

2023-24

ANNUAL REPORT

PRABHAT SAMITI



Gram Post: Badausa, District Banda
(U.P.) – 210202

Email-prabhatsamiti@gmail.com

www.prabhatsamiti.org



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The year 2023–24 was a year of transition, challenges, and achievements for Prabhat Samiti. Guided by our long-term vision of empowering marginalized and vulnerable communities, we strengthened our work across education, livelihoods, women's empowerment, and forest rights. During the year, our team worked with 40 community-based groups across 10 villages, reaching 844 beneficiaries. Significant progress was made in rural planning, women's participation, inclusive development, and coordination with local administration.

We ensured transparency and systematic implementation of benefits under the Forest Rights Act and Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). Special focus was placed on empowering Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, and women's groups through coordinated implementation of government schemes, contributing to innovation and sustainable development in the region.

From a financial perspective, the collective efforts of our donors, partners, and team helped us achieve our annual goals. The support of CASA Lucknow, IGSSS, was particularly valuable. None of these achievements would have been possible without the dedication of our partners, donors, volunteers, and staff.

For 2024–25, we reaffirm our commitment to strengthening social service, participation, and inclusion through innovation and transparency.

With hope, trust, and collective resolve,

Rajaram

President/Secretary

Prabhat Samiti, Badausa, Banda (U.P.)

About the Organization

Vision

Establishment of a discrimination-free and egalitarian society

Mission


Promote social, economic, and cultural programs which enhances communities' access to better health, education and livelihood services. Enrich mindset of people so that societies can become more inclusive and all have a dignified life.

History and background

Prabhat Samiti is a grassroots Non-Government Organization established in 1990 in Banda district of Uttar Pradesh. Registered under the Society Registration Act, 1860, the organization was founded with a commitment to advance equity, dignity, and justice for marginalized communities in the Bundelkhand region. From its inception, Prabhat Samiti has focused on addressing deep-rooted caste-based exclusion and ensuring that the voices of marginalized Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities, particularly those recognized as SC in Uttar Pradesh—are heard, respected, and integrated into development processes.

Over the years, the organization has steadily expanded its reach and strengthened its role as a catalyst for community empowerment. What began as a small initiative in Banda has now evolved into a multi-district effort working across Banda, Chitrakoot, Jaunpur, Mahoba, and Saharanpur, fostering inclusion and improving access to essential entitlements.

Prabhat Samiti's core work revolves around enhancing community awareness, capacity, and leadership so that marginalized groups can access basic services, social protection schemes, and justice mechanisms. The organization builds understanding of government schemes and strengthens community knowledge of The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, enabling communities to claim their rights and respond effectively to caste-based discrimination and violence. As part of this effort, the organization tracks cases of caste-based atrocities, ensuring timely support to survivors in accessing justice, compensation, and state welfare provisions.



Alongside justice-focused work, Prabhat Samiti supports communities in monitoring the delivery of essential services—health, nutrition, education, livelihoods, and food security—ensuring that no household is left behind. The organization also facilitates participatory planning processes, helping communities articulate their needs and integrate them into the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) through inclusive development approaches.

Rooted in the principles of equality and collective action, Prabhat Samiti continues to work towards a future where marginalized communities of Bundelkhand live with dignity, security, and equal opportunity.

Key Thematic Areas:

Education: Promoting enrollment and access to quality education for children and youth.

Land and Forest Rights: Supporting effective implementation of land and forest rights (FRA) for SC/ST communities.

Women's Rights: Protecting and strengthening the social, economic, and political rights of women.

Social Justice: Supporting victims of caste-based violence and discrimination to access justice and government relief.

Health and Livelihoods: Community engagement in health, nutrition, employment, and monitoring of public schemes.

Community-led Development: Ensuring community participation in GPDP and inclusive development planning.

Geographical outreach

Prabhat Samiti has a strong grassroots presence across five districts of Uttar Pradesh—Banda, Chitrakoot, Mahoba, Jaunpur and Saharanpur, with a core focus on the Bundelkhand region. These districts represent some of the most underserved and marginalized communities, particularly those belonging to the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) groups. Our community-based approach enables continuous engagement with local institutions, frontline workers, and panchayats, ensuring that issues of exclusion and rights violations are addressed at their source.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

1. Community Meetings

Monthly meetings of 40 community-based organizations(nigrani Samiti) were conducted across 10 Gram Panchayats, with the active participation of 844 members (274 men and 570 women). These meetings were primarily aimed at strengthening the active engagement of organization members and facilitating in-depth discussions on the status of government schemes and issues related to exclusion and marginalization. During the meetings, detailed information was shared on application procedures, required documents, and concerned government departments.



