

*Report of Pilot Social Audit under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA
Conducted at 3 selected VECs of 2 AECs under Rongram
C & RD Block, West Garo Hills District*

14th – 18th July 2015

Venue: District Rural Development Agency

Tura, West Garo Hills District

Organised by

Meghalaya Society for Social Audit & Transparency

(MSSAT)

Introduction

As directed from the Ministry of Rural Development, (MoRD) Government of India, The office of Meghalaya Society For Social Audit & Transparency (MSSAT) , Meghalaya had taken up the process of conducting Pilot Social Audit in one of the selected Block i.e Rongram C & RD Block of West Garo Hills District of the State.

In this regard this office has conducted the Pilot Social Audit in the 3 (three) selected VECs of two AECs namely Asanang AEC & Jendragre AEC of the respective Block, and the VECs include (a) Rengsanggre VEC, (b) Jendragre VEC and (c) Chibasalgre VEC. The Resource Persons involved include from the State, District and Block Level Officials. 6 Nos of Different CSOs/ NGOs were also involved in the Programme.

DAY 1

Inaugural

At the very outset, Shri. P.K. Boro Additional Deputy Commissioner & Project Director, District Rural Development Agency, Ampati welcome all the participants present. The training Programme started with a welcome address from Smti D. Nongrum, Social Audit Expert, MSSAT. This was followed with an introduction from all the participants of the programme. The following topics were review and presented through Powerpoint Presentation by Smt L. Lyngdoh Tron and Smti D. Nongrum, Social Audit Experts, MSSAT as below:

- Purpose of training and background, aim & Objectives of MGNREGA Social Audit was briefed.
- A short film on Social Audit Process under MGNREGA.
- Open discussion on the Film was followed where a lot of views have been observed from the participants.
- A brief introduction on Audit of Scheme rules 2011. Roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders were highlighted
- Planning for works and preparation of Labour Budget
- Briefing on Permissible works under MGNREGA.



First day of Training Programme on Pilot Social Audit

DAY 2

Second day started with a warm welcome to all the participants and then a recapitulation of the previous day sessions. The following topics were review and presented through Power point Presentation by Smt L. Lyngdoh Tron and Smti D. Nongrum, Social Audit Experts, MSSAT as below:-

- Introduction on Social Audit Unit i.e Meghalaya Society for Social Audit & Transparency (MSSAT)
- Social Accountability & Audit – Process and Mandate
- Do's and Don'ts in Social Audit process
- MGNREGA challenges, Schedules II of the scheme.
- Acquaintance with site and social Audit formats.

Discussion on formats

- To get acquainted with the format and the process, three Groups were formed and each group were provided with Social Audit Report Format, Chart papers and sketch pens for practicing exercises before going to the field. During the exercise each group was given a theme and was asked to work on the theme and to present base on their exercise. The Themes were as below:-

Group 1 – Job Cards, work selection, quality and utility

Group 2 – Wage payment and work site facilities

Group 3 - Registers and Grievance, accident compensation, Transparency and accountability.



Second day of Training Programme , participants involving in practice exercise

- **Preparation of Field visit:** Arrangement was made that each group were assigned to conduct the Pilot Social Audit in the three different selected VECs of the Rongram C & RD Block. They were given a time frame for the visit as follows:-

1st Day – Document verification, Work site verification and Door to Door interaction.

2nd Day- Social Audit meeting at each VEC

3rd Day – Presentation of the findings and overall reports

Groups	No of Participants	Selected C & RD Block	Alloted AEC	Alloted VEC
Group 1	7	Rongram	Jendragre	Chibasalgre
Group 2	6		Asanang	Rengsangre
Group 3	7		Jendragre	Jendragre



Presentation of the three Groups preparing for Field exercise

FIELD EXERCISE (DAY 3 & DAY 4)

For the third day arrangements have already been made from the concern district for the travelling for field visit. We started the journey from 8: 30 AM to the Rongram C & RD Block and from the Block Office each group departed to their concern allotted VEC. The whole day was dedicated towards the three processes of Social Audit. Initially Documents verification was done which was followed with Site verification and lastly door to door interaction.



Field exercise: Documents Verification, Site Verification , Social Audit Meetings in Chibasalgre VEC

On the fourth day we started again at 10:30 AM from the DC office, Tura to the different Villages to conduct Social Audit meetings. On reaching Rongram C & RD Block, the groups disperse to their concern VEC. During the meeting, Photograph and Video graph was taken in all the three venue.



