

Self Reliant Initiatives through Joint Action (SRIJAN)

Annual Report for the Year 2001-02

SRIJAN is a grassroots implementation as well as support agency committed to promote sustainable and self-reliant models of development.

The Aim

SRIJAN aims to promote strong self-reliant village organisations, partnerships and enterprises to enhance people's access to natural resources and their capacity to manage them sustainably. It proposes to use collaboration with government as a strategy to create space for poor men and women and their organisations in planning and implementation of various government schemes and to enhance inclusion, transparency and accountability in institutional mechanisms.

The Methods and Profile of Our Work

SRIJAN is thus founded as a Professional Organisation to

- i) Undertake grassroots action projects aiming at livelihoods – presently we have a PFT in Sagar district under DPIP
- ii) Build capacity of Government and NGOs in rural development programmes especially NRM and SHG programmes – presently we are supporting DPIP M as well as Karnataka Tanks Project in capacity of a lead HR and CB agency, we are also supporting NGOs in Rajasthan in NRM and SHG activities.
- iii) Provide policy and project design support to donor agencies and recipient governments – this we have done for the World Bank, DFID, SDC, Sida and WFP in Rajasthan, MP and Karnataka.
- iv) Conduct research for advocacy for pro-poor policies – We are conducting research for ADB/IWMI in canal irrigated areas in MP and we are also doing a study into Chandela Taals.

Legal Status

SRIJAN has been working since 1997 with local NGOs, State governments of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and a range of private, bilateral and multi-lateral donor agencies. It was registered as a Public Charitable Trust in January 2000. It presently concentrates in natural resource management based livelihoods.

The Work Done During the Year 2001-02
List of Prominent Projects

Lead HR and Capacity Building Support Agency in Karnataka Community Managed Tank Project aided by the World Bank. Project is to rehabilitate and hand over 2000 tanks spread over 9 districts and 34 Taluks. We are supporting Jala Samvardhane Yojane Sangha (JSYS) the agency promoted by Government of Karnataka to implement this project and partner NGOs (20 currently), by designing various modules and running orientation and skill building activities. Project is to provide financial support of over 500 crores.

Conducting Policy Research on Pro-poor intervention strategies in Canal Irrigated Areas of MP as a part of Asian Development Bank supported six country studies. This is being done in collaboration with International Water Management Institute, Colombo.

Co Moderating and Designing PRI centric rural development programme in Rajasthan for Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, New Delhi. We conducted a study into possibilities of NGO's collaboration with PRIs specifically Gram Panchayats and Ward Panchayats and then worked with other team members to design an appropriate programme. Our report on NGO-PRI collaboration is likely to be published by June 2002.

Designing Participatory Irrigation Project for Government of Madhya Pradesh and ICEF (Indo Canada Environment Forum)

Project is first of its kind in MP where Water Users Associations would be strengthened to take over the operations and management of tanks and canal systems in six sites (2 tanks, 3 medium and minor irrigation and one large irrigation systems). SRIJAN is likely to be a partner NGO during implementation. Project investment is likely to be about 12 crore Indian rupees.

Lead Design Team for Madhya Pradesh Livelihoods Security Mission (MP-LSM)

We have been engaged to lead and support the design process for the MP-LSM, which is sponsored by the **DFID, India**. The project is expected to cover 20 tribal districts. Development investment is expected to be to the tune of 100 million pound sterling over a period of seven years.

Designing and Implementing Capacity Building Programme for DPIP, Madhya Pradesh
SRIJAN is designing capacity building modules ranging from PRAs, Group Formation to Micro-Planning, client being field implementation teams in some 14 districts including those in Bundelkhand. DPIP is a World Bank supported anti-poverty programme, investing 100 million US dollars over a period of five years. This is the first year of this project.

first grassroots action project. This team is headed by an IRMA graduate who has four years experience. The project is to bring in an investment of over 40 million rupees during a five year project term from MP state government, under DPIIP, the project aided by the World Bank.

Capacity Building Support to NGOs, Rajasthan

Eastern Rajasthan, particularly districts of Karauli, Sawai Madhopur, Dhaulpur, Baran, and parts of Bharatpur and Alwar are very poor. Some of this area is so poor in infrastructure that no government official has ever visited the villages. Dacoits also infest some parts of this region, called DANG, situated in Chambal valley. We have been supporting SSD (Society for Sustainable Development), Karauli, Rajasthan. This is our maiden attempt to provide quality capacity building support to a grassroots agency. SSD has organised funding support from four donor agencies to implement NRM and SHGs programmes as also to promote people's institutions. SSD has a dynamic leader but staff are young and inexperienced. A two member SRIJAN team provides support in improving village institutions, technical quality of interventions as well as outreach to the poorest.

