

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2023-2024**



**NAUGACHIA JAN VIKAS LOK KARYAKRAM  
(NAU JAN LOK)**

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am happy to present the "Annual Report" for the period 2023-2024 of our organization- Naugachia Jan Vikas Lok Karyakram (Nau Jan Lok). I am happy to point out that our organization has grown in confidence and strength during this period.

First of all, I would like to congratulate members and staff for their perseverance and their total commitment to the cause of the poorest community of the Naugachia subdivision. During the year, we successfully implemented various community based development programs for underserved populations with an aspiration to see them on progressive paths.

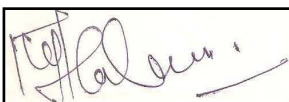
We have made good progress in disaster management and climate change issues with improved capacities of the "Disaster Management Committees" and "Disaster Management Task Force" and the creation of the "Disaster Management Fund" and on the issues of the poor, needy, lost and deprived children by undertaking interventions of child marriage, child trafficking, education, and health and giving them care and protection. The good impacts of our programs can be observed in different blocks of Naugachia subdivision in Bhagalpur district and different blocks of Khagaria district in Bihar as poor, deprived, and ignored communities are now exercising their rights and enacting their roles with full dignity and empowerment.

They are growing as sensitized and empowered communities as per our aims and objectives. We achieved this success with the cooperation and participation of the local communities in our programs, our esteemed donors and the sincere efforts put in by our committed team.

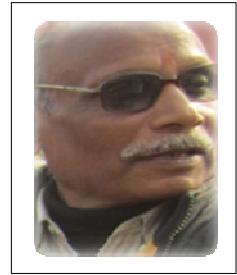
I took this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to our donors- Misereor, Germany, Child Line India Foundation, Mumbai, and Solidarity Groups of Austria and to the local community, govt. officials, and print media whose support in terms of grants, cooperation, and advice helped us to move forward with success.

Naugachia Jan Vikas Lok Karyakram is a learning organization that is constantly innovating based on experiences that are being generated in the field. We will hope to continue doing that.

Sincerely,



Madan Mohan Thakur  
Executive Director



## NAU JAN LOK- AN INTRODUCTION

### ◆ ABOUT US

Naugachia Jan Vikas Lok Karyakram (Nau Jan Lok) is a non-government, non-profit, democratic, and secular social organization dedicated to the holistic development of the marginalized rural and urban communities in Bihar. Nau Jan Lok is registered under the Indian Society Registration Act 21, 1860 on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1987 with the govt. of Bihar, Patna. It is also registered under Sections 12(A) and 80 (G) of the IT Act. FCRA<sup>1</sup> and registered for undertaking CSR activities with registration no. CSR00072615.

Since its inception, Nau Jan Lok has been working to reduce the vulnerabilities of marginalized communities concerning various issues. Through our good work, we have achieved special recognition among the poor and marginalized community for whom welfare we are working.

### ◆ VISION

To establish and strengthen a civil society/social order that is just, equitable, and humane. This vision is supported not only by the United Nations Charter of Human Rights but also by the thrusts of the constitution of India that assures all its citizens-justice (Social, Economic, and Political) liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship, equality of status, opportunity, and fraternity assuring the dignity of the individuals and the unity of the Nation.

### ◆ MISSION

To see a developed, sensitized, and empowered rural society on the developmental platforms in a holistic approach where every individual hailing from the marginalized sections could develop leadership and could be able to make self- decisions for leading life with full dignity and respect.

### ◆ GOAL

To establish an egalitarian society with holistic approaches where equality of status and opportunity assures the dignity of the individuals and the unity of the nation.

### ◆ OBJECTIVES

- a. To provide help and support to the neglected, oppressed, poor, and helpless rural and urban women, girls, and children.
- b. To aware, sensitize, and capacitate the small, marginal, and poor farmers for sustainable agriculture practices and livelihood security.
- c. To mainstream the poorest of the poor in all developmental aspects.
- d. To be aware, sensitize, and empower adolescent boys and girls on reproductive health and rights.
- e. To provide shelter, relief, and rehabilitation to floods, disasters, and waterlogged victims.
- f. To empower poor rural women socially and economically through awareness and livelihood generation programs.
- g. To promote investment and IGAs among the poor rural and urban poor people for their self-reliance.
- h. To be aware and sensitize rural labour about their rights and ensure work opportunities.
- i. To mainstream child labour through education.

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<sup>1</sup> Registration is valid till 31/03/2027.

j. To empower and strengthen the local governance system for the overall development of the villages.

