



DIVYA JYOTI MAHILA VIKASH

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

**DIVYA JYOTI
MAHILA VIKASH**

**At/ Po: Markandi
Via: Berhampur, Ganjam, Odisha**

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About DJMV

Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash (DJMV) is a nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to creating and implementing innovative programs aimed at empowering girls and women to advocate for themselves and strengthen their communities. Established in 2000, we are currently engaged in collaborating with women's self-help groups and girls' clubs, which directly engage with girls and women in vulnerable communities to address their real-time needs effectively.

Our operations span across more than 50 coastal and tribal villages within the Ganjam district of Odisha. DJMV is committed to enhancing the living standards of the impoverished and marginalized through community-driven initiatives, active participation, and awareness campaigns.

Our Vision: A society where girls and women prosper

Mission: Empowering vulnerable girls and women to improve their quality of life

Core Value:

- Participatory
- Accountability
- Commitment
- Transparency

Our Approach

DJMV implements a community-based, environmentally friendly, inclusive, and gender-centric approach across all its programs. Like the girls and women, we serve, we are fearless in our approach to social change

Strategic Goals:

DJMV Strategic Goals for 2025-2030

- **Goal 1:** Improve access to and the quality of education for over 5,000 children cumulatively by 2030.
- **Goal 2:** Promote market-led sustainable livelihoods for over 10,000 marginalized women by 2030.
- **Goal 3:** Enhance safety and security for girls in remote rural areas.
- **Goal 4:** Provide sexual reproductive health and menstrual hygiene services to 10,000 needy girls and young women.
- **Goal 5:** Strengthen women's and girls' collectives to access livelihoods and social security schemes.

Board of Governance

1. Mrs. B. Gopamma, President
2. Ms. Sibani Behera, Director
3. Mrs. S.Gayatri, Secretary
4. Mrs. K.Karrma, Vice President
5. Mrs. L.Damanti, Joint Secretary
6. Mrs. K.Kalamma, Executive Member
7. Mrs. M.Ankamma, Executive Member

Genesis:

Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash began as a Women Self-Help Groups Federation on May 10, 2000, and was formally registered as a Non-Profit Organization under the Society Registration Act on May 9, 2001, with the aim of empowering women and girls. DJMV has focused its efforts on uplifting backward fishing communities in the remote, underserved areas of Rural Odisha, identified as one of the most underdeveloped states in India.

Operational area:

Ganjam district, Odisha State, County: India

Target Groups

We are dedicated to supporting girls and women from socially excluded, marginalized, and vulnerable communities in tribal and coastal areas.

Policies

- Finance and Procurement Policy
- Human Resource and Administrative Policy
- Gender Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Prevention of Sexual Harassment Policy
- Media and Communication Policy

Partners

DJMV partners

- National Foundation for India, New Delhi
- Global Greengrants Fund, USA
- Kingdom of Netherlands Embassy, Netherlands
- Australian Embassy, New Delhi
- Australian Consulate General, Kolkata

THEMATIC AREAS

- **Girls' Education:** DJMV works with the government, community and community teachers to ensure every girl in the remotest parts of Odisha is enrolled in school and learns well.



- **Women Empowerment:** Women self-help groups serve as the foundation for all interventions and livelihood activities, enabling them to actively contribute to the mainstream development process."
- **Sustainable Livelihoods:** We are committed to promoting the sustainability of land and coastal resources, empowering people with skills, and fostering diversified and secure income sources. We work to ensure that fishing and tribal communities have access to their rights over natural resources. Through the acquisition of new knowledge in the sustainable use of natural resources, we aim to enhance land quality and productivity. By providing training in new skills and supporting diversified livelihoods, we contribute to improving their incomes and overall well-being.

DJMV implementing various community-based projects to secure livelihoods.

- Natural Farming
- Grow Your Own Food
- Bio-Fertilizers Enterprise
- Fishery Based Livelihoods
- Micro Enterprise Development

GENDER EQUALITY

Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous, and sustainable world.

DJMV believes that gender equality and women's empowerment are dynamic processes that involve enabling women from socially excluded communities to assert control over their lives, access resources, assert their rights, and realize their full potential in society, regardless of caste, creed, or gender inequality. DJMV is committed to providing vulnerable women from marginalized communities with access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities, and avenues for political participation, while also addressing systemic barriers such as gender discrimination and inequality. By empowering women, societies can harness their contributions to economic growth, social development, and the overall well-being of communities.

Empowering women leads to the empowerment of humanity.

At DJMV, our team is actively engaged in promoting gender equality and empowering women.

- Women self-help groups serve as the cornerstone for all interventions and livelihood activities, enabling women to actively contribute to the mainstream development process.
- Establishing community cadres at the local level nurtures the next generation of leaders, facilitating visible impact.
- Promoting financial literacy and strengthening local governance helps bridge the welfare gap between the government and the community.
- Networking with People's Organizations, Women's Federations, and CSO consortiums helps highlight local women's issues at the state and national levels.

Impact: DJMV firmly believes that "When women thrive, all of society benefits, and succeeding generations are given a better start in life. There is no force more powerful than a woman determined to rise."

DJMV strongly believes in and practices the assessment of gender equality and women's empowerment through various indicators that reflect their social, economic, and political status within society:



Voice from the community

- "Every month we collect money from self-help group women, deposit it in the bank and update all our documents. I had never imagined I would one day attend meetings and maintain registers. This feels very empowering," Shree Chaitanya SHG group member Basanti Mallik said.



Project: Girls for Change

Supported by

National Foundation for India, New Delhi



1. Project Context:

The Ganjam district in Odisha tops the state in migration and the numbers have only been swelling over the years. Driven by poverty, thousands of men and women from this part of the globe leave their homes to different places across the country in search of employment opportunities. Majority of these men and women land up in the cities and join the unorganized sector as construction workers, *contract labours*, housemaids etc. The children are often left behind at villages with grandparents or relatives to fend for *themselves*. Although enrolled to nearby government schools, a majority of these children remain disinterested in studies due to lack of monitoring and guidance of parents. Many of them –especially the girl’s dropout and stay back at home to raise their younger siblings and cook for their parents.

The story is no better for the children especially girls who migrate along with their parents during lean period or decrease in fish catch. The studies are disrupted every year and upon return, the girls’ students lag way behind their counterparts in schools. Besides education these girls also lose out on proper nutrition and health issues remain unattended. Living without parents often exposes them to various kind of exploitation and they are vulnerable to physical and sexual abuse. These young girls subsequently end up joining their parents in the unorganized sector and the vicious cycle is repeated. Several houses in these areas are replete with stories of early marriages, death due to early child birth, sexual violence and young mothers deserted by their husbands. Such circumstances cause a gross violation of their right to education, right to health, right to be protected from exploitation, right to opinion, right to be protected from violence and right to family life.

