Rural & Urban slum empowerment

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

2008 – 2009

LOVE AND CARE INDIA TRUST

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SADIQUABAD, MANKAPUR
NAGPUR-440 030, M.S.
INDIA
PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS

On behalf of members of managing Committee of LACIT – LOVE AND CARE INDIA TRUST, Nagpur, M.S. India, I am very much pleased to present the annual report of LACIT for the year 2008-09. LACIT was established in the year 2005 to address the issues of women empowerment, health and education which are interlinked. LACIT was also established to create meaningful opportunities for the deprived, socially and economically backward classes’ especially urban slum community so that they could manage their resources and use them for their sustainable development. LACIT is known for its role in making the community self reliant. Through extensive interaction and contacts at the slum level it has established an organization for slum dwellers. In achieving our objectives we have organized various programs, organizing and participating in workshops and various seminars organized by other NGOs on vital issues that affect the men, women, youth & Children etc.

Samta Nagar Slum of North of Nagpur city, Maharashtra State, India is the target area where significant programmatic interventions like livelihood promotion for the slum communities, efforts for control on HIV/AIDS, children education (K.G I & K.G. II), partial alternative education for the kids of female sex workers, empowerment of women, income generation programs etc. are spread. I am pleased to say that our projects are gaining success.

I feel very proud when I see that slum communities are actively participating in designing the participatory plan of sustainable development through different forum and self governance committees.

I would like to thank our partner’s especially German consulate, Mumbai, donors, well wishers for their continued financial and non financial support and guidance to our different programs throughout the year.

Similarly thanks to the slum community members who are active agents of change. How would I forget my staff members who made extensive efforts to translate the vision of LACIT into realities? In the end it is my duty to give thanks to all of the trustees who have directly and indirectly supported the programs.

I hope the same cooperation and love which was given this year would be offered with same spirit and emotions in the years to come.

Thanks!

Sunil Jonathan
President
THE YEARS IN BRIEF;

Since its inception from a small beginning with working on education issues, LACIT has today made significant inroads in the fields of Children education, strengthening human capabilities and building institutions of self-governance at the slum community level. This work has enabled LACIT to gain a deeper and more understanding of both the complex nature of the systems it is engaging with and what it takes to engender change within them.

In order to develop the organization’s strategies are being carried out at all levels with the community. All the conversations have focused on exploring what has been achieved so far, distilling the lessons learned from this experience, understanding the changing context and identifying the challenges. Based on this, visions from the community were integrated and combined with visions and strategies evolved at the community level and consolidated into the programmes. To support strategic decision-making process a qualitative & quantitative data were collected by the survey. Multiple opportunities are being provided for the results of this strategy-making process to be questioned and refined by staff and communities from across the organization’s work area. For years, we have found it to be a core factor in our ability to remain transparent, just and respectful of diversity.

A BIT OF HISTORY

LACIT-Love And Care India Trust is a well known non-profit & non-govt. organization in Nagpur, Maharashtra State, India. It aims at facilitating a process to establish a just and healthy society in which the poorest of the slums poor gets the power to maintain a better and qualitative life with equal access and control over the education and resources.

And this is possible with opportunities to knowledge, information, resources & participation in decision making process. It also committed to the implementation of socio-economic development of marginalized sections of society since its inception in 2005. At present LACIT operates in Samta Nagar slum and hardly accessible areas of Nagpur city of State of Maharashtra, India where more than 60% of the population is living Below Poverty Line. Our development initiative covers more than 50 thousand poor, vulnerable and weaker section population including women, children, elderly, disabled, destitute, small & marginal farmers, rural artisans and other such underprivileged. It has developed an integrated strategy by combining direct service delivery approach and development support activities like research, advocacy, networking etc.

Considering the primary objectives & aims of organization at the very broad level the programs undertaken during the year 2008-2009 can be divided into various areas. By having skilled and professional staffs, LACIT runs a number of programs like sustainable socio-economic development of slums communities, taking special care of child education, environment education, sexual & reproductive health education, non-formal education to girl children, ensuring basic health needs, SHG empowerment through & income generation programs etc. It's intervention area also extended with elderly care, support to people with disability and HIV/ AIDS, with local knowledge and resources.

