Swadharini Project

Bankers’ Orientation

Continuing its effort to empower women, CUTS CHD has signed a new Self Help Group (SHG) project with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), under SWADHARINI project. CHD will be forming 350 SHGs in Bhilwara and Chittorgarh districts. In Bhilwara district, the project is implementing in Banera, Suwana and Mandalgarh blocks. The project is being implemented in Chittorgarh, Nimbahera and Bhadesar blocks. The three year project will mainly target rural poor women/families.

The SHG project would increase the savings activity among women and help them to engage in income generating activities, which will raise their living standards on sustainable basis. In the first year, the focus will be on mobilising men and women, formation of groups, inter-loaning, opening bank accounts in the local banks, capacity building of group leaders and members and credit linkage of SHGs for income generating activity.

For reducing the conflict between SHG members and bankers CUTS organised a day’s banker’s orientation workshop at Hotel Unique Village Bhilwara on February 12, 2014. S K Gupta (DDM) NABARD informed the participants about SWADHARINI project. Gupta said that SHG can be a platform for rural development. Dharmveer Yadav, Centre Coordinator, CUTS CHD welcomed the participants and discussed the objectives of the workshop.

Rampal Sharma, Chief Executive Officer Bhilwara lightened the lamp and inaugurated the workshop. Sharma stated that the bankers and CSOs’ mentality and approach has to be changed for making SHG-BLP a movement in the district. This would be long term project and could be replicable in other areas like southern India. Special Guest, Piyush Nag, Regional Manager Baroda Rajasthan Kshetriya Gramin Bank (BRKGB) said that the bankers should give SHG loans on time and as per their requirement, so that the group could start employment activities without taking loan from other sources. If any SHGs will be linked to more than one financial institution for loan, SHGs will be suffering and they will not be able to return funds on time to the financial institutions. R S Meena, Director, Road addressed the bankers and said that bankers lending to the group before providing any information about the purpose and utility of the loan amount and that will support to get back quick repayment.

Self-help Group Bank Linkages Project (SHG-BLP)

Two self-help groups from Bhilwara named Maharani and Vidhata self-help groups participated in RBI Mela at Godas village, Bhilwara, Rajasthan. Both the SHGs displayed their products, which they were making to sale. During the visit, R Gandhi, Executive Director, RBI, Mumbai had interacted with both the groups’ members and asked the issues encountered by them. SHGs women told that bankers are not very supportive and not providing the loan on time and the amount was not adequate. MGG and SLP both facilitated the whole process and also put a stall in name of CUTS CHD and SHG-BLP programme.

Besides above, a loan Mela was also organised in Occhari village, Chittorgarh, for gadi lihar community on February 20, 2014. During the year, CUTS CHD has formed more than 12 SHGs of the lihar community. Ravi Jan, District Collector, Chittorgarh and District Development Manager (DDM), NABARD, LDM, Chittorgarh etc. were also present at the event. During the loan Mela, four SHGs acquired loan by the chief guest. Ravi Jain, told that CUTS was doing good work, especially for women empowerment in Chittorgarh and urged to spread this movement in the entire district in association with NABARD.
Child Labourers Rescued by Childline in Bhilwara

On March 5, 2014 about 14 child labourers were rescued from various institutions, such as hotels, dhabas, fast food centers etc. The rescue operation was conducted by Childline in association with child welfare committee, social justice and empowerment, police, labour department and health department. Before rescue operation, Childline team visited these places several times earlier also and gathered all the relevant information and evidences. Rescue team visited 12 places and rescued 14 children. On the completion of the rescue operation, an inspection officer from labour department provided the information and CWC asked the Labour Inspector to lodge FIR against all the offenders. There after, proceed to reestablish all the children after counselling the children and their family members by the childline. After a long intervention and advocacy finally CWC and police was ready to filled the FIR against offender and it’s is in process in court.

PROGRAMMES & INTERVENTIONS

CHILDLINE 1098, Bhilwara District

The Centre with the support of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India is implementing a project entitled CHILDLINE 1098 at Bhilwara. 1098 is national toll free round the clock helpline for children seeking care and protection. In Bhilwara, CUTS CHD is running this project as collaborative agency. This model is an urban model and is used in networking basis.

