

16 MILE RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

(An organization dedicated to facilitate development process for poor)

ANNUAL REPORT-2018-2019



VILL-OLD 16 MILE, P.O-GURUTOLA, DIST-MALDA, PIN-732127,
WB, INDIA, MOBILE NO-9002427747

E-MAIL- rds_16mile@rediffmail.com

Website-16milerds.org

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY



It is of great pride and glory for our organization that we have successfully in stepped twenty eighth year of its existence offering service to poor, backward and helpless people and promoting new technologies towards better life and living of the people. It is our honour to publish the Annual Report for the financial year 2018-2019. I, on behalf of our organization welcome the readers to have a look of our achievements during the year.

The year was full of challenges and hardship as we are putting maximum thrust to promote commercial approach in traditional practices, especially in agricultural and animal husbandry along with our other works for the empowerment of rural women, youth and betterment of socio-economic condition of our area of operation in Malda district. We have worked in the field of education, Health Sanitation, and Environment also.

We are blessed for we have won the confidence of our people so that we have got positive co-operation from them and also our donors who have extended their hands of support to implement the projects and gain success. We are proud to be trusted by the Government of West Bengal, specially the department of ARD ATMA, DIC, DSWO, DPO, KVK, DRDC, and ADA, Malda and Government agencies specially NABARD, Kolkata, NYK, Malda.

We are thankful to our people who have trusted our organization and come forward to meet the objectives of the project.

We have started this year with more enthusiasm and hope for doing better performance in the current year. For that I express my love and gratitude to all our staffs, employees and volunteers who are working day and might for this organization

Thanking you all

With thanks and regards,

Md. Maimul Hoque
Secretary

16 Mile Rural Development Society,
Malda

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Sri Koushik Bhattacharjee, DM, Malda is visit the stall at Bamungola Block, Malda



Opening of Stall Feeding Goat farming Training at 16 Mile RDS Office, Malda



PD, ATMA, Malda inaugurated the Chhagal Sampad Mela at Kamat, Malda



16 Mile Sanitary Mart supported by Kaliachak-III Block & Malda Zilla Parisad, Malda



Dr. Sajal Kumar Bhunia, Deputy Director, ARD, Malda attend for 7 Days Stall Feeding Goat Farming Training under SHG & SE Department, Malda



PD, ATMA & DYK, NYK, Malda are visiting Hey Technology in Chagal Sampad Mela at Kamat, Malda

ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION DURING 2018-2019

CHAPTER-I

THE ORGANIZATION

1.1. BACKGROUND OF ORGANIZATION

16 Mile Rural Development Society is a district level non- government organization. It came into existence in the year 1991. It is situated at Birnagar-II Gram Panchayat of Kaliachak-III block of Malda district. The society was incepted with the objective to protect the victims of natural calamity i.e., flood and river bank erosion. It is the younger generation who jump out to save the people in such a situation. Similarly in 1991 Md Maimul Hoque led a band of young stars to help the flood victims of Kaliachak-III block. After that they felt to be organized and do the same for the people in a sustainable direction. Thus the society came into existence.

After being registered the members of the society tried to undertake some developmental initiatives but lack of knowledge as well as fund got into their way. Getting support from Govt. of West Bengal and local people the society began its journey towards development of the backwardness of the area.

In last 25 years the organization has implemented some educational programs, cultural development programs, socio-economic development programs, programs on health & hygiene, environment protection and women empowerment.

1. 2. LEGAL STATUS OF THE ORGANIZATION

16 Mile Rural Development Society in the district of Malda has received attention of various government departments and agencies of private undertakings. Gradually it has become an integrative and multi dimensional development agency after being registered under West Bengal Society's Registration Act, 1961. This agency has since been working in close collaboration of all tiers of Panchayat bodies for ensuring greater people's participation into the process of development including the people from minority community and weaker sections.

1. 3. AIMS OF THE ORGANIZATION

The working area of the society i.e. Kaliachak- I, II & III block, is the most backward in almost every respect. Educational status of the area is very low, so poor is the economic and cultural status of the people. Per capita income is very low. Public health condition is also poor. Right of women is far behind. Women including the children bind biri like bonded labour and earn for the family. Women and the children is the worst sufferer. Both of them are example of victims of mal-nutrition, lack of care as silent bulls to carry the burden of life. The area of operation of the society is explored with greater population which has maximum concentration with Muslim minority and scheduled caste (Chain) and Kishan, who are suppressed to be scheduled tribe.

The society and its members aim to ward off such harsh situation and bring the light of education improved culture with stronger economic base and above all provide the women with proper dignity and respect and the children with better care and protection, and most of all a healthy and cared childhood and a bright future.

1. 4. LOCATION OF THE SOCIETY

The head quarter of 16 Mile Rural Development Society is situated at Old 16 Mile village. It is 5 km away from Kaliachak- III Block Headquarter and nearly 27 km away from district town of Malda. The nearest bus stop from the head quarter at New 16 Mile is just at a distance of 10 minute's walk and the nearest railway station, Chamagram is on just 4 km away from the office.

The head office for implementing the programs of the society is so connected with all 14 G.P.S. of the block, with black top roads. Transport facility is available all through and along with the NH-34.

The branch office of the society is situated at Charianantapur Kamat under Kaliachak-III block. It is situated near the international border of Bangladesh. From this office the projects are being implemented in border line and wide Char area of the district.

1. 5. AREA OF OPERATION OF TH ORGANIZATION

16 Mile Rural Development Society has been implementing its various development activities in Malda district. But most of the key activities of the society have been implemented in Kaliachak- I, II & III block of Malda district. About 56 Gram Panchayat is being covered by the organization. The volunteers keep close contact with the villagers particularly women and youth SHGs who take active participation in the organization's programs.

AT A GLANCE THE AREA OPERATION

SL. No	District	Block	No. of Gram Panchayat
1	Malda	Kaliachak-I	4
		Kaliachak-II	8
		Kaliachak-III	14
		Englishbazar	2
		Ratua-I	1
		Ratua-II	2
		Manichak	3
2	Murshidabad	Farakka	6
3	D/Dinajpur	Harirampur	2
		Banshihari	2
Total	3	10	44

2.1 SANITARY MART & IMPROVED CHULLA

Hygiene and sanitation has been always in a deep want since primitive age of civilization. Primitive people always targeted proper hygiene and personal sanitation. But they had lots of limitations. Modern man has the advantage of advanced technologies and equipments. But proper sanitation has been a burning issue in India for a long period.

