



# 2019-20

## Activities Report



**VOLUNTARY INSTITUTE  
FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(VIRD)**

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I take this opportunity to bring out the Annual Activities Report of Voluntary Institute For Rural Development(VIRD) for the year 2019-20. During the year the organization under took several programmes for the benefit of its target group. While implementing the programme care was taken to cover the uncovered and the underserved area.

The present Annual Report documents all the activities that were undertaken during the year 2019-20. While presenting the documents it gave us an opportunity to look back our achievement as well as failures in the last one decade. While we are proud of our achievement , we do not hesitate to admit our failures which we will take care in the future.

Many people and organization were associated with the VIRD during the year. I take the opportunity to thank all of these people and organizations who contributed positively in the implementation of the programmes. At the outset I sincerely thank the District Collector of Angul & Deogarh for providing all necessary help to the organization. I am also thankful to the District and Block Officials who encouraged us to work for the better. I am also thankful to our donors and supporting agencies who reposed their faith in us. In the time of crisis many people and organizations extended their helping hand by supporting in cash and kind. I am thankful to them. Last, but not least, the staff of the organization deserves a special mention for without their active support it would not have been possible to achieve this spectacular result.

Having said that,I expect that all these people and organizations will continue to provide their support to the VIRD in the future also.

**BIPINI BIHARI PATI**  
**CHAIRMAN, VIRD**

## *VIRD... An overview*

In 1988 a group of social activists, led by Bhabani Sankar Mahapatra, Manoj Satapathy and Manasa Kumar Rout, initiated a total sanitation programme for the Kondh tribe in the Athmallick Block of Angul District. In the same year it was registered as a voluntary organisation under the Societies Registration Act, by which time its operational area had extended to 50 villages in four Gram Panchayats of the same Block.

VIRD as a non-political, non profitable and secular organization works on community development from a holistic approach. It operates in the most marginalized communities in four districts of Orissa working in partnership with people who, because of their caste, religion, culture, gender or economic status, have traditionally been excluded from the social, political, economic and cultural mainstream. Disempowered, they are highly vulnerable to extreme poverty, inequality and to oppression. VIRD's vision – to assist the people in organizing themselves in a new social order – has spread and is shared by about 2, 50,000 people who are now actively involved with the movement through its programme initiatives and its many networking partners.

### **Vision**

VIRD believes in a structural approach to holistic development where every individual accesses his or her rights in an increasingly globalised development context.

### **Mission**

To create a sphere for the new generation where women and children have a say on the decision making, visualizing a new social structure where all dehumanizing factors turns to humanizing and individuals join together as communities to realize their personal and collective aims.

### **Outreach**

Presently VIRD is operating two districts, Angul and Deogarh of Odisha. The activities are spread over 143 no. of villages in 6 no. of Grampanchayats in 4 blocks. Human coverage comes to be around 10000.

## Legal Status

Registered under Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 vide no. 1838/181 of 88-89

