in order to cater to some of the crucial needs of the people, also undertakes sectoral interventions like primary health care, non formal education and income generation, with an emphasis on thrift and credit operations. Even in these interventions the emphasis has been on promoting the self-help initiatives and the limited service delivery that has been there in these interventions has been strategically geared towards demand generation at the target group level for their effective mobilization.



SSVK Distributed Riskhaw among Kosi victims

## OBJECTIVES

Within its developmental perspective, the organisation is committed to the following objectives:

- Facilitate the integration of the deprived sections in



rural areas into the societal mainstream through their social and economic development and political empowerment

- Create amidst them an awareness of their physical, social, economic, legal and political environment to induce an attitude of meaningful and constructive action on their part
- Enable the empowerment of its target population through organizing them as self-defining groups with a strong sense of self-identity and with capacities to act as a pressure group.
- Promote gender equity
- Foster conditions for enhanced access of the target group to services and entitlements from the governments
- Utilise all the project based interventions as an opportunity for affecting policy level choices at the government level
- Network with all like minded groups committed to the cause of empowerment of the poor through people's action
- Ensure human rights of the target group
- Promote pro-poor governance.
- Build resilience of communities to ecological vulnerabilities



## PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

The programmes and activities being run in the intervention villages include:



- Income Generation with emphasis on facilitating control over and access to land and water based productive resources, ensuring just wages and enabling access to the welfare and developmental programmes

of the govt. Additionally promote complementary income generating initiatives through thrift and credit initiatives.



- Consciousness raising on relief and rehabilitation related issues coupled with carrying out relief and rehabilitative interventions and running pilots on disaster preparedness.
- Health Education and promotion of primary health care with an emphasis on reproductive and child health, water, sanitation and hygiene.
- Non Formal Education and Adult Education with a focus on socially relevant education and an equal opportunity of participation for the girl child.
- Rehabilitation of child labour
- Legal Assistance and Education
- Environmental Awareness and mobilisation on the ecologically sensitive issues of the project area
- Capacity Building of organisational staff on sectoral and cross sectoral issues
- Training of social animators and community level leaders
- Capacity building of community leaders in accessing benefits of the key pro-poor initiatives of the government like panchayati raj, RTI and NREGA



- Publication of newsletter & information dissemination through thematic publications on issues of relevance to the development of the marginalized
- Networking and Advocacy
- Community Organisation is the key activity in the organisation's scheme of development. Apart from being the organising and integrating basis of the externally aided concrete constructive interventions in project based villages, the social mobilisation initiatives have extended their outreach to 1709 villages



spread out over 18 districts. All villages have an active community organisation, their functionality highlighted by the existence of a vibrant Gram Kosh (internally generated financial resource pool through community contribution) into which contributions are regularly made.



SSVK Relief Camp during Kosi flood



SSVK frontal organisation LSS demanding their rights through procession

dependence of its target group members on the local money lenders but also enabled them to sustain many a struggle for their rights.

- SSVK's leadership development initiatives at the community level have led to the Lok Shakti Sangathan being instrumental in the formation of 1039 SHGs in the districts of Madhubani Saharsa, Supaul and Darbhanga

## HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Network of Community Organisations, under the banner of Lok Shakti Sangathan (LSS), now spreads over 1709 villages. Approximately, 1,62,355 families stand mobilised under this initiative. It has contributed greatly towards enhancing the self-esteem and self-worth of these families.
- The popular acceptance and practice of 'Gram Kosh' (villagers' own fund through fixed monthly contributions and its development as a revolving fund for the benefit of the members) in all these villages has been a major achievement for the organisation particularly in terms of its enabling capacity for self-help. As on date the Lok Shakti Sangathan has a collectively generated internal resource pool of approximately Rs 1,87,80,150/- (Rupees One crore eighty seven lakhs eighty thousand one hundred and fifty only). It has not only reduced the



SSVK Distributed Blankets Among Kosi victims





4. SSVK's target group has been able to sustain struggles and wrest victories on issues related to just wages, control over land and water related productive resources, access to governmental development and welfare programmes and redressal of issues pertaining to victimisation by the local administration and dominant elements within their village set up. LSS members, have successfully struggled to lay claim to 947 acres of land and 52 ponds with a cumulative area of 197 acres and struggle to gain control over another 1215 acres of land and pond area continues.



