

ECS ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

2017
2018



Secretary's Note

Dear Readers

Sincere thanks to all 'well-wishers' and enthusiasts of ECS.

The initial teething problem on implementation of Mid-day meal is almost over. We have had positive response from all quarters and we acknowledge the immense role played by the church. Sincere thanks also to the Education Department; for timely release of both the ration and cooking cost for the project. The partnership has been more than cordial and we hope the same in the coming years.

Sincere thanks to the Social Welfare Department for the sustained support towards the communitized ICDS project. The project was first implemented in 22 AWC of 10 villages in Tuensang district. The pre-school concept began to take prominence and what we are beginning to see is the gradual increase in enrolment at schools. This is the same experience with Mid-day meal, children attendance is improving and this is an indication of the effectiveness of the supplementary nutritional programme.

The joint proposal for the HCL grant meant that we needed to work in tandem with all stakeholders. The Chief Secretary office, the health department and IIT Mumbai were amazingly supportive till the end. Of 3600 applicants across the country, ECS won the HCL Grant for 2018 in the Health category. I specially thank the community and all team members of ECS for the team effort.

The support by Tata Trust through NEIDA is now more than 10 years. There is remarkable change in community response to adaptation to challenges of livelihood. All 707 toilets are complete and we awaiting declaration as ODF in four villages. The TRUST has released entire amount for construction of the 'rain harvest tanks' and we are hopeful the work will complete by Nov 2018. This will mean every home gets a 7000 liter tank. The ambitious plan to adopt 6000 families under piggery is almost half way through, special thanks to the NEIDA technical team. Thanks also to KVK Tuensang for the ever-ready support. Because of KVK, we have been successful in implementing the MOVCD project sponsored by Dept of Horticulture and the livelihood reinforced by NEIDA.



NSCB bank has released another loan of Rs3.5 Cr for on lending to SHGs. This will not only cater to the groups but we aim to extend lending to directly benefit the 'Edou bank' members.

Nabard is one of our oldest partners, the SHG movement began in 1997 with the support of NABARD and today this is one of our most successful projects. We have completed two TDFs and we sincerely thank NABARD for approving TDF 3.

Wipro Cares project is one of the projects, which has given us confidence to help rural women to assert their right to health and a dignified childbirth. We have successfully completed Phase 1 and we hoping to begin Phase 2 of the project. In many sense we can say that the work done in the region with the help of Wipro and DUDA enabled ECS to win the HCL award 2018. Sincere thanks to DUDA and Wipro Cares for the sustained support.

The 'bee keeping' project sponsored by NECTAR is beginning to bear results. Timely repayment of loan by

farmers is one indication that honey farming is a tangible programme.

Finally, heartfelt thanks to Dept. of Health and family welfare (NHM) for the sustained support towards 'House of Hope'. This year the health center won the prestigious 'Kayakalp Award' for best kept PHC in the district. A cash award of Rs 1 lakh was conferred to ECS. With the HCL support we plan to adopt 28 Sub-Centres and 5 PHCs.

For ECS, we consider making government programmes become functional, a greater achievement than any of our best of intentions. Our effort to see that these programmes succeed is above all aspiration because governmental programmes ultimately serve the poorest. And in doing so; we achieve our goal to work for the last, the lost and the least.

Regards

Chingmak
Secretary, ECS





Mother and Child centre.

DUDA (Department of Under Developed Areas) and MP Fund. The building also has the X-Ray room and the lab on the ground floor.

The PHC saw a steady flow of patients with both OPD's and inpatients thanks to the insurance scheme (RSBY), which is responsible for covering the cost of treatment per patient. Longpang is the only empanelled PHC in the state and it has been a big boon for the villagers holding the card. In a span of 8 months, more than 300 patients have been provided treatment free of cost through the RSBY scheme.

The facility continues to see improvements taking place in key health indicators mainly in ANC, deliveries and immunization which are one of the main targets of the National Health Mission. The most promising changes have been viewed in the mindset of women accessing ANC, delivery services and ensuring prompt vaccination of their babies in their designated time. This is attributed largely due to the presence of the mothers' clubs formed in all the villages which plays a vital role in spreading awareness and ushering change.

Longpang Reflection



The newly completed operation theatre, lab and x-ray room.

THE YEAR 2017 HAS BEEN another productive year for Longpang PHC with the highlight being the week-long surgery camp conducted in the month of November. The surgeries for the 9th camp was conducted in the newly constructed operation theatre with support from

- An interesting incident was the arrival of a pregnant woman from Pfutsero for delivery. The pregnant woman was visiting her sister in Tuensang who incidentally had delivered her baby at Longpang and had recommended her to do the same.
- For the first time, the PHC conducted a twin delivery by a lady from Sangsangyu.
- The PHC hosted a batch of interns from the nursing school in Tuensang for a month. They were taken through a course that included classroom lectures, hands on learning and field visits.
- ASHA training –a 2-day training on application of care mother kit was conducted at the PHC for ASHAs and health workers. Care Mother kit is a portable pregnancy care solution that provides all the essential antenatal tests at the doorsteps.



