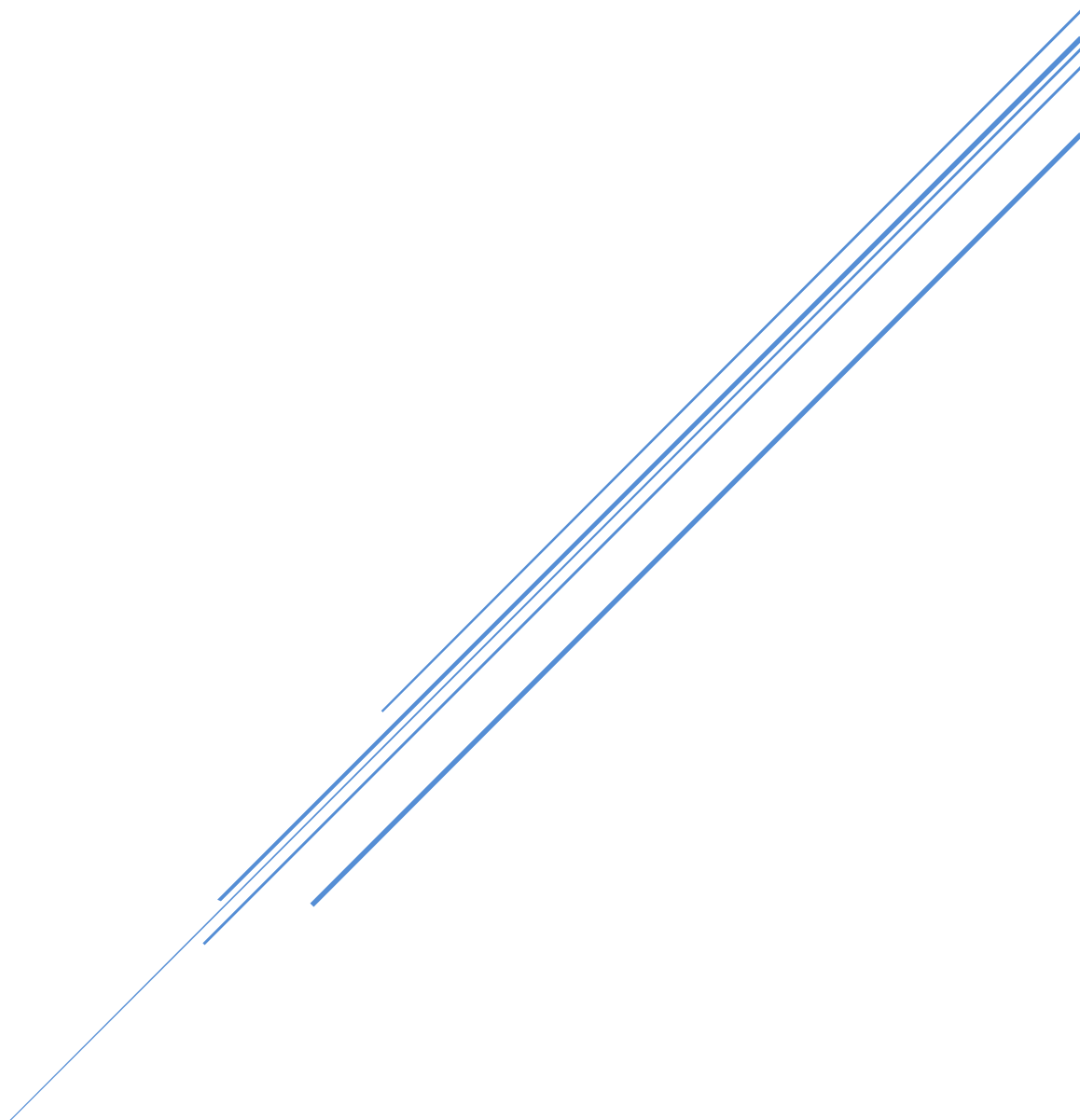


BIRSA SEVA SANSTHAN

PROGRESS REPORT 2023-24



Birsa Seva Sansthan

Progress Report (2023-2024)

During the financial year 2023-24, Birsa Seva Sansthan actively implemented a range of developmental initiatives across both rural and urban clusters of Ranchi district, the capital city of Jharkhand.

