

ANNUAL REPORT OF JIRSONG ASONG FOR THE YEAR 2017



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INTRODUCTION

Jirsong Asong (meaning ‘Association of Friends’ in the Karbi language) has grown steadily over the years to emerge as a major NGO implementing various programmes for the all-round development of the people of East Karbi Anglong, West Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao districts of Assam. It is the Social Service Society of the Catholic Diocese of Diphu. Today, Jirsong Asong addresses the issues of health, education, agriculture development, emergency assistance for victims of natural and man-made disasters, peace building issues and economic development through promotion of savings and credit. Jirsong Asong has also special interventions for youth and women.

Jirsong Asong employs considerable number of staff. Most of them are professionally qualified or trained for the various activities of the Organization. The active support and collaboration from the Parishes of the diocese is a unique feature and a major reason for the success of Jirsong Asong. It has developed adequate infrastructure to deliver its programs and services.

NOTABLE INTERVENTIONS

1. Education

Contribution of Jirsong Asong in the field of Education is remarkable in Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao districts of Assam. We focus not only on the quantity of education but ensure the quality of education. To improve the quality of education we provide ongoing training to teachers to update their knowledge and skill in imparting education. In the year 2017, we organized two training programs for teachers, one for primary level teachers and the other for high school teaches. The first training programme was attended by 52 primary teachers from various schools of the diocese of Diphu, whereas 48 teachers participated in the second training program.



Jirsong Asong also supports quality education by upgrading and providing infrastructural facilities in schools. In the reporting year, it had been able to raise fund for providing sanitation facilities in two schools, and drinking water facilities in other two schools.



diocesan schools participated in the event.

As part of its programme on promoting co-curricular activities, annual sports days were organized in each school. The Diocesan sports day, hosted by Jirsong Asong, was held in March 2017. 415 students from the

2. Health



Health is a major area of concern of Jirsong Asong. As the organization is working towards the holistic development of the people, it has realized that it needs to have greater emphasis on the issues related to health. Karbi Anglong is known for many sicknesses. Malaria, the killer disease stands in the first place. Jirsong Asong has been playing a major role in reducing and controlling malaria in Karbi Anglong.

Jirsong Asong has identified the malaria prone villages in the district, where the district health programme by the government has not reached yet. It has launched a massive awareness campaign in these villages. It has also provided residential training to village health workers and they have been dispatched to their respective villages where they are given follow up services in dealing with the malaria cases. So far, a total of 364 villages – 300 in Karbi Anglong and 64 in Dima Hasao districts – have been beneficiaries of the Malaria eradication campaign by Jirsong Asong.

Diagnosis and Treatment

We have tested with RDT a total of 2,614 cases of Malaria (2,166 in Karbi Anglong and 448 in Dima Hasao) and Treated with ACT 161 (In Karbi Anglong District 126 and Dima Hasao District 35). The pharmaceutical product we had received from DMO Office of both the district.

Prevention (LLIN distribution)

Jirsong Asong has received 37120 LLIN from NVBDCP. Of these, 33199 were distributed in Karbi Anglong District and 3921 were given out in Dima Hasao District. We have been able to distribute successfully all the LLIN we received in all our project villages. We distributed the



LLIN as per NVBDCP guidelines. Before the distribution of the LLIN our CHV with the help of Field Supervisor had made a village-wise beneficiary list and carried out Community Consultation and Message Dissemination (CCMD) activity on LLIN in each village and Coupon Distribution to every household. After the distribution of LLIN, there is no report of mortality in the project villages. This proves the benefits of LLIN and the proper usage of LLIN by villagers can prevent Malaria.

Wall Painting

We completed 27 wall paintings regarding diagnosis and treatment of Malaria in various Sub-centres, schools, etc. in both the districts. 19 wall paintings in Karbi Anglong district and 8 in Dima Hasao District were done.



3. ASHA Training

A total of 8 ASHA training sessions were conducted last year. 2 were organized in Dima Hasao District during which 45 ASHAs were trained under Umrongso CHC and Dayangmukh PHC. In Karbi Anglong 6 batches (182 ASHAs) were trained in 3 Block PHCs – Manja BPHC, Howraghat BPHC and Bokajan BPHC.

4. Women Empowerment

Jirsong Asong plays an active role in the field of women empowerment aimed at improving and building the status and the living standard of women. 339 SHGs have been formed and developed by Jirsong Asong over the years. Most of these SHGs have reached the state of self-sustainability and self-reliance. Presently Jirsong Asong is providing technical assistance to these groups. Jirsong Asong has been supporting and encouraging the SHG members to take up various Income Generation Activities (IGA), and maintain their habit of saving and micro credit practices. The crucial issues and gender sensitization programme are also being carried out by the women of these SHGs for the upliftment of the women folk. Jirsong Asong has been building the capacities of women through leadership training programmes, study tours and exposure trips which are specially organized for them. Trainings were provided to SHGs on detergent making, candle making, improved agriculture techniques and livestock management. Jirsong Asong and the SHGs organized Women's Day Celebration on 8th March 2017 at different cluster areas supported by Jirsong Asong.