Field exercise: Door to Door Verification, Documents Verification, , Social Audit Meetings at Rengsangre VEC

The findings and overall reports recorded in these two days of Field exercise were presented by the groups on the 5th day of the Programme.

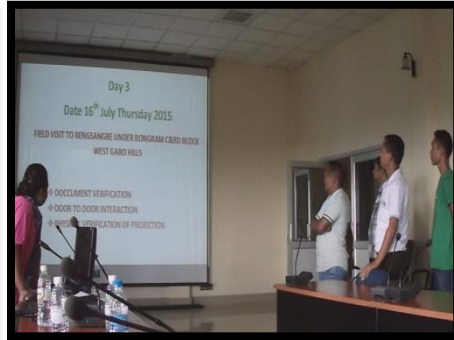


Field exercise: Door to Door Verification, Documents Verification at Jendragre VEC

DAY 5

The last day of the Programme was started at 9:30 AM. On this day the entire programme was dedicated towards the presentation of the different Social Audit Reports of from the three different groups as per the ANNEXURES below:

GROUP	Members present	ANNEXURE
GROUP 1	1. Smti. Jastina Marak (District Social Audit Resource Person) North Garo Hills District, Resubelpara 2. Shri Jony Bath M. Marak (CSOs Bakdil) 3. C. P Chowdhary (CSO Bethany society) 4. T. M. Marak (CSO Bosco reach out) 5. N. Koch (CSO Seva Bhaarati) 6. Donbirthsing Ch. Marak (APO Selsella Block)	ANNEXURE 1
GROUP 2	1. Bikash CH. Marak (CSO AWS) 2. Miss. Casandra Harris Ch Marak. DSARP 3. Mr. Palko N. Sangma. DSARP 4. Mr. Onthusixer R. Sangma. AWS 5. Mr. Wallen N. Marak. SEWS	ANNEXURE 2
GROUP 3	1. Augustine Sangma 2. Q. Marak (CSO Sevabharati) 3. P. Marak (CSO Bakdil) 4. N. R. Marak (CSO Bosco Reach Out) 5. Sallar N. Marak (CSO SEWS) 6. Davis Zicok Marak (CSO Bethany Society)	ANNEXURE 3



Presentation of the Reportss by the Groups Payment of Allowance to the Participants

Findings:

1. Participation and interactions was observed in all the three VEC during the 2 days of field exercise.
2. The chairman and secretaries were ready to apologies for the inconvenience that prevails in the implementation of this scheme.
3. Different queries were made from the Job Card holders regarding wage payments, provision of technical estimates, worksite facilities which were clarified by the officials present in the meetings.

Overall observation

After each group has presented their report, following observations are extracted and suggestions were made base on the Pilot Social Audit conducted in the three Selected VECs.

Sl.No	Observations	Suggestions
1.	The job cards not updated	Awareness can be given to them through public meetings and hearings.
2.	Too much delay in release of funds for wages	Follow up actions can be taken by higher authorities
3.	Some documents are not available as per the requirement of the Social Audit Report ,MGNREGA i.e Social Estimate, Technical Estimate, Measurement Book, Stock Register, Grievance redressal Register,	Programme Officer /BDO to ensure that the documents required as per the Rule should be made up to date & available with VEC.
4.	Frequent change of VEC representatives.	Instruction can be given by the authorities concern that during changing of VEC representatives, all maintained and updated documents should be handover to the next VEC representative.
5.	Job Card holders are not interested to get their Job Cards updated.	Programme Officer / BDO to ensure the same.
6.	Technical estimate was not supplied to the VEC from the Block level.	Programme Officer / BDO should ensure that Technical Estimate, Social Estimate and all Documents are available with VEC.



Group photo on the Last Day of the Programme with all the participants along with Shri, P. K. Medhi, APO General, MGNREGA West Garo Hills District

Challenges:

- Hard to find Job Card holders while Door to Door Visit.
- Lack of Human resources from the implementing and monitoring agency of Social Audit to take part in the entire Social audit over all process.

Conclusion:

The programme was concluded by the disbursement of allowance to the participants attending the programme which was then followed with a vote of Thanks from Smt: L. Lyngdoh Tron.

Enclosure: Social Audit Report of the three VEC as per ANNEXURE I, II & III along with the attendance sheet of The Social Audit Meetings held in the three VECs.