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Pragati has completed one more year of intense activities, taken up new initiatives and enlarged its boundary of program spectrum. New players have come up for support, newer target groups have been identified and comprehensive development models like one in Dayanidiguda village of Koraput Block speaks volumes about the selfless and dedicated work of the members of ‘Pragati family’. It is heartening to record that the organization has taken up laudable initiatives to address issues like ‘Climate Change’ and ‘Renewable Energy’. Besides taking up corrective measures to minimize the negative impacts of climate change on agriculture and allied sectors, awareness programmes are being organized for the school children to make the future generations conscious about the fallouts of global warming, irregular monsoon, depletion of rainfall, drying of water bodies etc. Solar home lighting system, solar cook stoves, solar pumping system and irrigation engineered with the help of solar energy are some of the iconic activities taken up to popularize use of solar energy. Motivating farmers for adoption of SRI principle in cultivation of finger millet, pulses, vegetables etc have resulted in higher production, better marketing besides addressing the issue of nutritional food security.

The development dynamics is a continuous process having only ‘commas’ but no ‘full stops’. This concept needs to be understood and internalized. While congratulating the Secretary and his teammates for being felicitated by daily news paper “SAMAJ” on the occasion of 138th birth anniversary of Pandit Utkalamani Gopabandhu Dash, I wish members of the Pragati Family success and more success in years to come within the ambit of “Vision, Mission and Values” of the organization.

Chairman,
Pragati, Koraput
It is my pleasure to present the Annual Report of our organisation for the year 2014-15. Working amidst challenges and exploring opportunities, this report makes a humble effort to compile our strategies, accomplishments and learning leading to poverty alleviation through community participation, empowering the marginalised groups and our holistic approach to development. As you read the report, I hope that you too are inspired by the people in our communities who have been empowered, and through this are changing their own lives.

Throughout our journey, we have continually redefined our approach – from service delivery to a future where the local communities determine and move towards sustainable development goals. Our evolution has been both defined and focused, and our transitions mirror the rapidly changing socio-economic landscape and development dynamics among communities and the society at large.

The results in the field speak about our work. The major achievements are visible in the sector of sustainable agriculture, soil and water conservation and creation of irrigation infrastructures for the small and marginal farmers while building the capacities of community. Our work around community forest management, facilitation of land and resource rights of forest dependent people has tried to address the right and food security nexus of the forest dwellers, historically deprived of their legitimate claims.

However, it is not roses spread all the way. The factors like climate change poses a critical threat to the communities that depend on the natural resources for their livelihoods. Further, the changes in the macro and micro climate within which the organisation operates poses a big challenge to sustain the stage where we stand.

Credibility, transparency and accountability have always been the bench mark for Pragati, which are achieved by adhering to principles of good governance. On behalf of Pragati, I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all our Donors, Members of Board, NGO partners, CBOs, well-wishers and friends who have been so vital in supporting our mission for a better society.

Secretary,
Pragati, Koraput
ABOUT US

PRAGATI KORAPUT, set up in 1992, is registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860, with a noble mission to work for socio-economic development of the rural poor. Based on our conviction that the disadvantaged sector of the society need opportunities not charity, our aim is to make the disadvantaged self-reliant thereby enabling them to lead a life of dignity. By working on systemic issues that can bring about a multiplier change, we look forward to a future where the local communities determine and move towards desirable use of their natural resources based on principles of conservation and social justice.

We are presently working in 5 Blocks i.e. Koraput, Nandapur, Kotpad, Lamtaput and Dashmanthpur reaching out to approximately 45,000 households through different interventions. We have collaboration with People’s Organisations establishing a network of Forest Dependent people in Koraput District for Community Forest management, facilitating rights over forest lands and resources. Our initiative for System of Crop Intensification covers 250 villages in Koraput District to enhance nutritional food security and income of small and marginal farmers.

Vision:
To build such a self-reliant society, free from hunger and exploitation, where everyone irrespective of caste, creed, sex and language have right to dignified means of livelihood and through collective action ensure socio-economic justice and ecological balance.

Mission:
To facilitate and strengthen vibrant people’s organizations at different levels of society that will protect, utilize, control and manage local resources and through collective action, ensure dynamic socio-economic change for sustainable development by advocating for pro-poor governance and bring women, children, tribals and downtrodden, to the mainstream of the society.

Values
- Transparency in all aspects.
- Commitment to render selfless service to the poor.
- Accountability to the Society.
- Work with team spirit.
- Punctuality.
- Participatory approach in all aspects.
- Sensitive towards women.
- Secular in spirit.
- Impartial and non-partisan attitude.

Focus Area of Our Intervention
- Promotion and strengthening of People’s Organisations.
- Natural Resource Management
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Climate change adaptation
Empowering Community Institutions:
Pragati, Koraput works for empowering the community institutions as these are the drivers to effectively carry out activities and plans affecting the lives and livelihoods of communities. The village level institutions such as the Village Development Committees (VDC), Village Monitoring Committees (VMC), Women Self Help Groups (WSHGs), Producer Groups and Farmers Clubs and their Panchayat/Block federations, Producer Cooperatives are being strengthened for achieving the larger development goals.