No target oriented initiatives had been taken by our government after independence till 2000. But then a remarkable implementation of few plans has been visible. There were some projects like Total Sanitation Campaign, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan that have provided a great dimension to the problem of health hazards caused by improper sanitation practice. UNICEF has contributed a significant role in eradicating the curse of unhygienic sanitation practice.

With financial assistance from UNICEF and Malda Zilla Parishad, our organization has joined the mission and started running a Sanitary Mart in Kaliachak–III Block of Malda District. Sanitary Mart is a center that constructs different types of toilet models, toilet blocks and tube well platforms etc. Since 2000 the mart is still functioning. There are some trained masons who are engaged in furnishing toilet products like pan, syphone, tank lids, covering models etc.



their mind that a toilet is unhygienic.



At the very beginning it was very tough to the organization to promote sanitary latrines as it has no use in the rural area. People preferred open discharge then using a closed toilet. The organization had to conduct many awareness campaigns and slowly with assistance from government people have started using toilet. It was a great challenge for the organization and also the sanitary Mart to change the behavior of rural mass as it was deeply rooted in

16 Mile Rural Development Society has put maximum thrust on promotion of sanitary latrine in every family of its area of operation. It took almost 10 years to install toilet in 50% families in the area. It took another acceleration in 2014 under the 'Swachh Bhart Abhiyan'. It has covered 100% by households 2017-2018. Practice of using toilets has been slowly improved.

The Sanitary Mart of the organization is still in functions. But frequency of production and installation is much low than before. It is constructing toilet blocks, public toilets and domestic toilet as per order. The Mart has so far constructed 40000 toilet and they have been installed in Kaliachak-I, II & III Blocks of Malda district.

Though cooking gas (LPG) has reached in all villages of the Kaliachak-I, II & III Block still people is using ordinary cook stoves. General hey, wood scrub sites are being used for cooking in ordinary cook stoves. Lots of fuel is wasted in such devices. For that nature has to take the burden. Regular cutting of trees has brought curse to mankind. Even in the countryside ecology is being hampered.

To save the nature a little, 16 Mile Rural Development Society has been continuing program on improved cook stoves. The device has two ovens. It looks like a combination of ordinary cook stoves and gas stove. It emits smoke out of the kitchen through a chimney. It requires little fuel than before. It also helps people by avoiding the dangerous smoke and carbon di-oxide. It keeps the health of all the members of the user's family and saves the money of fuel. It saves nature the most. Such Cook stoves are prepared by the Sanitary Mart also.

2.4. HEALTH CHECK UP CAMP

16 Mile Rural Development Society has given priority to health and education from the beginning of its journey. It has been running pre-primary and primary level kinder garden and crèche centers. It is providing the children with elementary education, Nutrition and also taking care of their health. The children have been providing with hygienic and nutritious food and also there is arrangement for check up of their health periodically.

In this program Bedrabad Rural Hospital has extended their hand of support. The Medical Officers came and look after the health of the children on scheduled dates. Iron and Folic acid tablets are properly taken by the children in the center. Immediate arrangement is made the hospital authority in case of any referral case from the organization.

2.5. AWARENESS PROGRAM ON DOTS

Malda and Murshidabad district of West Bengal is famous for 'biri' industry. These district are mazor 'Biri' producing are of the country. Almost 60% of people of these districts as well as the working area of the organization in Malda district is engaged in Biri works. Biri is produced at the household and almost all the women and children are engaged in Biri binding for they have to handle raw tobacco daily. Beside most of the males belonging to lower and lower middle class families migrate to other states as wage labors. In both the conditions people contaminated with tuber culosis (TB). Number of TB patients in the working area of the society is very high.

TB is considered a very pernicious disease. TB patients are treated very badly in the society. So, patients often hide their ailments to others even to their families. It brings the curse. But NRHM is committed to eradicate TB. It has launched DOTS treatment process in which condition health assistants physically make the patients to take the drugs in their presence. It is only for avoiding contamination for a patient to others. Actually when a patient discontinue drug it become TB most dangerous as it become resistant and many people around him is affected. So continuation of drugs is essential.

To develop awareness on TB the society has conducted several awareness program. This year it has conducted the program for generating consciousness about the disease as it is purely and completely cured and the patients may be treated normally. It has organized few programs with Self Help Group members and Farmer Club members to let them know about TB and its treatment process and phases.

CHAPTER-III

CHILD DEVELOPEMENT PROGRAMME

Swami Vivekananda empathically declared that India can never rise until and unless the poor masses are once more well educated, **well** fed and well cared for. All the national leaders, thinkers, planners and policy makers are putting their serious concentration for ameliorating the curse of illiteracy among the poor masses. “Student Friendly Education” system has also not reached to its desired level. Various non-government organizations have come forward to make education for all programs a great success. The NGO 16 Mile Rural Development Society has also played very significant role for bringing children under free school education program and illiterate to literacy centre. The society has been running two programs called 16 Mile Children Education Centre and Literacy Program since its inception period based they felt need of these program form the community having concentration of largest illiterates.

16 Mile Children Education Center is the first productive program of the society. It has fell the need of education in the society and then set up the center. It has always put thrust on education development.

3.1. RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL CRECHE SCHEME

Rajib Gandhi National Crèche Scheme is a wonderful scheme for 0-6 year’s children or infants. Under this scheme thousands of crèche centers are being run with the supervision and support of Central Social Welfare Board Govt. of India. 16 Mile Rural Development Society has been running 2 crèche centers at 16 Mile village under this scheme.

The organization has two crèche centers. There are 25 nos. infants (both male and female) in each of the centers. These 50 nos. of children belong to poor and minority family who cannot afford the expenses of education and nutrition of the children. The children are kept at the centre for 7 to 8 hours from the morning to 3 PM. They are taken care by the crèche workers trained lady. They sincerely feed the kids and inspire them to participate in learning games and good habits.