2. **Project Goals & Objectives:** The overall project goal is to inspire and empower 200 disadvantaged Girls of marginal communities in coastal villages to transform their lives through education, skill training and empowerment.

The key objectives are

- **Objective 1:** To form and strengthening Girls Clubs from marginal and vulnerable communities on rights and entitlements to raise their voices
- **Objective 2:** To generate positive impact among the girls through education and life skills training for empowerment
- **Objective 3:** To create change agents/ role models among the girls to inspire the communities toward sustainable development

3. Activities during the period cover by this period:

To achieve the above-mentioned objectives, DJMV implementing the project from 1st March 2022 onwards.

Table 1: Progress Activity Matrix

Sl. No.	Activities Undertaken	Unit of Measurement	Annual Target	Achievement
1	Activity 1: Community Mobilization (Baseline survey)	No of Study	1	1
2	Activity 2: Promotion of Girls Clubs	No of Clubs	4	2
3	Activity 3: Digital Literacy for Girls	Number of DLC	1	0
4	Activity 4: Girls Child Education Centre	Nos of Centre	3	2
5	Activity 5: Skills for Girls (Tailoring)	No of Centre	1	1
6	Activity 6: Trainings on Life Skills Education	No of Girls	50	23
7	Activity 7: Awareness on Fundamental rights and Indian Constitution	No of Girls	50	0
8	Activity 8: Training on Gender, Sexual Reproductive Health and Menstrual Hygiene for Adolescents	No of Girls	80	18
9	Activity 9: Celebration of International Girls Day and Women's Day	No of Girls	2	0
10	Activity 10: Staff Review Meetings	No of Meetings	11	

4. Narrative Report:

Activity 1: Community Mobilization: Team DJMV conducted community assessment, base line study in 5 coastal fishing villages including Markandi, Garempeta, New Golabanda, Boxipalli and Deegipur to understanding the demographic, socio-economic condition especially girls education status. We have discussed various stakeholders including Aanganiowadi workers, village committees and Women Self Groups. We conducted survey for girls' education and compiled data. This process helped to start girls' education centre in Golabanda, Deegipur and skills training centre at Garempeta.





Activity 2: Promotion of Girls Clubs: Community Based Organisations plays a very role in community development. To strengthening the girls voice at village level, Team DJMV mobilised girls from 10 to 20 numbers to form a Girls club. The primary objective of the girl’s club is coming together and discussion various issues related to their rights, education, health and nutritional for girls well being in the village and formed 2 girls clubs in MarkandiGolabanda.



Activity 4: Girls Child Education: Education for Girls is one of critical issued in coastal fishing communities where communities giving more importance for boys as compare to girls. To enhance girls’ education, DJMV with the support of NF, we have established Girls Education Centre in two coastal villages by engage young girls and women as a community teacher. They are providing education to these poor and marginal girls in morning and evening time after the school time. Currently 52 Girls are benefitting from these two girls’ education centres. Along with education, we are also conducting drawing, singing and dancing activities to create motivation and interest on education.

Voice from Community: “The education centres helped to our girls to increase interest on education and complete home work timely. Now they are going regularly to schools without absent” S. Radha, Class 2nd Class Golabanda

Activity 5: Skills for Girls: DJMV established skills training on Tailoring at Garempeta village to provide skills and promote self-employment among dropout girls and young women. Within this three-month period of time, we have trained 25 number of girls on tailoring. We appointed local skill trainer Mary to train these girls. Now they are able to stick various garments related to



women and girls.

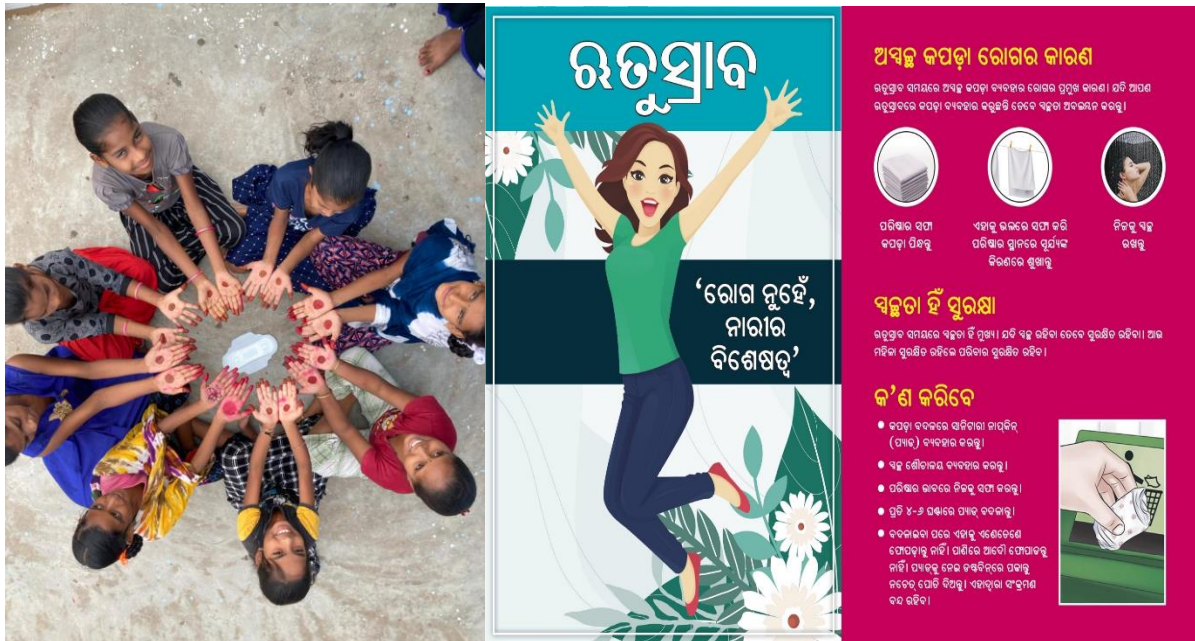
Community Testimony: I learned to operate tailoring machine independently. Now I am able to stitch blouse, frock and repair old cloths. Thanks to DJMV and NFI for this initiative. After learning completely, I will start my own enterprise and teach other girls” said S. Gamma from Garempeta village.

