

HARIT PRAYAS contributing for the development of Bundelkhand region

When we have started the concept of HARIT PRAYAS in 2010 (at that time initially it was called as the Bundelkhand project) we have initiated it with the motive of development of Bundelkhand region. Today after 24 months of the project implementation, when we look in back in to the mirror of Bundelkhand we must have to answer that -do HARIT PRAYAS able to contribute for the development of the Bundelkhand region and that too mainly for the development of deprived community (SC/ST & marginalised and landless OBC) in the Bundelkhand region ? let's see how far HARIT PRAYAS is able to contribute for the development of deprived communities in the Bundelkhand region....

Contribution of HARIT PRAYAS in development of entire Bundelkhand region				
Concerns	Total SC/ST& OBC HHs in Bundelkhand region [1]	Total SC/ST& OBC (84% in total HHs) HHs in Bundelkhand region (A)	HARIT PRAYAS target HHs (B)	% HARIT PRAYAS contribution (in last 30 months) to the development of Bundelkhand region (B/A)*100
Catering to HHs	1875827	1575694.68	4608	0.292442442
NREGA				
HHs having job cards	1875827	1575694.68	3181	0.201879212
HHs having job cards in their own custody	1875827	1575694.68	3181	0.201879212
HHs submitted written application for demanding work	1875827	1575694.68	1200	0.076156886
HHs received full wages (132 in MP and 125 in UP	1875827	1575694.68	2300	0.145967365
HHs covered 100 days (till April 2012)	1875827	1575694.68	740	0.045694132
HHs received Job through Panchayat (without any written application)	1875827	1575694.68	1100	0.069810479
Overall Impact of HARIT PRAYAS on NREGA in development of Bundelkhand region (in %)				0.123564547
Govt. schemes (mainly welfare schemes)				
No. of eligible families vailed gove. Welfare schemes	1875827	1575694.68	675	0.042838248
Sustainable agriculture				
No. of farming families practicing 100% organic cultivation	1875827	1575694.68	1100	0.069810479
Community Based & Managed Organisations (CBMOs)				
No. of HHs in farmers club	1875827	1575694.68	900	0.057117664

No. of HHs in Mahila Mandals	1875827	1575694.68	1035	0.066685314
Migration				
HHs not migrated in last one year	1875827	1575694.68	3686	0.233928568
Overall Impact of HARIT PRAYAS in development of Bundelkhand region (in %)				0.099824137

Source: Progress reports from partners on monthly basis

Over all with HARIT PRAYAS we are able to contribute for the .099% development (in terms of better NREGA implementation, availability of government schemes for the eligible target community, promotion of sustainable agriculture and farmers and women collectiveness and mitigating migration) in the entire Bunelkhand region in 36 months of project period. Contribution of HARIT PRAYAS is considerable because in the highly deprived region like Bundelkhand, government has special package in the form of Bundelkhand package worth 7266 crore or 72660000000 INR for the development of Bundelkhand region but still scenario is dark, whereas with HARIT PRAYAS with just 10500000 (approx) INR in 36 months we are able to contribute for the .099% growth in development of Bundelkhand region and that too with sustainable and effective model of community based institutions (mainly from SC & ST community).

...Sustaining agriculture in the Bundelkhand region

Considering the frequent drought, water scarcity, rain fed agriculture and high input cost in agriculture in the Bundelkhand region, with HARIT PRAYAS we are able reduce the input cost in agriculture by 88-90% where as able to increase the production by 15-20% and all this is through sustainable agriculture means of cultivation and with locally available resources. Today more than 200+ villages get influenced in the entire region by the impact of sustainable agriculture. Probably the HARIT PRAYAS project villages are the first in the region which are able to generate this much of impact on sustainable agriculture. Approx 200 acre of land in HARIT PRAYAS project villages is where 100% organic cultivation (but not yet organically certified) practice is on.

...reducing farmers suicide in Bundelkhand region

It is also worth to notice that there has been no farmer's suicide in the HARIT PRAYAS implementation villages in last 18 months in compare to recent count of 3262 (approx)¹ farmers suicide in the Bundelkhand region.

...ensuring food security in the Bundelkhand region

With the HARIT PRAYAS approach we have not only focused on the input cost but also focus on how the community would move for cultivating the food grains rather than only the cash crops

¹ Source: www.bundelkhand.in

like soyabean (but it does not mean that we are de-promoting Soyabean in the region, our only concern is food grains must be given priority in compare to the cash crops. Also its is interesting to see the change that Soyabean arrived in 1995-2000 and since then every year the % of soybean cultivation is increasing where as the % of staple food maize and wheat is decreasing. With HARIT PRAYAS approach not only the production has increased but also the % of food grain grown on the land has also increased by 20%. Also with this calorie per day intake for an adult in the HARIT PRAYAS project villages has increased from 1090 to 2426 cal per day.