In the centers the children are not only provide with elementary education at pre-primary level, but also provide with nutrition, habbit of cleanliness, personal sanitation and hygiene. It is found that the children of these centers score good works and at primary and high school and also draw the attention of teacher with their politeness, co-operative



3.1. CHILDREN EDUCATION PROGRAM

It was 1991 when 16 Mile Rural Development Society came into existence. Then area was too much back ward only few people sent their children to school. There were only few primary schools in the block. On the other hand people were busy in earning as the villages were poverty stricken. Guardian's preferred to send the children in work rather to school. The society felt the need to provide the children better education so that they can compete for their bright future. So it set up the pre-primary and primary level school.

The volunteer's went door to door to get the children at the center for 3 to 4 hours. At first only few responded after lots of hammering. It has organized a number of awareness programs. Slowly the situation has changed in two-three years. At present the centre has more than 300 children. Parents are now much aware of their children's education, behavior and activities in the school.

3.3. AWARENESS PROGRAM ON DEWORMING & PREGNANT WOMEN

Worms and parasites are dangerous for infants. For that de-worming is essential. Govt. has tried to de-worm children through line departments. But the result is still poor. Because parents and guardians have no concept about de-worming. On the other hand vitamin-A is very essential for children to strengthen their immunity. Intake of 2 dose of vitamin-A oil is able to improve the immunity to fight against little challenges. It is somehow available at govt. health centers but coverage of the program is poor.

So, our Society has organized an awareness drive with the SHG member on de-worming and vitamin-A for infants and children. In the program especially mothers are sensitized on the fact. They will make conscious the other relatives, neighbors' to provide their children de-worming tablets and vitamin-A oil.

The organization has given impotence on the fact that most of the pregnant women in the area are weak and malnourished. For that they give birth to a weak baby. It is found that poor women do not have proper supplement during pregnancy. So, the organization is trying to aware people particularly women to take multivitamins so as to get safe and protected pregnancy for producing a healthy baby.

3.4. SABLA KANYASHREE CONVERGENCE PROGRAM/SAG

The 'Sabbla' scheme was launched by the Govt. of India for strengthening the adolescent girls. It was a very good project but it was not properly run by the line departments. The "Kanyashree" 'Prakalpa' is one of the greatest projects ever launched by the honorable Chief Minister of West Bengal Smt. Mamata Banerjee to strengthen the Kishoris with financial help to carry on studies.

The Sabla Kanyashree Convergence Program has been launched by merging these two projects. But its feature is little different. In this program the adolescent girls have been regularly met and involved in different activities. In 2014 the program has been started in Malda district through the existing ICDS project and staffs. 16 Mile Rural Development Society has worked in Kaliachak-II & Kalichak-III ICDS project under monitoring of Landesa and CINI. There the girl took part in the meetings at AWCs where they acted in different LGGs. The LGGs were designed to make them aware on different issues and topics.



There was some training imparted on land base livelihood for the girls.

A number of girl out of school girls were re admitted to school. The project staff arranged health check-up camp and exposure visit with the girls to Post Office, Bank, Gram Panchayat Office, Office of the BDO, BLDO, RI Office, etc. Several 'Kishori Diwas' were organized with the girls.

In the second phase in 2019 the program is again being run by the organization. The project staffs have conducted a survey of out of school girls. The program is now revised as SAG that is scheme for Adolescent Girls. In both the Block the project staffs have found out the girls who left school due to various reasons. They are trying to solve their problems through counseling them and their



parents. Re-admission of these girls is going on.

The project staffs have organized a number of GP wise exposure visit to GP Office, Post Office, RI office and Bank. The sablas visited the office and has learned what kind of services are there in these offices.

There is an important program has been initiated that is TOT of 'Sakhi' and 'Saheli' training 'Sakhi' is the leader of the Kishori Group and 'Saheli' is the is the assistant of the 'Sakhi'. There is one 'Sakhi' and two 'Saheli's in each of the AWW.



3.5. Observation of Child Protection Day

Children are the pillars of the society in future. Future of the nation will be throws on the palm of these children in future. They are the assest of a nation. But it is found that a huge number of children are exploited in different ways.

In the working area of the organization it has been found that children especially girls are forced to be engaged in different works part from house hold works leaving their studies. Drop out form school is found about 34%. It is also found that almost 90% of girls get married forcefully or by helplessness of the family at very early age of 13-16. A large number of boys leave schools and migrate to other states and cities to work in construction sectors as unskilled labours. Besides trafficking of child is still on.

Realizing all the issues 16 Mile Rural Development Society has arranged a program on the occasion of child protection Day. It has organized the program will 100 nos. of rural women who have 2-3 children. In the program discussion were made as the issues to protect the fundamental rights the children. They were as kind to let back their drop out children form school. The main topics of discussion are to stop child marriage to resist early conception and mal-nourished babies. The organization has tried to make people aware that the children are not property and they should be groomed with having their fundamental rights.



CHAPTER-IV

AGRICULTURE & DAIRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

4.1. MILK COLLECTION CENTRE

16 Mile Rural Development Society has set up the first Milk Collection Center in Malda district. It has been working hard for last few years to develop dairy practice in the district. The Department of ARD, DRDC and Kulik Milk Producer's Union has extended their hand of support and most of all NABARD has supported the organization to run dairy project in Malda district.

Seven Blocks out of 15 Blocks of Malda district has the most favorable condition for animal husbandry like dairy, goatary & Poultry. People have the hobbit of keeping cows, goats, and poultry formally. They rear the animals with little profit. The organization has been trying to modify the practice for tending financial value to the trade. It is trying to generate commercial approach among the farmers to turn the area to a major Milk producing Zone in West Bengal.

The organization has united the farmers of the area. It has started a Milk collection center at Charianantapur Kamat. It has a milk bulk cooler. It has been initiating several programs to build commercial approach among the dairy farmers. It has also set up a dairy farmers group that is Malda Women Dairy Development Agency. It has now 647 members. There is a great demand of milk in the area. Where as production of Milk is not saturating it. There is a ready local market where the milk is sold. So, at the moment deposit of milk in the collection center is only 500 liters per day. The milk is sent to Kulik Milk Union and the dairy farmers are getting reasonable price of their milk.

Day by day milk production is getting better. A number of farmers have increased number of cows. Few have started model dairy farms. The organization is also in a process to establish a milk processing center where various types of milk products will be processed and packaged milk will be marketed. Soon the number of dairy farms in the Block will be 1000 will they rear cows commercially in their model farms. For all these milk production will be 5000 liter per day and all the milk will be marketed through this milk collection center within two years.