A new born baby at Longpang PHC

9TH SURGERY CAMP

Longpang, Tuensang
27 Nov to 1 Dec, 2017

Tuensang district is one of the least developed districts in Nagaland constantly needing improvements in many spheres. Health is one area that needs urgent advancement. The public health system which lacks proper infrastructure, equipment, manpower is not equipped to treat major surgical cases or other advanced health complications thus leaving one with no option but to seek treatment outside of Tuensang. But this is not an option for majority of the poor rural folks.

ECS has been organizing surgery camps in Tuensang district since 2012 with the idea of providing the rural poor with opportunities for advanced surgical care and so far, has successfully conducted 8 such camps in collaboration with a range of partners like the civil hospital Tuensang and CIHSR (Christian Institute of Health Sciences and Research) Dimapur.

The screening for the 9th Surgery camp was conducted in Tuensang Town,



Changlangshu, Monyakshu, Tobu, Noksen, Longleng and Longpang and altogether 208 people were screened through this process. The 9th Surgery camp was conducted from 27th November to 1st December 2017 in collaboration with CIHSR. The organization provided the services of 2 doctors, one doctor's assistant, 10 nurses and surgical equipments towards

the camp. The Assam Rifles also came forward and provided around 33 beds for use during the camp.

This year too, the camp was led by Dr Laji, a conferred FRCS (Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons), Dr Robin M.B.B.S, M.S, M.ch. and 5 other doctors in assistance. Altogether, 91 surgeries were conducted of which 56

were major surgeries. Type of surgeries comprised of Lipoma, gall stone removal, thyroid, ovarian mass, cleft lip, prostrate, amputation, inguinal hernia, tubectomy etc. Some of the doctors also provided OPD services during the camp seeing to over 117 patients.

Below are some cases who had difficulty getting treatment outside but was finally treated in Longpang during the camp.

- L Sangla, is a 45 year old female with an abdominal mass growing progressively over many years, she was seen at Kohima as well as Tuensang but didn't have any treatment offered. She was finally seen during the screening after she was taken up and then operated. An ovarian cyst occupying the whole abdomen weighing 9.6 kgs was removed and the patient was discharged in a stable state.
- Tongpang, is a 70 year old man. He had a mass growing on his abdominal skin over a year for which he went to Mokukchung for treatment but could not receive any cure. He finally came all the way from Mokukchung to Tuensang for the screening and was taken up for surgery during which sarcoma - a type of tumour was diagnosed and a wide excision was done to remove the tumourous tissue.
- Langmai is a 70 year old female from Tobu who had chronic epigastric pain, she was finally detected to have a gall bladder full of stones by Dr. Achung during an ultrasound examination. She was not able to go to Dimapur or Kohima for the treatment and was operated in Longpang for an uneventful surgery
- Hanstula is a 30 year female who had the most unfortunate complication of delivery caused due to a difficulty in labor. She developed a tract between her urethra (the conduit that lets urine out from the bladder to the outside and the vagina) which led her to uncontrolled urination. She was given prompt medical attention and is currently recovering.



Tracing the boy from Chingmei after cleft palate surgery in 2015

Choba, from Chingmei Village was born with cleft lip. His mother was worried as to how he will grow up in the future and whether his friends will accept him in their circle. He was only 1 and a half years old when he was brought to Longpang PHC in Nov 2015 to repair the problem. After checking him up the doctor said, "we will do his surgery tomorrow". His sister recalled, "I was so relieved that I began to cry. The next day, he was changed into a gown and taken into the operation theatre. We waited for about two hours before he was finally brought outside. It was such a relief. My brother will look normal now". Choba now lives with his sister who is married and is attending UKG. He is a bright child who wants to study and says, "when I grow a bit older I will study in an urban school". Despite the difficult village life, he is happy and wishes to be someone great in the future.

Technology and its usage in remote and hard to reach places

.....
By Dr Meyachungla Jamir
.....



Many different elements must come together before a human community to consider it as a developed, developing or an under developed society. India is a developing Nation and yet, we belong to a state that is far lacking in many spheres to be even considered in the developing category. Being posted in the far eastern part of the country bordering Myanmar, there are many factors that hinders the execution, the different programmes and functions of the Government.

Health is one important area that needs urgent improvement. There are many factors that results in poor health service delivery; the deplorable road conditions, lack of public transport, weak economic conditions of people. For many villages, the nearest health centre is a whole day walk through hilly terrains. Illiteracy coupled with cultural constraints makes health care discussions especially on pregnancy care and safe delivery quite challenging.