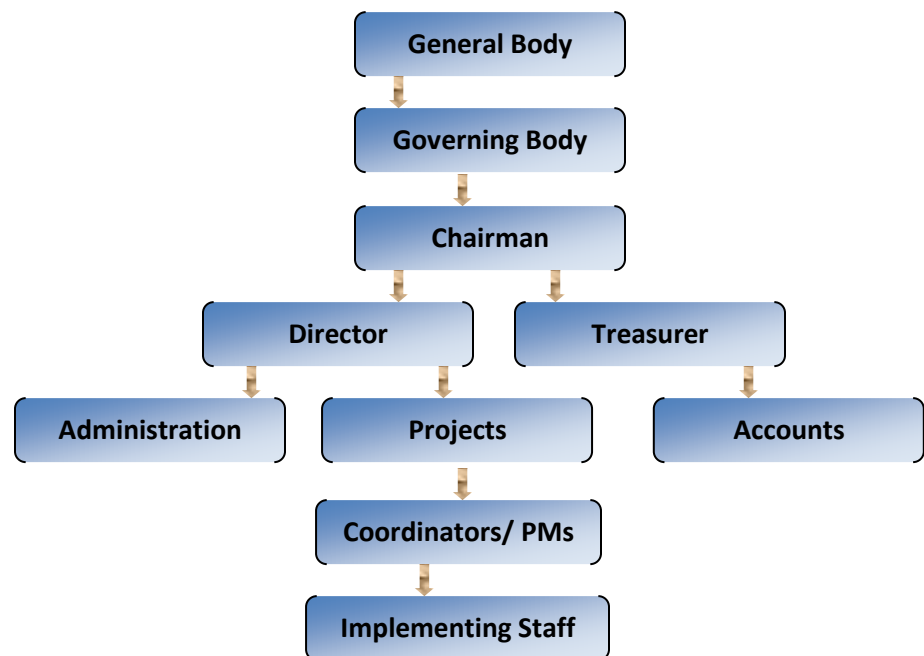
Registered under Foreign Contribution Regulations Act 1976 vide no. 105020197

Exempted under section 12 A of Indian IT Act

Exempted under section 80 G of Indian IT Act

Has a Permanent Account Number (PAN) with IT

## Organization Structure



## *MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANISATION*

1. To educate the individual and the community to be aware of their problems and solve them with the resources available through their organised and collective action.
2. To improve economic self-sustainability among the poor women by promoting micro finance services at their level and strengthening the local SHGs & micro-entrepreneurs to access the mainstream finance.
3. To work for the rescue & rehabilitation of women those who are in distress. To support and provide all basic need of victimized women, female child and make them able to self sustain through establishing , short stay home, etc.
4. To facilitate and support people to undertake different development programmes such as Natural Resource Management, Land Development, Watershed Management and Agriculture Development.
5. To work on mental health, and health for all with a fundamental option in favour of people under economically weaker section. Special intervention will be on cerebral palsy, autism, mental disorder and mental retardation.
6. To work for the disabled and handicap persons with special emphasis to women & children.
7. To conduct Research, Survey, Documentation in different social issues as per need for the social development.
8. To conduct training programmes, youth camps, seminars, workshops, conferences, etc. related to social development.
9. To extend all support services to the children in crises & rehabilitation there in a sustainable manner through community model homes.
10. To promote Afforestation, Wasteland Development, forest and wildlife, nursing Bio-gas plant bio fertilizer in relation to social development.
11. To promote educational institute, to educate students in primary education, secondary education, higher secondary education, information technology and technical institution under the affiliation of concern activities where ever required.

## **Strategy**

VIRD's development initiatives are based upon community participation. Its goal is to increase people's participation in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of its programmes. Its strategic approach encompasses:

1. Public Education & Awareness
2. Development Counselling
3. Skill Training
4. Promotion & Usage of Local Resources
5. Networking
6. Research
7. Policy Advocacy

## DETAILS OF ACTIVITIES-

Working for rural and tribal mass for about two decades has not only matured the experience of VIRD to address the diverse and complex issues, but also gave an impetus to its endeavor to build a fairly conducive environment that ensures a demonstrative sustainable and participatory model of rural development. VIRD has successfully undertaken many activities that rightly draw the attention of many support agencies to extend their spontaneous support. However, its activities can broadly be clubbed as under:

### SEMINARS AND WORKSHOP;

#### Seminar on Physically Challenged

VIRD Organised a one day seminar at Reamal to understand the problems faced by the physically challenged people. In this seminar an attempt was made to sensitize the people that the physically challenged people need their sympathy and compassion to enable them to lead a normal life. An attempt was made to make the people understand that they can undertake economic activity by any other normal person.

