



PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN JHARKHAND

A study on the current status of implementation of
the 'Dakiya' scheme and other government
entitlements to PVTG families

ABSTRACT

The objective of this report is to find out the current status of benefits guaranteed under several government schemes to the 'Sabar' community in Jharkhand, with special emphasis on the 'Dakiya' Yojana. The study conducted was helpful in arriving at a few policy recommendations which might aid the process of ensuring welfare to them.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The 'Sabar' community of Jharkhand belongs to the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups and are considered to be the 'poorest of the poor'. They are totally dependent on the State and its administration for their survival. Even though their condition is said to have improved markedly over the past few years through consistent efforts of the State and public minded members of the civil society, there is a lot that still needs to be done.

The primary motivation behind studying the implementation status of the 'Dakiya' scheme and other government entitlements was that in order to ensure the total well-being of these groups, it is essential to provide them with all-round protection which can not only sustain them (through food, pension, shelter, nutritional and health security schemes) but also allow them the opportunity to work and progress (through education, land ownership and employment schemes). Only a comprehensive approach, such as this, can guarantee the success of the government's attempt to bring such people into 'the mainstream'.

It is here that I would like to take the opportunity to thank everybody who has made this one month extremely enriching for me. First, I would like to extend a deep sense of gratitude to my mentor, Mr. Haldhar Mahto, for introducing this idea to me and supporting me all throughout the project. A big 'thank you' to the Chairperson, Mr. Sudhir Prasad, for the encouragement and interest he has shown in all our projects. Another big token of thanks to the other members of the Commission, Dr. Ranjana Kumari and Mr. Upendra Oraon, for their never-ending support. To Tripathi Sir, for taking care of our well-being; to Zia bhai, Valmiki ji and Akbar bhaiya, for all the print outs and OTPs; to Didi, for the ever smiling cup of tea and to all the staff at the Commission – many thanks for a very warm, happy and enlightening one month. Lastly, to my peer Ashish, for bearing with me, and to Divya, my be-all and end-all, thank you for being the best people to intern with.

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INTRODUCTION : The Need for Welfare

India is one of the fastest growing economies of the world. The process of economic transformation in India however, could not prevent the weaknesses inherent to capitalist growth. Although industrial expansion succeeds in achieving faster growth rates, it inevitably leaves behind a vast majority of the population devastated and hungry. This process unleashes a frenzied need to acquire land and other assets from those who form the last rung of the society. Intensive mechanisation further reduces the latter's chances to make a living for themselves. However non-coercive this acquisition is, forms of structural violence are always found to be embedded in it. Hence, it becomes the duty of the State to not only sustain and nurture such people through welfare, but also empower them by making them self-reliant.

The National Food Security Act (2013)

The National Food Security Act (2013) was published in the Gazette of India on 10.09.2013. The Act was enacted –

“to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”¹

The Constitution of India under Article 47 Part IV “Directive Principles of State of Policy” always had a provision for food and nutritional security. However, its recognition as a “right” conferred a legal obligation on the State to ensure that its population meets adequate levels of nutrition. While Directive Principles are non-justiciable, the violation of a ‘right’ can be challenged in a court of law. Hence, the Act seeks to ensure a ‘life of dignity’ to each individual by making them ‘rightful claimants’ of State benefits relating to Public Distribution.

The ‘Dakiya’ Yojana – Jharkhand’s state initiative to provide food security to PVTG families

The Ministry Of Tribal Affairs recognizes a total of 32 tribal groups as Primitive Tribal Groups, renamed as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups. Of these, Jharkhand inhabits 8 categories, viz. Asur, Birhor, Paharia (Baiga), Sabar, Birajia, Korwa, Mal Pahariya and Souraiya Pahariya. Notwithstanding the difficulty of the terrain and typically hard topography

¹ National Food Security Act (2013), available at :
https://dfpd.gov.in/fgAvAHcAcgBpAHQAZQByAGUAYQBkAGQAYQB0AGEALwBQAG8AcgB0AGEAbAAvAE0AYQBnAGEAegBpAG4AZQAvAEQAbwBjAHUAbQBIAG4AdAAvAA==/1_405_1_NFSA_ACT.pdf

in and around where they stay, these tribal families had to travel long distances in order to leverage the benefit of subsidized food grains under the PDS. Moreover, these families are generally considered to belong to the 'poorest of the poor' sections of the society. So, the opportunity cost they had to incur every time they travelled to the Fair Price Shops for their monthly ration, would be very high.

The biggest irony of the welfare system in India is that it ends up uplifting the already uplifted. Those who come last in social standing, for whom such schemes are drafted in the first place, evidently fail to avail their benefits. They often get cheated due to their innocence or lack of awareness.

Launched by the State Government in the year 2017, the 'Dakiya' Yojana seeks to literally reach-out to such PVTG families to ensure that the right to human dignity is ensured where it is desperately needed. The scheme promises to deliver 35kg of packaged rice/wheat under the Targeted Public Distribution System at the doorstep of these families free of cost.

Other Government Entitlements

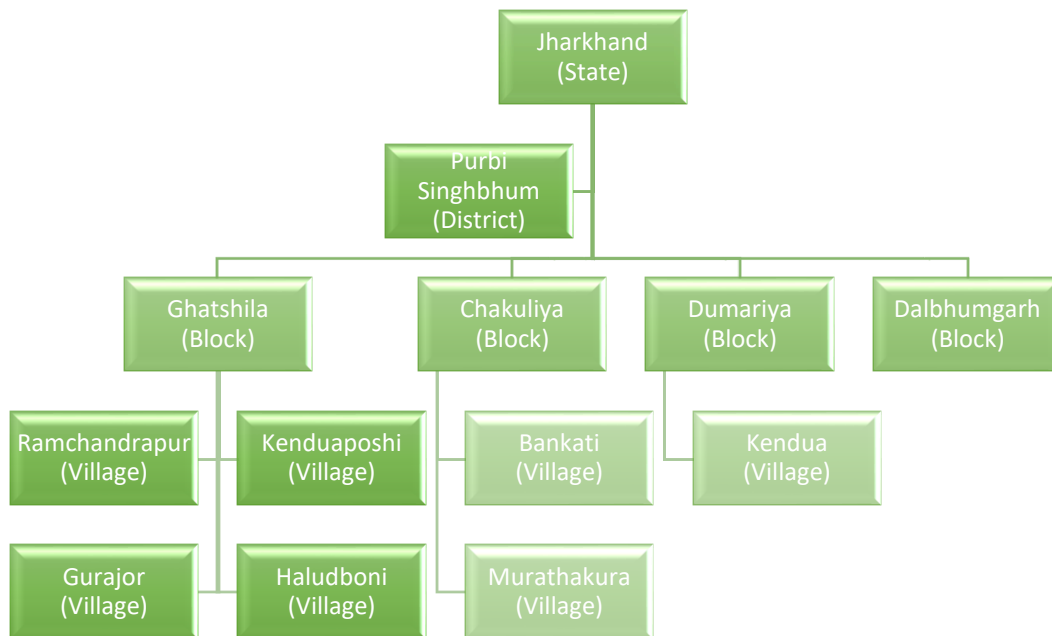
Besides ration, other government entitlements are promised to these communities under various schemes. These include pension, mid-day meal/anganwadi centres, PM Matru Vandana Yojana, Birsa Awas Yojana, NREGA, Health benefits, land ownership etc. It is only through the availability of a combination of all schemes covering significant aspects of human life like education, housing, health, employment etc. that such families can come out of the darkness of primitivity, and become capable of at least participating in the race to economic development in equivalent capacity.

Key objectives of this project

- 1) To find out the current status of implementation of the 'Dakiya' Yojana in terms of its
 - Quantity
 - Quality
 - Regularity
- 2) To enquire into the effectiveness of the grievance redressal mechanism put in place to ensure accountability
- 3) To find out the status of implementation of all the welfare schemes launched by the government to raise the levels of Equity of the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group families
- 4) To know the extent to which the aims of these schemes are achieved, where are the gaps and what can be done to fill them.

Field Sites

I conducted my fieldwork in the East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. The concentration of one of the worst-off PVTG communities, i.e. the ‘Sabars’, is highest in this area. In a week’s time, I was able to touch around seven Sabar ‘*tolas*’ in Ramchandrapur, Kenduaposhi, Gurajor and Haludboni in Ghatshila Block, Bankati and Murathakura in Chakuliya Block and Kendua in Dumariya Block. Moreover, I conducted some interviews with State officials and visited the Storage Godown in Dalbhumgarh Block.



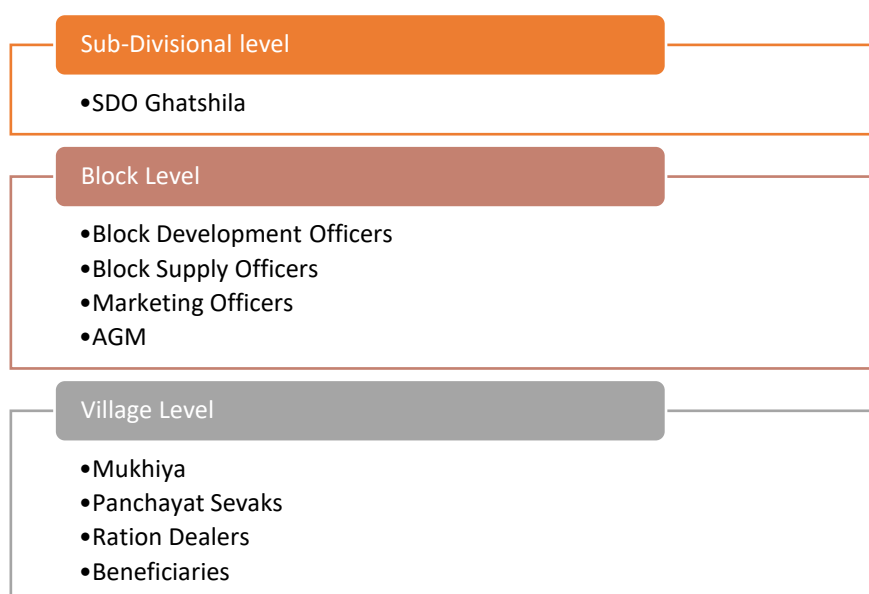
Methodology & Timeline

The study was qualitative in nature. It involved brief interviews with more than 75 people from the ‘Sabar’ community across seven villages and other stakeholders. The questionnaire was semi-structured. The tasks were completed as per the following timeline :

- 1st Week : Literature Review
- 2nd Week : Fixing the initial research question and finalising the timeline, methodology and sites for fieldwork ; Developing a questionnaire
- 3rd Week : Conducting surveys on the field
- 4th Week : Conducting interviews with officials and beginning the process of data consolidation

- 5th Week : Analysing available data, reviewing testimonies in the light of the final research question, Coming up with relevant policy recommendations
- 6th Week : Drafting of the final report and presentation at the office

Stakeholders Interviewed



Organization of the Findings in the Report

Based on my experience on the field, I have divided my report into two sections. Section A deals with the importance and the current status of the schemes which focus on providing welfare to the PVTG families. Section B deals with schemes that will allow for self-reliance among them by empowering them. Section A discusses food security, water security, income security, health and nutrition security, shelter security and availability of other entitlements (like electricity and cooking gas). Section B includes employment security, land ownership and education. While schemes under the first section aim at ensuring their survival, it is only through the successful implementation of the schemes under the second section that actual and sustainable progress can be assured.

