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Participation and Action towards Community Empowerment

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Advocacy Meeting on Road Safety MVA Bill 2016

Divisional-level Advocacy Meeting on Road Safety Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill or MVA Bill 2016 was organised at Chittorgarh on May 09, 2017 to discuss the changes made in the MVA Bill 2016 and advocate for its early enactment. Eminent persons like Inderjeet Singh, District Magistrate Chittorgarh; District Transport Officer; Traffic Police Head; chief



representatives of ambulance services, consumer activists, nongovernment organisations (NGOs), legal experts, academicians and other relevant stakeholders participated in the event. Besides, few road accident victims shared their experiences in the event.

Child Labourers Rescued

CUTS CHILDLLINE, Labour Department and Anti-Human Trafficking Unit jointly rescued 16 children in the age group of 8 to 14 years. The children



were found working in Industries, Bricks Bhilwara. The children were taken into custody and handed over to the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) for their rehabilitation. Besides, an FIR has been registered under Juvenile Justice Act against the owner of

the Brick Industries, so that necessary action could be taken against the employers.

Skill Development Training

skill development training physically challenged people on Grocery Retails was held at Department Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE). Chittorgarh on May 22-23, 2017. During the training, discussion was held on subjects like types of retail; types of customers; market supply chain; market strategies for merchandising promotion; and financial management.

O P Toshniwal, Assistant Director, Department of Social Justice stated about the government welfare scheme. Anwar Ahmad, Facilitator of the Training discussed about the various livelihood promotion skills. Kamlesh Sharma and Kamlesh Jangid of CUTS also facilitated the sessions. About 22 Disabled people attended the training programme.

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Financial Consumer Projection Trainings



Surveyors' Orientation for Baseline Survey under Financial Consumer Protection was held on June 06, 2017 with the objective to help the surveyors to better understand the background of the project, overview of financial consumer protection, methodology of survey and details of questionnaire. About 28 participants including Deepak Saxena, Amar Deep Singh, Aakansha Choudhary from CUTS CART and Gauhar Mahmood, Madan Giri Goswami from CUTS CHD attended the programme.

Subsequently, the Baseline Survey was conducted in all the 23 blocks of Chittorgarh and Bhilwara districts to observe the awareness-level of consumers regarding financial matters, financial inclusion and banking services.

Vegetable Production and Marketing Training

People with Disabilities (PwDs) about the advanced techniques on vegetable cultivation including green house, use of appropriate vegetable varieties, pests and weeds control, environmental disorder, harvest treatment etc. Rajesh Jalwaniya, Scientist; Abhay Bhati, Jr. Scientist; Ratan Solanki, Subject Specialist; and S K Agarwal, Scientist were the all resource persons from Agriculture Science Centre, Chittorgarh. Sachin Badetiya District Development Manager (Chittorgarh), National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) were the key speakers and Aarti Joshi was the trainer of



the programme. Nearly 30 disabled people attended the training.

Stakeholders' Convergence Meeting

on July 21, 2017 a Stakeholders' Convergence Meeting was organised at Chittorgarh to sensitise the stakeholders and prepare plan of action to promote livelihood and employment activities for disabled people in two blocks. Stakeholders from DoSJE, District Industrial Centre, NABARD, Rajasthan State Livelihood



Development Corporation (RSLDC), National Urban Livelihood Mission, Employment Office, Aditya Birla Cement Corporation, Baroda Swarojgar Sewa Sansthan, Dr Reddy's Skill Training Institute, Skill India, Sanwaliya Multi Disability Sewa Santhan, Mewar Disabled People Organisation (DPO) attended the meeting.

Sachin Badetiya, District Development Manager, NABARD; Sanjay Bhardwaj, Lead District Manager; Anil Anchaliya, Director Sanwaliya Multi Disability Sewa Santhan; Vipin Saxena, Coordinator, CSR, Aditya Birla Cement; and Niraj Ladda, Secretary, DPO were the key

speakers of the event. Around 30 stakeholders attended the meeting.

Forming DPO Advocacy Cell

With the objective of forming a State-level Advocacy Cell, Partners' Meeting was held at Jaipur on July 25-27, 2017. The Meeting also aimed at reformation of State-level DPO and review the Social Inclusion Programme's initiative and progress. In the event, around 35 participants were present from CUTS and organisations like Astha, Urmul, Jan Chetna Sansthan and Sightavers.

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Giving Poor Consumers Greater Voice

The project 'Giving Poor Consumers Greater Voice' aims to create awareness among the people to use safe and sustainable consumer products and use social marketing techniques to influence the behaviour of the consumers. In this regard, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Interviews were held in *Netwal Garh* and *Eral* village of Chittorgarh to collect consumers' opinion, perceptions and views of men, women and teenage group about the grievances and challenges related to the consumer products in rural areas.