5. Deeply committed to the cause of environmental regeneration and ecological sustainability, the organization has not stayed content with laying claim to land and water resources but has gone beyond to the regeneration of these often degraded resources through shramdan (voluntary contribution of labour). Land and pond user committees of the poor have been set up for productive and sustainable management of land and water resources brought under control. These committees have helped in regeneration conservation, construction and innovative use of the assets that were mostly acquired in a highly degraded state.
6. Sustained environmental awareness campaigns have been carried out to increase green cover in the intervention area and for promotion of sustainable agriculture wherein the focus has been on promotion of traditional seeds and crops with emphasis on rational usage of fertilizers (preferably organic manure) and irrigation.

7. SSVK has conducted 5 CAPART sponsored 'Training of Trainers' programme wherein 2 trainers each were covered from 300 NGOs. Furthermore it has trained over 700 Social Animators and 120 Social Organisers. Many of these trained animators came from the organisation's target community and were subsequently instrumental in setting up community based organisations now part of the 'Lok Shakti' umbrella. They still stay very active in mobilisation, organisation and the petition, protests and struggles of the poor without ever having drawn any stipendary support from the organisation. They share their linkages with the organisation in terms of guidance on perspective and strategic choices.
8. Members from its target group have been elected to various tiers of the Panchayati Raj. The organisation has been instrumental in setting up of a Panchayat Adhikar Samiti to ensure the effective devolution of powers to the Panchayati bodies. Training and mass awareness camps for effective functioning of the Panchayat bodies have been carried out which have promoted more responsible functioning on the part of elected representatives and also contributed to informed participation by the target group members in the gram sabha meetings.



The organization convened a conference in November 2005 to pass a set of 22 resolutions on desired reforms in the Panchayati Raj Act, the most notable amongst which was the submission of a memorandum to government for 50% reservation for women in Panchayati bodies which

## RECOGNITIONS & AWARDS





in fact was done three months prior to the Government of Bihar taking a policy decision on it.

9. Through its health intervention it has appreciably improved the health status of its target group on indicators pertaining to infant mortality, maternal mortality, child mortality, incidence of malnutrition. Particularly sustainable gains at the community level have been the creation of a pool of trained TBAs capable of conducting safe deliveries and that of health promoters with skills of ante-natal and post natal check up and diagnostic abilities for addressing minor ailments occurring in the community. Attitudinal and behavioural change as reflected in improved dietary practices and the wide scale adoption of ORS as a response to diarrhoeal outbreak have been the other notable gains.
10. Another significant achievement of the organisation has been in the area of primary education. A major thrust of the organisation here has been the setting up of NFE centres to kindle the interest of the target group children in education and motivation of their wards about the significance of education with the eventual aim of enrolling the children in the formal education system. With support from Swiss Red Cross the organisation had been running 20 NFE centres in 20 villages. A survey conducted in these 20 villages in 2001 found that 656 children of the eligible age group from the target group were still not attending any school. A major drive for their enrollment either in government schools or NFE centres eventually led to the number of non school going children coming down to 150 from 656 by March 2003. The organisation has also backed up its efforts of enrollment in government schools by ensuring that the various governmental schemes, like scholarships, incentives and nutrition support, targetted at the underprivileged children actually reach them. Community representatives regularly monitor



these schemes. These efforts have helped bring down the drop out rate of target group children from the government schools. A survey conducted in the government schools in and around the aforementioned 20 villages found that of a total of 4339 children enrolled in these schools, 822 came from the dalit community. The CBOs are being regularly motivated by the organisation to petition the relevant authorities for improving student teacher ratio and to look into the absence of teachers from government schools. An NFE initiative along similar lines was carried out in 35 villages of Saharsa district with support from ActionAid, India. As part of the ActionAid supportive initiative, an innovative approach called 'REFLECT' was adopted for running adult literacy classes. *Reflect* is an innovative approach to adult learning and social change, which fuses the theories of Paulo Freire with the methodologies of participatory rural appraisal. Originally developed in pilot projects in Bangladesh, El Salvador and Uganda between 1993-95, Reflect is now used by over 500 organisations in around 70 countries worldwide.