SECTION-A

(Schemes that are essential for survival)

Food Security

1) Targeted Public Distribution System :

The Targeted Public Distribution scheme provides for the following :

- 1) A category of Priority Households who are holders of the pink ration card. They are entitled to receive 5 kg of rice/wheat per person per household at Rs.1 per kg.
- 2) Those covered under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana who are holders of the yellow ration card. They are entitled to receive 35kg of rice/wheat per household at Rs.1 per kg.

The '**Dakia yojana**' is a sub-category under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana. It is Jharkhand State's initiative to ensure food security to the tribal families categorized as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG). 'Dakia', as the name suggests, is the scheme whereby *doorstep delivery of free ration (35kg rice/wheat) in sealed packets per month* is ensured to the PVTGs. Packaging for the same is done in the Block Office Godowns by women from nearby Self-help groups.

2) Importance of the Scheme :

The Supreme Court of India, in a historic judgement recognized that -

“The right to life includes the right to live with human dignity and all that goes with it, namely, the bare necessities of life such as adequate nutrition, clothing and shelter and facilities for reading, writing and expressing oneself in diverse forms, freely moving about and mixing and commingling with fellow human beings.”²

In a country where cases of hunger- deaths have become extremely common, this scheme strives to ensure food and nutritional security to those who find it hard to fend for themselves. Under the National Food Security Act (2013), it is the prime duty of the State to make sure that none of its citizens go to sleep on a hungry stomach for reasons such as lack of money.

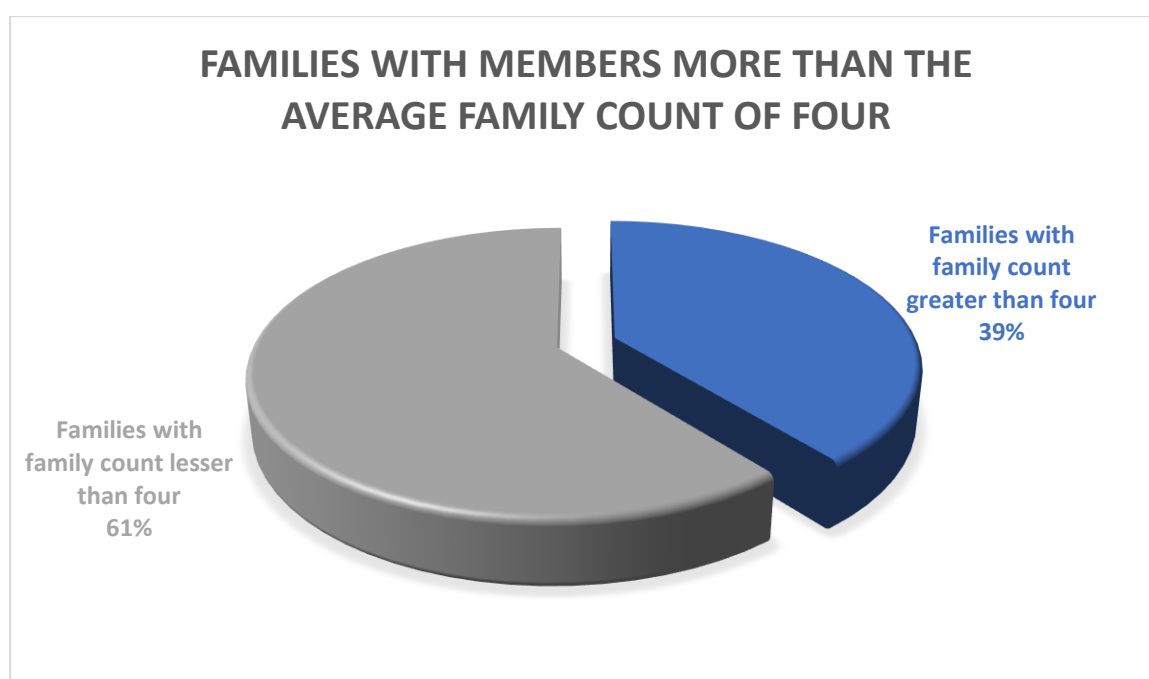
The 'Sabars' of Jharkhand are in such a bad condition owing to the lack of education and, regular and adequate income from employment that their chances of dying due to starvation are very high. Most of them are suffering from malnutrition. Hence, this scheme is crucial for the survival of such people.

² Ruperalia, Sanjay (2013) " India's New Rights Agenda : Genesis, Promises and Risks", Pacific Affairs, Volume 86, No. 3

FINDINGS AND CASE STUDIES ON FOOD SECURITY

I. Issues related to quality and quantity of rice received :

- 1) PVTG families are generally receiving ration in sealed packets free of cost either at their doorstep or at a very short distance from their houses. They have no complaint regarding the quality of rice. However, families where the family count is greater than 4 claim that 35kg rice is not enough for them. Since rice forms a part of their staple diet and everybody has it thrice a day, the amount of rice received under the Dakia Yojana hardly lasts half a month for them.



- 2) Non-PVTG Antyodaya families are known to receive 1-2kg less foodgrains (i.e. the dealer charges Rs.35 for 33or 34kg rice/wheat). They also have a complaint regarding the quality of rice they receive. They said it was a mix of good and bad rice.
- 3) In Kenduaposhi (Ghatshila), foodgrains are not being delivered at the doorstep of PVTG families.

II. Issues related to irregularity in ration delivery :

- 1) In Murathakura (Chakuliya), the dealer gives ration for two months in one month –
“Do mahine ka ek baar me 70 kg.”

- 2) In Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila), according to Debeya Sabar, they received ration last on 28th may but according to their ration card, it was on 3rd April.
- 3) In Kendua (Dumariya), ration had not been delivered in the village atleast until 16th June, 2019.

III. Issues related to ration cards :

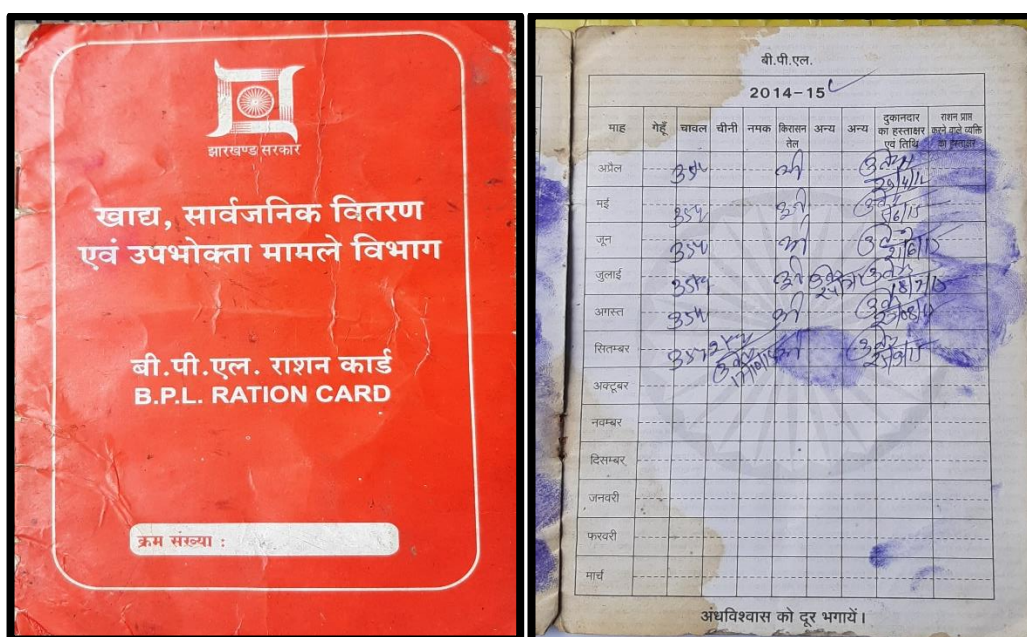
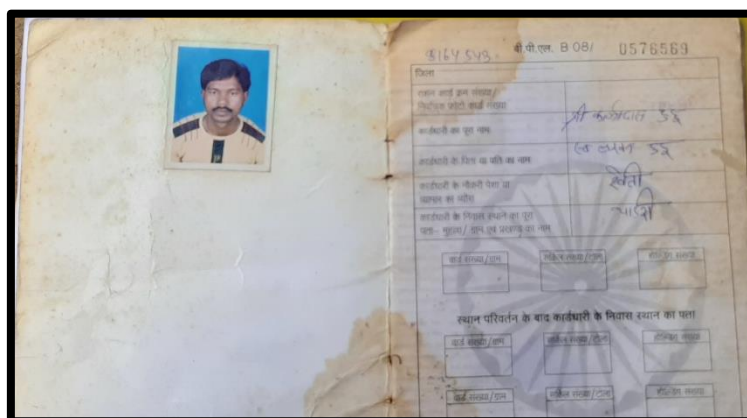
- 1) Dhiren Sabar (ration card no. : 202006228544):
 - 3 family members
 - Has not received ration for the past one year; last received in July, 2018
 - They buy grains from the open market
 - Complained to MO; He said that his name has to be cut from his father's card
- 2) Lal Sabar (ration card no. : 202006229125) :
 - 5 family members
 - Has not received ration for the past one year; last received in July, 2018
 - They buy grains from the open market
 - Complained to MO; He said that his name has to be cut from his father's card

(वर्ष)		चावल	गेहूँ	मोटा अनाज	नमक	चीनी	किसान तेल	अन्य	कुलाने का हस्त एच. सि. सि.	चावल	गेहूँ
अप्रैल	33						2.5		5.5		
मई	33						2.5		5.5		
जून	33						2.5		5.5		
जुलाई	33						2.5		5.5		
अगस्त	33										
सितम्बर	33										
अक्टूबर	33										
नवम्बर	33										
दिसम्बर	33										
जनवरी	33										

- 3) In Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila), the dealer does not write the year on Ration Card.
- 4) Arun Sabar (Haludboni, Ghatshila) :
 - No. of family members = 3 { himself and 2 sons : Gorapantol Sabar and Subodh Sabar }