Beneficiaries were informed about employment-related schemes such as MGNREGA and other government-led skill development programmes. In addition, extensive discussions and collective planning were carried out on key social issues including Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), agricultural development, drinking water, irrigation, plantation and environmental protection, health, education, landlessness, and migration.

Outcomes and Impact:

- Active participation and engagement of organization members increased.
- A total of 844 members (274 men and 570 women) participated in the meetings.
- Improved clarity on access to government schemes, application processes, and required documentation.
- Information on MGNREGA and skill development schemes was widely disseminated.
- Community-level strategies were developed on agriculture, water, education, health, landlessness, and migration.
- A systematic follow-up and monitoring mechanism was established.



2. Meetings of the Managing Committee of the Nigrani Samiti

A total of six monthly meetings of the Managing Committee of the Nigrani Samiti were conducted during the year. These meetings were attended by 22 active members, including 16 women and 6 men.

The meetings provided a platform for in-depth discussions on key community issues and challenges. Issues raised during community-level meetings were reviewed and analyzed, and issue-based programmes and advocacy strategies were developed accordingly. The roles, responsibilities, and functions of committee members were clearly defined. In addition, strategies for capacity building and leadership development of active members associated with the organization were formulated.

Outcomes and Impact

Strengthened issue-based understanding and leadership among active community leaders.

Developed strategies to engage and involve youth within the organization.

Planned for mobilization of financial and human resources.

Established linkages with relevant government departments to gather information on schemes and disseminate it within the community.

Submitted memorandums and demands to government authorities through organizational conventions and collective forums.

Through these meetings, the organization enhanced leadership development, community participation, and effective implementation of government schemes. By engaging with departmental officials and presenting community concerns, concrete steps were initiated toward problem resolution and improved governance

3- Youth Orientation Programme

A youth orientation programme was organized at Kandohara, with the participation of 35 rural youth. The programme was designed to raise awareness among rural youth about their social, economic, and educational challenges, provide information on relevant government schemes, and motivate them to take up leadership roles and contribute to social change.

The core objective of the programme was to understand the real challenges faced by rural youth and to create space for collective dialogue, reflection, and action planning. Special emphasis was placed on encouraging youth to share their concerns, learn from the experiences of previously trained youth, and prepare themselves to play an active role in community leadership and development processes.

Key Focus Areas:

- Developing an understanding among rural youth about local issues and challenges.
- Providing information on government schemes such as MGNREGA, skill development programmes, and Ayushman Bharat.
- Motivating youth to take on leadership roles, engage with social organizations, and actively participate in community initiatives.
- Building self-confidence and enhancing capacities so that youth can initiate change within their communities.
- Identifying marginalized families and unemployed youth and guiding them to access appropriate government schemes



Outcomes and Impact

- Youth identified key social issues including MGNREGA-related problems, migration, and landlessness; a list of marginalized families was prepared, and a plan for reviewing schemes in the next meeting was finalized.
- Local issues such as poor sanitation, water scarcity, lack of education and health services, and discrimination were identified.
- Previously trained youth shared their experiences of monitoring MGNREGA works, ration distribution, and Anganwadi services.
- MGNREGA: Issues related to lack of work and delayed payments were identified, and advocacy through the people's organization was planned.
- Migration: Linked to unemployment and landlessness; strategies were developed to connect youth and families with NRLM.
- Landlessness: Guidance provided on applying for land titles, along with linkages to livelihood options such as animal husbandry and NRLM.
- Government Schemes: Gaps in access to housing, pensions, and ration entitlements were identified, and support for applications and benefit delivery was planned.
- An action plan was developed to prepare a list of marginalized families, identify youth for skill training, and review scheme progress in subsequent meetings.

4-Women Workers' Public Dialogue

On 1 May 2023, on the occasion of International Workers' Day, a public dialogue was organized to highlight issues related to women workers' rights, equal wages, workplace harassment, and safe working conditions. The programme aimed to raise awareness among women workers about their real and everyday challenges, strengthen the demand for equal pay for equal work, and promote collective organization for social and economic equality.

The programme witnessed the participation of 168 individuals, including 132 women and 36 men.

Key Discussions and Experiences:

- Women do not receive wages equal to men; clear discrimination exists in agricultural and daily wage labour.
- Harassment, verbal abuse, and molestation at home and at the workplace are common experiences for many women.
- Under MGNREGA, women receive fewer work opportunities and lower wages.
- Exploitation and harassment of Adivasi women are widespread, yet often remain unreported.
- The increasing use of machines in MGNREGA works at the Panchayat level has reduced employment opportunities for women.