#### Care for the Aged

The Aged persons constitute the most deprived and neglected sections in the society. Due to lack of productive participation in some households they are subject to physical, psychological torture and social negligence that results in frustration and early death. To provide them support and to help them live peacefully, VIRD has undertaken different activities.



#### **Details are as under**

#### **Old Age Home:**

To take care of the neglected old men & women, VIRD has started Jara Niwas at chatabar, Deogarh since March 2018. The home provides residential, recreational and health care facilities to 25 inmates. Besides providing free boarding, lodging and clothing. The organization has arranged an excursions trip to maa Tarini pitha, Ghatagaon during January 2020.





The organization has also arranged income-generation activities for the inmates to make them self-reliant through earnings. The Old Age Home has earnestly attempted to provide peaceful, dignified and healthy living to the senior citizens.

## COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT & ADVOCACY FOR SUSTAINABLE HEALTH CARE FOR PEOPLE IN EXTREME NEED IN ORISSA

The project "Community Empowerment & Advocacy for sustainable health care for people in extreme need in Orissa" (CEASH) is implemented by VIRD in the Athmallick & Reamal Block of Angul & Deogarh District of Orissa. The project is operative in 8 Gram Panchayats and covers a population of about 10,000 people. Started in September 2013, the project aims to finish its work by 31st August 2018. The project aims on empowering of the poorest of people and increasing the effectiveness of the PRI and the civil society thereby reducing poverty. Another goal of the project is to improve the health practices of the underserved communities. The project focuses on six major components: community empowerment, strengthening of PRIs, increasing health service accessibility through primary health centers (PHC), education, advocacy for the health sector reform and capacity building of the civil society organizations.

### COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Under the auspices of the CEASH project, community groups have been formed and strengthened in the target villages. At present, 50 women self-help groups (containing a total of 781 people) are working to improve the health and sanitation of their communities. They are also working to create income generating activities. The self-help group (SHG) members have raised Rs. 9,80,871/-. The SHG members have also gotten a loan for Rs. 3,00,000/-, so that they will have capital to start their own businesses. The increase of savings as well as of the living status is a startling result within the women groups and it has been a regular practice among group members to recycle the amount at crisis periods. Today they are maintaining their own records and cooperating with government officials and do their bank linkage without any external support. Clearly, the income generating activities that the SHGs have taken part in are improving their quality of life. CEASH has also worked to raise awareness among community members regarding health practices, government involvement in the health sector and the implementation of the NREGA. The group members are making an individual effort to



send their children to school more frequently and are also teaching illiterate women to read. They are also participating in Palli Sabha and Gram Sabha, learning about SRH, HIV/AIDS. The SHG members are learning about health practices, issues, and services such as hand-washing, water borne disease, and breastfeeding, the role of Panchayat. The group members are not only working to educate themselves, but also their respective communities.

### **STRENGTHENING PRIS**

A monthly GPHC meeting has been attained by the PRI members. These meetings cover issues such as the regularization of the ICDS centre, delivery of children in a hospital facility (institutional deliveries), malaria prevention and safe drinking water. The PRI members have not only discussed the health issues themselves but have also participated proactively in the implementation and monitoring of health service delivery in their areas.



### **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH FOOD SECURITY**

An extension phase of the project "Sustainable development through food security" for tribal people has been implemented in Reamal Block, supporting 2 new villages along with the 3 existing villages. Self assessment of beneficiaries regarding the upraise of the living standards In order to assess the effectiveness of the project, the community organizers created a survey to look into the changes in living standards in the beneficiaries of the 5 villages of Reamal Block, Deogarh District.



Institutional development Two new villages adjacent to the project area have been added into the project, have benefited from the establishment of important institutions. Each of the villages has formed a women self-help group that strengthens women through providing learning and training opportunities. The group-members manage all credit activities themselves, such as saving and opening pass books for financial transaction. In Nehengera, the village community has formed a "Pani Panchayat" to maintain the Water Harvesting Structure and manage the water resource.