- Do not have ration card since 2 years
 - But Dealer in Raja Basa comes and gives 35kg rice
 - Has complained to the dealer but he does not make his ration card
- 5) Taru Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :
- Requirement of ration card for son and daughter-in-law (Tapan and Shefali Sabar)
 - 5 people in the family as opposed to just 2 mentioned on the card and commission's list
 - She has to buy 25kg rice from the open market which costs her Rs.600.
- 6) Jasmoti Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :
- Requirement of ration card for son and daughter-in-law (Bachchu and Rupali Sabar)
 - 6 people in the family right now. Card mentions only 1.
- 7) Gulapi Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :
- 10 family members on card; 14 in reality
 - Requirement of three ration cards. Details available for Rina and Bailu Sabar (in the appropriate annexure)
- 8) Kartik Sabar (Kendua, Dumariya) :
- Does not have a ration card but has an AAY number and gets 35kg rice
- 9) Ram Mandi + Saki Mandi (non-PVTG household from Kenduaposhi, Ghatshila) :
While Ram and Saki Mandi are yellow-card holders under AAY, their son and daughter-in-law (Magal and Chhavi Mandi) are pink-card holders. They belong to the ST category and Magal is a daily wage labourer (*Mistri*) who earns Rs. 300-500 per day but his work is not regular. Hence, he should also be covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana.
- 10) Gurubari Karmakar and Sagita Nayek (2 requests for ration cards from non-PVTG households in Ramchandrapur, Ghatshila) :
- Sangita Nayek has been trying for ration card since 2012. Dealer : Basanti
 - Her husband is a driver. Income per week is near about Rs.2200 (but not regular)
 - Have not received any work under NREGA
 - *Has complained about Internet problems while giving thumb print for biometric. Have had to wait in line for an hour at the Fair Price Shop.*
- 11) Kalidas Tudu (Gurajor, Ghatshila) :
- Non-PVTG; ST Category
 - Have BPL card (2009) {card no. 8164543}
 - **Have applied for AAY card with the Panchayat; yet no action**

- Have to buy rice at Rs. 28 per kg
- **September, 2015 was the last time he received 35kg rice at Rs. 1 per kg. Since the new ration card came into operation, his food security has not been ensured.**
- They have 6 acre land amongst 4 brothers



IV. The Kerosene Oil Fiasco :

- 1) PVTG families are supposed to get Kerosene Oil (upto 2.5 litres) , Sugar (upto 3kgs) and Salt (upto 3kgs) at subsidized rates. What we saw in Gurajor, and subsequently in other villages, was that every ration card had perfect entries for 2.5 l k-oil in every month. Upon further questioning, the villagers told that they had not bought the same for atleast 5-6 months since it cost them Rs.50 per litre, which they could not afford. This means that the dealer surreptitiously takes the poor villagers' thumbprint in the

biometric machine, shows the requirement of so many litres in the Block, picks it up from the office and sells it in the open market (the quantity was 200 litres in some cases).

माह	वाचल	मेह	मोटा अनाज	नमक	चीनी	किनासा	तेल	अन्य	कुलाना	मा	वाचल	मेह	मोटा अनाज	नमक	चीनी	किनासा	तेल	अन्य	कुलाना	मा
अप्रैल	85	15				2.5		55	1800	अप्रैल	85	15				2.5			1800	अप्रैल
मई	85	16				2.5		55	1800	मई	85	16				2.5			1800	मई
जून	85	17				2.5		55	1800	जून	85	17				2.5			1800	जून
जुलाई	85	18				2.5		55	1800	जुलाई	85	18				2.5			1800	जुलाई
अगस्त	85	19				2.5		55	1800	अगस्त	85	19				2.5			1800	अगस्त
सितम्बर	85	20				2.5		55	1800	सितम्बर	85	20				2.5			1800	सितम्बर
अक्टूबर	85	21				2.5		55	1800	अक्टूबर	85	21				2.5			1800	अक्टूबर
नवम्बर	85	22				2.5		55	1800	नवम्बर	85	22				2.5			1800	नवम्बर
दिसम्बर	85	23				2.5		55	1800	दिसम्बर	85	23				2.5			1800	दिसम्बर
जनवरी	85	24				2.5		55	1800	जनवरी	85	24				2.5			1800	जनवरी
फरवरी	85	25				2.5		55	1800	फरवरी	85	25				2.5			1800	फरवरी
मार्च	85	26				2.5		55	1800	मार्च	85	26				2.5			1800	मार्च

2) Usha Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :

- April : 2.5 litres kerosene oil mentioned on card.
She said she asked for 2 litres. The dealer charged her Rs. 100, gave her 1.5 litres and wrote 2.5 litres on the card.
- The dealer did not ask for thumb print anywhere.

3) In Bankati (Chakuliya), the dealer's rate for 1 litre of kerosene oil is Rs. 50 which is supposed to be priced at Rs. 42.45 per litre. This means that he is charging some Rs. 7-8 extra per litre.

4) In Bankati (Chakuliya) and Kendua (Dumariya), a lot of passbooks mention subsidy for kerosene oil credited but no kerosene oil entry has been made in ration card as it has not been bought for real.

DATE	PARTICULARS	CHEQUE NO.	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
06.01.19	001778360403360582 AEPS OFFUS Issuer WD TRANSFER TO 899509105214		600.00	Brought Forward	1665.59Cr 1065.59Cr
19.01.19	PFM C121819678845 KHCANKU Kerosine Oil D TRANSFER FROM 599424105217			34.58	1100.17Cr
14.02.19	PFM C021911852424 KHCANKU Kerosine Oil D TRANSFER FROM 599405105219			45.43	1145.60Cr
28.02.19	PFM C021923313244 Kerosine Oil DBT DK KH TRANSFER FROM 599403105211			40.90	1186.50Cr
11.03.19	PFM C031907238513 Credit Through PFMS KH TRANSFER FROM 599420105210			1800.00	2986.50Cr
16.03.19	PFM C031915150193 Kerosine Oil DBT DK KH TRANSFER FROM 599386105218			41.45	3027.95Cr
Uncl Bal:	0.00				
Clr Bal:	3027.95 Cr; MOD BAL:				0.00

- 5) Jasmoti Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :
Has not received K-oil since almost a year – “*Jabse computer aaya hai dealer ke paas tab se kerosene tel nahi mila hai*”
- 6) Fulmani Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :
Ration card No. (202002469009) ; Aadhar card No.(3894 2602 6846)
Gets subsidy for kerosene oil which hasn't been purchased and is not mentioned in the ration card.
- 7) In Kendua (Dumariya), 2.5 litres oil is mentioned in a lot of cards even when the villagers have not bought it due to lack of money. It is being sold Rs.50 per litre when its price is supposed to be Rs. 42.45 per litre. A lot of people have also received kerosene oil subsidy for months in which they have not even bought it .
- 8) In Murathakura (Chakuliya), Kachi Sabar [Ration Card No. 202002456433] and Juru Sabar [Ration Card No. 202002456430] purchased 2 litres k-oil 2 litres oil for Rs.100 but their card mentions 2.5 litres each. They also said that salt is given to them once in 4-5 months.

V. No sugar, no oil for several months because of lack of money :

- 1) Similarly, the PVTG families are being charged unfair rates for sugar by their respective dealers in a few villages. Therefore, there is something improper with most commodities that are sold in open packets as opposed to sealed packets in the case of rice for PVTG.
- 2) In Bankati (Chakuliya), the dealer charges Rs. 80 for 3kgs sugar while the rate at which sugar is sold is Rs. 21 per kg. Hence, the price for 3kgs of sugar is Rs. 63 but the villagers are charged Rs.17 extra.
- 3) In Murathaura (Chakuliya), Jharna Sabar and Badal Sabar have not taken oil, sugar or salt in a few months because of lack of money. According to Jharna, she went to take oil in June but the dealer refused as he didn't have any. This is the same village where the dealer mentions 2.5 litres on the ration cards of people when they have bought only 2 litres of it.
- 4) Atleast 15 out of all the respondents have said that they don't buy sugar because of lack of money. The number of people who have not taken oil for the same reason is even more.

VI. Different names on different cards :

1) Bauli Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :

She has three different names on three different cards :

Bauli Sabar – on Ration Card

Suili Sabar – on Voter Card

Shuilo Sabar – on Aadhar Card

2) Nami Sabar (Ramchandrapur, Ghatshila) :

Nami Sabar – on Ration Card

Nubhi Sabar – on Aadhar Card

3) Tuni Sabar and Debeya Sabar (Ramchandrapur, Ghatshila) :

Ration card is in the name of Debeya Sabar. They both have 3 different spellings on each of their aadhar card, ration card and passbook.

- Debeya Sabar – on Ration Card

Dobaya Sabar – on Aadhar Card

Daber Sabar - on passbook

- Tuni Sabar – on Ration Card

Rebika Sabar - on Aadhar Card

Riwika Sabar - on passbook

4) Bankati, Chakuliya :

Virit Sabar – on Ration Card

Biroti Sabar – on Aadhar Card and passbook

VII. From a Ration Dealer's perspective :

According to a certain ration dealer who did not want to be named, the weight of the jute sack which contains rice is included in the total weight of rice that he gets from the godown. The weight per sack is roughly 650g. Suppose, a dealer must receive 6305kg rice for his PH cardholders and 3010kg rice for his AAY cardholders in jute sacks of 50kg each. This means that he will get a total of 9315 kg in around 186 sacks (i.e. 9315kg/50kg). Hence, the quantity of rice that the dealer receives is less by some 120 kg (i.e. $186 \times 0.65\text{kg}$). He also mentioned having to give bribes to certain officials when they visit or at the godowns.



VIII. From an official's perspective :

In our meeting with a certain official who did not want to be named, we were told that the main problem with the Public Distribution System is that a lot of ineligible households/persons have ration cards. These ration cards were given on the basis of the 2011 census and the state of Jharkhand has already achieved some 65% coverage under PDS when the maximum limit is around 75%. Hence, they are now controlling the total number of new cards that are being made. The extra 10% is kept like a buffer to make new cards for the most needy people. According to him, the post of the MO needs to be strengthened as s/he is the sole authority when it comes to inspection, which is a humongous task. They also have a lack of manpower to conduct such inspections. Moreover, the Vigilance Committee has not been regular in monitoring the whole system.

Requests for Ration Cards

<u>Name of Interviewee</u>	<u>Name of family member</u>	<u>Village (Block)</u>	<u>Aadhar Card Details</u>
Dulali Sabar	Hara Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	-
Arun Sabar ³	Gorapantol and Subodh Sabar	Haludboni (Ghatshila)	-
Shefali Sabar	Tapan Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	4234 2690 0786
Rupali Sabar	Bachchu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	8625 2335 6078
Rina Sabar	Bailu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	2134 2780 7241
Jaba Sabar	Sinat Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	9381 0577 7413
Tumpa Sabar	Kamlesh Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-
Rupali Sabar	Sudhen Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-
Kajal Sabar	Chhabi Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-
Ambika Sabar ⁴	-	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-

³ No ration card since two years but a dealer in Raja Basa comes and gives 35kg rice. They have requested the dealer to for a card but no action has been taken by the latter.

⁴ She is a single mother who has a small kid. She lives separately but takes money from her mother. Her request for a ration card must be given priority.

Janta Sabar	Achinta Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	5292 6894 8991
Suryamani Sabar	Sushil Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	9292 2101 8800
Mani Sabar	Bulet Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	7393 8145 3085
Shakuntala Sabar	Krishna Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	-
Kartik Sabar ⁵	Hariya Sabar	Kendua (Dumariya)	-

* Gurubari Karmakar and Sagita Nayek (2 requests for ration cards -non-PVTG in Ramchandrapur, Ghatshila) :

Sangita Nayek has been trying for ration card since 2012. Dealer's name Basanti. Her husband is a driver. Income per week is near about Rs.2200 (but not regular)

*** Dhiren Sabar (ration card no. : 202006228544) [Gurajor, Ghatshila] :**

- 3 family members

- Has not received ration for the past one year; last received in July, 2018

- Complained to MO; He said that his name has to be cut from his father's card

***Lal Sabar (ration card no. : 202006229125) [Gurajor, Ghatshila] :**

- 5 family members

- Has not received ration for the past one year; last received in July, 2018

- Complained to MO; He said that his name has to be cut from his father's card

⁵ He has a ration card number under AAY but does not have a physical card.

