

## ***First Annual Partner Meet of CInI was successfully organised in Jamshedpur***

CInI organised its First Annual Partner Meet (APM) from May 25-26, 2009 at Jamshedpur that provided learning of last 3-4 years' work towards livelihood promotion for tribal communities and also helped in developing a common framework together for larger impact in the region.

### **Objectives of the APM:**

- (i) To bring all the partners at a common platform and develop strong relationships among one another
- (ii) To highlight our achievement so far on promoting tribal livelihoods
- (iii) Thematic focus approach and plans for coming years
- (iv) Strengthening CInI as a nodal agency for Central India Initiative



It gives us immense pleasure to say that the **First Annual Partner Meet** of CInI was a success. A total of 80 participants from 26 different organisations including CInI made the event happening. Participants who attended this meet appreciated the effort of CInI as the event was organised with great zeal and enthusiasm with the commitment of CInI team as well as the participants. The workshop was well designed in the light of its objectives. Lead presentations, working groups, input sessions were organised to crystallise the recommendations and action points.

**May 25, 2009**

### **Basic Orientation and Developing Common Background**

Tasneem Khorakiwala (Team Leader-CInI West) formally welcomed all the participants to the First Annual Partner Meet of CInI on behalf of the organisation. It has been rightly said that well begun is half done. With this opinion the event started with lighting of lamps by dignitaries that included Prof Sanjiv Phansalkar, Harnath Jagawat, YC Nanda, Debdoot Mohanty, CS Pathak and Ganesh Neelam. All these people were associated with CInI right from the inception of CInI and have contributed a lot to develop CInI as an organisation.

This was followed by the inaugural address made by Ganesh Neelam, executive director CInI highlighting the evolution of CInI till the present context of its six thematic interventions i.e., Kharif Paddy Stabilisation, Kharif Maize Stabilisation, Diversion based Irrigation Management, Non Timber Forest Produce, Community Based Organisation and Microfinance and Livelihood. His presentation highlighted that the very foundation of CInI is based on the book "Mainstreaming the Margins" written by Prof Sanjiv Phansalkar and Prof Shilp Verma. It consists of some 40 studies in compiled, analysed and synthesised form wherein CInI researchers found numerous cases which indicated that sensible investments in improved land care and water control has the power to reverse the present vicious circle and transform it into a virtuous one. This book is considered to be the "Bible" for CInI. He emphasised during his presentation that CInI wants to emerge as a resource agency on tribal livelihoods in the Central Indian belt.



Further he presented the objectives of the APM and introduced the schedule of the two day programme briefly. While sharing the objectives he opined that the workshop would contribute to the process of operationalising the vision and mission of CInI to emerge as a Resource Agency.

The subsequent sessions were followed by thematic interventions. There were six themes, where, in each theme four-six presentations were made by the selected presenters. Each presentation continued for 30 minutes (20 minutes presentation and 10 minutes discussion). Three sessions ran parallel to each other and participants attended sessions based on their interest.



### **Cultural Programme**

The first day of the APM ended with the cultural programme where Chhou- an exclusive tribal dance of Purulia district was displayed to the participants. The performances were based on martial and mythological themes. In this dance the theme was *Mahisashur Mardini* picturising the demon as killed and good prevailing over evil. It was the awesome performance being performed by the professional tribals. The cultural programme was followed by dinner.

**May 26, 2009**

The second day of APM was plenary session where there were six such presentations based on each of the themes. The respective theme anchor presented the gist of the presentations of the previous day which was followed by open discussion along with framing action points with role and task delineation.