Achievements:
- 124 VDCs & 25 VMCs are actively involved for ensuring Government safety net programmes for nutritional food security of 5654 families. 77 VDCs mobilised Govt. programmes under MGNREGS generating 48,006 person days of work for 1143 migrating poor families.
- 11 Panchayat level Federations ensured approval of village development plans in the Gram Sabhas and follow up for implementation.
- 10,443 farmers are organised into 176 Farmers clubs, out of which 93 groups are linked with NABARD. 1726 Farmers have accessed Government agriculture/horticulture schemes.
- 3892 Women organised into 316 SHGs are involved in micro-credit, out of which 86 SHGs, availing loan of INR 73, 89,500 are engaged in income generation programmes. Memberships in groups have increased access to information, created avenues for participation of women in community activities and local self-governance.
- 3118 Farmers of 92 villages practicing organic farming are organised into 218 Produce Groups for collective marketing of their produces.
- Anchalika Bahumukhi Samabaya Samiti, Ltd, the Cooperative Society established in Nandapur Block, having 1685 members with an annual turnover of INR 27, 59,34 caters to the credit need of its members for agriculture, small business, value addition of local produces, procurement of assets etc.

Case of Village Monitoring Committee of Litiguda Village:
The VMC of Litiguda village in Mahadeiput Panchayat of Koraput block has been successful in ensuring effective service delivery under Government schemes, especially food security programmes, monitoring functionality of village institutions and taking action to address the issues.
There are 52 families in Litiguda village. The VMC was facilitated under the Food and Nutrition Security Programme of Pragati with equal membership of men and women. The village level service providers now participate in the VMC meetings, disseminate information and sort out the problems through mutual discussions. Due to the cooperation of the VMC, the School is functioning properly, teacher attendance is regular and there is no drop out. 100% institutional delivery and immunization of children has been ensured in the village. 32 poor families get regular PDS. Vaccination camps for livestock are organised twice in a year in the cluster villages and livestock disease is significantly reduced.
“This has become possible due to the action of VMC, the service providers consult us before taking any decision for the village”, says Balaram, Secretary of VMC.
Forest dependent people’s network:

Forests and tribal people of Koraput have a symbiotic relationship as it caters to their multiple needs. Pragati, Koraput, has been facilitating community forest conservation and management since 1994 through Village Forest Committees, federated at Panchayat and Block levels. The District level Federation called Koraput Jilla Banabasi Sangha (KJBS) spreads across 1274 villages with 172,131 households. The survey conducted in these villages reveals that 75,962 families are dependent on forest lands and protecting their village forests. With the legislation of Forest Rights Act 2006, Pragati has been facilitating a network of NGOs and forest dependent People’s Organisations in association with District administration for effective implementation of the Act.

The Impact:

- 46,742 individual claims have been submitted out of which, claims of 27,676 families have been settled over 42408.44 acres of land. Out of the titles issued, 24,262 families have got joint titles and 784 single women have land titles in their names, which have created a sense of security for women, have the potential to increase women’s access to credit, technology and also reduce gender-based violence.

- 1107 Village communities have submitted their claims for community rights, out of which 58 claims are settled. The forest dependent people’s federations have continued protecting their village forests and demand for settlement of community rights. The process involved in the determination of rights has helped revive community institutions, especially the Gram Sabha and Forest Rights Committees.

- Individual land titles have brought benefits like plantations for 1007 families, Housing schemes for 14,238 families, water harvesting structures for 437 beneficiaries and land development for 5581 families under the Government schemes.
Climate Change Adaptation:
In Koraput District with 83% of population living below the poverty line having less than 1 ha rain fed land, changes in climate is going to affect the lives and livelihoods of the rural poor. Erratic rainfall, receding no of rainy days, increase in temperature and recurrence of natural disasters like drought, flash flood, landslides and even cyclone are the ever increasing indications of climate change effects resulting in water scarcity, low productivity, crop failure, loss of crop diversity which is leading to food and nutritional insecurity, increase in indebtedness and migration. Pragati has demonstrated climate resilient production systems, building capacity of communities for conservation and management of local resources.

Disaster Preparedness:
The community have experienced in last ten years 3 dry spells leading to drought like situations, 3 flash floods with landslides and one cyclone in our intervention areas. To build the capacities of community to face such situations, Pragati is promoting conservation agriculture, organic farming, land and water management practices and empowering communities to access institutional and technical resources.

Key Interventions:
- 1274 Villages have reduced deforestation and increased bio-diversity through community forest conservation and management.
- Communities in 176 villages are able to mobilise different land bundings which control soil erosion, increased moisture retention, protecting crops from erratic monsoon and water scarcity.
- Pragati has introduced model vegetable farming for landslide and cyclone affected families in 3 villages to address their immediate livelihood needs.

Recovering from shock- Raju Saanta
Dayanidhiguda village in Koraput block has 67 house holds, out of which 28 tribal families have received land titles under Forest Rights Act. The flash flood in July 2014 was a setback for all the 28 families who cultivated paddy in their forest lands. They lost their crops and the lands were covered my mudslides.
Raju Saanta, who has got 1.5 acres of land, lost all his crops and his land was damaged. Raju had no other option but to burn and sell charcoal to feed his family. At this juncture, Pragati started interventions for the affected families with model vegetable farming. Raju received support of seeds for vegetables and planting materials like spine gourd, little gourd and teasel gourd. Besides consumption, he has sold vegetables of INR 7500. Raju has also renovated his land and engaged in vegetable cultivation.
Awareness among school children:
The children are the next generation of environmental stewards in households and communities. For them to become effective agents of change, avenues must exist for their knowledge to be translated into advocacy and action. Realising that schools are the ideal platforms for increasing children’s environmental knowledge, we have started awareness programmes for school children. 200 children from different schools of the district have started reflecting their thinking on climate change effects and solutions through paintings, essays, posters and slogans. Cluster and District level workshop of school cabinets brought together 500 school children for interactive sessions with teachers, academicians, media representatives and Government officials. These learning programmes go beyond schools and into local communities as the children have started spreading the messages for conservation of resources and environment.