In such a grim situation as this, technology can play a very important role in overcoming many of these barriers. In April 2017, ECS introduced Care mother in Tobu, which is a pregnancy care solution that has a mobile app, web application and a medical kit that can be carried around by health workers and perform door step tests and diagnostics. The kit consists of 9 (nine) different devices which can monitor or test some of the basic universal tests such as blood pressure, diabetes, haemoglobin, fetal heart sound, body temperature, pulse, urine albumin and glucose, fundal height and body weight of the pregnant mother. The devices are user friendly and can be operated by



an ASHA or a health worker in the village. The health worker obtains the profile and other necessary data from the pregnant mother which will help in evaluating her pregnancy status. After the tests, the data is uploaded into the Caremother App, and the doctor from another location can view the results and accordingly advise the patient through a phone call.

Since its introduction, we have seen women opening up and coming forward for antenatal check up as the health service is available on their door steps. This results in increased institutional deliveries, better labour management and decreased post-partum haemorrhages and infections, as well as better and timely immunization of the newborn. The process of conception, gestation and delivery is a natural thing that God has gifted human beings. And yet, at this juncture, women in these parts need all the help be it nutrition, mental, physical or moral support and care. However natural it may seem, there are always possibilities where just a small negligence or carelessness could lead to loss of lives and on the other hand a small step of precaution and care could save lives and also in delivering a healthy baby.

WIPRO

V I S I T

T O

LONGTANG

V I L L A G E

Longtang village, with about 90 households is one of the 12 villages covered under ECS health program supported by WIPRO CARES. Substandard roads and lack of public transport makes access to the village very challenging especially during monsoons and is classified as a “hard to reach” village. Longtang does not have a health centre and is covered by the

PHC in Noksen Town. However, due to the distance and the road conditions, it becomes difficult for PHC staff to travel regularly for delivering routine ANC and immunization services.

During the WIPRO team’s visit to Tuensang, a program was organized in Longtang village on 28th November 2017 in collaboration with the 7 villages



under Ngongchung area namely Ngongchung, Longtang, Haak, Yali, Nakshou, Lokhung & Bhumpak villages. The Village Councils, VHC, ASHA and Mothers Club members from all these villages attended the programme. The Village Council Chairman Longtang, Head GB Bhumpak & VHC Chairman Haak all agreed that they were seeing substantial increase in child immunization, lesser home deliveries and more pregnant mothers accessing ANC services. Village Council Chairman, Longtang expressed his gratitude to WIPRO Cares and ECS for implementing the project and enabling them health care and also for providing nurses from ECS for immunization during the absence of nurses in their village. He also thanked ECS for the health camps and the medicines provided at low cost to the villagers. He said that mothers are now beginning to demand regular ANC and immunization services and voicing their concerns if the nurses at the health centres do not turn up in time.

The ASHA Worker from Nakshou village shared that in more than ten





Reception for Wipro Cares team in Tamkong Village

Pessao Village, Mon District



Meeting with community in Tamkong Village, Mon District



years of working as an ASHA, she has seen many changes in the villages in the past two or three years. Before the project, they were unaware of the importance of vaccination and there were very few children receiving immunization. Pregnant mothers did not go for ANC check-ups and there were no institution deliveries from the villages. Now with the formation of Mothers Clubs in all the villages and the trainings and seminars conducted through the project, people are more aware of the importance of child immunization, ANC services and institutional deliveries. She also said that the honorarium for ASHAs and the incentives for mothers, VHCs & mothers' clubs for every check-up and institution delivery through the project has been very helpful and is thankful to ECS and WIPRO Cares for all the support.

Training on caremother by CareN.



Demonstration of caremother kit at Pessao village.



WATER SOURCE CATCHMENT AREA TREATMENT PROGRAMME IN FIVE DISTRICTS OF NAGALAND



Discharge measurement



Technical hydrogeology survey



Technical hydrogeology survey

The Department of Rural Development Govt of Nagaland sponsored a Water Source Catchment Area Treatment project in collaboration with ECS as the implementing Agency and ACWADAM (Advance Centre for Water Resource Development and Management) and PSI Dehradun (Pune and Peoples Science Institute) as Technical support Agencies.

The purpose of the project was to pilot the spring water treatment activity in five villages of Mon, Longleng, Mokokchung, Peren and Kohima districts of Nagaland. The project was designed to deliver the following outcomes:

1. Increase the quantity of water discharge and to provide safe drinking water systems for rural communities.
2. Provide spring-based drinking water security to the people.
3. Build of the community capacity on spring hydrogeology, facilitate spring protection and management in the villages.

The first technical survey was conducted in November 2016 by PSI in all the five selected villages. The second technical survey was conducted by ACWADAM in January 2017. The trench and pit digging in the identified Recharge area was carried out in May 2017. In Hukpang, Mopungchuket and Dungki, the communities have dug 400 percolation pits and 300 trenches in each village. However, in Viswema and Chenwetyu, trench and pit digging activities could not be carried out due to a few land issues. The source discharge measurement is still being carried out by communities of the respective villages.

Project Sites

	Name of District	Name of the Village
1	Mon	Chenwetnyu
2	Longleng	Hukpang
3	Mokokchung	Mopungchuket
4	Peren	Dungki
5	Kohima	Viswema



Pits and Trench digging by the community



Pits and Trench digging by the community

A Poor Mother On Installation Of RRWHT (Roof Rain Water Harvesting Tanks) At Her Home.