Families with family count greater than 4

<u>Name of Interviewee</u>	<u>Name of family member</u>	<u>Village (Block)</u>	<u>Family Count</u>
Samsan Sabar	Kamal Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	5
Tilka Sabar ⁶	Dara Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	5
Malati Sabar ⁷	Makra Sabar	Kenduaposhi (Ghatshila)	6
Malti Sabar ⁸	Kanka Sabar	Kenduaposhi (Ghatshila)	10
Bhudni Sabar	Kalicharan Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	7
Madhab Sabar	Chhota Kalicharan Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	6
Kalpana Sabar	Bidhu Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	6
Lukhi Sabar	Nadu Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	5
Suku Sabar	Rabi Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	5
Sundari Sabar ⁹	Ghana Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	7

⁶ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 3.

⁷ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 5.

⁸ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 5.
Suru,Suku,Sanjay,Sanjit,Putu Sabar are not mentioned on the card.

⁹ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 6.

Ajay Sabar	Tunu Sabar	Haludboni (Ghatshila)	6
Taru Sabar ¹⁰	Mantu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	5
Jasomati Sabar ¹¹	Suresh Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	6
Gulapi Sabar ¹²	Shahid Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	14
Patni Sabar ¹³	Bhogan Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	6
Holi Sabar ¹⁴	Patol Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	9
Shumi Sabar	Dilo Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	5
Chandmani Sabar ¹⁵	Sunil Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	5
Raja Sabar ¹⁶	Dhiren Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	7

¹⁰ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 2. Son (Tapan Sabar) has requested for a new ration card.

¹¹ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 1. Son (Bachchu Sabar) has requested for a new ration card.

¹² Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 10. Request for 3 new ration cards for sons and their families.

¹³ Son (Sudhen Sabar) has requested for a new ration card.

¹⁴ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 6.

¹⁵ Son (Chhabi Sabar) has requested for a new ration card.

¹⁶ Son (Bulet Sabar) has requested for a new ration card.

Aladini Sabar	Suleiman Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	6
Indi Sabar	Bhanu Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	5
Kachi Sabar ¹⁷	Laxmi Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	5
Manik Sabar ¹⁸	Kalu Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	6
Anjana Devi	Kuna Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	5
Hariya Sabar	Shuni Sabar	Kendua (Dumariya)	5
Sukurmani Sabar ¹⁹	Mangla Sabar	Kendua (Dumariya)	5
Guri Sabar	Suniya Sabar	Kendua (Dumariya)	7
Kadi Sabar	Ganga Sabar	Kendua (Dumariya)	5
Banki Sabar	Soma Sabar	Kendua (Dumariya)	5

*Kamli Sabar , Kanhu Sabar, Juru Sabar (Gurajor, Ghatshila) :

Kamli, Juru and Kanhu are related. Juru and Kanhu have their names on Kamli's card as well as have their own cards. There are 6 people mentioned on Kamli's card and 5 people mentioned on Kanhu Sabar's card and against their names on the Commission's list. In

¹⁷ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 6.

¹⁸ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 4.

¹⁹ Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 4.

Kamli's case, only she is alive and using her card. Kanhu has 4 daughters and a wife. Hence, they get 70kg of rice amongst 7 of them (Kanhu's mother and his family).

*Virit Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :

She is actually alone. Her husband passed away and all other members mentioned on card have their own ration cards. Commision's list as well as her ration card mention 7 people.

*Juru Sabar (Murathakura, Chakuliya) :

Family count at the back of Ration Card as well as in the Commission's List is 5. In reality, now, it is 4.

*Durangi Sabar and Dadno Sabar (Kendua, Dumariya) :

Durangi and Dadno are mother and son. They have separate ration cards with 10 members mention on each. According to them, 70 kg rice is not enough to sustain a family of 10 where everyone eats rice atleast thrice a day.

Water Security

1) Amrit Yojana :

The United Nations Water Conference (1977) stated that – “All peoples, whatever their stage of development and social and economic conditions, have the right to have access to drinking water in quantities and of a quality equal to their basic needs.”²⁰

Under the Amrit Yojana, the Jharkhand Government has sought to facilitate the fulfilment of this basic right of the PVTG families by constructing ‘*Jal Minars*’ or water towers in each village.

2) Importance of the Scheme :

Water is a basic necessity. Lack of availability of clean drinking water and poor drainage facilities are two major causes of diseases. Introduction of ‘*jal minars*’ in Sabar villages will be like a blessing to them as they would not have to go long distances to fetch water.



²⁰ The Human Right to Water and Sanitation available at :
https://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/pdf/human_right_to_water_and_sanitation_milestones.pdf

FINDINGS AND CASE STUDIES ON WATER SECURITY

- 1) In Bankati (Chakuliya), there is a serious problem of water scarcity. They have to walk some 2.5-3km to get water. There is no water tank or *jal minar*. The villagers said that they have submitted the form for the same in the Block Office.



A dried up well in Bankati

- 2) In Gurajor (Ghatshila), on the day we visited, there was some problem in the ‘jal minar’.
Testimony (Anonymous) : *“Mukhiya ji se kaha tha, unhone bola ki mistri ko bhejenge. 2-3 din ho gaya, abhi tak theek nahi hua.”*
- 3) In Murathakura (Chakuliya), there is a lack of access to clean drinking water. They use the water from the village well which is very dirty and looks green in colour.



- 4) In Kendua (Dumariya), the villagers take drinking water from the nearby river. Not only is that extremely risky, but also they don't get water in extreme summer/heat.

Mukhiya Ji's testimony in the case of Murathakura's water issues :

In our interview with the Mukhiya ji of Murathakura we found out that borewell construction had been sanctioned to 80 villages by the Public Health Department. However, it has been six months since that and no action has been taken either at the Department level or at the panchayat/local level.

Shelter Security

1) Birsa Munda Awas Yojana :

This is Jharkhand's State scheme to provide housing for all Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups. Under this scheme, the State Welfare Department must provide shelter or Permanent Housing facility for the people belonging to the PVTG category. The construction of each unit under this scheme costs Rs. 1,34,000.



Houses built under the Birsa Awas Yojana for the Sabar Families (Ramchandrapur)



2) Importance of the scheme :

Food, clothing and shelter are considered to be the necessities of life. A roof over the heads of the Sabar families ensures a 'life of dignity' for them. Moreover, permanence of residence aids the administration to monitor to their needs and entitlements.

तारीख Date	विवरण Particulars	चेक संख्या Cheque No.	निकासी राशि Amt. Withdrawn	जमा राशि Amt. Deposited	शेष Balance
09-02-2013	8/7/881 Ac.No: 451410110002219				757.000
07-05-2018	Int:01-11-2017/31-01-2018			2.00	759.00
07-08-2018	Int:01-02-2018/30-04-2018			6.00	765.00
29-09-2018	Int:01-05-2018/31-07-2018			7.00	772.00
12-11-2018	TO CASH		600.00		172.00
05-01-2019	Int:31-10-2018/01-08-2018			5.00	177.00
11-01-2019	BIRSA AAWAS NIRMAN TO-451410100003003 (AWAS)		40,000.00	40,000.00	177.00
07-02-2019	Int:31-01-2019/01-11-2018			25.00	202.00
25-02-2019	BY TR PVP DUMARIA A/C-451710100007656			75,000.00	75,202.00
26-02-2019	TO CASH		40,000.00		35,202.00
28-02-2019	TO CASH		20,000.00		15,202.00
02-03-2019	TO CASH		14,000.00		1,202.00
26-03-2019	BIRSA AAWAS TO CASH			16,500.00	17,702.00
01-11-2019	Int:01-09-2019/21-10-2019		5,000.00		12,702.00

Requests for Houses under Birsa Awas Yojana

<u>Name of Interviewee</u>	<u>Name of family member</u>	<u>Village (Block)</u>	<u>Identity Card Details</u> *AC – Aadhar Card *RC – Ration Card
Dulali Sabar	Hara Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	-
Jasomati Sabar	Suresh Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469066
Gulapi Sabar	Shahid Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469017
Sanju Sabar	Gopi Chand Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469041
Sanjani Sabar	Pawan Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469040
Usha Sabar	Kali Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469015
Laxmi Devi	Nadu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469004
Chandmani Sabar	Sunil Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469022
Virit Sabar	Sadhu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469018
Bauli Sabar	Layibi Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002468984
Janta Sabar	Achinta Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 5292 6894 8991

Mani Sabar	Bulet Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 7393 8145 3085
Juru Sabar	Makra Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002456430
Kachi Sabar	Laxmi Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002456433
Anjana Sabar	Kuna Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002456428
Sukmari Sabar	Gurubari Sabar	Kendua (Dumariya)	RC – 2020022429253

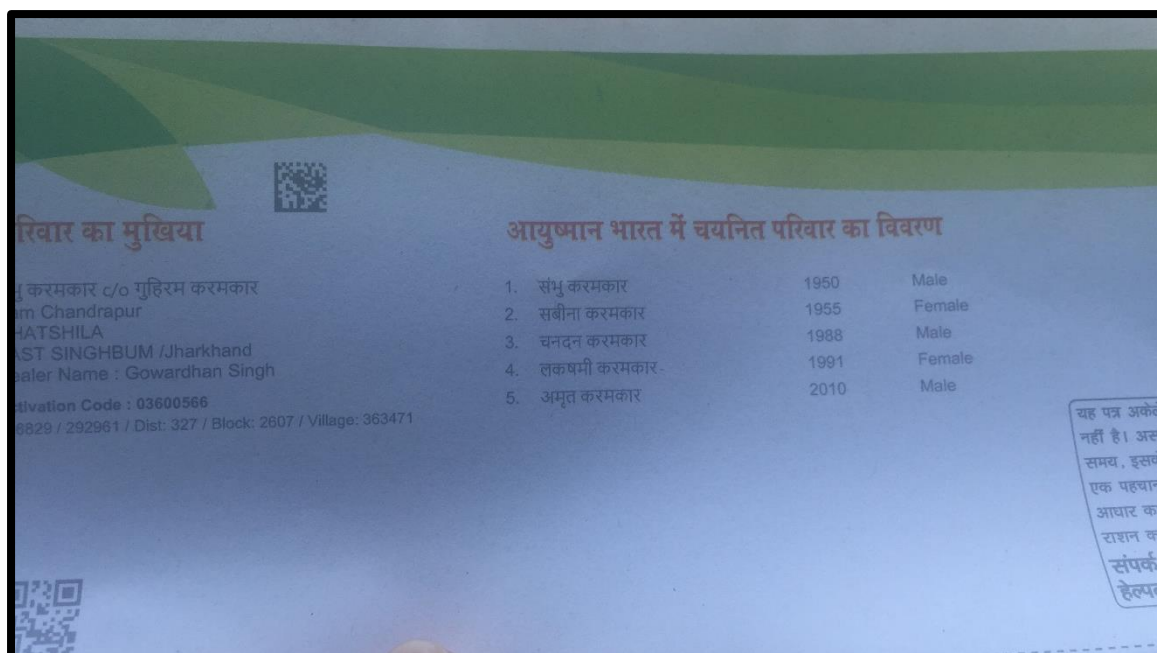
*Ambika Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :

She is a single mother who has a small kid. She lives separately but takes money from her mother. Since she did not have any cards with her during the interview, there is uncertainty about whether she gets all the government entitlements or not. However, the administration must take adequate steps to find out and ensure that all her needs are met.