Renewable energy:
Majority of people in the villages of Koraput depend on kerosene for home lighting and firewood for cooking. The fuel based lighting and cooking produces toxic smoke and carbon dioxide, which contribute to global warming and climate change and also poses serious debilitating health hazards especially for women and infants.

Pragati has introduced solar home lighting systems and cook stoves to provide clean energy solutions to the rural poor. So far solar home lighting systems are installed for 820 families which have reduced kerosene consumption of almost 9840 litres per year, thereby preventing release of almost 984 tonnes of carbon dioxide. Demonstration of Solar cook stoves for 60 households has helped reduce drudgery of women and pressure on firewood. Shifting from solid fuels to cleaner energy like solar power – has potentially yielded the largest reduction in indoor air pollution levels while minimizing the environmental impacts of energy consumption.
83 percent population of Koraput district depend on agriculture for their livelihood. The geo-climatic condition of the district is favourable for vegetables, paddy, millet, pulses, spices and fruit bearing trees. However, due to the undulating terrains, highly variable rainfall and long dry seasons; water tends to be a key constraint for agricultural production systems. Though there are many perennial streams, rivulets and potential of ground water, these resources remain underutilised due to lack of appropriate technology and support systems. In this context, Pragati is promoting efficient water management practices like gravity flow irrigation, solar water pumping systems and Hydro Rams which now provide life-saving irrigation for the rain fed crops as well as promotion of off season vegetables throughout the year.

**Gravity based irrigation:**
The farmers in Koraput are found to adopt the system of providing life-saving irrigation for their rain fed crops during the dry spells by diverting the stream flow with an earthen bund across it. However, the bund is washed away during the heavy rains every year. Since water is diverted through earthen channel, a lot of water is also wasted through seepage and hence crop coverage is less in winter season.

These constraints have been addressed by pipe based irrigation that applies gravitational force to guide water from adjacent streams and rivers to agricultural fields. The scheme consists of a low obstruction (weir) or bund constructed across the stream for raising and diverting water and conveyance system through pipes to convey the water to the agricultural fields. Such irrigation infrastructures are established in 34 villages which irrigate 993.5 acres land of 802 farmers enabling farmers to earn per capita additional income of average INR 8500 to 22500.

**Impact:**
- 1113.5 acres of uplands of 915 small and marginal farmers in 39 villages are covered with crops throughout the year and farmers have adopted diverse crops.
- Community contributed INR 2,480,000 in terms of labour for development of the irrigation infrastructures.
- 1165 families have changed food habits as they consume pulses and vegetables along with cereals, adding to nutritional food security. Average additional income has increased to INR 8500 to 21500 per family.
- 477 households access water for domestic use in 11 villages, reducing drudgery for women and girls.

**Case study: Harvest throughout the year**
The villagers of Katlaput are now engaged in their family farms throughout the year after they have created the diversion based irrigation. Out of 57 families in the village, 21 families have now assured irrigation in 19.75 acres of land. The villagers formed a user group and completed the work in 3 months. Due to availability of irrigation, the farmers have adopted system of finger millet intensification, organic vegetables and spices. 11 farmers trained on improved agriculture practices and organic farming, demonstrate in their own farms and disseminating their skills. The farmers have used their lands during Kharif and Rabi and earned an average income of INR 23,500 per farmer during the first year. The farmers are now organized into a Producer Group for collective marketing of their produces.
**Eco-friendly Solar Irrigation Systems:**
The small and marginal farmers of Koraput cannot afford irrigation by diesel pump sets since these are dependent on fuel energy and recurring costs are high. Further as most of the villages and farmlands in Koraput are located in hilly terrains, lift irrigation have not been very successful, beyond the reach of the small farmers and also in some rural areas people do not have access to electricity.

In this connection, Pragati has promoted cost effective and eco-friendly solar pump set irrigation which can be used for lifting water from perennial streams or water resources by installing solar panels and a pump set. We have demonstrated solar irrigation systems in 4 villages, namely, Sukriput, Dayanidhiguda, Mangra and Lunging which irrigate 77 acres land of 70 farmers enabling them to take up crops throughout the year.

**Case study: Changing Livelihood Systems:**
Installation of solar irrigation system in Dayanidhiguda village of Koraput Block, is gradually changing the livelihood systems of the Kandha tribes. Cultivation in rain fed uplands and selling charcoal/firewood is the primary source of livelihood in the village. To bring changes in the livelihood of the villagers, Pragati has organised the farmers and established a solar irrigation system which irrigates 12.5 acres lands of 18 extremely poor families. A Tuber crop nursery has been established with support of CTCRI and NABARD. Model farms are demonstrated for each farmer with high value vegetables, horticulture and tuber crops using only organic practices. Besides adding to their daily diet, all the 18 families now earn on an average of INR 300-500 per week by selling surplus vegetables in the weekly markets. Gradually these families are adopting agro based livelihoods and thereby age-old practice of sale of charcoal and firewood is reduced. The Farmers Field School concept is introduced in the irrigation site and the farmers are now organised into a Producer Cooperative.