Water has been a major issue in our village especially during dry seasons. The village does not have a pipeline connection and water is sourced from rivers, streams and ponds. Women and children are the ones who usually fetch water from the ponds. Every day someone has to be assigned just to fetch water from the pond. Despite financial difficulties, we often have to hire local vehicles to fetch water from the river.

“Now that I have water at home, I also have extra time for myself and other works.”

With support from ECS through Tata water mission, we have constructed a 7000 litres tank in my home in the month of April 2017. I never thought we will be able to have a tank full of water outside my house. *All of us can now attend our other works since we don't have to fetch water.* As a mother, if there is no water at home, I get worried. I utilize water for drinking, cleaning, cooking and washing clothes. Without water nothing can be done.

Earlier, we had to wake up early in the morning to fetch water before we start with any work. Now that I have water at home, I also have extra time for myself and other works. It is also a beauty to see the tanks constructed in all the households. It also makes our houses more beautiful and grand. All the women in the village are so happy and grateful for the support rendered. Thanks to the project for enabling the tanks which a villager like me can't even dream of.

Mrs. Chila, Litem Village



MID DAY MEAL

Since its launching on 16th November 2016, ECS has been implementing the Midday meal scheme in Tuensang District in collaboration with three Churches associations - the Khamniungan Baptist Churches Association, United Sangtam Baptist Lithro A and Yimchungru Baptist Boro Amukhungto. The Year 2017 began with hope that the community will continue to support the Church partners in implementing the scheme at different levels. As hoped, the communities have sufficiently demonstrated their enthusiasm and initiative by coming forward and contributing in different ways to make the Mid-Day Meal Scheme become feasible. It is our hope that through the MDM scheme, communities will become more aware and responsive towards all the government projects in the future.

EXPERIENCES FROM CHUNGTOR VILLAGE

Chungtor Village, located 6 kms from Longkhim ADC HQ is one of the villages where the Church along with the community has demonstrated strong ownership and participation in the implementation of the mid-day meal scheme. The Church helps the school authorities in cooking and in feeding the school children. The pastor of the village is a young and energetic leader who feels that the role of a church and its workers should not be confined only to the pulpit. In this village, not only does the church help in cooking and serving but they also contribute locally available fruits and vegetables which are collected as offering during Sunday services and Women's fellowship. The church is not alone in this effort. Other institutions in the village such as students union, Village Guards also takes turn to help in the cooking. During feeding days, the pastor or a church worker visits and conduct a small prayer service.

ROAD MAINTENANCE BY CHURCHES

The 23 kms link road between Shamator to Chessore through the villages of Miulangkiur, Chassir, and Y/Anner has been a major issue for the Church Association for transporting goods and supplies especially during the monsoon season. It is the only road that connects Shamator with the surrounding villages but during the rainy seasons it is rendered un-motorable making life very difficult for the people there. The Yimchungrü Baptist Churches Association initiated a drive where they requested Churches of the villages along the road to contribute in cash or kind for repairing the road. All the Churches responded to the call and came forward and contributed cash, materials and also their valuable time during the repair and restoration of the road. The YBBA contributed around 1.20 lakhs and mobilized 2 days of labour involving 100 plus people from Shamator. Each Church spent around 20-30 thousands Rupees in the effort plus scores of volunteers. People from Shamator, Miulangkiur and Chassir worked up to Lanya River and the villages of Y/Anner, Sotokur and Chessore covered the road on the other side.





SHG/POTATO SEED VILLAGE:

The Khudei Story

Khudei village is situated 15 KMs away from Tuensang district headquarters. ECS started Self Help Groups in this village in 2010 with 10 SHG groups. In 2015, the village was adopted in the Tata Trust supported project, “from subsistence to prosperity through community led and managed livelihoods initiative for 7,000 households in Noksen, Noklak and Sangsangyu Blocks, Tuensang District, Nagaland”. The objective of the project is to improve productivity of 5000 households sustainable through adoption of diversified and improved agriculture and livestock practices. It also seeks to promote SHGs



federated at cluster level to undertake economic activities and lastly, forest-based livelihood in 4 villages.