The organization remains committed to a holistic approach to development, with a strong emphasis on promoting the rights and well-being of marginalized and underserved communities. Guided by its core objective of empowering the disadvantaged, Birsa Seva Sansthan continues to work towards inclusive growth and social equity.

Key interventions and activities undertaken in 2023-24 are summarized below:

1. Drug De-addiction and Prevention Programme

Birsa Seva Sansthan has been actively involved in drug abuse prevention efforts, particularly targeting adolescents and youth—two of the most vulnerable groups susceptible to substance misuse. Recognizing the urgent need for early intervention, the organization conducted a series of awareness programmes throughout the year in both urban slums and educational institutions, including schools and colleges within Ranchi district.



In addition to community and campus-based outreach, sensitization activities were also carried out at key public locations such as bus stands and railway stations, where the risk of exposure and influence is often high. These campaigns aimed to educate young individuals and the general public about the harmful effects of substance abuse, while encouraging healthy, addiction-free lifestyles.

To further reinforce the message, **Anti-Tobacco and Drug De-addiction Day** was observed with active community participation. The event featured street plays, interactive sessions, and motivational talks by health professionals and recovered individuals, creating a supportive environment for behavioral change and rehabilitation.

2. Health and Family Welfare Programme

Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) continues to play a proactive role in promoting health awareness and family welfare, especially among adolescent girls and women in both rural and urban underserved areas of Ranchi district. The organization focuses on creating awareness around reproductive health, hygiene, nutrition, and preventive healthcare.

Throughout the year, BSS conducted multiple educational sessions and outreach activities to sensitize adolescent girls and women on crucial issues such as menstrual hygiene, reproductive health,

pregnancy care (both pre-natal and post-natal), family planning, childcare, and Adolescent

Reproductive and Sexual Health (ARSH). These sessions were designed to bridge the information gap and empower women with knowledge to make informed decisions about their health and well-being.

Regular health camps were organized to monitor weight, conduct health check-ups, assess nutritional status, and promote immunization. These interventions helped in early detection of health issues and improved awareness on the importance of preventive healthcare.



A significant boost to the organization's mobile healthcare services came through the support of the Tata Ambulance, provided by the State Health Department. This facility has been instrumental in delivering health services to the doorstep of slum dwellers and remote rural communities, thereby enhancing accessibility to healthcare.

In addition, emergency ambulance services were made available to the public, especially for pregnant women, critically ill patients, and accident victims—ensuring timely medical attention and transportation to nearby healthcare facilities.

Through these sustained efforts, BSS continues to contribute to the broader goal of achieving equitable and accessible healthcare for all.

3. Skill Development Programme and Promotion of Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs)

Since its inception, Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) has been committed to the empowerment and upliftment of women, particularly from tribal and economically disadvantaged backgrounds. The organization has undertaken a range of skill development initiatives aimed at enhancing the employability and income-generating capacities of marginalized women and youth.



Throughout the reporting year, BSS organized several free training programmes focused on building vocational skills and entrepreneurial capacity. These programmes are tailored to local needs and market demands, enabling beneficiaries to gain practical skills and become financially self-reliant.

The major skill development courses offered included:

- Basic computer literacy for digital empowerment and improved employment opportunities.
- Cutting, tailoring, and knitting to enable home-based and small-scale garment production.
- Preparation of soft toys, jams, jellies, papads, and pickles, promoting food processing and cottage industries.
- Candle making, incense stick (agarbatti) production, and basic mechanical skills to support a variety of micro-enterprise activities.

In addition to training, the organization also provided job placement support to deserving candidates and distributed tailoring machines to women from economically weaker sections to help them start their own ventures from home.