**Hydro Rams:**
Hydro-Ram is an important source of renewable energy. Ram pumps are mechanical device used to pump water uphill for irrigation; the hydrams use the momentum of a large amount of water running down from a hill, to push a smaller amount of water to uphill. It is feasible for installation in locations where sustainable water resources exist for lifting water without energy/fuel in the remote villages and the farmers are poor and unable to afford for diesel pump set or lift irrigation by electricity. Pragati has demonstrated Hydro Rams in two villages which irrigate 43 acres land of 43 farmers.
Sustainable Agriculture: Ensuring Food security through agro-ecology

Pragati is promoting crop intensification techniques to increase yield of small and marginal farmers through plant diversification, intercropping, organic manures for soil fertility while empowering farmers through information sharing and video dissemination. The production system with increased use of external seeds, expensive chemical inputs and further aggravated by the climate change effects has threatened the ecology, economy and livelihoods of the small and marginal farmers. In such context, sustainable agriculture is the ultimate solution that can restore the damaged eco-systems and improve farmer’s resilience by decreasing their dependency on external inputs, reduce their vulnerability to erratic monsoon, drought, flash flood and soil degradation.

Empowering Women Farmers:

Women play a vital role in agriculture from soil enrichment to harvesting and preserving seeds for next crop, but they are seen as ‘farmwives’ or farm labourers rather than farmers. They don’t have access to information, institutional credits or extension services to enhance their skills and expertise. With the advent of Green revolution, women have become vulnerable to health hazards due to the harmful effects of chemical farming. In this backdrop we have introduced eco-friendly farming and women friendly interventions to enhance their farming abilities and strengthen their organisations for better production.

Interventions and outcomes:

- 1140 women farmers trained on improved agricultural practices demonstrate their learning in their farmlands.
- 2200 women farmers organised into 178 Producer Groups, take up collective farming using organic practices.
- 2270 women farmers supported with organic manure kits, prepared and used different organic manures in their crops and stop use of chemical fertilisers.
- Farm equipment like improved sickle, hand hoe, khurpa, finger weeder and sprayer distributed among 2200 women farmers have reduced drudgery in farm operations.
- Women farmers adopt improved technologies i.e. SRI Paddy by 918 farmers in 606 acres, Ragi intensification by 253 farmers in 138.5 acres, vegetable cultivation taken up by 1650 farmers in 352 acres, pulses by 320 farmers in 164 and tuber crops grown by 2200 women farmers.

Case study: Improved Skills enhance income

Ashmati Nayak, a tribal woman of Chitra village in Kotpad block is now recognised as a leading farmer. She has participated in trainings on SRI, Organic ways of Vegetable Cultivation & Seed Selection. Ashmati has adopted SRI in 1 acre and vegetables in 0.5 acre using all the practices and organic methods she learnt in her trainings. She has kept track of her investment and profit with support of the village level service provider. She has earned net income of INR 41,272 by investing INR 7318 towards procurement of inputs and marketing expenses. Ashmati has not only enhanced her own skills but also she supports other farmers in her village.
Organic practices:

The immediate need to increase food production through modern agriculture techniques, has led to new set of problems i.e. hybrid seeds, heavy use of chemical fertilisers, pesticides, herbicides etc and over exploitation of water resources. Now farmers have come to realize the adverse impacts on soil and human health, environment and above all the increasing expenditures on external inputs have dragged the farmers into the deadly debt trap. Pragati is promoting organic farming practices among the small and marginal farmers in 176 villages of Koraput District through utilisation of local knowledge and documentation about best practitioner farmers. Conservation and replication of local germ plasm is encouraged to regain control of farmers over their own seeds and protection of their farmlands.

Impacts:

- 4150 Farmers are adopting organic package of practices from seed treatment to post harvest using bijamrita, handikhata, Jibamruta, vermi composting etc. in crops like paddy, millets, vegetables, spices ,tuber crops and pulses.
- 246 Videos produced documenting sustainable agriculture practices are disseminated among 9265 farmers using Picco Projectors for increasing adoption.
- Germ plasm of 37 Varieties of paddy and 7 varieties of finger millets are conserved and replicated in the intervention villages. Farmers are trained on seed selection and preservation for different crops i.e. paddy, millets, vegetables, pulses and tuber crops.

System of Rice Intensification:

SRI (System of Rice Intensification) introduced with 11 small farmers in Kharif 2006 is now being adopted by 11,443 farmers in Koraput District. The technology is popularized through video disseminations, skill trainings, creation of cadre of Community Service Providers, demonstrations, input supports and felicitation of successful farmers. SRI has resulted in increased productivity contributing to food security of the small and marginal farmers. The small farm holders continuing the SRI principles due to less investment in inputs and water requirement. In the on-going journey for scale up of SRI, the technology is further enriched through empirical research and farmers' innovations. The principle of SRI is now adopted in other crops like finger millet, pulses and vegetables.

Impacts:

- 11,443 farmers adopting SRI in 8694 acres of land have food from own production. Increased yield has changed the status of 4550 subsistence farmers who can now sell their surplus to meet other expenses.
- Dependency has been reduced on external inputs as the farmers start using indigenous seeds, organic nutrient and pest management practices.
- Mechanized weeding has reduced drudgery of women as men share the responsibilities in weeding and saved investment in labour.
Value Chain of Pigeon Pea:

There is immense potential to expand the cultivation of pulse crops in Koraput District because of the availability of large chunks of suitable uplands. The farmers mostly grow pigeon pea as a mixed crop for consumption. 60% farmers sell round 50% of the produce in local markets to petty traders or consumers.

Pragati has been promoting pigeon pea cultivation since 2012 with an objective to ensure nutritional security in the food basket of local communities and also for market promotion. The interventions were focused on various aspects of production, post harvest, marketing and storage. In order to enhance productivity, systematic package of practices are followed from seed selection to nutrient management. Farmers were provided with inputs like quality seed, bio-fertilizers and organic manures along with support for storage bins and weighing scales.

