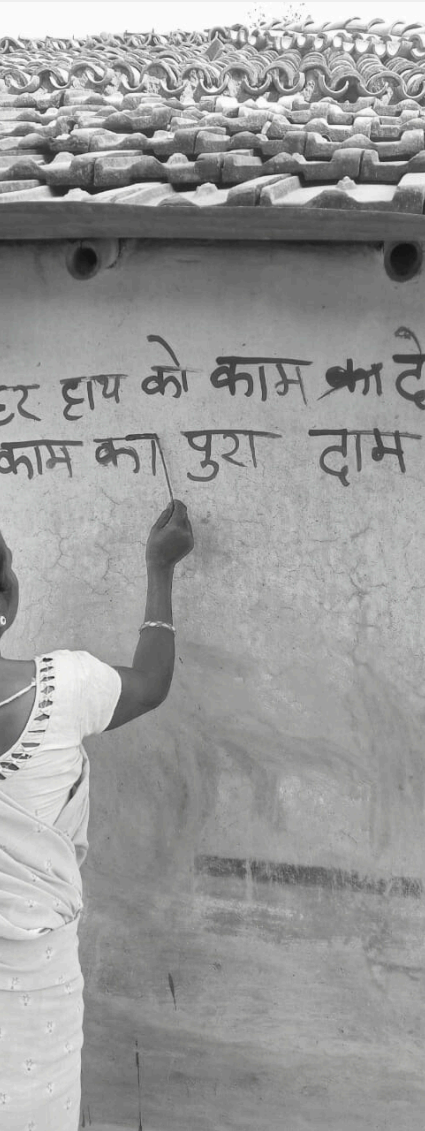




LAHANTI

ANNUAL
REPORT

2024-2025



About LAHANTI	1
President's message	2
Secretary's message	3
Acknowledgement	4
Vision, Mission & Objectives	5
Board of Trustee	6
Lahanti - At a glance	7
Legal Status	8
Intervention Area	9
Themes of Lahanti	10
• Child Rights & Education	11 - 22
• Safe Migraton	23 - 25
• Local Democracy	26 - 34
• Constitutional Values	35 - 39
• Women Empowerment	40 - 45
• Livelihood	46 - 50
• Climate Action	50 - 54
Special Programs	55 - 57
Special Day Celebration	58 - 60
SDGs & LAHANTI	61
Our Partners	62
Financial Information	63
Media Corner	64



ABOUT LAHANTI

Since 2006, Lahanti has emerged as a catalyst for grassroots transformation in Jharkhand, especially in the Santhal Pargana and Chotanagpur regions. Its work is grounded in building strong community-government linkages, ensuring that development reaches the most marginalized. Through strategic partnerships with local groups, civil society, and global donors, Lahanti brings diverse resources and perspectives into its initiatives. Operating with a holistic lens, it addresses livelihoods, health, education, environment, and rights, while also nurturing leadership among women, youth, and traditional village institutions. This inclusive approach has led to visible progress—declines in domestic violence and trafficking, increased awareness among adolescents, and greater access to government services. Women are now more engaged in local governance, challenging traditional norms and reshaping community dynamics. Celebrating cultural and national events further deepens this connection, reinforcing identity and rights awareness. United by the vision of community-led development, Lahanti continues to be a steady force for empowerment and lasting change in rural Jharkhand.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Lahanti is not just an organization – it is a collective dream. A dream where every individual lives with dignity, has equal opportunities, and moves forward on the path of self-reliance. It is this dream that continues to guide our every action, our every initiative, and our unwavering commitment to the communities we serve.

The past years have been a journey of resilience, learning, and deepened community engagement. We have expanded our efforts to empower individuals—especially tribal youth, women, and marginalized communities—through programs that promote local self-governance, education, safe migration, ecological sustainability, and gender justice. Whether through grassroots mobilization, capacity-building, cultural revival, or empowerment-led engagement, Lahanti has stayed true to its mission of creating transformative social change.

I am immensely proud of the way our team, volunteers, partners, donors, and well-wishers have come together to translate our vision into meaningful action. Your dedication has enabled us to move closer to a future where communities thrive in harmony and equity. Each milestone we achieved is a testament to the collective spirit that binds us, reminding us that lasting change is possible only when communities themselves take the lead.

On behalf of Lahanti, I extend heartfelt thanks to every supporter, ally, and community member who has walked alongside us in this journey. As we step into another year, may we continue to nurture hope, build solidarity, and work collectively toward a just and self-reliant society. Together, let us strengthen the voices of the marginalized, celebrate the wisdom of indigenous traditions, and keep alive the values of justice, dignity, and equality.

In solidarity,

Shitoli Hansda
President, Lahanti
Dumka, Jharkhand



SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Dear Core Team Members, Field Workers, Donor Agencies, Board Members, Well-wishers, Media Partners, and Community Members, Warm greetings from Lahanti!

It brings me immense joy to share this message of gratitude and reflection as part of Lahanti's Annual Report. Our Social Responsibility Initiative continues to grow stronger each year – not just in numbers or projects, but in its ability to touch lives, uphold dignity, and promote justice where it is most needed.

Your unwavering support, solidarity, and belief in our vision have helped us move closer to our mission of building an equitable and empowered society.

To Our Esteemed Board Members, A special word of thanks to our Board Members, whose leadership, wisdom, and strategic guidance have been instrumental in shaping Lahanti's growth and direction. Your faith in our grassroots efforts and your consistent encouragement in navigating institutional responsibilities have given us the confidence to take bold steps.

To Our Core Team and Field Staff-You are the pulse of Lahanti – working in the most remote areas, navigating complex realities, and continuing to serve communities with compassion, dedication, and courage. Your tireless work has given life to our vision, whether it is in Gram Sabha facilitation, education access, safe migration, or environmental conservation.

To Our Donor Agencies-Your trust and generous support have provided the resources, guidance, and flexibility we need to dream big and act decisively. You have been more than funders – you have been thought partners in change. Your commitment to our shared values has allowed us to make meaningful interventions in areas like education, local governance, tribal rights, and climate resilience. We value this partnership deeply and look forward to strengthening it further

To Our Well-wishers-Your moral support, timely feedback, and encouraging words have given us strength during difficult times and added joy in our moments of success. Your presence assures us that our work is being seen, valued, and carried forward by many hearts and hands.

To Our Media Partners, Your responsible journalism and storytelling have made our invisible stories visible. Through your coverage, the voices of tribal communities, women, and marginalized workers have found space in the public domain. We deeply appreciate your role in amplifying our impact.

Together, we've shown what's possible when institutions, communities, and individuals work with shared purpose and mutual respect. As we step into another year of challenges and opportunities, I once again thank you – from the bottom of my heart – for being part of this journey. Let us continue walking together, building a future rooted in dignity, equality, and hope.

With gratitude and respect,

Bitiya Murmu
Secretary, Lahanti
Dumka

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have stood beside us in pursuit of our mission: to empower individuals for transformative social change through collaboration rooted in self-reliance, gender justice, and ecological balance.

Our journey is one of shared vision and collective action. We thank our dedicated team for their tireless efforts, whose commitment brings meaningful change to the communities we serve. Your passion turns ideals into impact.

We are deeply grateful to our partners, supporters, and donors for their invaluable contributions. Special thanks to BAT, through JATN, for supporting Lahanti in educating migrant labourers on safe migration. We sincerely thank the My Choices Foundation for helping raise awareness on child trafficking among children and parents.

We are thankful to Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives for supporting initiatives to strengthen Gram Sabhas, implement the Forest Rights Act (FRA), and expand access to social security schemes.

Our warmest thanks to the Azim Premji Foundation for supporting Lahanti's work on constitutional values, and to Azim Premji University for their partnership in conducting impactful training and workshops. We are equally grateful to Unbound, whose generosity has enabled our work in advancing child rights.

Your trust and belief in our mission allow us to design focused programs, advocate for equity, and foster dignity and sustainability in every community we touch.

We also acknowledge the importance of collaboration—with governmental bodies, civil society organizations, and grassroots movements. Together, we are stronger and more capable of fostering change that is just, inclusive, and enduring.

To the communities we serve, thank you for your strength, wisdom, and partnership. Your resilience inspires us at every step.

As we move forward, we reaffirm our commitment to building a world where every community not only survives but thrives—in justice, harmony, and collective empowerment.

VISION, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

VISION

Transformative, empowering, upholding the pillars of dedication, self-reliance, gender justice and ecological balance through collaborative initiatives, a society where every community is based on harmony and equality.

MISSION

To strengthen the society on the basis of community participation. To connect women, children, youth and deprived sections of the society with the mainstream of development and to conserve and promote natural resources while maintaining ecological balance

OBJECTIVES

The mission aims to foster inclusive development through active collaboration among diverse community members—women, children, youth, and marginalized sections—by facilitating their integration into the mainstream, addressing their needs, amplifying their voices, and creating holistic development opportunities. It focuses on empowering these groups through education for active decision-making and reducing social inequalities by addressing the needs of deprived sections. Additionally, the mission supports community-led development projects, empowering local communities to identify, plan, and implement tailored solutions. It encourages sustainability by promoting practices that conserve natural resources, maintaining ecological balance, and fostering environmental stewardship for current and future generations. Moreover, the mission strives to preserve and promote local cultures, emphasizing cultural sensitivity and diversity as vital elements for community cohesion and sustainable development. To ensure progress, strong monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are established to assess the impact of initiatives, ensuring continuous improvement, transparency, and accountability in achieving these objectives.