Birsa Seva Sansthan also continued its work in the promotion and strengthening of Women Self-Help Groups (SHGs). These groups serve as platforms for collective learning, savings, credit access, and entrepreneurship. By encouraging the formation of SHGs, BSS empowers women to take collective action towards financial independence and social development.

These initiatives are a testament to the organization's long-standing commitment to women's welfare, livelihood enhancement, and inclusive growth.

4. Adult Education and Literacy Development

Education continues to be one of the core focus areas of Birsa Seva Sansthan, especially for marginalized and disadvantaged communities. The organization has been working consistently to promote literacy among adult illiterates and out-of-school children, with a special emphasis on vulnerable groups such as street children, girls, and children from tribal and slum areas.

Throughout the year, the organization conducted various educational awareness programmes in schools and community spaces across both rural and urban clusters of Ranchi. These initiatives aimed to highlight the importance of education and encourage community participation in supporting children's right to learn.



During field engagements, it was observed that a significant number of children—particularly girls under the age of seven—remain unregistered in the formal education system, especially in remote villages and urban slums. Additionally, the school dropout rate remains alarmingly high among adolescent girls due to socio-economic challenges, early marriage, and lack of educational infrastructure.

To address this issue, Birsa Seva Sansthan has been running non-formal education centres that serve as bridge programmes for children who have either never been enrolled or have dropped out of school. These centres aim to rekindle the children's interest in learning, build foundational literacy and numeracy skills, and ultimately help them transition into mainstream education.

Special focus has also been given to street children, who are often excluded from traditional learning environments. The organization provides them with informal education, life skills training, and recreational learning opportunities in a safe and supportive setting.

Through these sustained efforts, BSS is working toward reducing educational disparities and creating pathways for lifelong learning, especially for those who have been historically left behind.

5. Computer and Digital Literacy Development Programme

Recognizing the growing importance of digital skills in today's knowledge-driven society, Birsa Seva Sansthan has undertaken significant initiatives to promote computer and digital literacy, especially among the youth from tribal and marginalized communities.

The organization has been actively conducting computer training programmes to equip young individuals with essential digital competencies, including basic computer operations, internet usage, and familiarity with common software applications. In addition, youth are trained on the safe and effective use of social media platforms, enabling them to engage responsibly in the digital world and explore opportunities for personal and professional growth.



To expand digital awareness at the grassroots level, BSS has also organized a series of village-level workshops and awareness sessions on the importance of digital literacy. These sessions aimed to demystify technology for rural populations, especially first-time users, and promote the adoption of digital tools for everyday tasks such as accessing government schemes, health services, and educational resources.

As part of this initiative, special drives were carried out to encourage AADHAAR enrolment among villagers, recognizing it as a vital step toward digital inclusion and access to various government welfare services. The organization also helped residents understand how to link AADHAAR with essential services, thereby promoting digital identity and financial inclusion.

Through these efforts, Birsa Seva Sansthan continues to bridge the digital divide and create pathways for marginalized communities to actively participate in the digital age.

6. Health Camps and Legal

As part of its commitment to community well-being, Birsa Seva Sansthan continues to organize general and specialized health camps for underserved populations, with a focus on preventive healthcare and health education. During the reporting year, the organization conducted six general health check-up camps in various low-income and slum areas of Ranchi town, as well as in the Namkum and Ratu blocks. These camps provided free medical consultations, basic diagnostics, and medicines to those who often lack access to quality healthcare services. Special attention was given to maternal and child health, nutrition, blood pressure, diabetes screening, and general physical well-being.



In addition to general healthcare, a specialized camp focused on the treatment and awareness of Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) was organized at Garikhana Chowk and Khadgarha Bus Stand—locations with high footfall and vulnerable populations. The objective of these camps was not only to provide treatment but also to promote awareness about safe practices, early detection, and the stigma associated with STDs.

7. Consumer Awareness Programmes

Organization also initiated legal and consumer awareness programmes to educate community members about their rights and entitlements. These sessions focused on issues related to consumer protection, legal aid availability, and grievance redressal mechanisms, particularly in cases of fraud, unfair trade practices, and legal exploitation.