So far, 1455 farmers have adopted pigeon pea in 822 acres, both as sole crop and also as mixed crop with Ragi, vegetables, maize and turmeric. Besides consumption, farmers have sold 224 quintals of pigeon pea and started seed conservation. Systematic adoption of package of practices has increased average yield per acre from 2.5 quintal/acre to 4.5 quintal/acre.

Organic Vegetables:

Koraput District has much potential in Vegetable sector for growth, but is constrained by low productivity, lack of irrigation, inadequate storage facilities and inefficient market linkages.

Pragati has intervened through organic vegetable cultivation and kitchen garden which have multiple impacts i.e. increased consumption at household level, enhanced income for the farmers and better soil health management by application of organic manures. We have organised trainings for farmers, demonstrated model farms, created irrigation facilities, provided input supports, promoted producer groups and its cooperatives for collective farming, aggregation and market linkage.

3118 farmers have adopted vegetable cultivation in 718 acres and 1065 families have been covered under the backyard kitchen garden programme. In spite of climatic adversities and price volatilities, farmers got net income of around INR 35,000 to 55,000 per acre by using organic practices which reduced the cost of cultivation.

Case study: Organic Practices makes way for profit

Sanami Gadaba of B. Ghatarla village in Kotpad block has been able to earn a major part of cash income from vegetable cultivation. She has cultivated 0.60 decimal of land with four types of crops such as brinjal, spine gourd, pointed gourd and Little Gourd in 0.15 decimal each. By participation in trainings, she has learnt the improved package of practices, preparation and application of pot manure, jeevamrita, Hadri and vermi compost. Earlier she was doing vegetable cultivation in traditional method and spent on an average of INR 5000 for chemical fertilizers & pesticides. Due to adoption of organic practices, there was less incidence of pest and diseases in her crops, expenses were reduced and she earned net income of INR 30,480 in one cropping season.
Potato Cultivation:

The soil and climate of Koraput have been found conducive for potato cultivation both during the Kharif and Rabi seasons and farmers of the district are also familiar with the potato crop. Thus, there is potential for promoting potato cultivation for income enhancement of the small farmers. Pragati with its rich experience in sustainable agriculture introduced potato cultivation through improved package of practices and organic method. Linkage was established with National Horticulture Mission for procurement of quality seeds of 1215 quintals and distributed to 918 farmers who adopted potato cultivation in 334 acres in Nandapur and Koraput Block areas. Pragati facilitated the Cooperative Society i.e. Anchalika Bahumukhi Samabaya Samiti Ltd., Padwa for aggregation and marketing of potato from the farmers for better price.

Case study: Harvest of Profit:

Shyam Sundar Tangul, a tribal farmer of Sindhiput village in Nandapur Block cultivated monsoon potato in 0.75 acre of land. He procured 5.5 quintals of seed. With weather being favourable he started planting with proper practices like spacing, earth work and timely application of organic manures (pot manure and vermi compost). Though, there was heavy rainfall, his crop was not affected since he took proper care for drainage. Shyam harvested 43 quintals of potato. He kept 1 quintal for consumption and he sold 42 quintals @ INR 20 per kg. The total sale value was INR 84,000 which gave him net profit of INR 67,750. Along with Shyam, 14 other farmers of Sindhiput village who have grown potato, decided to aggregate their produce, fixed a price and sold to the local traders. The average profit earned per farmer ranged between INR 45,000 to 80,000.

System of Finger Millet Intensification

Finger millet (Eleusine coracana) is one of the most nutritious of all the major cereal crops and a part of the daily diet of the rural population of Koraput District. It is cultivated in the uplands under rainfed conditions, quite resilient to varied agro-climatic conditions and tolerant to climatic stress. Yet, cultivation of finger millet is declining due to changing farming systems and low productivity which is a threat to regional food security.

Improved practices in cultivation of finger millet can enhance production and income for the small farm holders, since finger millet as a food crop has started moving to the urban plate. Pragati has introduced Intensification method in Finger Millet in 2010 with 5 farmers. The enhanced yield factor has led to increased adoption by 1215 farmers in 2014 covering an area of 824 acres. There was average of 8-12 tillers per plant hill with maximum of 47 tillers. The average production recorded is 22.5 qnt/ ha, where as in traditional method farmers get only 11-12 quintals/ha. Farmers have observed that the crops have been resistant to climate adversities like irregular monsoons and heavy winds.
Case study:

Dayanidhi Khora, of Maliput village in Nandapur block has got bumper crop by following SRI principles in Finger millet. There was average of 12-22 tillers, the highest being 47. Use of roller weeder saved labour and reduced the work load of 2 women in the family who used to do weeding for 12 days. By using only farm yard manure and pot manure, he has harvested 16 quintals from one acre of land, where he used to get only 6 quintals in traditional transplanting method.

“It is simply unbelievable that a single plant can produce 47 tillers. During the cyclone in October 2014, most of the paddy and Ragi crops were affected, but my Ragi fields could survive fury of the cyclone. The robust plants could resist the storm and my family can have enough of Ragi for consumption this year,” says Dayanidhidhi.

Value Chain of Spices:

The geo-climatic condition of Koraput district is ideal for spices cultivation. Turmeric (Curcuma longa) and ginger (Zingiber officinale) are major among them and their cultivation is undertaken as a cash crop mostly in the uplands of the entire region. Genetic erosion, poor quality planting materials and lack of knowledge of improved agronomic practices result in low productivity. The products are mostly marketed in raw form, roughly 70-80 per cent of the total production is reportedly available as marketable surplus from the region.