11. SSVK has conducted state level review workshop of social organisers and social animators as well as a regional review workshop of 10 states of eastern and north eastern India.
12. The organisation has been instrumental in the installation of 550 ( PH-6 ) & India Mark II handpumps, making of 150 modified treadle pumps; the construction of 900 low cost latrines and construction and renovation of 100 houses. These works were carried out with the assistance of CAPART(Govt.of.India), DRDA(Govt. of Bihar) and Swiss Red Cross. In line with the organisation's overall approach of encouraging community participation and community management of these assets, these installations were mandatorily accompanied by the training of local masons and hand pump mechanics and the responsibility for the maintenance of these assets was vested in popularly elected village committees. Regular drinking water and sanitation campaigns were carried out to sensitise the communities.
13. The organisation has also been instrumental in carrying out relief operations as it works in a flood and





earthquake endemic area. However, the approach has been to involve the beneficiaries not as passive recipients but as active relief workers in the running of the relief camps. Since 2002, panchayat representatives have also been involved as members in the Relief Disbursement Committee instituted by the organisation for effective implementation and monitoring of relief operations. Given its longstanding experience in the area of relief and rehabilitative interventions, SSVK, in the aftermath of the catastrophic Kosi Floods of 2008, could successfully leverage corporate, bi lateral and INGO assistance to reach out to 48,000 families with relief and rehabilitation package. The scale of coverage went way beyond what it had been able to achieve in the past.

14. The organization, in the aftermath of 2007 floods, initiated a pilot intervention for enhancing the disaster preparedness capacities of the vulnerable communities that it works with in Ghanshyampur Block of Darbhanga district. 15 villages and 4,000 families were targeted as part of this initiative which led to creation of 55 grain banks, one each for the 55 hamlets, in which the targeted families in these villages lived. Additionally, a disaster preparedness programme was carried out in these 15 villages through formation of Disaster Management Committees (DMC) in each village and capacity building of the DMC members as trainers in disaster preparedness. Another intervention aimed at addressing the health needs of the communities, particularly during floods, led to the creation of a trained pool of traditional birth attendants and health volunteers in all the 15 villages with a coverage of 55 hamlets.
15. In the aftermath of 2007 floods, SSVK also entered into a collaboration with All India Disaster Management Institute (AIDMI). This partnership which started off with emergency relief response moved on to the rehabilitative stage incorporating the following interventions:
  - reconstruction of houses damaged in the floods
  - assistance for restoration of livelihoods
  - provision of solar lanterns as a clean and viable lighting option



SSVK Transparency.  
Fix display board  
with mtg list in the hamlet

SSVK is also a member of Training and Learning Circle (TLC) which is a community of Disaster Risk Reduction

(DRR) practitioners that seeks to strengthen the interface between training and education in DRR. TLC promotes continuous knowledge exchange among training institutions, universities, and DRR organizations across India, Asia, and beyond. The overall purpose of TLC is to enhance learning through South-South knowledge and solution exchanges with a focus on addressing systemic gaps and topics in training and education. TLC focuses on supporting and developing Asia's professional training assets for disaster risk management. The TLC Community of Practice works on system-wide issues relating to DRR training and education in India and beyond.