◆ **OPERATIONAL AREA**

State	District	Subdivision	Coverage
Bihar	Bhagalpur	Naugachia	07 blocks of Naugachia, Kharik, Bihpur, Narayanpur, Gopalpur, Ismailpur, and Rangra.
	Khagaria	Khagaria and Gogri	All 07 blocks: Mansi, Khagaria, Parbatta, Alauli, Chautham, Beldaur and Gogri.

◆ **TARGETED POPULATIONS**

- Downtrodden and marginalized communities residing in rural and urban areas.
- Neglected, oppressed, poor & helpless women, girls and children.
- Small and marginal farmers.
- Poorest of the poor.
- Adolescent boys and girls.
- Flood, disaster, and waterlog victims.
- Local Vaidya and traditional doctors.
- Rural labours.

**PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED DURING THE YEAR**

(I) **MISEREOR PROJECT**: With esteemed support from MISEREOR, Germany- Nau Jan Lok has implemented a community-based project in 54 villages of Naugachia and Kharik blocks in Bhagalpur district in Bihar. The following activities were successfully implemented during the year-

**A. Health Training Program**: (I) 27 village health meetings were successfully organized in different villages of Naugachia and Bihpur blocks in Bhagalpur district in Bihar.

Participated by 810 CBOs members (women) these meetings focused on the menstrual cycle/period of a woman. In these meetings, the women participants were informed by the experienced ANM- Sabita Kumari and Manisha Kumari that the menstrual cycle is hormonal changes that begin to take place in the body of a woman (10-16 years age group). It happens once a month. However, Many girls start their menstrual cycle at different ages. It occurs once in 28-35 days and lasts for 3-5 days. However, 2-7 days menstrual cycle period is treated as normal.

The resource persons further discussed the problems of the menstrual cycle and said that most women are troubled by the problems of the menstruation period, but due to ignorance or shame, they continues to struggle with this problem. In case, no menstrual cycle occurs at the age of 16 years it is called a lack of menstruation. The menstrual period that continues over 7 days is called “Menorrhagia” usually known as heavy or long menstrual periods. With Menorrhagia, the flow is so heavy that one has to change her pad every hour for at least an entire day. If menstruation does not occur till the age of 16, it is called menstrual absence. The participants were also told by Sabita Kumari that it is important for women to pay attention to cleanliness during the menstrual cycle and avoid using dirty clothes because there is a risk of infections due to dirt. Therefore, it is very



important for women to pay attention to cleanliness during the menstrual cycle and avoid using dirty clothes because there is a risk of infections due to dirt. Therefore, it is very

important to use sanitary pads during the menstrual cycle as it does not spread infection and women remain protected. It was also said that different diseases like leukorrhea, pain in the spinal cord, loss of glow from the face, and reproductive and urinary tract infections can result in future infertility and birth complications.

#### **Impact Generated**

Participants were aware of menstruation phases and periods, menstrual absence, use of sanitary pads, and maintaining hygiene during the menstruation period. Different diseases like-leukorrhea, pain in the spinal cord, loss of glow from the face and reproductive and urinary tract infections were discussed with its future infertility and birth complications. The knowledge gained is now promoting safe and comfortable periods for girls and women in the project area.

(II) **06** Panchayat level health meetings participated by **180** CBO members (women) were successfully organized in Gauripur, Hario, Jhandapur East, Bihpur Jamalpur, Shripur and Nawada Panchayats of Naugachia and Bihpur blocks in Bhgalapur district in Bihar. The details are as follows:

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Panchayat</b>	<b>Village</b>	<b>Block</b>	<b>Participant</b>
1.	20.09.2023	Gauripur	Gauripur	Bihpur	30
2.	22.09.2023	Hario	Hario	-do-	30
3.	17.10.2023	Jhandapur	Jhandapur East	-do-	30
4.	20.10.2023	Bihpur Muslim Tola	Bihpur Jamalpur	-do-	30
5.	28.10.2023	Shripur	Tetri	Naugachia	30
6.	21.11.2023	Nawada	Nawada	-do-	30
				<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>

#### **Impact Generated**

Participants were aware of the important issues of gender equality, child marriage, education for children, health improvements, female feticide killings, and discrimination between boys and girls. The knowledge gained has helped CBO members in promoting mass sensitization and a positive environment on the issues concerned.