Pragati has intervened for Value chain of Turmeric and Ginger for production enhancement through critical input supports, trainings and demonstrations on improved agronomic practices for crop management, post harvesting, primary processing especially of turmeric and organising the farmers around Producer groups.

Interventions and Outcomes:

- 428 farmers have adopted turmeric cultivation in 112 acres with improved package of practices with an average yield of 40-42 qnt/acre as against 20 qnt./ac in traditional method.
- 394 Farmers have adopted improved practices in ginger cultivation in 122.5 acres and earned a profit of INR 35,000 to 45,000 per farmer.
- Farmers organised into Producer Groups and Cooperative have started collective marketing and reduced distress sale.
Tuber Crops:

Tubers like cassava, arrow root, yam, sweet potato and colocassia are being produced by small-scale farmers of Koraput using traditional practices and without any fertilisers. They are versatile staples to address food and nutrition security of the rural communities. These crops have common challenges related to quality seed production, new variety adoption, losses due to insects and diseases, low productivity in poor soils, tolerance to drought and storage.

Pragati is promoting Orange Flesh Sweet Potato (OFSP), Yam, Arrowroot, Cassava and Colocassia with the twin objective of improving the nutritional content in the food basket of the rural households and enhance their income. We have developed improved package of practices from pre sowing to post harvest management, organised trainings, demonstrations and established Tuber crop Nursery with support from Central Tuber Crop Research Institute, Bhubaneswar for technology support.

Outcomes:

- 224 farmers taken up orange flesh sweet potato are aware of its nutritional value and mostly used for consumption. Farmers have started multiplication and exchange of planting materials.
- 2950 farmers receiving planting material support of yam and cassava have planted in their backyards for both consumption and marketing.
- 50 tribal farmers have adopted tuber crops i.e. yam, colocassia, yam bean, elephant foot yam and cassava with support of CTCRI, Bhubaneswar under the Tribal Sub Plan.
- The Tuber Crop nursery established in 2 Blocks catered to the need of planting materials of the farmers in the locality.
- Processing units established in 2 villages have ensured improved quality and quantity of Arrowroot powder production and the farmers are able to sell their produces in the local markets.
**Employee Engagement and Vision Building Exercise**
A series of Organisation Development and Vision building exercises were conducted from April 2014 to October 2014 involving the Board members, senior staff, and leaders of Peoples’ organisations. A vision document of the organisation has been prepared for the coming five years.

**Akshya Trutiya with Mahila Kishans:**
Pragati, Koraput in association with CTCRI, Bhubaneswar observed the Akshaya Trutiya (the day when farmers in Odisha start seed planting) on 2nd May 2014 at Dayanidhiguda village in Koraput Block. The Hon’ble Guests in the event included the Chairperson of Zilla Parisad, Dr. Nedunchezhiyan, Principal Scientist, CTCRI, Deputy Director, Horticulture, Chief Executive, DSMS, Mr. Sudhir Paswan, KGVK, Ranchi. Dr. Nimai Charan Mishra, Former Director, PME, OUAT & presently associated as Agriculture Expert of Pragati Koraput presided over the Programme. Around 300 women farmers from 25 villages gathered on the occasion and to commemorate the day, tuber crops were planted in the nursery and drudgery reduction tools were distributed to women farmers.

**PARAB -2014**
We have participated in the Block and District level PARAB at Koraput to demonstrate our visibility and disseminate our work. Stalls were put up to showcase our interventions in soil and water conservation and sustainable agriculture practices. As a part of the District level PARAB, we organised the “Sishu Parab” (school children’s festival) in association with District Administration and Sarba Sikhya Abhiyan where more than 500 school children participated and shared their experiences on climate change effects.

**Women convention 2015**
Pragati, Koraput organised the 6th District level Women Convention on 17th & 18th March 2015 at Sanskruti Bhaban, Koraput in association with District Administration. About 800 women members from SHGs, Federations, self-help cooperatives, representatives of Panchayat Raj institutions, NGOs, and media persons participated in the convention. The Convention was inaugurated by the Hon’ble Chief Guest, Smt. Malati Majhi, President Zilla Parisad, Koraput along with Hon’ble Guests Smt. Yamini Sarangi, I.A.S., Collector and District Magistrate, Koraput, Smt. Pramilla Swan, Convener, State Chapter National Alliance of Women Organisations (NAWO), Dr. Laxmikanta Kabi, Chief District Medical Officer, Sri Samartha Verma, I.A.S., Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, Koraput. Prof. Digambar Shatapathy, Chairman Pragati and Mr. Prabhakar Adhikari, Secretary, Pragati shared the dais. “Ma Sangathana Jeevika Pain”, a booklet containing success stories of women and their organisations was released by the Hon’ble Guests.
The thematic sessions i.e. “Government Schemes for Women”, “Women in Agriculture” and “Women empowerment and Livelihood”, created a scope for the participants to listen to and interact with people from different streams.

Hon’ble Chief Guest, Mr. Yashwant Jethwa, I.P.S. I.G. Police, South Western Range addressed the Valedictory Session. The Special issue of Dangar Khabar, a booklet containing the best practices was released. Awards were distributed to women achievers to further encourage them to continue their good work. A number of SHGs and federation leaders shared their achievements, issues and challenges. The SHG federations, Pragati and line departments had put up stalls to showcase their activities and produces.

**Mahila Kishans state level Convention:** 100 Mahila Kishans of Pragati action areas in Koraput and Kotpad block had participated in the State level Convention of Mahila Kishans at Bhubaneswar held on 6th June 2014 organised by SODI under its MKSP Programme. Pragati had put up a stall to display different agriculture interventions, drudgery reduction farm equipment and different organic practices. Two progressive women farmers shared their experiences.

