PAGE





Participation and Action towards Community Empowerment

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ProOrganic Awareness Campaign

Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities in eight *gram panchayats* have been conducted like awareness creation, sensitisation, advocacy, networking activity in each of the selected *gram panchayats*. These activities were organised to make the consumers and farmers aware of the organic products and influence their buying/farming habits by using traditional methods like puppet shows by the local artists and IEC material distribution, such as leaflets, posters, banners, handouts etc. In the current quarter year, eight *Gram Panchayat* level awareness campaigns were successfully organised by the Centre.



The objective of the Project is to promote organic consumption and production in the State of Rajasthan (India) covering six major agriculture potential districts by awareness generation, sensitisation, capacity building, advocacy and networking activities. The Project covers 102 *gram panchayats* with two selected *gram panchayats* each in 51 blocks of six districts. For Chittorgarh and Pratapgarh districts, the Project is supported by SSNC (Swedish Society for Nature Conservation).

S.No	Date	District	Block	Gram Panchyat	Total Participants			
					Female	Male	Children	Total
1	07-08-14	Chittorgarh	Bhadesar	Nahargarh	43	26	16	85
2	08-08-14	Chittorgarh	Bhadesar	Dheerji Ka Khera	37	44	14	95
3	20-08-14	Pratapgarh	Choti Sadari	Chandoli	41	22	12	75
4	20-08-14	Pratapgarh	Choti Sadari	Semarthali	81	68	26	175
5	21-08-14	Pratapgarh	Dariyawad	Bhandla	85	46	34	165
6	21-08-14	Pratapgarh	Dariyawad	Chittodiya	39	21	05	65
7	09-09-14	Chittorgarh	Kapasan	Karukda	45	10	20	75
8	10-09-14	Chittorgarh	Kapasan	Damakhera	35	15	15	65

The outcome of the activities are as following:

- Better informed consumers and farmers regarding organic consumption and farming
- The farmers present in the programme were not involved in organic farming but later agreed to switch over to the same
- The farmers will be aware about side effects of chemical farming both at direct to their health as well as the environment
- Increase the knowledge of farmers about organic farming, vermi compost, vermi wash, soil treatment, organic certification, marketing methods
- The farmer's myths would be clarified regarding organic farming and
- The famers will be linked with the various government schemes and programmes via related departments to get benefitted from organic farming.

INSIDE

- 'Nai Roshni' Project Launch and Training
- Formation of Disabled People Organisation
- Rajasthan Social Inclusion Programme
- CHILDLINE 1098 for Ensuring Care and Protection to Children
- SHG-BLP for Socio-economic Development
- PRIDARSHANI: Inculcating Livelihood Skills
- Katiabaaz: Initiating Debate on Electricity Theft
- Representations
- Visits

'Nai Roshni' Project Launch and Training



on September 10, 2014 'Nai Roshni' Project Launch cum Workshop was organised by CHD at Collectorate Conference Hall, Bhilwara and was chaired by Additional District Collector, Bhilwara and was attended by district-level officers from Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), education, social justice and empowerment and child rights. They also provided inputs for better implementation of the various activities. The welcome speech was given by District Minority Welfare Officer.

The officiating Centre Coordinator of CUTS CHD, Gauhar Mahmood, briefed about CUTS and requested all the participants to provide their valuable support for better implementation of the project.

Under 'Nai Roshni', a Leadership Development of Minority Women project which was being implemented in five urban localities of Bhilwara, 125 women will be trained.

The Project was initiated in June, 2014 and will complete in May, 2015. In this project, minority women, including their neighbours from other communities of the same village/locality will be empowered and their confidence will be boosted. This will be executed by providing adequate knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, banks and other institutions at all levels.

The project will be emboldening the minority community women and will encourage them to move out of their homes and contribute in leadership activities. Moreover, the project also aims at making them aware of asserting their rights, collectively or individually in accessing services; availing facilities; skills, and opportunities besides claiming their due share in the Government development benefits for improving their lives and living conditions.