4.2. DEMONSTRATION OF AZOLLA CULTIVATION PROGRAM

With financial support from DRDC, Malda under ATMA scheme 16 Mile Rural Development Society has initiated 10 nos. of demonstration on cultivation of Azolla in Kaliachak-III Block. 10 nos. of members from SHGs have been selected for the program who are rearing cows at their house hold.

All the beneficiaries have been gone through a formal training of cultivation of Azolla, maintenance of azolla tanks and feeding with Azolla. After that the society has constructed azolla tanks at the house of the beneficiaries and azolla has been planted there.

Project Manager is continuously in closely communication with the beneficiaries by phone and also he is visiting the demonstration tanks regularly and instructing the beneficiaries.



4.3. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM ON MUSHROOM

Market of Mushroom is growing well. So, 16 Mile Rural Development Society has chosen it to produce Mushroom by the SHG members of Kaliachak-II & III Block. For that it has organized demonstration program on Mushroom cultivation under ATMA scheme, through DRDC, Malda has extended their support in this program.

10 nos. of women from SHGs has been selected by the NGO and they have been under gone through a one day practical training of mushroom production, i.e., cylinder preparation and sending. After that they have taken seeds and planted them in the cylinders they have prepared in their household.

They are now in close contact with the organization. The instruction is meeting every woman at their home and delivering required instructor. All the women are being followed up try the project co-coordinator.

The organization also tries to build market of the produced Mushrooms. In near future the market of mushroom will be flourished tremendously.



4.4. EXPOSURE VISIT ON DAIRY

With financial support of ATMA scheme 16 Mile Rural Development Society organized visit to Ramkrishna Mission, Sargachhi, Murshidabad for exposure of 25 nos. farmers of SHGs, who are engaged in dairy, goatary and cultivation. They visited the centre where the witnessed modern dairy, goatary, duckary, vermin Compost and cultivation of vegetables. All the practices are with modern technologies and in commercial approach. They witnessed shed preparation, feeding technologies, fodder and feed integrated farming along with bio gas production and vermin compost preparation. They also watched cultivation of high yielding vegetables which have bright future.

All the day they came in close discussion with the coordinator and care taker of those farms. They gathered practical experience of such things they will able to implants then in their trade.



4.5. AWARENESS PROGRAM ON HEY

16 Mile Rural Development Society has been trying to develop the dairy and farm practice of Malda district for last few years. It has formed Farmer's club, Farmer's producer's organization in Kaliachak-III Block. It has arranged training on modern dairy stall feeding goat farming with support of ARD department, Malda and NABARD.

The organization always tried to innovate new dairy fodder cultivation to drop the cost of feeding so that maximum number of farmers can get benefit. This year it has demonstrated 'hey'. Hey is made of the leaves that cows and goats like. The leaves are kept in room till them for dairy & goatary. The leaves are kept for long and can be fed the animals of even often 6 months.

Green fodders are wasted generally. Farmers don't have the technology to keep them fresh. So, the fresh leaves can be turned into hey and can be used for long.

The society has prepared some sample of hey and they are left for demonstration. Hey was also demonstrated in the Chhagal Sampad Mela or live stock fair organized by the society in Kaliachak-III Block in Malda district.



4.6. MUSHROOM PRODUCTION CENTRE

Mushroom is a very good and enriched supplement. There are many popular dishes made of Mushroom. It is rich with protein vitamin and minerals. But Mushroom dishes are limited in a very little portion of people. Generally rich and upper classes people take Mushroom. It is out of rich of common people.

There are different kinds of Mushroom's available but ordinary. Mushroom is less costly and it can be produced at home with very little expenses. To promote Mushroom among rural people 16 Mile Rural Development Society has organized workshop on use and production of Mushroom. But people's response is not up to the mark so far.

Realizing the fact the organization has conducted training on Mushroom cultivation at home and also conducted Mushroom farm school training with SHG women.

The society has set up a Mushroom production centre at the office premised at the Society. Here Mushroom cultivation is demonstrated and a number of men and women visited the centre and participated in the Farm School training. There are few who are producing Mushroom at their house and are selling them to their neighbors. Slowly the demand of Mushroom is getting increased. A number of people are buying Mushroom from the centre and also the use of Mushroom is spreading slowly. Also Mushroom was demonstrated in the livestock fair organized by the society in Kaliachak-III block.

4.7. CHHAGALSAMPAD MELA

Modern world has been turning into jungle of concrete. But still there is people live in great poverty and sorrow. People in the country side lack the facilities of modern towns but they have their own lifestyle. Their living is based on simple works that have been followed traditionally since the primitive age. But it can't be refused that life of rural mass is now become troublesome. Problem of unemployment strikes people hard.

In the district of Malda the same trend is followed. Rural People rear goats. In almost every family people are rear goats up to 5 units. They are reared effortlessly with wastes of the family. Also there are few families where 10 to 20 goats are kept to meet family expenses following ancient culture of grazing. But goatary is a very bright profession in other countries. But our people do not think it to be a profession.

Goats are regarded “cows of poor”. So, 16 Mile Rural Development Society has been trying to promote commercial goatary in its working area in Malda district. The area is favorable for goatary. Only people are to be motivated. 16 Mile Rural Development Society has united a number of farmers through different programs and included in SHG, Farmer's Clubs, Joint Liability Groups etc. NABARD has supported the organization to develop farming approach in the area. The organization has conducted several awareness programs, workshops and exposure visits to motivate the farmers including women.

With NABARD's assistance this year 16 Mile Rural Development Society has organized a livestock fair in the name 'Chhagal Sampad Mela-2019 in Kaliachak-III Block. In the fair people including women, youth watched displays, demonstration, discussions, participated in workshop and



awareness programs for 3 days. There were also camp for immunization for goats and cows. Farmers have come to know about stall feeding farms and supplement fodder cultivation with minimum investment. There were demonstrations of azolla, Napier grass, hey preparation and hydroponic fodder. They have come to know about their production usefulness application and maintenance.

The fair has injected commercial approach for improving goatary and dairy paretic. After the fair a number of farmer contacted own organization with a positive intention to learn stall feeding goat farming

in details. The Society has arranged residential training on the same for the farmers under ATMA scheme. Already 3 nos. of model stall feeding Black Bengal Farmers have been established in the Block. Department of ARD, Malda has extended their hands of support to

spread commercial goat farming in the district of Malda. It will provide solution to a number of unemployed youth and women.