Activity 6: Trainings on Life Skills Education: DJMV organised life skills education for the adolescent girls to improve their understanding on various life skills including self awareness, creative thinking, problem solving, diction making etc. 23 girls trained on life skills education by team DJMV. DJMV trained on life skills education by Patang team.



Activity 7: Awareness on Fundamental rights and Indian Constitution : We have designed poster on Fundamental rights of Indian Constitution with the aim to create awareness among adolescent girls to know their fundamental rights.

Activity 8: Training on Gender, Sexual Reproductive Health and Menstrual Hygiene : DJMV created awareness on menstrual hygiene among the adolescent girls to use sanitary napkins and take necessary steps to ensure menstrual hygiene during periods.



We also participated global menstrual hygiene week and created awareness on menstrual hygiene in Marandi village.

Activity 10: Staff Review Meetings: DJMV conducted 5 monthly review meetings to review project targets, achievements and understanding the community needs and project results

Activity 11: DJMV celebrated impendence day at Markandi, Golabanda and Deepur with our girls children, adolescent girls and our Women SHG leaders.



Celebration of Rakh Bandhan: DJMV celebrated Rakh bandhan in our Golbanda Girls Child Education Centre, where our girls children participated.



Project : MAST (Market Aligned Skill Training)

Supported by

SAC Netherlands



1. Background and need of the Project: Poverty, unemployment, and a lack of skills among adolescent girls, young women, and unemployed youth constitute some of the major key issues in our operational areas. The absence of adequate skill training and employment opportunities for deprived youth has exacerbated in the rural areas of Odisha. Unskilled labour practices and the rate of migration have, in turn, heightened vulnerability and social insecurity among the youth. Ganjam district in Odisha state has been acknowledged as a hub for the availability of inexpensive human resources engaged in marginalized, unskilled, and labour-intensive activities. This traditional perspective and inflexible mindset have led to an increase in cases of exploitation and forced unfair labour practices. Youth aged between 18 and 25 are highly vulnerable and equally restless. It is crucial to work towards enhancing their life skills and providing livelihood opportunities. One of the most significant challenges that rural youth face, even with the country's notable progress, is employment generation. While seeking jobs is already a challenge for rural youth in Ganjam, it is notably more difficult for youth from marginalized sections.

Many girls and boys from economically weaker sections of society manage to study up to the higher secondary level. However, despite their academic proficiency and a strong desire to continue their education, they are often constrained by their family's economic conditions. Faced with economic necessities, many individuals end up taking on menial, unprofessional, and non-progressive jobs on a daily wage basis. Unfortunately, this has a detrimental effect on their moral and mental well-being. Furthermore, education loses its importance and value in the perception of these young boys and girls, who represent the future of the nation.

2. Project Goal and Objectives: The overall project goal is to cultivate self-reliance among vulnerable communities to improve their quality of life through skills training

- Objective 1: To build the skill sets of unemployed youth and dropout girls through skills training
- Objective 2: To provide employment opportunities for vulnerable groups for livelihood security

3. Project Implementing Process: The project follow the process during implementation mentioned below;



4. Project Achievements: DJMV achieved the following targets during the project period as mentioned below;

Sl. No.	Activities Undertaken	Unit	Target	Achievement
1	Activity1: Community Mobilization, Trainees Selection & Training Need Assessment:	No of beneficiary	290	325
2	Activity2: Training on tailoring	No of girls and young women	100	103
3	Activity3: Computer skill training on rural youth	No of youth	100	65
4	Activity4: Training on phenyl making	No of women	50	30
5	Activity5: Training on Beautician	No of the young girl	30	32
6	Activity6: Training on Bike Repairing	No of youth	10	10
7	Activity 7: Certification, Follow up & Linkages with another stakeholder	No of training	3	1

Progress details

Activity 1: Community Mobilization: The project staff from DJMV conducted a baseline survey for 325 individuals to select beneficiaries in 15 villages. We collected application forms and identified beneficiaries based on their interests.



DJMV team conducting training at community level to identify project beneficiaries.

Activity2: Training on tailoring: Tailoring is a highly valuable skill for dropout girls and young women, enabling them to pursue self-employment. DJMV has established a tailoring centre, offering training to 103 dropout girls and young women. Seventy-three have successfully completed their training in two locations, while 30 girls are currently in the learning process.

It is important to recognize that Fishing community women can be a vehicle for empowerment and promoting gender equality. Women can be financially empowered.



Photo: Dropout girls learning skills training on tailoring at skill training centre

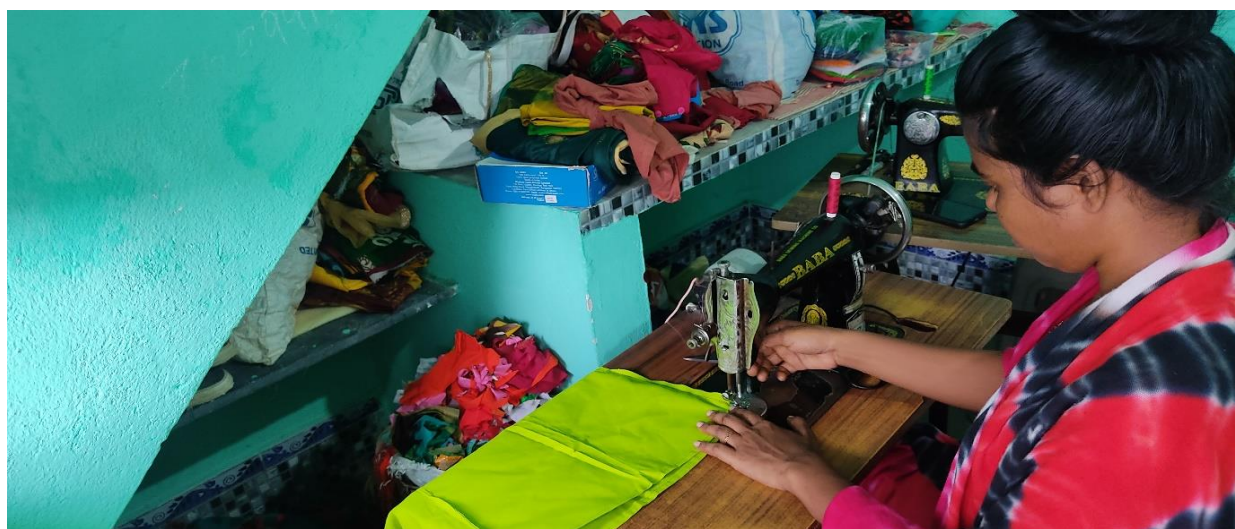
Cultivating Self-Reliance: The Story of Mrs. U. Kumar



Mrs. Kumar belongs to a humble fishing family residing in Golabanda village, along with her three family members. Despite facing financial challenges, she embarked on a transformative journey with the support of DJMV's skills training program. After four months of dedicated training, Mrs. Kumar courageously launched her own enterprise. Today, she proudly earns Rs. 6000 per month, a testament to her determination and newly acquired skills.