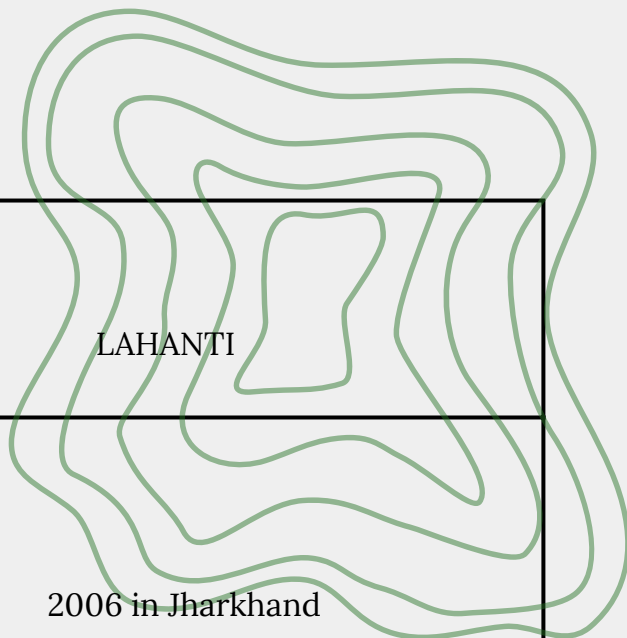
STRATEGY

Eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being of all age group Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education To achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development; provide access to justice for all

BOARD OF TRUSTEE

Sl	Name	Address	Designation	Occupation	Qualification
1	Shitoli Hansda	Vill. - Asanbani PO - Baratanr Dist. - Deoghar Jharkhand 815357	President	Social work	Graduate
2	Bitiya Murmu	Dudhani, Kurwa Dumka Jharkhand 814101	Secretary	Social work	Graduate
3	Putul Hembrom	Vill. - Grant estate, Lalpokhra PO+Dist. - Dumka Jharkhand 814101	Treasurer	Social work	Intermediate
4	Lolisini Murmu	Vill. - Bartoli PO - Gando PS - Muffasil Dumka, Dist - Dumka Jharkhand	Member	Social work	Graduate
5	Shanti Soren	Vill. - Godrosol PO - Sagberiya PS - Maheshpur Dist - Pakur Jharkhand	Member	Social work	Matriculation
6	Chandmuni Marandi	Vill. - Karharbil PO - Shivpahar Dumka Jharkhand	Member	Social work	Matriculation
7	Emen Murmu	Vill. - Jogidih PO - Purana Dumka PS- Dumka mufsill Dumka Jharkhand 814101	Member	Social work	Ph.D

LAHANTI- AT A GLANCE

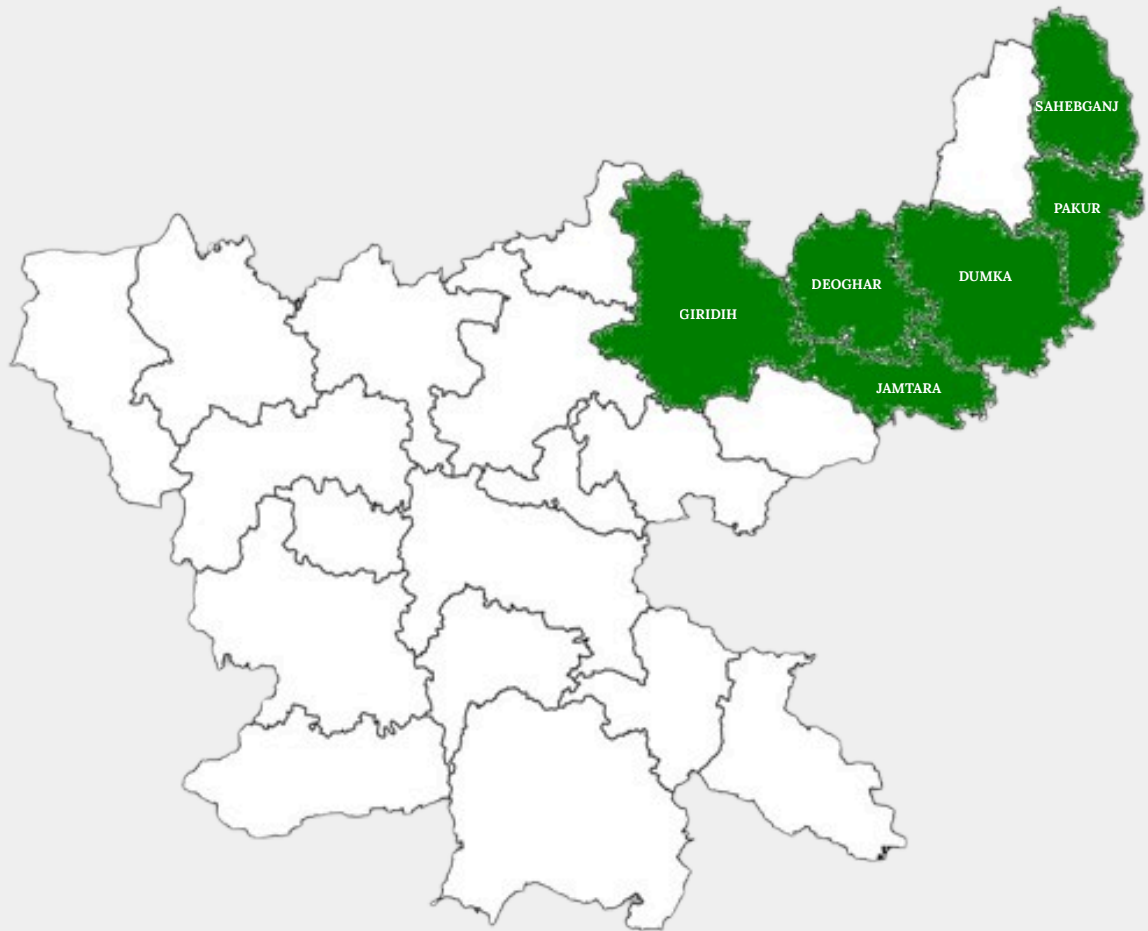


Name of the organisation	LAHANTI
Year of establishment	2006 in Jharkhand
Address of Registered office	Dudhani (Kurwa), Raghunathganj, Dumka, Jharkhand - 814101
Phones	9973150445/9006556710
E-mail ID	lahanti06@gmail.com
Name and designation of the Chief functionary	Mrs. Bitiya Murmu, Secretary

LEGAL STATUS

Registration no.	Under Indian Trust Act 1882 Registration no. 48/IV/5/2006 Date: 24.01.2006
FCRA	Registration no. 337700041 till - 08.02.2029
PAN no.	AAATL6530E
Niti Ayog	JH/2018/0182577
TAN	RCHL00637A Date: 27.08.2021
EPF	JHRAN2448930000 Date: 26.08.2021
PFA	20532807905 Date:24.08.2021
Income Tax	Registered under Income Tax Act 1961 F.No. CIT/DHN/Tech/12A-20/2009-10/611
80G	AAATL6530E23PT01 till - 31.03.2027
12A	AAATL6530EE20197 till - 31.03.2027
ESIC	60001691680000999 Date:25.08.2021
CSR1	CSR00013945

INTERVENTION AREA



Districts - 6

Blocks - 40

Panchayats - 490

Villages - 1400

Households - 22000+

THEMES OF LAHANTI

Lahanti works at the intersection of community empowerment and social justice, focusing on well-being of tribal and marginalized communities. Guided by the spirit of resilience and solidarity, we strive to nurture self-reliant communities that thrive in harmony with their culture and environment.

1

CHILD RIGHTS & EDUCATION

- Every child deserves safety, dignity, and equal opportunities.
- Education is the key to breaking cycles of poverty and injustice.

2

LOCAL DEMOCRACY

- Strengthening Gram Sabhas to ensure people's voice shapes decisions.
- True democracy begins with empowered communities at the grassroots.

3

SAFE MIGRATION

- Enabling migrants with knowledge and support systems.
- Migration should be a choice, not a compulsion driven by poverty.

4

CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES

- Promoting equality, justice, and freedom in everyday life.
- Building communities rooted in dignity, rights, and shared responsibility.

5

CLIMATE ACTION

- Protecting nature to safeguard the future of our communities.
- Collective action today ensures a sustainable tomorrow.

6

LIVELIHOOD

- Promoting sustainable income opportunities for rural and tribal families.
- Strengthening traditional practices while creating new livelihood pathways.

7

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

- Promote gender equality through inclusive participation of women, men, and youth in all programs.
- Strengthen women's empowerment by enhancing leadership roles, decision-making, and gender-based accountability.



Child Rights & Education



Lahanti is committed to creating a world where every child can thrive with dignity and opportunity. Our mission is to ensure that all children have access to quality healthcare, inclusive education, a safe and nurturing environment, and adequate nutrition. We believe that these fundamental rights are the cornerstone of a healthy, empowered future. Through community-based programs, advocacy, and partnerships, we work tirelessly to remove the barriers that prevent children from reaching their full potential. This year, our efforts have reached countless families, enabling lasting change and hope. We remain steadfast in our vision of a just and equitable society for every child.

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Purpose: The Sponsorship Program is dedicated to empowering marginalized families by providing consistent financial support for the education of underprivileged children. Our mission is to integrate these children into mainstream society by fostering their academic growth and enhancing their overall capabilities. Monthly financial assistance is directly deposited into joint accounts held by the children and their mothers, ensuring transparent use of funds to cover educational and related expenses. Through this sustained support, we strive to create equal opportunities and a brighter future for every sponsored child.

Achievement: 2700 children are supported under sponsorship program.



Letter writing by sponsored children



Meeting with parents of sponsored children

CAREER GUIDANCE WORKSHOP

Purpose: Career guidance workshops are essential for empowering students, especially those in the 10th and 12th grades, by broadening their understanding of various educational and vocational pathways beyond their immediate environment. These workshops aim to reduce school dropout rates by connecting academic learning to real career opportunities. They are also introduced to options for higher education, government programs, and skill development initiatives. Additionally, these workshops help bridge the gap between student aspirations and available resources through mentorship and scholarship networks.

Achievement

Career Guidance Workshop Participants Details:

Sl.No.	Date	Participants Details	Participants No.
1	May 16 & 17, 2024	Matric and Intermediate Students, Giridih	167
2	May 27, 2024	Matric and Intermediate Students, Giridih	198



Students participated in career guidance workshop

Number of Students who appeared in 10 & 12 exams

Sl.No.	Participants details	Appeared in the exam	Girls Passed %	Boys Passed %	1st Division	2nd Division
1	Metric Students	231	26%	29%	82%	12%
2	Intermediate Students	122	31%	35%	42%	31%

Strategy

Career guidance helps students make informed choices about their future. It provides clarity on available opportunities and pathways. Interactive sessions allow students to learn through discussions and activities. These sessions encourage them to ask questions and explore interests. Skill assessments identify strengths, weaknesses, and hidden talents. Such assessments help match students' abilities with suitable careers. Expert engagement connects students with real-world experiences. Professionals share insights about industries and career trends. Goal-setting exercises guide students to plan realistically. Together, these approaches empower students to design meaningful and achievable futures.