Through these integrated health and legal awareness efforts, Birsa Seva Sansthan continues to empower marginalized communities with knowledge and access to essential services, ensuring their holistic development and protection.



8. Environment Protection and Agricultural Assistance

As part of its commitment to sustainable development, Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) actively promoted environmental awareness and eco-friendly practices among communities during the year 2023–24. The organization conducted a series of workshops and awareness programmes aimed at encouraging responsible behavior towards the environment, with a focus on practical and community-led solutions.

Key themes covered in the workshops included:

- Waste management and the importance of segregation at source
- Reduction in the use of plastic and polythene to combat non-biodegradable waste
- Prevention of water pollution and promotion of safe water practices
- Tree plantation drives to improve green cover and promote biodiversity



In addition to educational sessions, creative and interactive activities were organized to engage young minds. Painting and elocution competitions were held in various schools, encouraging children to express their ideas and concerns about environmental issues through art and public speaking.

To spread the message at the grassroots level, street plays (nukkad natak) and community awareness camps were conducted in both rural and urban pockets. These activities helped generate public dialogue and community ownership on critical environmental topics.

Parallel to environmental efforts, the organization also provided agricultural assistance to small and marginal farmers. This included awareness on sustainable farming techniques, organic composting, and water conservation practices, thereby aligning environmental protection with rural livelihood support.

Through these initiatives, BSS has been working to foster eco-conscious behavior and climate resilience among communities, especially youth, farmers, and urban slum dwellers.

8. Prevention of Human Trafficking and Child Sexual Abuse

Human trafficking and child sexual abuse remain serious and deeply concerning issues in the state of Jharkhand. A large number of young girls are trafficked each year, often under the guise of domestic employment in other states, where they face physical exploitation, abuse, and violation of their rights. Disturbingly, many cases of child sexual abuse also occur within homes and communities, often perpetrated by individuals known to the child.

In response to this grim reality, Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) placed special focus on child rights and the prevention of trafficking and abuse during the year 2023–24. The organization conducted awareness campaigns and sensitization sessions to educate community members, especially women and adolescents, about the risks of trafficking, the importance of early reporting, and the support systems available.



To scale up its efforts and enhance impact, BSS has joined hands on the mission "Save Our Sisters". This collaborative project brings together multiple organizations to work towards the protection of vulnerable girls and women, prevention of trafficking, and rehabilitation of survivors.

Under this initiative, the organization has:

- Strengthened community vigilance and reporting systems through local networks.
- Conducted school-based sessions on child protection, body safety, and rights awareness.
- Engaged frontline workers and community leaders in workshops on identifying and responding to trafficking risks.
- Extended counseling and referral support for at-risk children and survivors.

Through these sustained and collective efforts, Birsa Seva Sansthan aims to create safer communities and empower children—especially girls—with the knowledge, tools, and support needed to protect themselves from exploitation and abuse.

9. Water and Sanitation Programme

Access to clean drinking water and proper sanitation is fundamental to ensuring good health and overall well-being. In recognition of this, Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) has continued its efforts throughout 2023–24 to raise awareness and promote behavioral change around safe water usage, hygiene, and sanitation practices, particularly in underserved communities of Ranchi district.



The organization has worked extensively in both rural and urban pockets to sensitize people about the importance of drinking safe, uncontaminated water and maintaining hygienic living environments. Various cleanliness drives and awareness campaigns were carried out across different blocks, reinforcing the critical link between sanitation, disease prevention, and mental and physical well-being.

To effectively engage the community, BSS employed a range of culturally relevant communication tools, such as:

- Street plays (nukkad natak) that highlight everyday hygiene issues in relatable ways
- Puppet shows for children and family audiences to communicate hygiene messages
- Poster exhibitions and wall writings in public spaces to spread key messages
- Informal discussions and sessions tailored to specific target groups (e.g., women, schoolchildren, elderly)

In addition to awareness-building, field surveys were conducted to identify existing problems related to water supply and sanitation infrastructure in vulnerable areas. This helped the organization better understand ground-level challenges and advocate for appropriate interventions through local governance and line departments.