4.8. HYBRID NAPIER SEED PRODUCTION CENTRE

Green fodder is essential for farm practice like goatary and dairy. Now a days goatary dairy is being adopted by the farmers of the district with motivation from 16 Mile Rural Development Society. All the farmers do not have suffering land to supply green grass or fodder for grazing as it needs a large land. So, now a trend has come to cultivate hybrid fodders using less land. Napier is one of such fodder.

‘Napier’ is a type of grass with full of nutrients for animals. It is grown in large quantity on little land. Its proteins and minerals is very high than normal grasses.



4.9. AZOLLA SEED PRODUCTION PLOT

16 Mile Rural Development Society has been putting immense thrust on dairy development and farming practice in Kaliachak-I, Kaliachak-II and Kaliachak-III Block for last few years. It has initiated a lot of programs for the farmers so that they can develop their practice. A number of farmers joined in workshops witness the practical technologies by exposure visit Department of ARD and ADA, Agriculture have supported the programs of the organization.

In this regard 16 Mile Rural Development Society has promoted azolla to the dairy farmers. Many demonstrations have been held. A number of farmers are applying azolla to their cows and goats. It is a very cost-effective product for goatary also. The nutrients of azolla keep good health of the lives tocks. Demand of azolla is increasing. So, the organization has get ready two azolla seed production plot in Kaliachak–III block. These azolla seed are being supplied to beneficiaries who are willing to produce azolla of their own. Besides Government departments like ADA, and BLDO takes azolla for their beneficiaries like SHGs.

In both the plots adequate azolla is now being produced. But within two years the society has to raise its capacity to three times than it is now.

4.10. VERMI COMPOST PRODUCTION CENTRE

For last 10 years 16 Mile Rural Development Society is running a Vermi Compost Production Center at Kaliachak-III Block. It has been implementing different programs for improvement of agriculture practice. Excessive use of chemicals has dropped down fertility of the soil. Production is hampered. Production of crops is affected due to thoughtless acts of our modern approach. In this situation 16 Mile Rural Development Society has been continuously conducting awareness among the farmers. There are few farmers who are convinced and still they are applying vermin compost along with chemical fertilizers.

Vermi compost has been applied in orchard of mango and litchi. For this, production of the fruit has been increased and differences have been visible to the farmers of the block.

CHAPTER-V

TRAINING & SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

India is the 2nd largest populated country in the world. Its population is more than 120 cores. It is not possible for any Govt. to arrange for Govt. jobs or jobs in organized sector for such a vast population. Here comes the necessity of self-employment. Moreover, if employment opportunities are made and people works whole heartily a huge number of working days will be created and country will go ahead and develop very fast.

Moreover, though “Gour” was once the capital of Bengal, the district of Malda is now one of the most economically backward district of West Bengal. About 95% of the people live in the village. The women are the worst sufferers. They engage themselves in “Bidi” binding which helps the family economically but causes Health Hazards. So prevalence of tuberculosis is high among the women in this area. If we look at a glance at the condition of the rural people we will see.

They are characterized by deep-rooted poverty, very low level of literacy and consequently low level of productively. This result in lack of adequate basic minimum service to ensure better means of livelihood. This again leads to very low level of literacy, poverty and productivity.

To come out of this vicious circle of poverty, enhancement skill and capacity the youths/ women in the project area have been paid greater attention by the society. Widely accepted instrument of capacity building for self –employment to combat the poor economic condition was accepted and implemented by the society. Capacity building changes attitude by improving functional knowledge and skills to perform one’s responsibility at a desired level and enhances effectiveness and motivation.

Various attempts has been made for identification of potential entrepreneurs, skills & capacity required by them, nature & extent of resources (both physical and human) available and potential agencies/ doners for successful implementation of its various programmes including Self employment endeavor. Meeting with SHG and village level workers, sector level officials & community leaders/ volunteers are done. Later, time to time review of the ongoing programmes which are based on the findings & observations has been conducted and accordingly entrepreneurs are identified. The society introduces few such initiatives and few, are kept for future as per available resources & other supportive services.

The society has also worked on bank-linkage with those trainees if they want to become new entrepreneur or want to develop their old business. In his year we have successfully completed 11 trainings on different trades.

5.1. SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRANING ON TAILORING

Implementation of SHG movement is one of the best projects ever by the Govt. of India. It has been still working the extreme grass root level. It has changed the total economic background of rural India. Rural women are now more strong and confident.

For strengthening these women lots of interventions have been carried out. Even lots of programs are being initiated for upliftment of their social and economic condition. Skill development training is one of them.



This type of training helps to make the women self reliant. 16 Mile Rural Development Society has conducted the training on tailoring that is to prepare dress items of day to day use. The training was held at Kaliahak-I Block with 30 nos. women. The training was financially supported by the DRDC, Malda. It was continued for 60 days.

Total 10 nos. of SHG women got the training. They learnt to prepare blouse, petty coat, and frock for children etc. after the training few among the trainees bought sewing machine and they are repairing used garments side by side preparing dress items as per-order of the local customer and their neighbors. All of the women will be able to buy swing machine and start working with them. They will be able to earn Rs-2000 to 5000 per month shortly.

5.2. BEEKEEPING TRAINING PROGRAM

Bee keeping is one of the key programs of 16 Mile Rural Development Society since its inception in 1994. It has been continuing bee keeping till date. The organization has trained a number of youth on bee-keeping. Most of them are still in the trade.

This year the organization has arranged training on bee-keeping for 40 days at Ratua-II Block of Malda district in collaboration and assistance with District Industrial Center, (DIC) Malda, and 25 nos. of unemployed youth were selected for the training. The master trainers imparted the whole training covering Beehive maintenance, bee maintenance extracting at honey, built proper bee colonies. The participants learnt the technologies and their application in bee-keeping. There were practical sessions too.



5.3. ONE DAY MUSHROOM TRAINING

16 Mile Rural Development Society arranges skill development trainings for rural people, i.e. SHG women, unemployed youth etc. time to time. This year it has conducted training on 'Mushroom Production at house. Mushroom has a lot of nutrition value. Its price is not so high but in reach of people. It can be produce at home with a little investment and it does not require much engagement. Within one month one can get benefit from it. So, the organization has chosen Mushroom.