Reflecting on her journey, Mrs. U. Kumar expressed, "The skills training significantly boosted my confidence, enabling me to establish my own enterprise. Now, I can utilize my income to support my children's education, opening up brighter possibilities for their future."

M. Mary: A Story of Change - A Role Model for Others



M. Mary is a young woman living in Markandi village. Her family depends on fishing for their livelihood. The income from one person is not sufficient for the daily needs of the 5-member family. After receiving skill training, she initiated her own stitching enterprise. She now earns a monthly income of Rs. 10,000. Mary is also actively involved in providing training to other economically disadvantaged young girls, helping them acquire skills for independence.

Activity 3: Computer Skill Training on Rural Youth: Basic computer skills are increasingly essential in various job sectors. By acquiring these skills, rural youth can expand their job prospects beyond traditional agricultural or manual labor roles, potentially leading to better-paying jobs and career advancement. To empower rural youth in the field of technology, DJMV has established computer education centers in Golbanda and Markandi to develop the knowledge and skills of rural youth. As of today, 65 youths have been trained in computer education through a 6-month course covering PowerPoint, Graphic Design, Word, and Excel. The classes are conducted by our computer teacher, B. Nagama. Currently, 35 youths are enrolled in the computer education program

Improved Student Voice: "I am B. Ramesh, an 18-year-old currently enrolled in a one-year diploma program. I chose to attend computer classes at this center due to its proximity to my house, allowing me to dedicate more time to learning. The curriculum includes instruction on PowerPoint and web design, which I believe will be beneficial for my diploma course."

Success story of Sandhya: Sandhya lives in Markandi village. She belongs to the fishing community, where there is traditionally less emphasis on girls' education. Despite this, she has overcome societal norms and achieved success. Sandhya completed a computer course and is currently employed as a data entry operator at "Grama Seva Kendra." She now receives a monthly salary of 6000.

Reflecting on her journey, Sandhya states, "Learning computer skills is a fundamental right for every girl. It opens up numerous possibilities for the development of girls and women." Her story is a testament to the transformative power of education and determination.

Activity 4: Training on Phenyl Making: Learning to produce phenyl can empower rural women to establish their own small businesses. This skill enables them to generate income, fostering



business opportunity. In rural areas where women often rely solely on forest produce, the phenyl making training opens up a new avenue for earning a substantial income to support their families. Now, women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs) have taken the initiative to produce phenyl and sell it in the local market, contributing significantly to their livelihoods.

Women voice: “35 years Surekha Mallik said that I am a member of Chaitnya SHG group in this training I have learned phenyl making process, I am very happy I can also make this and good income by making it at home”

Activity 5: Beautician Training: Beautician training equips rural women with valuable skills that can provide them with financial independence and self-confidence. Learning a trade can empower them to take control of their own lives and contribute to the family income. Beautician training offers a significant opportunity for rural girls to acquire skills that can help them build successful careers and achieve economic independence. The DJMV organized a 4-month training program for young girls in Golabanda and Gopalpur villages. The courses provided included training on skincare, makeup application, hair styling, and facials. Offering beauty training opportunities to rural women and girls can serve as a means of promoting their economic empowerment and social mobility.

"Nineteen-year-old Divya expresses, 'This beautician training will be very helpful for me because it can lead to a small business, and there is no need to invest much. Through this training, I learned about facials, makeup, and haircuts.



Building skills sets- Empowering Girls : Sailaxmi's journey from a Fisher community in the coastal village of Baxipali, Odisha, to a successful entrepreneur is truly inspiring. Born into a generation-old fishing community where opportunities were limited, Sailaxmi faced the challenges of providing for her family when her husband had to leave for another state for fishing, leaving her alone with their two sons.

Despite the hardships, Sailaxmi held onto her dreams. When circumstances led to her separation, she found herself without financial resources. Determined to overcome these obstacles, she enrolled in a beautician training program offered by Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash in her village. Over the course of six months, she dedicated herself to learning the skills of the trade.

Now employed at a beauty parlor, Sailaxmi generates a monthly income of 10 thousand rupees. This newfound financial independence not only allows her to support her family but also enables her to invest in her children's education. Her story takes a remarkable turn as she not only transformed her own life but also became a beacon of hope for others in similar situations.

Grateful for the opportunities provided by the DJMV organization, Sailaxmi acknowledges the impact it had on her life. She expresses her gratitude, stating, "After marriage, the financial situation was not good. Now, with a job in a beauty salon, I can support my family." Sailaxmi's journey exemplifies resilience, determination, and the transformative power of skill development programs, turning challenges into opportunities for herself and the community.

Activity 6: Training on Bike Repairing: "Bike repair skills can create job opportunities within local communities, particularly in rural areas where formal job prospects may be limited. By acquiring bike repair knowledge, young individuals can establish their repair shops or join existing ones, offering a reliable source of income. This training empowers rural youth to become entrepreneurs, enabling them to not only sustain their own livelihoods but also provide employment opportunities for others in the community. Offering bike repair training to rural youth is a valuable initiative, providing them with skills that lead to employment and self-reliance.



DJMV has successfully trained 10 rural youth in bike repair. This program serves as an excellent means to equip rural youth with skills for employment and self-sufficiency. As one participant, Jagan Sahoo, shared, 'I took professional bike repair training and learned the use of all bike parts from our trainer. I am delighted because, after this training, I secured a job in a bike showroom. This has not only made me economically strong but also allowed me to support my family.'"

Activity 7: Certification and follow: To increase the interest and skills of the children, DJMV has provided certificates to the participants after completion of





Project Name: Women Empowerment

Supported by Netherlands Embassy



Project Context: Livelihood for tribal and vulnerable communities especially for women is one of the key problems in our operational area of Ganjam district, Odisha where majority of the people are engaged in agriculture, fishing, daily labor and petty businesses for their daily livelihood. Lack of sufficient fertile land, modern equipment and environmental factors result in low productivity. Following this more and more people are choosing alternative livelihood option and migrating to different metro cities as bonded labour and child labour in factories and unorganised sectors.



To address the above issues, Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash (DJMV) signed an agreement with the Kingdom of the Netherlands Embassy, New Delhi and implemented the project titled “ women empowerment”.

