



*"53 years in rural development-changing lives,  
bringing happiness"*

*E-Newsletter, February 2024*

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### **Transformative Impact of Lakhpati Kisan Smart Village Program**

28 February 2024, Khunti: Exciting news emerges from Khunti, Jharkhand, as the collaborative efforts of CINI-Tata Trusts and NBJK's Lakhpati Kisan Smart Village program bear fruit across 32 villages in Murhu and Khunti blocks. This initiative, centered on empowering farmers, has propelled over 7000 individuals towards better livelihoods through High Value Agriculture (HVA), improved irrigation, and agro-plus activities. Spearheaded by Murhu Nari Shakti Kisan Producer Co. Ltd. (MNSKPCL), community institutions like SHGs and farmers' clusters have achieved remarkable success, boasting an annual turnover of Rs. 03 crore 13 lakh. Diversified livelihood avenues such as Lac Cultivation and animal husbandry have notably elevated incomes for 4849 households. Enhanced irrigation facilities now benefit 2635 households, ensuring sustainable farming practices. Acknowledged by the Khunti District Administration, MNSKPCL's exceptional contributions in HVA, Minor Forest Produce, and Livestock Development stand as a testament to its impactful endeavors.



### **Eye Screening Camps Held under Netra Basant Program**



17 February 2024, Hazaribagh: Under Sightsavers India supported Netra Basant-Inclusive Eye Health Program by NBJK, the organization run LNJP Eye Hospital, Bahera has organized two eye screening camps at Hazaribagh Observation Home and Jan Jagran Kendra, Barhi. At Observation Home and JJK, 85 and 24 OPD were conducted respectively by the medical team of LNJEH free of cost. At the Observation Home, the inmate adolescents & caretaker staffs went through clinical checkup of their eyes and were provided tips upon better eye care. On this occasion, Mrs. Indu Prabha Khalko (District Welfare Officer-cum-Superintendent of Observation Home), Mr. Sanjay Prasad (District Child Protection Officer), Mr. Kavindra Nath Thakur (Probation Officer), Mr. Naveen Kumar, Mr. Manoj Kumar (Deputized Teachers) and staffs of Observation Home were present. In the camps organizing team, Mr. Kirti Rawat (DPM, Rural Eye Health Program), Dr. Vikant Singh (Senior Optometrist), Mr. Saurabh Kumar, Mr. Deepak Kumar, Mr. Sahil Singh, Mr. Rohit Singh, Mr. Gaurav Pandey and Mr. Dinesh Ram played important roles.

## NBJK joins hands at a National Workshop on Water Body Rejuvenation!

14 February 2024, New Delhi: We're delighted to mention our journey in rejuvenating 49 water bodies across Giridih district, making a significant impact on community livelihoods. At the recent workshop in New Delhi, organized by NITI Aayog - ATE Chandra Foundation, NBJK stood tall as a crucial stakeholder. Represented by Mr. Rajeev Kumar Singh, our Senior Program Manager, we shed light on our desiltation process, transforming ponds and utilizing silt as organic fertilizer. Today, these once-depleted ponds are brimming with water, fostering bumper crops and sustainable farming practices. We are thankful to the district administration for their collaboration and proactive safety measures, ensuring the well-being of our communities. We've urged NITI Aayog and ATE Chandra Foundation to expand this initiative across Jharkhand, emphasizing its potential to enhance soil quality, support multiple cropping seasons, and curb youth migration. The workshop saw participation from 75+ leaders, including Commissioners, District Magistrates, Block Development Officers, farmers, and VO delegates from various states. Together, we're paving the way for a greener, more prosperous future!



## SIDBI-NBJK Entrepreneurship Development Program



10 February 2024, Hazaribagh: We're thrilled to share that with the support of SIDBI, NBJK has kickstarted an Entrepreneurship Development Program aimed at fostering successful & sustainable micro-enterprises in Jharkhand! Over the next few years, we aim to empower artisans, SHG members, entrepreneurs, and youths across

five districts - Hazaribagh, Giridih, Ramgarh, Khunti, and West Singhbhum. Our goal is to create 1100 entrepreneurship units, providing a platform for innovation and economic growth. Under this initiative, we're not only focusing on launching new ventures but also strengthening existing ones facing challenges like capital shortage or skill gaps. Through loans, subsidies, and tailored support, we're making entrepreneurship accessible to all, including marginalized individuals. In just six months, we've already assisted 80 micro-enterprises, with a significant portion led by inspiring women entrepreneurs! From furniture to beauty parlors, our entrepreneurs are making waves in diverse sectors, driving local development and reducing migration. Join us in building a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem in Jharkhand! Together, let's turn dreams into reality and transform communities.