The society has conducted the training at its office premises at 16 Mile with 40 nos. of women from SHGs

under Kaliachak-III Block. Financial assistance for this training has been provided under ATMA scheme.

The participants learnt how to prepare beds or cylinder of Mushroom and how to pluck and preserve Mushroom. They got the practical experience at the organization's Mushroom production center. Each of the participants was provided seeds. They prepared the seed bed at home and planted Mushroom seed they are still producing Mushroom at their home. They are eating them at their house and are selling them to their neighbors'.

Still people in the district are not properly aware about Mushroom and its nutrition value. It needs proper awareness in district so that maximum people intake Mushroom and a number of women can get monetary benefits by producing Mushroom. People also get nutritional benefits.

5.4. PAPER BAG MAKING TRAINING

Use of polythin bags or carry bags has been at extreme level even in the rural areas. It has affected the ecology and agriculture as well as whole nature is being polluted by the thought less use of plastic carry bags. Govt. is trying to restrict the use of these items but we are still unaware of the fact that we are slowly destroying our earth and also ourselves.

Use of paper bags should replace plastic carry bags. So, District Rural Development Cell, Malda has chalked out plan conduct training on paper bag making. 16 Mile Rural Development Society has been engaged in this mission to conduct training to SHG members. So, DRDC Malda has sanctioned training on paper bag making in some of the block of Malda district.



16 Mile Rural Development Society has conducted these training at Harischandrapur-II, Kaliachak-II and Kaliachak-III Block. Total 90 women were trained. After the training all the 90 women of different SHGs are making paper bags with news papers. They have trained some more women who are also making paper bags. They are selling the bags to local shop keepers. In return they are getting little money that is supplement income to their families. The

most important cause is served that use of plastic bag is resist a little. Mass awareness is needed to avoid plastic carry bag replacing paper bag as it is eco-friendly

5.5. STALL FEEDING GOAT FARMING TRAINING

A craze has been created for goat farming in Kaliachak-I and Kaliachak-III Block 16 Mile Rural Development Society still working for promotion of stall feeding goat farming. The ADA, Kaliachak-III has also taken initiative to conduct five day's residential training on Stall feeding Black Bengal Goat farming With financial assistance from ATMA, 16 MDRS conducted the training in five batches. In this Session 25 nos. (Women) got the training. With such initiative 10 nos. of stall feeding goat farm have already been set up More farms will be set up lay the next gear in the Block of kaliachak-III.

5.6. FARM SCHOOL ON POULTRY & SILAGE.

Farm School is a very effective process of training. In this process a whole process of training is conveyed in simple parts. In every part the trainees witness practical experience after theory. 16 Mile Rural Development Society has conducted such farm school training on poultry, silage preparation and Mushroom Production.

Poultry:- With financial support from the BLDO, Kaliachak-III the training was conducted at 16 Mile. 26 women from SHGs were selected. They got theory training at the office premises and they were provided small unit of poultry. They started rearing the birds at their house as per theory classes. They fed the birds as they learnt and witness at the poultry demonstration. The whole process took 45days for bringing up the chicks.

After 15 days of starting they learnt vaccination of birds and they practically did the job at their unit. In three steps they covered the whole process.

Silage Preparation: Silage is needed for dairy and goat farming. Green fodder is kept and preserved for long for future use. It is rich in protein and minerals.

In the farm school process it is divided into three steps that covers 45 days. In these training 25 nos. of dairy & goatary farmers were selected. They learnt to indentify suitable fodder and green leaves for silage making. They learnt to preserve them and the process of keeping them rich with nutrients. They witnessed the process at the hey production center of the organization. Each of participants succeeded to prepare a good amount of silage at their house. They will use the silage to feed their livestock's during the rain. The BLDO, Kaliachak-III has extended hands of support for this training of farm school.

5.7. ONE DAY GROUND NUT CULTIVATION TRAINING

Ground nut is very popular in all over India. Cultivation of ground nut is very low in Malda District. In the block of Gazole and Bamongola there are few farmers who cultivate ground nuts. But it has favorable condition to grow in kaliachak-I , II & III Block . So with financial support of ATMA scheme, 16 Mile RDS has conducted a



training at 16 Mile with farmers from Kaliachak-I, II and III Blocks. 40 nos. of farmer's women attended in the training.

In the farmers the participant learnt to sowing of nut seeds, preparation of land and process of cultivation and harvest attention was given to manuring of plants. Special emphasize was drawn to apply bio fertilizers and bio pesticide. Timing of watering and nourishment is needed to grow the plants and good yielding of ground nuts.

It is a new practice in the area so the participants are excited to plant ground nuts.

5.8. ONE DAY DUCK TRAINING.

Kaliachak-III BLDO has taken few initiatives to strengthen the Block. It has sanctioned duckary training for 40 nos. of women from SHG and others under ATMA scheme. 16 Mile RDS conducted the training at 16 Mile. The training was for one day. In the training the beneficiaries learnt commercial rearing of ducks. They have come to know how to prepare shed for duck, how to keep them in farm, how to feed them and how to immunize them. They also learnt common diseases of ducks and their remedies.

The training will help them to set up small farms and each better by commercial rearing of ducks



5.9. ONE DAY HYDROPONIC TRAINING

16 Mile RDS has been working hard for promoting commercial dairy and goatary in the district of Malda particularly in Kaliachak-I, II & III block. It has conducted awareness camps, workshops with the farmers and inspired some farmers to get training on commercial dairy and goatary. About 40 of small dairy farms and about 9 goat farms have already been set up and are running. So, fodder cultivation and feeding management is essential for the farmers. So, 16 Mile RDS is now trying to demonstrate green fodder and supplement like azola and hydroponics.

Hydroponic is a green fodder which is rich in necessary nutrients for cows & goats. It has a specialty that it can be grown in triage under shed and in a little space. Under ATMA scheme, the Society has conducted a demonstration on hydroponic cultivation under shed and training on the same with 40 no of farmers. It was a hand holding training for the trainees. Both male and female farmers are selected on for the trainings. At all of them rear goats and few have started stall feeding goat farms.