Health and Nutrition Security

1) Ayushman Bharat Bima Yojana :

Ayushman Bharat or PM Jan Arogya Yojana is a major health insurance scheme by the Central Government. Its objective is to provide comprehensive primary health care across the country. The scheme promises a 5 million insurance coverage per year to 100 million families.



2) Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana :

The PMMVY was introduced in the year 2016. It provides for a wage compensation and nutrition supplement of Rs. 5,000 once, for pregnant and lactating mothers to be paid in three instalments. Along with this, the mothers are entitled to receive Rs. 1,000 (in case of urban household) or Rs. 1,400 (in case of rural household) at the time of delivery under the Janani Suraksha Yojana.

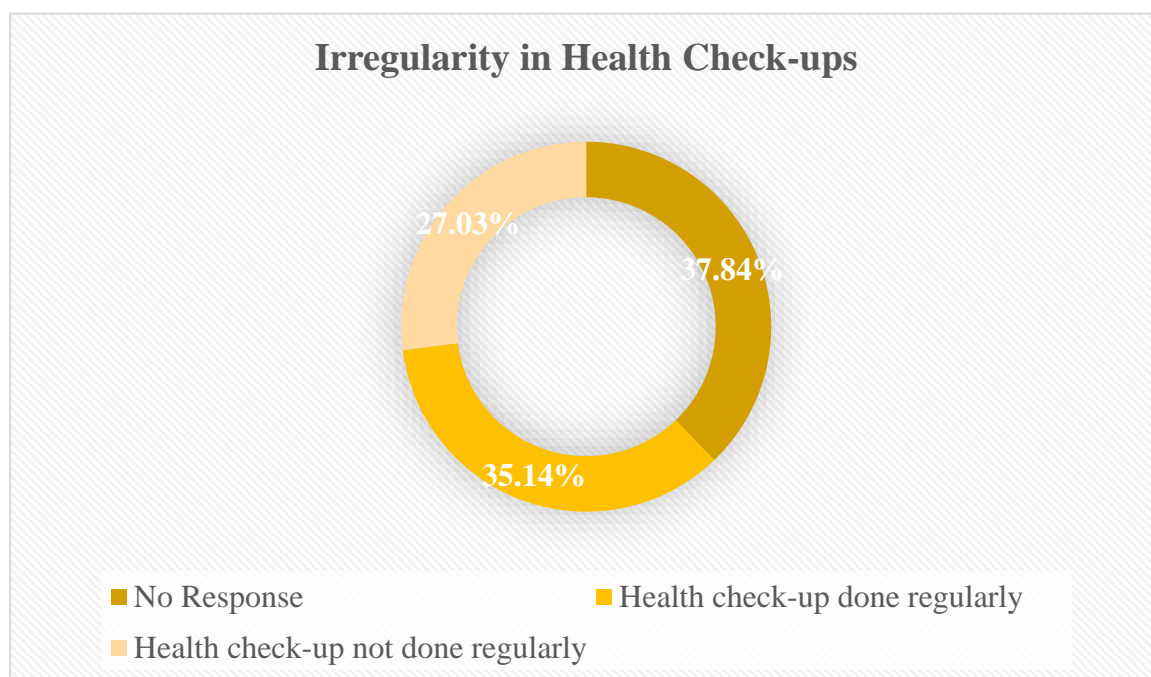
3) Importance of the scheme :

Owing to poor conditions of living, the Sabar community is exposed to high health risks. Malnutrition is one of the major problems amongst the population. Such government schemes ensure that medical help is made available for them free of cost. Moreover, getting compensated for wage loss during pregnancy is a boon for Sabar mothers who must bend over backwards to earn a living.

FINDINGS AND CASE STUDIES ON HEALTH AND NUTRITION SECURITY

I. Availability of Doctors and regularity of Health check-ups :

- 1) Out of the total number of interviews conducted, 27.03% people have claimed that health check-ups are not done regularly in their villages.



- 2) In Bankati (Chakuliya), the villagers said that the doctor comes once in 2-3 months. They have to go 16km in West Bengal to get their health check-up done, for which they book a private car which costs them Rs. 300-350.
- 3) An anonymous individual's brief testimony from Murathakura (Chakuliya) : *"Doctor nahi aata hai, Chakuliya block tak kharcha karke jaana hota hai, sirf wapas chhodne gadi aata hai."*

II. Receipt of benefits under Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) :

- 1) Nobody knows about or has received DBT under PM Matru Vandana Yojana in any of the villages we had visited. However, a few women have received Rs.1400 under Janani Suraksha Yojana.

तारीख Date	विवरण Particulars S/F Bal	चेक संख्या Cheque No.	निकासी राशि Amt. Withdrawn	जमा राशि Amt. Deposited	शेष Balance
24-10-2013	BY CASH			500.00	500.00
01-01-2014	JCS No.3376172Br.47550			1,400.00	1,900.00
01-01-2014	Commission charges		25.00		1,875.00
03-01-2014	TO CASH		1,300.00		575.00
10-08-2015	Int:24-10-2013/31-07-2015			40.00	615.00
18-02-2016	Int:01-08-2015/31-01-2016			12.00	627.00
02-09-2016	PENSION FOR APRIL TO JUNE 20			1800.00	2427.00
19-09-2016	OLD AGE pension July 2016			600.00	3027.00
03-10-2016	TO CASH		3000.00		27.00
06-10-2016	MEDICAL OFFICER INCHARGE CHA			500.00	527.00
06-10-2016	MEDICAL OFFICER INCHARGE CHA			1400.00	1927.00
28-10-2016	TO CASH		1900.00		27.00
02-11-2016	Int:01-02-2016/31-10-2016			29.00	56.00

- 2) In Murathakura (Chakuliya), Jharna and Badal Sabar have a child who is 8 months old. Even though she is enrolled in the anganwadi Jharna has not got the benefit transferred under PMMVY.

Requests for Health Cards

<u>Name of Interviewee</u>	<u>Name of family member</u>	<u>Village (Block)</u>	<u>Identity Card Details</u> *AC – Aadhar Card *RC – Ration Card
Dulali Sabar	Hara Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	-
Tilka Sabar	Dara Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002359738
Bauli Sabar	Layibi Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002468984
Janta Sabar	Achinta Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 5292 6894 8991
Mani Sabar	Bulet Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 7393 8145 3085

*Ambika Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :

She is a single mother who has a small kid. She lives separately but takes money from her mother. Since she did not have any cards with her during the interview, there is uncertainty about whether she gets all the government entitlements or not. However, the administration must take adequate steps to find out and ensure that all her needs are met.

*Madhab Sabar (Gurajor, Ghatshila) :

Ration Card No. (202006227783). He has lost NREGA and NHM card.

Requests for PMMVY

<u>Name of Interviewee</u>	<u>Name of family member</u>	<u>Village (Block)</u>	<u>Identity Card Details</u> *AC – Aadhar Card *RC – Ration Card
Tilka Sabar	Dara Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002359738
Malati Sabar	Makra Sabar	Kenduaposhi (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002362632
Shefali Sabar ²¹	Tapan Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 4234 2690 0786
Rupali Sabar	Bachchu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 8625 2335 6078
Rina Sabar	Bailu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 2134 2780 7241
Jaba Sabar	Sinat Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 9381 0577 7413
Holi Sabar ²²	Patol Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002468987
Kajal Sabar	Chhabi Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-
Ambika Sabar ²³	-	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-

²¹ Has not registered in an anganwadi.

²² Her youngest kid is 5 months old.

²³ She is a single mother who has a small kid. She lives separately but takes money from her mother. Since she did not have any cards with her during the interview, there is uncertainty about whether she gets all the government entitlements or not. However, the administration must take adequate steps to find out and ensure that all her needs are met.

Jharna Sabar ²⁴	Badal Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	RC – 202005846118
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²⁴ Jharna has a child of 8 months but has not got PMMVY even though she said that she had enrolled in the anganwadi.

Income Security

1) Pension under Aadim Jan Jati (AJJ) pension scheme :

In Jharkhand, under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), married women of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups are entitled to receive Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) of Rs. 600 per month. In families where there are no married woman, the pension is sanctioned in the name of head of the family.

तारीख Date	विवरण Particulars	चेक संख्या Cheque No.	निकासी राशि Amt. Withdrawn	जमा राशि Amt. Deposited	शेष Balance
08-06-2016	B/F Bal				472.00
17-06-2016	BY MEDICAL OFFICER INCHARGE				
17-06-2016	TO CASH			1,400.00	2,022.00
01-08-2016	Int:01-05-2016/31-07-2016		1,500.00		522.00
30-08-2016	PENSION APRIL-JUNE			7.00	529.00
19-09-2016	TO CASH			1,800.00	2,329.00
19-09-2016	OLD AGE pension July 2016		1,800.00		529.00
28-10-2016	TO CASH			600.00	1,129.00
02-11-2016	Int:01-08-2016/31-10-2016		600.00		529.00
				12.00	541.00

2) Importance of the scheme :

Social security schemes, like the pension scheme are essential as they not only provide secured monthly income to the PVTG families, but also empower the status of women of the community. By guaranteeing a certain sum of money to the married women, it reduces their financial dependence on their in-laws and attempts to save them from any domestic abuse or injustice that might follow.

Requests for Pension

<u>Name of Interviewee</u>	<u>Name of family member</u>	<u>Village (Block)</u>	<u>Identity Card Details</u> *AC – Aadhar Card *RC – Ration Card
Tuni Sabar ²⁵	Debeya Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	RC – 202005839032
Dulali Sabar	Hara Sabar ²⁶	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	-
Nami Sabar ²⁷	Dabha Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	RC - 202002359739
Kamal Sabar	-	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	RC – 202005837741
Lukhi Sabar ²⁸	Nadu Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002370164
Subhash Sabar	Khepa Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	RC – 202006227087
Mungli Sabar	Rakhal Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002362634
Tunu Sabar	Ajay Sabar	Haludboni (Ghatshila)	RC – 202005928431
Mansa Sabar	Akali Sabar	Haludboni (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002369797

²⁵ Ration card is in the name of Debeya Sabar. 3 different spellings on each of their aadhar card, ration card and passbook. Tuni Sabar's name is "Rebika" on aadhar and "Riwika" on passbook. Debeya Sabar's name in aadhar is 'Dobaya' while in passbook it is 'Daber' Sabar.

²⁶ Hara Sabar does not have an aadhar card.

²⁷ Nami Sabar does not have a bank account.

²⁸ Lukhi Sabar does not have a bank account.

