



## About Us

### Vision

"Where there is justice in the land, fields and forest every living being will dance and sing"



### Mission

In the spirit of service and sacrifice of Christ, CNI-SBSS would like to accompany DBSS and its partners to engage with the reference communities, so that they will develop the capacity (skills and assets) to negotiate with the policy makers and to realize their rights and emerge as an alternative political force. To move towards this direction, communities would be sensitized socially, politically, economically and culturally to organize themselves and claim their rights over livelihood means while protecting their identity.

### Our Resource Centres

CNI Resource Centre for Social Action on Livelihood and Food Security, Agra

CNI Resource Centre for Social Action on Land Rights and Dalit Studies, Pune

CNI Resource Centre for Social Action on Tribal Identity and Indigenous Rights, Ranchi

CNI Resource Centre for Social Action and Research, Kolkata

### Contact Us

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## News of the Fortnight

### Etah District in Uttar Pradesh has come under NREGA;

On May 1, 2007 the DBSS Agra has conducted a rally on Minimum Wages and NREGA. The rally was organized to tell the government that it has a responsibility to the people of Etah district i.e. bringing the district under NREGA as people suffer from all kinds of depleting problems which has made them the perennial victims of poverty. This protest rally which marched in the streets of Agra towards the Collectorate also had another demand which is to see an increase in the minimum wage. The momentum for the struggle had been harnessed from different sources as some more civil society groups also participated. From Agra dioceses 350 people from different reference area participated (215 men and 135 women).



People who marched towards the Collectorate conveyed their rights to the public through banners, boards and by shouting slogans. At the end of the march, people who led the march addressed the public on the importance NREGA and addressing the livelihood problems of the people. The group discussed the issue of Livelihood and Food Security in the meeting.

Then they met the District Magistrate and submitted a memorandum with the signatures of 350 community people and the same memorandum to the Governor and Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh through the District Magistrate of Etah. Thus mobilizing people and supporting such struggles and initiatives in the district DBSS, Agra could really make an impact in the policies of the government. As a result, in the second list of districts under NREGA, Etah has been included and minimum wages also has been increased from Rs. 58 to Rs. 80.

### People Realise the Power of RTI

DBSS, Patna organised a workshop cum seminar on Right to Information for BPL in Taljhari on February 1, 2007. In this workshop 32 (16 men and 16 women) people were oriented on the use RTI, drafting and filing process of the same. As the DBSS has already made some progress in making of RTI, it has planned to take the process in other reference areas. The participants were trained in how to put application seeking specific information on a particular issue. DBSS Patna believes that these 32 people different reference areas would act like cadres and help local families and communities to avail their rights. As a follow up of this workshop, an exercise was carried out to know how these people have helped their communities in this regard; it has been found that already 201 families from 4 Panchayats have filed RTI application on various issues.

### Tribal and Indigenous Peoples in India

On the occasion "World Indigenous Day" with reference to India especially in the context of Jharkhand, Sudeep S.Tigga, Acting Team Leader CNI-RCSA, Ranchi brings us closer through his article to the social, political and cultural aspirations of tribals. As the old saying goes "brevity is the soul of wit" though the article is brief still clearly discusses the concerns and issues related to tribals. Read More...[Click here](#)

