

# ANNUAL REPORT

2008-09



**ARPAN SEVA SANSTHAN**

## INTRODUCTION

**ARPAN SEVA SANSTHAN**, a non - profit organization, registered under the Rajasthan Societies Registration Act 1958, was brought up in shape on 29<sup>th</sup> March 1996.

A team of young professionals from Agricultural Engineering background who were having a dedication & commitment to serve Rural India is the most blinking feature of the organization.

Arpan precisely executes the development issues on Natural Resource Management, Watershed Resource Development, Horticulture, & Peoples Institutions.

Strategically with defined family focused & need based approach, our team entered into interior backward tribal area of Udaipur, Dungarpur & Banswara to develop linkages with rural societies and to identify the basic developmental issues. All of the exercises were performed via a series of meetings, awareness campaigns, which resulted our one to one touch to 3000 tribal families in these districts.

In yr. 2003 march, Arpan organized a National Environment Awareness Programme, Seva Mandir as a Nodal Agency, in village Roba of Girwa tehsil in Udaipur district. Water Conservation as the basic objective of programme, issues like water pollution, hazards of chemical fertilizers & pesticides in farming, health, hygiene & sanitation were also highlighted.

After a keen study and research on organic farming, organization vastly introduced into it. In continuation, no. of training programme & on farm demonstration were executed which have facilitated approx 80,000 farmers of 22 districts till date.

At the same time, the high need of Water Conservation Resources was identified for domestic and agricultural usage. Southern Tribal of Rajasthan was having extensive potentiality in Water Resource Development. Tribal Area Development Department pursued financial support to the organization, in financial contribution & labour collaboration with village people constructed more than 39 Anicuts, revived more than 36 (old failed) Community Lift Irrigation facilities and started 38 new Community Lift Irrigation facilities in Udaipur, Pratapgarh, Banswara & Dungarpur districts of Rajasthan.

Last year organization has introduced into Jaipur, Bundi & Chittorgarh districts under a Horticulture Development program sponsored by Tribal Area Development Department. Till date 919 Aonla orchards have been planted in three districts, the participant families are all BPL, women headed family participation of 10% & more was mandate where we as organization has followed.

835 Tribal BPL families in Banswara, Dungarpur & Chittorgarh were benefitted under a project named SMILE (Sustainable Matrix for Integrated Livelihood) sponsored by TADD from Nov 2007. Under the project, all of the families were provided with seasonal vegetable kits along with 30 Horti plants. Drip irrigation system as a Water Conservation measure has been installed all over the farms of participant families.

Training and Development based Income Generation programme, supported by Department of Industries in Sirohi district has started in two clusters. One is Stone Cluster in Pindwara and another is Terrakota cluster in Siyava of district Sirohi. 3000 artisans in 30 villages of Pindwara cluster were selected and 500 artisans from 10 villages of Siyava cluster were selected. The basic objective the project is to develop Income Generation Sources by further Market linkages. Efforts in this regards is an ongoing process for organization where organization has promoted artisans to attend different State & National level Fares & Buyers sellers Meet so as to maximize & promote their products.

The epidemic of HIV in India is of concentrated nature. HIV prevalence among the high risk groups such as Female Sex Workers (FSW's), Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) and Injecting Drug Users (IDUs) is too higher than among the general population. Heterosexual mode continues to be the prime mode of HIV transmission in the country. Women often get involved in sex work due to poverty, marital break-up or because they are forced into it. Sexual transmission is also responsible for a higher percentage of reported AIDS cases. HIV prevalence rates are high among sex workers and their clients. ARPAN Seva Sansthan is working on Project titled Targeted Intervention where the Target Population which we have to intervene is 300 Female Sex Workers (FSW's) and 170 Injected Drug Users (IDU's) in Chittorgarh district since Nov 2008.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME	DESIGNATION	QUALIFICATION	EXPERIENCE
SH. SHUBHKARAN SINGH	PRESIDENT	M.Tech (Agg. Engg)	10 yrs
SH. BIJENDRA LAMBA	VICE PRESIDENT	B.A. (Sociology)	5 yrs
SH. YASHANKAR SHIVHARE	GENERAL SECRETARY	B.E. (Civil)	12 yrs
SH. RAJESH JAIN	TREASURER	B.E. (Electrical)	7 yrs
SMT. KAMLA DEVI	EXECUTIVE MEMBER	M.A. (Sociology)	5 yrs
DR. P.K.SINGH	EXECUTIVE MEMBER	B.E. (Ag. Engg.), PhD (SWC)	20 yrs
DR. N.S.RATHORE	EXECUTIVE MEMBER	B.E. (Ag. Engg), PhD (RES)	25 yrs
DR. JAGDISH LAL	EXECUTIVE MEMBER	B.Sc. (Ag), PhD (Animal Husbandry)	20 yrs

### MISSION

ARPAN Mission ...is to develop an optimal mechanism for Rural Society, especially disadvantaged sections, with commitment for sustainable livelihood & improved quality of life which is achieved through different developmental programmes & effective application of local resources in association with community.

### VISION

- ❖ To become a state level resource centre in water resource development.
- ❖ Develop resource centre for training and capacity building in watershed development programs.
- ❖ Having intensive experience for design and implementation of rural livelihoods program in Rajasthan.
- ❖ As a resource centre offer consultancy and training and capacity building support to government and other NGOs in the participatory technology development in NRM.

## **KEY ACTIVITIES**

### **NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

ARPAN Seva Sansthan is working in tribal region which has been distinguished as degraded for natural resources due to deforestation & neglected as well. Worsening of natural resources in coincidence with poor agricultural practices have contributed widespread ecological insecurity and low level of productivity of natural resources. However, local communities continue to be critically dependent on their land for livelihood.

Soil, water and vegetation are three basic natural resources. The survival of God's creation depends upon them and nature has provided them as assets to human beings. The management of natural resources to meet people's requirements has been practiced since the pre-Vedic era. Farmers were ranked high in the social system and village management was in their hands. In order to manage land, water and vegetation, technical knowledge suitable to the specific conditions of a region was required. They gained this knowledge and developed skill through experience and learning by doing.

Over-exploitation of natural resources by growing population resulted in various severe problems. Destruction of vegetation has resulted in land degradation, denudation, soil erosion, landslides, floods, drought and unbalanced ecosystems. A balanced ecosystem is an urgent need.

### **THRUST AREAS**

- Development of Sustainable land use strategy for different agro-ecological sub-regions in the area.
- Devising cost effective methods of resource conservation and reclamation.
- Multiple uses of water to enhance productivity and livelihood.
- On-farm water management to enhance water-use efficiency.
- Development of location specific model watersheds in various agro ecological zones of the rainfed areas for resource conservation, enhancing productivity and livelihood generation.

