ACTIVITY REPORT

APRIL 1990 - MARCH 1991

SOCIETY FOR PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH IN ASIA
42, TUGHLAKABAD INSTITUTIONAL AREA, N.D.-62.
ACTIVITY REPORT : APRIL 1990 TO MARCH 1991

This is a brief Activity Report of PRIA for the period April 1990 to March 1991. It presents information about the work of the organisation, and the various activities undertaken during this period.

ENHANCING COMPETENCIES

* **Advance Training Of Trainers (TOT)**:

  This was held at Dehradun from May 25-30, 1990 - attended by 31 participants from several rounds of TOT.

* **Master Trainers Training Programme - in NLH : Phase - I**:

  At Lucknow from June 28 to July 5, 1990. 62 Master Trainers from 12 states participated. It was held in Hindi and English in two groups.

* **TOT - Phase - II of Round VI**:

  At Sat Tal - Uttar Pradesh hills from July 14 - 20, 1990. 17 participants attended.

* **TOT Phase III Round VI**:

  The last phase of this year National TOT was held during 21-29 November, 1990 in Chittoor; about 16 participants attended the programme.

* **TOT Phase I Round VII**:

  Held at Udaipur from February 6-13, 1991. There were 36 Participants from 26 organisations.

Regional TOT

* **Regional TOT Planning meeting**:

  A meeting of senior members of Voluntary Organisations was organised on 29 September, 1990 in Lucknow to discuss the Regional Training of Trainers programme. About 17 members attended the meeting.

* **A meeting of TOT Network was held at Ahmedabad in collaboration with Unnati in August 1990 and in December 1990.**

* **Regional TOT Planning meeting was held at Gram Vikas, Orissa on September 16-17, and November 17, 1990 to plan for Oriya TOT in 1991.**
At PRIA on January 29-30, 1991. There were 19 participants, who discussed the future strategic interventions of the Regional TOT programme.

* Training of Trainers (Bengali)

Phase I of the second round of TOT was held from February 23 to March 2, 1991 in West Bengal. 28 participants from 12 organisations attended the training. A report in Bengali has been prepared. For details please write to Gautam Chaudhary, or Kalyani: CCRC, CINI.

* Training of Trainers (Gujarati)

Unnati - Organisation for Development Education in collaboration with CHETNA, Ahmedabad, organised the first phase of a two phase training of trainers programme from March 19-25, 1991. There were thirty one participants from fourteen organisations from Gujarat and Maharashtra.

* Training of Trainers (Hindi)

It was conducted by Sambhagi Shikeshan Kendra at Lucknow from 25 March to 1 April. There were 36 participants.

Publications

* "Training of Trainers" - A manual on Participatory Training Methodology was reprinted to meet the demand of the activist groups.
ADDITIONAL TRAINING EVENTS

* Attended as resource person a workshop at NIPPCD on Home-Based Education for mothers of pre-school children on 3 May.

* A meeting with the Coordinating Committee on Women's Learning Processes was held at Vani during 23-24 May. Preparations for a session for Advance TOI on Women's Learning was planned along with updates on what the Committee had been doing. Participating organisations were CINI, Prayas, Gram Vikas, Astha and Chetna.

* Attended as resource person for Trainers in the ICDS programme of Indian Council of Child Welfare, Uttar Pradesh, during 4-5 June. This was organised by UNICEF (U.P.)

* A three day training for Trainers and CDPOS ICDS Programme from the Bharat Scouts and Guides umbrella was held from 10-12 September, at Lucknow under the aegis of UNICEF.

* PRIA attended the UNV workshop at Geneva during 27-28 September, as a resource person focusing on grassroots strategies with the urban poor.

* Planning Training Strategy for Environment Education for Centre for Environmental Education, Ahmedabad in November (as well as August), 1990.

* Tenets of Women's Learning: In collaboration with ISEED, organised a National Seminar from 18-19 March, 1991 at Bhubaneswar. 51 participants from several states attended.

* We have been supporting the training efforts of various partner groups in designing, learning material support etc.

* Meeting with UNICEF representatives and officials in the Ministry of Rajasthan to influence training strategy in ICDS and Block Extension Educators' Training.

