

District Budget Watch Group Meeting-Bolangir

Place-Conference Hall, Hotel Triveni, Bolangir

Date: 22nd July 2012

A one day meeting of Balangir Budget watch group was held at Hotel Triveni on 22nd July 2012, over which president of Balangir district child welfare committee Sri Damodar Mishra, presided over it and Sri Jabandhu Khamari Sharma was the guest of honour. Saroj Barik facilitated and coordinated the entire process, Muralicharan das presented vote of thanks. After brief self introduction, Shankar Panigrahi of SATARK (Balangir Budget Watch group) gave a brief report on the Budget watch group activities in Balangir briefly.



The main discussion points

- Involvement of district level civil societies Organizations (CSO) started in 2009 and the district level consultation started in 2010,*
- Youths and CSOs were oriented in the Budget process and preparation of Balangir district demand started 2010*
- Budget watch group was formed in 2011 and four thematic areas namely Health, Education women and child development and agriculture and irrigation were selected.*
- Preliminary data were collected and group exercise were carried out in the field which was presented in the district level work shop and*
- Presentation of district draft paper in the state level pre budget work shops, at Bhubneshwar, besides appraising the legislatures about the district charter.*

Prakash Barik, Odisha Budget and Accountability Centre (OBAC)

Budget, which is the annual statement of income and expenditure is often beyond, the comprehension of common man.

The OBAC was launched, to develop information on Odisha state budget, creation of space for civil society group for pre budget discussion, development of resources base on the budget analysis and engagement of resources, However even after 8 years many things remain to be done .Understanding the budget and influencing the legislature is a process oriented work which takes a lot of time to see its impact,



Achievements of OBAC

- *Thanks to the OBAC initiative since its beginning inception eight years ago, three district level charter of demands could be prepared and produced*
- *OBAC issued a quick response after the presentation of Budget in the assembly which was partially helpful in understanding of Budget by our MLAs*
- *And recognizing the effort, the finance ministry invited civil society organizations' for a pre budget discussion in January 2012.*
- *A presentation on allocation to Sarva Sikshya Abhiyaan (SSA) Balangir and its analysis by Prakash barik revealed how money has remain unspent over last three years.*

Group wise viewpoints

All the participants were divided into six groups and they're told to identify the major issues of different sectors like Agriculture, Women and child development, Education, Health. Moreover two new sectors namely forestry and small scale industry were added in addition to last year four thematic areas.

All the groups presented their issues/problems one after another and the detailed is given below.

The issues identified by different groups are as follows



Forest

Amar Kumar Gouda,
(Team Leader) Sandeep
Kaunar, Nandi kishore
Sandh, Manas Ranjan
nanda, Rajkumar Sahu,
Milan kumar Pati)

1) Plantation and
ensuring livelihood
through forest
resources which
includes more
plantation of fruit
bearing trees like neem,
Mahul, Manmgo

andChar, Tamarind etc.

- 2) Establishment of processing unit at panchyat level and its value addition besides taking steps for its marketing
- 3) Necessary provision be created in the Budget for forest dwellers to ensure the livelihoods of forest dwellers

Industry

Sadananda Debta, (Team Leader) Prasanta Nayak, Swami Rameshwar Nanda, Sashi Purohit,
Shankar Prasad Panigrahi, S.Padhee, and Sujit Kumar Mishra

- 1) Setting up unit to process Non timber forest produces and Agriculture produce and setting up modern training centre be set up for further promotion of and encouragement of traditional cottage industry
- 2) Availability of easy loan facility for setting up small scale industry which includes Land, electricity and subsidy, besides developing proper marketing facility of the products by government
- 3) Better coordination among the various departments of government and necessary steps to ensure people's participation there and provisions in the budget.

Health

Mahendra Darjee (Team Leader) Amit Sahu, Hemanrta Nag, Jaynarayan Nayak, Jujesti Meher, Dayasagar Pradhan

- 1) Setting up Trauma care Centre, First Aid mobile health unit and with doctors and sufficient equipments
- 2) Setting up new hospital with 500bed, and Opening of generic medicine store for poor and health check for return migrants.

Agriculture

Sadasiv Sahu, Sudhir Mishra, (Team Leader) Nilamani joshi, Krushna Chandra banchhor, Rajendra Bhue, Sonu mishra, Rabindra Kumar Sahu

- 1) Promotion of Organic farming

- 2) *Preservation of and promotion of the use of traditional paddy for sustainable agriculture, Better irrigation facility (with adequate electric supply) to farmers*
- 3) *Adequate information to farmers on different schemes of government with insurance coverage and proper implementation.*
- 4) *Supply of adequate fertilizer and pesticide and change in the paddy procurement policy in the district.*

Women and Child Development

Murali Das (Team Leader) Alok Patra, Pragnya Parimita Singhdeo, Radharani Darjee, Sampika Rath.

- 1) *Development of Better monitoring mechanism for W&CD programme with community involvement, creation of Budget provision for migrant Children for their Education and Health (at work site)*
- 2) *Livelihood promotion for distress women, widow with increase of pension and Effective implementation of rules to check women and child tracking*
- 3) *Adequate infrastructure at Anganwadi Centers*

Education:

Anand Pradhan (Team Leader) Samru Biswal, Hiralal mishra, Promod bagati, Dhuleshwar Sahu, Netrananda Das, Sanatan Thakur,

- 1) *Effective steps to take Pre School, Remedial and Bridge course and Appointment of trained teachers*
- 2) *Creation of adequate classroom and infrastructure and drinking water facility there on*
- 3) *Creation of education of educational facilities for migrant children*



After presentation, the meet resolved to prepare the document with more information and the deadline for following task was fixed as follows.

- ***Finalization of issues and work sharing by 31st July***
- ***Completion of field level exercise -25th August***
- ***Preparation of draft aspirations of the district -15th September, 2012***
- ***Draft document Finalization – 30th September***
- ***District level pre budget workshop -31st October-2012***