

# Weaving a Dream; a People's Initiative for Health Care – Nagaland



## INTRODUCTION

NRHM Nagaland initiated a strategy to widen the scope of Communitization by re-igniting community creativity for positive action. The initiative launched in 2010 is the collaboration between the people of '**Changsang Range**', Tuensang district and the **Eleutheros Christian Society (ECS)**, a local NGO engaged with the local community on promotion of livelihood, education and also running AIDS Hospice at Longpang, to holistically address the health needs of socioeconomically underdeveloped community by weaving around 'sustainable development'.

## Health Insurance: Insuring for a Healthy Future

- **Edou Banks:** The women in the project villages formed Women Self Help Groups to managed '**Edou Banks**'- a simple policy to raise finance for medical treatment by way of a 'health insurance policy' by subscribing annual premium of Rs. 50/-.
- **Collaboration with Birla Sunlife Insurance:** Every Household to invest a one-time deposit of Rs. 50/- to Rs. 200/-, which would pay back 100 times the amount deposited in case of death. On completion of three years, the policy holder may withdraw the money with an interest earned at 10% or re-invest thereafter.

## Education : Health through awareness

- **Reviving Morung/Sochum:** All the villages have revived the traditional 'morung' or 'sochum' to make it as a 'centre for learning skills for progressive living' and practices and to propagate health education.



## "Onou" : A special scheme for promotion of Institutional Delivery

ECS with the support from the community introduced a special scheme called '**onou**' meaning 'Grace' in Chang Naga dialect.

Women who delivered at the PHC were given a sum of Rs. 700 in addition to the existing JSY scheme. The ASHAs who accompany the pregnant women were also given an additional cash incentive of Rs.100.

## Construction of General Ward:



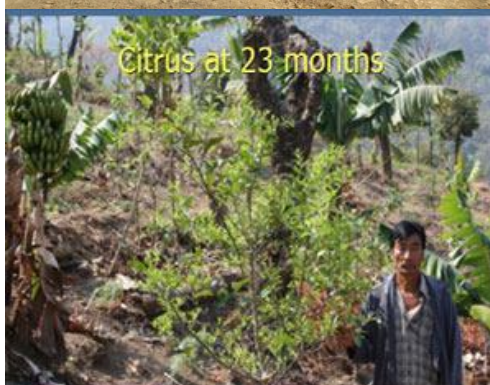
## Promotion of Livelihood: Sustainable Health

- **Orchards in 700 Acres Land:** For building a regular income base for each member, the villages started a massive inter cropping project for citrus and banana along with gingers, water melon, french beans etc. with support from NABARD. This is in line to encourage shifting from *jhum* cultivation.



## Health is a shared responsibility

- Subsidised user's fee based health facility.
- Villages contributed in the development of site and construction of 3 (Three) staff quarters and the hospital kitchen.
- Every household (8000 households) in the 17 villages contribute Rs.10/- each annually.
- 16 Churches contribute Rs.2000/- annually towards the management of the hospital canteen.
- Every Village Council gives Rs. 500/- as yearly registration.
- Earning from 1 orange plant per household annually (amounting to more than 5 acres of Citrus plantation annually) goes to the health facility.
- Each SHG member contribute Rs. 30/- annually.



## IMPACT of the Programme

- PHC Longpang became fully functional as a 24x7 PHC and a Cold Chain Point since February 2011.
- The PHC started conducting institutional deliveries since July 2011.
- Pre and post pregnancy counselling sessions are being held.
- ECS is also running a hospice at Longpang, where **People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLHA)** are admitted. These inpatients are provided with accommodation, medical consultations, diet, medications, referral, if required, etc. free of cost.