Case Studies

1. Two children were taken and were given shelter in Home Mathura at Bhilwara. Children were presented in front of CWC and sent to short stay home. Both children informed that they were from Bhopal and their parents were died during car accidents. Their elder uncle is living at Bhilwara. CL team and CWC tried to getting information about their elder uncle but not success. CL team contacted with Childline Bhopal and informed about that case. CL Bhopal informed that case has been received as missing child and their parents are alive. CWC got information about their parents contact number and informed to them. Their parents were reached at Bhilwara and received their children from CWC. Their parents informed that their children missing third time. CL team member suggested to their parents for giving time to their children. Children are happy with their family and going to school regular.

2. A 10 year old child returned to his home due to Childline efforts. He was living at a small village in Kotadi block. Two months ago, he was came at Bhilwara by bus from Hajjwas village without any information and reached Delhi by train. Child was hand over to SALAM BALK TRUST by railway police. SALAM BALK TRUST contacted to Childline Bhilwara and requested for home verification. CL team success in getting information about his home address. CL team informed to his parents about their son. His father is very poor and not able go to Delhi for receiving his son. CL team member visited at Delhi with his father and received child from CWC Delhi. Child hand over to his father by CWC Bhilwara. His father informed that he will send to his son at school.

Open House

For targeted audience, outreach activity open house were conducted in the selected areas and thematic issues were discussed and planned to address them with help of community and children’s collective members. During this quarter, Childline team has conducted three open house activities in different area of Bhilwara. Child related issues were discussed.

Film Shows

From 6 -25 February, 2014 film shows were organised at various schools in Bhilwara city towards creating the awareness and sensitivity of stakeholders and community, in general, along with children about child rights and their protection issues and childline functioning. During this period, 12 films shows were conducted in both government and non-government schools in Bhilwara city. More than 2385 children and others participated in the event and got acquainted about the child rights and their protection. Documentary films about child labour, sexual abuse, child marriage and other social evils etc. were played and shown to the children.
The objective of the pro organic project is to promote organic consumption in the state of Rajasthan (India) covering six major agriculture potential districts by awareness generation, sensitisation, capacity building and advocacy activities. The project will cover a total of 102 gram panchayats, with 2 selected gram panchayats each in 51 blocks in six districts.

For Chittorgarh and Pratapgarh districts, Cuts CHD will be responsible to implement this project in partnership with Cuts CART, Jaipur. The project is supported by SSNC (Swedish Society for Nature Conservation).

The key activities of the quarter were stake holders mapping, First introduction and rapport building meetings with local networkers as well as stake holders, Visited at KVK, agriculture extension, active farmers who are producing the organic products previously and other government stake holders, monitoring the action research etc. Networking and liaison meeting have been done at all the 28 gram panchayats of 14 blocks of Chittorgarh and Pratapgarh district conducted small group meetings in Chittorgarh district, Meeting and liaison with several stake holders and mapping the resource directory for both Chittorgarh and Pratapgarh districts, Identify the active farmers and who are already doing organic farming at their land along with vermicomposting etc.

**Pro-Organic**

**IPAP Project**

Awareness generation of media persons leading to formation of a network/core group of sensitised media person by championing the cause of socially excluded children.

On March 15, 2014 the CHD Centre organised District level Media Interface Workshop at Rituraj Vatika, Chittorgarh. Narayan Singh Rajpurohit (ASP, Chittorgarh) participated as a Chief Guest and K.R. Meena (BDO, Chittorgarh) was the Guest of Honour.

S N Vyas (Ex. Professor) joined with us as a Resource Person. Local and national media person participated in theme workshop. Total number of participants were 30. The main Subject of this workshop was “Role of Media and Civil Society Organisation in the area of Child Protection and Education”. The main objective of the workshop was “Awareness and sensitisation of media towards Child protection, so Media and civil society will come together for child protection and play very crucial and important role towards Child Protection”. During workshop IPAP Case Studies/ Best Practices/Success Stories were shared with media persons. Moreover, children related issues, which are still unresolved. IPAP Project monograph was also released.

