



**Assam Flood: Caritas India aid providing relief to communities**



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Report by Patrick Hansda, Documentation & Publications

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“It was a dark mid-night when water entered my house and we could only manage to save our lives and reached the higher land in a banana raft” narrated Budeshwari Narah from Mishing community of Rangapathar Kundu village.

Initially Government had provided Rice and Dal but that is not sufficient to meet the community need in future as they have lost everything in flood. The demand for aid is higher in terms of food, clean drinking water, sanitation and shelter.

Caritas India is addressing the emergent need of community by providing unconditional cash transfer of Rs. 2000 and WaSH kit including buckets, mug,

NADCC tablets, Savlon antiseptic, Markin Cloth, cotton cloth, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Bathing and Washing soap, Soap Case to the affected population.

Volunteers and communities of Lakhimpur were oriented on WaSH before every distribution. Ms. Jasmine, Programme Officer, Caritas India oriented communities on safe hygiene practices during relief distribution. The orientation was imperative for affected population especially women and children to be aware on critical WaSH related information which can help them to prevent from life threatening illnesses like diarrhoea that may otherwise contribute to their distress.

The Orientation included basic concepts of WaSH and the most effective interventions which included practices like handwashing with soap (HWWS), household water treatment and safe storage (HWTS). The Fecal-oral route diagram was demonstrated to show pathways of fecal-oral disease transmission through feces, fingers, flies, fields, fluids and food. Discussion was also done on safe practices for menstruating women during the floods like ensuring cloth washing properly in clean water and drying in the sun to kill any bacteria. Finally, the items and use of relief kit were explained with the community. As on July 21, 2017 the team has supported 827 families with Cash Transfer.

Considering the need of the community, Caritas India plans to support 93,920 population in Assam alone. The plan is to support 5000 households under WaSH, 1600 families with Cash Transfer, 3500 individuals under Health, 5000 households under shelter, 2500 households under livelihood and 3000 individuals with Psychosocial support.



# Students march for the protection of water bodies

Report by Dr. John Arokiaraj, SO - Tamilnadu  
Edited by Patrick Hansda, Documentation & Publications



Students and Self Help Group (SHG) leaders from Cuddalore District of Tamilnadu marched 2.3 km to raise awareness on protection and nurturing of water bodies and create awareness on abolishing non-recyclable plastic on July 7, 2017.

Flagged off by the Cuddalore District Sub Collector Mr. Johny Tom Varghese, the rally started from Jawan Bhavan to St. Joseph's College Campus carried sign boards with slogan highlighting importance of protection of water bodies and nature.

Organised by Pondicherry Multipurpose Social Service Society (PMSSS), South Arcot Multipurpose Social Service Society (SAMSSS) and St. Joseph's College of Arts and Science, 103 SHG leaders and 867 students marched to support the cause.

Addressing the gathering at St. Joseph College, Dr. John Arokiaraj, State Officer of Caritas India shared about the Udhayam – ECO DRR programme and how students can be partners in environment advocacy efforts.

“Cuddalore is exposed to multiple hazards and since 2004, the district has experienced Tsunami (2004), Cyclone Thane (2011), Cyclone Nisha, Floods (2015) and drought (2017). Therefore, it becomes imperative that the people of Cuddalore in particular become climate adaptive and be prepared to face the disasters and take efforts in mitigating the impacts” he said.

Advocating for the vulnerability analysis, Dr. John said it will help in appropriate planning and adequate management of vulnerability with stakeholders' involvement, that would result in significant risk reduction besides improving the coping capacity of vulnerable community.

Over the years of analysis by Caritas India has brought out issues of shift in ownership of management of natural resources, decline in the health of watershed, land alienation of the people in the name of development, land degradation in terms of soil infertility and low productivity, decreasing / diminishing green cover, reduction of bio-diversity, contamination and depletion of ground water, increasing quantum of plastic waste, extreme drought situation and depletion of animal population / livestock reasons behind this imbalance.

Dr. John said, these issues were addressed in a piece meal approach and the realization has come to respond through a comprehensive strategy. Public need to be adequately educated about the ill effects of the irrational use of natural resources.

He suggested student community can take the leadership of environmental protection to the communities with commitment. Desilting of water bodies, removal of encroachments and correction of water ways, researching and promotion of innovative water conservation measures and tree plantation are some areas where they can immediately pay attention to. Student community needs to advocate assured equity and universal access to land and water resources which will lead to enhanced quality of life of the poor and vulnerable.

NSS, Red Cross, Road Safety Patrol and Guides Student participants said that it was a valuable and motivating experience to them. The overall co-ordination of the march was done by NSS co-ordinator, Mr. Santhanaraj under the guidance of Fr. Peter Rajendran, the Correspondent of St. Joseph College.





# Art of film making for better documentation

Report by K A Sebastian, SO - Madhya Pradesh  
 Edited by Patrick Hansda, Documentation & Publications

**A**udio Visuals is a most effective form of documenting facts, activities, testimonies and impact of any event or programme. It not only increases productivity but also connect and engage your audience with the issue.

Caritas India with an aim to strengthen the programme documentation of WARM and JEEVAN PLE had organized a workshop on video documentation for its project coordinators on 19-20 July, 2017 at Ahmed Nagar.

Mr. Atul Gajre and Mr. Akshay Kerlekar from HRIDAY Entertainment, Mumbai explained different aspects of Pre-Production, Production and Post Production of film making with the participants.

Sharing in details about Pre-Production, the resource person shared that it includes writing, casting, crew, locations, props/ costumes, budget and production schedule. Film making also involve Story Board, Screen Play, Casting, Crew, Film Locations, Properties/ Costumes, Budget etc.

Director, cameraman and technical expert are mainly involved in Production or Shooting whereas post production deals with picture editing, visual effects, colour correction/ grading, sound effects, music and longest part of production.

The resource people shared about various applications

available in the internet for video editing but suggested to used windows movie maker for video editing. They also shared that for 10 minutes of footage it requires at least one hour of production.

Participants were enlightened on different types of shots like WS- Wide Shot; LS- Long Shot and FS - Full Shot, MWS-Medium Wide Shot, MCU-Medium Close Up Shot/ Bust Shot, CU-Close Up shot, ECU/XCU – Extreme Close Up Shot, Over the Shoulder shot, PoV-Point of View shot, Water Mark and Credits.

Dividing the participants into four groups, the resource persons has assigned each group to shoot video documentary at Agadgava village on the Health, Agriculture, Women status and any village issue. Thereafter, a detailed oriented was given on video editing steps and converting video into film or video documentary.

The Resource person helped participants in making video documentation based on the Agadgav village shoot. All four groups eagerly prepared and presented their videos with the participants and resource person for the feedback and improvement.

Towards the end, Ms. Shalaka Biniwale and team was felicitated with a cash prize of Rs. 500 from Caritas India for the best video making.