* Navbharat Jagriti Kendra, organised a Training of Trainers' programme at Hazaribagh, Bihar, during 22-26 August, which was attended by PRIA and Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra as resource persons. There were 35 participants from all over Bihar.
Asian Training Network

PRIA attended the Asian Training Network meeting coordinated under ASPBAE on December 1, 1990 at Delhi. This meeting reviewed what had been done so far and plan for future training interventions and networking in the South Asian Region.

Gender Training

PRIA attended as a resource person at a Gender Training programme organised by Oxfam (U.K.) for its Programme Officers from the Asian Region at Delhi on February 28, 1991.

Human Resource Development

PRIA attended a consultation organised by EZE at Bangalore on Training for Human Resource Development.
NATURAL RESOURCES

* In April, PRIA along with PRAYOG, Madhya Pradesh organised a 4 days training programme for the women activists on the problems of land alienation, forests and water.

* PRIA team attended a two-day Seminar on the impact of Subarnarekha dam project on people and environment, at Cuttack in April, 1990.

* In May, PRIA organised a three-day training programme for the activists of Auranga bandh Virodhi Samiti, Palamau, Bihar.

* PRIA team attended a two-day seminar on the economic and environmental effects of growing pollution in the river Ganga at Patna in May.

* In May PRIA organised a three-day seminar on the theme, "The Growing Problem of Drinking Water in the Himalayas" at Dehradun. Nearly 30 groups working in the Himalayan region took part in this seminar.

* In June, PRIA along with Centre for Environment and Rural Technology, Uttar Pradesh organised the three-day second phase of training programme on the study of land ownership and alienation at Jaunpur.

* In July, PRIA organised a three-day workshop on the theme "Singrauli's Development and its Impact on Poor" at Singrauli in collaboration with Lok Hit Samiti, Madhya Pradesh.

* In August, PRIA organised a three-day workshop on the theme "Impact of Mega Projects on the Tribals" at Madhupur, Bihar on August 7-9, 1990. This workshop was organised in collaboration with Lok Jagriti Kendra, Bihar. There were 55 participants from over 25 organisations.

* In collaboration with Jan Vikas Samiti, Madhya Pradesh, a two-day meeting was organised in Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh in August to plan out future action of this organisation on the issues of mining and the de-forestation in the Sarguja district of Madhya Pradesh.
* In collaboration with Institute for Socio Economic Development, PRIA got involved in a comparative study on Women and Social Forestry in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. Two trips have been made so far by the PRIA team during October 29 to November 7, 1990 in Orissa and December 4-7, 1990 in Madhya Pradesh to discuss this study with the partner’s groups.

* In November, PRIA got involved with a coalition of different groups and NGOs who are preparing a People’s Document on the status of natural resources in the state of Orissa.

* PRIA took part in the Indian Science Congress held at Indore on the theme, Role of NGOs in Natural Disaster Management during January 4-8, 1991.

* PRIA team attended a public meeting at Dal tonganj, Bihar on the issues related to land, forests and water, organised by a Coalition of action-groups in Bihar on January 20, 1991.

* PRIA organised a two-day meeting with Auranga Bandh Sangharsh Samiti at Palamau on the programme planning and future directions of the movement against the upcoming Auranga Dam on January 21-22, 1991.

* PRIA visited the rehabilitation sites for the displaced people of the Subarnarekha Dam at Chandil, on January 25, 1991.

* PRIA team attended a two-day meeting organised by Centre for Environment and Rural Technology on the study of environment issues in Uttar Pradesh at Lucknow on January 25-27, 1991.

* A meeting was organised with Association for Rural Poor, Madras and Trivandrum District Fishermen’s Federation, Trivandrum to explore our programmes future direction and emphasis on the water issue at Delhi on 4th February 1991.

* PRIA team attended a meeting on the Mansi-Wakal Dam Project, organised by a coalition of groups at Udaipur on February 12-14, 1991.

* PRIA along with Lok Jagriti Kendra, Madhupur, Bihar organised a three-days workshop on the plight of Paharia tribals of Bihar at Godda on February 18-20, 1991. In this meeting, nearly 35 activists working with Paharia tribals took part.
* PRIA team visited the Lalmatia Coal Mining Project, Godda district, Bihar on February 21-22, 1991 to find out the status and effects of this mining project on the workers, villagers and environment.