- Developing package of practices for organic farming.
- Developing location specific integrated farming systems involving agriculture, horticulture and livestock etc to enhance productivity, income and livelihood.

The basic objective behind Natural Resource Development Programme is to work with communities to improve livelihood security through range of interventions including (1)Watershed Development (2) Water Resource Management (3) Agricultural Extension

### Watershed Development

Water is vital for survival, food security and sustainable livelihood of the rural population. Wherever, in India, only about 30-35% of the total rain water is utilized, and the rest is being exhausted resulting in floods, soil erosion and siltation of river beds and reservoirs. Generally, the poor farmers who own poor quality land are deprived of water even for drinking. Although, a massive watershed development programme has been launched in the country on top priority, the poor need further support of technology and resources to make best use of the water conserved through this programme.

Over 40% of the agricultural land in India is located in arid regions, and often, the farmers are not even able to recover their investments in agriculture. In other regions, where rainfall is moderate or high, the farmers are not able to make efficient use of the available water. Hence, this valuable asset has turned out to be a liability. Due to improper water resources management, over 25% of the villages are not able to provide year round water supply.

Hence, ARPAN has taken up innovative projects by addressing water resource development to strive for desired objective of drinking water security, to boost agriculture & livestock production, particularly to benefit weaker sections of the community.

Watershed is an area of land within which all the rainfall it receives feeds into a particular drainage channel. Under the Watershed Development Programme, all the land falling within the area is treated on the basis of soil & water conservation techniques. Major of them are plugging of drainage line by construction of check dams, gabions & masonry structures, constructing farm bunds & digging contour trenches on steeper land. After basic treatment of

watershed, a variety of watershed - plus activities are taken up such as the promotion of improved farming systems, horticulture & animal husbandry.

ARPAN is implementing a Watershed programme sponsored by Tribal Area Development Department in Jaipur, Dausa & Pratapgarh districts & the programme concentrates on treatment of approx 2500 Ha area which has benefitted 1500 Tribal families. Under Soil & Water Conservation activity 155 Gully Plugs, Loose Stone Check Dams, Dug out



Ponds has been constructed. Trainings & Demonstration on Vermicomposting, Horti & Forestry Plantation, Pastureland Development, Crop Demonstration & SHG formation. 45 Vermicomposting Units have been yet established.

## STRATEGY

- Community participation with special concentration on poor sections, in planning & implementation.
- Efficient Water Conservation with appropriate technologies & systems.
- Convergence for holistic development, particularly for food & water security, supply of drinking water, health & hygiene and environmental conservation.



As a result of Watershed Program there has not only reduced the soil & nutrient loss and eased the supply of water protective irrigation, but also demonstrated the potential of recharging the ground water table. As a result of efficient recharging groundwater, there is also significant increase in crop production round the year for all the three seasonal crops.

Training & Capacity building of Rural People under Watershed programme was also taken up by ARPAN in last 10 years. Foremost topics such as Horticulture, Agro forestry, Organic Farming

through Vermi Composting, Nursery Development of Medicinal & Horti Plants, Kitchen Garden, Pasture Land Development, Health & Hygiene, Sanitation, Animal Husbandry, Seasonal Crop Demonstration, Natural Resource Management, Orientation Training to Water Users Group & other institutions, Training to Farmers Community Organization, Peoples Institutions (SHG's), have facilitated more than 80,000 people in project areas directly.

### Water Resource Management

All through the participatory exercises like PRA, CPA in Pratapgarh district with rural community it was found that most priority for these is water necessary for irrigation. It was almost similar in the tribal areas of Udaipur, Banswara and



Dungarpur districts. Greater part of

land comes under Rain-fed area; farmers are backward and not able to get sufficient livelihood from their landholding which is totally undulated.



Tribal Area Development Department is working in this TSP region for rural development. ARPAN has collaborated with the tribal area development department and implemented many programmes like Revival and new installation of community lift irrigation schemes and renovation of old water resource in a short span of period.



ARPAN is working in 26 districts of Rajasthan since 2003 by the financial support of Rural Development Department - Govt. of Rajasthan. ARPAN under the financial support with Tribal Area Development department



and implemented many programmes like Revival and new installation of community lift irrigation schemes and renovation of old water resource in a

short span of period in Udaipur, Chittorgarh, Banswara & Dungarpur districts of Rajasthan. This year, we have constructed 13 Anicuts and installed 12 new Community Lift Irrigation schemes.

It helps in increasing the irrigation facility of thousands ha area under Rabi crops. About 8000 poor tribal household in 26 villages are acquiring advantage.

***Innovation in Construction of Anicuts***

ARPAN has especially designed the Anicuts in such a stunning manner which has a couple of blinking factors. Firstly, the Anicuts are normally constructed with one sided gate pattern but here we have put gate on both the sides (catchment and flow). One sided gate stays live for 8 years whereas two sided gates are put into rotation and changed vice versa therefore there life cycle increased to 16 years which directly benefits the Community.

Secondly, the gates are left open in initial rains to avoid the silting and during the last period of rains the gates make closed for collection of Water.



As a result of these constructions the cropping pattern has changed favorably & irrigated land has been increased & more than 65 wells have



recharged, which has benefited thousands of farmer families.

YEAR	DISTRICT	ANICUT	NEW INSTALLATION OF LIFT
2008-09	PRATAPGARH	4	1
2008-09	BANSWARA	6	4
2008-09	UDAIPUR	1	3
2008-09	DUNGARPUR	2	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>

## AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION - SMILE (SUSTAINABLE MATRIX FOR INTEGRATED LIVELIHOOD) PROGRAMME

The programme is executed in 3 Tribal dominated districts, Udaipur, Banswara & Pratapgarh with 835 BPL ST families in financial assistance of Tribal Area Development Department (TADD).

Although land is their crucial source of livelihood, agricultural productivity is generally low because of a blend of factors.



