CUTS Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD)





Participation and Action towards Community Empowerment

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'Road Safety Week' Observed

Realising that 'Safety is Gainful, Accident is Painful' a 'Road Safety Week' was observed on February 01-06, 2017 in association with the Transport Department and Traffic Police encompassing the issues: Secure your Family; For your Safety; Be Cautious on Roads; and Promoting Road Safety Measures to Decrease Road Accidents. CHD team members urged the participants to strictly follow the traffic rules and requested them to wear helmets and seat belts while driving. They also advised them not to drink and drive and avoid using mobile phones or radios while driving. Besides, the Centre also

distributed road safety pamphlets mentioning new preventive measures of traffic rules. Moreover, their siganatures were taken with their consent. The Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA), eminent persons from Road Transport Office (RTO), District Transport Office (DTO), District Level Offices (DLOs), traffic police along with 700 people attended the programme.

'Women Leadership Development' Trainings

With the objective of empowering women as leaders because women leaders can deliver more to the society 'Women Leadership Development' Trainings were organised under the project *Nai Roshni* on February-March 2017. The motive was to make underprivileged minority women aware about the various schemes implemented by the government and avail their benefits, and raise their living standards



through livelihood generation. About 375 women in 15 batches were part of the trainings. In the training, women became aware of nine important aspects of women leadership: Life Skills; Education, Health and Hygiene, Financial Inclusion, Clean India Mission, Legal Rights, Consumer Rights, Digital Literacy and Advocacy.

'World Consumer Rights Day' Celebrated

t is a consumer's right to be assured to have access to a variety of goods and services at competitive prices. In this context, 'World Consumer Rights Day' was observed on theme "Building a Digital World Consumer Can Trust" on March 15, 2017. The main objective was to raise awareness about Consumer Rights on the Safe Digital Access. The key speakers stated that the rapid growth of digital technologies has created opportunities and



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challenges for millions of consumers but there is need to improve the quality of services, which online services consumers can trust. Additional Chief Executive Officer, (ACEO), District Supply Officer (DSO), Block Chief Medical and Health Officer (BCMHO), District Minority Welfare Officer (DMWO); Chairman, Petrol Association; and Assistant Manager Bank of Baroda along with numerous consumers and 80 people attended the event.



Disabled People Welfare Camps Organised

D isability does not mean inability and disability is just a matter of perception. To encourage physically challenged persons 'Disabled People Welfare Camps' were organised on February 11-17, 2017. Six supportive camps were organised by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment to identify the disabled people for distribution of various aids for them and making them more aware of the various ongoing welfare schemes. During the camps, the Disabled People Organisations (DPOs) facilitated other disabled people to acquire the supportive services. Around 300 disabled people were benefitted under these camps.

'International Women's Day' Observed

Equality for women is progress for all. Knowing this fact an 'International Women's Day' was observed on March 08, 2017 with the support of Department of Women and Child Development to increase the awareness about women's rights and help them holding best place in the society. The aim was to



promote living conditions of women by solving their day-to-day problems. The Chairman, District Council, people from Non-government Organisations (NGOs), academic institutions, women's networkers, *anganwadi* women/ health workers, students and around 150 people participated in the event.



Farmers' Awareness Workshops

t is said that a farmer has to be an optimist or he would not still be a farmer. In this context, "Farmers' Awareness Workshops" were organised on February-April 2017. Nearly 25 such events were organised to increase the shareholder membership of farmers. Discussions were held about areas of farm production, business planning, value addition, sharing socio-

economic status, demographic information, government schemes with 850 farmers. The District Development Manager (DDM) of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and many eminent persons facilitated the event to access forward linkages regarding technology for enhanced productivity, market linkages etc.

Workshop on Financial Literacy

What will you turn money into? Seeking answer to this question a 'Workshop on Financial Literacy' was organised by CHD on April 24-25, 2017 in collaboration with NABARD. Addressing the participants, the District Development Manager (DDM) said that financial literacy should not only be confined to opening accounts in banks but the participating self-help groups (SHGs) should also acquaint themselves with various financial services. R P Sharma, Lead District Manager (Banks) and Arvind Purohit, Financial Coordinator considered the Women Act as facilitator for 'Financial Inclusion' to reach maximum women of their area as torchbearers for many government schemes. Around 35 women attended the workshop and got benefitted.



Childcare and Protection Campaign

t is said that a child is an uncut diamond. Every child has a right to health, education, equality and protection. Given this background, 'Child Protection Campaign' was held from February 02 to February 22, 2017. Mahaveer Prasad Sharma, District Collector Bhilwara directed Child Welfare Committee and CHILDLINE to lead Childcare and Protection Campaign to avoid social malpractices. The campaign will help in preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse against children – including sexual harassment, human trafficking, child labour



and useless conventional practices. Besides, issues like child marriage, care of the underprivileged children, their education, nutrition and health, leading dignified life were also addressed. The programme was conducted successfully in many schools and public places.