In addition, a six days' training was also organised in Kawakheda locality from September 25-30, 2014 with the participation of 25 women, where six resource person delivered training modules on the issues like rights of women; education; employment; livelihood; opportunities; facilities and services available under schemes and programmes of the Central and State Governments; health and hygiene; nutrition; immunisation; family planning; disease control; fair price shop; drinking water supply; electricity supply; sanitation; housing; self-employment; wage employment; skill training opportunities; crimes against women and legal rights of women. Besides, matters relating to Right to Information (RTI) Act, employment guarantee schemes, Redressal Forums etc. were also covered in the training programme.

Formation of Disabled People Organisation

The Mewar Viklang Sewa Sansthan is a registered organisation formed with support of CUTS CHD, having more than 85 registered members. The main objectives of the formation of Disabled People Organisation (DPO) are to ensure economic empowerment of visually impaired people and developing a network of people with disabilities, leading to social inclusion of the people with disabilities and bringing about a change in the outlook of the other people towards the disabled ones amongst all stakeholders including the government to avail their rights.

The various activities undertaken in Rajasthan Social Inclusion Programme (RSIP) are as following:

 A pre-base line survey and rapport building activities are being carried in two project blocks.

- In the continuation of this, the District Block Officer (DPO) organises monthly meeting, where all PwDs discuss about a change in the people's outlook towards the disabled people, properly avail their rights, social inclusion, sustainable livelihood initiatives and strong advocacy to be adopted in bringing about a comprehensive change. Some of the activities being conducted under the same are as following:
 - On August 21, the DPO gave a memorandum to the Chief Minister of the state regarding to avail their rights;
 - Called a DPOs meeting and shared about RSIP project and planned about the support in new project and
 - The team is carrying District-level Officers (DLOs) and Block-level Officers (BLOs) liaisoning and networking, rapport building with the local stakeholders and the community, in general.

Rajasthan Social Inclusion Programme

The objective of RSIP is to facilitate enhanced opportunities for economic security for person with disabilities and to enable DPO to advocate for the rights of disabled people, with enabling environment for effective implementation of government policies in Nimbahera and Chittor block; the project period, is from August 2014 to July, 2019 and is supported by the Sight savers.



2 PACE



CHILDLINE 1098 for Ensuring Care and Protection to Children

CUTS Centre for Human Development with the support of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India is implementing a Project titled CHILDLINE 1098 at Bhilwara. 1098 is national toll-free round the clock helpline for children seeking care and protection. In Bhilwara, the Centre has been running this Project as a collaborative agency. This model is an urban model and works through networking.

Three open houses were conducted in different areas of Bhilwara and thematic issues were discussed

and it was planned to address them with the help of community and 'Children's Collective' members. Under this, several child protection issues were addressed, which are being registered via toll free no. 1098. Besides, the team has also formed 'Children's Collective' and capacity building is done on issues related to child protection.

On July 05, 2014 Legal awareness meeting was organised at *Odo Ka Khera* area on child rights in collaboration with the Child Welfare Committee and District Legal Service Authority, Bhilwara. The Chief Judge, Mohita Bhatnagar and trainee judges attended the meeting. Information was given regarding child rights and the participating children were motivated for starting a dialogue with the district-level officers without any reluctance. More than 50 children attended the meeting.

SHG-BLP for Socio-economic Development

CUTS CHD with the support of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is implementing SHG-BLP to ensure socio-economic development and enhance livelihood security in rural areas, especially for the women of Chittorgarh and Bhilwara districts. Two major activities were organised under the same in the current quarter.

On July 18, 2014 a SHGs sammelan cum loan fair (meeting and fair) was organised and the programme was chaired by Chief General Manager (CGM), (NABARD), Jaipur along with the other officials. Nine SHGs acquired loans from the CGM and also interacted with him.

CUTS CHD participated in SHG loan fair, which was organised by the Baroda Rajasthan Kshetriya Gramin Bank (BRKGB) on August 29, 2014 at Hotel Padmani, Chittorgarh. During the event 52 Self-help Groups were provided with loans/cheques by the District Collector, CEO, District Council, Chairman, BRKGB, Regional Manager, BRKGB, District Development Manager (DDM), NABARD, LDM, Chittorgarh. Along with distribution loans/cheques two self-help groups were given a loan of ₹3,75,000 and ₹2,75,000 for hummer machine and welding machine respectively. Both the SHGs are belong to the *Gadi Luhar* community.