**B. Education Program:** To re-integrate school dropout children of the Mahadalit families into the mainstream of development, 9 Non-Formal Education (NFE) centers were established and made functional in different villages of Bihpur, Kharik, and Naugachia blocks managed by the experienced NFE instructors. These NFE centers were managed by the CBOs. Apart from quality education for poor children for their future growth periodic meetings were held up with the parents in which the importance of education was discussed. After preparing children mentally for education, all **280** children were enrolled in different govt. schools. Now children are attending school regularly and doing well in their studies. Making children's foundation well for their future the education work of Nau Jan Lok was highly appreciated by the school principals, parents, and local community.



C. **Livelihood Training-Tailoring and Manjusa Art:** From 1/12/2023 To 7/3/2024 sewing and cutting (Tailoring) training was conducted in the office premises of Nau Jan Lok in Naugachia. 30 women CBO members were trained by the experienced trainer- Sangita Kumari about the basic cloth cutting techniques on paper and then imparted practical training on cloth items like Blouse, Petticoat, Salwar-Suits, Underwear, Baba Shirt, Pant, Shirts, and Fancy Dresses. The beneficiaries were informed by M.M. Thakur, Secretary of Nau Jan Lok about the different aspects of marketing and opening production centers for the cloth items.



From 1/11/2023 to 7/02/2024 training in Manjusha Art was conducted in different villages of Naugachia, Kharik, and Bihpur blocks. 39 women members of the CBOs were trained by the experienced trainers of Manjusha Art namely Priti Kumari, Bhawani Devi, Ankit Kumar Mishra, Radha Rani, and Anamika Kumari. In the training classes, the participants were told by the trainers that Manjusha Art is a folk art of Bhagalpur, Bihar and has been dated back to the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The art originated from a folk story of Bihula-Bishari has a religious significance of Bishari Puja. It is proof of women's empowerment too. The participants were made to practice on chart papers and told that different colours are used in other paintings but only three colors- pink, yellow, and green are used in Manjusha Art. There are 5 types of Borders-Lehriya, Belpatr, Sarp ki Ladi, Tribhuj, and Mokha. Making Manjusha paintings on clothes was also elaborated. The participants were made familiar of the high demands and marketing of Manjusha Art Paintings in India and worldwide.



#### **Impact Generated**

Women were made skilled in preparing Manjusha Art paintings. The knowledge gained is now helping them prepare quality Manjusha Art paintings, sell them in the markets, and earn good income. The economic and social status of women has improved a lot in the project area now by learning this skill.

#### **D. Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Programs**

(a) **Panchayat level meetings on climate change:** Panchayat-level meetings on climate change were conducted at Kharik Bazar, Chorhar, Akidatpur, Bihpur Central, and Nagrah Gram Panchayats of the Bihpur, Naugachia, and Kharik blocks. A total of 180 participants

participated in these meetings. Mr. Sonu Kaumr and Mr. Deepak Kumar, forest officers of Kaharik and Naugachia blocks said that climate change is a serious threat to all living forms on the Earth. The common definition of the word climate has lost its meaning as the environment has become unpredictable. No one knows when the weather will change. The use of fossil fuels, cutting of forests, and exploitation of natural resources are the major causes of climate change. The harmful impacts of climate change are rising climate, melting of glaciers, heavy rain and forest fire.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Deepak Kumar, Forest Officer (Naugachia) said that the rate at which the earth's temperature is increasing has become a worrying factor now. Climate change is hurting global warming having adverse effects on Agriculture. If everything continues like this, then in the next decade the earth's temperature will increase from 1 degree Celsius to 5 degree Celsius. He said that we have to start using sustainable sources of energy as the earthly resources have almost been exhausted. The details of the meetings are as follows:

Sl. No.	Date	Village	Panchayat	Block	Participant
1.	29/09/2023	Nawada	Akidatpur	Kharik	50
2.	14/10/2023	Chorhar	Chorhar	-do-	50
3.	28/01/2024	Kharik Bazar	Kharik Bazar	-do-	35
4.	16/02/2024	Bikrampur	Bihapur Central	Bihpur	30
5.	26/02/2024	Nagrah	Nagrah	Naugachia	45
<b>Total</b>					<b>180</b>



#### **Impact Generated**

The participants were appraised about the present situation of climate change and global warming threats and their major causes and possible solutions. The meetings were an eye-opener for them as this helped them to know the situation and act accordingly.

