



Life Education and Development Support
(LEADS)

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

Voices from the Villages of Jharkhand



This month, our teams worked hand-in-hand with women farmers, Mahila Mates, adolescents, artisans, and village institutions across **Hazaribagh, Simdega, Khunti, West Singhbhum, Latehar, Ramgarh, Giridih and Koderma** — building livelihoods, protecting child rights, and launching new initiatives for clean energy and sustainable farming.

706

Reached in Anti-Child Labour
Campaign

317

Participants across Women Mate
Programmes

30

Women Farmers Surveyed under
RiseUp

136

Delegates at State RTE/NEP
Conference

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Grassroots Voices (Rise Up Survey) • Empowering Women (Mahila Mates) • Standing Up for Children • Powering Change (SBIF CONSERW Launch) • Skill Building (WHH)

Grassroots Voices: Listening Before We Grow

Under the RiseUp Project, LEADS conducted a detailed household survey of 30 women farmers across Goshi, Harhad, and Lakhnu villages in Katkamsandi Block. The exercise put women — often the invisible cultivators of family land — at the centre of the data, mapping landholding, cropping patterns, yields, farm income, and everyday challenges of irrigation, markets, and time poverty.



A household survey session in progress.



Recording cropping pattern and income.

The findings are striking: despite small landholdings and heavy dependence on rainfall, women contribute significantly to food security — yet single cropping and distress migration limit resilience. The baseline will now guide solutions such as drip irrigation, drying sheds, millet processing, and backyard poultry and vermicompost, rooted in women's realities.

REER Project: Celebrating Nature & Wellbeing

Across Jaldega, Anandpur, and Mahuadanr blocks, REER marked two global observances this June. World Environment Day (5 June) was celebrated under the theme 'Inspired by Nature', with saplings planted by community members and schoolchildren. On International Yoga Day (21 June), villagers and students came together at schools and block offices to practice yoga and mark a day of collective wellbeing.



Tree plantation on World Environment Day.



Community yoga session for Yoga Day.

Empowering Women, Transforming Livelihoods

In Murhu, Bandgaon, and Mahuadanr blocks, June was a month of recognition and reinforcement for Mahila Mates and women farmers. The month opened with a Rozgar Diwas celebration at Hassa Panchayat, Murhu, where success stories of Mahila Mates and MGNREGA workers were shared to inspire wider community participation. Three-day trainings on irrigation-based farming, NTFP, and animal husbandry reached 136 model women farmers, while Social Empowerment sessions on rights and leadership engaged another 133 participants across all three blocks.

Success Story: From Community Leader to Rural Entrepreneur



Monika Mundu at her poultry unit.

Monika Mundu, an active Mahila Mate from Bandgaon Block, West Singhbhum, has emerged as a community leader by combining her leadership role with a thriving livelihood enterprise. With support from LEADS, she set up a poultry unit of 100 hens producing 60–70 eggs daily, supplying government schools in Bandgaon and now Champawa Panchayat too. Her enterprise earns an average of ₹700 a day — a stable, self-built income that now inspires other Mahila Mates to follow her example.

Aam Mahotsav: Celebrating the Mango Harvest

Aam Mahotsav (Mango Festival) was organised across all three intervention blocks — Bandgaon, Murhu, and Mahuadanr — bringing mango plantation beneficiaries together to showcase their harvest and build market linkages with local buyers. The Block Administration felicitated farmers in recognition of their dedication to sustainable horticulture. The month also saw a field visit by the District Deputy Commissioner, APO, and DSP to Landupda Panchayat, Bandgaon, who reviewed mango plantation, dragon fruit cultivation, poultry, and piggerly units led by Mahila Mates.



Farmers display their harvest at the Aam Mahotsav (Mango Festival).

Standing Up for Children & Community Rights

June marked the culmination of two major awareness drives in Giridih and Koderma districts. The 44-day Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL), running since 30 April, closed on 12 June — World Day Against Child Labour — after 32 activities reached 706 participants (311 men, 395 women) through rallies, wall-writing, drawing competitions, and video creation. The closing day alone brought together 120 participants for drama, poster-making, and slogan activities promoting education over child labour.

Alongside this, a 45-day Voice for Green Earth campaign concluded with tree plantation drives and over 400 seed balls made by children and youth across Koderma and Giridih. Information campaigns on government entitlements — from Ayushman Bharat to E-Shram Cards — reached 30 villages in Tisri, Gawan, and Koderma blocks, while district-level RTE/NEP consultations strengthened coordination among block officials, school teachers, and community representatives.



REER Project: 136 Delegates at the State Conference

Representatives of School Management Committees and Panchayati Raj Institutions from the REER project areas joined a two-day State Conference on RTE, NEP-2020, and Mission Vatsalya in Ranchi (27–28 June), where 136 participants (36 women) discussed the roles and responsibilities of PRI and SMC members in strengthening education and child protection.



