

# **INDIVIDUAL REPORT ON LILA VISIT**

(Jharkhand-Dewgain)

Submitted by:

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## INTRODUCTION

Dewgain village is located 14km from Ranchi, Jharkhand. There are around 220 households with an average of 5-6 members per family. The total population is around 1500. The major source of income for the people is agriculture. There is a school which provides primary level education up to 5<sup>th</sup> standard. The population of female is comparatively higher than the male with the gender ratio of 11:9. The village is green and clean. The sanitation facilities are built by A-serve and Lion's club.

## MAJOR PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED

The major problems identified in the area of health are:

- **Lack of nutritious Food**

The main food consumed by the people is rice. They do not include fruits in their diet. They do not have the means to consume a balanced diet.

- **Inadequate sanitation facilities**

The village had around 12 toilets out of which only 5 are in use and since they are located far apart, the women have to travel nearly half an hour.

- **Improper hygiene practices**

The people barely used soap to wash their hands after eating and used mainly mud to clean their hands. Most of the people didn't use brush for cleaning teeth and followed traditional practices.

The drinking water was obtained from sources like wells, rivers and hand pump. They consumed water without boiling.

- **Consumption of alcohol**

The elderly men and women in the village consume alcohol. They see it as a stress reliever and the selling of the country liquor is promoted by the women folk of the village. There is a high probability of the youth to consume in future due to the easy availability and culture.

- **Substance Abuse**

The consumption of drugs like beedi, ganja is also prominent.

## **AGRICULTURAL ISSUES**

The major occupation of the people is agriculture. They cultivated paddy for 3 months i.e. July to September depending on the rainfall. It was totally seasonal as they had inadequate irrigation facilities and inconsistent electricity.

- Agricultural produces were sold at a lower rate due to middle men intervention.
- Water table is at 25-30 feet on average but the farmers rely largely on rainfall due to electricity and irrigational problems.
- The cultivation land was left idle for 9 months.

## **WOMEN EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT:**

- The women folk of the village were interested in learning weaving, ornament making but they don't have the facilities in the village and lack of skilled people to teach them.
- The primary education is available only till 5th standard and they have to travel to Ranchi to pursue higher education and lack of adequate transportation facilities is a major issue.

## **LEARNING EXPERIENCE OF COURSE:**

The most wonderful learning experience from the village life was to survive without electricity. It helped to gain an overview of how people lived in an age without technology. It also give an insight

into how people use their minimum resources to lead a simple life. The very fact that the future growth potential of India lies in villages and how effectively the different resources mainly in agriculture can be utilized efficiently and effectively for future growth prospects. The surveys conducted in various sectors like agriculture, health, education enabled to gather real time data and gain information about the villagers with direct interaction with them. Even though the technological advancements are happening day by day, there are many sections of the society and remote villages where the people have no clue about what is happening in the world. The greatest wealth i.e. education is not reached to these places. They are not able to acquire even primary education. The primary health facilities like government hospitals and emergency facilities are not available. Developing the villages can prove to be a major step towards the development of the country.

## **VILLAGE PERCEPTION:**

### **PRE-ARRIVAL:**

From the different informations gathered and the amritapuri visit, I expected dewgain to be a very underdeveloped village. The place was expected to be dirty. The education facilities would be till 8<sup>th</sup> and had the perception that at least the basic health facilities would be there. The sanitation and electricity was considered to be a major issue. The problems of income generation and agricultural issues was another area to be focused upon. I thought the villagers would be much reluctant to interact and share information.

## **POST ARRIVAL:**

The climate was fairly good and the place was not as dirty as expected. The people were friendly than expected and supportive. The villagers wanted development to come and required supportive hands. The available sanitation facilities were not properly used of and lack of awareness was a major issue. The people were lazy and condemned with what they earn to just meet the two ends. There is a high potential of income generation from sources like sal leaves and with agricultural improvements. With supportive hands and skilled people to guide them, there is fairly good chance of development in the village.