



Accompanier Accompanier

Journeying Together Towards Building Communities of Resistance & Hope...

CNI-SBSS' e- publication for internal circulation

July 2007

Meditation

We have heard with our ears, O God; our fathers have told us what you did in their days, in days long ago. With your hand you drove out the nations and planted our fathers; you crushed the peoples and made our fathers flourish. It was not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them victory; it was our right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you loved them.

Psalm 44: 1-3.

SBSS' leaves impact on ACT

Impressed with the CNI SBSS' contribution towards transformational development through committed and efficient young team, well-developed systems and structures, Ms Jill Hawkey, Director, ACT (Action by Churches Together) International shared a collective vision of long-term development, building on the emergency response work already undertaken by ACT International. Jill, also as a WCC Consultant for ACT Development, explained that ACT Development brings together Churches and related organizations in a new global alliance aimed at eradicating poverty, injustice and the abuse of human rights. She visited CNI SBSS on July 5, 2007 with Ms Faautu Talapusi, Administrator for ACT Development.



SBSS Board Members - The Rev Dr Enos Das Pradhan, General Secretary, CNI Synod honoured Jill and Faautu with CNI *Sbraddha* while Mrs Kiran Jeremiah, Honorary Treasurer welcomed the ACT team and presented them the SBSS' pictorial mementos depicting the success stories of people's struggle against the oppressive forces.



Dr Shailendra Awale, Chief Coordinator and Secretary, CNI SBSS shared vision, mission and journey of the SBSS' as how it evolved with its uniqueness and has strengthened, building communities of resistance and hope. The SBSS team representing all the four CNI resource centres for social action briefed the ACT team about their work and the issues they are involved in.

Contd...

Partnership towards Development

While addressing the SBSS team as Participants in the Alliance, Jill appealed them to commit themselves to high quality development work based on shared values, meet together at the national, regional and global level to reflect on their development work, share analyses, and plan cooperative activities, undertake joint development programmes, work collaboratively in advocacy enhancing the visibility of the ecumenical family's work in development. Jill also put forth an idea to share a family name (through co-branding their organization's name with the name of ACT Development) for the strong sense of identity.



SC Privilege for Dalits...

Franklin Caesar, social activist and legal advisor briefed the SBSS team about the collective struggle for the scheduled-caste privilege for the Dalit Christians. He said it does not matter we are Dalits or non-dalits, but as a responsible citizen of this democratic nation and as a social worker it is our duty to help and strengthen our Dalit brothers and sisters to acquire their status and rights.



CME Consultation, Jabalpur DBSS



Jabalpur DBSS conducted a CME Consultation as Capacity Building Process on June 27-28, 2007 at Vikas Asha Kendra Hall, Jabalpur for the presbyters, office-bearers and representatives from the congregation. The main objective was to analyze and understand the congregation's solidarity with the poor and needy.

Rt Rev PC Singh, Bishop of Jabalpur Diocese initiated the programme with a prayer and welcomed the participants. Dr Shailendra Awale, Chief Coordinator and Secretary, CNI SBSS, Rev Mrs Manjri Nanda and Prashant Bhonsle represented CNI SBSS.

The content was based on the Role of the Church & Congregation in empowering poor & needy, Right to Information (RTI) Act & its utility to fight against injustice.

News from RCSA Pune: The *Dang Adivasi Vikas Samiti* (DAVS), has gained recognition from the All India Radio (AIR), who had requested an interview with Rajeev Prasad on the interventions on NREGA on June 28th 2007. Following this invitation, Rajeev set about to prepare the DAVS staff Ms. Rakshaben and Avinash Bhoje for the interview. This interview recording took place on June 25th 2007 at 10am in AIR studio which Rajeev and Rakshaben attended. As it was later decided that the medium of communication would be *Dangi*, the interview took place at 5pm with Avinash Bhoje. The recording was conducted in one take. The broadcast was aired on June 28th 2007 between 9:15pm-9.30pm. The DBSS staff of Dang went to the various communities and informed them that this would be broadcast and that they should all be listening in. The arrays of discussion were on the identity of the DAVS, the relevance and success of NREGA, interventions and hurdles. There is an upcoming program on the AIR focusing on the NREGA again and we are preparing for this....



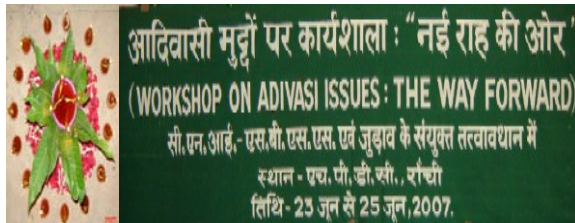
CONGRATULATIONS !

Climate Change

Climate Change is no longer a scientific issue or subject of scientists as its impact is already seen on the lives of poor and needy. Development work is also affected by it. SBSS believes it is an important issue to be addressed and integrated with our overall development work. Our resource-sharing partner Christian Aid (CA) conducted a two-days consultation followed by one-day public meeting on Climate Change in which partners of CA presented their work related to environment and ecology and various issues to be addressed in future strategically which will help us in mainstreaming Climate Change related concerns in our programme. John S.Kumar attended Climate Change Meeting organised by SCINDeA on behalf of FCFC on June 8th 2007 at Chennai and the CA Consultation during June 28-30th 2007 in YMCA New Delhi. Amen Xavier also attended the Delhi meeting on Climate Change.



Consultation on Perspective Development



To collate the present trend in Jharkhand with regard to socio-economic and cultural development and administration and political concern and accordingly prepare strategy for future intervention, a three-day consultation was organized by CNI RCSA Ranchi during June 23-25, 2007. It was first step towards identifying

issues leading towards partnership building by initiating dialogue, exploring the possibilities of collaboration and networking between NGOs and CBOs. With ChotaNagpur and Patna DBSSes, organizations like Judav, Jharkhand Ulgulan Manch, Abhiyaan, Koel-Karo Manch participated in this discourse on PESA and Fifth Schedule, Mega Project and Land Alienation, MoU, SEZ and Industrial Corridor, Traditional Self Rule and PRI, Women and Indigenous Society by the eminent activists like Dr Rose Kerketta, Prof Ramesh Sharan, Shri Ghanshyam and others.

Hearty Greetings...

Many Happy Returns to our accompaniers on their **Birthdays** – Christo Sebak Das (17th July), Rajeev Prasad (18th July), and Valsa Thomas (22nd July). May Lord Almighty Bless all of them abundantly and be with them always as they are serving Him being an important actor in His mission.



We also extend our prayerful wishes to Mrs & Mr Shamlal (15th July) on their **Wedding Anniversary**...

We join in to congratulate proud parents – Vinita & John Suresh Kumar on the **New Arrival** in family as they're blessed with baby girl on 25th June 2007.

Condolences...

Sudeep Tigga, lost his father-in-law Nemhas Tirkey on July 21st 2007. We remember the bereaved family in our prayers.