SRIJAN Team

The professional team is headed by Ved Arya, an experienced development professional, with more than 19 years of experience in development sector. **Total number of full time professionals in SRIJAN as on 31 March 2002 is eight.** Some senior full time members are Ramachandra Rao, Ujjal Ganguly and Samir Garg. Ramachandra Rao is a social scientist with over sixteen years of work experience in various organisations including DANIDA. Ujjal Ganguly is an economist and a post graduate from IRMA and has worked earlier in private sector (Lipton), public sector (Tilam Sangh, Rajasthan - part of NDDDB), and NGOs (Chirag and PRADAN). Samir Garg is an engineer and a post graduate from IRMA, and has worked with PRADAN as well as with a consulting firm (EDA). There are full time junior professionals, graduates from IIFM and Jamia Milia New Delhi, who are working in our field projects.

Other senior professionals who have been working closely with SRIJAN on a number of assignments are:

1. **Vinod Jain** Agriculture Engineer from IIT Kharagpur, with 16 years of experience in development and private sector, in prominent organisations including PRADAN and Eicher Tractors. Experience in organisational development, livelihoods promotion, organising schedule caste for their rights, Self Help Groups and micro-finance.
2. **Teji Bhogal** Agriculture graduate from Punjab University and post graduate in rural management (IRMA), with over 16 years of experience in prominent organisations including NDDDB, MAHITI and PRADAN. Experience in promoting irrigation cooperatives and training (HRD).
3. **Sudhir Katiyar**, an engineer and post graduation in rural management (IRMA), with about 14 years of experience in irrigation, people's organisation for minimum wages, capacity

experience is in natural resource management (participatory watershed development) in Marathwada area in Maharashtra.

6. **Ananth Narayan Sharma,**
7. **Shubham Singh,**
8. **Srinivasayiah,**

Finances

Total annual turnover during the year was over forty lakh rupees from four types of activities. This was up from ten lakh rupees during the previous year. New partner during the year was Jal Samvardhane Yojane Sangha, a Society registered by state government of Karnataka to promote community based tank management in the state.

The Trust presented the final statement of accounts to its Trustees on 23rd April 2002.

Publications

Negotiating Spaces (*A collection of case studies of NGO-Government collaboration across sectors including NRM, education and health in Rajasthan*). 1998

Towards A Relationship of Significance (*An overview of Government-NGO collaboration experience in Rajasthan spanning a decade*) - published by ODI. 1999

A Relationship that Needs Nurturing (*an assessment of DRDA-NGO partnership for watershed development*). 1998

Handover - First Critical Steps (*an evaluation of PIM experience in Rajasthan*). 1999

Unlocking Potential - Findings from a Baseline Survey of Mewat. 2000

Appendix**Members of SRIJAN Board**

(as on 31 March 2002)

Sl.N	Name and Address	Background	Designation
1.	Mr. Mithalal Mehta 5, Keshav Vihar, Gopalpura bypass <u>Jaipur</u> 302 00 Rajasthan	Former Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan	Chairperson
2	Mr. T. K. Mathew 250 A, DDA MIG Flats, Rajouri Garden <u>New Delhi</u> 110 027	Secretary and Chief Executive, DEEPALAYA, a prominent NGO working in Delhi slums	Trustee
3	Mr. S. Loganathan 279 Avvai Shanmugam Road Royapettah <u>Chennai</u> 600 014	Executive Director, ASSEFA, a leading Gandhian NGO	Trustee
4	Ms Rekha Masilamani Room 102, 34, Adishwar Apartments Firozshah Road <u>New Delhi</u> 110 001	Country Representative, Pathfinder International	Trustee
5	Ms. Madhu Sarin 48, Sector 4, <u>Chandigarh</u> 160001	Leading resource person in forestry	Trustee
6	Mr. S. Srinivasan 1, Tejas Apartments, 53, Haribhakti Colony, Old Padra Road <u>Vadodara</u> 390015 Gujarat	Promoter of LOCOST (non-profit drug manufacturing company)	Trustee
7	Mr Ved Arya 41, Anupam Apartments Off MB Road <u>New Delhi</u> 110 068	Humphrey Fellow (Boston University USA) Formerly Programme Director, PRADAN	Managing Trustee