For more on TLC kindly visit

[http://www.tlc.adviewdesigns.com/connect\\_with\\_other\\_TLC\\_members.html](http://www.tlc.adviewdesigns.com/connect_with_other_TLC_members.html)



TLC Meeting with Bihar NGOs organised by SSVK at Patna

16. A food for work programme, supported by CASA, was utilised for the excavation of a filled up pond over which the target group had been able to gain control after a protracted struggle.
17. A fierce critic of the state driven policy of trying to control floods through structural works, the organization has been instrumental in taking the lead in setting up the **Nadi Mukti Andolan** in coordination with other civil society organizations to educate and advocate on the debilitating impacts of embankments and the proposed high dams in Nepal and the need to live in synchronization with the natural riverine regime of the area.



18. Apart from addressing the root causes of the flooding problem, the advocacy centred initiatives of the organization have also been geared towards galvanizing state response and inclusion of the most marginalized in the relief and recovery operations initiated by the various stakeholders most importantly the government.





19. Working in one of the most poverty endemic pockets of Bihar, one of the most impoverished states of India, SSVK, clearly recognises the role of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in getting around the seemingly insurmountable obstacles of infrastructural backwardness and resource poverty of its operational area for adequately and effectively addressing its organisational mission of the effective empowerment of the socially, economically and politically marginalised people. Since 2008 the organization has embarked on an initiative, in partnership with SEWA and with support from UNDP, that seeks to put ICTs directly into the service of the poor that it works with. This initiative has resulted in the setting up of a community learning centre in the premises of SSVK's **North Bihar Training Cum Field Office** in J.P.Gram, Balbhadrapur village of Jhanyharpur Sub Division.

now has been initiated on a small scale and the key activities being undertaken include the following:

- Computer and self employment related training
- Computer repairing
- Computer print outs in black and white
- Photo/Document Scanning
- Bio data typing and printing
- Writing of files on CD
- Internet surfing for information, education and employment opportunities
- Internet access for e-mailing

Having made a small beginning, SSVK, given its belief in the relevance of ICT for rural development and its consequent familiarity with the larger picture, is confident that the not only the number of CLCs would multiply but they would also evolve to a stage where they become single window delivery mechanism for tele medicine, tele education, natural resource data, agriculture advisories, land & water resources advisories; interactive farmers' advisories; e-governance services and weather advisories and information required for micro entrepreneurs development support.



The CLCs have been conceptualised as decentralised and integrated hubs which use a sustainable ICT based model for addressing economic and social problems of rural poor, resulting from a lack of access to needed information with each CLC catering to a cluster of villages falling in its catchment. The collaboration between SEWA and SSVK in the setting up of CLC as of

20. Publication of a quarterly newsletter by the name of 'Lok Shakti' for the past 15 years.
21. Publication of 'Bihar Insight' a thematic compilation of news clippings on issues like floods, other disasters, health, education, gender, human rights, dalit rights, environment, food security, governance, social action and advocacy.
22. Under the school to school cloth for work programme, clothes (around sixty thousand pieces of clothes), schools mats, bags & notebooks and around ten thousand sanitary napkins for women have been distributed with the help of GOONJ, New Delhi.
23. Lok Shakti Sangathan is one of the nine Indian member constituents of the World Dignity Forum and has been an active co-participant in the conferences, public rallies and protest marches organized by it in the interest of





**Madhubani Community Pond digged by villagers with the help of SSVK**

the dalit communities. The World Dignity Forum is a forum against casteism, racism, other forms of discrimination and exclusion. The Forum in India roots itself amongst Dalits and Dalit organisations, and consists of more than 125 social, cultural, voluntary, Dalit and non-governmental organisations. Within the country, it also endeavours to reach out to other progressive, secular and struggling sections of the society and their organisations. The key constituents of the Peoples' Dignity Rallies at the all-India level are the *National Conference of Dalit Organisations*, *National Forum for Forest People and Forest Workers*, *All India Pasmada Muslim Mahaz*, *Lok Shakti Sangathan*, *Lok Shakti Abhiyan*, *National Federation for Dalit Women*, *All India Backward Classes Forum* and *National Campaign Committee for Construction Workers*. As a constituent of this forum, Lok Shakti Sangathan organized a public rally in New Delhi in 2005 as a "Musahar Rights Day" to give the problems of the Musahar, a recognition on the national level. Ten thousand musahars, under the banner of Lok Shakti Sangathan, participated in the rally which was followed up the next day by a march to the Parliament. This event had also the participation of dalit groups from all over the country.



