

EXPERIENCE WITH NEW COMMUNITIES IN NEW AREA

SIL
Bangladesh
helps
communities
achieve
their
development
goals
while
retaining
their
Ethno
linguistic
identities.

I am Rintu Mardy, working as Area Manager in the SOMPRITY Project of SIL Bangladesh in the Naogaon area. We are working here with the Mahle and Or-aon minority language community people. I was a bit disoriented when I came to this area. This was the first time I had come to stay in a new area with the new communities away from my own locality. I was hesitant about the different people, language and culture. But, being from an indigenous people myself, I do not have to face any challenges in working with them. When I started my work here, there were Covid-19 outbreaks in the whole country. I was fortunate that, in my working area the rate of it Covid infection was quite slow. The people of our Indigenous community are very friendly and hospitable. But, because of the Covid-19 situation, they were facing challenges due to imposing various rules and re-



strictions of free movement! I tried to visit every single village to make them aware of the benefits of these imposed rules and restrictions. Now, they have become aware in Covid, the need for limitation of free movement and issues such as like; avoiding gathering of people, daily shopping, visiting local shops and relatives etc.

...SPECIAL COMMENTS

The people of our Indigenous community are very friendly and hospitable. But, because of the Covid-19 situation, they were facing challenges due to imposing various rules and restrictions of free movement!

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EXPERIENCE WITH NEW COMMUNITIES..... Cont'd

I have also shared the new project's goal and activities with the community; as the SOMPRITY project is new and starting its work within the proposed areas very soon. The community people were very happy to know about the plans for the work. They expressed their feeling like this, 'We are so blessed that; your organization has planned to work for us. By your development work, we may have prosperity in our lives. We may have the development in every sector of our lives. Our full cooperation and cordiality will be with you always.' I also shared project's goals and activities with the local government, the non-government levels and the beneficiaries of this project. They also assured to be with us in any necessity. I realised that, the people of this area (Mahle and Oraon) are very cordial respectful toward others. These are the impressions I received during my official visits with them. I hope I will have a very fruitful and successful time with them.



Written By: Rintu Mardy

... SNAPSHOTS ... WHAT'S PLANNED FOR THIS MONTH

Dec 09-14 2020: Chicken rearing orientation for beneficiaries.

Dec 10-15 2020: Chicken distribution

Dec 06-10 2020: Orientation on home-stead veg. gardening & seed distribution.

Dec 12-15 2020: APR.

Dec 07-10 2020: Learning Circle Volunteers training at Naogaon area.

Dec 06-13 2020: Community ownership awareness on learning circle and opening at Sherpur & Naogaon.

Dec 06-13 2020: Learning Circle Group opening & Awareness Raising on Community ownership at Rangpur.