Outcomes and Impact:

- Increased awareness among women workers regarding their labour rights.
- Strengthened collective demand for equal wages and greater participation of women in leadership roles.
- Initiation of collective action against harassment and exploitation.
- Enhanced social and economic empowerment of women through organizational solidarity.
- Efforts initiated at the local level to improve women's safety, dignity, and economic conditions.
- A strong collective demand for equal pay for equal work emerged, and the organization resolved to advocate for the implementation of minimum wage standards.
- Formation of a women workers' collective, the "Savitribai Phule Women Workers Union," to continue organized advocacy and action.

5- Divisional-Level Public Dialogue on the Status and Potential of Water Resources

Water scarcity is one of the most critical challenges in the Bundelkhand region. On 23 June 2023, a divisional-level public dialogue was organized to present the findings of a survey on the status of water sources across 43 Gram Panchayats from 7 development blocks in four districts. The dialogue aimed to identify shared solutions for water conservation, rainwater harvesting, and sustainable water resource management.

The primary objective of the programme was to raise community awareness about the importance of water conservation and to ensure active participation of communities in the management and protection of local water resources. The programme was attended by Water Warrior Shri Umashankar Pandey, District Magistrate Shri Anurag Patel as the Chief Guest, along with other eminent dignitaries and representatives from various government and non-government organizations.

Key Survey Findings:

- The primary cause of water scarcity in the region was the poor condition of ponds and wells. Out of 28 ponds, only 3 were functional, of which 2 were used for fisheries, while 25 ponds remained dependent solely on limited rainwater.
- Out of 235 wells, only 55 were functional, with 33 used exclusively for irrigation purposes.
- Of 466 handpumps, some had been repaired, but the majority continued to face drinking water shortages.
- The absence of water conservation and groundwater recharge systems has further intensified the crisis.
- Water shortages have adversely affected livestock rearing and agricultural irrigation.
- Encroachment, poor drainage, and weak management of village water sources were major concerns.

Key Areas of Discussion on Solutions:

- Strengthening administration–community coordination for the renovation of ponds, wells, and dams, and adoption of modern water harvesting techniques.
- Promoting fisheries and aquaculture-based livelihood models.
- Implementing water conservation works through MGNREGA and other rural development schemes.
- Engaging youth and community members as active stakeholders in addressing the water crisis.

Outcomes and Impact:

- Increased awareness among community members about the severity of the water crisis and the urgent need for conservation.
- Established linkages with government departments to initiate water conservation activities under MGNREGA and other rural development programmes.
- Youth and women's groups came forward to participate in monitoring and decision-making related to water resource management.
- Panchayat-level action plans for water harvesting and groundwater recharge were developed.
- The programme strengthened coordination among the administration, community, and civil society organizations, laying a strong foundation for sustainable water resource management in the region.



6-Orientation of the Dalit–Adivasi People’s Rights Forum

An orientation programme of the Dalit–Adivasi People’s Rights Forum was organized on 06 September 2023 at the Community Hall in Kandohara, with the participation of 40 participants (35 women and 5 men). The programme was designed to socially, economically, and politically empower leaders and youth from Dalit and Adivasi communities, enhance their awareness, and ensure effective utilization of Gram Panchayat–level resources.

During the programme, detailed discussions were held on the importance and implementation of the Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP), helping participants develop a collective understanding of these critical planning and budgeting mechanisms

Key Topics Discussed:

- Information on central and state government schemes for socially and economically marginalized Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities.
- Introduction to the historical background, objectives, and planning framework of SCSP and TSP for the development of Dalit and Adivasi communities.
- Understanding population size, economic conditions, and development challenges of these communities using Census data.
- Assessment of available community resources at the Gram Panchayat level, such as Panchayat buildings, health centres, and schools.
- Developing demands and strategies for the establishment of residential schools and community buildings where needed.
- Discussion on the need to establish information centres, libraries, and application facilitation centres for government schemes within Panchayats



Programme Impact:

- Increased awareness among Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities about government schemes and their social and economic rights.
- Strengthened dialogue for improved distribution and participatory implementation of SCSP and TSP.
- Initiatives launched to ensure more effective and organized use of Gram Panchayat community resources.
- Clear identification of the need for residential schools and community buildings to support education, health, and social justice at the Panchayat level.
- Enhanced community participation, contributing to better local governance and inclusive development.
- Empowerment of youth and community leaders strengthened social justice and democratic participation.
- Awareness campaigns amplified community voices and initiated processes to identify local issues and work toward solutions.