**Awareness and Sensitisation Activities on CSA**

For awareness and sensitisation of potential employers, as well as families and communities where children are vulnerable of being exploited from child sexual abuse to the fact that child sexual abuse is against the law. Moreover, a violation of children’s rights to education, development, health and well-being and sensitise the general public to the injustice of children from sexual abuse, so that they take action both within their personal and professional lives, as well as in the form of pledges and petitions.

In this context, CHD organised 10 Awareness and sensitisation activities on CSA through film shows and open discussion at Govt. and Private School of Chittorgarh on January 08, 18, and 20, 2014. Total No. of Participants was 800.

Expected Key Results/Outcomes of this activity was that the children and teachers will be more sensitive on the issue of child sexual abuse and raise the issue against injustice of children from sexual abuse.

In Chittorgarh district, CUTS Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD) in association with Save the Children, Jaipur organised District level An Orientation workshop with Education Department on Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) and Child Sexual Abuse on January 10, 2014 at Panchayat Samiti Sabha Kaksh, Chittorgarh, under IPAP project. Around 45 participants were there from Education Department as DEO-Elementary, ADEO-Secondary, BEO-Elementary and Principal of IPAP intervention area’s schools. Resource person has long experience with Child India Foundation.

The decision made and to be made at the end of workshop by DEO-Elementary:

- CUTS retained a suggestion in front of DEO for display Childline toll free number 1098 & CWC and JJB members contact number by Education department at all Govt. School. DEO appreciate of this suggestion and agreed for that.
- CUTS will support for give training of all principal of total government schools at Chittorgarh on Child sexual Abuse & POCSO during their annual talk/sector meetings.
- CUTS will Provide DVDs on CSA to show in schools and participate in workshops and meetings and give the presentation on POCSO/CSA.
- To develop some CSA/POCSO reporting proceeding in education department etc.

Therefore, CUTS will do regular follow-up with Education Department for execution of above decision as soon as possible.
Orientation Workshop at Gram Panchayat Level Child Protection Committee (GPCPC) member of IPAP

In Chittorgarh district, CUTS Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD) in association with Save the Children Jaipur organised District level An Orientation workshop with Gram Panchayat Level Child Protection Committee member of IPAP intervention area on Role and Responsibility of GPCPC towards children, POCSO and Child Sexual Abuse on February 13, 2014 at CUTS CHD office, Chittorgarh, under IPAP project. Around 35 participants were there from DD-ICPS, JJB-member and GPCPC member of IPAP intervention areas. Resource persons were called from ICPS department (Suresh Chandra Ameta, DD-ICPS and Datar Singh, member-JJB). They oriented of GPCPC members on Role and Responsibility of GPCPC towards children Madan Giri Goswami, Member Child resource group of ‘Save the Children’ discussed about POCSO and Child Sexual Abuse.

The decision made and to be made at the end of workshop by GPCPC President and Secretary:

- CUTS retained a suggestion in front of GPCPC President and Secretary for fixing the date of GPCPC monthly meeting separately. They appreciated the suggestion and agreed to that.
- To involve the child related issues in quorum meeting.
- At Gram Panchayat Level name and number display of SJPU, CWC and JJB members should be there.
- Children related government schemes information also prints at Panchayat level.

Therefore, CUTS will do regular follow-up with them for execution of above decision as soon as possible.

International Consumer Day

On March 15, 2014, CHD celebrated World Consumer Day at CHD campus where there were discussions on rights. In the event, CHD centre invited persons from BSNL staff and other telecom companies representative along with CUTS CHD consumer networker from the entire district. During the event, Mahesh Meena, TDM, BSNL, Chittorgarh gave a presentation on BSNL plan and schemes and issues that faced by the departments. An introductory session was held in which the Centre Coordinator, Dharmveer Yadav and all the participants shared their experiences with telecom department, especially BSNL. Meena solved several problem on the spot and some fixing the time line to solve the consumer issues. He also said that for Chittorgarh 40 new BSNL towers has been sanctioned and during the current financial year they put it at several places as per the requirement and mapping done by BSNL department. Since CUTS is a consumer organisation all the participations and telecom department requested to facilitate these types of event of regular basis at block level as well as gram panchayat level.