### **Training**

Several training sessions on various topics such as financial management for SHGs, a refresher course on the "water





management sustainable process" for Village Education Committee (VECs), capacity building for farmers and SHG members, health aspects for village volunteers, capacity building concerning marketing systems, the Panchayati Raj Institute (PRI) system and the establishment of a team of intensively trained health workers have been organized in order to sustain the program. Other than that several exposure visits for the active farmers and governing board members of VIRD as well as numerous training session for the staff and board members on the following topics have been organized: capacity building on the project cycle management and moderation techniques, the NREGA, PRI, a tribal convention on "Lokamela" and RTI and a strategy planning of VIRD. In total, 10 training sessions (each lasting for 2 days) have been organized and 433 people had participated.



### **NURSERY AND AGRICULTURE**

An agriculture production-cum-demonstration centre and a nursery have been established in the village of Mahidharapur on a barren and unproductive land. This has generated enthusiasm and interest among the people. From this agricultural activity VIRD is able to obtain various type of organic products such as wheat, garlic, onion, ginger, corn, mustard and other different types of fresh vegetables.

### **Rural Tribal Women Support Programme.**

VIRD is dedicated to raising the income and self-esteem of poor tribal women through micro entrepreneurship in Reamal Block, Deogarh District, Odisha, India. 35 women from the project area were covered under different initiatives including training on savings and credit, group management, and general business skills, along with specific trades such as live stock management, nurseries, vegetable cultivation, agriculture allied activities and micro entrepreneurship skills. Bankers, horticulturists, agriculturalists, veterinarians, local government departments, and other



agencies imparted training to them for their capacity building. We also formed sub groups consisting of 5 to 6 members, who then selected two needy women for financial support. Accordingly, 80 women from 40 sub groups have taken financial support from the project to facilitate income generation activities like goat rearing, cow and bullock rearing, kitchen gardening, the collection and sale of minor forest produce, etc. After involvement in different entrepreneurship activities, they are able to substantially boost their financial contribution to their

family. Through improving collective savings and group work in their respective villages, they are regularly sending pupils to school, receiving health care when ill, avoiding alcohol, and participating in the village development process.

### **Education for Child Labor**

It is a chronic disease in our society to engage minor children to labor and this system is nothing but for the poverty in poor helpless facilities. These poor and helpless families are compelled to engage their lovely minor children in hand & hazardous works with a view to getting food. These children are driven of getting education, nutrition & better employment in future other than to remain as slaves. To get rid of these slavery system and better employment in future other than to remain as slaves. To get rid of these slavery system and to pull on the child labour to civilization & to engage them on self-employment. The government in Labors Department has chalked out programmes through N.G.Os eradication of the child labour and provides them better education, nutrition and self-employment. Our organization has undertaken with the above aims with the active financial assistance of the Government. In the above said programme we had found out 220 child labors in ANGUL of whom 100 child labour are now prosecution their regular studies in Primary education They supply with free M.D.M. free education books, vocational training, under different trade etc through our volunteers. The people our localities are cautioned not to engage any child labour at their home for any other purposes.

This activities were supported by the Volunteers in Service to Education in India (VSEI); a USA based donor agency.

### **SWADHARA Home**

Swadhara Home has been run by VIRD since 2001 with the objective of providing shelter for a limited period to distressed women and girls. It functions with the support of the Women & child Development . Presently, 31 adults and 14 children reside in the home. The program received 14 new cases this year and resolved 15. The distribution of cases is shown below. 10 follow up programs were conducted to assess the present status of rehabilitated residents. While there they receive counseling, legal support, weekly health checkups, youth education, literary classes, food and clothing. Residents are also given training various programs such as tailoring, broom making, cooking, and garden activities. The women form self help groups further enabling them to earn and save money. Legal assistance in the form of drafting petitions, registering cases at police stations, and preparing agreement documents is also provided. In some instances, the organization takes the case directly to the court. 14 awareness meetings and 4 home committee meetings were organized to assess the performance of the program.