In 2017, 105 SHG members were adopted under potato cultivation apart from the other agri activities initiated in the village. The Package of Practices (PoP) on potato was initiated from starting from land preparation, seed treatment, planting to harvesting. Initially, SHG members were reluctant to adopt the new methods since they perceived the new

methods to be very time-consuming. In order to disseminate the technology, a demonstration plot was established involving the 10 SHG groups. Potato of Khufri Kanchan variety was planted in the demo plot. Training on the PoP was provided to the SHG farmers and on-field demonstration was started in the demo plot. A SHG member commented, “we thought it was tedious planting 600 kgs of potato tuber as per the improved PoP, but with the increase in production we are now realizing its importance”. Conventionally,

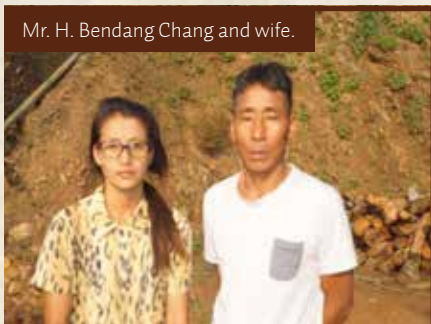
farmers never dehaulm on maturity of the potato tuber which results in rotting after harvest. In the demo plot, dehaulming was done for the first time in the village. “Dehaulming and curing of potato tuber minimize post-harvest losses and we have learnt this through the project. Now every farmer is dehaulming in their fields”, said one SHG member. Out of 600 kgs of potatoes planted, 3500 kgs of marketable tuber for planting was harvested from the demo plot. In 4-5 months’ time, the SHG members earned Rs 1.40 lacs from this plot. For the first time, training on seed treatment was provided and the treated seeds was reserved for the next season. The same demo was again used for planting peas in the Rabi season otherwise most of the time the land is kept fallow after the harvest. The proceeds from sale of peas from this demonstration plot was Rs 10,000.

System of Rice Intensification (SRI)

a case study



Single seed planting.



Mr. H. Bendang Chang and wife.

MR. H. BENDANG CHANG is a progressive farmer from Longra Village under Noksen Block in Tuensang district. He and his wife Ms. H. Themla are blessed with four children; one son and three daughters. Terrace farming is prominent in the village and 90% of the household owns terrace fields. He has been cultivating paddy for the last 7 years in a 2 acres plot of ancestral land passed on to him by his forefathers. Farmers practice conventional methods in the terrace cultivation.

In 2013, ECS in collaboration with Agronomy Division, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Tuensang introduced System of Rice Intensification (SRI)

technology with a total number of 10 volunteer farmers from the village. It took 3 years for ECS and KVK to saturate the technology to all the farmers in the village. In 2014, the village council made a signature campaign from every household and came up with a resolution to adopt SRI technology by every farmer in the village. Initially, for one-year NABARD supported the promotion of SRI technology through KVK in the village. Bendang says, “in conventional farming, I normally use about 20 kilos (2 tins) of paddy seeds for nursery for the 2-acre plot and get a harvest of about 8 quintals (84 tins). But in SRI, I use only 7 kilos of for nursery and harvest around 16 quintals (160 tins) from the same plot”.

In Longra, every farmer normally owns 2 Jhum plots, 1 terrace field and 70% of the households owns sugarcane farm and 100 % household owns Orange orchard farms. Throughout the year, farmers are heavily engaged in the management of these varying fields. The increase of harvest in the

terrace field after the introducing of the SRI technology has changed the attitude of most of the farmers in abandoning the Jhum field and concentrating in the terrace field. Bendang hopes that in the next 3 years the entire village will be solely engaged in terrace cultivation and Jhum will be completely abandoned.. He says, “I heartily thank Krishi Vikyan Kendra (KVK) Tuensang, TATA Trust, NEIDA and ECS for bringing in new and improved technology into our village.”



Nursery.



GRAIN BANK

Mr. Mengo

Village Elder and Project Management Committee Chairman, Longra Village.

The Grain Bank in Longra village was established in January 2016 in memory of Lt. Imtilemla Ao of Mongsenyimti village with the idea of loaning grains to needy villagers who do not have sufficient resources to purchase rations during lean season or natural calamities. Households in need of food grains can borrow them from the grain bank to be later returned to the bank.

The grain bank project was initiated by Rev. Dr. Chingmak Kejong Chang Secretary Eleutheros Christian Society (ECS) and launched by Smti. Watila Ao, the then Director of Horticulture, Govt. of Nagaland, who is also the sister of Lt. Imtilemla Ao. It started with 6000 Kgs of grains donated by Smti. Watila Ao. The Longra village council cheerfully accepted the notion of having the grain Bank in the village, which is the first of its kind among the Chang community. Since then, not a single farmer or villager has gone out of village/neighboring villages either to borrow or to buy grain. So far, 8 households have accessed loans from the bank. At the moment, the Bank has enough grains to meet the needs of the villager which has since increased to 7000 Kgs.

ORCHARD PLANTATION



In 2010, a pilot project supported by Tata Trust through North-east Initiative Development Agency (NEIDA), Kohima was initiated in Longra village covering 100 households and another 34 households supported through the village council. On completion of the pilot project, the trust had scaled up the project to 12 villages and covered 895 households under Orange plantation and 305 households lead crop promotion.

In the initial year, orchard plantation was inter-cropped with banana and vegetables to supplement in the cash income before bearing of orange. In the subsequent years, the organization in collaboration with KVK Tuensang has started pilot on System of Rice Intensification as 90 percent of the households are engaged in terrace cultivation. Started in 2014 with 10 farmers, the SRI technology was adopted by every farmer within a span of 3 years in the village. The overall production in the village has almost tripled from 500 quintals to 1360 quintals each year and increasing. Starting 2016 the organization began its intervention on agricultural crops and piggyery.





