

### Case Study - 3

#### Fight against right

My name is Anita Devi and I am 43 years old. Married with Sri Sijay Das (48) and having four children. I live in Village Kushpar under Sampatchak Block of Patna. My husband and I involved in labor work. Earlier, I was not involved in any decision making in my family or society. I don't know about our rights, government schemes etc. My husband did not allow to talking anybody, not giving permission to participate in any type of meeting, seminar, program etc.



However when the worker of ActionAid & Prayas come to my village and talked with villagers about their rights & dignity. He also talked with my husband and tried to understand him that we are working for your rights, dignity, taking benefits from the govt. schemes etc. He had started to come in my village on regular basis and talked to everyone to come together & make a community based organization. Slowly, people had started understanding and started to organize a meeting and talk about their problems and rights. First of all I also joined as a member of Prayas and DAM (Dalit Adhikar Manch). I started taking interest in village activity and participating in village meeting. With more confidence. I started rising questions about various issues related to woman right, children right, children education and village development. I have learnt government schemes and our right in village level meeting. With my growing interest to empower in my village, ActionAid & Prayas had started to support me in organizing village women meeting.

Our women unit fighting against of daily wages when I did not join Prayas we get daily wages Rs. 50/- after fighting we get daily wages Rs. 100 to 150. The member of women unit started going to Mukhiya and Block office to demand their right. With the help of AA & Prayas workers and Women unit there are 38 Job cards were issued and 25 peoples got Old age pension in the year 2009. Our main focus is girls who were not going to school before the AA & Prayas intervention. They started going to school and they are now very much aware about the getting education in that age. For our full development ActionAid & Prayas will always be our need.

I am highly grateful to all persons who supported me & my family and brought such immense level of happiness to my life. I thank again to all my supporters and friends for this.

There are 38 women members in the village unit now.