A token of appreciation was given to the toppers of metric and intermediate

SUMMER CAMP

Purpose: The Jharkhand Lahanti project conducted a summer camp for its beneficiaries during summer vacation at the subproject level. The event aimed to engage the beneficiaries in out-of-school activities and provide a learning opportunity to develop social and life skills. Various games and activities were held for the children, and the winners were awarded gifts to enhance their confidence.

Strategy

Organize a summer camp combining recreation and learning through games, arts, and team challenges to build social skills, leadership, and confidence, with recognition of achievements to inspire motivation.



Students participated in summer camp



Students participated in games during summer camp

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Purpose-To support youth from low-income backgrounds in accessing vocational and higher education by providing financial assistance and promoting civic responsibility, with the aim of breaking the cycle of poverty and empowering students to become socially responsible professionals and community leaders.

This program is Open to both sponsored and non-sponsored students, it funds tuition, books, tech, and other academic needs. Each scholar commits to regular community service, reinforcing values of civic responsibility. By merging education with service, the program not only breaks poverty cycles but inspires youth to become catalysts for social change.

Achievements

Number of students enrolled in vocational training:

Sl.No.	Profession	Number of students enrolled
	Nursing	71
	Polytechnic & ITI	50
	Pharma	2
	Teaching	9
	Hotel Management	1
	Para Medical	3
	Others	4



HEALTH CHECK-UP

Purpose: Annual health check-ups for children in project areas serve multiple vital purposes that go beyond simple medical assessments. They help in early detection of health issues—be it malnutrition, vision problems, or chronic conditions—allowing timely intervention before complications arise. These check-ups also promote preventive healthcare habits and awareness among both children and caregivers, particularly in settings where regular access to medical services is limited.

Achievement: A total of 750 children underwent medical examinations.



Sponsored child receiving health check-up during camp

ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION

Purpose: The annual day celebration holds significant importance as it marks a key event for the project, bringing together sponsored families to commemorate the year's accomplishments. The event aims to actively involve the families in appreciating and acknowledging the progress made throughout the year. Notably, the sponsored children play a central role as the main participants in the event, adding a special touch to the celebration.



Celebration on the occasion of Annual Day

CHILD PROTECTION

Purpose: The Safe Village Program (SVP) aims to eliminate child trafficking and protect the rights of children by raising awareness and empowering rural communities. Through education, community engagement, and active collaboration with local leaders, SVP seeks to prevent child trafficking, early marriage, and child labor.

The program strengthens local safety networks by forming and training Local Vigilance Committees to identify and respond to risks, while promoting accessible support services via helplines. Ultimately, SVP strives to create safer, more informed communities where children are protected, educated, and free from exploitation.



School level SVP Program

Achievements:

School-Level Engagement:

- 18 sessions conducted
- Reached 1,875 students
- Enhanced awareness on child trafficking prevention and safety skills

Village - Level Outreach

- 18 community sessions held
- Engaged 1,597 villagers
- Empowered rural communities with knowledge and vigilance strategies

Strategy

- Each month, 2 SVP programs will be conducted in villages and schools.
- In each SVP program, information about human trafficking will be provided to 200 people.
- In each SVP program, 4 stakeholders will be identified and developed.
- Stakeholder training will be organized every 3 months.



Village level SVP program

The Story of Preventing Child Marriage - Village Sarswad, Jhikra Panchayat

Village Sarswad, located in Jhikra panchayat of Kathikund Block, Dumka District is a remote hilly area inhabited by around 427 people of the Santhal community. The village is surrounded by forests and hills, with very limited means of transportation. It is situated 17 kilometers away from the block office.

When we reached this village, the villagers expressed their willingness to listen and understand but refused to allow photographs or sign any registers. Respecting their wishes, we began the program.

The main focus of the program was the prevention of child marriage. We discussed

CHILD RIGHTS PROTECTION

Lahanti is continuously striving to safeguard children's rights and ensure a secure future for them. The organization works specifically on critical issues such as **child marriage, child labor, child trafficking, and substance abuse**. To address these concerns, Bal Sabha (children's assemblies) are organized, where children are made aware of these problems, their harmful consequences, and practical ways to prevent them. Through this process, children not only become informed but also take an active role in protecting their peers and community from such social evils.

the harmful effects of child marriage with the villagers and explained that child marriage is a serious crime violating children's rights and ruining their future.

In June 2024, there was a critical situation when a young girl was about to be married off. At that time, our stakeholders, Gram Mitra James Soren and the Gram Pradhan, talked to the family. They explained the legal and social consequences of child marriage and helped the family to stop it. As a result, the girl was saved from marriage and is now attending school.

Awareness and local leadership at the village level played a major role. The efforts of the Gram Mitra and the Pradhan made this significant change possible.

ACTIVITIES WITH CHILDREN





लहांती
दुमका , झारखण्ड

बाल सुरक्षा नीति प्रतिबद्धता

लहांती नाबालिगों और कमजोर वयस्कों के अधिकारों और कल्याण की रक्षा करने और उन्हें किसी भी प्रकार के शोषण और दुर्व्यवहार से बचाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है।

इस संबंध में किसी भी दुर्व्यवहार और उल्लंघन को निम्नलिखित के ध्यान में लाया जा सकता है : बाल सुरक्षा अधिकारी (सीएसओ)

1. नैसी अनुरिता हेम्रम - + 91 9142269420

2. अभिजित कर्मकार - + 91 7908315234

लहांती द्वारा
दुमका - 814101 झारखण्ड



Safe Migration



SAFE MIGRATION

Purpose - This activity aims to empower migrant workers—especially those from vulnerable rural backgrounds—to migrate safely, exercise their legal rights, and minimize migration-related risks.

Intervention Area

District - Dumka

Block - Kathikund

Panchayat - Kadma

Villages - 10

Migrant Forum

Migrant forums have been established in each target village to promote safe and informed migration. These forums create a platform where villagers can come together and discuss migration-related issues. They raise awareness about the risks of unsafe migration. Members share important information about legal procedures and rights of migrant workers. The forums also connect migrants with support services. Regular meetings are organized to track the movement of workers. Training sessions build knowledge on safe travel, health, and financial planning. Forums encourage collective decision-making within the community. They also act as a bridge between migrants, families, and local authorities. Through these efforts, migration becomes safer, more informed, and better managed.

Purpose - It aims to increase migrants' awareness of their rights, safety protocols, and available government schemes while preventing exploitation by providing essential knowledge and access to critical support systems such as emergency helplines. Through regular interactive meetings, the initiative facilitates informed decision-making, enabling migrants to better navigate migration challenges. Additionally, these forums foster community support by acting as resource centers that ensure continuous access to information and mutual assistance among migrants.

Impact & Reach

- Successfully formed 24 migrant forums across villages.
- Enrolled a total of 358 members in these forums, with strong female representation of 153 members and 205 male members.
- Conducted 120 meetings to engage and educate forum members.
- Achieved a cumulative attendance of 325 participants in these meetings, with 199 female attendees and 126 male attendees.

The initiative has also played a pivotal role in connecting migrants with various government schemes. This has significantly enhanced their financial and social security.

Beneficiaries covered under Government schemes

Scheme	No. of beneficiaries
Old Age Pension	86
Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana	29
Widow Pension	19
Disability Pension	5
Abua Awas Yojana	107
Mukhymantri Maiya Samman Yojana	271



Migrant forum meeting

Strategy

- Organize two monthly meetings per forum, incorporating knowledge on safe migration, legal rights, and health.
- Increase scheme beneficiaries by 25%.



Local Democracy



LOCAL DEMOCRACY

The program aims to strengthen grassroots democracy by empowering villagers to actively participate in local governance, decision-making, and planning. It seeks to promote transparency, ensure effective implementation and monitoring of government schemes, and uphold constitutional rights at the village level. Through capacity-building, increased involvement of women, youth, and marginalized groups, and the formation of local committees, the program strives to foster inclusive, accountable, and participatory rural governance for sustainable community development.

Impact area

District - Dumka

Block - Kathikund

Panchayat - 6

Village - 111

Gram sabha strengthening

Purpose - The organization aims to empower rural communities by strengthening Gram Sabhas as effective platforms for inclusive local governance. Through enhancing community participation, especially of women, youth, and marginalized groups, the organization promotes transparency, accountability, and active decision-making at the village level. This empowers villagers to monitor and influence the implementation of development schemes and uphold their constitutional rights, ultimately fostering sustainable and participatory rural development.

Achievements:

- Conducted 238 Gram Sabha meetings, boosting community participation and transparency.
- Average meeting attendance was 42%, with notable increases in participation by women (46%), youth, and marginalized groups.
- Special Gram Sabhas on national days addressed critical village issues and resulted in decisions on MNREGA, PMAY, ration lists, water schemes, and forest rights.
- In 78 villages, MNREGA work approvals expanded local employment; 22 individual and 29 community forest rights claims were forwarded for approval.
- Capacity-building was supported by 12 trainings and 18 awareness events, focusing on the PESA Act, Forest Rights, and Village Development Plans, strengthening leadership in the PRI, women, and traditional leaders.
- Functional committees (Village Development, Infrastructure, Education & Social Justice, Monitoring) were formed with Gram Sabha consent, improving scheme monitoring and governance.
- Transparency was enhanced through wall writings sharing information publicly.
- Women's engagement grew via 39 Mahila Sabhas, addressing issues like child marriage, domestic violence, nutrition, and sanitation; women independently advocated on ration and nutrition at Gram Sabhas.