Fulmani Sabar	-	Haludboni (Ghatshila)	-
Shefali Sabar ²⁹	Tapan Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 4234 2690 0786
Gulapi Sabar	Shahid Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469017
Rina Sabar	Bailu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 2134 2780 7241
Laxmi Devi ³⁰	Nadu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469004
Viriti Sabar ³¹	Sadhu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469018
Aladini Sabar	Suleiman Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002468998
Bauli Sabar	Layibi Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002468984
Janta Sabar	Achinta Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 5292 6894 8991
Suryamani Sabar	Sushil Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 9292 2101 8800
Mani Sabar	Bulet Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 7393 8145 3085
Sumitra Sabar	Nepal Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 8373 2483 6283

²⁹ Shefali Sabar does not have a passbook and has not yet applied for pension.

³⁰ 'Lakshmi Devi' on aadhar card and passbook.

³¹ 'Biroti Devi' on aadhar card as well passbook.

Sulochna Sabar	Fulchand Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 8526 7180 5866
Dipali Sabar	Sachin Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 9589 9036 4428
Bishnu Sabar	Chutu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 5418 2119 3352
Shefali Sabar	Mithu Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-
Kajal Sabar	Chhabi Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-
Suniyasi Sabar	Shyamal Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-
Manba Sabar	-	Bankati (Chakuliya)	-
Indi Sabar ³²	Bhanu Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002456345
Juru Sabar	Makara Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002456430
Taran Sabar ³³	-	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	RC – 202005844127
Anjana Devi ³⁴	Kuna Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002456428
Basanti Sabar	-	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	-

³² Indi Sabar does not have a bank account.

³³ Unmarried man. Stays alone. Does not get pension but is 55 years old. For those, especially in Sabars, whose work requires physical labour, maybe old age pensions could start a bit early.

³⁴ She has not gone to the bank since 2016 so one can't say if she has received her pension or not.

Shakuntala Sabar	-	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	-
Hariya Sabar ³⁵	Shuni Sabar	Kendua (Dumariya)	AC - 5490 4317 7151
Sukurmani Sabar	-	Kendua (Dumariya)	-

*Ambika Sabar (Bankati, Chakuliya) :

She is a single mother who has a small kid. She lives separately but takes money from her mother. Since she did not have any cards with her during the interview, there is uncertainty about whether she gets all the government entitlements or not. However, the administration must take adequate steps to find out and ensure that all her needs are met.

*Hariya Sabar (Kendua, Dumariya) and Taran Sabar (Murathakura, Chakuliya) :

The AJJ Pension Scheme provides for pension to be sanctioned in the name of the head of the family in families where there are no married woman. Both Hariya and Taran are single men who do not receive pension.

³⁵ Hariya is 57 years old (1/1/1968) according to his aadhar card. Pension used to come on his wife's account who is now dead. He does not get any pension. Again, for those, especially in Sabars, whose work requires physical labour, maybe old age pensions could start a bit early.

FINDINGS AND CASE STUDIES ON OTHER ENTITLEMENTS

(Ujjwala Yojana and Electricity)

- 1) In Murathakura (Chakuliya), the villagers have complained that they were charged some Rs.100 each time by surveyors who came to fill details regarding the Ujjwala gas Yojana, but the scheme's benefits haven't been received by anyone yet.

An anonymous individual's testimony from Murathakura : *"2 saal se Block ke chakkar laga rahe hain. Ujjwala ke andar gas bhi nahi mila hai. Ghar nahi mila hai. Survey karne log aate hain, Rs.100-200 leke chale jaate hain. Kuch nahi hota. Ab hume kuch nahi chahiye Sarkar se."*

- 2) An anonymous individual's testimony from Gurajor (Ghatshila) regarding the availability of Electricity in the village :
"Sabne bijli ki line katwa di kyunki pehle bola tha ki Sabar ka paisa nahin lagta phir sabka saath me Rs. 10,000 ka bill Chadha diya. BDO sahib ko complain kiya to paisa to nahin laga kisi ka."
- 3) In Kendua (Dumariya), only two households in the village have received cooking gas under Ujjwala Yojana.

Section B

(Schemes that can promote sustainable progress and self- reliance)

Land Ownership

1) National Policy on Tribals (2006) :

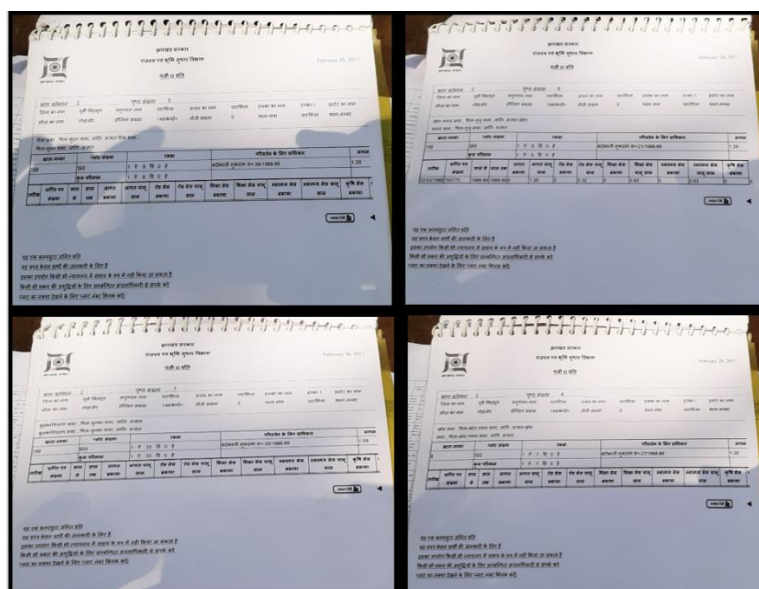
This policy has special provisions for PVTG families whereby it is given that they shall enjoy the ‘right to land’. It further states that –

“Any form of land alienation shall be prevented and landless PTGs given priority in land assignment.”³⁶

The Jharkhand State is taking important steps in this direction. It seeks to confer upon all the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group families, ownership of a minimum of 1 acre of land.

2) Importance of Land Ownership among Sabars :

The Sabar community are a semi-nomadic group. In order to map its population to see that they receive all the government entitlements promised to them, it is important that they do not change their place of residence regularly. Thus, there are two-fold benefits of making them owners of assets in the form of land. One, is that it restricts their physical mobility and allows them to feel a sense of belonging to the area where they own property. Two, and more beneficial to them, is that they can use the piece of land to grow their own agricultural produce and sustain themselves and their families without depending on others for everything.

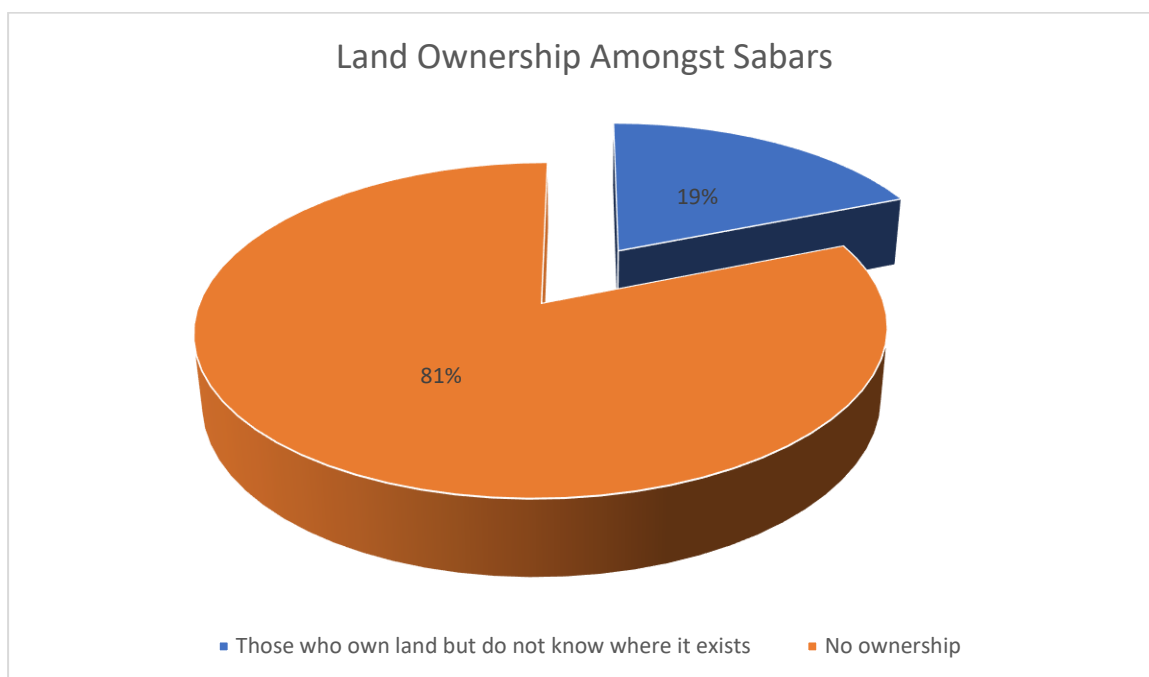


³⁶ National Policy On Tribals (2006)_Draft Bill available at :

https://www.prsindia.org/uploads/media/1167469383/bill53_2007010353_Draft_National_Policy_on_Tribals.pdf

FINDINGS AND CASE STUDIES ON LAND OWNERSHIP

- 1) In none of the villages, except Gurajor, the Sabars have any ownership of land.



- 2) In Gurajor (Ghatshila), every Sabar household in the village has atleast one acre land in their name, which is given to them by the government. They have kept a spiral bound photocopy of all the land documents of everyone with themselves. However, they do not know where this land is. In other words, they have ownership of land on paper but due to lack of knowledge of the physical boundaries of that piece of land, they cannot put it to any use. According to them, some plots are even illegally captured by other people who use it for agriculture.

An anonymous individual's testimony : “ Zameen hai, paper pe hai, asal mein kahan hai kisi ko pata nahi; kaun uspe kheti kar raha hai pata nahi. BDO se aur mukhiya ji se shikayat ki to unhone bola ki Tata Nagar jake ‘Kalyan Vibhag’ me application jama karo. Hum jante nahin vo kahan hai, iss live gaye nahin.”

[illegible]

Employment Security

1) Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Act :

Notified on September 7, 2005, the objective of this Act is to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.³⁷ Through a rights-based approach, it acts as a strong social safety net for the vulnerable groups by providing a fall-back employment source, when other employment alternatives are scarce or inadequate.³⁸

2) Importance of the scheme :

It is actually difficult to comprehend that communities which are surrounded by nature's bounties can be in such a deplorable state. Except Ramchandrapur, every village we visited had people (men, women and kids alike) hard at work. They were rearing animals and poultry. They were grinding seeds that they got from the jungle for sale outside. They were deseeding nuts to make oil for their personal use. In this era of public-private partnership and civil society upsurge, the government must with the assistance of these organisations, design sustainable business models for these villagers and train them for the same. It is essential that work is provided to the Sabars in their own ecosystem and by taking into consideration their specific need for earning wages daily.