(b) **Village level meetings on DRR:** Village level meetings on DRR were conducted at different villages of Naugachia, Bihpur, and Kharik blocks. The details of the meetings are as follows:

Sl. No.	Date	Village	Panchayat	Block	Participant
1.	07/06/2023	Hario	Hario	Bihpur	30
2.	08/06/2023	Mairya	Bhawanpura	Kharik	30
3.	12/06/2023	Sakucha	Punama Pratapnagar	Naugachia	30
4.	07/07/2023	Raghopur	Raghopur	Kharik	30
5.	10/07/2023	Shripur	Tetri	Naugachia	30
6.	13/07/2023	Jonia	Nagrah	Naugachia	30
7.	19/07/2023	Govindpur	Hario	Bihpur	30
<b>Total</b>					<b>210</b>

A total of 210 CBO women members participated in these one-day village meetings. Experienced resource persons-Mantu Kumar, Arun Kumar, and Sanjay Kumar informed the participants on topics of disaster prevention, disaster relief funds, information systems, types of disasters, medical care, flood, hailstorms, earthquake, fire, safety of women and children, water improvement, protection of animals, and living and food arrangements. Knowledge of suitable places to take shelter should be identified, the process of application to Mukhiya and BDO for arrangements of boats, and all child should have to remember their names and home address.

Discussions were also made on the fire problem and it was said that on a hot summer day problem of fire occurred. To prevent it, meals should prepared early and water should kept in buckets beside the meal preparation place. People should hide in the corner of their homes during earthquakes. In every village and panchayat disaster information systems should be developed and kept in regular consultation with the doctors.

(c) **Village level meetings on climate change and DRR:** Village level meetings on climate change and DRR were conducted at different villages of Kharik blocks. The details of the meetings are as follows:

Sl. No.	Date	Village	Panchayat	Block	Participant
1.	20/09/2023	Nawada	Akidatpur	Kharik	30
2.	21/09/2023	Raghopur	Raghopur	Kharik	27
3.	09/10/2023	Nanhkar	Chorhar	Kharik	26
4.	13/10/2023	Surha	Chorhar	Kharik	25
5.	05/11/2023	Shankarpur	Raghopur	Kharik	25
6.	06/11/2023	Alalpur	Raghopur	Kharik	27
<b>Total</b>					<b>160</b>

160 CBO women members were informed that climate change is important for the human being. At present, chemical methods are mostly used in farming and the uses of organic fertilizers has lessened now. Tree plantation is necessary to keep the environment clean and water conservation is also necessary to conserve rain water. On the occasion, an example of the MNREGA scheme of Govt. was made that helped to promote tree plantation. The participants were also told about the application process of MNREGA for tree plantation and also informed on obtaining support from the district and block level officials for coping with pre and post flood situation in the flood affected Kharik block.

#### **Impact Generated**

The participants were appraised about the present situation of climate change and DRR. Came to know about types of disasters and their pre and post prevention techniques. Their knowledge improved on topics of disaster prevention, disaster relief funds, information systems, types of disasters, medical care, flood, hailstorms, earthquakes, fire, safety of women and children, water improvement, protection of animals, and living and food arrangements. Knew about MNREGA for tree plantation and improving climate.





(II) **CHILD LINE PROJECT:** Perhaps the most disadvantaged group in India is the millions of street children who live or work on the street. Street children have fallen through society's cracks – there are few ladders for them to climb back up. They live as their parents did and as their children are likely to do. Children live and work on the street because their parents are poor, or they are orphans, or they have run away from home, often to escape abuse. They are invariably malnourished, receive scant education or medical treatment, and are involved in child labour from an early age. Child prostitution and sexual abuse are also major problems, as is addiction to drugs. These children live in a different world from the emerging middle class. Taken as a separate nation, they represent one of the neediest peoples on the planet.

In 2023-24, supported by Child Line India Foundation, Mumbai, Nau Jan Lok covered all 07 blocks of Naugachia subdivision in Bhagalpur district in Bihar. Under this program, Nau Jan Lok is working to prevent cases of child trafficking, child marriage and for integrated development of child labour, lost child, abandoned child, orphans and destitute children who are living in hand-to-mouth situation. For them, education and health is an unattainable luxury or irrelevant. They lose their childhoods and have little hope for a better future. We have undertaken different interventions for street children in the age group 0-18 years and also advocate for child rights. The following activities were successfully implemented during the year:

**A. Case Intervention:** Although Nau Jan Lok works for the protection of the rights of all children in general but in 2023-24, we gave special focus to vulnerable children in the age group 0-18 years, who need care and protection which include street children living alone on the streets, child laborers working in the unorganized and organized sectors, children affected by physical/sexual/emotional abuse in the family, the child lost and found, parents asking help, children who need emotional support and guidance, abandoned children, missing children and children who are victims of substance abuse. A total of 22 cases were successfully solved during the year. The details of the case interventions are as follows-