Significant among them are stumpy fertility of land, deficiency of assured water for irrigation, limited resources to meet input requirements and inadequate knowledge about improved crop production. Project intervention in the form of support for inputs like seed

and fertilizer combined with arrangement for irrigation and tillage may result in an immediate increase in output. However, such gains may not be sustained over a longer term. Therefore, our organization's emphasis is on introducing sustainable farming technologies that farmers can continue to practice even after the completion of



programme. Families selected, were encouraged to scientifically raise vegetable saplings to produce healthy crop of vegetables. Although the additional objective of the programme was to



develop a habit of eating fresh green vegetables so as to become health conscious family. Each preferred family is provided with a Kit of vegetable seeds for all seasons. The production which they were getting was moreover low so as to fulfill the grain requirement even for all round year. It was calculated that a farmer can hardly get 2 bags of Maize in Kharif season from its 1000 sq. mtr area whose market worth

is only Rs. 1400/-. However, after the execution of the programme it has been observed that people are going to sale even their vegetables in a lot to the local market and earning cash as well. Of course they are consuming the vegetables also within their family too. Now the cropping of seasonal vegetable has changed the economy of farmer and the income layer has also significantly increased. Approx a farmer can receive Rs. 15000 – 20000/- per annum from different vegetable cultivation. Fruit Plants like Lemon & Papaya are cultivated in farmers filed to fill the gap in between & which also acts also as an Income Generation source.

Water Conservation through Drip Irrigation System has also been installed in plots of farmers. A plastic bucket of 300 liters having its connectivity with Dripping Pipe Line utilizes water efficiently so that the wastage has also been reduced and at the same time electricity consumption of driving water pump daily is also truncated.

## HORTICULTURE

ARPAN Seva Sansthan is betrothed in Horticulture Development Programme commonly known as WADI Programme since 2007 in Bundi, Jaipur & Pratapgarh. 919 Orchards have been thus far planted with BPL ST families for the basic objective of their economic upliftment for the duration of 5 years which is monetarily assisted by Tribal Area Development Department. The fundamental intent of the programme is:

- (1) Farmer should use his own available Natural Resources for the Development of the area and his family.
- (2) To renovate the Wasteland available with farmer into Cultivable land so as to earn from Crops and Fruit Plants.
- (3) To motivate farmers regarding Improved Agriculture Practices.



Encouragement of tree based farming on private wastelands for food security and income generation is also a part of ARPAN. With the denudation of forests, tribals, representing 10% of Indian population, have been deprived of their livelihood. The poor BPL ST families participating in this programme, establish drought tolerant fruit Indian gooseberry i.e. AMLA on their marginal or wastelands covering 0.5 to 1.0 ha. The interspace is used for cultivating arable crops, which they have been growing earlier and the field bunds and borders are used to establish hardy shrubs and trees useful for fodder, fuel, timber and herbal medicines. Foremost activities the programme is covering are:

**(a) Horti Plantation:**

Farmers with access to irrigation are encouraged to grow an Orchard (WADI) of 30 AMLA fruit tree on their land. This year we have planted 27570 AMLA plants in all three districts. Although the production of AMLA tree will start after 3<sup>rd</sup> year but it is proven that after a period of 8-10 years a farmer can easily earn Rs. 25,000-30,000/- yearly from a single orchard.



**(b) Forestry Plantation:**

Forestry plants (150) like Bamboo, Subabool, Desi Mango, Neelgiri, Neem, Sheesham, Setur etc are planted across the border of AONLA Orchard. The basic objective behind the forestry plantation is to cover the Orchard for protection from Natural calamities, the leaves of trees itself makes organic compost, farmer can obtain timber, fuel & fodder for domestic purpose.



DISTRICT	BLOCK	VILLAGES COVERED	NO. OF PARTICIPANTS	AMLA PLANTS PLANTED	FORESTRY PLANTED
JAIPUR	BASSI	30	292	8760	43800
BUNDI	NAINWA, TALERA, KESHORAIPATAN	55	555	16650	83250
PRATAPGARH	CHOTI SADRI	09	72	2160	10800
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>94</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>27570</b>	<b>137850</b>

(c) **Improved Agriculture:** Each participant family is provided with improved variety of Composite Seeds (Wheat, Groundnut, Black Gram, Soyabean, Til) so that farmer can get more of the production in lesser expenditures and at the same time farmer can also collect the seeds and he himself develops his domestic Seed Bank. ARPAN is also providing well-timed technical on & off farm trainings to farmers for different aspects related to line sowing, irrigation time & techniques, diseases & their medicines.

Income from agriculture is extremely low and erratic that marginal farmers cannot risk any investment on it. Consequently, there is no organized effort to make use of inputs and adopt improved practices. ARPAN's sustainable approach involves appropriate degree of land preparation with soil and moisture conservation measures; use of improved seed; and integrated nutrient management and crop protection measures. Practices like total dependence on hybrid seed, heavy doses of fertilizer and agrochemical application and selection of crops that have high water requirement are not usually introduced by us. Field staff closely work with farmers and gradually pass on technical information, which results in overall improvement in farm output over a period of time.

Three Peoples Organization (PO) at district level (Bundi, Pratapgarh & Jaipur) called **Gram Vikas Ayojan Samiti (GVAS)** have been promoted for better implementation and involvement of participants. Each participant is a member of GVAS and an elected body of 15 members meets every month and sits together and discuss regarding the seasonal agriculture, after care of plants and respective diseases with their remedies.

### RAJASTHAN CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, TERRACOTTA CLUSTER, SIYAVA

#### **PROGRAMME - A BRIEF OVERVIEW**

A cluster can be defined as a social and geographical concentration of enterprises, especially small and medium enterprises which have common opportunities and similar threats.

Terracotta is a type of soil used for making **CLAY MODELS**. The basic theme of Terracotta Models presents the scenario of Rajasthan Art, culture and dressing sense of different religions today and ancient time and also these models symbolize the historical picture of Rajasthan.



Department of Industries, Government of Rajasthan, recognized this need and included as a Terracotta Cluster under Rajasthan Cluster Development Programme. Arpan Seva Sansthan has been selected as Project Implementing Agency for this programme. It is a **Three Years** Programme where efforts would be done for holistic development of cluster and to make tribal women a sustainable entrepreneur. After a need assessment, three years action plan was prepared which included Training & Capacity Building programmes for Skill Development, Sellers Buyers Meet, Trade Fare, Seminars for Marketing Promotion, and Exposure visits for artisans to increase awareness about Handicraft Industry around the World, as major activities in soft interventions

The basic objective behind the project is to make efforts in direction for holistic development of cluster and to make Self Help Groups of Tribal women artisans as self sustainable entrepreneur. Especially Terracotta cluster is to promote group of Tribal Women Artisans where project is covering 500 Tribal Women Artisans of **10 Villages under Siyava Cluster** of district Sirohi. The programme includes developing local unskilled & semi skilled artisans towards skilled ones via mode of Training & Workshops by Master Trainers.