Key Achievements

Through its programmes and interventions, the organization achieved significant outcomes in the areas of community awareness, leadership development, social justice, and environmental conservation, particularly among rural and marginalized communities. Information related to government schemes, skill development, social rights, water conservation, and women's empowerment reached thousands of beneficiaries, strengthening social inclusion and economic empowerment.

- Through focused interventions, the organization strengthened the capacity of rural and vulnerable communities, enhanced social awareness, and supported effective access to government schemes.
- Across 10 Gram Panchayats, 40 community meetings were conducted with active participation of 844 members (274 men and 570 women). Community members collectively developed strategies on government schemes, agriculture, water, education, health, landlessness, and migration, and established systematic follow-up mechanisms.
- Six Managing Committee meetings were held with participation of 22 members, contributing to leadership development, dissemination of information on government programmes, and submission of community demands to the administration through memorandums.
- A one-day youth orientation programme engaged 35 youth, who identified key socio-economic issues, prepared lists of marginalized families, and were linked to opportunities for skill development.
- During the Women Workers' Public Dialogue, 132 women and 36 men collectively raised their voices for equal pay for equal work, leading to the formation of the "Savitribai Phule Women Workers Union" in 20 villages.
- A divisional-level survey of water resources was conducted across 43 Gram Panchayats, resulting in strengthened community and administrative participation in water conservation and rainwater harvesting initiatives.
- Through the Dalit Awareness and Gram Panchayat Empowerment orientation, 40 participants gained awareness of SCSP and TSP schemes, mobilized collective action for effective use of Panchayat resources, and articulated demands for residential schools and community buildings.

Overall, beneficiaries gained improved access to government schemes, social rights, skill development opportunities, water conservation initiatives, women's empowerment platforms, and leadership development processes, marking substantial progress toward social inclusion and economic empowerment.

Manju's Story of Change:

Location: Village Kandohara, Naraini Block, Banda District (Uttar Pradesh)
Manju Verma, a resident of Kandohara village, comes from a joint family. In her early childhood, she was raised by her grandparents in place of her parents and completed her education up to Class 9 in Tindwara (Banda). At the young age of 16, she was married to Shri Jagkishor. Due to financial constraints, her education was interrupted; however, with encouragement from her in-laws, Manju resumed her studies through her own efforts—completing High School in 2010, Intermediate in 2012, and Graduation in 2015.

Initially, Manju was unaware of the purpose of the village-level meetings. Out of curiosity, she attended one meeting, where she was encouraged by a fellow community member, Anusuya ji, to participate actively. Through the organization's trainings, she gained exposure to issues such as leadership, gender equality, and land rights. Practices that she earlier accepted as "tradition," such as untouchability and discrimination, gradually became clear to her as forms of injustice.

In 2006, Manju became an ASHA worker, but she faced caste-based discrimination in her workplace. The training and support provided by the organization gave her the confidence to raise her voice against injustice. In 2016, during an incident involving caste-based abuse, she stood her ground and filed a complaint, which ultimately led to justice.

In 2015, through the organization, Manju became associated with the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), where she established her identity as an active and capable leader. In 2019, during the visit of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Yogi Adityanath and Hon'ble Governor Smt. Anandiben Patel to Banda, Manju confidently explained the meaning of "capacity building." The Hon'ble Governor personally handed her the keys of a vehicle as a mark of recognition—an unforgettable moment in her journey.

In 2022, with the support of the organization and following an order of the Allahabad High Court, Manju, along with five other women, was appointed as an ASHA Sangini.

Reflecting on her journey, Manju says:

"Had I not been associated with the organization and gained knowledge, I too would have remained silent like many Dalit women. The organization gave me the courage to struggle, learn, and move forward."

Today, Manju is a source of inspiration for women in her village. She adds:

"I am grateful to Prabhat Samiti and the Dalit-Adivasi People's Organization for lighting the flame of empowerment in backward villages like ours."

This story reflects how collective support, capacity building, and rights-based interventions can transform individual lives and create community-level role models for change.

Programme Outreach & Stakeholder Engagement

During the reporting year, Prabhat Samiti worked across 10 Gram Panchayats, engaging with 40 Community Groups Engaged. Through sustained community meetings, public dialogues, youth orientation programmes, and thematic consultations, the organisation reached 844 unique community members, including 570 women and 274 men.

The outreach primarily focused on marginalized Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities, strengthening awareness on government schemes, social justice, women's rights, livelihoods, water conservation, and participatory local governance.