Strategy

- Organize Monthly Gram Sabha Meetings
- Increase Participation of Youth and Women
- Fast-Track Forest Rights Implementation
- Improve Digital Monitoring of Schemes
- Expand Village Development Plan (VDP)



Villagers doing Gram Sabha

Forest Rights Recognition through Gram Sabha

Purpose - The activity aims to recognize and legally secure the community and individual forest land rights of tribal and forest-dwelling communities under the Forest Rights Act (2006). This empowers communities by strengthening their control over natural resources, reinforcing Gram Sabhas as key decision-making bodies, and promoting sustainable livelihood security and resource governance in accordance with PESA and FRA frameworks.

Achievements:

- Successfully identified, verified, and processed 29 Community Forest Rights (CFR) and 22 Individual Forest Rights (IFR) claims through Gram Sabhas.
- Ensured transparent and participatory facilitation of forest rights recognition, respecting community voices and traditional ownership.
- Mobilized local cadres, trained leaders, and monitoring committees to support villagers in mapping forest boundaries and completing documentation.
- Strengthened the legal rights of tribal and forest-dwelling families over their natural resources, enhancing their control over jal, jungle, and zameen.
- Reinforced the role of Gram Sabhas as key decision-making bodies under the PESA and Forest Rights Act frameworks, contributing to community empowerment and sustainable resource governance.

Social Security Scheme access through Gram Sabha

Purpose - The activity aims to facilitate equitable and transparent access to social security schemes such as old age pension, widow pension, disability pension, and the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) for vulnerable and needy community.

By leveraging Gram Sabha meetings for beneficiary identification, selection, and application monitoring, the process ensures community participation, collective consent, and prioritization of the most deserving individuals. This strengthens local-level decision-making, promotes inclusivity, and helps deliver timely benefits to marginalized groups, thereby enhancing social protection and welfare in rural communities.

Achievements:

- Facilitated access to various social security schemes.
- Mobilized community participation in Gram Sabhas to identify and prioritize eligible vulnerable beneficiaries.
- Ensured transparency and fairness in the beneficiary selection process through collective consent.
- Supported and monitored online applications to include previously deprived beneficiaries.
- Strengthened local governance by enabling timely delivery of social protection benefits through collective decision-making.



Mahila Sabha

Strengthening Public Awareness and Cultural Identity through Gram Sabha

purpose - The activity aims to raise public awareness about important government schemes, citizen rights, and social issues by using cultural mediums such as street plays, songs, and traditional dances through the platform of Gram Sabha.

By actively involving local youth, women's groups, and cultural collectives, the initiative aimed to inspire community participation, promote dialogue around critical issues (such as child marriage, health, and nutrition), and strengthen the linkage between cultural heritage and social development. Ultimately, the goal was to empower the community by making them aware of their entitlements and responsibilities while safeguarding their cultural traditions.

Achievements

- Raised awareness among residents of 6 panchayats about government schemes and citizen rights through street plays, songs, and traditional dances.
- Collaborated with a Fellow to document and preserve the Pahadia community's culture, lifestyle, language, food habits, traditional livelihoods, and environmental ties.
- Mobilized youth, women's, and cultural groups to actively engage in awareness activities, fostering dialogue and community involvement.
- Facilitated meaningful discussions on child marriage, alcohol prohibition, health services, and rights to promote informed decisions and social change in villages.
- Reinforced cultural identity and social unity by linking cultural expression with public awareness through the Gram Sabha as a platform for community development.
- Established Gram Sabha as a platform linking awareness of rights and duties with cultural preservation and dialogue, empowering and informing communities.



Wall writing

Gram Sabha Initiative

purpose - The activity aims to empower villagers through the Gram Sabha platform to engage in participatory governance by identifying and addressing their community's developmental needs. By fostering open dialogue and collective decision-making, the initiative aimed to improve local infrastructure, enhance water conservation and sanitation, promote environmental sustainability, and strengthen village connectivity. Ultimately, these efforts sought to build a more self-reliant, sustainable, and cohesive community while reinforcing the Gram Sabha's vital role in grassroots governance and community ownership.

Activities conducted through Gram Sabha Initiative

S. No.	ACTIVITY	UNIT
1	Repairing unpaved road	2
2	Pond restoration	1
3	Cleaning of Anganwadi Premises	1
4	Cleaning of well	2
5	Building unlined drain	2
6	Sanitation of handpump area	4
7	Building lined drain	1
8	Field bund formation	3
9	Well restoration	1

S. No.	ACTIVITY	UNIT
10	Cleaning of drain	1
11	Cleaning around Jal Minar	1
12	Cleaning of street sides	3
13	Cleaning around Manjhi Than	1
14	Building water storage structure (Chuwa)	2
15	Bathroom construction	3
16	Development of unpaved check dam	4



Guard wall after repairing



Farm land before building unpaved drain for irrigation



Farm land after building unpaved drain for irrigation

Empowering Community Leaders

Purpose - The activity aims to to empower traditional leaders and Panchayat representatives by educating them about the PESA Act, Forest Rights Act, Gram Sabha powers, and relevant government schemes. It aimed to highlight the central role of traditional leaders within the Gram Sabha and promote cooperation between traditional and elected representatives. Ultimately, the initiative sought to strengthen participatory and effective democratic decision-making at the village level.

Achievements

- Empowered 78 traditional leaders and Panchayat representatives across 6 Panchayats by enhancing their knowledge of the PESA Act, Forest Rights Act, Gram Sabha powers, and government schemes, strengthening their roles in village governance.
- Fostered effective cooperation between traditional leadership and elected representatives, promoting participatory and democratic decision-making processes at the grassroots level.

Strengthening Communities through Forest Rights

Lahanti has made remarkable strides in advancing the rights of tribal communities over forest resources through the proactive facilitation of Community Forest Rights (CFR) and Individual Forest Rights (IFR) under the Forest Rights Act, 2006. Recognizing the deep connection between tribal communities and their traditional forests, our team worked closely with local stakeholders to ensure that these rights are not only applied for but also effectively recognized and implemented.

Over the past year, Lahanti successfully supported 35 villages in preparing and submitting applications for CFR. This initiative enabled entire communities to collectively assert their ownership and management rights over forest lands that have been integral to their livelihoods, culture, and heritage for generations. By securing CFR, communities gain legal recognition for their traditional practices, such as the sustainable harvesting of non-timber forest products, medicinal plants, and other forest-based resources, which are vital for both subsistence and income generation.

In parallel, Lahanti facilitated 70 individuals in filing applications for IFR, thereby helping them claim their legal entitlement to specific forest lands for personal use and livelihood purposes. This process ensures that individuals, particularly marginalized households, have secure access to land that is crucial for agriculture, housing, and other means of sustenance, directly contributing to economic security and social empowerment.

However, Lahanti's work extends far beyond the initial facilitation of applications. Our team has been actively engaging with Gram Sabhas, local governance bodies, and relevant government departments to ensure that claims are reviewed, approved, and formally recognized. Through repeated follow-ups, awareness campaigns, and capacity-building workshops, we have helped communities understand their legal rights, navigate bureaucratic processes, and participate effectively in decision-making forums.

This approach has multiple long-term benefits. It strengthens community ownership of natural resources, promotes sustainable management practices, and reinforces traditional ecological knowledge. Communities are encouraged to adopt conservation-oriented practices, such as controlled grazing, forest restoration, and protection of biodiversity, ensuring that forest ecosystems remain resilient. At the same time, these efforts foster a sense of self-reliance, collective responsibility, and local leadership, empowering communities to safeguard their resources while securing their livelihoods.

By bridging the gap between legal frameworks and grassroots realities, Lahanti is laying a strong foundation for ecological sustainability, social justice, and equitable development. The recognition of CFR and IFR not only secures forest-dependent communities' rights over land and resources but also catalyzes a broader movement towards environmental stewardship and inclusive growth, ensuring that tribal communities can thrive in harmony with their forests for generations to come.



Mapping of forest resources



Constitutional values

CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES

Through Sawidhan Sathi Fellowship Lahanti aims to bridge the gap between constitutional values and rural realities by empowering local youth as catalysts of change. The program seeks to foster awareness of fundamental duties, promote inclusive participation in governance, and strengthen access to essential government schemes among marginalized groups. By mobilizing communities through outreach, cultural engagement, and service facilitation, the fellowship strives to instill the principles of equality, justice, liberty, and fraternity in everyday village life, ultimately nurturing a cadre of rural leaders committed to civic and community development.

Key Objectives

1. Promote constitutional values in rural communities.
2. Strengthen citizens' understanding of their fundamental duties and civic responsibilities.
3. Build a cadre of rural youth leaders for civic and community development.

Program Coverage

- District - Dumka
- Blocks Covered: 6
- Panchayats Covered: 21
- Villages Covered: 150
- Fellows Deployed: 15

Major Activities & Events

1. Awareness and Outreach

- Door-to-door campaigns to explain fundamental duties and constitutional values.
- Community meetings with women's groups, youth clubs, and marginalized communities.
- Constitution literacy sessions, emphasising equity, justice, liberty, and fraternity.

2. Cultural Engagement

On 14 April 2024 – Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Jayanti, fellows organized multi-village celebrations:

- Storytelling sessions on Ambedkar's life and contributions.
- Nukkad Nataks (street plays) to spread messages of equality, justice, and unity.
- Role-play activities depicting Ambedkar's role in drafting the Indian Constitution and embedding its values.

3. Service Facilitation

While raising awareness, fellows directly assisted communities to secure critical services:

Service	No. of beneficiaries
Aadhaar updates	25

New Aadhaar enrollment	15
Ayushman Bharat Health Card	80
Maiya Samman Yojana	320
Widow Pension	56
Old age pension	20
Birth certificate	47
Death certificate	45
PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana	37
Children re-admitted to school	15



Villagers reading the Preamble on Ambedkar Jayanti

Way Forward

- Launch Constitution Values Clubs in schools.
- Use cultural media (street theatre, songs, art) to deepen value-based learning.

Sunita's Struggle: A Gram Sabha's Stand Against Domestic Violence

In a small village called Kaurdia, in Dumka district of Jharkhand, lived a woman named Sunita (name changed).