LACIT is registered under the Bombay Public Trust Act 1950 ( Registartion No. F/21796/N ) Indian Society Registration Act, XXI of 1860 ( Registration No. MAH/211/06 ), Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) of 1976 (Registration. No. awaiting), and 12 A and 80 G of Income Tax Act.

VISION

To serve less privileged community such as children with special needs, at-risk youths, and women in distress, destitute and old persons by creating opportunities at broad level & prepare them to be an active participant in their community.
MISSION

Creating an enabling through knowledge & issue based sustainable socio-economic interventions, with an integrated approach & active participation of stake holders that will improve their quality of life.

STRATEGY

LACIT ‘s developmental interventions are based on community participation. It strives to ensure peoples participation in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programs. Its strategic approach may be broadly described as:

2. Health Education & Awareness Generation
3. Direct demonstration of developmental initiatives to community
4. Capacity building initiatives and imparting training for skill up gradation
5. Networking & linkages
6. Research Survey & Documentation

OPERATIONAL AREA & TARGET GROUPS

LACIT works in the Samta Nagar Slum of North of Nagpur. Marginalized people from Scheduled Tribe, Scheduled Caste, women, Families from Below Poverty Line, Elderly persons, Persons with Disabilities, small & marginal farmers, Children, Destitute women, persons needing eye care and general health care etc are the primary target group for LACIT.

The board proposed the new area to be considered ahead for the marginalised rural youths of Khaperkheda, Korfadi, Mahadula, Bina, Pipla and Walani with more emphasis to girls and women.

Programs & Initiatives

SPECIAL CHILD CARE SCHOOL ;

LACIT has under taken the following activity for educational development of poor and marginalize 41 Slum Children from the Samta Nagar slum area are enrolled in KG I & K.G. II. The school is running as per the norm of formal school based on their curriculum and extra curriculum scheduled. A trained teacher and assistant are working in this school.

During this year total 41 children were enrolled. Out of total children 39 of children pass out in the month of March 09 and 43 Children from different part of slum has been newly enrolled in the center for the year 2009-10. Now the strength of the center has been increased to 45. Facilities like Class room, toilet, playing ground are available in the premises. Entertainment facilities, indoors and outdoor games materials, study materials; dress item has been supplies to the learners of the center. In the leisure both the teacher and student doing Social useful productive work like planting tree, cleanliness the surrounding, earn and learn activities etc. they also observes and celebrate the festivals & National Days like, Rakshabandhan, Independent day, Ganesh Puja, Gandhi
Jayanti etc. A local management committee is functioning and guided for proper implementation of the Programs.

Two teachers and one social worker are engaged to manage this special care school and imparted the activities like, health check up and medicine, teaching learning material, filter, sports material, and other entrainment activities for effectiveness of the program. The teaching learning is based on non-formal approach and joyful processes. In this center one Management body is formed among the parents and teacher who are monitoring the activities effectively. The centre is running from 9am to 1pm except Sunday and national days.

**WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND HEALTHCARE ;**

The objective of this program is to enhance the capacity of women SHG, and other groups to play an effective role in improving the health status of the marginalized and impoverished community. The project covers around 4 SHG directly and around 1500 population indirectly in the project area. The major strategy adopted to achieve the objectives of the project are community empowerment, learning knowledge dissemination among wider masses, advocacy for health sector reform and capacity building of the slum level communities.

**WOMEN EMPOWERMENT ;**

SHGs have been formed and capacitated. The group members are disseminating the knowledge among the community members. Presently 4 Women SHGs are functional in the area. Nearly 800 community members are oriented and communicated for improving health seeking behavior. A total 57 beneficiaries from Self Help groups are facilitated in economic development initiatives so far.

**LEARNING KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION ;**

Community organizers are using learning communication as a tool on various aspects like using health education, child education, timely immunization for combating maternal and infant mortality rate, HIV-AIDS and relevant issues, relevance of birth and death registration, institutional delivery, use of contraception, prevention of common and seasonal ailment etc. We disseminated this knowledge to the slum communities through group meetings. As a result it is more effective to spread the message among the community members.