**Awareness Programme on Swachha Bharat Mission:** Pragati, Koraput with support from NABARD organised an awareness programme on Swachha Bharat in Dayanidhiguda village of Koraput Block areas. Mr. Krushna Chandra Sagaria, MLA, Koraput, participated as the Hon’ble Chief Guest and addressed the participants. The participants were sensitized on health and sanitation. As a part of the programme, the participants and the villagers cleaned the village.

**Pradhan Mantri Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana:** The District administration has involved Pragati for the preparation of Pradhan Mantri Saansad Adarsha Gram Yojana (PMSAGY) of Pitaguda Gram Panchayat in Semiliguda block of Koraput District. The present Prime Minister has set a goal that by 2016, all parliamentarians must target to establish at least one Model village in his or her constituency, with the goal of improving the physical and institutional infrastructures in a holistic way that is centred on the village community. Participatory Rural Appraisal was conducted in all the villages of Pitaguda Panchayat and village plans were prepared which were consolidated to prepare a Panchayat level development plan. The plan was documented and submitted to the Project Director, DRDA for further action.

**Training on Farming system of tuber crops:** A one day training programme on 'Farming system involving tuber crops' was organized on 23rd July, 2014 at Dayanidhiguda village, Koraput Block, under Tribal Sub-Plan in association with CTCRI, Bhubaneswar. Seventy farmers and farm women from Dayanidhiguda and Kendar villages attended the training programme. Dr. R.C. Ray, Dr. M. Nedunchezhiyan and Dr. K. Laxminayaran from the Regional Centre of CTCRI, Mr. A.K. Pattnaik Deputy Director Horticulture, and Mr. Murali Mishra District Development Manager, NABARD, Mr. Prabhakar Adhikari, Secretary, Pragati addressed the gathering of farmers. Yam bean seeds were distributed to the tribal farmers as contingent crop against irregular rainfall.
MONITORING & EVALUATION

Visits by External Agencies, Donors and Researchers:

* Mr. Debaraj Behera, from NRLM, New Delhi had visited our field areas in Kotpad block. He had an interactive meeting with the Mahila Kishans in B. Ghatarla village, visited the SRI field and vegetable farms of the Mahila Kishans.

* Trocaire had conducted an end line evaluation of the Community Development Project in Nandapur Block. The evaluation was conducted by Mr. Mike DeVries, Consultant by Trocaire. The evaluation process consisted of field visit, focus group discussions with VDC, SHG, beneficiaries, members of Cooperative, District Forest Federation representatives and staff.

* The members of SODI network – Madhyam Foundation, COFA, RCDC, H Arsha Trust & OPDSC had visited our field areas in Koraput Block. They visited the tuber crop nursery at Dayanidhiguda and interacted with Mahila Kishans of 3 villages.

* The Chief Executive of DSMS, District Project Manager of OLM, Project Director, Watershed Mission had visited our MKSP intervention village Dayanidhiguda, the tuber crop nursery, the solar irrigation system, interacted with Mahila Kishans and visited their farms.

* Ms. Kayleigh, a researcher from Netherlands pursuing study on tribal livelihoods had visited our field areas in Koraput and Kotpad blocks and interacted with the women farmers.

* The staff and Mahila Kishans of Madhyam Foundation, Malkangiri, Bastar Sevak Mandal, Chhattisgarh and Swaminathan Foundation, Jeypore had come for exposure visits to Kotpad block action areas where we are implementing the MKSP Programme.

* Dr. Rajsekhar Mishra, Head, CTCRI, Bhubaneswar & Dr. M. Nedunchezhiyan, Senior Scientist, CTCRI, had visited the Tuber Crop Nursery at Dayanidhiguda and farmers’ fields supported by CTCRI for tuber crops.
Participation in Workshops, conferences, exposures:

- The Director, Pragati and the Programme Coordinator participated in the **SRI Learning workshop** organised by XIM, Bhubaneswar. A presentation on Pragati experiences in Scale up of SRI was made in the presence of dignitaries who included Prof. Norman Uphoff from Cornell University.

- The Director had participated in the **Annual Review Meet of DBI Project** held at Imphal, Manipur. Along with a presentation on our experiences, a Documentary film “**Hill Stream- A boon for Tribal Farmers**” prepared by Pragati was released on the occasion.

- The Director and the Programme Coordinator participated in **Workshop on Development of Inclusive Value Chain for Rainfed Agriculture** at Patencheru, Hyderabad organised by ICRISAT.

- Two senior staff Mr. Muralidhar Adhikari & Mr. Pradeepa Kishore Sethi, Project Coordinators along with two farmers participated in the **National Seed Festival** at Chandigarh. The participants got an opportunity to interact and learn from the experiences of participants from different states and streams on seed conservation and bio-diversity, organic farming certification etc and put up a demonstration stall exhibiting the local land races of different cereals and millets.

- The staff and Mahila Kishans of Koraput and Kotpad block areas have visited the vegetable farms in Chhattisgarh where they could get opportunity to learn about improved practices in vegetable cultivation, water management and drip irrigation.

- The staff and farmers of Koraput, Nandapur and Kotpad block areas were taken for training – cum - exposure to KGVK farm in Ranchi where they could learn about SRI principles, different millets and farm mechanisation.

- The staff of Pragati had an exposure to the Producer Groups promoted by an organisation called Kartavya in Kalahandi and interacted with farmers. They also participated in the Seed Festival organised by Chetna Organic in Bhawanipatna.