## **MAJOR OBJECTIVES**

The major objectives of the Cluster Development Project are:

- ❖ To develop them so as to enhance their personal earnings and Social Status.
- ❖ To create additional opportunities in cluster area.
- ❖ To strengthen the capacity of the artisans in field of technology, market and business development.
- ❖ Develop an enabling environment in cluster area for accelerating growth of units.
- ❖ Facilitate the tribal women to become independent entrepreneur.
- ❖ Building institutional capacities of the tribal artisan of cluster.

## **STRATEGY**

The Cluster Development Programme was initiated in Feb 2008; the programme was extended step by step. As the first priority was given for the Social Mobilization as well as Community Mobilization, there were conducted a series of Mobilization meetings with the villagers especially with Women so as to develop an enthusiasm in their mindset to earn of their own and to become self sustain and later on an Entrepreneur. After the trust building and faith gaining phase the interested female candidates were categorized into different segments and then the Group Formation process take place. After the formation of village wise Self Help Groups (SHG's) Skill Upgradation Training were imparted to them which was based on a preset curriculum. Then after the as they practiced more their products were arranged with them to attend Marketing Promotional programmes such as Trade Fares, Sellers Buyers Meet etc. at the same time these groups were also visited to have an Exposure in another State to understand the latest ideas and technology to have accompanied with present innovative product trends.

## **MOTIVATION SEMINAR / SELF HELP GROUP FORMATION**

Motivation seminars have been conducted in different villages of Siyava. The basic object behind conducting such seminars is just to have well conversed with the society and target population. During the seminars our staff Designer cum Marketing Executive mobilizes the local

youth (especially female) to grow of their own and avail the opportunity to become an Entrepreneur. They were mobilized / motivated for the formation of their own Self Help Groups and to develop a platform of their own where they can develop themselves and earn so as to have a better economic as well as Social Status. Till March 2009, 8 motivation seminars have been conducted and were attended by tentatively 450 female in village Siyava, Duboriya Phalli, Kui, Daiyaree, Peeparmal, Surpagla and Chandrawati. After each Motivation Seminar an intense scrutiny was done to categorize the name of interested female to develop into an Artisan. Today, 10 Self Help Groups have been formed which have 107 female artisans with them and at the same time Artisan Credit Cards of 25 Artisans have been formed.

### SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING



As the group formation process completes the next phase of Programme takes place i.e. Skill Up gradation of the selected and formed Self Help Groups. Seeking the major objectives of



the Cluster Development Programme, it was proposed to conduct the Skill upgradation Training



programme for Fresh Artisans so as to develop them into Semi Skilled and further to skilled ones. Before imparting the training, a keen observation on selection



process of Freshers has been adopted and they were further segmented into small groups according to the age, grabbing attitude and a couple of psychological factors. As on March 2009, we have organized 5 Skill Upgradation Programme which has directly benefitted 100 Women Artisans. All the five training programmes were imparted by 2 Master Trainers who

were having a large experience of 9 years in same profession to deliver the Art in training mode. Every Training Programme has its Preset Pattern which undergoes according to the time frame and as per scheduled.

### **MARKET PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

To uplift the product and morale of Artisans, Industries Department itself has organized a couple of Sales Promotion Meet with Sellers and Buyers at State level and also invited them from all round India. It is highly necessary to have post production activities so that the Artisans can sale their products.



Round the year Self Help Groups have attended 5 different National and International Sellers Buyers Meet at Cluster Creations Jodhpur and Jaipur, IITF – New Delhi, Shilpgram – Udaipur and an International Meet in Italy and at the same time Exporters from Jaipur, TRIFED and National Handloom - Jodhpur where they sold their products tentatively about Rs. 16.01 LACS and collected orders of Rs. 46.02 LACS. In continuation of the same we have also created a Website for the further Marketing Promotion and betterment in Marketing Activities. The Web ID of site is [www.terracottasiyava.com](http://www.terracottasiyava.com)

### **EXPOSURE VISIT**

Artisans of Self Help Groups always needed new innovations, creative ideas to improve their Art, to know the latest trends and faster technologies for their advancement. The team of 15 SHG Women



including  
Designer cum  
Marketing  
Executive & 1  
elder person



from village had an exposure visit to LALGOLA, WEST BENGAL for 8 days, where they have a one to one

conversations with National level Artisans Mr. Krishna Chandra Pal, Mr. Nirmal Kumar Pal, Mr. Iti Pal and a State level Artisan Mr. Sanjay Pal who shared their Master Expertise in their fields and at the same time they have got a special classes there for 4 hours daily. The fundamental reason of this Exposure visit to Lalgola – West Bengal, was to have an experience sharing meet with National Level Artisans (Awarded) and to get acquaint with the innovative and creative ideas and thoughts to develop Siyava cluster.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS**

The Terracotta Cluster has been always appreciated by the Governmental Departments and other Non Governmental Departments also. It is a remarkable point that 2 Self Help Groups from the Terracotta Cluster has been identified by NABARD – Mumbai at National to attend the Trade Fare cum Sellers Buyer Meet at Mumbai. Also two artisans from Siyava Mitti Shilp Self Help Group has been identified for the International Sellers Buyers Meet in ITALY organized by the Rural Development Department – Government of India, where we have send two Female Artisans from this SHG which is a incredible triumph for all of us.

## **RAJASTHAN CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, STONE CLUSTER, PINDWARA**

### **BACKGROUND – STONE CLUSTER**

Rajasthan is specially known for the Architecture & Sculpture. Old Jain, Hindu Temples & Monuments are the example of this fact. The Pindwara of Sirohi district in Rajasthan has its importance in the field of Marble Carving. However, whole of the district Sirohi is a good centre of Jain & Hindu Temples but Pindwara is famous for its carving work on Selwara Marble since



long.

Local Community Maliyavas (Black Smiths) also added a lot of contribution to this Marble Industry, by preparing easily



available & low cost machines i.e. Gangsaws, Circular saws, Gantry Cranes etc.

Another local community called SOMPURA has also contributed to this cluster a lot. The ancestors of the builders of the famous Somnath Shiva Temple of Gujarat, Sompura have a good skill in lay out plans & sketches of temples & buildings.

The Project area is specifically focused on Pindwara block of District SIROHI. The area is 22 kms far from district H.Q. Pindwara is a town in Sirohi district of Rajasthan, and is about 50 kms far from Abu Road and 70 kms from Mount Abu.