* PRIA along with ASTHA, Ubeswar Vikas Mandal, Chandeshwar Kisan Sangharsh Samiti and other organisations, organised a three day workshop on the theme "Mansi-Wakal Project: Development or Destruction" at Udaipur on March 25-27, 1991.

Case Studies

* During this period, a case-study to document the various aspects of Bodhgaya struggle on land is undertaken with the local organisation.

* PRIA in collaboration with Atan Gaurav Kendra, Madhya Pradesh has initiated the documentation of the Impact and Response of drinking water crisis in Betuwal district of Madhya Pradesh.

* In collaboration with Himalayan Action Research Centre, Uttar Pradesh we got involved in the study of reasons and impact of drinking water shortage in the Himalayan areas of Uttar Pradesh.

* PRIA is conducting a study on the Chotanagpur Tenancy Act and its impact on the land alienation among the tribals of the Chotanagpur area of Bihar.

* PRIA is involved in a participatory research on the land consolidation surveys of villages in the Palamau district of Bihar carried out by the Chatra Yuva Sangharsh Vahini.

* A case-study on the plight of Fisher folks and Boatmen's in the Ganga river basin of Uttar Pradesh is being initiated with the collaboration of a local organisation - Gramodyan Sansthan.

* PRIA supported a case study on the relationship between the forest and tribal women in the Santhal Pargana area of Bihar.

* In collaboration with Vrikshmitra, Maharashtra, PRIA got involved in a participatory study on the "People's Knowledge System and Responses to Forest Resources in the Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra".
* PRIA is involved in a study to document people's struggle to resist their displacement due to a Bauxite-Mining project in the Sarguja district, Madhya Pradesh.

Publications

* During this period, 4 issues of our quarterly Newsletter Land and People, were published.

* The Land Acquisition Act : A Guide for Activists in English and Hindi were reprinted.

* The Manual on "Land Record" was published in English for wider distribution among the activists and groups involved in land related issues in the country.

* "Narmada Pariyojana" - A comprehensive article by Baba Amte, published in Economic & Political Weekly, was translated and published in Hindi for wider circulation in Hindi-speaking areas.
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

* Mid-term Review of the programme Strengthening the Organisational and Managerial Capacities of Women's Income Generating programmes. Details in report.

* A four day training programme was held in April 1990 for women activists of PRAYOG, Madhya Pradesh to help them enhance their understanding on Land related Laws, Regulations and Administrative Structures applicable in Madhya Pradesh specially in their work areas that is Chhattisgarh region. This training was organised on the request of PRAYOG towards helping them enhance their women staff capacity.

* A Training of Trainers Phase - II

Was organised in June for the DWCRA Training Teams in Rajasthan. The team comprises of DWCRA functionaries and they are involved in doing group leaders training in their own Districts. This was organised by ASTHA, Rajasthan and we helped them in planning and conducting the training.

* Women and Economic Activities:

A camp was organised at Adithi, Bihar from August 28-30, 1990. 23 women leaders, involved in various types of economic activities, representing different groups attended this camp. The focus was mainly to help women understand and build capacities on a few specific management concepts in relation to economic activities.

* A Camp for women leaders in Karnataka was organised from 4-7, December for three half days. 34 participants from different member organisations of PEWORD attended this camp. We were helped by Indian Development Service in organising this camp. An attempt was made to look at different management issues in relation to planning, organising and running economic activities.

* Training for Functionaries:

A training programme for functionaries involved in managing women's economic activities in West Bengal and Assam was organised in collaboration with Development Dialogue from December 16-22, 1990. There were 40 participants.
Other Activities

* ADITHI in Bihar has been involved in DWCRA training for Bihar. As Resource persons we have attended a training for Gram Sevikas in April 1990.

* A four day camp was organised in Tamil Nadu with the help of CAST from October 11-14, 1990. About 25 participants attended this camp. The emphasis was mainly on understanding women’s economic activities.

* The Adult and Continuing Education Department of JNU as part of its extension work is working in a few slums in Delhi. They are trying to organise women around economic activities and link it with adult education. We have been involved in sharing our experiences with the unit members and the women’s group.

* We have been sharing our experience and materials in training around management of women’s economic activities with different groups in Delhi and outside Delhi like the Urban Services Programme, Gandhi Peace Centre etc.

