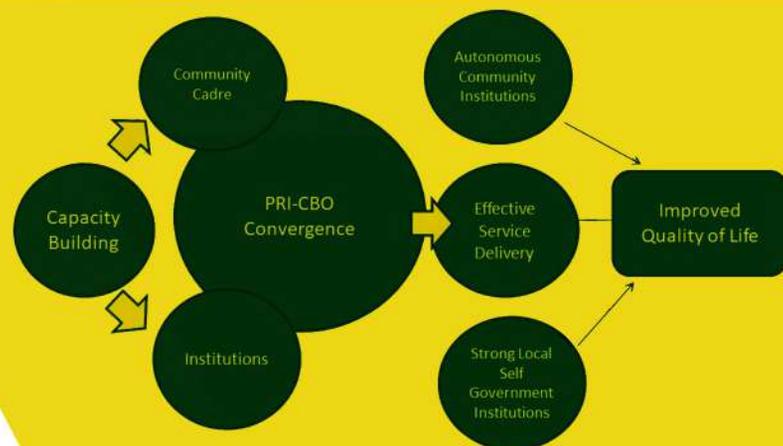


## **PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION (PRI-CBO) CONVERGENCE PROJECT**





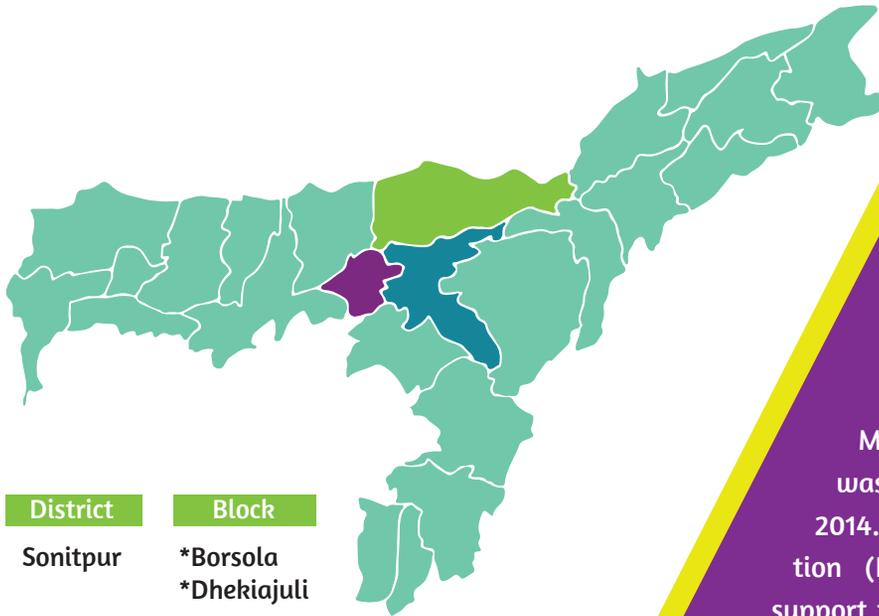
Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission



Towards Livelihood Promotion



# PRI-CBO CONVERGENCE PROJECT IN ASSAM



District	Block
Sonitpur	*Borsola *Dhekiajuli
Morigaon	Laharighat
Nagaon	Bajiagaon *Barhampur *Laokhowa

\* Scale up Blocks

## ASRLM-KUDUMBASHREE NRO PARTNERSHIP

Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission (ASRLM) had partnered with Kerala State Poverty Eradication Mission, Kudumbashree - NRO for implementing the PRI CBO (Panchayati Raj Institutions - Community Based Organisations) Convergence Pilot Project in Assam. The Memorandum of Understanding for the partnership was signed by the two Missions on 20th January 2014. The Kudumbashree National Resource Organization (NRO) provided technical and implementation support to ASRLM for the convergence project which was implemented in 36 pilot GPs of two blocks of Laharighat and Bajiagaon in Morigaon and Nagaon districts respectively.

Activities started in field on the month of March, 2014 with the scoping study as the first activity. One of the major focus of the project in the last three years has been the process based capacitation of various stakeholders in field (PRIs, SHGs and Community cadres). Local Resource Group (LRGs) from the community and Mentor Resource Persons (MRPs) were the main driving force in carrying out the field activities.

# CONCEPT OF PRI- CBO CONVERGENCE PROJECT



The concept of PRI-CBO Convergence envisions that increased articulation of the demand from the community through proper capacity building mechanism will improve the ability for service delivery of the system. The continuous interaction that CBOs have with the public system, especially Panchayat, can be facilitated through Participatory Assessment and Planning tools, supported by a dedicated community cadre. In the long run the institutional synergy between CBO and PRI structures eventually helps in developing a strong democratic citizenship at the grassroots level.