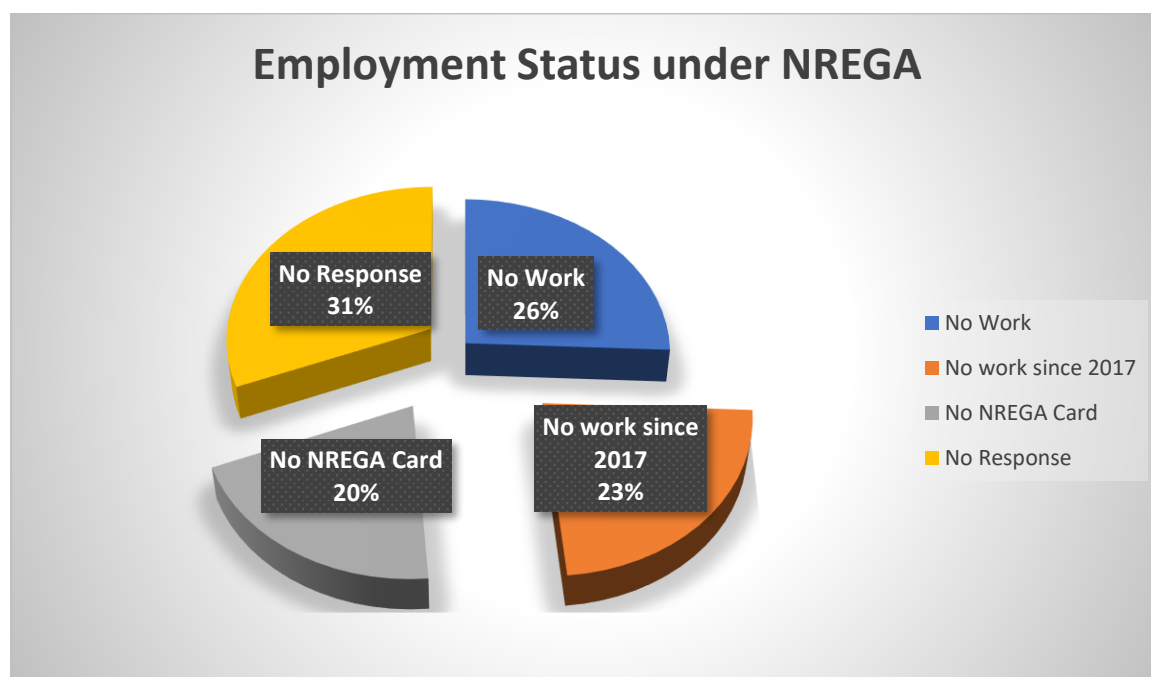


³⁷ NREGA Guidelines, available at :
https://nrega.nic.in/Nrega_guidelinesEng.pdf

³⁸ NREGA Guidelines, available at :
https://nrega.nic.in/Nrega_guidelinesEng.pdf

FINDINGS AND CASE STUDIES ON EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

- 4) It was found from most of the interviews conducted that no work has been given under NREGA since atleast 2017.



- 5) Sagita Nayek (non-PVTG ; Ramchandrapur, Ghatshila) :
- Her husband is a driver. His weekly income is near about Rs.2200 but that is not regular.
 - They have not got any work under NREGA as yet
- 6) In Gurajor (Ghatshila), Kanhu Sabar [Ration Card No. 202006228083] said that there are no jobs under NREGA. The last that they received work under the scheme was in 2017 for which they got Rs.168 per day.
- 7) In Bankati (Chakuliya), most villagers said that they do not want to work under NREGA as they want their wages at the end of the day in order to sustain their living. For them, it is a priority that their wages come in time.
- 8) In Gurajor (Ghatshila), Madhab Sabar [Ration Card No. 202006227783] and Sukul Sabar [Ration Card No. 202002370170] said that they had lost their NREGA Cards.
- 9) In Kendua (Dumariya), Sukmari Sabar's [Ration Card No. 2020022429253] passbook shows a debit of Rs. 828 in the year 2013.

Requests for NREGA Cards

<u>Name of Interviewee</u>	<u>Name of family member</u>	<u>Village (Block)</u>	<u>Identity Card Details</u> *AC – Aadhar Card *RC – Ration Card
Dulali Sabar	Hara Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	-
Tilka Sabar	Dara Sabar	Ramchandrapur (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002359738
Budhu Sabar	Lalit Sabar	Kenduaposhi (Ghatshila)	RC – 202005807047
Gopal Sabar	Charan Sabar	Kenduaposhi (Ghatshila)	RC – 202005805472
Malati Sabar	Makra Sabar	Kenduaposhi (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002362632
Malti Sabar	Kanka Sabar	Kenduaposhi (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002362638
Mangal Sabar	Lalit Sabar	Kenduaposhi (Ghatshila)	RC – 202005806951
Lukhi Sabar	Nadu Sabar	Gurajor (Ghatshila)	RC – 202002370164
Arun Sabar	Gorapantol and Subodh Sabar	Haludboni (Ghatshila)	-
Gulapi Sabar	Shahid Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002469017
Holi Sabar	Patol Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002468987

Shumi Sabar	Dilo Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002468994
Janta Sabar	Achinta Sabar	Bankati (Chakuliya)	AC - 5292 6894 8991
Anjana Devi	Kuna Sabar	Murathakura (Chakuliya)	RC – 202002456428
Kadi Sabar	Ganga Sabar	Kendua (Dumariya)	RC – 202002429250

*Madhab Sabar (Gurajor, Ghatshila) :

Ration Card No. (202006227783). He has lost NREGA and NHM card.

* Sukul Sabar (Gurajor, Ghatshila) :

Ration card No. (202002370170). He has lost NREGA card.

Education

1) The Right of children to free and compulsory education (RTE) Act, 2009 :

The Act provides for free and compulsory education to all children of the age of 6 to 14 years. It makes education a fundamental right of every child between the given ages and specifies minimum norms in elementary schools. The term ‘free education’ is explained to mean that no child shall be liable to pay any kind of fee or charges or expenses which may prevent him or her from pursuing and completing elementary education.³⁹ Moreover, it prohibits any kind of screening procedures for admission of children. Further, the National Policy on Tribals (2006) mentions special provisions for PVTG families whereby – “Considering PTGs’ poverty, school-going children shall be provided incentives.”⁴⁰

2) Importance of the scheme :

Any efforts at empowerment of any section of the society are futile in the absence of education. Hence, in order to ensure that future generations of the Sabars come out of the darkness of primitivity and join the race for development, achieving full literacy is crucial. However, education is one sector in which the quality benchmark must also be applied. The major problem of government schools in India is that even though a lot of children are enrolled in schools, they are lagging behind vis-à-vis their learning levels. Good quality of education provided to the children of all the families of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups will make them confident to face the world and chart out their destiny on their own terms as a part of the mainstream population.

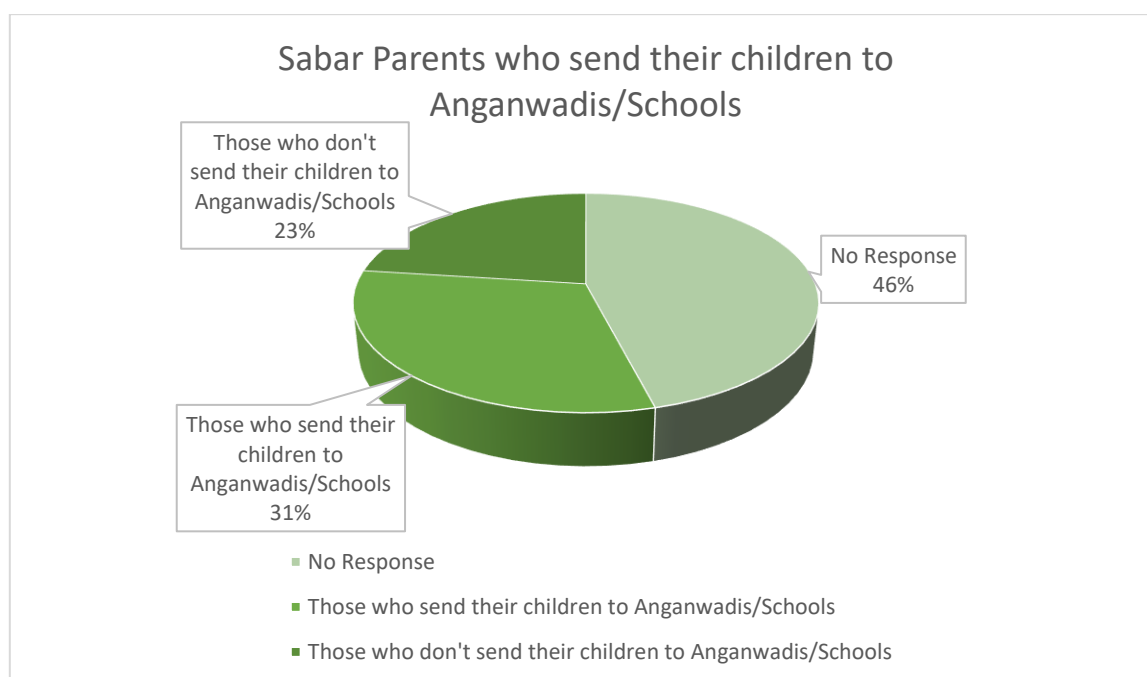
³⁹ The Right to Free and Compulsory Education (2009)_Clarifications on Provisions available at : https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/upload_document/RTE_Section_wise_rationale_rev_0.pdf

⁴⁰ National Policy On Tribals (2006)_Draft Bill available at : https://www.prsindia.org/uploads/media/1167469383/bill53_2007010353_Draft_National_Policy_on_Tribals.pdf

FINDINGS AND CASE STUDIES ON EDUCATION

- 1) In Gurajor (Ghatshila), the villagers send their kids to the nearby private school. Upon being asked why they do not send them to the anganwadis/government schools, they said that the latter is located some 3-4km away and the kids need to cross over a canal to reach it. Even though there is a pull built over the canal, they are scared that the children might jump into it and hurt themselves.

An anonymous individual's testimony : He has four daughters but he does not send them to the anganwadi/government school as it is far away (nearest government school is in Bhagudiya). There is a canal in the middle. Even though there is a pull built over the canal, he finds it unsafe/risky to send his children there. Hence, he sends them to the nearby private school, 'Vyakti Vikas Kendra'. The school provides free education but charges Rs. 30 per month for a meal (khichdi), and for school uniform and books. He also said that discipline and quality of education in the private school is better than that in public schools.



- 2) In Bankati (Chakuliya), Janta and Achinta Sabar (Aadhar Card No. of Janta is 5292 6894 8991) have two kids, who are 9 and 6 years of age respectively. They said that their elder kid was denied admission in school as he did not have an aadhar card. This is a clear violation of the Right to Education.

- 3) In Kendua (Dumariya), the government school/anganwadi kendra is 1.5 km far. This was seen as a major reason why kids in the village don't go to schools.
- 4) In Kendaposhi (Ghatshila), Gopal Sabar's wife [Ration card No. : 202005805472] said that they do not send their child to the anganwadi centre because the quantity of food they serve there is very less.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Food Security :

- Atleast until the time regular income is ensured for the Sabars, it is essential to increase the quantity of rice received per household, especially where the number of members in the family exceed 4 (based on the sample taken for this report, the percentage of such families is around 40%).
- Inspection must be done to see that atleast the most urgent requests for new ration cards are catered to with immediate effect.
- Ration dealers must be regularly made accountable to the local Vigilance Committee.

