

# **Pahari Korwa (PTG)-Mitanin Convention Report**

**2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2012**

**Lundra, Sarguja**

The third block under the initiative for improving accessing to health and nutrition services Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs) was Lundra from Sarguja district, covering Pahari Korwas. The local organization involved for this initiative along with SHRC and PHRN project was Pahari Korwa Mahapanchyat.

The survey done in the block for the assessment of the accessibility of government services by PTGs covered 859 families. The issues like Public Distribution System (PDS), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MNREGA), livelihoods, availability of PTG Mitanins in PTG hamlet and various health programmes were covered.

During the survey it was found that the community has multiple income generating sources, daily wages being the major one. They seem to be benefitted under the PDS scheme of the government with 83% of the respondents receiving 35kg of grains under the same. Around 66% of the families interviewed said that they have job cards made under MNREGA, out of which 99% got work under this government scheme. The survey revealed that only 30% of the respondents have been enrolled under Rashriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (RSBY) out of which only 6% have received treatment under the scheme. Only 7% of the families said that they have been benefitted under Janani Suraksha Yojna (JSY). The Indira Awaas Yojna has benefitted only 31% of the interviewed population.

The PTG-Mitanin Convention was organized on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012 in Lundra. The findings of the survey were presented during the convention. Apart from the participation of the PTG community, PTG Mitanins and Mitanin Trainers (MT) various government officials and people from different organizations also took part in the convention. The District Collector Mr. Prasanna, CEO Janpad Panchayat, BMO, Tahsildar and BEO from the Lundra block, Senior Programme Coordinator SHRC Mr. Samir Garg, Mr. Rajesh Ekka from Chaupal, Gangaram Paikra from the Right to Food campaign and Pahari Korwa Mahapanchayat and Ms. Kanica Kanungo from PHRN participated in the convention.



Some of the issues brought to notice by the Pahari Korwas and the Mitans during the convention are as follows:

- No Anganwadi center in the Korwa hamlet or no Anganwadi worker (AWW) in the center
- Family names removed from the PDS list
- Non availability of doctors in the public hospitals
- No proper immunization in the villages
- Non availability of water resources
- Pension not received by the people
- No electricity in the villages
- Lack of ownership to the land

A large number of affidavits related to these issues were written by the villagers and submitted to the Collector for further action.



Mr. Prasanna, Collector Sarguja, praised the initiative taken by SHRC, PHRN and Pahari Korwa Mahapanchayat to work on the issues of PTGs. He even appreciated the contribution of Mitans in the health sector.

In response to the various issues raised by the community and Mitans, Mr. Prasanna said that all of them would be addressed and their problems would be solved as soon as possible. For the issue on disputed land, he said that the Adhikar Patr has been released for Pahari Korwas and the matter would be resolved in 15 days. He said that wells would be constructed to resolve the water problem. Along with this, he assured to provide homes

to those who don't have for which Rs. 48500 will be given to every homeless family. He even assured to provide electricity in every village till the month of June and wherever it is not possible solar energy would be made available. Also that Mitanins would be selected in Pahari Korwa hamlets where there are no Mitanin till now. The District Collector even guaranteed of providing the PTGs with income generating sources. He also said that the problems of PDS, Anganwadis and road would also be soon addressed.



Volunteers writing affidavits to be submitted to the Collector