* PRIA team participated in the IVth National Conference on Women’s Movements in India at Calicut from 28-30 December 1990. Over 1500 women from autonomous women’s groups, academics/women’s studies and centres and activists participated in the conference.

* Various issues concerning women activists in the voluntary sector were the focus of discussions at a workshop convened by PRIA in 1988. To pursue the dialogue further a visit was made to Ahmedabad between 27 November and 1 December 1990. About 10 local women activists and groups were contacted to understand their thinking on problems faced by women activists and to explore with them the possibilities of initiating an indepth study in this regard.
WORKERS' EDUCATION

* Training for Worker Educators: held at Kanpur from April 10-16, 1990. 17 participants attended the programme.

* A study of Hospital Workers started in May 1990 was completed in June.

* Training of Activists of Punjab was done during July 1990. About 22 participants attended the programme.

* A study of Garage Workers was completed in December 1990 in collaboration with a local union.


* Campaign Update:

  - A poster competition was organised on 3rd December, 1990 at the Aga Khan Hall, New Delhi. About 200 school children from 14 schools participated in this competition.

  - A meeting of activists from Madhya Pradesh was organised by Lokhit Samiti at Singrauli to discuss the plan of action on Occupational Health and Safety and DRLD.

  - In Gujarat, Mr. J.B. Patel is meeting different trade unions and groups to talk to them about the campaign and pertaining activities.

  - A study of Khambat Agate Workers has been initiated by a group of doctors and citizens, in collaboration with Vyavsayik Swasthya Surksha Mandal - Baroda.

Publications

* Dust that kills slowly but surely
* Quarterly "OH Bulletin" (English and Hindi)
STRENGTHENING ORGANISATIONS

Management Issues:

* A Workshop was organised in collaboration with PRADAN on the management of Voluntary Organisations at Lonavala, Maharashtra from May 8-10, 1990. 22 participants from 15 organisations attended.

* Another Workshop in collaboration with the Centre for Youth and Social Development at Puri from August 7-9, 1990. 19 participants from 12 organisations attended.

* A Workshop on Management of Voluntary Organisations was organised at Lucknow during November 5-10, 1990. About 10 participants came for this programme, but the programme could not be held due to communal tensions in the region.

Organisational Mission, Strategies and Structures:

* A workshop of 42 senior members of Voluntary Organisations was organised during August 6-9, 1990 in Bangalore.

* A workshop of 36 participants was organised from December 9-12, 1990 at Suraj Kund, Haryana.

Accounts:

* A workshop of about 12 participants was organised in Puri, Orissa during August 6-10, 1990 on 'Accounts Keeping of Voluntary Organisations'.

* A workshop of about 35 participants was organised during November 26-28, 1990 in Devaria on 'Accounts Keeping of Voluntary Organisations'.

Evaluation:

* An encounter on 'Participatory Evaluation' was organised at Delhi on November 16, 1990 with 21 participants from different organisations.

* CHETNA (Ahmedabad) : PRIA has assisted Chetna in carrying out an evaluation during June 1990 - January 1991. A report has been prepared.
Evaluation of the Oxfam America - South Asia office was done by PRIA in August 1990. A report has been prepared.

Organisational Development:

* Mobile Creches (Delhi): An organisational development exercise was initiated with Mobile Creches Delhi from June 1990. A needs-assessment workshop with their supervisors was held on June 8, 1990 and one day training workshop on Mission and Strategy of Mobile Creches on July 16, 1990. Following this, support to their organisational strategy, structure and programme planning has been provided.

* Urmul Trust: Organisational Development exercise was held during the month of May as well as August for the team.

* Organisational Development Support was also provided to NIRPHAD (U.P), ISED (Bhubaneswar) and CARD (Bhubaneswar).

* A workshop of about 20 participants was organised during August 27-31, 1990 to discuss issues of Organisation Development in Orissa.

* Process Documentation: Process documentation support was provided to five groups: Sanchetna (Gujarat), Disha Kendra (Maharashtra), Shramik Bharti (U.P), Urmul Trust (Rajasthan) and SRED (Tamil Nadu).

