

LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE INDIA TRUST

Empowering the last, the least and the lost

E-Newsletter

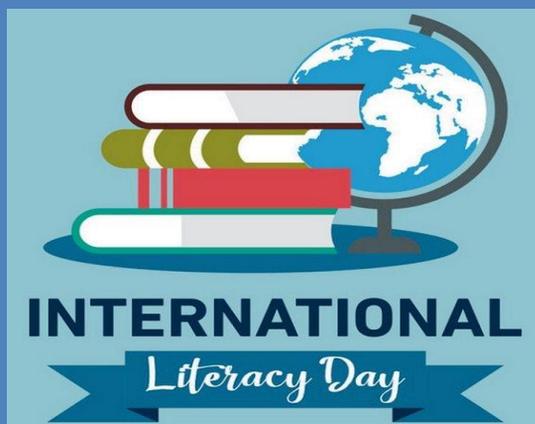
3rd Quarter 2022: July to September- Volume XIV, Issue: iii

Lutheran World Service India Trust is a Christian, ecumenical organization promoted jointly by the United Evangelical Lutheran Churches in India and the National Council of Churches in India.

Registered formally in 2008, the organization began work as the India program arm of Lutheran World Federation/ Department of World Service in 1974 offering relief services to the refugees of the 1971 Bangladesh War of Independence.

The organization works on issues of Sustainable Livelihoods, Community Resilience, Education and Health with Gender and Peace as cross-cutting themes. It's development work is concentrated in the states of Assam, West Bengal, Odisha and Jharkhand, while it responds to disasters on a pan-India basis.

INSIDE STORIES:

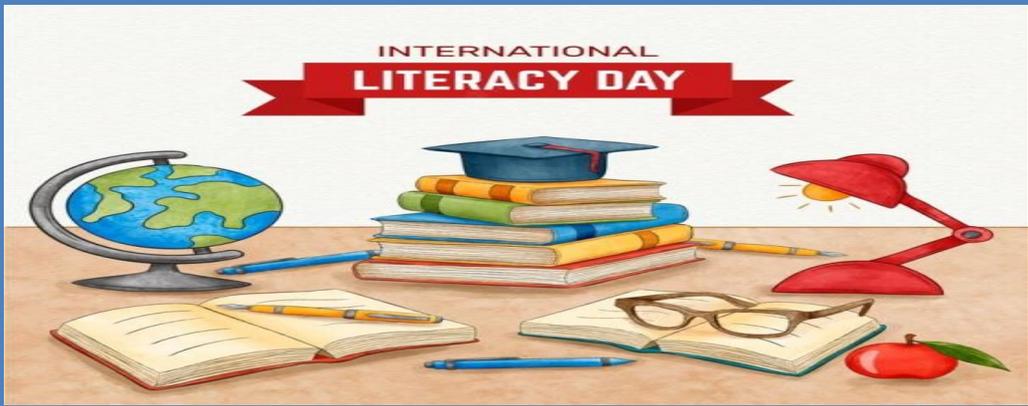


PROJECT UPDATES



“Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.
(Proverbs 24:3-4, NKJV)

**MEETINGS, TRAININGS,
WORKSHOPS,
PROGRAMS & GUESTS!**



The theme for International Literacy Day 2022 is

“Transforming Literacy Learning Spaces”

Since 1967, International Literacy Day (ILD) celebrations have taken place annually around the world **to remind the public of the importance of literacy as a matter of dignity and human rights, and to advance the literacy agenda towards a more literate and sustainable society.**

Literacy lifts individuals out of poverty. Lacking basic reading and writing skills is a tremendous disadvantage. Literacy not only enriches an individual's life, but it creates opportunities for people to develop skills that will help them provide for themselves and their family.

6 Benefits of literacy in the fight against poverty

- Literacy improves health. ...
- Literacy promotes “lifelong learning” and builds skills. ...
- Literacy improves the economy and creates jobs. ...
- Literacy promotes gender equality. ...
- Literacy promotes democracy and peace. ...
- Literacy builds self-esteem and overall quality of life.

Lutheran World Service India Trust

observed and celebrated **International Literacy Day** in many of the operational areas across the Country on the 8th of September 2022 not only to increase awareness among the people but also to ensure quality education specially amongst underprivileged women and children.



On 8th September, 2022, a program was organized to observe the International Literacy Day in an operational community named Chatinbaid community under Saltora Block of Bankura District with the peoples of backward tribal society, sharing that the aim is to establish peace in daily life by bringing not only economic liberation but also social, cultural and mental liberation through Literacy. Literacy contributes to peace and helps people achieve personal freedom.



International Literacy Day was observed by the CBOs in both the Zones under the Bangriposi Block of Mayurbhanj with enthusiasm & drive. The respective communities joined the rallies holding placards and shouting slogans on the necessity of Education, Education of Children as a matter of discrimination of Girl Child as a social crime, and the affects of Illiteracy for the development of the Society etc.

75th Independence Day of INDIA

AUGUST 15



India completed 75 years of Independence on 15th August 2022 and celebrated its 76th Independence Day from the British rule. At the state level, it was decided to celebrate the Anniversary on a grand scale. Celebrations were held all over India not only at the National Level but also at the State Levels and Local District levels. Our tribute was to those people who have been instrumental in bringing India thus far in its journey.