**Representatives from Oxfam, Save the Children, Caritas, Christian Aid, Action Aid, Unicef, World Bank, Coard Aid, Bipard & SSVK at Dalit Watch in Disaster Meeting, Patna**



**SSVK Secretary at 6th WTO ministerial level conference in Hongkong**

24. The organisational Secretary has been an invitee participant in the World Social Forum Meets held in Mumbai and Brazil. The organization Secretary also visited Hong Kong on the occasion of 6<sup>th</sup> WTO ministerial level conference.
25. Two Dalit women from SSVK and LSS were nominated for Nobel Peace Prize 2005 and were among the 91 nominated from all over India. In recognition of their nomination, the Ryan Foundation awarded them with "Women of Substance Award 2004". One of the two also received "Out Look Speak Out Award 2005".



**UPA Chairperson, Sonia Gandhi giving Outlook Speak Out Award to SSVK member Tiliya Devi in Delhi**





26. Since 2007 SSVK has been a part of Dalit Watch in Disaster Mitigation Bihar along with 5 networks of people's organization and NGOs. In the aftermath of 2007 floods in Bihar, Dalit Watch, a forum for Equity and Inclusion of Discriminated in Relief and Rehabilitation, carried out an extensive survey spread over 11 districts, 112 blocks, 716 panchayats and 2378 villages. On the basis of data of gathered and analysed, the assessment confirmed the fact that relief distributed by the government was far short of the actual need and many villages were yet to receive them. Further, even where relief was distributed, *dalits* and other marginalized communities had very limited 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 Baarh Sukhad Mukti Andolan*, *Dalit Samanway*, *Lokshakti Sangathan*, *Nari Gunjan* and *NCDHR* and the collective is backed by the support of *Praxis Institute for Participatory Practices*. Subsequently the activities of Dalit Watch have been geared towards the following:



- i. Assessing damaged of life, habitation and livelihood of marginalized communities through rapid assessment, accessing government database, building database;
- ii. Building a network of cadre at panchayat, block and districts level and orientating them on rapid assessment monitoring mechanisms
- iii. 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 and state level advocacy for strengthening demands from the community.

27. Most recently, the organization has been awarded the prestigious Green Globe Foundation Award for the year 2010 (Category Extraordinary Work by an NGO) in recognition of its seminal role as a civil society organisation contributing to the causes of sustainable development which, while subscribing to the principles of social equity and justice, has also upheld the cause of a cleaner greener, and more secure world. A joint initiative of Wizcraft International Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. and the International Indian Film Academy, The Green Globe is a campaign platform to highlight the Climate Crisis besieging our world. The Green Globe Foundation is partnered by distinguished knowledge partners: the United Nations Environment Program and The Energy Resources Institute (TERI) led by Dr. RK Pachauri. The award is adjudicated by a distinguished panel of jury comprising, Mr. M.C. Mehta, Mr. Darryl D' Monte and Mr. Kartikeya

V. Sarabhai. The award was conferred on February 5, 2010 in New Delhi by Actress Ms. Dimple Kapadia and Nobel laureate TERI Director General and The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ( IPCC ) chairman Dr R.K. Pachauri in an event, attended by a large number of world dignitaries including, First African woman and environmentalist to win the Nobel Peace Prize, Ms. Wangrai Muta Maathai, his Excellency Jigme Yoeir Thinley, the Prime Minister of Bhutan and first female Prime Minister of Norway, Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtlands. The event was also supported by environment television partner CNBC-TV 18, CNBC AWAZ and CNN IBN .