**PRI-CBO CONSULTATIVE MEETING**

The rationale is that democratization and inclusiveness of the poor are essential components for good governance, which can be achieved by bringing together PRI and CBO structures under the same platform. The opportunities for convergence are also opportunities for local economic development and social justice.

## MAJOR OUTCOMES

### LRG AS COMMUNITY CADRE FOR ENHANCING PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

Local Resource Group (LRG) members are facilitators of the project activities at the grass root level, providing handholding support to SHG network and PRI representatives. They are identified from the local community, capacitated on various aspects of the project and continuously mentored by Kudumbashree Mentor RPs.

BLOCK	LRGs CAPACITATED IN 2014	LRG STATUS AS OF NOW
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BAJIAGAON	97	67
LAHARIHAT	137	142



**LRG ORIENTATION IN NIZ GERUA PANCHAYAT, LAHARIGHAT BLOCK, ASSAM**

# DEVELOPMENT AND PLACEMENT OF INTERNAL CADRE



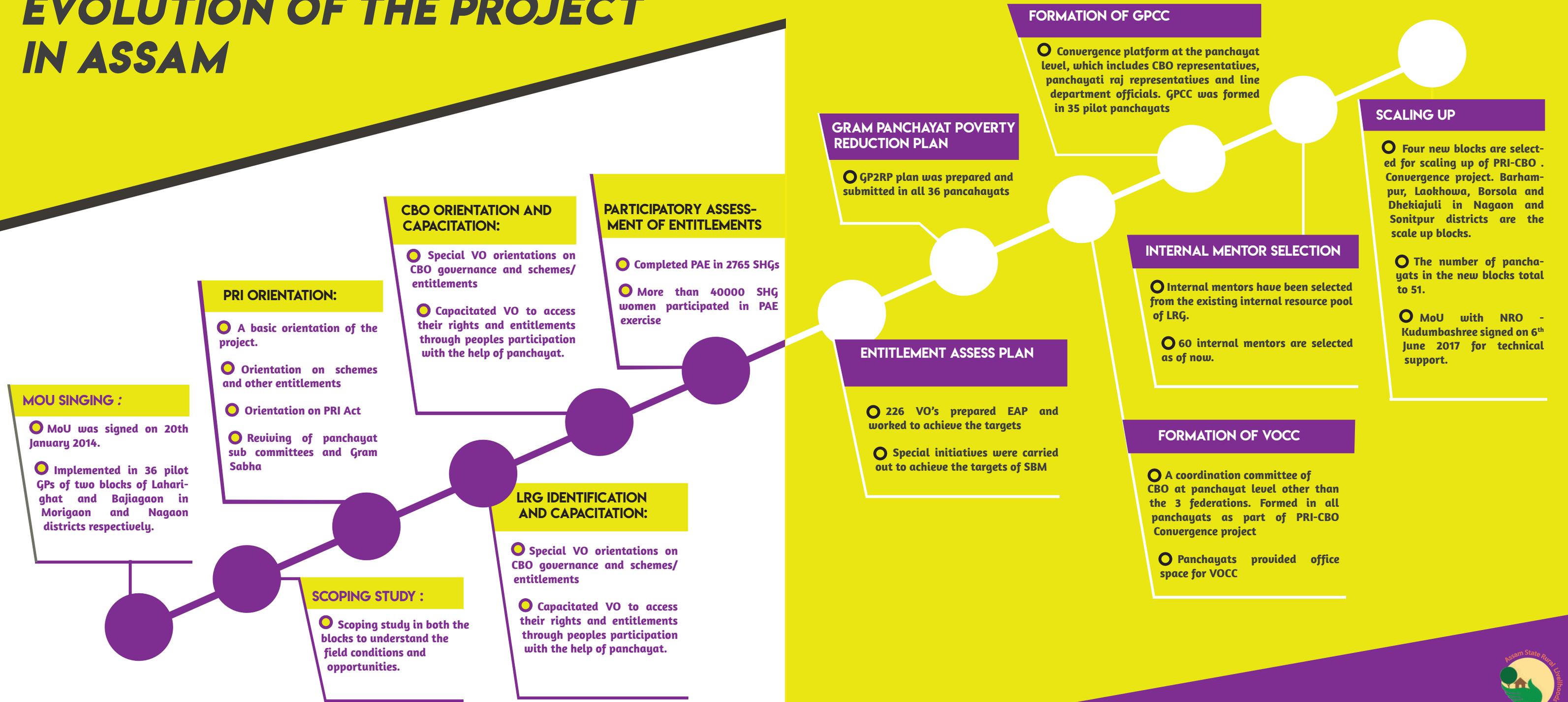
Internal mentors are selected from the existing internal resource pool of LRG with the responsibility of replicating the project in other blocks. 60 Internal Mentors are selected in two phases. The selection process was an activity centric process that tested the individuals based on two major categories - knowledge and skill.