The project goal is to contribute for social and economic empowerment of vulnerable women from tribal and disadvantaged communities through collective action.

The project Objectives were as follows;

- To strengthening women self-help groups on women leadership, rights and financial literacy
- To enhance skills building of marginal women for self-employment

- To promote enterprise development among vulnerable women for economic empowerment



- women rights, celebration of international women’s day, skills training for women on tailoring mushroom cultivation, food processing and sustainable farming, enterprise development for marginal women through petty business, poultry business, goatery business and mushroom business.

The key project achievements as follows;

- 26 Number of women Self Help Groups strengths and access to government schemes from Odisha livelihoods mission, agriculture department and forest department
- 52 Number of Women Leaders created from 26 women SHGs and trained their skills set to raise women voice in decision making process and empowered women to participate in



decision making process in palli sabha and gram sabha for village development process

- 300 women from 28 self-help groups are conducting regular meetings, internal saving and access financial inclusion services from the local banks to support their household production activities
- 308 women from 10 villages trained on women rights including property, land and fundamental rights which was explained by the experts
- 52 poor women trained in Skills training on tailoring from rural areas and now have started their tailoring enterprise



- 50 number of women trained on mushroom cultivation and supported to start their mushroom cultivation for economic development

- 22 number of women trained on food processing and started micro enterprise for self reliance
- 123 women trained on sustainable farming including promotion of nutri gardens, preparation of biofertilizers, production of paddy and millets through sustainable agricultural practices
- 10 petty businesses started including grocery shops, 30 number of started goatery businesses and 30 women started mushroom cultivation to increase household income as well as cultivation of self-reliance among these poor and tribal women.





The project created impact at individual level, household level and community level. The project contributed to improve the socio-economic status of women including the livelihood status of marginal families fetching them better income, skill building and enterprise development. Now the women actively participate in the decision making process at household level as well raising their voice at community level and connecting with Gram Panchayat. The training on sustainable farming helped farmers to use organic bio fertilizers without depending upon chemical fertilizers. The new skills on the system of rice intensification, millet intensification helped in increasing their agricultural produce. The women promote kitchen gardens without depending on the market for vegetables and saving 20 to 30 per day and using the savings for purchase of their own sarees and contributing to girls ' education. The seed capital supports helped women to start micro enterprises like grocery stores, mushroom cultivation, processing units for their



economic development. The goats rearing and poultry helped to start alternative livelihoods for poor single and widow women in the operational areas.

The project overly contributed for social and economic empowerment of women to improve their quality of life. The project should continue for more years and replicate the models in other villages for overall empowerment of women from remote rural areas.

Project Impact Analysis

The project benefited directly to 308 marginal and poor women from 10 villages in remote rural areas of Ganjam district, Odisha. Indirectly the project supported to their families including approximately 1800 population with the support of Netherlands program. In this project, DJMV promoted and strengthened women SHGs in all the operational areas by engaging local leaders, local NGOs and Government departments. The project improved the socio-economic status including the livelihood status of marginal families fetching them better income, skill building and enterprise development. We have created micro enterprise development for ultra poor by creating alternative livelihoods. The trainings helped to generate awareness on women rights as well as access government schemes. The trainings on sustainable farming helped women to prepare bio-fertilizers by using local available resources and produced safe and nutrition food. Now the farmers applied in field the sustainable agricultural practices in terms of SRI and SMI. It



helped increase production and decreased cost of production. The enterprise development for ultra poor women contributed to earn 3000 to 3500 per month.

Project Namee: Grow Your Own Food

Supported by Global Green Grants Fund, USA



Project Context:

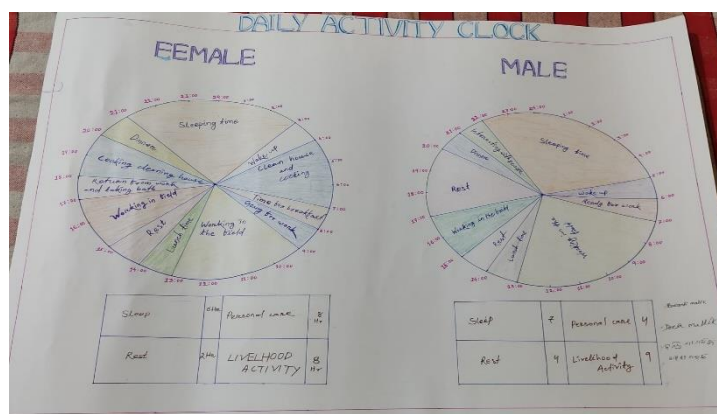
Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash (DJMV) is grassroot women led organization implemented the project “**Grow Your Own Food**” with the support of Global Greengrants Fund, USA from May 2022 to May 2023.

Women, who heavily compromise the food intake are the worst sufferers. Traditionally the male member of the house is served the major portion of the cooked food. The female members including pregnant and lactating mothers are the last ones to have whatever is left over. Of late it has been only watered rice with salt and pickle for most households. While malnutrition has remained prevalent in tribal pockets, the situation has worsened due to the ongoing pandemic.



Food insecurity is prevalent among tribal groups and there is a high prevalence of stunting among tribal children in Odisha.

DJMV implemented the project by engaging women as a community partner in tribal pockets of Kukadakhandi block of Ganjam district. DJMV conducted need assessment by using PRA tools like resource map and seasonal calendar to grow your own project



The overall objective of the project was to promote **“Grow your own food”** concept among 400 tribal households in 15 tribal villages through organic kitchen garden and ensured nutritional security at household level.

The key objectives were as follows:

- To promote organic kitchen garden among poor women farmers in tribal household to ensure nutrition security.
- To build capacity of tribal women on organic farming by use of natural resources.
- To reduce malnutrition and introduce dietary diversity in everyday food consumption

During this one-year project period, the following activities undertaken by DJMV to achieve the objectives by engaging women self help groups at village level



Key Achievements

- DJMV conducted house hold survey and selected 400 women famers in 15 villages by using PRA tools
- Conducted community meetings and created awareness on “Grow Your Own Food” by promoting nutrition gardens and using organic bio-fertilizers in their farm field
- Organised community level trainings for 26 women self-help groups in 15 villages on women nutrition management at household level
- Conducted community level training cum field Demonstration on Grow Your Own Food (Organic Kitchen Garden) in 15 villages
- Village level trainings on organic manure preparation cum demonstration organised at village level to prepare handikota, jeebamruto etc by using local available resources
- Information Education Communication Materials on Grow Your Own Food (Organic Kitchen Garden) developed and distributed among the women farmers.
- DJMV distributed 8 types of kitchen garden seeds Kit to 400 beneficiaries in 15 villages to grow kitchen garden and ensure family nutritional security.
- 1 Exposure visit conducted for the women farmers from 15 operational tribal villages.
- DJMV supported to 400 beneficiaries for preparation of Organic Manure (Handi khata) at household level
- 15 Community Seed Bank to be promoted at village level to conserve the indigenous seed
- 5 Cluster Level Training organized on Organic Kitchen Garden for Nutrition Didi



- 400 tribal women engaged in promotion of organic kitchen garden in their backwards to ensure household level food security.