SSVK / LSS Padyatra (Footmarch) in Kosi - Kamla Region of Bihar





## ORGANISATIONAL RESOURCES

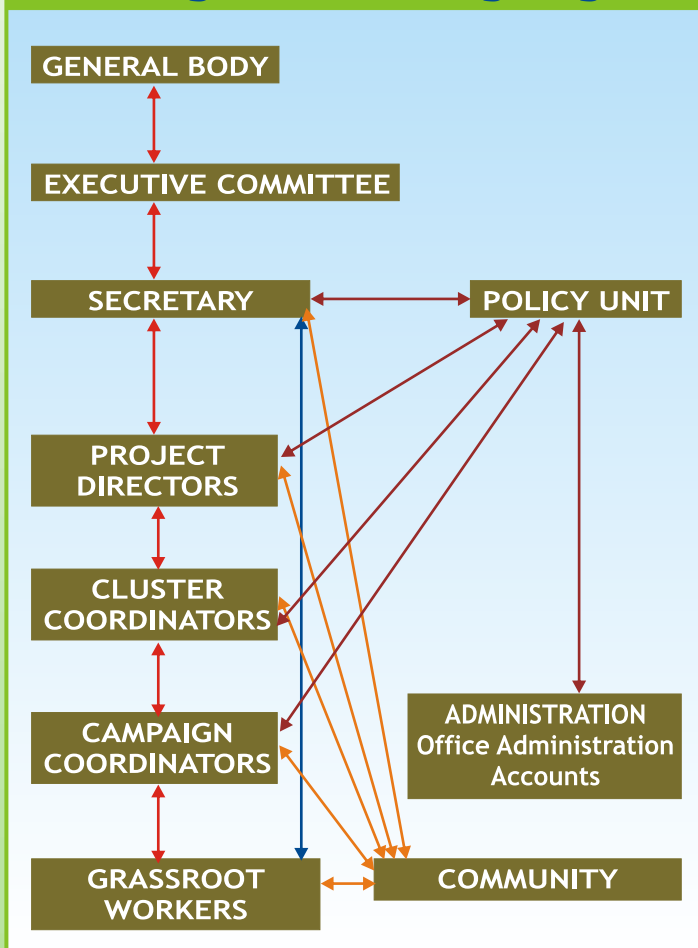
### Financial

80G Donations  
Membership Fee  
Local Contributions  
Government of India  
Government of Bihar  
Grant-in-aid from national and international agencies  
Grant-in-aid from corporate

### Physical Assets

Land  
Training cum Residential Centre in 60000 SQ Feet  
Office Furniture and Equipment  
Motor Vehicle both four wheeler and two wheeler  
Bicycles  
Projector, TV, DVD and Generator  
Computer and Accessories  
Telephone, Fax and Internet  
Typewriter and Cystyling Machine  
Mega - Mike  
Musical Instruments  
Medical Instruments

### SSVK Organisational Organogram



### STAFF STRENGTH

The SSVK team presently consists of 45 full time & 61 part time staff backed up by a huge volunteer force of 3418 comprising 2 community leaders from each of the 1709 villages falling under the Lok Shakti Samgathan umbrella

## SOURCES OF FUNDING

- CAPART (Govt. of India)
- SIDA, Sweden
- Oxfam, England
- USIP, USA
- ActionAid International
- Christian Aid UK
- HSBC Bank Mumbai
- United Way of Mumbai
- Sir Dorabji Tata Trust
- Krishna Arpanam Mumbai
- Principal Asset
- Merrill Lynch
- Amnesty International
- Swiss Red Cross, Switzerland
- Heinrich Boll Foundation, Germany
- All India Disaster Mitigation Institute, Ahmedabad
- Swiss Labour Assistance (SLA) Switzerland & AWO International e.V. Germany through Life Help Chennai
- Artist Subodh Gupta, Bharti Kher, Nature Morte, Trident Gurgaon and Saffronart
- Taj Public Service Welfare Trust, Mumbai
- Transparency International
- New Horizon Educational Institution, Bangalore
- Many Individuals
- DRDA (Govt. of Bihar)
- CIDA, Canada
- IGSSS, Germany
- Helpage India
- The Hunger Project, USA
- CoardAid Netherland
- SIDA, Canada
- UNICEF
- Accenture, USA
- M Tech Mahindra
- SEWA
- UNDP