**EYE CARE PROGRAM**

LACIT 's eye care program is serving the slum people. It organized outreach camps to eliminate the needless blindness. Outreach camps include Community-Based Comprehensive Program, School Children Screening, and Special Surveys.

**COMPREHENSIVE EYE CAMPS**

5 eye camps were organised last year. 570 persons participated in screening process there and 18 of them underwent surgery with successful outcomes.

**EYE SCREENING CAMPS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN**
Free eye examination of school children has been done. 380 children were examined. 6 children belong to poor families have received pair glasses at free of cost.

NATIONAL FESTIVALS DAY CELEBRATION

LACIT organized one day program on the occasion of National Festivals. The purpose of this program was to create awareness about our National Festivals and its importance. 193 community members were participated in this program.

EDUCATING SLUM COMMUNITIES AND SCHOOL GOERS ON ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION

This program was organized to ensure every community member & school going children should aware on environment and their responsibility towards its management. Group meetings, one day workshop and Tree Plantations took place during the reporting period.

DENTAL CARE PROGRAM

Its objective is to provide local communities with services like dental function and care. During this year 5 such programs were organized, total 241 community members were participated & out of 27 were referred to hospitals for further support.

HIV AID AWARENESS & COMMITTEE

LACIT has organized 20 awareness meetings at different places. During these meetings, staff & volunteers of LACIT they distribute leaflets, posters, banners for sensitization of the people under distress condition with specific focus on controlling HIV-AID. Subcommittee meetings were also took place under the chairmanship of Local Corporator. Other participants like women SHG, Adolescents girls, HIV Activists were participated. Around 1352 were attended this program.

COMMUNITY DAY CELEBRATION

An ideal opportunity for community members and children to join together in providing gift boxes which were received from USA that really do make a difference to the children those receive them. On March 30, 2009 , LACIT organized a One Day Community day celebration at Samata Nagar slum for the local community members and children. The event was organized to bring moment of happiness to community members and underprivileged children. Young girls from slum participated in an interactive and entertaining evening with the 1700+ community members and 110 children were participated. A variety of programs like, light music, singing and dance, drama were organized by the slum girls, youths and children. All the community members and invitees who were participated in this program enjoyed with the delicious dinner after the end of program.

The dignatories invited were Minister of State for Home, Prison, State Excise and Labour Hon’ble Dr. Nitin Raut as Chiefl Geust, Prof. Pramod Mane Educationist, Mrs. Varsha Dhengre Social Concern, Mr. Ajay Ramteke Additional Municipal Commissioner NMC, Mr. Sudhakar Ramteke Director EDCI, Mrs. Hiratai Gedam Corporator Ward No. 2 Nari, Mr. Vinod Sonkar Prsident block congress committee Mr. Philip Jaiswal President UCC and Mrs. Rachana Singh principal St. Ursula High School & Junior College.

GIFT BOXES CELEBRATION

Child really does build great links with their community. As a celebration and a way to really engaged with everyone involved in the celebration, at the end gift boxes were distributed to 100 children of the Samta Nagar slum.
COMPETITIONS

Sports and educational exercises are very important to improve the mental and psychological condition of the children, their social inclusion as well. LACIT organised various sports, drawing & easy competitions for the slum men, women, youth, girls & children who came from the same slum. Final Winners from each competition was followed by a group supper and distribution of gifts.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES (EDPS).

LACIT emphasizing the processing of agro product into value added products with a view to reduce the wastage of agricultural produce and increase in the income of families, it requires to train the prospective entrepreneurs / unemployed youth in an intensive manner so as to sensitise them to the idea of value addition, food processing and encourage them to establish food processing industries. To achieve these objectives, LACIT organised the two workshops each of 2 days duration, on 25th June 2008 and 9th November 2008 total 25 unemployed got benefited with the following objectives

(i) Providing basic knowledge of project formulation and management including technology, marketing, and profitability.
(ii) Motivating the youths and instilling confidence in them to start and manage a business venture.
(iii) Educating them on the opportunities & financial assistance available for food processing units.
(iv) Providing escort services to enable them to avail credit facilities from banks/financial institutions and other support services from the developmental organizations/ to source equipments, raw material etc/ to guide them in establishing marketing linkage to their products and possible risk factors in running the units.