5.10. PROMOTION OF FARMERS PRODUCER ORGAZITION

FPO is a unique scheme of NABARD. The scheme develops the cluster of farmer's Organization. The farmers are inspired to produce lots of products and the scheme leads them to market their products in collective approach. 16

Mile Rural development Society has been working for the farmers of Malda district for last few



years, It has formed the FPO in the name of Malda Women Dairy Development Agency 647 nos. of farmers from seven blocks of the district has been included in the FPO so far. The farmer members of the FPO are involved in agriculture and traditional farming of cows, hens, goats etc. The FPO has injected Commercial approach to them. They are now eager to adopt modern technology in agriculture and they are now thinking in modern commercial farming. Most of the members are adopting dairy and

collection centre at Kaliachak-III Block. The 16 Mile Rural Development Society has a milk farmers are selling milk through the center 14 nos. of farmer have started model dairy farms with bank finance 20 more farms with 10 milk cows will be set up soon. The Society has arranged several training for betterment of dairy practice 25 nos. of farmers are aging to start stall feeding goat farms after getting training. They have applied for SVSKP loan to respective Block Development Officers. They have started the processes.

Malda Women Dairy Development Agency has united under the umbrella of 16 Mile Rural Development Society. It is hoped that there will be 2000 member included in the agency by 2020. The society is going to build up a strong network of farmers around Malda district.



5.10. ONE DAY GOAT FARMING TRAINING

Almost in every family people keep goat. The goats are reared normally, and effortlessly. But now the situation has changed. A number of farmers intend to adopt commercial rearing of goats in even in micro farms. To make it wide 16 Mile RDS has conducted a one day training on goat farming with 40 nos. of farmers of Kaliachak-III Block, ATMA, Malda has extended its hands to support the training.

In the training participants are inspired to adopt commercial goat farming and the salient features of starting goat's farms know maintained of goat shed, feeding management, routine immunization of goats, fodder production etc.



CHAPTER-VI

MISCELLANEOUS PROGRAMME

6.1. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN DAY

Empowerment of women is always in priority of 16 Mile Rural Development Society. On the occasion of International women's days on 8th March 2019 it has organized a program for the women of Kaliachak-III Block. The Program was financially supported by Nehru Yuva Kendra, Malda

The society has arranged a get together with the women of the Block at Sunrise Skill Development Training Centre at Lalapara more, P.O+PS-Baishnabgara, Dist- Malda. It has been organized with the women who are kin to enhance their economic condition through skill development, Resource person address to 100 women participants to be self reliant Utkarsha program has been introduced to them, different scheme have been Govt. discussed.

The participants have expressed their views. They have enjoyed the program. It was a good effort of NYK, Malda and 16 Mile Rural Development Society towards empowerment of women on the occasion of the International women day.



6.2. RURAL LIBRARY

16 Mile Rural Development Society has set up a rural library at Old 16 Mile Village. The area is concentrated with poor backward and minority people. Though education facility is now available still there is a dearth of good library. The library at 16 Mile Rural Development Society is a small one. 10-15 readers come at the library every day. It is found that a reader replaces another in three or four months. It is why they are not served wide range of books according to their choric. Actually the library needs to have new books regularly. But lack of fund is resisting the society to purchase books. It only can afford a little for the library besides, the rooms of the library should be mortified soon.

6.3. AWARENESS & EDUCATION PROGRAM ON POSITIVITY

The program started at 11.30 a.m. with presence of the participants and resource persons. The secretary of the organization welcomed the guests and the participants and it delivered a welcome speech fallowed by a condolence for Pulwama terrorist attack by lighting candle. After introduction Swamiji from Ramkrishna Mission addressed on "sewa" service and sprit of voluntaries Mr. Sukhendu Bank, District Youth Coordinator, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Malda in discussed on leadership of youth and their role society. Then the resource persons discussed on different social issues and social evils and civic education. It followed a question- answer session organized by the volunteers and the participants enjoy it much.



6.4. CONSUMER AWARENESS

16 Mile Rural Development Society has conducted a number of awareness programs in Kaliachak-I, Kaliachak-II and Kaliachak- III block. The organization is linked with the department of Consumer affairs for last 8 years. This year it has arranged 4 public meeting where discussions were made on protecting the rights of the consumer. Rural people are exploited by the cheat and mal practitioners. But people have low awareness level and for that they tolerate the hazards and troubles. But it is the time to get up and fight for the right. In the program people know about how they can lodge case and complaint against any escheating of product or service. Leaflets were distributed after the program.



6.5. OBSERVATION OF NOTBLE

Like every year 16 Mile Rural Development Society celebrates some special days at its office premises and also in its area of operation. They are Children's Day, International Women's Day, World TB Day, Nirmal Vidyalay Day, Environment Day, Rabindra Jayanti, etc.



Most of the programs are held at the office premises with the children of its education center and crèche center children perform songs, dances recitation local youth are engaged in the programs. They often share stage with the children.

Some special days are celebrated with the women of the SHG, farmers, of the FPO. Generally the programs are like awareness on specific issues youth clubs sometime joined in such programs.

Cultural programs are also organized in the occasion. Sit and draw competition are also conducted with the children. Sometimes rally is organized on specific issues.

6.6.CASE STUDY AZOLLA & CULF REARING

Nargishara Parvin has set an example of inspiration to the women of Malda district. Her family lives at Shibnagar Village of Sambalpur Gram Panchayat under Ratua-II Block of Malda district. She like other women of the Block is a simple house wife belonging to a poor farmer's family. She is a member of Self Help Group since last 12 years. There are so many SHGs in Ratua-II block but it is found that the members are not engaged in economic activities except inter lending. But a number of women use to rear calves of cows and sell them by one year. It is the only way they are earning little by rearing calves for long. They use to rear 3 to 5 calves at a time.



Nargishara Parvin came closer to 16 Mile Rural Development Society and became member of its Farmers Producer's Organization namely the Malda Women Dairy Development Agency in 2017—2018. With the inspiration from 16 Mile Rural Development Society and the FPO she went forward to set up a model 'Calf Rearing Farm' with 25 nos. of calves at her house.