Government & Stakeholder Engagement

Alongside community-level outreach, Prabhat Samiti actively engaged with key government institutions and stakeholders to strengthen programme implementation, advocacy, and service delivery. Regular coordination meetings, public dialogues, and submissions were undertaken to ensure community issues were addressed within formal governance systems

Stakeholder Category	Engagement Details
Gram Panchayats	10 Panchayats engaged through GPDP, meetings, campaign and dialogues
Block & District Administration	Coordination on MGNREGA, water resources, and welfare schemes
Line Departments	Social Welfare, Rural Development, Women & Child Development
People's Representatives	Elected Panchayat representatives and community leaders

Staff Capacity Building

During 2023–24, Prabhat Samiti prioritized strengthening the skills and capacities of its staff members through targeted training programmes. These trainings enhanced the team's understanding of rights-based approaches, equality, and organizational governance, thereby improving the quality and effectiveness of field interventions.

S. No.	Training Topic	Name of Staff Members	Training Organization
1	Three-day training on Land Rights Issues	Devidayal, Keshkali, Jagkishor	CASA
2	Two-day training on Equity and Equality	Devidayal, Keshkali, Anil Kumar, Phoolkali, Ramvishwas	CASA
3	Three-day training on Roles, Responsibilities, and Functions of Organization and Office Bearers	Devidayal, Keshkali, Shobha, Seema, Rajkumari	CASA



Board Members

Rajaram
Secretary

Shubhendra
Prakash - President

Lalluram
Vice President

Mevalal
Treasurer

Krishna Devi
Member

Vijay Bahadur
Member

Natthulal
Member

Anusuya
Member

Ashok Kumar
Member

Archana Devi
Member

Shubhadra Devi
Member



Staff Members

Devidayal

Ram vishwas

Keshkali

Shobha

Jagkisho

Seema

Anil Kumar

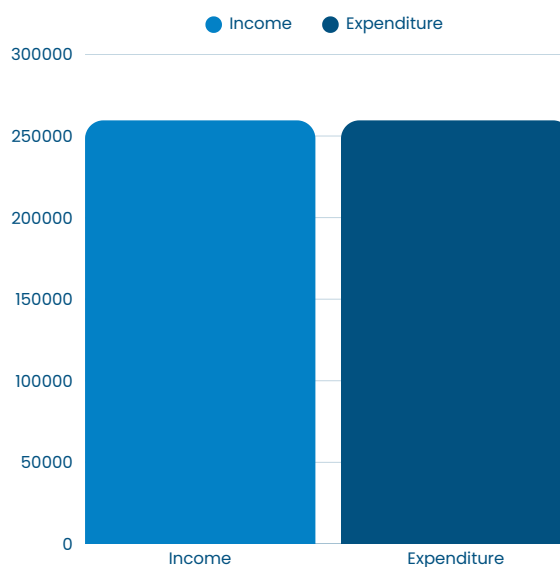
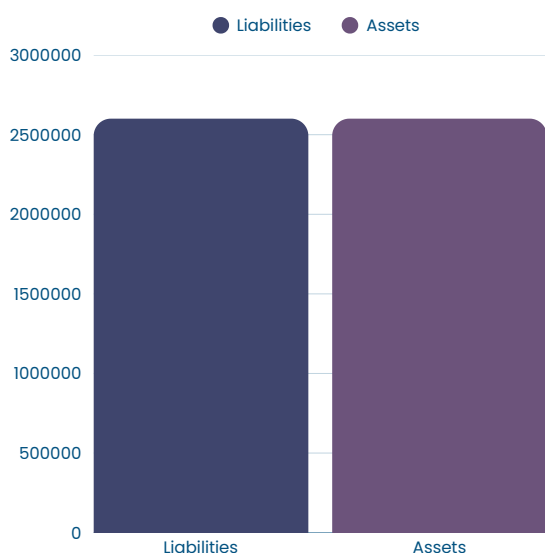
Raj kumari

Phoolkali



Financial Statement 2023–24

Liabilities	Amount (₹)	Assets	Amount (₹)
Capital Fund (Closing Balance+UG-FC)	2,574,078.00	Fixed Assets (Net)	62,531.00
Audit Fees Payable	5,000.00	Cash & Bank Balance	2,538,297.00
Other Liabilities Payable	21,750.00	Other Current Assets	—
Total Liabilities	2,600,828.00	Total Assets	2,600,828.00
Total Expenditure	259,595.00	Total Income	259,595.00





Contact Us

Prabhat Samiti

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Pin- 210202

Email: prabhatsamiti@gmail.com

Phone: +91-9935805468

Website: www.prabhatsamiti.org