The project created significant impact on the agriculture and natural resources are linked to nutrition. It will ensure that each family grows eight to twelve kinds of vegetables in a scientific way to meet their dietary requirements. The farmers benefited a lot to provide fresh food to their families withholding depending upon the market. The women empowered by continuous trainings, exposure visits, seeds, vermpi compost and handhold support.



Project Operational Area:

DJMV implemented the project titled “**Grow your Own Food**” in 15 tribal villages in Kukadakhandi block of Ganjam district of Odisha. We have selected 406 households as a direct beneficiary from Khonds, Soura and other socially excluded communities by involving women self-help groups as a direct beneficiary. The project indirectly benefitted 406 households including their family more than 2500 population in 15 tribal villages in these tribal dominated villages

Story of Change:

Krushna Mallick : In a remote tribal village amidst the green forest lives a 36-year-old woman named



Krushna Mallick, There are only 4 people in her family, her eldest daughter is married and now she lives with her son and husband in khandalbandha village in kukudakhandi block of Ganjam district. She belongs to a tribal community, which has been dependent on forest products for a long time. However, driven by a desire for self-reliance and a vision of a better future, they decided to explore the possibility of growing their own vegetables.

At that time, a women's organization Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash started working towards the development of women. They knew it would not be an easy task, as they had limited resources and working with tribal village women for the first time was very challenging. However, they were determined to learn and adapt their traditional knowledge to grow nutritious vegetables. As Krishna first wanted to start a kitchen garden in that village, DJMV's community organizer helped him prepare the land for his cultivation, and gave field demonstration training on how to grow all kinds of vegetables in a small space. Krishna was supported by seeds in a joint venture between DJMV and GGF. But he was applying fertilizers so he was trained on organic manure by the organization. In time, their hard work paid off both literally and figuratively. The once barren land turned into a rich vegetable garden. These tribal women carefully nurtured greens, luscious tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, beans and a variety of other vegetables. Their dedication and love for the land paid off. The success of her vegetable farming venture empowered women both financially and socially. Taught other



women in the village about sustainable farming methods and encouraged them to start their own vegetable gardens. This agriculture has not only improved the nutrition and livelihoods of tribal women and their families, but has also instilled a sense of pride and self-reliance within the community. The story of indigenous women vegetable farming has become a shining example of the potential of sustainable agriculture and women's empowerment.

Community Voice:

“Krushna mallik said that I was only helping my husband in farming and the rest of the time I was living at home and had to depend on him to support the family. Now I am able to grow and sell some vegetables in my home garden and fresh vegetables can be consumed daily and I am very happy because of this I can save some of the income”

Project Impact Analysis:

The project created most significant changes in the field as follows

The “Grow Your Food” is rich source of nutrition for tribal women and played active role in tackling the malnutrition. The project contributed to enhance nutritional diversity among the tribal households by engaged women in nutria gardens as a source of income and food for the poor in the remote rural areas.



Now the poor households started to grow their own vegetables in the backyard and waste lands, it helps to decreased hunger at households during this period.

- Soil nutrition increased by applying bio fertilizer. It helped the farmers to initiated mixed and multiple farming.
- The project directly contributed to reduce the cost of production by consumption of nutritious food on daily basis
- The women saved money from 1000 to 1500 per month by the profits from sale of vegetables’ and invested to purchased their own saree without depends upon husbands.
- The women spent less time in climate resilient vegetables to ensure safe food to the family by using organic waste management as well as recycle the waste water.



- Demand of organic vegetable increased, most of the villagers and retailers came directly to the field, buying the vegetables, because they know the vegetables' cultivated in organic way.
- Habit of eating vegetables increased among the tribal households; they are depending upon on small farmers. It drastically decreased the market dependence by



- producing their own vegetables in their own food without using any chemical fertilizers
- Seed conservation of desi seeds improved among the farmers through community seed banks
- Women participation in nutritional security at household increased and households level expense food @ 1500 to 2000 decreased. Now they are selling the surplus vegetables in the local market using for their household expenses as well children's
- Now the pregnant women taking nutria and safe food and increased their dietary diversity by using degradable land for production of food and fodder.

The project contributed to increase the local biodiversity epically for improves sources of food

for both animals and human in the local area as well as created source for uncultivated foods, allowed growth of small insects, local fishes and wild fruits. The farmers started to





prepare organic manure by using all locally available resources and home trash, grey water and other animal wastes in their backward and other spaces around the living space, it was helped to clean environment and lesser disease's

The funding from GGF helped to strengthening the staff skills sets on nutria gardens and organizational expertise on nutria gardens improved. The above project also helped to access funding from other sources like Netherlands Embassy and SAC Netherlands for women empowerment projects. Now the DJMV is fully confident that nutria Garden Project and Organic farming project can implement and replicate in places of Ganjam district.

The project funding helped to increase community involvement and awareness on grow your own food. DJMV strengthened 26 women self-help groups in 15 villages and trained all 26 women self help groups on the grow your own concept, benefits of nutria gardens, preparation of bio-fertilizers, procedures of nutria gardens, community seed banks. We also promoted community seed banks in 15 villages for conservation of indigenous seeds through community seed bank.

Now the women SHG and community accepted and practicing at community is the proof of evidence.

The project contributed to increase



involvement of women through women self help groups. DJMV selected two leaders from 26 women SHGs and developed their skills set on know your kitchen garden and bio-fertilizers



preparation. Now they are acting as a community cadre to provide training on nutria gardens to fellow women in the project area.

“Jayanthi Mallik said that a seed bank was promoted by DJMV in our village. By seed banking, seeds can be stored for a long period of time and if someone in the village needs seeds, they can take separate seeds from the seed bank by passing their own seeds”

During the project period, DJMV enhanced the knowledge and awareness of women members from tribal and social excluded communities to enhance their decision making in groups as well as household level. Team DJMV organised community-based awareness meetings on promotion of nutrition gardens with an aim to create awareness and enhance understanding on “Grow Your Own Food”. This helped community members to start nutrition gardens in their backyards and applying organic manures and organic bio-fertilizers in their farm field including handikota, bramstra and nimstra.