LOCAL MOLASES (SUGARCANE) HAIDEI



Mr. K. Nyakba and wife Achila

K. Nyakba Chang and his wife A. Achila Chang is from Longra village. They have 7 children. Two of their elder daughters are married. One child is presently studying in Nagaland Christian School, a private school in Mokokchung and the rest are skilled workers in the village. He has been producing MOLASES (sugarcane) for the past 11 years and earns about 45-50 thousand rupees from the sale of Molases. He says, “One good thing about Molases is that it helps me support my children’s education, since Molases is harvested during the school admission season. It also helps me take care of their monthly tuition and hostel fees.



I’ve planted sugarcane in about 2 acres of my ancestral land. In our village, 98% of households are into sugarcane cultivation and I’m happy to say that because of ECS’s intervention things are much easier now. Earlier the Molases was extracted manually but now we have two Molases extractors which have reduced our man-day wages and added to our incomes.



We get better prices when the sugarcane is around three to four years old. This year the income from sale of molasses was less. It was just about ₹. 35 thousand only which means that my sugarcane plants are past their most productive years and has to be replaced with new plants.”



PIGGERY A CASE STUDY

Mr. C. Y. Wongto is from Chingmelen, a small village located 20 kms away from Tuensang town. He is married to Senti and is blessed with two daughters and two sons. He is a marginal farmer dependent mostly on jhum cultivation and livestock rearing especially piggery. With increasing family expenses every year, he is constrained to meet ends every month. With his meagre income, he struggles to send his children to better schools. He recalls that it was painstaking to renovate pig sty every year but with support from Tata Trust in 2016, the sty floor was cemented and this has greatly eased his problem and expenditures. He says, “earlier my knowledge on rearing pigs was limited but through the trainings and exposure through ECS, I have enhanced my knowledge and skills on rearing pigs profitably.” The organization has provided trainings from site selection to INM, IDM through 9 modules to all the beneficiaries in the village.

With clean sanitation, the diseases of the pigs have been minimized in the village. Empowered with skills and knowledge on pig rearing through the trainings, he has increased his pigs from 1 to 6 in the succeeding years. He now earns Rs 20000 to

Rs 30000 annually from the sale of pigs. The income he generated is invested in his children’s education and has also helped in the construction of his residential building. He is also said to have bought a residential site in Tuensang town. On the credibility of his performance, the project has selected him for expansion of breeder units (4 sows and 1 boar). His wife is also a member of the SHG under the project.

TRAINING MODULES

Module – 1	Introductory
Module – 2	Housing Management
Module – 3	Feeding Management
Module – 4	Disease Management
Module – 5	Care and Management of Boar
Module – 6	Care and Management of Sow
Module – 7	Care and Management of piglets
Module – 8	Care and Management of fattener
Module – 9	Inbreeding Management



IMPACT OF SOCHUM IN LONGRA AND YANGPI VILLAGES

Knowing the importance of education, the communities from Longra and Yangpi villages have continued to sustain the Sochum program since 2010 without any support from outside. Sochum meaning ‘smart house’ in Chang dialect is a youth dormitory. It was previously known for being an institute for facilitating the enculturation process for the youth. Much of the Naga

cultures, customs and traditions have been transmitted from generation to generation through folk songs, dance, folk tales and oral traditions through this system.

ECS initiated the revival of the Sochum concept by integrating it with the modern school system. In the modern Sochum, rural students gather in the evenings to study as well as to learn life skills and return home

at the break of dawn. Students in Sochum not only learn from books but are also provided training on life-skills through hands-on orientation on agriculture, horticulture, crafts, gender awareness, imbibing world-view through oral traditions, social organizations and institutions, customs and beliefs and so on. Students in rural areas return home very early from school, leave their books and would not touch them till the next morning. Most of them engage in physical work so they retire early without having a glance at the books. Also, the support system is absent; there is no encouragement from the family or from their peers to study. Whereas at the Sochum, students are afforded more time reading and writing with the warden encouraging and helping them develop the culture of studying. To help develop leadership qualities and responsibility-taking, committees are set up on health, cleanliness, prayer etc and each student plays a role in it. The impact of Sochum on the children now could be seen through the improving grades, decreasing school dropout rates, and enhanced life-skills among the children. Seeing its impact, communities from Longra and Yangpi villages have decided to sustain the Sochum program despite many limitations. This year, Longra village went a step further to make Sochum a “Home far away from Home,” where the students will stay at the Sochum the entire week and return home only during weekends. The investment, time and effort put in is an example of the communities taking ownership and responsibility of its future generations. This also serves as a message for other rural communities.