PRI and SMC representatives at the State Conference on RTE, NEP-2020 & Mission Vatsalya, Ranchi.

Case Story: A Farmer's Journey to Modern Agriculture

Mr. Jeetwahan Nag, a farmer from Dumberbeda village, Jaldega Block, once relied on traditional methods that barely sustained his family. After training with LEADS and joining the Farmers' Field School, he adopted modern techniques — improved seed varieties, pro-tray nurseries, trellis horticulture, and azolla cultivation. Today he grows cucumber, chilly, pumpkin, and other vegetables on one acre, selling in nearby markets and earning ₹10,000–15,000 a month — a story now inspiring fellow farmers in his village.

आधुनिक स्वेती

सब्जी की खेती से हर महीने 15 हजार रुपए तक की हो रही कमाई

किसान पाठशाला से बदली जीतवाहन नाग की तकदीर

- उत्पादित सामान कोमल्लेटा, जलड्रेगल्लबोर्ड और सिलिंग वाजारों में बेचते हैं

[illegible]

मिर्चिया सहित अमरनाथ के चक्करों में खेचें हैं। यद्यपि यहाँ से उन्हें प्रसिद्धा नमस्कार 10 में 15 हजार रुपये की अत्यन्त जोखिम है, किन्तु उनकी अर्थिक स्थिति में जो सुधार आया है। यौनवाहन नाम की सफलता पर मिर्चिया के लिए है कि उन्हें मिर्चियों को खरीद मार्गदर्शन, आधुनिक तकनीक और आवश्यक संसाधन उपलब्ध करवा जायें जो वे खेती को सफलतापूर्वक लागू करने में मदद सकते हैं। उनकी कानूनी सेवा के अन्तर्गत उनके मिर्चियों को प्रेरणा का स्रोत बन रही है।

Powering Change: Solar Project Launched in Jaldega

On 29 June, LEADS — with the support of SBI Foundation — formally launched the SBIF CONSERW: VIBHA project at the Block Office, Jaldega. Chief Guest Dr. Praveen Kumar, Block Development Officer, lit the ceremonial lamp alongside SBI Bank representatives, line department officials, and the LEADS team, marking the start of a renewable energy initiative for the block's remote, forest-fringe villages.

180+ Stakeholders at the Launch	8 Planned Solar Interventions	3 Panchayats Represented	1 New Flagship Project
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Glimpses of the Launch Workshop



What the Project Will Deliver

- Solar electrification of Government Schools and Anganwadi Centres.
- Solar street lights for remote villages, including areas facing human-elephant conflict.
- Solar-powered drinking water systems and solar irrigation infrastructure.
- Check dams and irrigation wells to improve use of surface water.
- Local youth trained as 'Surya Urja Mitras' for long-term operation & maintenance.

“Renewable energy is becoming increasingly important for inclusive rural development, especially in remote, tribal areas. The Block Administration will extend full support for this project.”

— Dr. Praveen Kumar, Block Development Officer, Jaldega

Skill Building for Sustainable Enterprise

In Keriya Panchayat, Simdega, 25 women completed a 3-day pickle-making training, followed by a 4-day Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development Programme covering business planning, finance, and marketing — turning a craft into a livelihood. Public Information Camps also ran across Ramgarh, Khunti, and Simdega, alongside a new Bamboo Craft Centre and an Advance Skill Building Training on Sohrai Painting.

FEATURE STORY · REER PROJECT, MURHU BLOCK, KHUNTI

Rooting Classrooms in Adivasi Values

On 15–16 June, LEADS organised a two-day Teacher Training Programme on Incorporation of Adivasi Values as per NEP 2020 at Jiwri Village, Murhu Block, Khunti District, bringing together government school teachers to explore how tribal culture, language, and indigenous knowledge can enrich classroom teaching. Sessions unpacked NEP 2020's provisions on multilingual and experiential learning, while a dedicated session by Anjali on Career Counselling equipped teachers to guide students on educational and career pathways, including scholarships and vocational opportunities for tribal children. Teachers also planned dedicated 'Adivasi Learning Corners' in their classrooms — spaces celebrating tribal history, indigenous farming, folk tales, art, and local language — and left the training with a clear action plan to make their schools more culturally rooted, inclusive, and aspirational.

2 Days Teacher Training Programme	NEP 2020 Culturally Inclusive Education	10+ Adivasi Learning Corner Themes	1 Career Counselling Session
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Glimpses from the Training



Teachers in an interactive session on NEP 2020 and Adivasi values.



Group discussion on integrating local knowledge into classroom teaching.

Teachers from schools across Murhu Block engaged actively in discussions, group work, and reflection — building shared commitment towards culturally responsive, child-centred education for tribal children.

With thanks to every farmer, Mahila Mate, child, and community volunteer who made June 2026 possible.

LEADS · Life Education And Development Support

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