10. Program for Handicapped and Elderly People

Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) continues its dedicated efforts to support physically, mentally, and visually challenged individuals, as well as elderly people who are often marginalized and socially excluded. Through various initiatives, the organization strives to enhance the dignity, independence, and quality of life for these vulnerable groups within society.

For the differently-abled community, BSS provides ongoing support through awareness programs and services aimed at promoting inclusion, understanding, and access to basic rights and opportunities. These programs are designed to foster a greater understanding of the challenges faced by persons with disabilities, raise awareness about disability rights, and advocate for their social integration. The organization also supports individuals in accessing specialized services, such as physical therapy, educational opportunities, and vocational training, empowering them to live more independent and fulfilling lives.

In parallel, BSS has established support to destitute and socially ostracized elderly who often find themselves neglected by their families or communities. These homes provide a safe and supportive environment where elderly individuals receive the care, respect, and dignity they deserve. The organization's focus is not only on physical care but also on emotional support, ensuring that elderly residents have opportunities for companionship, social engagement, and active participation in community life.

Special attention is given to elderly individuals who have been abandoned or neglected by their families. BSS intervenes in such cases by providing mediation, counseling, and appropriate care solutions, ensuring that these individuals are treated with the respect and social value they deserve. The organization actively works to create a more compassionate and supportive environment for the elderly, advocating for their inclusion and well-being in society.

Through these multifaceted efforts, Birsa Seva Sansthan continues to play a crucial role in improving the lives of disabled and elderly individuals, addressing their specific needs, and promoting a more inclusive and respectful society.

10. Legal Aid and Consumer Awareness Program

Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) is committed to creating a more just and equitable society by empowering marginalized communities through legal aid and awareness initiatives. The organization continues to implement programs that strengthen legal literacy and foster awareness on consumer rights, helping vulnerable populations understand and assert their rights.

In the reporting year 2023–24, BSS organized 10 field-based awareness programs aimed at addressing various social issues and promoting social justice. These programs were designed to engage communities in open discussions about important legal and social topics. Some of the key themes covered include:

- Equality: Promoting equal rights and opportunities for all, regardless of caste, class, or gender.
- Anti-Dowry Campaigns: Raising awareness about the harmful practice of dowry and advocating for its eradication.
- Child Abuse and Child Rights: Educating communities about the protection of children's rights and mechanisms for reporting abuse.
- Gender Biases and Empowerment: Addressing gender-based discrimination and promoting gender equality in both rural and urban areas.
- Health and Hygiene: Spreading knowledge about basic health rights, sanitation practices, and the importance of personal hygiene.
- Drug Abuse Prevention: Educating youth and families about the dangers of substance abuse and the available support systems.
- HIV/AIDS Prevention: Providing information on the prevention, treatment, and stigma surrounding HIV/AIDS.



- **Minimum Wages and Workers' Rights:** Raising awareness on labor rights, especially the importance of fair wages and decent working conditions.
- **Environmental Awareness (Plantation and Pollution-Free Environment):** Promoting eco-friendly practices such as tree plantation and reducing pollution to improve the quality of life.
- **Education and Legal Rights:** Emphasizing the right to education and providing guidance on legal processes and resources available for citizens.
- **Human Rights and Consumer Rights:** Ensuring communities are informed about their basic human rights and consumer protections, empowering them to address grievances related to exploitation or unfair practices.

These programs were delivered through a mix of workshops, street plays, community meetings, and media campaigns to ensure maximum outreach and impact. The goal is not only to inform but also to inspire action, encouraging communities to stand up for their rights and advocate for change.

11. Tribal Welfare Programme

In its ongoing commitment to tribal welfare, Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) continues to focus on empowering the tribal communities, particularly in tribal-dominated regions. The organization works across various dimensions, from vocational training to livelihood enhancement and community development, ensuring that tribal populations have the support needed for sustainable growth and social inclusion.