With inspiration form 16 Mile Rural Development Society she has gone through one-day training provided by the Agriculture Technology Management Agency, (ATMA), Malda and started the modern calf rearing center. Technical inputs were supplied by 16 Mile Rural Development Society & BLDO, Ratua-II Block, Malda to construct model shed, feeding



management and care. 16 Mile Rural Development Society has constructed 12 nos. of Azolla tanks at the farm with financial assistance from DRDC, Malda under ATMA scheme. Every day it is proclaiming about 25 kg of Azolla which is fed to the calves at 1 kg per day to each of the calves. For that it does not require supplement feed and their extra expanse's is being avoided. She is working hard to get Rs-4000 to 5000 profit per unit.

Nargishara Parvin is very much optimistic on her calf rearing project. It will surely carry profit of Rs-1,00,000.00 to Rs-1,25,000.00 within six to seven months. She is now an icon in Ratua. Hundreds of women have been influenced by her commercial approach. Her economic development is attracting the women of the area to adopt such approaches.

She is now very happy and her family condition is developing day by day. She is grateful to 16 Mile Rural Development Society.

6.7. CASE STUDY ON STALL FEEDING GOAT FARMING

Md. Mosaraf Sk of Charianantapur Kamat under Kaliachak –III Block in Malda district is no longer an unemployed youth since last few months. He became frustrated with his boring unemployed life. He did not have financial support to start a business as he belongs to an ordinary farmer's family. He wandered for few years but could not arrange for himself. He went to the livestock fair organized by 16 Mile Rural Development Society at Charianantapur Kamat in 2017-18 and was deeply attracted by animal husbandry.

Md. Mosaraf Sk then contacted 16 Mile Rural Development Society several times and expressed his wish to start a goat farm. After frequent discussions he went for goat farming using his little resource. He got membership in the Farmer's Producer Organization of 16 Mile Rural Development Society namely Malda Women Dairy Development Agency. He tried hard to arrange finance as he was determined. He took a one – day training on goat farming at 16 Mile Rural Development Society under **SHG & SE Scheme** and finally started a goat farm at his own house. With only 15 goats with technical support from the BLDO, Kaliachak-III and inspiration of 16 Mile Rural Development Society he constructed a model shed.



Md. Mosaraf Sk is getting all technical inputs to run his goat farm from the society in keeping the goats, feeding management, green fodder cultivation, immunization and health care of the goats etc. Profit is now visible to him. He is getting benefits from his farm. He works day and night in his farm. 16 Mile Rural Development Society has constructed. 4 Nos. Azolla tanks beside his farm with financial support from DRDC, Malda under ATMA scheme in financial year of 2018-2019. He is feeding Azolla regularly. Health and growth of the goats is very good. Now he is in a process to enhance this farm with the capacity of 50 goats. He has applied to Allahabad Bank, Golapgonj Branch, Malda for loan and his loan for rupees six lakh has been sanctioned. It will enlarge the farm shortly.

Md. Mosaraf Sk is now very happy and he has become an inspiration to others unemployed youth of his village with help of 16 Mile Rural Development Society he has become entrepreneur and self employed through goat farming. He is hoping to earn Rs-60,000.00 in one year and his wish will surely be fulfilled.

6.8. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Since the very beginning, the society has been receiving very good, both financial and managerial, support from local agencies of both private and public undertakings. It has been receiving support from national and state level agencies and Government Departments without which the organization would have hardly been able to grow and expand its activities in a wider area. We, on behalf of the society, have been obliged to acknowledge these generous support and contribution generated from all Departments, Agencies and International organizations for the cause of the people in distress. It is hopeful that similar contribution and support will help us to work in a sustainable direction. We, from depth of our heart and spirit, are grateful to recall their names of offices, branches and officials here as follows: -

Government of India: -

1. Chairman, West Bengal State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Kolkata.
2. Chief General Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Kolkata.
3. Sri Satish Kumar Singha, DDM, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, Malda.
4. Youth Coordinator, Nehru Yuba Kendra, Malda.

Government of West Bengal:-

1. District Magistrate, Malda.
2. Additional District Magistrate(General), Malda
3. Additional District Magistrate(Development), Malda
4. Additional Executive Officer, Malda Zilla Parishad, Malda.
5. Sub-Divisional Officer (Sadar).Malda.
6. Deputy Director, ARD & PO, Malda.
7. District Social Welfare Officer, Malda.
8. Project Director, ATMA, Malda
9. Block Development Officer, Kaliachak- I, II & III, Englishbazar Block, Malda.
10. BMOH, Kaliachak- I, II & III, Malda.
11. BLDO, Kaliachak- I, II & III, Englishbazar Block, Malda
12. ADA, Kaliachak- I, II & III, Englishbazar Block, Malda

Local Bodies: -

1. Sabhadhipati, Malda Zila Parishad, Malda.
2. Sabhapati. Kaliachak- I, II & III Panchyat Samity, Malda.
3. All Prodhans & Upprodhans, All gram Panchayat, Kaliachak – I, II & III Panchayat Samity.

Banks: -

1. Lead District Manager, UBI Malda.
2. Branch Managers. SBI, NTPC Khejuria, Barokamat, Kaliachack & Uttarlaxmipur Br, Malda.
3. Branch Managers. UBI, Kejuria, Alinagar, & Sahabanchack Branch, Malda.
4. Branch Managers. BGVB, Baishnabnagar Rajnagar, sahabajpur & Shershahi Branch, Malda.
5. Branch Managers, Allahabad Bank, Chandpur Branch & Golapgonj, Malda.

International NGOs:-

1. Project Officer, UNICEF, Kolkata.
2. Manoj Mahata, GIZ, Kolkata

NGO/OTHERS:-

1. Rajadighhi Community Health Service Society, Malda.
2. All the People of 16 Mile Rural Development Society's Project area & all the well-wishers.

ROUTE DIRECTION TO REACH OFFICE

It is 321 Km away from Kokkata Metropolitan City and connected by all whether motorable high road.

a) Railway Service:- From Howrah or Sealdah to reach Farakka Jn. Station on the North-Eastern Railway by Train. From Farakka Jn. Station to Notun 16 Mile. Local Bus stop by bus. 15 Minutes walking distance to Head Quarter of 16 Mile Rural Development Society from Notun 16 Mile More Stop.

b) Bus Service:- From Dharmatala Bus stop Kolkata to Kaliachak by express bus service. By Maxi Taxi to reach Pagla bridge stop. Pagla Bridge stops to Head quarter of 16 Mile Rural Development Society 5 minutes walking distance.

