

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE LEVEL MEETING

ON

“RIGHT TO FOOD CAMPAIGN”

ORGANISED BY

**NORTH EAST REGIONAL DOMESTIC WORKERS MOVEMENT –
MEGHALAYA REGION.**

IN COLLABORATION WITH

“PEOPLE’S RIGHTS FORUM-MEGHALAYA”

SPONSORED BY

INTERNATIONAL FOOD SECURITY NETWORK (IFSN) AND ACTION AID

**VENUE: LAITKOR VILLAGE, MYLLIEM DEVELOPMENT BLOCK, EAST
KHASI HILLS DISTRICT**

DATE: 12TH August 2011

PARTICIPANTS: 25Nos.

With the aim to make domestic workers who were the inhabitants of Mawblei and Laitkor village, aware of ‘Right to Food’ which is a basic need of human beings the office of the North East Regional Domestic workers Movement (NERDWM) conducted a village level meeting on 12th August 2011 at the village of laitkor, which falls under Myllem Development Block, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong.

At the onset, the meeting began at 10:00am in the morning with a welcome speech from Mrs. Raechell Mawthoh the animator from NERDWM, Where she also introduced briefly for the upcoming sessions. The session was then taken over by over by Smt.Wanpynhun Kharsyntiew-state co-coordinator; PRF-Meghalaya to disseminate and circulate information’s and shares the experience on the implementation of RTF programmes in the State. The main components under RTF discussed are as follows;

TPDS-Targeted public Distribution System: The resource person started emphasizing the importance of BPL card stating that, this is a family identification that people need to be

carefully alert. Question arises on how PDS is implemented in the village and the table below shows how people of Laitkor access to PDS:

CATEGORIES	ESSENTIAL COMODITIES EVER RECEIVED.			RATE		
	Rice	S.K.Oil	Sugar	Rice	S.K.Oil	Sugar
BPL	30kgs out of 35kgs	3 – 4 litres per month.	500 grams per head. And distributed only twice or thrice a year. Besides, its quality is also bad.	@Rs.8/kg	Rs.17/litre	@Rs17 p/kg
AAY	30kgs/card holder	Do	Do	@Rs.5/kg	Do	
APL	5 – 10 kg/card holder	Do	Do	@Rs.12/kg	Do	
ANAPURNA	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	

In spite of all the above mentioned commodities to be given to people, other commodities include ATTA, (Flour), wheat, edible oil; Dal etc. are not given to people at all. The resource also, cited some examples on how family conflicts come off between the wife and the husband affecting the dignity of the individuals and the society. In between there is an interaction where the dealer of Laitkor FPS centre share his experience stating that he has never received the transportation cost for the last two to three years. He also added that, rarely he have been receiving rice with good quality, where most of the others months of the year rice and sugar is always with bad quality. The dealer and the inhabitants of this villages requested the Forum to give its helping hands in fulfilling this basic right of human beings.

MGNREGA: In Laitkor village, this program is working well. It gives tremendous opportunities to the vulnerable and marginalized people especially people living from hand to mouth. Villagers got 20 to 80 days of work out of 100days from MGREGA annually.

ICDS: In this connection, children attended the centre daily. This seems that it is functioning well.

MDM: It has been clarified by the Resource that this programe meant for all children below 14 years of age which means for school going children and that the teachers must give to children with hot cooked meal. This is also a Supreme Court order. But, unfortunately teachers revealed that they know nothing about the Provisions or directions conferred by the state or by the central Government. They simply accept whatever the government directs or gives.

In spite of the above briefly discussed issues, the facilitator highlighted some other important schemes to be given to different sections of people viz. National Family benefit scheme-a financial assistance @10000/-, old age pension@200per month (NOAPS) etc. Sub-key issues interacted: (I) PDS -Missing Cards (II) Up-coming Socio-Economic Survey commencing from 1st Sept 2011.

Lastly the meeting was concluded by the village domestic worker leader with a vote of thanks to all the participants and the staffs representing the NERDWM and PRF – Meghalaya.

For, NERDWM

Reported by
W. Kharsyntiew.





Smti. Wanpynhun kharsyntiew, during the interaction with domestic workers.