This year, BSS undertook a significant initiative in the Sonahatu block, organizing a mega interaction session with villagers and farmers to discuss future developmental strategies. After extensive consultations, the organization reached a mutual agreement to start sericulture (silk farming) on a large scale. This initiative is expected to offer new livelihood opportunities to the tribal communities, with initial meetings successfully setting the groundwork. The project is expected to roll out within the next three months, with plans to train community members in sericulture practices, create local markets for silk production, and enhance income generation.



In addition to sericulture, Birsa Seva Sansthan has planned special programmes focused on livelihood promotion and savings schemes for women at the village level. These initiatives aim to empower women financially and provide them with the tools to improve their economic conditions. The women's savings groups will focus on self-sustained micro-enterprises, enabling women to engage in income-generating activities, thereby strengthening their role within the community.

In line with its holistic approach, the organization also conducted several village-level awareness programs addressing key topics such as:

- **Health:** Promoting basic hygiene, nutrition, and maternal health.
- **Literacy:** Encouraging education and providing tools for adult education, especially among women and young people.
- **Agriculture and Horticulture Development:** Offering training in modern farming techniques, organic practices, and crop diversification to enhance agricultural productivity.

- **Legal Awareness:** Educating the tribal communities about their rights, legal protections, and how to access government schemes and services.

Through these efforts, BSS is not only working towards improving the economic status of tribal communities but is also addressing critical areas such as health, education, and legal empowerment, thereby fostering holistic development in the tribal regions.

12. Promotion of Self-Help Groups (SHG) and Women Empowerment Programme

Women empowerment remains one of the central focus areas for Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS), as the organization recognizes the importance of uplifting and supporting women, particularly those from marginalized and vulnerable backgrounds. Through its Self-Help Group (SHG) initiatives, BSS continues to work towards financial independence, social inclusion, and community leadership for women.

During the year 2023–24, the organization took significant steps in promoting SHGs among destitute women and groups of commercial sex workers. These women often face severe social and economic marginalization, and BSS aims to help them regain their dignity, empower them economically, and enable them to contribute positively to their communities.



To begin, orientation sessions were held for women to introduce them to the concept and benefits of Self-Help Groups, explaining how these groups can serve as platforms for mutual support, skill development, and financial independence. With a focus on collective growth, BSS facilitated the formation of initial SHGs, enabling members to pool resources, share experiences, and collaborate on income-generating activities.

In the first phase, the organization provided training programs focused on various income-generation schemes. These trainings covered skills such as:

- Handicrafts and traditional arts
- Tailoring and sewing
- Small-scale food production
- Other locally relevant trades that could provide sustainable income for these women

In the second phase, BSS plans to further strengthen these SHGs by targeting women involved in similar trades, creating niche groups that can focus on specific business areas. The aim is to establish sustainable income generation programs, which will empower women to become financially independent, improve their standard of living, and ensure long-term stability for their families.

In addition to economic empowerment, BSS also organized workshops on women's rights, focusing on legal rights, reproductive health, and protection against violence. These workshops provided awareness programs on important social issues such as:

- Gender equality
- Domestic violence
- Sexual harassment at the workplace

- Health and hygiene
- Access to government schemes and social services

Through these efforts, Birsa Seva Sansthan is playing a crucial role in not only enhancing the economic independence of women but also in fostering social and political empowerment, ensuring they have the knowledge and tools to stand up for their rights, make informed decisions, and actively participate in the broader socio-economic development of their communities.

13. Child Labour Prevention and Rehabilitation Programme

Child labour remains a significant issue in Jharkhand, where many children are forced into hazardous work environments, such as hotels, motor garages, and household chores, often facing physical abuse and neglect. Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) is dedicated to rescuing these children and providing them with opportunities for education and skill development.



