



Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna ANNUAL REPORT 2002 - 2003

Vision Statement

Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna believes in a world that sees the need to live as one family where the environment is preserved and protected, where conscious efforts are made to remove unjust structures while striving to build a just and humane society.

Mission statement

Our mission is to build sustainable human communities in the Darjeeling hills and the adjoining areas by promoting peoples participation, gender equality and living in harmony with the environment.

Goals

- (1) Using experience of Harsing work with closed tea gardens as well as *Khasmal*(Government lease hold land) areas to achieve people's organisations and people friendly savings and credit union.
- (2) Promote use of alternative source of energy and appropriate technology within the community Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna works with.
- (3) To undertake development and environment education with the students of educational institutions which are members of the Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna.
- (4) To provide support to other organisations.

Activities of Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna.

I. Community Development of Harsing, Dabaipani and Yangkhoo *Busties*(Villages), Darjeeling.

Harsing, Dabaipani and Yangkhoo *Busties* lie on the Lebong Spur of the Darjeeling-Jalapahar Range and form the major portion of what constituted the Harrison's Tea Estate, which closed in 1952.

Proposed *Sanjukta Vikas* Co-operative (SVC) was the outcome of the participatory survey and planning undertaken by the people and Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna in 1996. It is a people based organisation with 448 families as members. The SVC and Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna work in close collaboration with each other.

a. The oldest activity of SVC – the **milk co-operative** continues in a decentralised manner with minimal Prerna intervention.

b. One **self help group** encompassing all the 448 member families of SVC, four smaller hamlet groups and twelve exclusively women's SHGs continue their activities. A credit of Rs. 2 72 400/- was disbursed to the 12 women's SHGs in March 2003 against their savings of Rs. 92 250/-. The credit of Rs. 2 14 620/- disbursed in March 2002 was fully reimbursed prior to the amount of credit made available by the Indian Bank, Darjeeling Branch in 2003. The credit made available is being used for economic purposes on the decision of the Self Help Groups.

c. The Kothi Dhura **consumer co-operative shop** continues functioning self-sufficiently.

d. From 22nd. May 1998 **organic green leaf tea** is being sold by SVC to Tea Promoters of India Private Limited which has been processing and selling this as the only multi-cropping, co-operative based organic tea from Darjeeling. The Institute of Market Ecology, Switzerland has given a

Producer Organic Certificate to 244 members, 61 members under-conversion first year and 75 members zero year under-conversion. The total green leaf tea produced this year was 22 782 kg @ Rs. 24/- kg at the source. Winter cultivation has been conducted by the members independently for the first time this year.

Perna with help of IMO and TPI facilitated the formulation of the **Internal Control System and Internal Regulation System of organic farming(ICS & IRS)** with the members of SVC. This is a novel experiment which decentralizes organic farm certification and promotion at the community level. The ICS and IRS enshrines the roles and responsibilities of organic farming at the farmer, hamlet, SVC, Perna, TPI and IMO levels. It includes individual farm documentation, farm practices, internal and external inspection procedures.

e. Mr. Binod Chettri, Community Animator of Harsing, Dabaipani and Yangkhoo has been generously **supported for this year by Loreto Convent, Darjeeling.**

f. With the support of **Indesh-Patenchaften** the SVC has undertaken a **drinking water** project. The SVC has contributed local resources and labour to their project and will maintain it at the end of the project period.

Drinking Water Project with the members of Sanjukta Vikas Co-operative, Harsing, Dabaipani and Yangkhoo, Darjeeling, India.

HAMLETWISE COMPLETION REPORT AS ON 20th of January, 2003.

Sl. No.	Name of the Hamlet	Total No. of Tanks needed				No. of Tanks completed				% of work completed
		R. T.	S. T.	Filt.	Ctc.	R. T.	S. T.	Filt.	Ctc.	
1	Aeghara Number	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	100.00%
2	Kothi Dhura	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	100.00%
3	School Dhura	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	100.00%
4	Yangkhoo	1	4	1	1	1	4	1	1	100.00%
5	Gairee Gaon	1	6	1	2	1	6	1	2	100.00%
6	Godown Dhura	2	7	1	1	2	7	1	1	100.00%
7	Balbir Dhura	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	100.00%
8	Saila Dhura	2	7	3	4	2	7	3	4	100.00%
9	Aap Botay	2	9	9	9	2	9	9	9	100.00%
10	Lower Dara Gaon	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	100.00%
11	Upper Dara Gaon	2	5	2	2	2	5	2	2	100.00%
12	Pool Pakha *	1	2	3	3	1	2	3	3	100.00%
13	Suman Dhura *	0	3	1	1	0	3	1	1	100.00%
14	Barah Number (12 No.) *	0	5	3	3	0	5	3	3	100.00%
15	School Dhura (Minju) *	0	5	2	2	0	5	2	2	100.00%
	Total	17	65	32	34	17	65	32	34	100.00%

Abbreviation used :

R. T.	Reserve Tank
S. T.	Sub-Tank
Filt.	Filtration Tank
Ctc.	Catchment Area

* New hamlets included in Drinking Water Project

II. Community development of North Tukvar Tea Estate

North Tukvar Tea Estate is one of the oldest tea estates in Darjeeling and lies on the northernmost slopes of Darjeeling District and is 17 km from Darjeeling town. Opposite to it are the slopes of Sikkim and Chota Rangeet River in the valley.