BEAUTY PARLOR PROGRAM

Keeping in the mind the objectives of removal of poverty by reducing the problem of employment the LACIT has been instrumental in taking various concrete steps in the direction of removal of poverty. LACIT was organized workshops and training programs for women and young girls in Beauty Parlor field by experienced trainers. The main aim of this program is to make the trainees so skilled that they may become self dependent and stand on their own feet.

During the reporting period LACIT organized two training and one workshop for the women and young girls, a total 63 were participated in the program and they were informed about need for Beauty education in the self reliance of the women. Further, it was resolved that the LACIT would further organize similar programs in the near future.

A one day mega Beauty Parlor Camp was organized on 13th Sept. 2008. In this camp young girl from local slums and other areas participated to get aware and to get employment and also start their own center to provide Parlor services to others, total 56 nos. of young girls benefited and free some basic material distributed. The aim was to help the women society establish a their own centre in their areas and tries to help them by solving their poverty problems that they became able to settled in their family and became self dependent.

CULTURAL PROGRAM

Cultural program was organized at Samta slum of Nagpur city during the year on the eve of national days 15th August Integration was created among the people through these types of programs. Children has presented the cultural program like patriotic songs, drama, and dance and shared the happiness among people and we have distributed gift among all children.
SOCIO-ECONOMIC BASE LINE SURVEY

Slum people are aware that many factors are either directly or indirectly responsible for socio-economic development including insecure food supply, lack of basic education, inadequate health services, deteriorated environment, low income, and inadequate empowerment. The factors contributing to development vary from community to community. However, poverty is nearly always an underlying factor.

To improve the status and improve living conditions in communities LACIT conducted socio-economic base line survey of the Samta Nagar slum. Additionally, it has been recommended repeatedly as a suitable key indicator for poverty alleviation as well.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF A SURVEY

The objectives of the survey dealt with the assessment and analysis of the situation and of contributing poverty factors of risk groups and the evaluation of the effect of a project/program on the improvement of living conditions.

A SURVEY TAKES PLACE IN 5 STEPS:

1. Collection of available information on the socio-economic, demographic, and ecological data in the Samta Nagar Slum;
2. Planning and preparation of the survey;
3. Implementation of the survey;
4. Data processing, evaluation and analysis;
5. Dissemination of the results of the survey and preparation for translation into action.

The following individual activities were part of the process of a baseline survey:

1. To initiate dialogues among all groups participating in a survey concerning the living situation of the poor,
2. To assess the needs of the poor, in particular, about their problems in daily life,
3. To increase the awareness and sensitivity to improve the basic need situation of the poor,
4. To reveal the nature, magnitude and severity of the poverty-related problems and their possible causes,
5. To identify the appropriate scope of intervention for the improvement of the poverty situation,
6. To identify poverty-related socioeconomic determining factors for evaluation,

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

In order to educate and aware children, youth and women to change their attitude and behave towards socio-economic & health development, various awareness camps were organized. Participants were local youths, women and school children. Such type of campaign was frequently organized through out the year.

MEETINGS AND SHARING

Meetings had been organized once in a month. The main aim was to share the experiences and smooth working of various projects and programs among the staff and volunteers. The staff team of LACIT has attended meetings organized to review the performance of the program. In some meetings local slums level community members were invited to participate and share their comments and views for any further development.

NETWORK / LINKAGE WITH GOVT. / NGO / INGO
LACIT shares the project experience in various platforms of district, state & international level. It has been working with its networks with government offices & international agencies those who are working on our common goal.

FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

- Focus on MDGs (Poverty Reduction, HIV/AIDS, Education, Gender, Environment Protection)
- Natural Resource Management
- Education for Out of School and Crèche for Labour Class Community
- Empowerment of Women, Kishori Clubs, PRIs, Micro Credit, Creation of new Entrepreneurship
- Education for All - Establishment of New Building of LACIT (special child care school).
- Resource Mobilization
- Research, Study, Publication
- Advocacy on Public-Private Partnership

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT TO

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President

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