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## Crèche

VIRD runs 2 crèche centers in Athmallick block of Angul District. This year a total 50 children within the age range of 3 to 5 years were enrolled in the crèche centers. The program provides daycare services to children of the age group of 0-5 years from lower income group families, schedule castes and schedule tribes, as well as disabled children. The centers provide support to both mothers and young children. Play materials, nutritional food, health check ups, teaching materials, and medicine are supplied. Each center is managed by 1 Aya and 1 teacher, and is monitored by a Village Education Committee.



## Malaria

Angul, & Deogarh districts are malaria prone areas due to its contaminated water body, improper sanitation, unhygienic environment, swampy areas and untidy atmosphere around it. Through it is the prime responsibility of the local residents to keep the area clean and adopt preventive measures against malaria, but their insensitivity and inaccessibility makes them more vulnerable from mosquito bite and the dreadful fever. Thus People's Forum has initiated a malaria awareness and Athmallick block of Angul district. Several people get free treatment, counseling and preventive measures for using mosquito net, safe drinking water and clean environment .



## Total Sanitation Campaign

House hold as well community sanitation has remained a dire need with our people, and more so with our village communities. With the cooperation and support of District Water & Sanitation Mission, Angul, VIRD is actively involved in the campaign.



## Ujjawala

Women's trafficking is an emerging social problem that needs attention of every quarter and is to be dealt with iron hands simultaneously with a social outlook. The govt. of India has recognized the strength of the problem and has launched the Ujjawala programme to curb the volume of the incidence and exercise control over the cases of women trafficking.

VIRD was awarded one component for prevention of women trafficking Talcher and Kaniha blocks in Angul district. The activities would be carried forward by promotion of Balika Mandals (2 nos.), empowering women through dissemination of information etc.





## Caring the Disabled:

Majority of disabled persons are exploited and isolated all along in our society though they constitute a sizable proportion of our population. To give meaning to their life, VIRD continued its effort of equipping & rehabilitating the disabled through vocational training and community based service.



## Vocational Training for Disabled Youth

Swabalambi: meaning self dependence is the project implemented by VIRD to enable the differently abled youth to engage them in gainful employment. Indo-American Education Fund supported the initiative of VIRD to impart training on cellular phone repairing to 25 youth in Mahidharpur village of Angul district.



## Workshop on Domestic Animal Care;

Almost all house holds in our area has domestic animals meant for farm-work, milk or meat supply or just as a source of earning through rearing & selling. In most poor families domestic animals like Cattle, Sheep & goat, fowls & birds are considered 'bank -deposits' with scope of utilization at the time of need. But, they are not quite aware on the right care of such animals or birds.

As such, starting with a fresh round of this needful action. We organized 2 one -dye workshops at Bahali & chatabar with participation of local peasants, herdsmen, bird-keepers, housewives and youth numbering about a hundred, Local Livestock Inspectors (Veterinary people) and experienced farm owners were present as resource persons/demonstrations.



## National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC)

VIRD participated in the National Environment Awareness Campaign 2015-16 with the theme of bio-diversity conservation. The programme was implemented in Bahali village of Athmallick block. The programme has two basic components: awareness building and action. Under awareness building VIRD conducted one awareness meeting targeting the Women SHGs. 43 WSHG members attended the awareness meeting.



Under the action component of the programme VIRD planted 278 saplings were planted as avenue plantation. The village youth as well as the volunteers of VIRD actively participated in the action programme.

## Vocational Training Programme

During the period under report VIRD imparted the following training to develop the skill of rural youth. The programme intended to empower the youth economically and self dependence.