Key interventions include:

1. **Rescue and Education:** BSS identifies and rescues child labourers, enrolling them in primary education and vocational training based on their needs.
2. **Health and Welfare Support:** The organization provides essential health services, including medicines, health check-ups, and clothing to improve the children's wellbeing.
3. **Educational Material Distribution:** BSS regularly distributes books, pens, pencils, and slates, sourced from donors and local schools, to support the children's education.
4. **Awareness Campaigns:** BSS organizes awareness programs to educate communities about the dangers of child labour and the importance of children's rights and education.

Through these efforts, BSS is committed to eliminating child labour, ensuring children have access to education, healthcare, and a safe environment for a brighter future.

14. Agriculture and Horticulture Training Programme

Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) has been actively working to promote modern agricultural and horticultural techniques among the tribal communities. Understanding the importance of sustainable farming and its potential to improve livelihoods, BSS has organized 5 training sessions at the block level for tribal youth, focusing on innovative farming techniques and horticulture practices.

These training programs, conducted with the support of trained professionals, aim to equip participants with the skills and knowledge to improve agricultural productivity, diversify crops, and implement environmentally sustainable practices. By focusing on these modern techniques, BSS seeks to empower tribal youth, helping them create sustainable livelihoods through agriculture and horticulture.

15. HIV/AIDS Prevention Program

Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) is actively engaged in addressing the challenges posed by HIV/AIDS through comprehensive awareness and prevention efforts. The program focuses on educating high-risk and vulnerable groups, including commercial sex workers, truck drivers, migrant laborers, and injecting drug users, about HIV/AIDS, its causes, and preventive measures.

Key activities include:

1. **Awareness and Counseling:** Trained volunteers and health workers conduct outreach sessions in urban and rural communities, as well as at high-risk locations like highways and roadside dhabas, providing vital information on HIV prevention and care.
2. **Free Talk Sessions:** Regular sessions are held to engage the community, educate them on safe sex practices, use of condoms, and prevention methods, encouraging behavioral change and reducing the spread of HIV.
3. **Support for Affected Individuals:** The program also offers counseling and emotional support to those affected by HIV/AIDS, helping reduce the trauma and stress associated with the condition.
4. **Distribution of Condoms:** To ensure safer sex practices, free condoms are distributed among the vulnerable population, promoting HIV prevention and STD awareness.

Through these targeted efforts, BSS aims to create a safer and more informed community, working to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS and improve the quality of life for those affected.

16. Mobile Health Care Unit

In collaboration with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Jharkhand, Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) received an ambulance this year, which has been transformed into a Mobile Health Care Unit. This initiative provides 24-hour free medical services to needy individuals in both urban and rural areas of Ranchi district.

Key activities include:

1. **Health Check-up Camps:** Regular health camps are organized to provide essential medical check-ups, diagnostic services, and preventive care to the underserved population, ensuring access to healthcare for those in remote areas.
2. **Emergency Medical Services:** The Mobile Health Care Unit is equipped to provide emergency medical services to individuals in urgent need, offering immediate relief in critical situations.

Through this program, BSS aims to ensure that quality healthcare reaches marginalized communities, improving overall health outcomes in Ranchi.



17. Road Safety Program

Subsequent increase in traffic, road accidents have become a growing concern, particularly in urban areas. Over the past two to three years, the number of accidents and casualties has risen steadily. It has become evident that many accidents occur due to human negligence and lack of awareness regarding road safety.

In response, Birsa Seva Sansthan (BSS) has taken proactive measures to address this issue. The key activities of the Road Safety Program include:

1. Meetings with Transport Workers: BSS organized meetings with truck drivers, helpers, and transport workers to promote safe driving practices and the importance of adhering to traffic rules. These sessions focus on raising awareness about responsible driving and reducing accidents caused by negligence.
2. Sensitization Campaigns: Public awareness programs and sensitization sessions were held at high-traffic public places to educate the general public, especially drivers and pedestrians, on the importance of road safety and following traffic regulations.

Through these efforts, BSS aims to significantly reduce road accidents in the region and foster a culture of road safety within the community.



***“We can make the difference
Everyone matters. Every help counts. Do join us...”***

BSS Family