## CBO AS A SERVICE DELIVERY INSTITUTION

- Creation of cohesion among the VO members and a feeling of ownership by strengthening the CBO through awareness of the VO members on their roles and responsibilities
- Following PAE, scheme based follow up committees were formed in each VO to streamline and better access various government benefits. This responsibility lead to more VO members showing interest in the activities of VO
- Panchayats and line departments have entrusted the CBO with certain responsibilities for delivering of services
- VOs and VOCCs are the prime agents through which the panchayats seek to disseminate information of Gram Sabhas and also rely on them for immaculate preparation of priority lists
- Line departments rely on the CBO network to glean the demands of the community and provide for appropriate trainings.



# EVOLUTION OF THE PROJECT IN ASSAM



# VILLAGE ORGANISATION COORDINATION COMMITTEE (VOCC) :



Apart from the three tier federative structure, VOCC was formed in both the blocks to ensure that there is constant interface, linking the community federation to the panchayat. After their training, the VOCC coordinators and conveners in each of the panchayats have actively taken up their responsibilities and started engaging with the panchayats on an equal footing. The three sub committees for health and education, livelihood and social welfare have been put into place and the VOCC is now streamlining their functioning with the existing SHG and VO network. There has been a gradual evolution of the CBO from being a scattered unit to being a collectivized and strong entity. Having received office space within the panchayat premises, VOCC members regularly sit in their office and accept applications and aid the local community in accessing benefits of the panchayat and line departments.



VOCC MEETING IN KUHUMTALI GP, BAJIAGAON

# PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTIONS:

- Regular interface by the SHG network and LRGs helped the panchayats recognise the potential of working with CBO.
- Through the activities of the project, there has been greater awareness among the panchayat members about various schemes and about the functioning of the panchayat.
- Active involvement of ward members in all panchayats with women ward members beginning to come out and engage at par with their male counterparts.
- Increase in the number of participants in Gram Sabha and improved quality of discussions.
- Increase in the transparency and accountability of the panchayat.
- Quality of service delivery has improved in these panchayats with greater responsibility being given to the SHG network to identify and prioritize beneficiary lists.

## GRAM SABHA MOBILIZATION IN TEA GARDENS OF ASSAM AT AMLOKHI PANCHAYAT, BAJIAGAON BLOCK

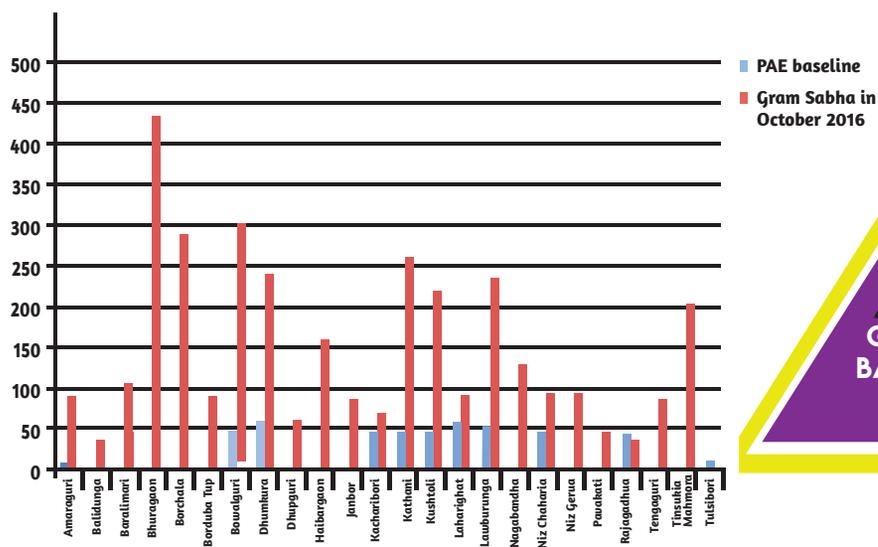


# GRAM PANCHAYAT COORDINATION COMMITTEE (GPCC) :

To strengthen and institutionalise the interaction between PRI and CBO, the project envisages the formation of Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee (GPCC) in GPs. The GPCC comprises of members from VOCC, PRI and line departments.