Sl. No.	Type of Cases	No. of Cases
1.	Medical	05
2.	Shelter	01
3.	Restoration	12
4.	Protection from Abuse	03
5.	Parents asking Help	01
<b>Total</b>		<b>22</b>

**B. Meetings of Gram Panchayats:** 02 meetings of the Gram Panchayats were organized at Parwatta and Bihpur blocks under the Child Line Project. A total of 57-gram panchayat representatives participated in the meetings with success. In the meeting, they were conveyed about the child line toll-free no. 1098. A discussion was also made on how to help the children of 0-18 years facing difficulties in life and prepare a strategy to be adopted for making child line services effective. On the occasion, discussion were made on parvarish scheme, divyang pension scheme, strayed children, abandoned children, child trafficking, child marriage, child rights, and care of the malnourished children.



**C. Open House Program:** Open House Program is an “**Open Forum for Children**” to raise issues/problems faced by them to the Child Line team. This forum allows children to be heard and seek support from the government systems. In 2023-24, a total of 03 Open House Programs were arranged with the participation of 101 children in Rahopur, Auliabad, and Khairpur villages of the Kharik and Bihpur blocks of the Bhagalpur district to meet this objective.

These open houses promoted the use of Child Line 1098 free 24-hour free emergency telephone helpline, and outreach services among the participants. The program helped in identifying problems faced by children in the schools like toilets, uniforms, shortage of



teachers, mid-day meals, lack of books, and non-availability of drinking water with a focus on its possible solution. It was emphasized to call 1098 free phone services when problems arise.

### (III) **OTHER PROGRAMS**

a. **Awareness on PMEGP and SFURTI Schemes:** In a joint venture with Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Patna- a one-day awareness camp on PMEGP and SFURTI Schemes was organized with women SHGs on 06/01/2024 at Marwari Marriage Hall at Kharik Bazar in Kharik block, Bhagalpur district. In this awareness camp, Shri Gopal Jee, Nodal Officer of KVIC, Patna said that the Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) is a credit linked Scheme of Govt. of India by merging the erstwhile REGP and PMRY scheme. KVIC is its nodal agency at the national level. The objectives of PMEGP are:

- To generate continuous and sustainable employment opportunities in rural and urban areas of India.
- To provide continuous and sustainable employment to a large segment of traditional and prospective artisans, rural and urban unemployed youth in the country through setting up of micro enterprises.
- To facilitate participation of financial institutions for higher credit flow to micro sector.

The participants were told that in this scheme loan facilities will be available for setting up small micro-enterprises in activities like goat rearing, dairy, beekeeping, beauty parlors, vegetable cultivation, tailoring, etc. Eligibility for support are as follows:

- ◆ Individuals above 18 years of age.
- ◆ VIII Std. pass required for projects above Rs.10.00 lakhs in manufacturing and above Rs. 5.00 lakhs for the service sector.
- ◆ Self Help Groups and Charitable Trusts.
- ◆ Institutions Registered under the Society Registration Act, 1860.
- ◆ Production based Co-operative Societies.

Salient features of the scheme are as follows:

- ◆ Per capita investment should not exceed Rs. 1.00 lakhs in plain areas and Rs. 1.50 lakhs in Hilly areas.
- ◆ Maximum project cost of Rs. 25.00 lakhs in the manufacturing sector and Rs. 10.00 lakhs in the service sector.

The participants were also aware of the documents needed for making an application under this scheme.



SFURTI scheme was also discussed. It was told that the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) is an initiative by the Ministry of MSME to promote Cluster development to organize traditional industries and artisans into clusters to make them competitive and provide support for their long-term sustainability. KVIC is the nodal agency of SFURTI. The key benefits of the SFURTI scheme are:

- Enabling traditional artisans to deliver sustainable employment.
- The Government of India supports up to INR 5 cr. for more than 500 artisans and INR 2.5 cr. up to 500 artisans.
- Enabling in setting up production facilities with modern machinery. Providing raw material support. Other support includes marketing, business development, and digitization.
- Soft Interventions up to INR 25 lakhs for skill development, exposure visits and buyer - seller meets.

The participants were also aware of the documents needed for making an application under this scheme.

#### ***Impact Generated***

Awareness was generated among women SHGs on the PMEGP and SFURTI schemes. The knowledge gained is now helping them in taking benefits of these schemes. They had made applications for dairy and goatry and setting up ice cream plants, tailoring, and beauty parlor centers.