**Students in
Sochum not
only learn
from books
but are also
provided
training on
life-skills**





STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY BASED CONSERVATION INITIATIVES AND SUPPORTING FOREST BASED LIVELIHOODS

With support from North East Initiative Development Agency (NEIDA), the Nodal agency of TATA Trust, ECS has been promoting profitable forest-based Livelihood activities for Sustainable Forest Management and Conservation in 4 villages of Konya, Yali, Bhumpak and Lokhung under Tuensang District. The objective is to support the community through forest based livelihood and strengthening community based conservation. Two major strategies are Mithun based Forest Conservation and Community Based Eco-tourism through sustainable forest management.



MITHUN BASED FOREST CONSERVATION

Under the Mithun based Forest Conservation, the project has constructed a total of 6 kms permanent barbed wire fencing (1.5 km in each village approximately) during the fiscal year. The total contribution from the community for construction of the fencing is approximately 8.2 lakhs in these 4 villages.

Agreement in the form of a MoU was also signed with the village councils (the highest apex bodies in the villages)

before implementation of the project in these participating villages. Four Mithun Farmers club were also formed to strengthen and motivate the Mithun farmers in the rearing process and also for other conservation initiatives. Forest Management Plans were developed with the help of the community in order to strengthen sustainable forest management.

Altogether 1089 Mithun Population from 8 villages under Kiphire and Tuensang district were recorded so far (with a market value of Rs.5.4 crores). Upcoming activities such as Bio fencing, fodder plantation and Mithun health camp are in the pipeline to be carried in all Mithun rearing villages across the three districts. During the year, 4 LSPs have given training under Scientific Rearing of Mithun for better productivity at ICAR Medziphema Jointly organized with NEIDA.



COMMUNITY BASED ECO-TOURISM

Considering the fact that in Nagaland, agriculture alone cannot sustain the economy of the farmers, NEIDA came up with an idea of promoting eco-tourism using the village's natural forest, wild life and its culture for attracting tourists which will later act as an alternative for generating income. For a state like Nagaland, sometimes referred to as the Switzerland of the east, which is blessed with natural resources, any attempt of socio-economic development has to be considered with utmost concern for the natural environment. The main goal of this initiative is to support the conservation effort of the community by promoting income generation and revenue activities for preserving natural and local culture by introducing Community Based Eco-tourism.

NEIDA has promoted 3 Community Based Eco-tourism villages, Thanamir and Fakim villages in Kiphire district and Dzuleke village in Kohima district as an alternative for

income generation. All ecotourism activities in the village are now managed by the community and the income generated from this ecotourism activities are utilized for the extension of eco-tourism activities and also for community development funds. So far under Dzuleke ecotourism, there were 287 tourist (National and International) who had visited the villages and has spent at least one night in the village. Through the eco-tourism activity, the community now earns a sum of Rs.5000 per month as an additional income without compromising any of their usual agriculture activities. Although the project is still in the implementation process, many intervened villages have considered the importance of conservation and has been playing an important role in conserving their forest. The project is not only encouraging the community on conservation but it is also helping the community to grow wild life in finding alternative ways for income generation activities.



T

he Cash Credit support of Rs. 2,00,00,000/- (Two Crores) from Nagaland State Co-operative Bank (NSCB) Head Office Dimapur Nagaland, sanctioned on 16.12.2014 was liquidated on 21.11.2017. In these three years term, the total interest recovered to the Bank was Rs. 47,15,467/- (forty-seven lakhs fifteen thousand four hundred sixty-seven rupees).

SHG Micro Credit

Through this loan, SHG members were supported on production of piggery, poultry, floriculture, cardamom plantation, grocery shops etc. The loan has also supported the revolving corpus of the 18 Edou Federations functioning under the organisation. The profit from the loan has helped SHG members to invest in children's education, purchase of assets, home construction and have supported their health needs.

On the successful liquidization of the first phase loan, both the parties (ECS and NSCB) had inked for refinancing second phase loan to SHGs on 22nd January 2018.

The second phase Cash Credit Limit refinancing was enhanced to Rs. 3.5 Crores and sanctioned to ECS on 13th March 2018 for a period of three years.

The launching program of the 2nd Cash Credit Limit Loan was organised on 1st of May 2018 at Hakchang village. During the program, 92 SHG members from 13 SHGs from Hakchang village obtained loans of Rs. 25,000/- per member for promotion of livestock and group businesses.

The organisation earnestly expresses its heartfelt gratitude to all files and ranks of Nagaland State Cooperative Bank (NSCB) for the untiring support rendered to the Organisation and making it possible to reach the unreached sections of farmers in the district through credit support.

Words of Gratitude

M. Chongshi Chang

**Chairman
Village Council, Longra**

Longra is a Chang village situated 65 kilometres away from the Tuensang district headquarter. Most developmental initiatives through state departments are negligible in our village because of its remoteness. It was in the year 2010, through the intervention of ECS that various projects and programmes were established.

In 2010, ECS with the support of NEIDA through Tata Trust developed orange orchards of Khasi Mandarin variety as pilot project for 100 households. The village council ended up adopting 134 households and for 2 years 134 acres of orange orchard was developed in the village. Each of the farmers were provided with 130 orange saplings intercropped with banana and vegetables. In the succeeding years, another 20 farmers were added through the trust.