The GPCC is expected to meet at regular intervals and deepen the co-ordination between PRI and CBO in matters related to planning and service delivery.

GPCC has been formed and trained in 35 panchayats across the two pilot blocks.



GPCC MEETING AT RANGAGURA PANCHAYAT, BAJIAGAON BLOCK

Gram Sabhas were held in October 2017 in 23 out of the 24 Gram Panchayats in Laharighat Block, Assam

# INNOVATIVE ACTIONS:



Poverty Eradication Committee (PEC) was constituted at some panchayats realizing the magnitude of the poverty. As the name suggests, the committee aims to work towards eradicating poverty from each household in the village and give special care to the weaker sections of the society.

**RALLY OF BAL SABHA CHILDRENS GROUP AT UDMARI PANCHAYAT, BAJIAGAON BLOCK**

Bal Sabha was formed in all 36 GPs. Children aged between 6 to 18, from the geographical limit of one or more SHGs form a Bal Sabha. In a Bal Sabha, 10 to 25 children were included as members.

Both Laharighat and Bajiagaon Blocks have undertaken initiative to conduct Medical Camps jointly with the help of CBO and Panchayat to address the health needs of the community.



**MEDICAL HEALTH CAMP AT GP LEVEL IN BHORAGURI GRAM PANCHAYAT**

# TOOLS FOR PARTICIPATORY ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING



## PARTICIPATORY ASSESSMENT OF ENTITLEMENTS

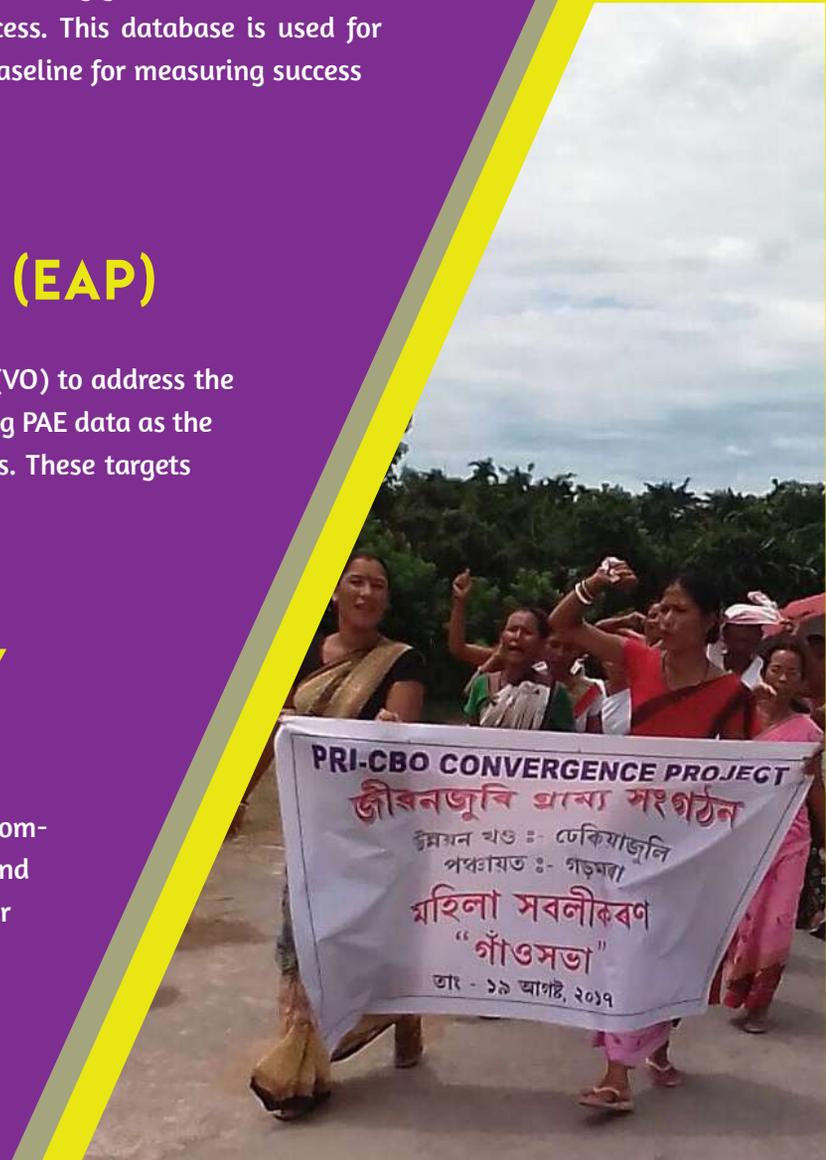
PAE is a SHG level interaction based tool that helps in generating awareness on various entitlements and local-self governance systems. Using PAE, the community generates a database on its access to schemes and participation in governance process. This database is used for making demand plans by the CBO and is also treated as a baseline for measuring success in achieving entitlements by the community.