A large section of the population of the district is *Garasias*. Historically, they have suffered isolation, exclusion and under-development due to their being ethnically different from the mainstream society, and due to their having a distinct culture, language, social organization and economy. The historical nature of their isolation and deprivation has resulted in considerable deprivation. Their exclusion takes several forms, such as denial to the right to resources in their vicinity. They not only suffer active and passive exclusion, their way of life is such that they do not care to enhance social interaction with non-tribal. There are 500 Units for Stone carving which are based in Pindwara Block and have been engaged about 5000 Artisans over there. The total work of carving Machinery mechanized which comprises of different machineries such as Gangsaws, Block Cutter, Lathe Machine, Edge Cutting Machine, Hand Cutter, Hand Grinder, Driller, Cranes, and Gantry etc.



## **OBJECTIVES**

1. To develop the daily labor workers into skillful artisans.
2. To promote the traditional art of Marble Artisans working in project area.
3. To promote the Market Linkages for Temple & Marble Art.
4. To control on social/ financial exploitation of Marble Artisans and at the same time to provide the basic necessities to work for Artisans.
5. To promote Common Facility Centre for Artisans for their further development.

6. To promote Bank Linkages and other financial resources so as to provide Initial Working Capital for Artisans.
7. To diversify the existing pattern of present Sculpture & to make New & Creative designs for all the sculpture of Pindwara cluster.

### **PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

This developmental project is commencing its development activities for 3 (three) years. Project will be categorized into four phases and 3000 beneficiaries will be enrolled under this development programme for further two years respectively. Thus, total project period is for three years.

Participants have been selected from 20 villages of 8 Gram Panchayat. Project facilitates and specifically concentrates on Channel wise stepping to achieve the desired Objective framed. The project started in Jan 2008 by the identification of such dedicated fresher artisans who desires to come under the Marble sector. Fresher are being given a broader concentration because there is a high need even today for artisans who can diversify the existing pattern of sculpture into the new and creative ones.

After the selection of fresher's, a Motivation Seminar & further respective trainings are the part of project Initial phase. These training are helpful in familiarization of fresher's with the Stone, their nature, the tools and machineries equipped, the art & sculpture work to be done and finally to promote their handmade produces to the desired Market with further linkages. Freshers are imparted with Skill Upgradation Trainings and after such trainings the Semi Skilled artisans will be identified so as to promote them to undertake training for skilled ones. As and these Semi Skilled artisans will be imparted training to develop themselves for Skilled ones they will finally be promoted as a Master Trainers under the Project.

Especially, the focus will be given on following traditional Art:

- (1) Lathe Machine and Article Formation
- (2) Temple Sculpture
- (3) Statue Designing

## ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN FOR OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF PINDWARA STONE CLUSTER

Being first priority was given to the Social Mobilization as well as Community Mobilization, there were conducted a series of Mobilization meetings with the villagers especially with youth so as to develop an enthusiasm in their mindset to earn of their own and to become self sustain and later on an Entrepreneur. After all, 40 interested youth were categorized into different segments according to their field of interest. Training was imparted to them which were based on a preset curriculum. Then after, as they practiced more their products were arranged with them to attend Marketing Promotional programmes such as Trade Fares, Sellers Buyers Meet etc. The Trainees also be visited to AMBAJI – GUJARAT to have an Exposure in another State to understand the latest ideas and technology to have accompanied with present innovative product trends.



Motivation seminars have been conducted in different villages of Pindwara. They were mobilized / motivated for the formation of a platform of their own where they can develop themselves and earn so as to have a better economic as well as Social Status. Till March 2009, 10 motivation seminars have been conducted and were attended by tentatively 514 youth in village Jhadoli, Chavarti, Bhoola, Azari, Jhankar, Pindwara, Amlı, Kojra, Lotana, Telpur, Dingar and Basantgarh. 49 Artisans are benefitted through Artisan Credit Card Facility.

## SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

Seeking the major objectives of the Cluster Development Programme, it was proposed to conduct the Skill upgradation Training programme for Fresh Artisans so as to develop them into Semi Skilled and further to



skilled ones. Before imparting the training, a keen observation on selection process of Freshers has been adopted and they



were further segmented into small groups according to the age, grabbing attitude and a couple of psychological factors.

We have organized 2 Skill Upgradation Programme on Stone Carving – Sculpture (20 participants) and training on Stone Items Turned on Lathe Machine (20 participants) which has directly benefitted 40 Artisans. The Master Trainer was already in the same profession since 35 years and having a good experience to perform this Art efficiently and to deliver the Art in training mode.

### **MARKETING PROMOTION ACTIVITIES**

To uplift the product and morale of Artisans, Industries Department itself has organized a couple of Sales Promotion Meet with Sellers and Buyers at State level and also invited them from all round India. It is highly necessary to have post production activities so that the Artisans can sell their products. Round the year Artisans have attended 2 different State level Sellers Buyers Meet at Cluster Creations Jodhpur and Jaipur where they sold their products tentatively about Rs. 1 LACS and collected orders of Rs. 5 LACS. In continuation of the same we have also created a Website for the further Marketing Promotion and betterment in Marketing Activities. The Web ID of site is [www.stoneclusterpindwara.com](http://www.stoneclusterpindwara.com)



### **RESULT AREAS/ PROJECT BENEFITS**

- Local youth who is nowhere adjusted to groom his/her career will be getting a chance to develop himself/herself and develop a skill to earn for a long in future.
- A better income generating resource might be developed in house.
- Better innovative/ creative designs will be created.

## **TARGETED INTERVENTION PROGRAMME**

The Targeted Intervention programme was started in district Chittorgarh in Month Dec 2008. As per the main objective of NACP-III, to halt and reverse the tide of the HIV epidemic in India. ARPAN strives to follow the basic objective to reduce new infections in all categories and prevent spread of HIV from High Risk Groups (HRG's) to the general populations. Under the said Targeted Intervention Programme we have to Target 300 Female Sex Workers (FSW's) and 170 Injected drug Users (IDU's).

### **OBJECTIVES**

Although along with the other objectives we endeavor to:

Develop safe sexual behaviors and attitudes particularly among the FSW's (Female Sex Workers) under particular focus on most affected regions. It also aims to ensure that people infected and affected with HIV get easy access to a comprehensive package of services that include prevention, care, support and treatment.

The objective behind the Programme may be summarized as follows:

- Identifying sub-populations with high risk behavior
- Identifying specific behavior in need of change
- Providing indicators to monitor programme's success and identifying persistent problem areas
- Serving as an advocacy and policy tool

### **OTHER KEY OBJECTIVES**



The need assessment study was conducted to fill a gap in existing knowledge in the Chittorgarh on the needs of a population known to be at high risk for HIV/AIDS: Female sex workers (FSW's). The study involved 50 structured interviews with FSW's who self-reported exchanging sex for money, drugs, or other goods on a regular basis. Participants included FSW's from five areas of Chittorgarh District namely Senth, Gandhinagar, Shambhupura, Sawa.