PRIDARSHANI Inculcating Livelihood Skills

The objectives of the *Pridarshini* Project is to train and inculcate livelihood skills amongst the members of *Pridarshani* model SHGs and raise their living standards and boost their economic conditions in Suwana block of Bhilwara, Rajasthan.

On August 27, 2014 marketing skill training cum exposure visit was organised at Bhilwara. The sessions were taken by Adat-Action representatives on the marketing issues. During training Programme, the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Officer, Devanand, was also present and motivated the participants to increase their living standards by involving extra income generation activities. The SHGs members visited at Aidat-Action training Centre and acquired ample information about their work.



Katiabaaz: Initiating Debate on Electricity Theft

'Katiyabaaz', an award winning documentary film was screened in Hotel Padmini Chittorgarh and about 150 audience were present along with the key dignitaries from District Administration, Academic Institutions, Consumer Groups, Media and other key stakeholders.

The main purpose of the screening was to reach out to the relevant stakeholders and sensitise them about the issues highlighted in the documentary, so as to initiate a debate/discussion among stakeholders on the serious issue of 'Electricity Theft' and its adverse effect on the producers and the consumers.

CHD REPRESENTATIONS

- Madan Giri Goswami, Majid Khan, Goverdhan Lal Parik, Gayatri Moad, Kamlesh Kumar Sharma, Udai Lal Gyari and Kailash Vyas of CUTS attained a two days' training programme at ASTHA training centre, Udaipur, under RSIP project from August 13-14, 2014.
- Madan Lal Keer attended a workshop at Pilani on August 24 on Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) experience sharing.
- Madan Lal Keer attended the 'Hunger Project Partnership and Sharing' workshop at Hotel Om tower, Jaipur on August 12-13, 2014.
- Madan Lal Keer attended the state level workshop on September 24, 2014 in Jaipur organised by Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (RSCPCR).
- Gauhar Mahmood of CUTS and Madan Giri Goswami attended a review meeting of District Forest Office, under the Chairmanship of District Collector is attended on September 19, 2014.
- Gauhar Mahmood and Madan Giri Goswami attended a review meeting organised by District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), under the Chairmanship of District Collector on September 12, 2014.

- Majid Khan participated in State Commission for Protection of Child Rights' (RSCPCR) workshop on School Merger on September 24, 2014 at Jaipur.
- CHD Centre Coordinator, Assistant Centre Coordinator and the Accountant staff participated in "Programme Design Dissemination of Rajasthan Social Inclusion Programme" workshop organised by Sightsavers at Hotel Royal Orchid, Jaipur from July 21-22, 2014.
- A Two day 'Project Staff Orientation' workshop from August 13-14, 2014 was organised in Astha Training Centre at Bedla Udaipur, to build capacity and Orient of Project Staff about Rajasthan Social Inclusion Programme.
- Gauhar Mahmood and Madan Giri Goswami attended the IEC Material Development Workshop, organised on September 15-16, 2014 at Courtyard Marriott, Bhopal where they worked on capacity building on how to develop effective IEC material for bringing in changes in the behaviour of community, developed materials and learnt about how to write impactful case stories and reports using relevant photographs.

VISITS

- George Cheriyan, Director CUTS and Pradeep Sharma of CUTS visited CHD on July 09, 2014.
- Sanjay Gokhuru, Regional Head, ICICI, Bank visited the Centre on August 25, 2014.
- Sanjay Gokhuru, Regional Head, ICICI, Bank and Brij Mohan Baheti, Regional Head, SHG visited CHD on September 11, 2014.
- Lavina Rathod, Child India Foundation, New Delhi, visited the CHD Centre on September 04 and 05, 2014
- Bhavya Pragve Indrani Mukherjee and two students from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi visited CHD to get updates on the Environmental project in Chittorgarh.
- Gaurav Shukla and Ashutosh Soni from CUTS CCIER, visited the Centre for the screening of 'Katiyabaaz' movie in Hotel Padmini.

