

## **Association For Social Service And Rehabilitation Of The Aged (ASSRA)**

ASSRA is a Society Registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860, having registered office at New Delhi & field offices in Jharkhand & Orissa, is engaged in development activities for an integrated, holistic and all comprehensive growth of individual, group and community.

Over the past three years this organization has conducted classes imparting basic education and campaigned for the same in the rural clusters of Patamda block of East Singhbhum District in Jharkhand. Mostly it has covered the tribal dominated villages Kasidih, Gobarghushi and Amkadhi in imparting basic education to different age groups through various innovative methods.

ASSRA as a policy of its own engaged the educated unemployed youths from tribal community from the local area to teach in the schools run by it in the villages. The innovative and experimental features of the project activities, which have been aimed at bringing the most disadvantaged and deprived children (both boys and girls) to the network of basic education, could be broadly put as follows:

- Relevance to the needs of disadvantaged groups.
- Concern with specific categories of persons.
- A focus on clearly defined purposes.
- Flexibility in organization and methods.

ASSRA believes that **change** begins right at **home**. In order for children of low-income families to attend school regularly, their fathers need to be persuaded of the value of **education**. In order for these students to flourish in a healthy environment, their mothers need to be empowered socially and financially.

ASSRA works closely with local and underprivileged tribal villages to achieve an **integrated, holistic, and comprehensive growth of the individual, group, and community**.

ASSRA also focus on empowering entire families and the community at large with sustainable means of income generation, and raising awareness on issues of health, environmental conservation, and culture through various innovative methods viz. through cartoon workshops.

### **Vocational Training for Students, Income Generation Activities for Mothers**

It is important to us that our students prioritize their education above all else, and that they are not inappropriately burdened by financial worries at home. ASSRA arranges **vocational training** for older students who exhibit talent in specific areas. Local adults, mostly stay-at-home mothers, are trained in **practical, eco-friendly** ways to generate income. Various vocational training programs conducted by ASSRA over the past few years include mainly:

- Candle Making
- Manufacturing Organic Spices

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- Artificial Jewellery Making
- Bag Making
- Craft training programme involving Bamboo and other minor forest products available locally
- Agarbatti Making
- Soap/Detergent Making
- Mushroom Cultivation
- Poultry
- Goat Rearing
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Tailoring.

### **Cultural Development**

ASSRA strives to revitalize the fading folk cultures of the various regions of India. Our schools promote better awareness of, and instill in the students a love for their unique culture.

### **Health Awareness Program**

Keeping in view the area and the climatic condition where the project activities are being undertaken various health check-up camps were held over the past few years. Almost all of the students were issued health cards.

Various health related awareness programs were conducted by ASSRA over the years. Basic reason for various diseases and their cure were explained to the students as well as to the parents through cartoons keeping in view the cartoons will have a visual impact in the minds of the participants.

For more information please visit [assra4u.org](http://assra4u.org) or write to [subhjit@rediffmail.com](mailto:subhjit@rediffmail.com)

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