Community speaks

- Mrs. Sumitra Mallik from Sorakota village said that “I liked this exposer visit very much because of this I was able to learn deeply about farming and also learned that farming can be done organically.I also learned that many local techniques have been introduced to protect the crops from pests in the fields. *Now I am not using any chemicals in my kitchen garden”*

- 42 years Tamala Dalei said that “I am very happy that I have learned organic farming. I used to apply chemical fertilizers but now I have learned to handi khata. It is very easy and cheap. By applying it, the trees and the soil will not be harmed and the crops will be harvested well”
- Sumitra Mallik said that” I was very happy to attend nutrition didi training I learned that by farming organically, we can get fresh vegetables that we can keep some for home and some to sell at the vegetables market”.

We have also organised village level trainings among women self-help groups on seeds selection, types of nutrition gardens, benefits of nutria gardens. DJMV organised community level training cum field Demonstration on Grow Your Own Food (Organic Kitchen Garden) in 15 villages

Village level trainings on organic manure preparation cum demonstration organised at village level to prepare handikota, jeebamruto etc by using local available resources.



In this project, DJMV developed and printed Information Education Communication Materials on Grow Your Own Food (Organic Kitchen Garden) developed and distributed among the women farmers to generate awareness among the women farmers to know the importance of nutri gardens. After proper assessment and need of the community, the project procured and distributed DJMV distributed 8 types of kitchen garden seeds Kit to 400 beneficiaries in



15 villages to grow kitchen garden and ensure family nutritional security. DJMV organized exposure visit to MS Swaminathan Foundation Agriculture resource centre, Chikrada conducted for the women farmers from the project areas.

In this project, DJMV procured and supported to 400 beneficiaries for preparation of Organic Manure (Handi khata) at household level to produce their own organic manures by using the kitchen waste and other unused materials. Now a days desi seeds not available at village level. To conserve the desi and indigenous seeds, DJMV promoted 15 Community Seed Bank to be promoted at village level and reuse among the members in the village without dependency external market. DJMV organized Cluster Level Trainings at central places with the support of external resource persons focus on Organic Kitchen Garden for Nutrition Didi. Now the nutrition didi providing supporting other farmers to grow your own food in their backwards. In this project, 400 tribal women actively engaged at village level in promotion of organic kitchen garden in their backwards to ensure household level food security. The project contributed for social and economic empowerment of women to ensure food and nutritional security at household level.

Community Voice:

- “Chayitanya self-help group's secretary Surekha Mallik said that” we have also formed SHG group but it was not working well every month money could not be deposited in the bank so that we could link with the bank. After DJMV organization intervention, now our SHGs conducts meeting regularly and now our SHG members actively working for
- “38 years Jayanti mallik said that training on types of kitchen garden was given by DJMV is very beneficial for farmers because all types of vegetables can be cultivated in less space. I also got to know about round kitchen garden and square kitchen garden. In this method I have cultivated in my garden and eating fresh food without chemical poison”.

- “Geeta Mallik says that “I got training on organic manure from DJMV. it is very useful for me in vegetable farming, if we use it in vegetable farming, we can get fresh vegetables, it can also increase the fertility of the soil. Now I can save 900 to 1000 per month.



During this project, we have learned three important key lessons from the project.

- IEC materials developed on grow your own food
- Women self-help groups trained on nutri gardens as a kitchen garden didi
- Bio fertilizers prepared at village level by using natural resources
- Community seed banks created at village level for preservation of desi deeds



“Laxmi Malli of Betajhuri village in Kankia Gram Panchayat said that since our village is far from the town, it is very difficult to buy seeds. I got seeds support from DJMV, Now I can grow my own vegetables in my own kitchen garden in my backyard and now I am adding fresh vegetables daily meals to my family without depends outsiders and towns. We have seed banks; I can borrow any time the seeds from my community seed banks created by our women SHGs. “

Story of Change: Kitchen Gardens helps to buy my saree

In a small rural village, there lived a woman named Draupadi Mallik aged 37 years. Her family lives with her husband, son and daughter in lundriguda village of kankia panchayat, which is 7 km from the city. In this village, everyone depends on their own farming. Draupadi also helps her husband in the farm work. She goes to labour when she has time and earns a daily wage of 270 rupees. It was very difficult for him. He planned to grow some vegetables in his land and sell them in the market so that he could earn a good income. These women understood the importance of healthy nutrition and self-reliance, and to meet this need, she decided to embark on a journey of kitchen gardening on sticks in her backyard.

Due to her limited resources, she hesitated to do it but she was very enthusiastic about it, at that time



୧୦ ଦେସିମିଲ ଜମିରେ ପାକଶାଳା ବଗିଚା :

ଋତୁ ଅନୁସାରେ ପାକଶାଳା ବଗିଚାରେ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ପ୍ରକାରର ପନିପରିବା ଚାଷ କରାଯାଏ । ତାହାର ଏକ ନମୁନା ନିମ୍ନରେ ପ୍ରଦାନ କରାଯାଇଛି ।

କ୍ରମ ନଂ	ଦେଶଜ ନାମ	ଶାଳା ନାମ	ପ୍ରାଥମିକ ନାମ
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୨	ପୁରୀ	ପୁରୀ	ପୁରୀ
୩	କୋଳି	କୋଳି	କୋଳି
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GLOBAL GREENGRANTS FUND

CONTACT US

At/Po- Markandi, Via- Berhampur
Dist: Ganjam, PIN- 760003
Email: djmv.ngo@gmail.com
www.djmv.org

ପାକଶାଳା ବଗିଚା

Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash

the staff of DJMV organization went to that village to support the seeds, seeing Draupadira's interest in farming, he gave her seeds and told her to do organic



farming one more time. She believed that through a kitchen garden, he could grow fresh, organic produce and improve his farming skills. Draupadi received training from DJMV organization on model kitchen garden and good crop production using organic manure. She faced obstacles like crop pests and diseases, but he quickly found natural and eco-friendly solutions to protect his crops. Thanks to her hard work, the kitchen garden was improved and in time the garden began to produce bountiful harvests. Women proudly harvested live tomatoes, raw cucumber, green chili, brinjal. With these fresh ingredients, she was able to prepare nutritious meals for herself and her family. Now I can save 1000 to 1200 per month and using the expenditure my purchase of my sarees and children's tuition fees. She created a sustainable model for food production, improved nutrition and empowerment, inspiring other rural women to start their own kitchen gardens. Kitchen gardens became a testament to the transformative power of women's collective action and the resilience of rural communities.

