



2ND STATE LEVEL WORKSHOP ON

"Strategy for Strengthening Social Audit
Gram Sabha through Community Mobilization
and Inclusive Governance"

Date

10th - 11th January 2024

Venue

Madhusudhan Das Regional Academy
of Finance Management (MDRAFM),
Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar, Odisha



Organised By:
**Odisha Society for Social Audit
Accountability and Transparency
(OSSAAT)**

Special Guests

Chief Guest



Shri Pradip Kumar Amat
Hon'ble Minister, PR&DW Dept.,
Govt. of Odisha

Guest of Honour



Shri Sushil Kumar Lohani, IAS
Principal Secretary,
PR & DW Dept., Govt. of Odisha

Guest of Honour



Shri Jyoti Prakash Das, IAS
Director Special Projects,
PR & DW Dept., Govt. of Odisha

Speaker and Facilitators



Prof. Dr. C Dheeraja

Associate Professor, NIRD & PR, Hyderabad

Topic: "Strategies for Strengthening Social Audit Gram Sabha through Community Participation: Panchayati Raj Act and Legal provisions"



Shri Gurjeet Singh

Mission Manager, NRCSEA-DoSJE, New Delhi

Topic: "Empowering Community through Inclusive Governance: Strengthening Social Audit Gram Sabha."



Shri Manas Ranjan Mishra

Program Lead, Harsa Trust, Odisha

Topic: "Community Mobilization for effective Social Audit Gram Sabha."



Prof. Dr. Kamalesh Mishra

Adjunct Professor, Kiloskar Institute of Management

Topic: "Communication & Personality Development for Social Audit Resource Persons."

Convenor

Moderators

Smt. Sandhyarani Das Adhikari,
Social Audit Expert, OSSAAT

Smt. Jyotirmayee Samal,
Social Audit Expert, OSSAAT

Logistics Support

Shri Jyoti Ranjan Satapathy
Social Audit Expert, OSSAAT

Contact No.:

70088 02503, 88955 87551

Other Arrangements

Shri Sunil Ku. Mohapatra
Social Audit Expert, OSSAAT

Smt. Puspanjali Sabat
Social Audit Expert, OSSAAT



Director's Message

Esteemed Delegates,

Warm greetings. We embark on a transformative journey to enhance efficacy of Social Audit Gram Sabha. Building on past success, Odisha Society for Social Audit, Accountability and Transparency proudly organizes the State-level workshop, "Strategy for Strengthening Social Audit Gram Sabha through Community Mobilization and Inclusive Governance," on 10th & 11th January 2024 at MDRAFM, Chandrasekherpur, Bhubaneswar.

Our vision prioritizes empowered communities as foundation for democracy. We commit to meticulous planning, inclusivity, and robust community mobilization efforts for grassroots engagement. Inclusive governance guides us, recognizing that progress hinges on involving all societal segments.

With promise to function with high integrity, transparency and accountability, SAU, Odisha invites you to join this noble endeavour. Let's build a better future for our society where Gram Sabhas foster dialogue, collaboration, and active democratic participation.

Sincerely,

Nihar Ranjan Swain
Director, OSSAAT

Introduction

Social Audit Gram Sabha, as a participatory process, involves active engagement of community members in evaluating local government programs. Historically, Gram Sabhas have been pivotal platforms for democratic decision-making at the grassroots level, fostering community participation in governance. However, in the present scenario, Social Audit Gram Sabhas encounter challenges such as inadequate awareness, limited community participation, and difficulties in effectively addressing local issues.

To address these challenges, this workshop is proposed to enhance understanding and participation. This workshop will serve as a platform to discuss historical precedents, current challenges, and potential solutions for effective Social Audit Gram Sabhas. Participants will gain knowledge, understanding and skills to overcome barriers and actively contribute to the Social Audit process. The focus will be on fostering community engagement, addressing present issues, and identifying practical solutions for transparent and accountable local governance.

By emphasizing the pivotal role of Gram Sabhas in Social Audit, the workshop aims to empower participants, strengthen community involvement, and ultimately enhance the effectiveness of the Social Audit process at the grassroots level. Social Audit, as a powerful tool for ensuring transparency and accountability in local governance, particularly at the grassroots level, will be highlighted. Recognizing its significance, the workshop intends to bring together stakeholders from diverse backgrounds to strategize and strengthen Social Audit Gram Sabhas through enhanced community mobilization and inclusive governance. The collaborative efforts aim to fortify Social Audit as a potent mechanism for promoting good governance and community-centric decision-making.

Objective

The primary objective of the workshop is to develop a comprehensive strategy that empowers Gram Sabhas to effectively conduct Social Audits by adopting community mobilization and ensuring inclusive governance. Key focus areas include building awareness, enhancing skills, and promoting collaborative decision-making process.

Key Themes:

1. Social Audit Gram Sabha : Panchayati Raj Act and Legal Provisions

- a. Provide participants with an in-depth understanding of the key provisions of the Panchayati Raj Act related to Gram Sabhas.
- b. Explore the concept and importance of Social Audit in local governance.
- c. Detail legal framework supporting Social Audits, emphasizing the mandate and responsibilities of Gram Sabha.
- d. Facilitate discussions on potential legal challenges and solutions.
- e. Explore the examining process for successful case studies where communities actively participated in Social Audits.
- f. Develop strategies to encourage and sustain the community involvement in the auditing process

2. Community Mobilization:

- a. Explore innovative approaches to mobilise and engage local communities in the Social Audit process.
- b. Identify best practices for creating awareness and participation in the grassroots level.
- c. Sensitize the community-based organisations on their role in facilitating mobilisation efforts during social audit process.

3. Inclusive Governance:

- a. Analyse the current state of governance at the Gram Sabha level.
- b. Develop strategies to ensure inclusivity in decision-making processes.
- c. Formulate a complete mechanism for participation of marginalised groups' in Social Audit.

4. Professional Skill:

- a. Develop personal ability and enhance the communication skill for Trust Building to conduct effective Social Audit.
- b. Share experiences and case studies from successful Social Audit initiatives.
- c. Build a network of trainers and resource persons for ongoing support.

Targeted Audience

This workshop will bring together participants from among the Social Auditors of State, District, Block & GP level, Government institutions, Civil Society Organisations, academia, and community leaders (PRI members). The diverse representation aims to foster collaboration and ensure a holistic approach for strengthening Social Audit Gram Sabha.

Methodology

The workshop will include plenary sessions, panel discussions, interactive sessions, and case study presentations. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on activities and share their experiences, contributing to a rich and collaborative learning environment.

Expected Outcomes

- a. A well-defined strategy document outlining key steps for strengthening Social Audit Gram Sabhas.
- b. Increased awareness and commitment among participants to promote Social Audit initiatives.
- c. Enhanced collaboration and networking opportunities among diverse stakeholders.

Conclusion

This workshop serves as a crucial platform for promoting collaboration, sharing knowledge, and collectively working towards empowering Gram Sabhas through strengthened Social Audit practices. By mobilizing communities and promoting inclusive governance, SAU will be able to contribute to the larger goal of transparent and accountable local governance.

Odisha Society for Social Audit Accountability & Transparency (OSSAAT)

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