Lutheran World Service India Trust observed the International Youth Day across the Project Units including Assam Unit on the 12th of August 2022 with the theme “**Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages**”. The purpose of the program was also in line with the UN’s objective to amplify the message that action is needed across all generations to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and leave no one behind. Youth can be a positive force for development when provided with the knowledge and opportunities they need to thrive (UN). As per one of the guests of the programs – “it is important to focus and ensure the rights of the young people to have access to education, adequate health care, employment opportunities.





In Balangir Unit, two days capacity building trainings on increasing and strengthening leadership qualities of women were organized at Chaulsukha and Kandhabahal village of Turekela Block involving 64 leaders and member representative of female SHGs of 10 communities. The main purpose of the training was increased knowledge and skills of the Women for Women empowerment and take leadership responsibility in different institutions and fields.

In Bankura Unit, a meeting was organized on Networking & Linkage with Banks, NABARD and Govt. Personnel at LAMP Society Office, Kulabahal, Saltora. Govt. Officers discussed various schemes and which documents are required to acquire the Govt. Schemes and how a common person can avail the benefits. The Bank Manager discussed details about bank loans, utilization & recovery process and sustainability of a business in a family or group.



Under Bhubaneswar Unit, one new SHG has been formed and an old SHG has been strengthened at Phuleswari-B communities of Bhubaneswar city. 10 members from each SHGs took part in the program. 4 SHGs were strengthened in Kajipatna, Koiladipo, Jagannatha Road and Tarinigada communities of Cuttack city. 59 women members from 4 communities took part in this program. Rules, regulations, roles of the leaders and members, record verification was made and stationary support was made to each group.



During the first week of July 2022, Project Unit observed the Annual Tree Planting Festival Week (Van Mahotsav) through plantation program with the people of the operational communities in Birbhum Unit. Project Unit also took initiative to plant more than 400 forest saplings in 3 acres of uncultivable waste lands. 30 no. of tribal members of 3 groups of 3 communities took the initiative for the plantation of forest sapling in the waste lands – they have planted 412 Teak wood saplings and 600 Amropally Mango Saplings have been planted in 3 plots. It will also increase green coverage in the communities. Soil erosion will be checked.



In Kalahandi Unit, interface programs with the Line department and PwD (Person with Disabilities) Members was conducted in the Tentulikhunti Adivasi Ganda Hall with the participation of 36 PwD members from the seven (7) communities to understand the different schemes of the Government to avail the PwD process of applying for the disability card to obtain the different pass system while traveling. The Government Officials elaborated different schemes and facilities provided by the department to the PwDs.



During the month of September, Executive Director and Strategic Plan Consultant, visited the STEER Project, Kendrapada Unit for community interaction. They went to Krushna Das Pur Jena Sahi, a Dalit community under Jajpur district. To attend this meeting, 15 community representatives from both Kendrapada and Jajpur areas participated. The primary objective of this meeting was to know the existing status and situation of the community and take feed back from those who participated in this Focus Group Discussion regarding Strategic Plan 2023-2027. It was also a platform to observe what they understood about this and know to found about the real ground zero realities or situation in these areas.



In Mayurbhanj Unit, the planned Exposure Visit Program was organized to the Krushi Vigyana Kendra, Mayurbhanj-1, Shyamakhunta and other 02 Private Farms/Nurseries nearby on the 26th August 2022. The objective was to get the interested Community Members & Farmers exposed to the new feasible technologies both on-farm and off-farm most suited to the geo-climatic conditions which can create gainful engagement options through better production & income for gradual improvement in the quality of life.



On 5th August 2022, the Advisory Committee Members, ED of LWSIT and Project Staff visited GEP Kolkata Unit (*photo above*), specifically the Mohishbathan community and interacted with 4 Women SHG Members and 2 Income Generation businesses where they have observed the changes in the lives of people because of LWSIT's interventions. They have also discussed some of the pertinent issues which needs to be addressed in future.

On 30th August 2022, 3 delegates from JELA Foundation along with ED of LWSIT (*photo left*) visited Mahisbathan community and had interaction with the members those received the Solar Lights in 2016, supported by Panasonic Company. They monitored the conditions of the lights and taken the feedback from the right holders to improve the product in future. The JELA Team also visited the LWSIT National Office.

MEETINGS / PROGRAMS / WEBINARS ATTENDED BY ED & STAFF FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2022

- ❖ 1st Strategic Plan Workshop at the National office attended on 1st and 2nd July 2022
- ❖ Webinar attended for The Hans Foundation on 5th July 2022
- ❖ Advisory Committee meeting held on 5th August 2022
- ❖ 2nd Strategic Plan workshop from 8th -9th August 2022
- ❖ Board meeting held on 19th August 2022
- ❖ 3rd Strategic Plan workshop on 11th September 2022
- ❖ Webinar attended for CHS Alliance 27th to 29th September 2022
- ❖ Webinar on Resource Mobilisation and sustainability on 30th September 2022

Visits done by ED and Other Staff:

- ❖ The Capacity building training on GIRBD in Bhubaneswar from 21st to 23rd July 2022
- ❖ The Strategic Plan consultation visit by Consultant and ED done from 8th to 10th September 2022 in both Bhubaneswar and Kendrapara Units.
- ❖ General Body Meeting of NCCI on 17th September 2022 attended by ED in Hyderabad
- ❖ Attended the Annual Review Meeting / General Body Meeting of UELCI by ED on 27th September 2022 in Ranchi.

Overseas Guests:

- ❖ Delegates from JELA Foundation visited LWSIT on 30th August 2022



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