CHD REPRESENTATIONS

- Madan Giri Goswami, Assistant Centre Coordinator, CHD attended 'National Advocacy Meet on Road Safety' organised in New Delhi on February 02, 2016. The aim of the meeting was to advocate for the early enactment of the Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill.
- On February 13, 2017 Gauhar Mahmood CHD Centre Coordinator and Madan Giri Goswami met Superintendent Engineer (Electricity), Training Institute, SHGs, *Panchayati Raj* Institution (PRI) members regarding solar energy access and bringing together investors, mentors and entrepreneurs and stakeholders on a common platform.
- Gauhar Mahmood and Madan Lal Keer, Project Coordinator, CHD participated in "Prime Minister's 15 Points Meeting" on February 15 and April 24, 2017. This was organised by the Department of Minority Affairs. CHD presented the updates about the Nai Roshni Leadership Development Programme. Nearly 45 District Level Officers (DLOs) attended the meetings.
- Madan Lal Keer and Radhey Shyam Vaisnav of CHD attended 'ProOrganic' Annual stakeholder Meeting' on February 23, 2017 held at Jaipur. The key speakers were Chairman of Agriculture Commission, Director, National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), Jaipur; Dr S Mukherjee (Horticulture); and Dr Mohan Kumar (Institute of Development Studies).
- Madan Lal Keer attended 'International Women's Day' on March 08, 2017. The event was organised by the Department of Women Empowerment. District Collector; Deputy Director, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS); Chief Executive Officer, District Council; Block Level Officers, and representatives from NGOs along with nearly 500 people participated in the event.

- On March 10, 2017 Abhishek Kumar, Associate Director, CUTS along with Gauhar Mahmood, Madan Giri Goswami and Pallavi of CUTS met District Collector, Chittorgarh for Seed Community meeting on 'Green Growth and Energy Transformation' in Jaipur and discussed with Clean Energy entrepreneurs to accelerate innovations for low cost solar products.
- On March 21-22, 2017 Madan Lal Keer attended two-day's exposure visit in the north east State – Sikkim under 'ProOrganic' project to enhance his knowledge about the impacts of organic programme.
- On March 26, 2017 Radhey Shyam Vaishnav attended State Level Colloquium on 'Prevention of Child Marriage Act 2016' and 'Legal Service to Victims of Acid Attack' organised by Rajasthan State Legal Service Authority, Jaipur.
- On April 24, 2017 Gauhar Mahamood and Madan Lal Keer attended quarterly meeting organised by the Department of Minority Affairs. ADM, District Supply Officer (DSO), Additional Superintendent of Police and 18 other core government officials attended the meeting. The Centre also presented updates on the Nai Roshni project.
- On April, 26, 2017 Madan Lal Keer, Radhey Shyam Vaishnav and Mukesh from CHD attended 'Partner's Orientation Meeting' in Jaipur that focussed to know about the broader objectives of the 'ProOrganic' phase II and also discuss methodologies regarding implementing activities in the selected districts of the project.

VISITORS

- Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International visited CHD on February 24, 2017 to review the status of CHDs' ongoing projects, project activities, projects in pipeline and new initiatives.
- On February 21, 2017, Govind Beniwal, former member of State Commission for Protection of Child Rights; Suman Trivedi (Chairman) and Asha Ramawat from Child Welfare Committee analysed various case interventions under CHILDLINE project.
- S K Gupta and Sachin Badetia, District Development Managers, Bhilwara and Chittorgarh visited CHD on March 02 and 09, 2017 to discuss about the Entrepreneurship Development Programme for Self Help Groups (SHGs) and review the progress of Farmers' Producer Organisation.
- On March 27, 2017 George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS discussed about two new projects: 'Giving Poorer Consumer Greater Voice and Enhancing Financial Protection of Consumers'. He also reviewed the progress of ongoing projects and way forward for developing new project proposals.

- District Development Manager (DDM) of NABARD Chittorgarh visited CHD on April 12, 24 and 25, 2017 to discuss about the progress of Farmers' Producer SHGs.
- Madhu Sudan Sharma, Senior Project Coordinator; Rajdeep Pareek, Project Officer; and Nimisha Gaur, Project Officer of CART visited CHD on April 18-20, 2017, for Focus Group Discussions to create awareness among the people about the need of using safe and sustainable consumer products under the project 'Giving Poorer Consumers Greater Voice'.
- On April 25, 2017, R P Sharma, Lead District Manager; and Rajaram Sukhwal, Seed Plant Manager, Raj Seed Corporation (Chittorgarh) visited the Centre to deliver session on 'Digital Literacy and Solar Energy Access' for SHGs.



 PACE, E-Newsletter: Published by CUTS Centre for Human Development (CHD), Rawala, Senti, Chittorgarh 312 025, Rajasthan, India Phone: 91.1472.241 472, Fax: 91.1472.240 072, E-mail: chd@cuts.org, Website: www.cuts-international.org
 Head Office: Consumer Unity & Trust Society, D-217, Bhaskar Marg, Bani Park, Jaipur 302 016, India, Phone: 91.141.228 2821, Fax: 91.141.228 2485 Email: cuts@cuts.org, Website: www.cuts-international.org