### REGISTRATIONS & BANKS DETAILS

Registered under [Society Registration Act XXI](#), 1860 by IG Registration, Govt. of Bihar at Patna Dated 5th April 1986 Registration No - 162 Year 1986-87

Registered under [Foreign Contribution Regulation Act](#) FCRA Regn No- 031290010, Dated-14 march 1990

Registered under [12A of Income Tax Act](#). Regn No-12A/1-70/344- 48 dated 09.04.1991. Register Sl No -03

Registered under section [80G Income Tax Exemption Act](#) No-2808-09

Registered under [TAN \(Tax deduction at source account number\)](#) Tan No-PTNS02583A

Registered under [PAN \(Permanent account number\)](#) Pan No-AADTS2221G

#### FCRA - ACCOUNT DETAILS : Core Banking

STATE BANK OF INDIA, JHANJHARPUR,  
Bank Code: 03266 IFSC Code: SBIN0003266  
Account No: 11462682338

#### GENERAL ACCOUNT DETAILS

STATE BANK OF INDIA, JHANJHARPUR  
Bank Code: 03266 IFSC Code: SBIN0003266  
Account No 11462685088

#### INDUSIND BANK

Account No: 0055F62519-001 IFSC Code: INDB0000055  
Multi-City Savings Account  
Rajendraram Plaza, Exhibition Road, PATNA-800001

### STATUTORY AUDITORS

M/S G.MANDAL AND CO (Chartered Accountants),  
Near Indira Bhawan, West Boring Canal Road  
New Punaichak, Patna-800 023  
Phone-+91-612-6570566. Mobile- 9835274290, 9473383747





**Deepak Bharti**  
CEO & Founder Secretary  
SSVK

SSVK stands committed to the effective empowerment of the marginalised people. It lays a strategic focus on the element of local action, treating it as an essential part of the development process involving changes, most important of which is, in the attitude and action of the marginalised who become participants in the process itself. Rural development is viewed as a complex process involving continuous reorientation and adaptation of traditional values, practices and institutions in order to facilitate appropriate interventions/technologies to enhance quality of life and welfare. We through SSVK have adopted the methodology for the attainment of its goal is one of a harmonious blend of the twin approaches of activism/struggle and development. Community based organisations have strategic networking relationships in all the target areas under the banner of **Lok Shakti Sangathan**, a frontal organisation with an avowed aim to facilitate issue based interventions from time to time based on self reliant and self determined Strategies.

*Through this brochure we aim to reach out our motto and vision of SSVK and its activities so far so that it is influential in bringing a positive change in the society.*

*Deepak Bharti*

## GLIMPSES



6 kms long makeshift shelter at Flood Relief Camp of SSVK



SSVK Secretary participating in World Social Forum in Brazil



Livelihood programme supported by SSVK for Kosi flood victims



Country Boats provided by SSVK and supported by Swiss Red Cross to flood affected people



SSVK & Taj Public Service Welfare Trust (TATA Enterprise) Fire & Cyclone Disaster Response in June - July 2010







# Samajik Shaikshanik Vikas Kendra

## NORTH BIHAR TRAINING CUM FIELD OFFICE

J.P. Gram, Balbhadrapur, Jhanjharpur (R.S.), Dist. Madhubani - 847403. BIHAR, INDIA

Telephone No : 91-6273- 222242 Mobile : 9973161483

## STATE COORDINATION OFFICE PATNA

Lok Shakti Bhawan, Opp. Ajay Nilayan Apartment, Nageshwar Colony, Patna - 800001

Telephone No. - 91-612 2522077. Mobile: 09431025801. Fax-91-612-2522077

E-mail : info@ssvk.org , ssvkindia@gmail.com , ngossvky86@yahoo.com

Web Site : www.ssvk.org

## Our Donors & Supporters