2) Water Security :

- The proposal for construction of borewells or 'Jal Minar' must be passed with immediate effect in Bankati and Murathakura (Block- Chakuliya). These villages are facing extreme scarcity of water. Temporary arrangements must be made by the administration in these places until the time such construction is completed.

3) Health and Nutrition Security :

- The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vikas Yojana has not reached these villages as yet. Requisite efforts must be taken in this direction.
- The number of doctors available at the sub-divisional level should increase. Currently, it is very less (around 4) which is not enough to administer to the needs of the already malnourished and disease-stricken Sabars in the villages around.

4) Income Security :

- For those Sabar males whose work requires physical labour, old age pensions should start a bit early (refer to the cases of Hariya Sabar and Taran Sabar).
- A survey must be conducted to find out the number of single mothers amongst PVTG. The amount of pension for them must increase from Rs.600 to Rs.800 in order to help them sustain themselves and their children.

5) Ownership of land :

- The government entitlement of land should be made available to all the Sabar households. Only in one of the seven villages we visited every Sabar household owns atleast 1 acre of land.
- In Gurajor, where land has been allotted to every household, immediate efforts should be taken by the administration to identify the physical boundaries of those pieces of land so that they could be used for productive purposes.

- Moreover, land ownership will only be helpful if the owners are trained in sustainable methods of farming. Since, the size of the land that is promised is very small (around 1 acre) promoting risky, unsustainable and costly ways of farming (involving tractors, HYV seeds, chemical fertilizers etc.) will act adversely. The government can join hands with civil society and public spirited adequately qualified individuals to ensure this.
- Practicing farming will also qualify them as small and marginal farmers (owners of less than 2 hectares or 5 acres of land) thereby making them eligible to avail the monetary benefits (of Rs. 6000/-) under Pradhan Mantri Kisaan Samman Nidhi.

6) Employment Security :

- In our survey, we found that 26% people have not got any jobs under NREGA, 20% did not have NREGA cards and 23% claimed to have not received work under NREGA since 2017.
- The Sabar households have a requirement of jobs that can pay them their wages daily so that they can fulfil their daily need for food and other stuff (refer to findings).
- Quality of work provided is an important benchmark to ensure sustainable progress. Special emphasis must be laid on devising local livelihood options. Finished goods receive much better prices than raw materials. The villagers must be trained in preparing and selling finished goods rather than selling the raw material. It is the process of getting the nuts from the forest and deseeding them that actually requires maximum manual labour. The process of installing a cold press machine to extract oil from the same is easy and one step away from ensuring self-reliance at fair prices.



7) Education :

- Strict actions must be taken in places where the Right To Education (2009) is being violated (refer to cases).
- Provision for safe transport must be made under RTE (2009) for the children of Gurajor (Ghatshila) so that crossing over the canal does not act as an impediment in their way to attain education.

8) Storage Infrastructure :

- There is a pressing need for improving the infrastructure of storage godowns. On our visit to the Dalbhumgarh block we found out that the godown there was huge, with no proper facility for natural light and aeration. There is a risk of foodgrains going bad.
- At the Dalbhumgarh Block, packaging is done for four blocks viz. Gurabanda, Chakuliya, Baharagoda and Dalbhumgarh. A total of 2,096 sealed packets of rice are made here.



Storage Godown at Dalbhumgarh Block Office



- Since the Dakia Yojana allows for female workers of local Self-help groups to be employed for the packaging work, it is essential that storage houses have washrooms. The AGM reported that due to extreme heat these women keep falling ill after every third day of work. As a result, only 2-3 women out of a total of 10 in the group turn up. They earn Rs. 12 per bag,

from which Rs. 2 per bag goes to their mutual fund. Improved infrastructure will ensure enhanced productivity which will empower these women by allowing them to work faster and earn better (Technically, if all 10 women workers come and work at the block warehouse, each has a chance of earning Rs. 2100 approximately while Rs. 4192 can go to their mutual fund).

- According to the AGM, the ration of the previous month was only being sent out by mid-June. Enhanced productivity of the SHG is essential for timely delivery of the foodgrains.

9) Online Redressal :

- Pragma Kendra must be developed as the local agent of the Commission for facilitating lodging of complaints online. For this proper training should be provided for the personnel at all the Common Service Centres. Presently, the service providers at the Chakuliya pragma kendra do not know how to do the same.
- The villages we visited are in the depths of jungles and do not have internet connectivity at all. Thus, in order to register an online complaint they must travel to the Block cyber cafes which are atleast 5-7km away.
- Moreover, while registering, the website requires them to enter their mobile number in order to receive the OTP. Our finding tells us that hardly 2-3 people in the whole village have mobile phones (which are mostly, not 'smart').

10) Officials :

- *Panchayat Sevaks* are supposed to be frontline workers who should be able to stay in close touch with the villagers and solve their problems. But every P.S. has some 15-17 villages under him, each village with some 7-10 (sometimes even 14-15) *tolas*. Although he is provided with 2 *Sahayaks*, he is overburdened with work. Especially in tougher terrains (like Dumariya) and in the kind of heat that is there, his task, if done sincerely, is extremely difficult. He does not even receive TA/DA.

Hence, monetary incentives (like Travel and Dearness Allowance) must be provided to them. Also, there is a need to either reduce the number of villages under each Panchayat Sevak based on the topographical difficulty or provide him with additional qualified staff to ensure that even the last beneficiary in line receives the benefits they are entitled to.

- The Marketing Officer is supposed to be the most important inspecting agency regarding the TPDS. S/he has a support staff of 4-5 people. This post needs to be strengthened as s/he is the sole authority when it comes to inspection, which is a humongous task. They also have a lack of manpower to conduct such inspections.

11) Vigilance Committee :

- The *Mukhiya* and *Panchayat Sevak* of a certain anonymous village denied knowledge of any such Committee. According to them, no meetings have ever been held under this. Hence, the Vigilance Committees should be trained based on existing guidelines to monitor the whole system. Moreover, they must be held accountable for any complaints against the local dealer.

12) Awareness camps must be held for beneficiaries to inform them about :

- their rights so that in future, they do not get cheated by any Dealer
- the prevailing rates at which commodities are sold to them
- the need to link aadhar card and bank accounts
- the procedures they need to follow to complain against the local dealer to the Vigilance Committee and, against the Vigilance Committee to the Food Commission/DGRO in case the former fails to take timely action
- the need to get their passbooks updated

13) The need to bring about behavioural changes in the Sabars of Ramchandrapur :

- The village is struggling with the serious problem of Alcoholism
- They receive all kinds of government benefits – 35kg free foodgrain, houses under the BAY, pensions etc. A doctor visits them once a month for free check-up or in case of emergencies, the anganwadi sahayika takes them to the doctor.

Still, most Sabars looked malnourished. The first couple we met were drunk out of their wits and were fighting in frenzy. They don't send their kids to school. Nobody was seen working in broad daylight in the village. Half the villagers were sleeping under the shade of the tree. The sevika said - "*daaru ka bahut problem hai.*" What was more was that in the same village, the condition of other SC/OBC families (AAY card holders who have to pay Rs1 per kg for 35kg of rice per household) living in houses adjacent to the Sabars was far better in terms of both health and 'hygiene'.

Hence, in order to ensure food and nutrition security to them, providing them with foodgrains is not sufficient. The help of civil society must be sought to get rid of the problem of alcoholism without which any efforts of the government to bring these sections of the population into the 'mainstream' would fail to materialize.



Women belonging to SC/OBC categories living in houses adjacent to those of the Sabars.



Images of Sumitra Sabar (left) and Tuni Sabar (right)

Online Grievance Redressal System

Recommendations

- On the Grievance Redressal Page :
 - Please add a pop-up link for ‘Registered User’ as well
 - Please add a hyperlink to “click here” next to the following instructions :
Step 2-a “click here”
Step 2-b “click here”
- Allow for registered users to add more complaints in a way that they do not have to create a new password everytime.
- Please allow for the possibility of one person lodging complaints for other people with ease.
- Please add more categories under PDS “*shikayat ki shreni*”, for example to lodge a complaint against the dealer.
- Please add the box to “upload” documents.
- Add the option of “complete address” while asking for details on the 1st page.
- The “upload document” page should be very light so that it opens even in areas with very low internet connectivity.
- On the “check status” page :
 - Please add a box to “Add New Complaint”
 - Please add a box to “upload” documents
- We can create a sort of helpline number through which the complainant can get the details and the status of their complaints on their mobile phones. For example, we can check the status of our train by sending our PNR number through a text message on ‘139’.

Besides the above points, I have tried to explain my ideas for overhauling the whole ‘grievance redressal’ portal in the following pages. It is an attempt to make the whole experience of lodging an online complaint easy and hassle-free both for the user and for the redresser.

Suggestions for overhaul

Login
(for registered users)

Username :

Password :

New User ?
(create account)



Full Name : Fulmani Sabar

Complete Address : -----

Name of District : East Singhbhum

Name of Block : Ghatshila

Name of Village : Haludboni

Phone No. : -----

Create Password : *****

Re- enter Password : *****

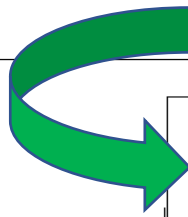
Enter OTP :

Account Verified !

Your account is now registered.

Login as a registered user to continue filing your complaint.

Click here to Login
as a registered user.



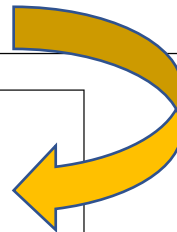
Login
(for registered users)

Username : fulmanisabar

Password : *****

Submit

New User ?
(create account)



Whose complaint are you filing :

(a.) Your Complaint ☒

(b.) Complaint of someone you know ☐

Generate OTP for this complaint

Enter OTP :

Submit

Complaint regarding : (drop down menu)

Mid-day Meal
Public Distribution System
Integrated Child Development Services

Category of the complaint : (drop down menu)

-other-----	

Complaint Description :

<div style="border-bottom: 1px dashed black; height: 1.2em; width: 100%;"></div>	

Submit

OR

Whose complaint are you filing :

(a.) Your Complaint ☐

(b.) Complaint of someone you know ☐

Generate OTP for this complaint

Enter OTP :

Submit



Details of the complainant :

Full Name :

Complete Address :

Phone No. (if any) :

Complaint Regarding : (drop down menu)

	↓
Mid-day Meal	
Public Distribution System	
Integrated Child Development Services	

Complaint Category : (drop down menu)

	↓
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Complaint Description :

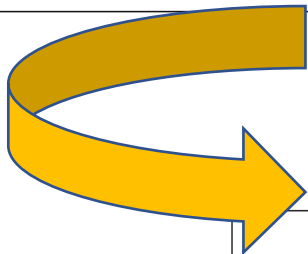
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Submit

Upload Documents

Document I :

Document II :



Congratulations !

You have successfully lodged the complaint.

Your Complaint no. (*****) and details have been sent to the registered mobile no.

To check the status of your complain :

Text the Complaint no. (*****) on our helpline number,

or

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