The primary goals of this need assessment were to determine FSW's:

- Primary health concerns and access to general health services.
- Sexual behavior patterns and HIV risk reduction strategies with non-paid primary and secondary partners.
- Sexual behavior patterns and HIV risk reduction strategies with clients including communication and negotiation.
- Initiators and motivators of commercial sex work and descriptive information on this work
- HIV/AIDS-related information seeking behaviors and preferences



### **ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED**

- Series of awareness programmes, Behavioral Change Communication Programmes have been organized with our targeted population.
- Drop in Center (DIC) has been executed which is having all recreation facilities like Audio Visual equipments for the entertainment of Target population as they are coming regularly. A small library for reading different books and novels based on Women especially.
- A training of all Peer Educators has been organized where each Peer Educator has been given a task or might be said as Target to identify and enroll tentative 40 FSW's at their earliest and today all of them are endeavoring speedily to achieve the targeted group.
- A Community Mobilization Programme as a formal get together cum entertaining group event with identified (50) FSW's was also organized on 26<sup>th</sup> JAN 2009 at Chittorgarh Fort. During the programme, one to one interaction, group discussions, playing games, dance, and songs were performed by FSW's in collaboration with ARPAN Chittor team.
- Organized a one day proposed District level workshop on NETWORKING and a one day Workshop on Advocacy. The basic objective behind organizing the workshop was to explore our programme in Chittorgarh district and to make a



network and advocate the related Government departments and other concerns. Participants in the workshop were:

CMHO, Block CMHO (6 blocks), District Education Officer, Social Workers, Representative – Aditya Birla Cement, Print Media (Patrika, Bhaskar, Dainik Navjyoti), Electronic Media ( 2 Local Channels), PRO, Zila Pradhan, Ayurveda Officer, President – Global Heart Foundation, District Project Manager- NRHM, Incharge – Blood Bank, Representatives from different NGO's



- 6 Health Camps have been organized which has directly benefitted 800 women and got treatment over there.
- Puppet show was also demonstrated, to give a Social message regarding Family Planning, Vaccination, Health Education, Safe Delivery and STD and lastly especially on HIV/ AIDS.



- In a chain of community events “Holi Milan” was celebrated with a group of 80-85 FSW's in a Public Park. FSW's belonging to different religion also celebrated the festival of colors and enjoyed the programme.



- 85 Female Sex Workers have been referred to ICTC and have got tested and diagnosed for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) there.
- For promotion of Safer Sex, 50 Condom Outlets/ Depots have been arranged where Condom Boxes are installed within the reach of anyone who needs.



### KEY FINDINGS

The majority of male clients are economic migrants from rural to urban areas and also from other Urban areas and other neighboring states in search of work during the lean period or

been transferred from other places. While staying they have an opportunity to visit FSW's and the risk of contracting HIV infection.

When they return to their families they transmit the infection to their wives, which further gets transmitted to their children. The infection thus spreads from the core group population to the rest of the low risk general population and from urban areas to many villages.

Female illiteracy is of great relevance in understanding HIV epidemics. Imbalances between female and male illiteracy rates can also reflect broader gender discrimination and a lack of female empowerment. The increasing feminization of migration, coupled with gender inequalities and pay disparities, has contributed to a fast-growing sex industry. After an experience of past 5-6 months working with Female Sex Workers (FSW's) we came to know that there is a need to develop a Humanitarian social environment. In recent years the international response to AIDS in humanitarian situations has been rapidly evolving and expanding. Significant progress has been made in integrating HIV into the humanitarian response. Much still needs to be done, however, if universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care services is to be achieved.

AIDS affects livelihoods of individuals, households and communities, and the viability of institutions in a variety of ways. It commonly undermines the ability of individuals and households to feed and care for themselves, while eroding the capacity of communities and institutions to provide basic services and support for people in need.

We as a Society need to address the issues of:

- Reproductive health needs that are sometimes forgotten, including the need for emergency medical supplies, Interventions to ensure safe motherhood,
- HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections prevention, and
- The prevention of, and response to, gender-based violence.
- Programmes on demonstration & distribution of male and female condoms, sexually transmitted infections drugs, emergency reproductive health kits, and contraceptives.
- A comprehensive HIV information system has to be developed and implemented for assessments, voluntary counseling and testing, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, HIV prevention, development and dissemination of information-education-communication

materials we have to develop competency and expertise in HIV conflict settings, particularly related to displaced populations.

- There is need to educate school going children, boys & girls regarding vulnerabilities of children and adolescents, including those affected by emergencies. In this context, we have to educate them regarding HIV prevention and care initiatives for emergency affected populations by providing training opportunities, providing information to young people about HIV transmission and prevention, Awareness Campaigns, Rally by school going children, Nukkad Shows, Puppet Shows and demonstration of related Movies and at the same time including where to access HIV prevention services.

### TRAINING & WORKSHOPS

- One day training to the participants under Horticulture Development Programme regarding Layout of Field, Pit Digging, Pit Filling, Plantation and After Care Issues. 85 such type of training programmes was organized at different sites of project area which has benefitted 919 BPL ST Participating families.
- 8 Motivation Seminars to 450 Women participants in Siyava block of Sirohi district.
- A 25 days Skill cum Design Development Training (3 no's) to 3 Self Help Groups under Cluster Development Programme in Siyava block of Sirohi district.
- 10 Motivation Seminars to 514 Male youth participants of Pindwara block of Sirohi district.
- A 40 days Skill cum Design Development Training (2 no's) to 40 Artisans under Cluster Development Programme in Pindwara block of Sirohi district.
- One day Capacity building Training programme of staff members under Targeted Intervention Programme - Chittorgarh.
- Series of Awareness programme to the Peer Educators (FSW's) working under Targeted Intervention Programme - Chittorgarh.
- One Day Networking Workshop organized to build up a Network between GO – NGO under Targeted Intervention Programme - Chittorgarh.
- One Day Advocacy Workshop organized to build up a Network between GO – NGO under Targeted Intervention Programme - Chittorgarh.

- 5 training programmes (one day each) under SMILE Project at village level in Dungarpur, Banswara and Pratapgarh districts regarding different issues like Preparation of Nursery, Horticulture Development, Plant Diseases and its precautions, Drip Irrigation and on Land preparation for vegetable cultivation.