Discussion with the community since 1998 and looking at governance issues with the management has resulted in the formation of one women's self help group with savings amounting to Rs. 9359/-. Credit worth Rs. 25 000/- has been made available to the group on July 2002.

III. Research paper.

A document titled, “**Area and Issue Profile of Darjeeling District and Sikkim**” has been completed. The document describes in-depth the area, looks into various government departments and programmes engaged in development activities, enlists the various issues pertaining to the area and analyses them. The document also lists the NGOs working in these areas and provides a glimpse into their activities. The document has been prepared with secondary data available and in consultation with various academics, activists, concerned officials and persons working in these areas. The research was supported by **Indo-German Social Service Society**.

IV. Support to other organizations.

a. The Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna has been providing support services to other organisations especially the Diocese of Darjeeling setting up of the Anugyalaya Darjeeling Diocese Social Service Society and implementing its activities. As of November 1st 2000, Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna has been given a three year contract to co-ordinate the Anugyalaya Darjeeling Diocese Social Service Society. In this contract, Roshan and Rohin have been appointed as the Director and Project Co-ordinator of Anugyalaya DDSSS respectively. Though the contracts have been signed by the two in their individual capacity, the understanding reached is that the team of four will extend their support together as the Prerna team and the Prerna team will have the freedom to appoint the staff.

Activities Undertaken through Anugyalaya Darjeeling DSSS.

1. Consultations with lay leaders in the Diocese of Darjeeling (CARITAS India – supported).

Goal: To co-ordinate and collaborate development activities of the diocese.

2. Animation for Community Development (CARITAS India – supported 2001 - 2004).

Based on the experiences of Prerna in Harsing, Dabaipani and Yangkhoo the projects envisages to improve the socio-economic conditions of the communities, Maria Busty; Gitdubling; Kankebong-Pringtam of Kalimpong sub-division, Mamring-Sittong of Kurseong sub-division and Martam of Sikkim, through animation towards people's organisation. 20 Self Help Groups have been formed.

3. Primary School Teachers Training of CRS supported schools (CRS India – supported)

Goal: To promote quality education which is joyful based on activity oriented teaching learning methods and on the local environment.

4. Animation of Community Based Organisations of Darjeeling Municipality Area(CARITAS India supported)

Goal: To Animate the 111 Community Based Organisation within Darjeeling Municipality towards self sufficiency and unity.

b. Capacity Building Support

1. The staff of Prerna facilitated a 2 days **strategic plan** session and followed it with a 2 days **programme planning and formulation** workshop with **Darjeeling SPARSH**, a Darjeeling based NGO working on issues of disability and community based rehabilitation of persons with disability.

2. The staff of Prerna have **designed a training programme** for community animators. The staff then **facilitated a training programmes** with 10 Community Animators, 1 Assistant Co-ordinator and 1 Master Trainer(Education) with special reference to these topics below. Others topics were also discussed in the training programme with resource persons outside of Prerna.

TRAINING COMPONENTS

TOPIC	CONTENT
1. Communication method and skills	Processes and application
2. Participatory rural appraisal	People, Resource and Time Related Methods & participatory learning in action
3. Development trends	Historical Perspective of Development
4. Self Help Groups & Micro finance	Concept and skills on Self Help Groups & Micro-finance
5. Organic farming	Soil, Nutrients; natural supplements, compost making; natural pest management; cropping systems; Watershed management
6. Environment	Environment & ecology – Concepts Pollution and Environmental Economics
7. Gender	Concept of gender and gender sensitivity
8. Logical frame work analysis	Participatory Planning Tool Monitoring, Evaluation

Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna

Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna was instituted by the Darjeeling Jesuits of North Bengal(DJNB) as Region Community Development Committee(RCDC) to cater to its ‘Development Apostolate’ after a regional evaluation in 1993. RCDC’s mandate was to evolve and help implement suitable strategy for human development in the Darjeeling Region. Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna will work with the Jesuits and its partners, religious and lay though not exclusively.

The Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna, though a Jesuit Organisation at inception, it has been registered as a secular organisation under the Societies Registration Act of West Bengal XXVI of 1961 as Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna dated 13th March 2001, Registration Number S/IL/2639.

The Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna has an administrative staff, since 1996, of a Programme Officer, **Roshan Rai**, an Office Co-ordinator, **Ashesh Rai**, and two Programme Managers, **Navin Tamang**, **Rohin D’souza**.

Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna is a member of the Darjeeling NGO Network.

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