

LILA INDIVIDUAL REPORT
Jharkhand-Devgain

Done by

Caroline Maria Arasu(MBA15030)

Introduction

Our unforgettable learning experience began on 22nd September in Devgain village located 14km from Ranchi, Jharkhand with lots of expectation after a very different train journey. The village has 220 households with lots of resources and beautiful scenery. It was surprising for us to know that life can be this comfortable without the basic facilities like electricity and networks. The total population of the village is around 1500 and the people of the village was very kind which made us difficult to leave the place. We were guided through our work by Mr.KK Gupta and Mr.hemanth, our faculties from amritapuri. The major source of income for the people is agriculture. There is a school which provides education up to 5th standard. However some children are sent to schools in Ranchi for secondary level education and the most common studies undergone by some of the literates in the village is BA Hindi. The population has maximum of female compared to male.

Problems

The major problems identified in the village is

- Low income level
- Alcoholism
- Health and sanitation
- Illiteracy

Low income level

The major occupation of the people is agriculture. Their major cultivation is paddy which takes place for 6 months a year. There are also other crops like brinjal, chillies, cucumber, tomatoes, corn. There is large amount of land left uncultivated due to unequal land surface. The other cultivations except paddy is done in a very small level. Drip irrigation is initiated by lion's club and it is practised successfully. In this village there is abundant supply of water and lots of wells. But due to improper electricity facility bores cannot be used to do advanced type of irrigation.

The reason given for not cultivating the other half of the year is climate changes because there may be floods also during rainy season and the crops will not grow in extreme cold conditions. The people produce mainly for self-consumption and very little amount of the product is sold. If the advanced cultivation methods suitable for the climatic change and economical utilisation of water is used then the profit can be increased. There is also lots of middle men intervention in their profit. They don't get a proper market and so the middle men gain more profit of their product.

The other works done by them are leaf plate making, bamboo basket making. These products are very good in quality but they don't get a good market. So these products generate a very low income. There is also a tree from which the fruits are used to make dyes and colours. It is sold as a colouring agent but recently its

demand is decreased abruptly. There is large number of cattle and sheep which can be used in the production of dairy product but they are not used that effectively and the animals are not taken well care of.

Alcoholism:

People of the village are highly addicted to alcohol, the shocking factor is that the women of the village are also very much addicted to alcohol. The price of the alcohol is also high for their income but still people drink too much. The women in the village are alcoholic but the girls are not consuming alcohols but they may also get into it in the future following their mother. The alcohol available is country alcohol which is sold publicly. There are also women sellers of these alcohol. The other abusive substances like ganja, beedi are very commonly used by the men of the village and these substances are very harmful and cancerous.

Health and Sanitation facilities:

Their diet contains mainly rice and the female suffer from painful menstruation. Their diet does not contain any fruits and they consume only the vegetables they produce. There are 12 toilets in the village and in that only 5 are in use. Out of those 5 toilets some are owned by certain families in the village and so everyone is not allowed to use. There is only one or two toilets available for the public to use and it is also very far from one part of the village so those girls have to travel half an hour to go to toilet. The people of the village mainly use mud to clean their hands and the usage of soaps and brush is not very common. Due to continuous consumptions of local drugs there may be some health consequence. The water they use is from uncovered well and hand pump. They use it even without boiling. There is no basic medical facilities like a dispensary or primary health care center in case of some emergencies.

Illiteracy:

The rate of literacy is very low. Since the local school is only up to 5th standard there are many dropouts after that. Even the educated girls do the normal village field work and they don't make proper use of their education. There are many girls interested in various skill developing program like spoken English, tailoring ,and there is also an IAS aspirant in the village who completed B.A hindi. The majority of the adults are not able to read, write or even calculate their income. Their basic knowledge level is very low. The higher secondary school is only in ranchi which takes an travel of half an hour. The awareness about the importance of education is lacking in them. Their low income level is also another reason for high number of drop outs.

Course learning

Lila was conducted to find some solution to the problems of the villagers but still it gave us a chance to learn a lot. Starting from the journey we had a very good experience of learning. In the village we were so comfortable by the kind gesture of the villagers and also learned hospitality from them. We came to know about the life of the majority of population of India which gave us a trigger to do something useful for them. We came to know about the various skills of the villagers which are not utilised properly. By this trip we got an idea about their culture and we understood our responsibility of doing something useful to the society with the resources we had got.

Perception of the villagers:

Initially there was a great fear regarding our stay, safety and whether the village people will accept us. We had lots of unreal thoughts about village life but then after the visit we realised the large amount of expectation of the villagers from us and the life of the village from which we had developed has always its own innocence and beauty. We understood the actual goodness of the villagers and in what ways they need us

Conclusion:

Our Jharkhand trip was an unforgettable learning experience for us. It helped us to know our responsibility in the society. It is also a challenge for us to improve their living with our skills acquired in our course. We felt that here is no complete utilisation of resources. There are various reasons for it but still resource utilisation can be maximised by following some new practices. There is no awareness about government schemes in the village which needs to be thought. There are many interested people in the village who want to get educated and for them some opportunities can be given. The village lacks the basic electricity facility which is a drawback for many of their developments. By this trip we had a very good learning and experienced the cultural difference which in turn made us more responsible and passionate in our works for them.