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NEWS LETTER

**BDKS, SANGAM BHAVAN, METGUDA
JAGDALPUR, BASTAR, C.G.**

WEBSITE- BDKS.IN

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Underemployment: A Persistent Challenge in Bastar

Underemployment refers to a situation where individuals are engaged in jobs that do not fully utilize their skills, qualifications, or expertise. It extends beyond the traditional measure of unemployment, underscoring the mismatch between individuals' capabilities and the roles they occupy. This phenomenon manifests in various forms, such as part-time employment, low-wage jobs, and positions that require fewer skills than the employee possesses.

BDKS has been working in the Bastar division since 1977, dedicated to the upliftment of tribal communities. Post-Covid-19, a significant issue of job opportunities arose globally. However, the situation in the rural belt of Bastar was distinct. Underemployment has emerged as a prevalent issue affecting individuals in the tribal area. Despite a migration to towns, it's not solely due to a lack of jobs; rather, it's driven by the pursuit of a better standard of living and collective income.

According to a study by ABP, job problems in rural areas are expected to resolve within a 10-year period. While many perceive unemployment as the primary societal issue, the real concern is underemployment, leading to lower productivity. Tasks that could be accomplished by one person often require the effort of two or three individuals. In the tribal belt, the absence of workers is notably higher than in other areas.

Bastar boasts an abundance of labor force but lacks the necessary capital for investment, causing a migration of labor to other places and a decline in local-level production. This creates a scenario where a considerable portion of capital is utilized with very few workers, while in agriculture and micro/small enterprises, numerous workers operate with minimal capital. This imbalance results in low productivity.

BDKS addresses this issue through skill training centers, empowering the young labor force to enhance local-level production.

KNH Project at Kapsi: Mr. Victor Paul, Director of CSA, visited the project and discussed various issues. He conducted a staff training program for the field staff and evaluated the program. He also visited the field along with the staff. Currently, 69 SHGs are functioning in 3 clusters.



Rotary Club Kolkata: BDKS made a new MOU with the Rotary Club Kolkata to start an adult education program. We have selected 20 villages in the Bakawand block of Bastar District.

Choice Foundation: Mr. Vivan visited the fields of Durba and Mangonar and conducted a training program for the staff. His visit brought new energy to the staff working on the prevention of child trafficking. BDKS is also attempting to establish a linkage with Childline. Our aim is to reach out to more villages and raise awareness about child trafficking.



FVTRS Skill Training: On 22nd Feb, Miss Silli Dalai visited our center and monitored the ongoing FVTRS project. With the support of FVTRS, we provide skill training in Tally, Beautician, Electrical, Tailoring, etc. Miss Dali encouraged us to start two more trades in marketing, which will benefit many more youths.



BOSCH Foundation: The BOSCH Foundation supports our students in skill training with toolkits and provides job orientation after the training program. BDKS is very thankful to BOSCH for their support and guidance.



Jiv Daya Foundation: Jiv Daya Foundation USA supports BDKS by providing different nutritious products to children below 5 years. Currently, BDKS provides nutritious food to 175 children daily in four villages.



KKS Project: In February 2024, KKS completed one year of support to BDKS. Our program is progressing well, benefiting 10 villages in Nangur block of Bastar. Under this project, we conduct numerous agricultural development activities such as watershed management, land leveling, bore well installation, and agricultural training programs.



Manos Unidas Skill Training Programme: Manos Unidas supports BDKS for the skill training program at Sangam. Under this project, we focus specifically on youth and provide training in plumbing, electrical work, and basic computer skills. BDKS also has a partnership with Slider Electrical Bangalore for post-electrical training and staff training.

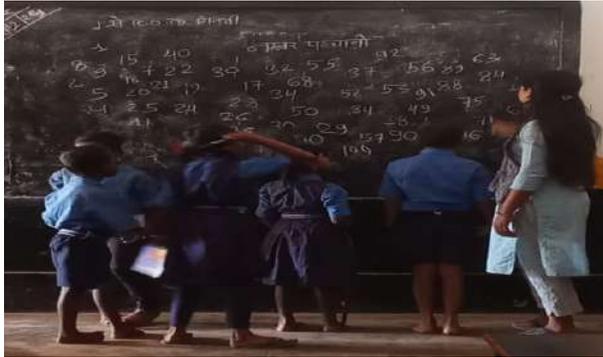


CEVA Kochi: CEVA Kochi supports BDKS for income generation programs for women. Currently, women SHG groups are engaged in activities such as making paper plates and growing mushrooms, with a significant number of women participating in these activities.



Hero/DB Tech Skill Training Programme: In early March 2024, BDKS signed an MOU for skill training in different trades such as auto sales, telecalling, auto showroom hosting, and service technician roles. Each batch comprises 120 students, and agencies ensure 100% placement.

Kinder Mission: Kinder Mission supports BDKS in running tuition centers. Currently, 22 tuition centers are operational in various locations in Bastar. We are grateful to Kinder Mission for their support.



Manos Unidas Community Development Project: In February 2024, Manos Unidas began supporting BDKS for a community development project in the Backward block of Bastar District. We aim to benefit 920 beneficiaries through agricultural support, bore well installation, land leveling, and SHG strengthening programs.



D'Orient France: D'Orient supported our SHG groups in Lohondiguda Block. The project concluded in March 2024. We are thankful to D'Orient for their support over the last two years.



Inter denomination Get together: BDKS conducted a sharing session of different denominations in the Bastar region. Around 80 people gathered on the occasion. Dr. John Mashi from Government Medical College delivered a powerful speech, motivating all the participants.

Support to Widows: BDKS also organized a gathering for widows, with around 26 widows attending the program. It provided an opportunity to understand the pain and difficulties faced by widows in society. BDKS also supported these individuals with grocery items.



On February 13, 2024, the Provincial Superior visited our center, encouraged the students, and distributed certificates to those who completed training programs in various trades.



The NPCI training program was completed in January 2024. The agreement with BDKS will be finalized in May. We are very thankful to NPCI for the training program.

Distribution of clothes was conducted in various villages this year. We collected clothes from Vidya Jyoti School and St. Francis School, Bilaspur. We are thankful for your kind support.

BDKS provided medical support to a number of villagers. We are very thankful to all those who have supported BDKS.