Sl.	Trade	Participants	Venue
01	Mushroom cultivation	27 women	chatabar
02	Agarbatti making	32 women	Bahali
03	Candle making	14 women	Titigan
04	Book binding	50 women	Bahali
05	Pump set repairing	5 men	Angul

## VIRD Public Library

VIRD organizing a public library called VIRD PUBLIC LIBRARY TITIGAON, which is sponsored by State Museum & Raja Rammohun Ray Library Foundation Calcutta under Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India. We have a furnished reading room having capacity of 30 nos. can enjoy the reading facilities every day comfortably. We have been different categories of books for children, younger generations & older persons. This library is working in all Govt. official day. In this library setting we have audiovisual sets like color Television, VCD player & CDs. We have also various electronics T.V channels which can provide information & important issues of Indian society. In this library section news papers & magazines are there so as to enable the readers to inform. About 70 to 80 nos. of regular visitors visit to our library.

## IEC material development and distribution

VIRD has developed the IEC material in local languages which found to be very effective for information, education and communication to the communities. Besides this it has received different types of posters, leaflets, handouts, and training materials. About 1800 sq.ft. of wall writings have been completed in the project area spreading the message of preventing HIV/AIDS. The project has distributed 1,500 posters and 5,000 leaflets to the people and community members throughout the project area. This has enabled the people to understand the basics of the HIV/AIDS and STD in the areas.

## YOGA TRAINING TO TEACHERS

As an extension activity during this financial year VIRD imparted yoga training to school teachers of 5 secondary schools at Titigaon of Angul and 7 secondary schools of Realmal of Deogarh district. The programme were directed towards strengthening the inner strength of the students for a better study, better performance and a good physique. The teachers shall be further train the students of higher classes in their respective schools.

VIRD proposes to the Central Government to provide required financial assistance to run the programme more efficiently.



## Drug De-addiction & Rehab. Centre:-

Drug De-Addiction cum-Rehabilitation Centre operates at Hakimapada in Angul. Since April 2015. On initial resources of the organization. A 15 –bedded hospital equipped with necessary infrastructure and skilled personnel is there. Necessary medical and socio-psychological therapy is being provided to the addicted persons. By no55 persons have been detoxified by the centre and necessary steps have been taken to rehabilitate these persons in their community. The major activities undertaken during the period are as mentioned under:

Sl.	Activities	Participants	Remarks covered
01	Awareness camp/Health camp	235	General,addicted
02	Indoor service	76	Addicted
03	Out doors sevice	96	Addicted
04	Follow up	50	Addicted
05	Couselling (individual)	54	
6	Drug addicted persons detoxified		
	Alcohol	110	
	Multi drugs	87	
	Opium	52	

During the under report 96 nos. of

door patients, the centre registered and provided indoor service to total54nos of addicted clients..To its credit the Drug De-Addiction Centre has declared 45 nos. of patients free from addiction.

period besides out

## Cultural Program

Cultural media is being used extensively as one of the most popular ways to create awareness on HIV/AIDS among the rural mass. Street corner plays, songs, dance and other local folk mediums have been put to effective use. This helps the community watch, listen, observe, understand and discuss the seriousness of HIV/AIDSs and STIs and precarious situation arising when it affects & person, leading to destruction of socio-economic fabrics and disintegration of families. The role plays, one acts plays and songs also deal with issues of empathy vs. social stigma, attitudinal changes, healthy sexual behaviour, condom use etc. Local dialects and languages are used in cultural medium and in every village; youth clubs, PRI members and leaders get involved in organizing & staging the programs. Together, 7522 people (3230 male and 3292 female) have been covered under awareness activity through cultural program. The cultural team is developed by VIRID. The local folk media and tribal culture is integrated where the local boys and girls are the actors and actress who makes the community easy to understand the concept of HIV/AIDS & STI.