“I am very happy that I got the motivation to do farming because it was very difficult for me to labour work all the time, I have a kitchen garden from which I am getting fresh vegetables through this kitchen garden my income is also being made and this vegetables is also being used in daily cooking”

**Amar Kanta & Associates**

Chartered Accountant

| 09437523377

| santosh.sabat8@gmail.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**Report on the Financial Statements.**

We have audited the attached financial statements of **Divyajyoti Mahila Vikash** having PAN: **AAAAD5702F** as at 31st March, 2023, Income and Expenditure Account for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements:

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position and financial performance of the Institute. This responsibility includes the design implementation and maintenance of the internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standard on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment including the assessment to the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Institution's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

OU-607, 6th Floor, Esplanade One Mall, 721-Rasulgarh, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751010

Opinion.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the financial statements give the information required by the Act, in the manner so required and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India.

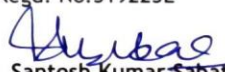
- i. In the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Society as at 31st March, 2023;
- ii. In the case of the Statement of Income and Expenditure Account, of the excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ended on that date.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

1. As required by the Act, we report that:
 - a. We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of audit.
 - b. In our opinion proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Society so far as appears from our examination of those books.
 - c. The Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account dealt with by this Report are in agreement with the books of account.
 - d. In our opinion, the Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure Account comply with the Accounting Standards.

Bhubaneswar
Date: 30.08.2023

For Amar Kanta & Associates
Chartered Accountants
F. Regd. No. 319225E


CA. Santosh Kumar Sabat
Partner
M. No: 068300
UDIN: 23068300BGQXLZ5820



Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash

At/Po:Markandi, Tulu, Golanthra, BerhampurDist: Ganjam, Odisha, Pin No 760008

Complied of Audit Report (Foreign Contribution and Local)

BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 2023

LIABILITIES	Sch	AMOUNT (Rs.)	ASSETS	Sch	AMOUNT
Capital Fund:			Fixed Assets:		
Opening Balance:		274,263.62	(As per Schedule-1)	6	181,478.00
Add : Surplus		159,563.79			
		433,827.41			
Unutilised Grant-FC	1	2,918,200.00			
Unutilised Grant-Local	2	515,502.00			
Current Liability:			Current Assets:		
Audit fees Payable		18,600.00	Cash at Bank	3	3,703,876.41
			Cash in Hand		775.00
		3,886,129.41			3,886,129.41

For Amar Kanta & Associates
(Chartered Accountants)

F.Registration No. 319225E

SANTOSH KUMAR SABAT
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Date: 2023.08.31 16:41:21 +05'30'

CA S.K.Sabat (FCA)
Partner
Membership No. 068300

Place : Bhubaneswar
Date : 30.08.2023
UDIN: 23068300BGQXLZ5820



For Divya Joty Mahila Vikash

S. GAYATRI
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S. Gayatri
Secretary

Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash

At/Po:Markandi, Tulu, Golanthra, BerhampurDist: Ganjam, Odisha, Pin No 760008

Complied of Audit Report (Foreign Contribution and Local)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the period from 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2023

EXPENDITURE	Sch	AMOUNT (Rs.)	INCOME	Sch	AMOUNT (Rs.)
Programme Expense			<u>Grant Income (FC)</u>		
Fc Project Expenditure	1	711,628.00	Opening Balance		747,270
Local Projects Expenditure	2	689,707.00	Grant received during the year		<u>2,892,558</u>
					3,639,828
			Less: Unspent Grant		<u>2,918,200</u>
					721,628.00
Printing and Stationaries		190.00			
Bank Charges	5	3,450.66	<u>Grant Income (Local)</u>		
			Opening Balance		-
			Grant received during the year		<u>1,349,450</u>
					1,349,450
			Less: Unspent Grant		<u>515,502</u>
					833,948.00
Depreciation	6	65,047.00	Bank Interest	4	64,014.00
			Donation		9,996.45
Excess of Income over income		159,563.79			
		1,629,586.45			1,629,586.45

For Amar Kanta & Associates

(Chartered Accountants)

F.Registration No. 319225E

SANTOSH
KUMAR SABAT

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SANTOSH KUMAR SABAT
Date: 2023.08.31 16:41:01
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CA S.K.Sabat (FCA)

Partner

Membership No. 068300

Place : Bhubaneswar

Date : 30.08.2023



For Divya Joty Mahila Vikash

S. GAYATRI

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S. Gayatri
Secretary

Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash

At/Po:Markandi, Tulu, Golanthra, BerhampurDist: Ganjam, Odisha, Pin No 760008

Complied of Audit Report (Foreign Contribution and Local)

RECEIPT AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT

For the period from 01.04.2022 to 31.03.2023

RECEIPTS	Sch	AMOUNT (Rs.)	PAYMENTS	Sch	AMOUNT (Rs.)
Opening Balance			Programme Expense		
Cash at Bank	3	946,884.62	Fc Project Expenditure	1	721,628.00
Cash in Hand		965.00	Local Projects Expenditure	2	833,948.00
FC-Grant Received	1	2,892,558.00			
Local-Grant Received	2	1,349,450.00			
Donations		9,996.45	Bank Charges FC	5	3,450.66
			Printing and Stationaress		190.00
Bank Interest	4	64,014.00	Closing Balance:		
			Cash at Bank	3	3,703,876.41
			Cash in Hand		775.00
		5,263,868.07			5,263,868.07

As per our report of the even date attached

For Amar Kanta & Associates

(Chartered Accountants)

F.Registration No. 319225E

SANTOSH KUMAR SABAT
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Date: 2023.08.31 16:40:42 +05'30'

CA S.K.Sabat (FCA)

Partner

Membership No. 068300

Place : Bhubaneswar

Date : 30.08.2023



For Divya Joty Mahila Vikash

S. GAYATRI
Digitally signed by S. GAYATRI
Date: 2023.08.31 14:36:11 +05'30'

S. Gayatri

Secretary

Contact Us

We love finding ways to work with people and organizations who share our values.

Contact us at djmv.org@gmail.com

Registered Office:

Divya Jyoti Mahila Vikash

At/Po: Markandi, Via: Berhampur , Dist: Ganjam, Orissa-760003

Call Us -9178567565

Project Office: Gopalpur on sea, Dist- Ganjam, Odisha, Pin No: 761002

Phone No: 6372475823

