

SOHAY

HALF YEARLY REPORT JAN TO JUNE 2005

PEOPLE EMPOWERMENT AND RIGHTS FOR LIVELIHOOD PROJECT



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT JANUARY TO JUNE 2005

Contact person:

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WORKING AREAS:

SOHAY works in three slums in Dhakkhin Khan union. A total of 43 households are target families in SOHAY programme activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

SOHAY programme interventions are based on cultural and economic perspective so easily understandable by illiterate and deprived segment of population. The interventions are focused on local context; therefore, all SOHAY programme interventions are influential and motivational and have impact on the community. Therefore the families change their attitude, behaviour and practice.

Examples:

- All children under age one in SOHAY programme areas are immunized.
- All pregnant women in SOHAY programme areas took injections during pregnancy period.
- 25 children took admission at Dhakkhin Khan Government Primary School at class one. This is the first time these slum children admitted into the government primary school.
- The families have two or more children have decided not to take any more children in their family in future.
- No diarrhoea episode during the reporting period in SOHAY working areas.

ACTIVITIES WERE:

- Health:
 - Pregnant women health care, need of more food during pregnancy time.
 - Importance of injections for pregnant mother and children.
 - Importance of Immunization for children under age one.
- Education:
 - Economic importance of education at family level
 - How education will assist people from social extortions.
 - Comparative advantages of education in the society.
 - How education assist families earning more money.
- Water and Sanitation
 - What is diarrhoea
 - Causes of diarrhoea
 - Drinking boil or tube well water
 - Diarrhoea management
- Family size
 - Advantages of small family size, e.g. education, food, cloths, savings and long-term benefits.
 - Disadvantages of bigger family size, e.g. education, food, cloths, savings and longer term disadvantages.

CHANGES OBSERVED AT COMMUNITY LEVEL:

- Households' environments are better than before because families are keeping their own house and yard clean.
- Awareness came at community; e.g. the importance of keeping family size small, the households have two or more children do not want more children in their families in SOHAY programme areas.
- Families are aware of children education. They understood only education can save them from social extortion; now they are sending their children to the schools, e.g. 25 children in SOHAY programme areas took admission at class one at Dhakkin Government Primary School.
- Families are aware of the importance of children immunization, e.g. all children under age one in SOHAY working areas are immunized.
- Pregnant women took injection during their pregnancy time, as they understood the importance of injection on mother and children during pregnancy.
- Families and community are taking extra care of pregnant women; families and community people are not allowing hard work (carrying water jar on lap) of pregnant women.

IMPACT OF PROGRAMME:

- All fertile couple have two or more children in SOHAY programme areas have decided not to take more children in their families.
- The children are going to the Government Primary School for education.
- Parents immunized their children.
- The community people are keeping their household environment clean, therefore, no diarrhoea during the reporting period.
- Families treated men and women equally.
- Family and community are taking extra care of pregnant women.
- Pregnant women took injections during pregnancy.

OXFAM GENDER PROGRAMME COORDINATOR AND LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME COORDINATOR VISITED SOHAY PROGRAMME AREAS:

Mr. M. B. Akhter and Mr. Palash Kanti Das visited SOHAY programme areas in Dhakkin Khan slums. They observed group sessions (SOHAY staff conduct group session at slums) and volunteer session (SOHAY volunteer conduct one to one session with slums dwellers weak in understanding).

They exchanged views on different issues (women rights, children immunization, women health, water and sanitation) at the community. Observed the changes came at family level.

Both visitors appraised SOHAY's work and requested SOHAY management to keep up the good work.

The Oxfam visitors handed over school dress to the children admitted at class one this year financed by SOHAY.



Mr. M. B. Akhter, Gender programme coordinator, OXFAM, is distributing school dress to a student of Dhakkhin Khan Government primary school, admitted at class one this year.



Mr. Palash Kanti Das, Livelihood programme coordinator, OXFAM, is distributing school dress to a student of Dhakkhin Khan Government primary school, admitted at class one this year

SOHAY FINANCED ADMISSION FEES FOR 18 (9 GIRLS AND 9 BOYS) STUDENTS AND SCHOOL DRESS FOR 16 (9 GIRLS AND 7 BOYS) STUDENTS.

During the period SOHAY financed admission fees for 18 (9 girls and 9 boys) children and school dress for 16 children (9 girls and 7 boys).

As mentioned above because of SOHAY interventions 25 children in SOHAY programme areas admitted at Dhakkhin Khan Government Primary School. Out of 25 children, 9 children parents had financial capacities to made dress; therefore, SOHAY financed 16-school dresses.



Zamila Sultana, Executive Director, SOHAY is with the students received school dress from SOHAY.