When Sunita got married, her life seemed happy in the beginning. Her husband cared for her, and she believed her future would be safe. But over time, Sunita's health began to decline. She became weak and often fell ill.

While she struggled with her sickness, her husband left for work outside the village. Months later, he returned—but not alone. He brought home a second wife.

From that moment, Sunita's life turned into misery. She was ignored, disrespected, and whenever she protested, both her husband and the second wife beat her. The pain and humiliation broke her spirit.

Some village women noticed her suffering. They felt this injustice could not be ignored. After a discussion, they decided: "This matter must be taken to the Gram Sabha."

The next day, under the banyan tree in the middle of the village, the Gram Sabha gathered. The village head, women, men, Sunita, her husband, the second wife, and a community fellow were all present.

When Sunita was given the chance to speak, her voice trembled, but her words were clear:

"My husband insults me, gives more respect to his second wife, and whenever I protest, they beat me."

The husband was asked to respond. He shrugged and said, "My first wife is weak and cannot work. That's why I had to marry again."

His words made the women of the village furious. They stood up and said, "Sickness does not take away a woman's rights! Every woman deserves dignity and respect."

The community fellow then addressed the gathering:

"Marriage is not only a bond, it is a responsibility. If a wife is ill, the husband's duty is to stand by her, not to abandon her. And remember—domestic violence is a crime under the law."

The fellow's words made everyone thoughtful. Slowly, the Gram Sabha reached a decision:

- Sunita had suffered injustice.
- The husband was warned that if he raised his hand on Sunita again, strict action would be taken.

The case and the decision were written in the official Gram Sabha register, and it was agreed that every meeting would now keep written records.

Before the meeting ended, the fellow shared helpline numbers and information about legal support available for women facing violence.

From Despair to Hope: The Story of Kiran, Ram, and Their Son

Aamgachhi Pahad—a place where reaching itself feels like a test. The Pahariya tribal community living here is often deprived of basic facilities. Among them lived Kiran Devi and her husband Ram Pujhar.

Ram had been battling illness for the past year, with deep, festering wounds on his back and chest. Kiran Devi too had been unwell for months. Poverty and the inaccessible terrain had almost shattered their hopes.

Their sixteen-year-old son, who had studied only up to the eighth grade, set out to borrow money from a village moneylender for his parents' treatment. On the way, he met a teacher. While talking, he shared his grief and also revealed that two days earlier he had received a call from an unknown number—offering him a job in exchange for ₹6,000.

The teacher was alarmed and immediately conveyed this news to a community fellow present at the village library.

The fellow spoke with the boy and called back on that number. Soon, it became clear that this was a human trafficking trap. That evening, at exactly 6:15 PM, the fellow climbed up the hill with the boy to his home and saw the parents' condition with his own eyes. The situation was extremely critical.

Without wasting time, the fellow shared the entire story on social media. The post spread like wildfire. Journalists, local people, and officials quickly became active.

The very next morning, on 20 March 2025, a medical team from the health department reached Aamgachhi Pahad. After giving primary treatment, Kiran and Ram were taken to the Masaliya health center and then referred to a higher-level hospital.

Most importantly—the fellow's vigilance saved the teenage boy from falling into the clutches of traffickers.



Street play on the life and legacy of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar



Women Empowerment



LAHANTI'S COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

At Lahanti, we believe that true social transformation is possible only when equality is embedded in every aspect of our work. Our mission is not just to implement projects, but to create inclusive spaces where every individual—especially women and marginalized groups—can realize their potential and lead change.

Equality in Projects:

All our projects are designed with a gender-sensitive lens. Whether in governance, safe migration, or cultural preservation, we ensure equal participation of women, men, and youth. We consciously create platforms where women can voice their concerns, make decisions, and take leadership roles in Gram Sabhas, community forums, and training programs. Our monitoring and evaluation frameworks also capture gender-based outcomes to ensure accountability in promoting equality. Within the framework of the projects, a range of activities are being undertaken to advance women's empowerment.

Mother representative meeting

Purpose: At the beginning of the financial year, the mother group meetings are conducted in both zones. The primary purpose of these annual meetings is to orient group leaders on the upcoming program activities planned for the year. Additionally, the sessions aim to strengthen their leadership capacities and equip them to foster greater accountability among their group members.

Achievement: 180 group leaders participated.

Strategy:

Enhance mothers' roles in decision-making by building their leadership skills and empowering them to guide their groups effectively.

Self Help Group (SHG) Meeting

Purpose - Regular Self-Help Group (SHG) meetings aims to empower women at the grassroots level by enhancing their awareness of legal rights, government welfare schemes, safe migration, human trafficking prevention, and the elimination of child marriage, ultimately fostering informed, confident, and self-reliant women's groups.

Achievements:

- 120 Self-Help Group (SHG) meetings conducted, providing consistent platforms for women's dialogue, information-sharing, and capacity-building.
- A total of 254 women actively participated in these meetings, reflecting strong community engagement and outreach.
- Enhanced awareness among women on legal rights, government welfare schemes, safe migration, prevention of human trafficking, and child marriage eradication.
- Facilitated tangible access to welfare schemes through SHGs, resulting in:
 - 26 women benefitting from Old Age Pension
 - 22 women receiving support under Abua Awas Yojana (Rural Housing)
 - 17 women obtaining Widow Pension

Strategy

- Conduct monthly SHG meetings throughout the year to continuously build women's knowledge on legal rights, welfare schemes, and safe migration.
- Facilitate increased enrollment of women in government welfare schemes through targeted SHG outreach.
- Strengthen women's leadership and collective problem-solving by nurturing self-reliant, empowered SHG groups.



SHG monthly meeting



Mothers' group leaders attending meeting

Kishori group meeting

Purpose - To empower adolescent girls by addressing vulnerabilities they face through enhancing their knowledge on personal health, legal rights, and social issues such as human trafficking, child marriage, and child labor.

The initiative seeks to build their confidence, life skills, and resilience, enabling them to make informed decisions and access relevant government schemes,

Achievements

- Conducted 96 adolescent girls' group meetings with active participation of 258 members, providing a supportive platform for education and awareness.
- Facilitated linkage of 55 girls with Voter ID enrollment and 53 girls with the Savitribai Phule Kishori Samridhi Yojana scheme.
- Enhanced adolescent girls' knowledge and resilience on critical issues including health, legal rights, trafficking, child marriage, and education access, fostering their empowerment and informed decision-making.

Strategy

- Hold monthly group meetings with adolescent girls to deepen awareness on health, rights, education, and protection issues.
- Facilitate greater access to government schemes and essential legal documents for all group members through targeted support.
- Mentor adolescent girls to take active leadership roles, building their confidence and encouraging their participation in community development.



Kishori group meeting

Mahila Sabha

A significant initiative is being taken for women's empowerment and rural development, where meetings are organized with women in the area. The objective of this initiative is to make women aware of their rights and responsibilities, so that they can effectively raise their issues and problems and actively participate in the development of their community.

Before the Gram Sabha, Mahila Sabha (women's meeting) is organized, where women get an opportunity to discuss their rights, responsibilities, and social issues. This boosts their confidence and enables them to raise their issues strongly in the Gram Sabha.

Through this initiative, an effort is being made to empower women and protect their rights, so that they can improve their lives and make a significant contribution to the development of their community.



Mahila sabha

Equality in Office Practices:

Within Lahanti, equality is practiced daily through inclusive office culture and fair policies. Recruitment and leadership opportunities are open to all, with a focus on increasing women's representation in decision-making positions. Our workplace encourages mutual respect, transparent communication, and zero tolerance towards discrimination or harassment. We also support flexible arrangements whenever required, ensuring that women staff can balance professional and personal responsibilities.

Equality in Implementation:

On the ground, we ensure that program benefits are equitably distributed. Community meetings are held at convenient times and locations to encourage women's participation. Training sessions include gender awareness, and facilitators are oriented to create safe and respectful spaces. We partner with local women leaders and self-help groups to amplify women's voices and ensure sustainability of interventions.

Other Pathways of Women Empowerment:

Beyond projects, Lahanti actively nurtures women's leadership and confidence. We provide capacity-building sessions for women staff and community leaders, promote women's collectives, and integrate themes of gender justice into cultural activities like Nukkad Nataks. Our Internal Complaint Committee strengthens workplace safety and ensures women feel secure. Through advocacy and partnerships, we also raise awareness about women's rights, land ownership, and legal entitlements.

In essence, Lahanti does not treat equality as a separate agenda but as the foundation of all our work. By weaving women's empowerment into every layer of our organization, we strive to create a just and inclusive society where every community can thrive with dignity and fairness.





Livelihood



LIVELIHOOD

Promoting Livelihood Opportunities through Forest Produce

Lahanti does not directly intervene in the area of livelihoods. However, the organization works to raise awareness among rural communities about potential income opportunities through the utilization of forest produce. Communities are informed about ways to generate additional income by collecting and marketing forest products such as leaf plates, mahua, datun (chewing sticks), and tubers/roots. In this process, members of the Forest Rights Committees are specifically targeted, and systematic information on these opportunities and practical measures is shared with them.

Kaam Mango Abhiyan: Strengthening the Right to Work

The Kaam Mango Abhiyan was launched by Lahanti with the vision of strengthening the Right to Work guaranteed under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), particularly for tribal and marginalized households. For many families in Dumka, access to MGNREGA is not just a legal entitlement—it is a critical safety net against hunger, distress migration, and deepening poverty.

Through this campaign, Lahanti mobilized communities to come together and demand their rights collectively, ensuring that government institutions remained accountable and responsive. Village meetings, awareness drives, door-to-door mobilization, and direct engagement with Panchayat and block administrations were central strategies. This participatory approach created confidence among community members to assert their rights without hesitation.

The impact of this effort was visible in concrete outcomes. During the reporting year:

422 households from 30 tribal-dominated villages secured additional employment under MGNREGA. On average, their workdays increased from 20 mandays to 30 mandays, strengthening livelihood security and reducing distress migration.

645 new job cards were issued, extending the benefits of MGNREGA to an equal number of previously excluded households. This achievement reflects the campaign's success in expanding access to entitlements.

