

ACTIVITY REPORT FOR 2012

2 nd to 4 th March 2012- Setubandha 2012 at Guwahati – the programme of bridge building amongst the communities of Assam was planned and implemented with an outlook of designing it as a social re-engineering process with the focus of building Social Security and Capital through it with two important innovations

- (i) Performance of *bhaona* in Bodo and Mising language
- (ii) Post Setubandha Follow-up programme

With these two innovations Setubandha 2012 was organised at the AEI playground at Chandmari from 2 nd to 4 th March 2012.

Performance of Bhaona

Hiranyakuxipu Bodh, a bhaona in Bodo language by the artists of Tamulpur, Baksa district, *Sita Haron Bali Bodh*, a bhaona in Mising language by the artists of Jengraimukh, Majuli, Jorhat district and *Parijat Haran*, a bhaona in Ankiya style by the artists of Kakopathar, Tinsukia district were performed.

Inaugural and Concluding Sessions

The Programme was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Shri Tarun Gogoi. Likewise for the Concluding Programme we had Shri J B Patnaik, His Excellency, The Governor of Assam as the Chief Guest.

Academic Pilgrimage

On all the three days we had discussions on important issues viz.,

- The Khanikar Tradition and its Commercial Potentialities
- Mati Akhora and Community Health
- Social Role of Namghar – Identifying the Common Agenda
- On Sankaradeva's Thoughts

Exhibition

We had an exhibition on Sattriya art and artifacts where valuables like the manuscripts, the utility vessels of silver and copper given by the kings to the Sattras, wood-work, masks were on display. Besides the display there was demonstration on mask making, making of *sanchi-pat*, *mohi* (ink), painting on *sanchi-pat* and wood carving.

Book Release Programme

The Setubandha book titled '*Anunad : Srimanta Sankar Aru Asamiya Sanskriti*', a collection of essays on Srimanta Sankaradeva and Assamese culture, which was compiled by Shri Ranjit Kumar Dev Goswami and released by Shri H K Deka, noted litterateur and former DGP, Assam Police.

Cross-Cultural Performances

On all the three days we had cross cultural programmes where the artists of one community performed items of another community. For example

- We had the students of Asom Jatiya Vidyalaya, Noonmati presenting a medley of Bodo songs and dance and *Maifatla*, songs and dance of the Tiwa community.
- We had Smt Bonti Devi and their group from Majuli presenting Mising songs. Likewise we had Smt Anjali Rai Choudhury and her group presenting *Samangkang*, dance and song of the Karbi community
- There was also a presentation of Sattriya dance by a mixed group of artists from different communities

18 to 21 Oct 2012 - *Abhiyan Niramoi* – Phase I – Health Camp at Sikali Chapori and Bhakati Duwar, Majuli

In the aftermath of floods in various parts of Assam which is an annual phenomenon, there is the need for relief and other necessary help from all quarters. Srimanta Foundation decided to organize health camps in two selected areas in Majuli because of the foundation's follow-up work of Setubandha there. The salient features of the health camps are given below.

- Abhiyan Niramoy, the health camps in both the places viz., Sikali Chapori and Bhakati-duwar with a turnout close to 600 in each of the places (i.e., a total turnout of around 1200 people) was conducted satisfactorily.
- The health camp at Sikali Chapori was held in the field adjacent to the Sutargaon Health Sub-Center.
- 40 percent of the patient's turnout was from Sutargaon. This village is spread around half to two kilometers from the sub-center. The next highest turnouts were from Kansa Chapori (16%) and Cechuguri (15%). These villages were at a distance of 2 km and 3 km respectively from the sub-center. This camp covered people from a total of 15 villages.
- 48 percent of the patient's were from the age group of 19 to 40 years and the female patient in this age group was double then that of the male who came to be examined. The next big segment was that of the children which was 19 percent. A good 16 percent was from the age group 41 to 60 years.
- The maximum turnouts' from the Bhakati-duwar area were from Silikhaguri (27%) and the Narasimha Sattri area (22%) which is within a radius of 3 km from the Padmashree High School where the camp was held. 22 villages were covered from this camp.
- In Bhakati-duwar also the highest turnout of 40 percent was from the age group of 19 to 40 years and the second highest of 23 percent was from the age group of 41 to 60 years. There was a total turnout of 25 percent for children up to 18 years.
- The patient's examined in both the camps were treated for ailments like general weakness, prevention of anemia, water related skin diseases, viral fever, anti-worm, diarrhea and peptic ulcer syndrome.
- In both the camps there was a sizeable group (say 10 to 15 percent) who came to get their chronic ailments examined like eye problems, blood pressure, nerve related, back pain etc for which we could not give them any medicine, but the doctors told them to get their ailments checked by regular doctors. There were instances also when the doctors had to prescribe medicines which were not available in the camps and the patients were advised to buy the same.

2 Nov. 2012 - Abhiyan Niramoi – Phase II – Cattle Care at Sikali Chapori, Majuli

- The second phase of Abhiyan Niramoy was focused on the cattle population of Sikali Chapori and it was executed on 2 November 2012. This camp was conducted with the support of the Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department of Jorhat and Golaghat district.
- The total team of 29 members constituted of 8 doctors, 15 para vets and grade IV staff, 2 members from Srimanta Foundation, 2 from Sri Sri Ahotoguri Sattra, Sikali Chapori and 2 volunteers from Dergaon.
- The team started assembling at the Vet Dispensary, Dergaon from 5.45 am. A short meeting was organized where Dr Prasanta Baruah introduced the team to Shri Bhaskarjyoti Mahanta, IPS, Managing Trustee of Srimanta Foundation who was there to meet the team members. Sjt Mahanta, thanking the officers and doctors of the Vet Deptt. of both the districts spoke very briefly about Srimanta Foundation's efforts and work in Majuli and that this camp was an outcome of the service which the trust considered necessary at this hour for the difficult areas of Majuli. The team in three vehicles along with the medicines was flagged off by Sjt Mahanta at 6.50 am.
- A total of 2779 vaccines were implemented in these places and the break-up of the same is Checuguri (536), Maj Chapori (644), Kasikota (97), Bilotiya & Bruha Chapori (544) and Sutar (958). Besides the vaccines medicines like antibiotics, noworm, anti-diarrhea, digestives, for foot and mouth disease, ointment, turpin oil were distributed. Over and above this 3200 vaccines were given to Gopal Mitras (local trained persons) to be implemented in the Chaporis.
- The camps were closed down at 3.30 pm and the return journey to Cechuguri from the respective places started. We left Cechuguri ghat at 4.50 pm to reach Dergaon at around 7.30 pm.

Regular Classes at Jengraimukh, Majuli under Jengraimukh Sanskritik Mission and at Gohpur under the Gohpur Sanskritik Mission.

Besides the above programmes, there have been regular classes since May 2012 at Nitomtuli, Jengraimukh in the areas of Mati-Akhora, Gayan-Bayan and Bor-geet. There is also cross-cultural learning where non-Mising children (*mipaks*) are learning Selloya, Aionitom, the folk performances of the Mising community. These classes are being implemented through teachers who are paid a honorarium.

Likewise there are preparatory classes in the areas of Mati-Akhora, Gayan-Bayan and Bor-geet at Balijan Forest amongst the Bodo community and Mati-Akhora and Bagarumba at Gopalpur amongst the general community as preparatory classes for Setubandha 2013.
