

Chaos & Coordination: Day-NRLM & PRADAN

Introduction:

Jaisinghnagar is a block in the Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh. It is also a resource block under DAY-NRLM. PRADAN entered the Shahdol district in October 2011; after a survey of the area, it decided to work in two blocks—Jaisinghnagar and Gohparu, where the Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project (MPRLP) project of the government was being wound up.

Background:

Under this interventionism all willing PRADAN SHGs were linked to NRLM. Those that refused to be linked to DAY-NRLM were left out. During this time, many PRADAN-promoted women leaders were also selected to become NRLM CRPs.

Details of the Intervention:

Confusion started emerging amongst beneficiaries in regard with why or why not their SHG has received Revolving Fund. This created resentment and chaos amongst beneficiaries and also generated “materialism” as CRPs started receiving money unlike PRADAN volunteers. Further, both the organizations started providing training to beneficiaries at almost same time, which created fatigue and tiredness amongst beneficiaries.

Impact:

The objectives of both organizations are not very different. Both work to reduce poverty, strengthen livelihoods and grass-roots institutions. However, their way of working differs. Whereas one is very good with ensuring the following of norms and other structures, the other works on strengthening of collectives through group processes, building cohesiveness and solidarity. PRADAN could share with NRLM its ideology and its work processes and at the same time its professionals can be oriented on how things work in NRLM so that both the organizations understand each other’s work and priorities better. Recognizing their shared vision and mission, PRADAN and DAY-NRLM need to work in alignment with each other, to realize their goal of development, agency and self-reliance.

Source: Retrieved at <https://www.pradan.net/sampark/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/NRLM-Opportunities-and-Challenges-by-Smriti-Shah.pdf>. Accessed on 12/06/2020.