Women, who often bear the double burden of household work and economic insecurity, actively participated in demanding work. This not only enhanced household incomes but also strengthened women's role in decision-making at the village level.

These outcomes underline the power of collective mobilization and awareness-building. The campaign reaffirmed that when communities are well-informed and organized, they can push back against systemic barriers and secure their rightful share of development benefits.

Despite some hurdles, the Kaam Mango Abhiyan has emerged as a powerful step towards rights-based governance and livelihood security. It is more than just a campaign for work—it is a movement that upholds the dignity of labor, strengthens democratic participation, and gives tribal communities a stronger voice in governance processes. By making government institutions more responsive and communities more confident, Lahanti is paving the way for long-term change in Dumka, ensuring that the Right to Work becomes a living reality rather than a distant promise.

Activities under Kaam Mango Abhiyaan



promotion of organic farming

Lahanti also emphasizes the importance of sustainable and environment-friendly agricultural practices. To promote organic farming, the organization encourages farmers to adopt traditional and chemical-free methods of cultivation. Through awareness programs and community meetings, farmers are informed about the long-term benefits of organic farming, such as improved soil fertility, reduced input costs, and healthier produce.

In addition, local farmers are guided on the use of natural manure, compost, bio-pesticides, and indigenous seeds to enhance productivity without harming the environment. These efforts aim not only to improve the quality of crops but also to create healthier food systems and generate better livelihood opportunities for rural communities.



Vermi Compost bed

promotion of livestock rearing

Livestock rearing is an important source of livelihood for rural households. Recognizing this, Lahanti supports communities by promoting improved practices in livestock management that will lead to decrease in death rate of livestock. The organization spreads awareness on proper animal care, nutrition, and disease prevention through community meetings and training sessions.

Farmers are encouraged to adopt traditional as well as scientific methods for better breeding, fodder management, and vaccination of animals. Initiatives are taken to make government livestock vaccination programs accessible to rural communities. Special emphasis is placed on the sustainable use of local resources to reduce costs while ensuring the health and productivity of livestock. These initiatives help families secure an additional and reliable source of income, thereby contributing to their overall economic stability.

CLIMATE ACTION

Climate change is not a distant challenge for tribal communities in Dumka—it is a lived reality. Erratic rainfall, rising temperatures, and declining soil fertility are threatening food security and traditional livelihoods. Women, who form the backbone of farming and household sustenance, are among the most affected.

Lahanti views climate action as a cross-cutting theme, woven into its work on governance, livelihoods, and cultural preservation. Our interventions—though not always large-scale—create tangible co-benefits that promote ecological balance, strengthen livelihoods, and empower women farmers.

Strengthening Gram Sabha for Ecological Governance

Through facilitation of Gram Sabha processes, several villages have taken collective decisions for environmental sustainability. Resolutions banning the use of plastic plates during festivals and encouraging traditional leaf plates (patal dona) demonstrate how ecological responsibility can also generate livelihoods for women. Similar resolutions on forest use and prevention of forest fires highlight growing community ownership in natural resource management.

Sustainable Agriculture and Resilient Livelihoods

To address the impact of climate change on farming, Lahanti has supported pilots on organic and climate-resilient practices. These include the use of vermicompost to improve soil health and greenhouse sheds to ensure year-round vegetable cultivation. Women farmers are central to these initiatives, enhancing their capacities while reducing dependence on chemical inputs.

Water Conservation through Traditional Knowledge

Water stress is a critical issue for rural households. Lahanti, together with community initiatives, has facilitated 54 water recharge activities using traditional knowledge systems. These include:

- Small percolation holes in farmlands
- Soak pits and household water harvesting

- Check dams to store rainwater
- Regeneration of dead ponds

These measures have improved groundwater recharge, reduced water scarcity, and supported agriculture.

Partnerships and Policy Engagement

Lahanti is engaging with government programs like the Birsa Harit Gram Yojana, which promotes afforestation and orchard development. This not only provides long-term livelihood options but also contributes to carbon sequestration, biodiversity restoration, and soil conservation.

At the same time, Lahanti has taken part in dialogues and studies on climate change impacts in Dumka, highlighting changes in livelihoods, food habits, and the rising phenomenon of climate-induced migration. These insights are helping shape broader conversations on climate justice.

Towards a Climate-Resilient Future

Lahanti's work demonstrates that climate action is deeply connected with governance, culture, and livelihoods. By enabling Gram Sabhas to take ecological decisions, promoting sustainable agriculture, reviving traditional knowledge, and engaging in policy dialogues, Lahanti is contributing to climate-resilient villages in Dumka.

At the heart of these efforts are women farmers, whose participation ensures that climate action is not only sustainable but also inclusive and equitable. For Lahanti, climate action is both a movement for ecological balance and a pathway to dignity and resilience for tribal communities.



water conservation through river bunding



Pond before regeneration



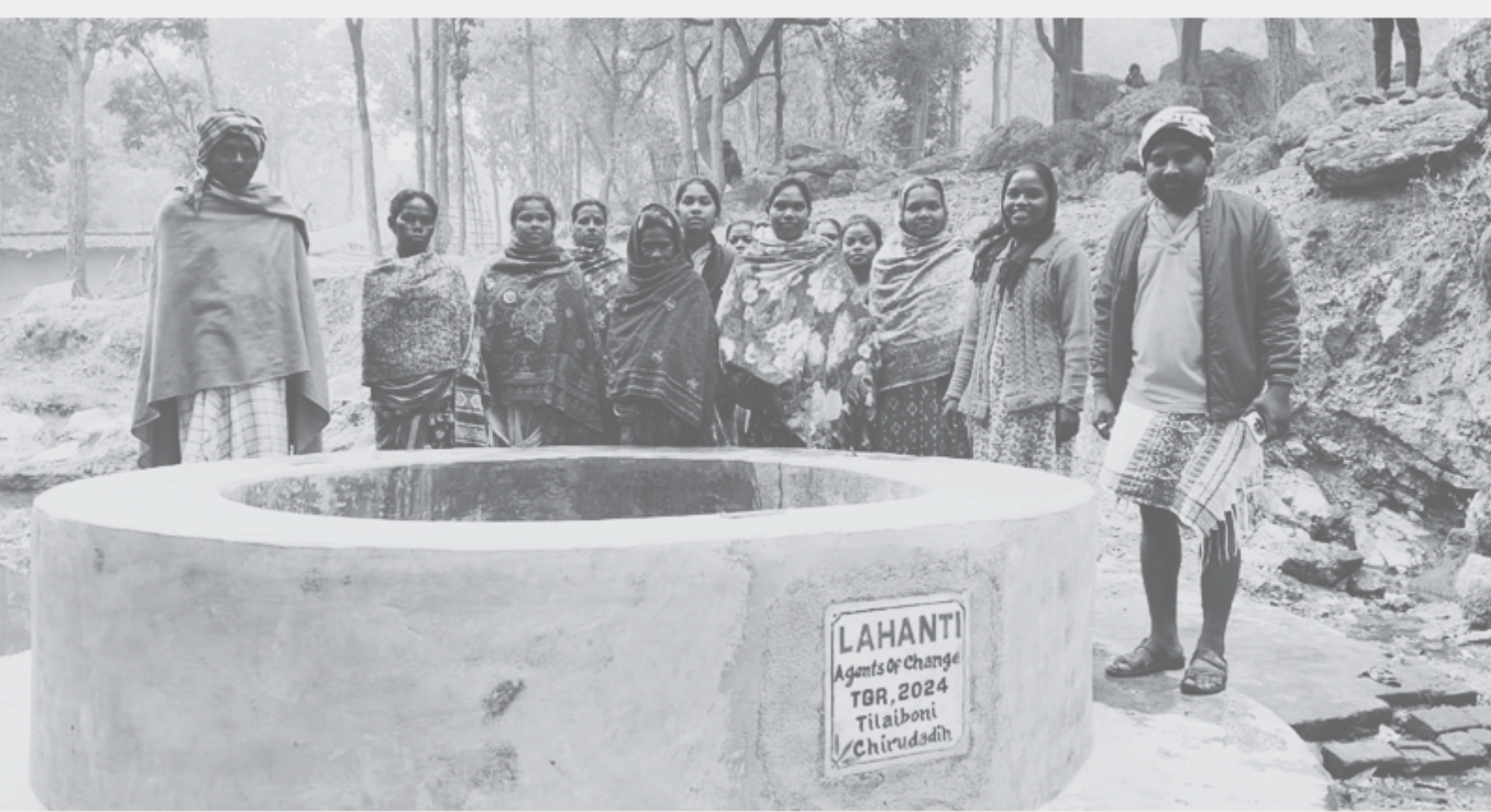
Pond after regeneration



Green house shed

Plantation





Special Programs



SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Agents of change

The Initiative empowers sponsored families—especially mothers—to address local challenges through participatory micro-projects. With direct grants averaging \$500, families lead needs assessments and implement solutions vetted by community committees. These projects enhance dignity, confidence, and social recognition—particularly for women—and demonstrate the power of decentralized decision-making in community upliftment. The initiative fosters agency, collaboration, and sustainable impact, aligning naturally with the principles of the SDGs.



Water storage structure before intervention



Water storage structure renovated to concrete well after intervention

Annual review meeting

The purpose of the Annual review meeting held on January 30, 2025, was to assess and discuss the progress, achievements, and challenges of the Jharkhand Lahanti Project (JLP), Local Democracy Project (APPI), and Samwidhan Sathi Fellowship Program (APF) from April 2024 to January 2025. The meeting aimed to facilitate knowledge sharing, address operational issues, fostering collaboration among stakeholders to strengthen project implementation and promote effective decision-making.

Activities undertaken during the meeting:

- Conducted a comprehensive review of the Jharkhand Lahanti Project (JLP) activities, achievements, and challenges from April to June 2025, followed by an interactive question-and-answer session.
- Presented progress, accomplishments, and operational difficulties of the Local Democracy Project (APPI) with active participant engagement through a Q&A discussion.
- Shared updates on the Samwidhan Sathi Fellowship Program (APF), including project milestones and challenges, accompanied by an insightful Q&A session.
- Conducted a focused strategic planning session, where participants collaboratively identified priorities, set goals, and developed actionable roadmaps for the next year across all ongoing projects.