## ENTITLEMENT ACCESS PLAN (EAP)

EAP is a target plan prepared by each Village Organisation (VO) to address the gaps in the access to entitlements identified during PAE. Using PAE data as the baseline, each VO sets quarterly targets for various schemes. These targets are regularly monitored and evaluated by the VO.

## GRAM PANCHAYAT POVERTY REDUCTION PLAN (GP2RP)

The Gram Panchayat Poverty Reduction Plan (GP2RP) is a comprehensive demand plan prepared by the self-help groups and their federations in partnership with the grampanchayats for local development. Components of GP2RP are Social Inclusion, Entitlements, Livelihoods, Resource Development and Basic Infrastructure.



# PROGRESS REPORT ON PRI- CBO CONVERGENCE IN PILOTED BLOCKS

*MGNREGS	ACHIEVEMENT
S.H.G MEMBERS HAVING JOB CARD FOR MGNREGS	9185
SHG S WHO IDENTIFIED WORK UNDER MGNREGA	3253
SHG MEMBERS DEMANDED WORK UNDER MGNREGA	13539
SHG MEMBERS OBTAINED WORK UNDER MGNREGA	7526
<b>SBM</b>	
SHG FAMILIES HAVING A LATRINE IN THEIR HOUSE (SBM AND NON SBM)	5888
SHG FAMILIES USING THE LATRINE (SBM AND NON SBM)	5809
<b>** RSBY</b>	
SHG FAMILIES HAVING RSBY HEALTH CARD	40
<b>NSAP</b>	
SHG WOMAN / FAMILY MEMBERS OBTAINING OLD AGE PENSION	694
SHG WOMAN / FAMILY MEMBERS OBTAINING WINDOW PENSIONS	189
SHG WOMAN/ FAMILY MEMBERS OBTAINING DISABILITY PENSIONS	50
SHG WOMAN/ FAMILY MEMBERS OBTAINING BAIDEO PENSION	11
<b>ICDS</b>	
PREGNANT / LACTATING WOMAN RECEIVING SERVICES FROM ANGANWADI	2698
CHILDREN IN AGE GROUP 0-3 YEARS RECEIVING SERVICES FROM ANGANWADI ( FROM SHG FAMILIES)	4545
CHILDREN IN AGE GROUP 3-6 YEARS ENROLLED IN ANGANWADI ( FROM SHG FAMILIES)	4915
TOTAL NUMBERS OF BALA SABHA FORMED	315
NUMBERS OF SHGS TOOK UP IHHL(TOILET) CONSTRUCTION WORK	13



# SCALING UP OF PRI CBO CONVERGENCE PROJECT TO ADDITIONAL BLOCKS:



The pilot project on PRI- CBO Convergence was initiated in two (2) blocks viz., Bajiagaon (Nagaon) and Laharighat (Morigaon ) during FY 2014-15 covering 36 GPs. The main objective of the partnership between ASRLM and Kudumbashree NRO was to create a model for supporting both PRI and CBO networks for effective convergence leading to sustainable and better implementation of NRLM. In the long run, it should result in the creation of a robust institutional structure of the poor that is closely linked to local governance and development.

Assam is a forerunner amongst other states doing the Convergence project. Now, ASRLM is scaling up the pilot project to 4 new blocks i.e. Barhampur (Nagaon), Laokhowa(Nagaon), Dhekiajuli(Sonitpur) and Borsala(Sonitpur) at first phase. The internal pool (Internal Mentors) developed during the piloting shall help in scaling up the PRI-CBO Convergence project. Kudumbashree- NRO, Kerala will handhold the Internal Mentors in the scaling up programme. The number of panchayats in the new blocks total to 51. Govt. of Assam is also contemplating to replicate this PRI-CBO Convergence to all blocks of Assam in near future.



ASSAM STATE RURAL LIVELIHOODS MISSION  
PANCHAYAT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF ASSAM



KUDUMBASHREE  
KERALA STATE POVERTY ERADICATION MISSION  
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA



**PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS  
COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION  
(PRI-CBO) CONVERGENCE PROJECT**

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