...Breaking caste barriers in the Bundelkhand region

Bundelkhand is a highly caste dominated region, where still there big gap between the upper caste and lower caste and hardly they sit together and hardly people from SC/ST community are able to take the decisions at community level, with HARIT PRAYAS we have created community based and manged institutions in the form of Farmers club, where both SC /ST and general Caste people sit together at equal level , have equal right of taking decisions and are taking decisions and working for the betterment of the region. *Our one of the farmers club in Chamaruwa (Jhansi) , where before HARIT PRAYAS implementation there was high dominance of general caste (Rajputs), but with the initiation of HARIT PRAYAS and formation of farmers club, where both SC and Rajputs are the members sit together, take unanimous decisions and contribute for the better agriculture growth the in village.*

...veil system for women almost out in Bundelkhand region

With the effort of HARIT PRAYAS we are able to remove this veil system with 80% of the target community in the project villages of HARIT PRAYAS and now women are participating in the community level meetings like Gram Sabha. Participation of women in gram Sabha in the HARIT PRAYAS project villages is 14% (from Mahila Mandals). Also now women get united in the form of Mahila Mandal and are engaged in enterprise development (in the form of agarbatti² making), saving & credit and financial transactions to banks (by themselves). This all has given an empowerment to the women in the Bundelkhand region and now their head is up rather than down and are enjoying the freedom of growth.

...Entitlements of community are secured

It is worth to notice and see that 44 Panchayats under HARIT PRAYAS are functioning well and community is getting benefits from the concerned Panchayats.

Implementation of NREGA, was seems to be difficult nut to break in the Bundelkhand region because of high level of corruption and politics involved in it. But with HARIT PRAYAS 100% of the target community in the project villages are availing the benefits of the NREGA. Average working days in the project villages has gone up to 65 working days in a year in compare to 21 (average working days in Bundelkhand region) working days in a year. Now 100% the target community in the HARIT PRAYAS villages have the job cards and that is their own custody,

² Incense stick

which in turn has created impact on reduction of corruption in terms of misuse of job cards by PRI members/Mait³.

With 692 eligible families taking benefits of the welfare schemes in the HARIT PRAYAS project villages have generated an awareness and movement in the region amongst the community members of other villages (other than HARIT PRAYAS villages) to get the knowledge of the schemes and get the benefits of the same.

...Reduced unsafe migration

Considering the concern of unsafe migration from the Bundelkhand region , with HARIT PRAYAS we are able to reduce the migration from the villages by up to 30% of the total HHs used to migrate before the implementation of HARIT PRAYAS. Now community members from the HARIT PRAYAS villages have sustainable and locally available source of livelihood in the form of access to entitlements & low input cost based agriculture for their better survival.

...making the development process and impact visible

With HARIT PRAYAS we have initiated the India's 2nd development project based web page of HARIT PRAYAS (www.haritprayas.blogspot.com) which updates on daily basis about the process and impact of HARIT PRAYAS. The daily updates has given the visibility of the process and impact to the many government and non government offices and in turn able to enhance the scale of development process and impact of HARIT PRAYAS from 64 villages to the entire Bundelkhand region and the world. At present more than 37000 viewers of HARIT PRAYAS web page.

...advocating for policy change!

Sanjha Samvad⁴ network of partners of HARIT PRAYAS , LIFE (Rajasthan) and other 70 National and international organisation has worked on the proposed National Food Security bill⁵ and based on the field experience has drafted and submitted⁶ an amended proposed bill to the PMO (Prim minister Office , New Delhi).

In the words of a farmer from HARIT PRAYAS Majhota village *HARIT PPRAYAS ek badllaw lane ka andolan hein jo bundelkhand ko pchadepan se bahar nikakar vikas ke raste par la raha hein...ye hamare bharat ka bhi swaroop badal raha hein....* Means HARIT PRAYAS is a movement which pull up the Bundelkhand region on development path from the trap of underdevelopment and it is also contributing for changing the development face of India! (you can watch this on live video on: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A28Z2W-QfPE>)

³ The mate is an NREGA job applicant given supervisory and administrative tasks at work sites)

⁴ <http://www.caritasindia.org/NewsDetails.aspx?Nid=348>

⁵ http://www.prsindia.org/uploads/media/draft/Draft_National_Food_Security_Bill%202011.pdf

⁶ Refer annexure

...455 media coverage's!

In 3 years of HARIT PRAYAS implementation there are 455 media coverages of various activities as well as of result of HARIT PRAYAS. It has happened through strong media linkages and strong impact of the programme in field. The huge media coverage has made HARIT PRAYAS a common name in Bundelkhand region and it has also established a unique transparent system of delivering development programme. Considering the number of media coverages HARIT PRAYAS is the highest covered (in print media) development programme in India.