The program resulted in enhanced collaboration, clearer project insights, and a well-defined action plan to drive effective implementation in the coming year.





Special Day Celebration

SPECIAL DAY CELEBRATION

Republic Day

The Republic Day of India was celebrated with great enthusiasm and patriotic feeling at Lahanti . The event was organized to honor the spirit of the Constitution and to promote unity and inclusiveness among the members of the organization and the local community.

The celebration commenced with the unfurling of the National flag by the Secretary at Lahanti head office and Project office , Kathikund. The flag hoisting was followed by the singing of the National Anthem , which filled the air with a sense of pride and unity. After the flag hoisting, Mr./Ms. [Name], the Secretary of the NGO, addressed the gathering. In their speech, they emphasized the importance of Republic Day as a reminder of the values enshrined in our Constitution—justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity. The Secretary also highlighted the role of the NGO in upholding these values through its various social initiatives. They encouraged everyone to contribute in their own way towards nation-building and the upliftment of marginalized sections of society. The cultural programme that followed was a vibrant showcase of talent and patriotism. Lahanti staff and local community that presented the cultural programme depicted important moments from India's freedom struggle and the making of the Constitution. The performances were both entertaining and thought-provoking, reflecting the diversity and richness of Indian culture.

The Day was celebrated at the Project Office, JLP with great enthusiasm. Mr. Vincent Murmu, Project Coordinator, JLP, hoisted the national flag in the presence of all staff members. The gathering proudly sang the National Anthem, honoring the spirit of the day. Mr. Murmu then delivered an inspiring speech highlighting the significance of the Constitution and unity. The celebration reflected patriotic fervor and collective commitment to nation-building.

Independence Day

Independence Day was celebrated with patriotic zeal at Lahanti head office, Project office , Kathikund and Project office, JLP. The event began with the hoisting of the National Flag, followed by the singing of the National Anthem by staff and local community. A brief yet powerful speech was delivered, emphasizing the sacrifices of freedom fighters and the importance of working towards an inclusive and empowered society. The programme also featured cultural performances. The celebration concluded with a vote of thanks and distribution of refreshments.



Foundation Day

Lahanti celebrated its 19th Foundation Day on 30th January 2024 with great reverence and enthusiasm. The date also marked Martyrs' Day (Gandhi Jayanti), observed in honor of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation. The celebration began with a solemn tribute to Gandhiji, reflecting on his ideals of non-violence, truth, and service to humanity—values that continue to inspire Lahanti's mission.

The Secretary of Lahanti NGO warmly welcomed all guests, partners, and participants, expressing gratitude for their continued support. Presentations from different projects followed, showcasing the key achievements, progress, and impact made by Lahanti over the past year across the community. This was followed by the unveiling of the Action Plan for the upcoming year, outlining future goals, strategies, and areas of focus to strengthen the work of Lahanti in addressing social issues.

A vibrant cultural programme was presented by staff members from different projects, reflecting the diverse talents and unity within the organization. Songs, skits, and dance performances added color and joy to the event, fostering a spirit of togetherness.

Celebrating the 19th Foundation Day was a moment of pride and reflection for Lahanti, highlighting nearly two decades of dedicated service to marginalized communities and reaffirming its commitment to creating a just, inclusive, and empowered society.

International Women's day

On March 8, 2025, Lahanti brought together a sea of energy, pride, and purpose as it celebrated International Women's Day in a bold and unforgettable way. This gathering stood out for its scale and spirit, with nearly No. rural women in attendance alongside women leaders and honored guests. The atmosphere buzzed with solidarity and shared strength, turning the day into a true festival of empowerment.

The celebration unfolded through a series of expressive and moving cultural performances. Traditional dances pulsed with the rhythm of community pride, while songs carried the voices of resilience, hope, and determination. Skits rooted in real-life challenges faced by women sparked reflection and meaningful conversations. Every moment on stage became a canvas—portraying not just art, but lived realities and aspirations. It was more than a celebration; it was a collective affirmation of the power and presence of women in every corner of society.



International Women's Day Celebration

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS & LAHANTI

**1 NO POVERTY**

To eradicate poverty in all its forms, it is crucial to guarantee the rights and entitlements of our communities while offering livelihood training. Initiatives such as MGNREGA, promoting safe migration, and providing pensions are vital in helping communities alleviate poverty.

**4 QUALITY EDUCATION**

Lahanti's sponsorship program aims to enhance educational opportunities for vulnerable families. Our School-Village program educates students about trafficking and safety, while also providing learning opportunities for people of all ages

**8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**

Economic growth is facilitated through self-help group (SHG) initiatives that strategically target the reduction of unemployment, particularly among the youth, while simultaneously expanding access to financial services and entitlements

**13 CLIMATE ACTION**

Lahanti has undertaken robust climate action measures, including extensive tree preservation, community planting, and forest fostering awareness on reforestation and afforestation. Our commitment encompasses a multifaceted approach to addressing climate challenges and advancing sustainability

**2 ZERO HUNGER**

Raising awareness in rural communities can help those better access services. Additionally, promoting kitchen gardening and other activities can help combat hunger and work towards achieving zero hunger.

**5 GENDER EQUALITY**

Promoting gender equality and women's empowerment by educating parents about equal education for girls and boys. We work to strengthen community institutions to ensure equal opportunities for safe migration for everyone. Programs like Mahila Sabha empower women to express their concerns and aspirations

**10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES**

Our main goals are to address racial and ethnic inequality, promote fair income distribution through effective policies, strengthen social safety nets for vulnerable groups, and advance women's rights and economic empowerment. We are dedicated to reducing inequality through these efforts

**15 LIFE ON LAND**

Lahanti addresses biodiversity, forest, and desertification issues through the Forest Rights Act (FRA), which acknowledges the rights of forest-dwelling communities. By involving these communities in efforts, conservation we promote both environmental protection and sustainable livelihoods.

**3 GOOD HEALTH & WELL-BEING**

Organizing health checkup camps and educating villagers on basic hygiene help prevent seasonal diseases and promote overall well-being. These initiatives strengthen the resilience communities.

**6 CLEAN WATER & SANITATION**

Support community-led efforts in managing natural resources, like ponds, Jharria, and canals, to enhance access to clean water and sanitation. We aim to ensure that even the most isolated communities have reliable access to clean water.

**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**

Lahanti focuses on building capacity in tribal communities by offering training and resources. We work on disaster risk reduction, helping communities prepare for and respond to emergencies like droughts. Our goal is to empower these communities, improve their quality of life, and preserve their cultural heritage.

**12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION**

A rural village's community-led initiative showcases how managing local natural resources can drive development. By sustainably harvesting timber and non-timber products, villagers generate income, create jobs, and enhance their well-being. This effort highlights the power of smart resource management for local growth

**16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS**

Lahanti enhances institutional strength by actively engaging with local organizations like Gram Sabha and Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Our commitment extends to justice issues, where we work to ensure access to fundamental rights and tackle challenges related to child labor and equality.

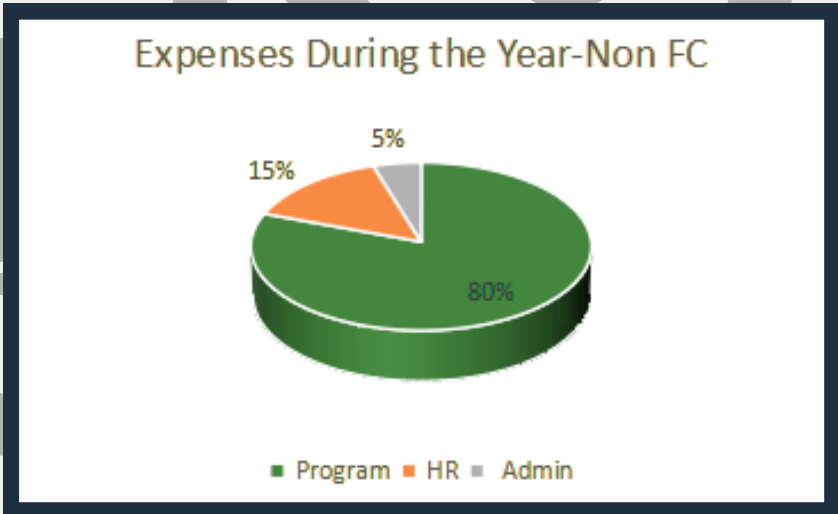
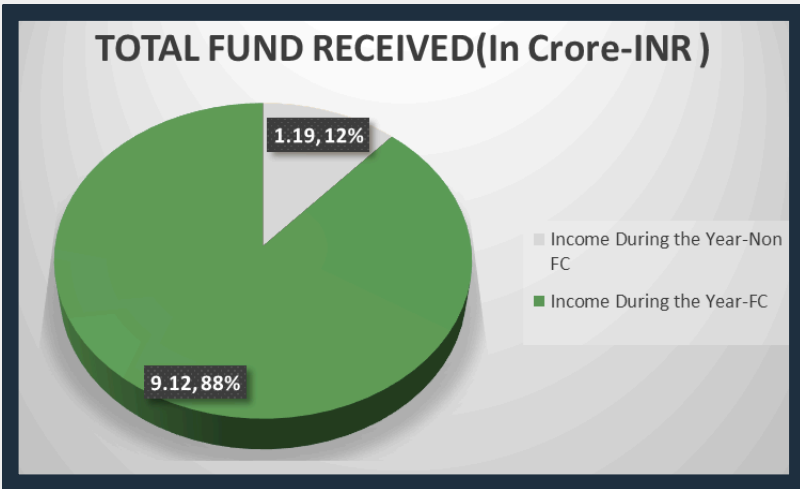
**17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**

Collaborating with diverse stakeholders ensures the seamless implementation of programs within communities by leveraging their support, resources, and expertise. This includes engaging government agencies, NGOs, local institutions, Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), donors, and media. Such partnerships facilitate effective execution and sustainability of initiatives through coordinated efforts and shared objectives.