**TRAINING PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED UNDER WATERSHED IN YEAR 2008-09**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Panchayat Samiti</b>	<b>Name of Training</b>	<b>No. of w/s</b>	<b>No. of Farmer/ Beneficiaries</b>
1	Jhunjhunu	2 DAYS SHG TRAINING PROGRAMME	9	444
2	Buhana	2 DAYS SHG TRAINING PROGRAMME	20	750
3	Jhunjhunu	ANIMAL HUSBANDARY TRAINING PROGRAMME	8	400
4	Alsisar	ANIMAL HUSBANDARY TRAINING PROGRAMME	27	1357
5	Buhana	ANIMAL HUSBANDARY TRAINING PROGRAMME	19	956
6	Udaipurwati	KHARIF CROP DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMME	20	1081
7	Surajgarh	KHARIF CROP DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMME	43	2077
8	alsisar	KHARIF CROP DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMME	11	550
9	Buhana	KHARIF CROP DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMME	20	998
10	Khetri	KHARIF CROP DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMME	15	627
11	Jhunjhunu	KHARIF CROP DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMME	9	450
12	Buhana	RABI CROP DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMME	15	760
13	Khetri	RABI CROP DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMME	25	1129
14	Surajgarh	2 DAYS SHG TRAINING PROGRAMME	9	469
			<b>250</b>	<b>12048</b>

**ARPAN Seva Sansthan has its own Information Education & Communication material published in simple Hindi Language on different developmental aspects which are as below:**

1. *Kharif Phaslon ki Unnat Krishi Vidhiyan* – A booklet in Hindi which elaborates the different systems & practices for better production in Kharif Cropping.
2. *Swayam Sahayta Samooh (Prashikshan Pustika)* – A booklet in Hindi as a Training Guide for the formation & better operation of Self Help Groups.
3. *Nursery Prabandhan* – A booklet in Hindi demonstrating the modus operandi of Management of Nursery.
4. *Vermi Compost –Jaivik Krishi Ka Adhar* – A booklet in Hindi describing Vermicomposting in easy language.
5. *Jaivik Krishi – Khushaal Kisan, Vermi Compost - Prashikshan Pustika* – A booklet in Hindi to perform Organic Farming with Vermicompost.
6. *Phalotpadan Ki Unnat Krishi Taknik* - A booklet in Hindi for Horticulture.
7. *Pashudhan Prabandhan* - A booklet in Hindi for Livestock Management.
8. *Aushdhiya Phaslon Ki Kheti* – A booklet in Hindi telling Farming Procedures of Medicinal Plants.
9. *Sabjiyon Ki Unnat Kheti* - A booklet in Hindi detailing best farming practices of Vegetables.

## **FINANCIAL STATUS**

Arpan Seva Sansthan is having a sound financial turnover in **year 2008-09**. Organization has handled a handsome amount sponsored by different departments of Government of Rajasthan efficiently and also proven the working efficiency to achieve the desired outcome. The details of the past financial figures are as below:

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>PROGRAMME</b>	<b>TURNOVER</b>	<b>SPONSORING AGENCY</b>
1	HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	58 LACS	TRIBAL AREA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
2	SMILE	42 LACS	TRIBAL AREA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
3	CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME – PINDWARA	5.72 LACS	INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

4	CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME - SIYAVA	7.72 LACS	INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT
5	TARGETED INTERVENTION PROGRAMME (RSACS)	5.47 LACS	RAJASTHAN STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY
6	W/S TRAINING	20 LACS	ZILA PARISHAD
7	NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	491.17 LACS	TRIBAL AREA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
<b>TOTAL OUTLAY</b>		<b>630.61 LACS</b>	

### **A SOULFUL STORY OF SHAHIRA - A FEMALE SEX WORKER**

Shahira was a girl from lower middle class family having lower literacy surroundings. Due to such environment she was got married in her early age of 17 to an irresponsible person who was not having any sort of permanent resource of income. In her early years of marital life she has faced numerous drastic situations when she and her husband slept without having meals, survived her life in a couple of clothes even. Such obsession created a lot of unhealthy situations between her martial life, she was almost beaten by her husband.

An external person who was family friend of them intervenes in between both of them and also helped them monetarily so many times as and when Shahira and her husband needed. As the passage of time that helping hand comes far closer to Shahira and one day both of them made a sexual intercourse and which was further repeatedly followed on. That friend always helped Shahira monetarily and after sometime he also posed Shahira in front of his other friends who were also financially capable.

Financial inconsistency made Shahira to insert herself into such malpractices and before two years she was about 33 years where she was having a high categorized friend circle who always pays her, although at present when she is of 35 years, Shahira's financial position has become sound but in one corners of her inner Soul she always feel deprived for herself.

She has now started a business of precious Stones in parallel of this and she says, I am almost towards that stage that where I'll never need any such help where I have to sale myself.

## **SUCCESS STORY – COMMUNITY LIFT IRRIGATION SCHEME – JUHI TALAI - II**

Juhi Talai, is a 95% Tribal dominated backward village based in Galiyakot Gram Panchayat of Simalwada Panchayat Samiti, district Dungarpur. The village was in such diffident condition that all the 27 families living in village were having their dependency for Income Generation on Daily labor and for the same they use to migrate. Food security was based on Kharif crop (Maize, Urid, and Groundnut).

In the absence of any large industrial base most of the people are dependent on agriculture. Alternate employment opportunities exist in service sectors at the district place Dungarpur, the largest city nearby Ahmedabad, Surat etc.

The village receives average rainfall of about 650 mm per annum. The undulating structure of the land however makes it difficult to store water and ironically the districts face water shortage during summers and also which is also very low for all the three seasonal cropping production.

In planning and implementing any initiative community involvement is the key and Gram Sabha is the mechanism through which these were to be implemented. For humanizing the financial condition of farmers it was necessary to intervene in the area of irrigation as without which there can be no concrete development in the rural areas.

The scope of the work was later extended to involve other communities as well. The guiding philosophy of ARPAN was to ensure optimum use of available resources with least cost. In view of the high cost of digging a well and also the related infrastructure, it was decided that community approach would best serve the needs of the community and therefore depending on the water availability and people's willingness to come together such community lift irrigation schemes were promoted.

The available water was divided on the basis of irrigation requirement of one hectare of Rabi crop such as wheat or gram. The number of beneficiaries was then decided and all were put under an Umbrella of a registered Society. Organization installed a Community Lift Irrigation Scheme with a 25 HP motor and with 5 Outlets

It was also agreed that each beneficiary would take only so much of crop as can be irrigated in 24 hours of continuous pump operation. This roughly translated into an acre of wheat or gram.