5. Economic Development

Jirsong Asong has been training farmers on sustainability through Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. The formation of people's organization known as PPS (*Pathar Parisalana Samitis*) is completed in 55 villages. The capacities of leaders of these PPS have been developed through trainings on management of PPS, book keeping, legal rights, advocacy and lobbying and awareness





was also done. Jirsong Asong has been ensuring proper irrigation facilities and providing safe drinking water to villages. The organization has been supplying input materials to the farmers and the ex-students as well.

An exposure trip was organized for farmers and farm women of different target groups of Jirsong Asong to Tezpur from 28th to 30th June 2017.

on Government and Bank schemes which could be availed of for the overall development of the villages. These PPS have been registered at the district level and linked up with banks for savings.

Farmers of the 55 targeted villages were trained on improved agriculture practices of cultivation of seasonal vegetables and field crops like paddy and oil seeds. Besides, training on improved livestock management



6. Prison Ministry



To improve the lives and the living condition of the people in prisons, Jirsong Asong



initiated interventions towards the end of 2006 and it is being continued. Besides occasional visits to the prison to identify the problems of the inmates and counsel them, skill development programmes are also conducted. The objective was to promote undertaking certain Income Generation Activities to help them utilize their time and learn skills for livelihood in the near future. Their spiritual and emotional needs were also met as the prayers and counseling are carried out according to their convenience. A joint pre-Christmas celebration was also held on the 22nd of December, 2017.

7. Farm Northeast - II

Last year Jirsong Asong started the FARM NE project supported by Caritas India in 10 villages. The project is the continuation of the pilot phase on the application of PLD (People Led Development) in the 10 villages of Karbi Anglong district in Assam. The project focuses on the integrated approach to development with the emphasis on the promotion of traditional

agriculture good practices, traditional governance, collective action for socio-economic development and promotion of traditional health practices. In all these, People Led Development/Empowerment approach will be lead strategy. In this project communities collective action for promotion of health practices, agriculture practices, traditional governance and good social practices will be taken into more than the individual gains.

Following key strategies will be adopted to ensure communities' collective action for social, economic, agriculture, governance and health practices:

- Community level capacity building inputs on different components.
- Facilitating community for identifying traditional good practices on governance, agriculture, health and other social practices.
- Forming and strengthening village level community structures for initiating and continuing village level actions.
- Community capacity building through trainings, workshops and local exposures.
- Village based specific activities based on the community opinion and needs.
- Promotion of equal respect for each other's traditional cultures and values.
- Equal participation of men and women in decision making process and actions
- Community collective initiatives for promotion of traditional agriculture, health and socio economic practices through village level micro plans

Promotion of the local breed of livestock and fishery for the farmers

A program conducted in the project village in the month of July 2017. The participants in the program were both male and female of the village. The main aim of the program was to make people aware of the local breeds of livestock and to promote the creation of an efficient marketing system of local goods. For the said program Dr. Roton Ronghang and Dr. David Bordoloi from veterinary department, Diphu, Karbi Anglong were present as resource persons. The programme was conducted at three different venues, namely Raikom Aklam village, Monsing Teron village and Main Nala village.



Conservation of natural resource of traditional medicine practice

Traditional medicinal practices in tribal villages were common in the past. Today such practices are unpopular and fast disappearing. Therefore, this meeting held in the villages was to revive the natural traditional medicinal practice.

The meeting was conducted in ten villages, with the aim of motivating people to set up medicinal garden in villages with the help of the local medicinal practitioners and to encourage the upcoming youth to take up the initiative to protect the natural resource of traditional medicinal practice.



Village orientation on the concept of organic farming



The main aim and objective of organic farming

Organic farming aims at stopping the use of chemicals for more food production. It helps to save soil, to produce organic items and to stop water pollution. Through this program people were made aware of the advantages of buying and supplying locally produced items from market.

8. Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR)

CBR is a project working for differently abled in Lumbajong Block of Karbi Anglong District of Assam. The project was launched in the year 2016. It is funded by CARITAS India.

Objective

- To Identify persons with disability in Lumbajong Block of Karbi Anglong
- To take them for Medical Assessment to Civil Hospital, Diphu
- To give them Awareness about Government schemes and entitlements
- To encourage them to start their own business to earn their own living
- To encourage them start their own Organization call VDPOs
- To give them Home Based Education/Home Based Rehabilitation
- To encourage CWDs/PWDs to come out of their home

- To encourage parents of differently abled to give equal opportunities as normal children in the family.



Survey by CBR staff



Awareness on inclusive education of CWDs to teachers in the School



Formation of Children's Clubs at school and Village level



Talent Hunt Programme for the differently abled people



World Disable Day Celebration 2017



Staffs Making Armchair for Sukhi