Our Partners



Financial Statement



10 जुलाई, 2025
आजकल, बुलबुनी, भुवनेश्वर
जुलै 2025
एक - 12, मुकद - 23.00

www.epaper.azadsipahi.in

कलम कलम बढ़ाये जा

देश के समने
बकाय राशि की मांग
उठाये मुख्यमंत्री

रांठी

दुमका, बर्ष 10, अंक 260

आजाद सिपाही



बारिश के दिनों में बुंद-बुंद को तरसते बुलबुनी के ग्रामीणों

आगस्टिन हेम्बरम

दुमका। सभी जगह लगातार बारिश से जहां जनजीवन अस्त-व्यस्त है, वहीं दुमका जिला के काठीकुंड प्रखंड के बेलबुनी एक ऐसा गांव है जहां ग्रामीणों पेयजल के लिए बुंद-बुंद के लिए तरसते हैं। ग्रामीणों पेयजल के एक किलोमीटर दूर स्थित कच्चा कुंआ से पानी लाकर पीने को विवश हैं। गांव में विभाग के द्वारा दो डीप - बोरिंग किया गया, लेकिन एक में मोटर खराब होने के कारण विद्यालय के पास वाले बोरिंग में मोटर को लगाया दिया गया, लेकिन बारिश होने के कारण सोलर सिस्टम के द्वारा जलमीनार में पानी नहीं उठ रहा है। जिस कारण ग्रामीण को बारिश के दिनों में भी पानी के लिए दिन भर जद्दोजहद करना पड़ रहा है, बड़तल्ला पंचायत स्थित एक छोटा-सा गांव है, बेलबुनी जो पहाड़ के उपर बसा हुआ है यह



गांव नक्शे पर भले ही छोटा दिखायी देता हो, लेकिन यहां की समस्याएं और संघर्ष इतने बड़े हैं कि किसी भी जिम्मेदार शासन-प्रशासन को झकझोर सकते हैं। गांव में 70 घर हैं और आबादी करीब 280 है, गांव में मुख्य रूप से आदिवासी और पहाड़िया समुदाय की आबादी से बसा हुआ है। चारों ओर घने जंगल और पहाड़ों के बीच बसी ये बस्तियां, जिनमें करीब 70 से अधिक परिवार आज भी मूलभूत सुविधाओं के लिए जद्दोजहद कर रहे हैं। यह गांव आज भी उस

सच्चाई का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है, जहां योजनाएं तो हैं पर उनके क्रियान्वयन की पहुंच इन पहाड़ों और जंगलों को पार नहीं कर सकी है। ग्रामीणों के अनुसार, अधिकारियों और जनप्रतिनिधियों की घोषणाएं केवल सुनवायी तक सीमित है। जमीन पर आज भी बदलाव की कोई स्पष्ट तस्वीर नजर नहीं आती। देश और राज्य की सरकारें जहां हर घर जल, प्रधानमंत्री सड़क योजना, स्वच्छ भारत, नल-जल योजना जैसे घोषणाएं करती हैं, वहीं बेलबुनी गांव आज भी पेयजल, सड़क,



स्वास्थ्य और शिक्षा जैसी जरूरी सुविधा से वंचित हैं। ग्रामीणों ने गांव की समस्याओं को पुरजोर तरीके से उठाया. कहा कि सड़क, पेयजल की व्यवस्था कर प्रशासन जिंदगी को असान बना दे। हमलोगों की यही मांग है। गांव तक जाने के लिए पक्की सड़क नसीब नहीं इस गांव तक पहुंचने का रास्ता जितना कठिन है, वहां रहना उससे भी अधिक चुनौतीपूर्ण है। प्रखंड विकास पदाधिकारी सोरभ कुमार ने कहा कि इस मामले में कनीय अभियंता को निर्देश दिया गया है

हिन्दुस्तान

शनिवार, 31 मई 2025

लहंती दुमका ने आयोजित की दो दिवसीय कार्यशाला



कार्यशाला में मौजूद संस्था के सदस्य।

दुमका, प्रतिनिधि। लहंती दुमका की ओर से दो दिवसीय कार्यशाला जीवन झरना में आयोजन किया गया। जिसमें आदिम जनजाति माल पहाड़िया समुदाय के जीवन वापन, पर्व-त्योहार, रीति-रिवाज तथा जीवनशैली पर गहन चर्चा की गई। इस कार्यशाला में समुदाय के बुद्धिजीवी, सामाजिक चिंतक और स्थानीय नेतृत्वकर्ता शामिल हुए। कार्यशाला में संस्था का सचिव बिटिया मुमुं ने बताया कि माल पहाड़िया समुदाय आज भी पहाड़ों की तराई में व प्रकृति की गोद में निवास करता है। उनका जीवन जंगल और पहाड़ों पर आधारित है, जहां से उन्हें अनाज, फल-फूल, कंद-मूल आदि प्राप्त होते हैं। उनकी जीवनशैली पर्यावरण के साथ गहराई से जुड़ी हुई है।

बताया कि यह समुदाय प्राकृतिक पूजक है और प्रकृति को देवता मानता है। निर्मला पुतुल ने यह कहा कि माल पहाड़िया समुदाय की कई सांस्कृतिक परंपराएं ऐसी हैं जो पर्यावरण की रक्षा में सहायक हैं। परंतु भूमंडलीकरण और विकास के नाम पर हो रहे खनन, पहाड़ों की कटाई और पत्थर तोड़ने जैसी गतिविधियों ने उनके पारंपरिक जीवन पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव डाला है। मौके पर कार्यशाला में संस्था का सचिव बिटिया मुमुं, प्रोजेक्ट कार्डिनेटर अभिजीत गुरजीत, निर्मला पुतुल, सतेन्द्र, पहाड़िया समुदाय से मंगल डेहरी, सुरेंद्र डेहरी, दुर्गा डेहरी, सोमनाथ डेहरी, मेधिव देहरी, सुधीर प्रसाद डेहरी और फुलगी कुमारी प्रमुख रूप से उपस्थित रहे।

हिन्दुस्तान

मंगलवार, 27 मई 2025

सारथी झारखंड जस्ट ट्रांजिशन का होगा शुभारंभ

दुमका, प्रतिनिधि। लहंती की सचिव बिटिया मुमुं ने जानकारी देते हुए बताया कि 28 मई को राजधानी रांची में एक ऐतिहासिक अवसर का साक्षी बनने जा रहा है जब राज्य की 30 से अधिक सामाजिक संस्थाओं के साझा प्रयत्न से गठित सारथी झारखंड जस्ट ट्रांजिशन नेटवर्क का औपचारिक शुभारंभ किया जाएगा। मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन ने औद्योगिक परिवर्तन और खास कर जलवायु परिवर्तन की चुनौतियों से निवटने के लिए आदिवासियत की संस्कृति को अपनाने का आह्वान किया। इस विरोध अवसर पर राज्य सरकार, सामाजिक संगठनों, जोध संस्थाओं, पर्यावरण कार्यकर्ताओं और स्थानीय प्रतिनिधियों की उपस्थिति में यह मंच राज्य के लिए न्यायपूर्ण, समावेशी और सतत विकास के एक नए युग की शुरुआत करेगा।

बताया कि सारथी एक ऐसा मंच है जो सरकार, नागरिक समाज और समुदायों के बीच सेतु का कार्य करेगा। यह नेटवर्क झारखंड सरकार की

विकासशील और जनकेंद्रित दृष्टि के साथ कंधे से कंधा मिलाकर चलने को प्रतिबद्ध है। राज्य सरकार की योजनाओं और नीतियों को जमीनी स्तर पर प्रभावी ढंग से लागू करने में यह नेटवर्क सहायक भूमिका निभाएगा। सारथी नेटवर्क का उद्देश्य यह सुनिश्चित करना है कि झारखंड की विकास यात्रा में वे समुदाय भी प्रमुख भूमिका निभाएं जो अव्यक्त हाथिए पर रहे हैं विशेषकर वन, खनन और पारंपरिक आजीविका पर निर्भर समुदाय।

लहंती इस नेटवर्क की अगुआई करेंगी। ये संस्था 19 वर्षों से समाज के वंचित और वनवासी समुदायों के साथ गहराई से जुड़कर कार्य कर रही है। आगामी वर्षों में सारथी नेटवर्क के माध्यम से पूरे राज्य में संवाद, प्रशिक्षण, जन-जागरूकता और नीति समन्वय की गतिविधियां आयोजित की जाएंगी, जिससे यह सुनिश्चित किया जा सके कि झारखंड के प्रत्येक नागरिक को विकास की मुख्यधारा में समान अवसर प्राप्त हों।

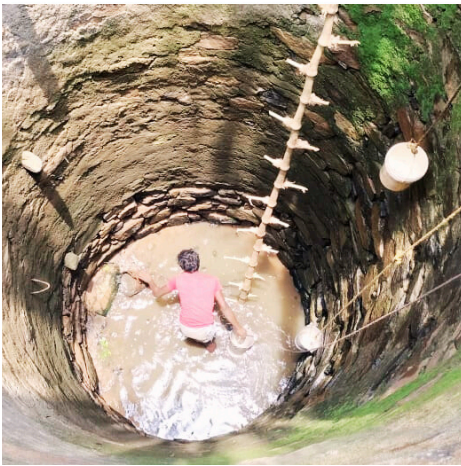


Photo Gallery



Connect with us



OFFICE ADDRESS

HEAD OFFICE

KURWA, DUDHANI, DUMKA, JHARKHAND
814101

PROJECT OFFICE

NEW GRANT ESTATE, CHAMPANAGAR,
PO & DIST. - DUMKA, JHARKHAND, 814101

GIRIDIH ZONAL OFFICE

METROS GALI (NEAR METROS FACTORY)
BARGANDA, GIRIDIH, JHARKHAND - 815301

PROJECT OFFICE

VILLAGE - CHANDRAPURA, PO + PS - KATHIKUND
DIST. - DUMKA, JHARKHAND - 814103

We are on



Email: lahanti06@gmail.com

Contact No: 9006556710/9973150445

Website: www.lahanti.org.in