Through this project, ECS has also started Self Help Groups (SHG) in our village. Five SHGs were formed with 48 members in the year 2011. Initially, group members were encouraged to start saving and indulge in Mobil business. The group earns by selling vegetables, daily wage and group projects. Later, these groups were linked into cooperative federation and together with four other villages invested a total amount of Rs 2,13,150/- (two lakhs thirteen thousands one hundred and fifty only) to the federation corpus apart from their individual savings. The income earned are used for health, education, agriculture expenses etc.

With the initiative of ECS, Sochum traditional dormitory for the school going children was established in the village in 2010. Children from class II to VI come to this centre and learn way beyond the extent of textbook pages. **The Sochum** (Chang tribe dialect) or the traditional youth dormitory was

introduced to assist the students in studying their lessons through reformation of the traditional institution. Though 'Sochum' has been extinct as a functional institution for decades now, the good practices associated with the Sochum endure in collective memory and are recounted by the few elders. The Sochum were the repositories of rich oral literature, history, culture, environment, values of life and a centre of inculcating skills for life of the people in the tribal society. The means of knowledge is transferred with involvement of every child and through learner friendly tools. The learning here is spontaneous, with peer support and active guidance (often hands on) and activity based with active participation of the community itself. Both teachers and parents work together to oversee the retention and dropout cases of students from the school.

ECS has also intervened into the health program of the village with special emphasis on Mother and Child health care. Mother club was formed with member representative from adolescence girls and prospective mothers. This club allowed the women involved to help and support each other financially, physically as well as emotionally. The institutional deliveries and immunization of the children has drastically improved in the village and people seeking for health care have reduced in our village and it's a sign of healthy village.

Apart from the orchard development, various improved seeds were introduced in our village. New technology of farming was also introduced with the support of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Tuensang. ECS and KVK has introduced System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in the farming practices of terrace cultivation. With the introduction of the SRI technology in 2014, the production of paddy has tripled in our village within just 3 years. New machineries and tools

ECS project staff
for being the torch
bearer for the
weaker sections of
the community.

& implementations were also introduced in the cultivation practices. With the increase of production in the terrace cultivation, most of the farmers have abandoned Jhum cultivation.

In the non-farm sector, ECS provided backyard pig rearing in the village with the support of NEIDA and Tata Trust. The good farming practices were also documented by Doordarshan in the national TV.

Before ECS' intervention, most households practiced open defecation in the village and most of the toilets were semi concrete or Kaccha in nature. Here most health issues were linked to water and air borne diseases. With the support of NEIDA and Tata Trust, each farmer was supported with a concrete toilet and a Roof Rain Water Harvesting Tank (RRWHT) of 7000 litre capacity. The Tata project has invested more than Rs. 90 lakhs for construction of toilets and RRWHT in the village.

Words are not adequate to thank for what ECS has done for our villagers. We humbly and earnestly express our sincere gratitude to Rev. Dr. Chingmak Kejong, Secretary ECS, the man behind all these social changes and the ECS project staff for being the torch bearer for the weaker sections of the community.

May God bless ECS.



ANGANWADI FEEDING CENTRE

My Story

My name is Sungmo Kundang, I am a 30-year-old mother from Konya Village in Tuensang district. When I was pregnant with my last child, I was encouraged to visit the Angangwadi feeding Centre by the village health workers. Though I was aware of the feeding program in my village, I never gave importance to it. I could see many of the mothers availing services from the centre but I couldn't make time to go there myself. I was so busy with my field and household works. It was only in my 2nd trimester that I finally visited the centre. When the workers took my weight as a routine procedure for pregnant women, they were shocked to see that it was only 34 kgs. There I was provided with food and nutritional supplements and encouraged to visit regularly. They also gave me valuable guidance on pregnancy care, importance of eating proper diet and safe delivery methods. 3 months into the program, I could feel the changes in my health and notice the increase in my weight. When I was due for delivery, they encouraged me to deliver at the hospital which I willingly did. I went to the Civil hospital in Tuensang and there I delivered a healthy baby weighing 3.3 kg. If it was not for the support of the angangwadi workers, the outcome of my pregnancy may have been different. Through this experience, I realized the importance of diet during pregnancy. Besides, I have also learnt about the importance of getting my child immunized. Earlier I never gave importance to immunize my children. Most of them did not complete their recommended schedule. Now, I will make sure that my children get their vaccines in time and see that they complete the recommended schedule. Thanks to all the workers at the centre for guiding and supporting me in taking care of me and my child. I will continue to share my experiences with mothers like myself and encourage them to avail the services and support provided through the centre.

FOR A FREE, FAIR & JUST WORLD



Miday Meal - Ngangpong GMS



PUBLISHED BY ECS

ADDRESS

POST BOX 51,
TUENSANG - 798612,
NAGALAND

E-MAIL

ecsecs_93@rediffmail.com