- Mr. Hemanta Kumar Pattnaik, Manager of Anchalika Bahumukhi Cooperative Society, Ltd. Padwa and Project Coordinator, Sri Kishore Ku. Sahu participated in the training on **Value chain development and Producer Organisation**.
FINANCIAL REPORT

PATRO & CO.,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTS
NEHRU NAGAR, JEYPORE
DIST – KORAPUT, 764 001

PHONE - 233114
(R) - 233135

AUDITOR’S REPORT

We have audited the Balance Sheet of PRAGATI, KORAPUT, At-Pujariput, Po- Koraput, Dist- Koraput (Odisha) as at 31.03.2015, the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on that date and the Receipt and Payment Account of the Society for the year ended on that date, annexed there to. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Governing Body of the society. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards generally accepted in India. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We report that:

1. We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the audit;
2. In our opinion, proper books of accounts have been kept by the Society so far as appears from examination of the books;
3. The Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account and Receipt and Payment Account are in agreement with the Books of Accounts;
4. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said accounts give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:
   a. In the case of Balance Sheet of the Affairs of the Trust as at 31.03.2015.
   b. In the case of Income and Expenditure Account, of the excess of income over Expenditure of the trust for the year ended 31.03.2015.
   c. In the case Receipts and Payments Account of the trust for the year ended 31.03.2015.

Place: JEYPORE
Date: 6-6-2015

For PATRO & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

N. TRINATH RAO F.C.A.
PARTNER
MEM.No.300-055265
### SUPPORTING AGENCIES

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<tr>
<th>AGENCY</th>
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<th>Expenditure</th>
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<td>JTT- DBI</td>
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<td>Bank Interest</td>
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### SUPPORTING AGENCIES

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### Graphs

1. Income vs Expenditure graph for supporting agencies.
2. Receipt vs Payment graph for supporting agencies.
## PRAGATI, KORAPUT

### CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.03.2015

<table>
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<th>LIABILITIES</th>
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<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Loans &amp; Advances</td>
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<td><strong>Non FC's</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>82,98,952.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>DG</td>
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Less: Excess of Expenditure over income: 12,48,061.25
Goverance and Management

The General Body of the organisation consists of 21 members and the Board consists of 9 members who are elected/selected from among the members of GB for a period of 5 years. The General Body meets twice in a year and the Executive Board meets 4 times in a year. The organisation has established systems of governance and management with documented HR & Financial Policy.

The Board:

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<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Year of Involvement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Prof. Digambar Shatapathy</td>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>11 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Sir Suresh Ku. Panigrahi</td>
<td>Vice Chairman</td>
<td>22 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sri Prabhakar Adhikari</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>22 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Sri. V.Bhaskar Rao,</td>
<td>Joint Secretary</td>
<td>18 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sri Surendra Masti</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>9 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Smt. Radha Pandia</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>12 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dr. P.C. Mohapatra</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>6 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sri Dibakar Jani</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>17 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sri Dharmananda Guntha</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>12 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Sri Hemant Kumar Patnaik</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>22 Years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legal Entity

- Registered under Societies Registration Act 1860 vide Registration No.KPT-2035-4/94-95 dated 27.4.1994 of the Additional Registrar of Societies, Koraput.
- Registered under Section 12AA of Income tax Act 1961 with effect from 01-04-1997 vide Registration No. 80/97-98 of the Commissioner of Income-tax Bhubaneswar.
- Income Tax PAN No. AAAAP3428J
- TAN BBNP01410D

Our Partners

- Trocaire, Ireland supports Community Development Project and Forest Network Project.
- Government of India,(NRLM) supports for Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana Project
- JTT supports us for Diversion Based Irrigation Project
- SODI-ICCO supports for “Value Chain of Pigeon Pea, Turmeric and FNS Project.
- NABARD supports for Promotion of Farmers Club, Women SHGs and Seed Village Project
- Digital Green Foundation, New Delhi
- CTCRI provides technical support for promotion of tuber crops.
- KARMA based at IIT,Bhubaneswar support for Renewable Energy
- TERI support for Solar Home Lighting and Cook stove.
- Livo-Link Foundation provides technical support for SRI & DBI Project.
Membership & Affiliation
We are members in District level forums and also affiliated with state, national and international organizations and e networks.

- Member, District Vigilance Committee on Bonded Labour
- Member PLC,ITDA, Koraput
- Transparency International
- Women Power Connect, New Delhi
- National Alliance of Women Organization.
- South Odisha Development Initiative(SODI)
- ICRISAT, Hyderabad
- SRI India
- India Water Portal
- Asha Kisan Swaraj group
- Climate L Mailing List
- Climate Smart Agriculture Discussion Group

OUR BANKERS
01. INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, KORAPUT
02. STATE BANK OF INDIA, KORAPUT
03. UTKAL GRAMYA BANK, KORAPUT

OUR AUDITORS
PATRO & CO.,
CHARTERED ACCOUNTS
NEHRU NAGAR, JEYPORE
DIST – KORAPUT, 764 001

Acronyms
CBO- Community Based Organisation
CTCRI- Centre for Tuber Crop Research Institute
DBI – Diversion Based Irrigation
DLC- Divisional Level Committee
FRA- Forest Rights Act 2006
FRC- Forest Rights Committee
KJBS- Koraput Jilla Banabasi Sangha
MGNREGS- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
NABARD- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NTFP- Non Timber Forest Produce
SDLG- Sub Divisional Level Committee
SHG- Self Help Group
SRI- System of Rice Intensification
VDC- Village Development Committee
VMC- Village Monitoring Committee