Although this was the upper limit a farmer could irrigate more land if he is able to do so within the allotted time. The scheme document provided that the expenses on repairs, power and management charges will be shared equally by the farmers. The scheme also provided that the maintenance charges shall be recovered in advance by the farmers. The loan was recoverable in maximum 10-12 annual installments by the society and it was at liberty to decide ways and means to recover loans from members.

Dramatic changes have been seen now, as there has been a good transform in yearly cropping pattern. Farmers are taking all the three seasonal crops and a few are ventured into vegetable cultivation and horticulture. At the same time, they got all round employment for whole year and simultaneously Poverty has been decreased. Due to all these improvements there has also been increase in school enrollment of students.

Savji Meena, President of the Water Users Society, says that this scheme has introduced into our lives as almighty's blessing and has made lot of Social & Financial changes in our living pattern.

### **RAIN WATER HARVESTING- NEED OF THE HOUR- A CASE STUDY**

In context of Rural Development, Arpan Seva Sansthan has constructed a series of Anicuts as per the need of area. In the same perspective, Arpan Seva Sansthan has constructed an Anicut in village Anoppura of Gram Panchayat Veerpur in Pratapgarh district in year 2006.

To ensure people's participation, Arpan Seva Sansthan formed a Water User's Association and elections of office bearers were held. Then after association agreed on a resolution for construction of Anoppura Anicut and formed a user group of 20 members who undertook responsibility of community's contribution and taking care of maintenance after construction of Anicut.

On a tributary of Arau River near village Anoppura, a natural site existed for construction of an Anicut. Construction of an Anicut on this site had two advantages:

- The tributary on joining Arau River increases water pressure on its western bank and erodes agriculture fields of Anoppura village. Already much of agriculture land of village Anoppura has come under the bed of Arau River. This Anicut will check soil erosion.
- The Anicut would recharge ground water of 17 surrounding wells.

The design of the Anicut is of a centrally located waste weir type whose height is 2 mtr and length is 58 Mtrs having 10 Gates and also having the Water Storage Capacity of 6.96 hectare mtr. The WUA, under the guidance of organization's technical team commenced work and completed it well before the onset of monsoons.

Before the construction of Anicut, it was entirely impossible for a farmer to get Rabi crop, even drinking water for Livestock was a very common problem in village. At the same time, total cultivable area was only 20-22 hectares earlier whereas now the area of cultivation has been increased to 42 hectares.



After the monsoons, a survey of improvement in ground water level was carried out. The data collected for various open wells and tube wells directly affected by Anicut shows an average rise of 13.73 ft in water level of open wells and 112 feet in case of tube wells. Looking at the persistent drought conditions over last three years, this rise in water level is encouraging.

It will be worthwhile to mention here that in the beginning the community was not organized and some residents expressed their apprehensions about success of the project. But under the guidance of the Arpan Seva Sansthan, WUA started conducting monthly meetings where in accounts were placed before the people and views were exchanged ensuring total involvement and participation of the community. Thus basic aim of the project of institution building by creating awareness through motivation was achieved.

The community mobilized its resources by way of labour, tools, tractors and material and cash contribution to some extent. Organization gave them the financial support and technical expertise to demonstrate them how they can become the master of their own destiny. The ownership rights of this Anicut lie with Anoppura WUA which is taking care if its maintenance also.



Due to retention of moisture there is visible improvement in environment. There is more greenery visible. Thus the construction of Anicut has improved the availability of water for irrigation, resulting in better Rabi output, thus improving the economic status of people. Availability of fodder will result in better yield of milk. Increased agricultural activity will generate employment opportunities for the local people. The major benefit to the farmers will be that even when due to erratic or scarcity of rainfall, they are not able to obtain any benefit from Kharif crops, the Anicut would have recharged ground water ,and they will be able to take Rabi crops; thus obtaining the organization's objective of drought proofing.

## **TIPU: AN IDOL WOMAN**

TIPU GARASIA, native of village Siyava, Abu Road –Distt. Sirohi was only of 15 years of age when she was married with Laxman Garasia. As the passage of time, she happens to mother of 4 children (3 girls and one boy). When she was pregnant during her fourth child, his husband was murdered by some of his old rival. She was of only 20 years when she became widow. This was the most horrible phase of her life which she faced in very initial years.

With small children and old aged in – laws, she was in vulnerable position as her father in law was blind and was not able to earn, and literally dependency of whole family lied on Tipu. In such cases, almost the Tribal culture forces woman to remarry but Tipu was utterly against of remarriage as she was mother of 4 children and she was not confident that anyone who will marry her will also take care of her children also, therefore, she decided to live alone with her children.

During the same stage, RUDA was organizing a Training Programme on Moulding Terracotta Clay into Human Figures in Siyava, where she enrolled her name into a SHG and started getting Training over there. After the conclusion of training, meanwhile she started making models of her own to earn penny. Simultaneously, she came in contact with some of NGO's like Suvidha and others to have a financial assistance for production of her Terracotta clay models and joined the Self Help Group as a member in Siyava Mitti Shilp Group. She started attending District, State and National level fares where her group marketed their products and procure orders.



She then achieved to such a Marketing level where she became Secretary of her SHG and received Rashtriya Shilp Samman 2005 from West Zone Cultural Centre-Udaipur. Then after she also received National Level Award from Former President APJ Abdul Kalam in year 2006.

In year 2007, Arpan Seva Sansthan introduced a Cluster Development Programme and selected Tipu as a Master Trainer to develop a Cluster in her village and nearby villages also. Till date she has independently imparted Training to 250 Tribal Women Artisans and 100 of them are working under different SHG's which are headed by Tipu. She has attended ample of National level Exhibitions in Metro cities and other big cities of country independently with her group members.

During year 2008 organization got an opportunity to send two Tribal artisans for an International Fare at Milaan, ITALY, where Tipu and one more women artisan participated and presented their clay models and procured orders from there also.

Today, Tipu is in such position that she is procuring orders of Rs. 22 LACS yearly and benefitting rural tribal women and has become an IDOL for such other women too. At the same time, her children are studying in esteemed Private Schools of ABU ROAD and also she is taking care of her in laws. She is thankful for Cluster Development Programme which has given her own identity to lead and manage her art and earn from it.

Today, Tipu is having a well managed group of Tribal women who are generating money so as to become self reliant and independent. Tipu always deliver only message to all of her village women that always become self reliant so that any of the worst situations may not overpower you.