## Celebrating 28 Glorious Years of Education!



06 February 2024, Chouparan (Hazaribagh): The NBJK-run Amoli Apurva High School, Mangarh, joyously commemorated its 28th Foundation Day! The day commenced with the ceremonial lamp lighting by Mr. Arjun Pandey, local Mukhiya & President of the

School Management Committee, and Mr. Dayanand Singh, the school's Principal. Students captivated the audience with a vibrant showcase of cultural activities, including mesmerizing dances and gripping dramas, with special recognition given to talented girl students. Mr. Arjun Pandey, the esteemed chief guest, praised the school's dedication to providing quality education, especially its empowerment of girls, and applauded the teachers for their pivotal role. An exhilarating annual sports program added to the festivities, with outstanding students receiving well-deserved accolades. Gratitude was extended to teachers, parents, and supporters whose dedication made the foundation day a resounding success. Cheers to many more years of nurturing young minds and transforming lives!

## Peaceful Protest Rally for People's Rights in Gaya!

06 February 2024, Gaya: Lok Samiti, Chhatra Yuva Sangharsh Vahini, and Majdoor Kisan Samiti orchestrated a historic demonstration in Gaya, advocating for justice and empowerment, approximately 2,500 villagers from various blocks of Gaya district



converged to voice their concerns and demand their rights. Channeling the spirit of Loknayak JP, the rally marched from Gandhi Maidan to the District Collector's office, presenting a people's memorandum to the Governor of Bihar. Their urgent demands included the restoration of APMC, legislation for MSP, farmer loan waivers, and improved irrigation, among others. The ADM (law & order) has pledged to forward their demands to the Governor. Notable leaders like Mr. Kaushal Ganesh Azad and Mrs. Putul Kumari addressed the gathering, stressing the importance of their memorandum. Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi expressed support for their cause. Together, they strive for a brighter, more just future. Solidarity stands strong!

## Initiative for Water Conservation in Villages



04 February 2024, Ranchi: In Ranchi's Chanho block, a robust water conservation initiative is underway as part of the HDFC Bank-supported Holistic Rural Development Program by NBJK. Across fifteen villages spanning four panchayats, villagers are actively engaged in activities such as drainage cleanliness, boribandh construction, road repair, and small pond digging through collective labor contributions. Recently, in Lepsar village, a micro plan was devised by villagers to conserve water, with women leading efforts in drain cleaning

and utilizing garbage for road repairs. Similarly, in Madhukam village, residents have undertaken periodic beautification works, including road repairs. Mukhiya Mrs. Punam Orain emphasized the initiative's tribute to Mahatma Gandhi's ideals of village self-reliance. Mr. Sunil Kumar Gupta (APM, NBJK) highlighted the program's efforts to address water scarcity, with support from NGO Goonj. Collaboration with local authorities, represented by Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Circle Officer of Chanho block, underscores the program's holistic approach. Mobilization efforts by Mr. Priyanshu Kumar (APM-NBJK) and villagers further strengthen the community's resolve towards water reliance.

## Empowering Communities: NBJK's Self-Help Groups Transform Lives

01 February 2024, Jharkhand-Bihar: NBJK has been pioneering the Poverty Reduction through Self-Help Groups program, a transformative social intervention empowering communities across Hazaribagh, Ramgarh, Ranchi, and Khunti districts in Jharkhand, along with 15 slum areas in Patna, Bihar. Organizing women into Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and men into Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), the program fosters socio-economic development at the grassroots level. With 953 SHGs and 21102 members, alongside 384 JLGs comprising 1209 male members, the initiative facilitates micro credit support and monitors income generation activities. Despite challenges posed by the COVID pandemic, the program maintains an impressive cumulative recovery rate of approximately 93.37%. Providing direct support to breadwinners of 6486 families, NBJK's initiative significantly contributes to women's empowerment and community resilience.



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