### Consumer Club

This is the third year of operation of the Consumer Clubs formed by VIRD. VIRD had facilitated formation of 20 nos. of Consumer Clubs in its area of operation with support from the Ministry of Food Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Govt. of India; . The motive of the initiative was to protect the consumers from malafied practices of the traders and manufacturers. 20 schools were covered under the programme. Some students passed in the examinations and left school, so new entrants were admitted. The students are being resolved into the members of the club who further the cause of protection of consumer rights.

During the period under report VIRD facilitated the clubs' functionality by attending their regular meetings, helping them resolve small issues at their respective community level.

### Farmers' Awareness

Inputs in agriculture receive special attention as this sector is the highest contributor to livelihoods options of the largest population segment. VIRD in its pursuance to address livelihoods issues, took up programmes to aware farmers on advanced method;, management of resource inputs, land and water, productivity and fertility management and above all cost benefit analyses etc. Agriculture is more or less envisaged as an activity that supports sustenance, but it also can be profitable.

During the reporting period VIRD covered as many as 748 farmers in 11nos camps to aware them on the above aspects. It has associated itself with community tank management programmes, collectivization inputs and operation and management of support systems in place for agricultural activities e.g. canal repair, water management and crop diversification etc.

### *Cluster development for Rural Artisans: Terracotta .*

Orissa was popularly named as “UTKAL”, meant the state of adroit art and sculpture. Effervescent culture and heritage of the state speaks the story of magic fingers written by our craftsmen of those days. But now they are all turned myth not because efficient artisans are no more born but because we are no more careful towards the ancient artcrafts and profession.

### **Objective**

- To empower the rural artisans by making the active entrepreneur cum primary stakeholders.
- To organize artisans in selected clusters to enable them to take up economic activity for sustainable development through community participation.
- To promote individual artisans for small scale entrepreneurship in groups.



## Activities

In the year April 2014 VIRD has started a cluster development programme in Reamal blocks of Deogarh district on Terracotta craft with a funding assistance from Delhi Development Commissioner Handicraft DC(H).

506 numbers of rural artisans were benefited through this programme with the help of the master trainers from Kolakata and Rajsthan. They were provided with tool kits and training on (a) Skill up gradation (b) Design Development (c) Marketing & exhibition replicate the process in other blocks and design oversea market for selling their product. We have carried out the programme in two batches. The third batch is already started. Along with the male artisans we also promote the women workers to involve in this training programme. Our main motto behind the cluster development programme is to bring a strong business revolution among the cluster artisans and changing their life style to a better future with financial security.

Under AHVY scheme, Development Commissioner Handicraft has supported VIRD to organize ONE exhibitions on handicraft at Raulakela from 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015 to 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015. We advertised the programme through Local Newspapers, leaflet distribution and announcement.. The programme was a success and we earned lot of experience to make the cluster development programme with more creative way.

The cluster development programme of People's Forum has constructed 30 SHG groups and health insurance under Rajiv Gandhi Silpi Swasthya Vima Yojna.

## Celebrations by VIRD

The following days were observed by VIRD during the period under report.

- ❖ Independence Day
- ❖ Republic Day
- ❖ Gandhi Jayanti
- ❖ Organization Foundation day
- ❖ International Women's day
- ❖ World Environment Day
- ❖ International Youth Day

**We sincerely acknowledge our thanks to our funding agencies, our sympathizers, our patrons, our staff members and the community members. During the period under report we have been supported by:**

- ❖ Central Social Welfare Board, Govt. of India, New Delhi
- ❖ Department of Women & Child Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
- ❖ Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India, New Delhi
- ❖ Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
- ❖ Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
- ❖ Ministry of Civil and Food Supplies Consumer Affairs, Govt. of Orissa
- ❖ VSEI, USA
- ❖ PPI, USA
- ❖ Sankalp, USA
- ❖ IAEF, USA

### **CONCLUSION**

VIRD has been consistently engaged in the community development sector since its inception. It is not yet time to consolidate. It shall be highly solicited to receive suggestions and guidance from every quarter to fine tune our work. After all it is our community that we are working for.

**Director  
VIRD**