Support Institutions

* Support to regional SIs (Support Institutions)

  - UNNATI: Organisation for development education, (Ahmedabad), Sahabhaagi Shikshan Kendra (Lucknow), SAHAYI: Centre for collective learning and action, (Kerala) and ISED (Bhubaneswar).

Programme Planning:

* A workshop was organised in Hindi during July 19-21, 1990 at Lucknow with 18 participants from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

* Another workshop took place during September 25-28, 1990 at Trivandrum in collaboration with Trivandrum district Fishermen Federation.
Regional NGO Consultations

* As part of the study on role of NGOs in India, 5 consultations were organised in different parts of India. These were held on April 21 at Bhubancswar, during May 11-12, at Trivandrum, on June 14 at Raipur, on June 23 at Ahmedabad, and on 31 August at Delhi.

Staff Development Efforts within PRIA

* A workshop of 6 participants from PRIA was organised in Delhi during September 20-22, 1990 to discuss issues related to development of Professional Staff.

* A meeting of 25 participants from PRIA was organised on November 16, 1990 in VANI to discuss issues related to future directions of PRIA.

* In Sohna, a workshop of 19 participants from PRIA was organised during November 21-23, 1990 to discuss issues related to development of staff.

* In Suraj Kund, a workshop of 28 participants from PRIA was organised during December 18-20, 1990 to discuss issues related to self development of staff.

Publications

* Manual on Financial Management and Account's Keeping

* Strengthening the Grass-Roots (Nature and Role of Support Organisations)

* Non-Governmental Organisations in India - A critical study (Annotated Bibliography)

* Non-Governmental Organisations in India - A critical study (in the Press).
POPULAR DOCUMENTATION AND RESOURCE CENTRE (PDRC)

The Popular Documentation and Resource Centre (PDRC) has commenced functioning with the advent of 1991.

PDRC has initiated editing and publishing information related to all the programmes, Natural Resources and Workers’ Education through the periodical ‘Land and People’, ‘Occupational Health and Safety Bulletin’ and the PRIA Newsletter, on a quarterly basis. In all, PDRC is handling six journals (in English and Hindi) and plans to launch 4 more in the current year.

Two new Journals on ‘Training’ (in English as well as Hindi) plus two on ‘Women and Development’ (again in both the languages) will take the total number of PRIA periodicals to 10. This perennial activity is undertaken together with the programme teams as all the data stems from PRIA’s on-going programmes.

PDRC is slowly building up the infrastructure to have the in-house printing capacity. Similar efforts are taking roots in terms of broadening the base for folk media.
INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

Asian Regional Workshop of Editors of Newsletter:

* PRIA organised a workshop in collaboration with ASPBAE, which brought together 35 participants from Asian countries, who are involved in the production and dissemination of alternative information through newsletters. It was held in Delhi from 29th October to 1st November, 1990. The participants were from Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, South Korea, India and Philippines.

Organisational Development of Support Institutions:

* In collaboration with the Institute for Development Research, (IDR), PRIA organised a training programme on organisational development for support institutions of Asia. There were 38 participants from Bangladesh, Thailand, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Indonesia and India. It was held in Delhi from 3rd to 7th December 1990.

Case Conference of Case Study Writers:

* In collaboration with the Institute for Development Research, Boston and Synergos Institute, New York, PRIA organised a Case Study Writers' Conference at New Delhi from March 22-26, 1991. Twenty participants from several Asian countries attended the conference to understand the dynamics of collaboration and partnership; to do comparative analysis of principles and factors affecting partnership; and to evolve ideas about follow-up, particularly with respect to regional workshops to influence policy-makers.

* Collaboration with ICAE and ASPBAE

PRIA supported the process of reflection and evaluation of ASPBAE, which was initiated during the year 1990. We also participated in the executive council meeting of the ASPBAE and PAC meeting of the ICAE.

* Evaluation of IRED

The initial process of reflection and evaluation of IRED, Asia, was carried out as part of its global assessment.
SECTORAL SUPPORT

* PRIA continued its active support to VANI and its various programmes and initiatives. This included inter alia, facilitation of, and participation in 'Dialogue with Donors' held in November 1990.

* As a part of celebration of the Voluntary Action Day, 12th March, 1991, PRIA was involved in the various activities related to the theme - "Voluntarism and Secularism".