Second AGMs of FPO Organised

n July 20 and July 25, 2017, 2nd Annual General Meetings (AGMs) of Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs) were held in Chittorgarh and Bhilwara to discuss: fiscal information and subsidy schemes; increasing shareholder membership; capital mobilisation; and market linkages with the farmers.

In Chittorgarh event, Shrikant Agnihotri, Deputy Director at Department of Agriculture, Rajasthan; Ram Singh Thakur, Chief Executive Officer, Samarth Farmers Company Limited, Madhya Pradesh; Rajaram Sukhwal, District Plant Manager, Rajasthan Seed Corporation; S K Agarwal, Krishi Vigyan



Kendra; Sachin Badetiya, District Development Manager, Chittorgarh; Sanjay Bhardwaj, Lead District Manager were the eminent participants and key speakers. Gauhar Mahmood welcomed the guests whereas Madan Giri Goswami presented vote of thanks to the participants.



In Bhilwara, Arpita Soni, Sub Divisional Magistrate; G L Chawla, Deputy Director (Agriculture); Lokesh Saini, District Development Manager; Dinesh Kumar, Assistant Agriculture Officer; R P Laddha, Lead District Manager, Bank of Baroda; Saurab Sharma, Branch Manager, Bank of Baroda; Gauhar Mahmood; Madan Giri; and Radhe Shyam were the key speakers of the event. Around 610 farmers attended both the events.

CHD REPRESENTATIONS

- Radhey Shyam Vaishnav of CHD attended Task Force Meeting on 'Care and Protection for Child Rights' on May 16, June 21 and July 21, 2017. The Meeting was organised by Labour Department, Bhilwara to discuss child rescue operations in the identified places.
- Madan Giri Goswami attended District Environment Protection Committee Meeting held at Collectorate, Chittorgarh on May 18, June 16 and July 13, 2017. The Meeting was addressed by eminent District-Level Officers. Under this campaign, CUTS will plant 1000 trees in three different areas.
- Madan Lal Keer of CHD attended monthly meeting organised by the Department of Minority Affairs at Collectorate, Chittorarh on May 22, June 23 and July 17, 2017. Around 42 other government officials also attended the event. Madan Lal Keer and Gauhar Mahmood presented the updates regarding the Nai Roshni Leadership Development Programme in the meeting.

- Gauhar Mahmood and Madan Giri Goswami met Rajaram Sukhwal, Manager, Rajasthan Seed Corporation on June 15, 2017 to participate in workshops of FPO for sharing various departmental schemes. The Agriculture Department provided subsidised seeds to 300 farmers.
- Gauhar Mahmood Madan Giri Goswami, Radhey Vaishnav met Muktanand Agarwal District Collector, Bhilwara; Lal Ram Gugawal; Additional District Magistrate; and Umardaraz Pathan, Minority Welfare Officer on July 12, 2017 to provide updates about CUTS projects in Bhilwara.
- Gauhar Mahmood and Madan Giri Goswami met Inderjeet Singh, District Collector; Sushil Sharma, Chairman Municipality Council; and S K Jain, General Manager (HRD), Birla Cement Corporation on July 21, 2017 regarding the 'Road Safety Challenges' project in Chittorgarh.
- Gauhar Mahmood and Madan Giri participated in Van Mahotsav organised by District Forest Office in Chittorgarh on July 02, 2017 to create awareness and enthusiasm among the masses for forest conservation and planting trees.

VISITORS

- Pushpendra Kumar from Samunnati Financial Intermediation and Services Pvt. Ltd. visited CHD on May 10, 2017 regarding the FPO's access to financial products in agriculture and agri-related activities.
- Sunita Gurjar, Station House Officer, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit and Arun Pradhan from Labour Department visited CHD on May 11, 2017 to review child labour rescue operations.
- R P Sharma, Lead District Manager, Bank of Baroda, Chittorgarh visited CHD on May 15, 2017 regarding credit linkages on solar energy access to Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- Liaquat Ali Shorgar, District Minority Welfare Officer, Chittorgarh visited CHD on June 06, 2017 to review the progress of *Nai Roshni* project and SHG's activities, ongoing livelihood activities and schemes of National Urban Livelihood Mission.
- Noor Jahan, Consultant, Sightsavers visited CHD on June 08-09, 2017 to review the progress, plan of action, achievements and various welfare schemes implemented. She also met the project beneficiaries to acquire the status of livelihood activities.

- Sunita Gurjar, Station House Officer, Anti-Human Trafficking Unit and Arun Pradhan from Labour Department visited CHD on June 13, 2017 to assess the child labour rescue operations.
- Noor Jahan, Ketan Kothari, Amresh Kumar Pandey and Varidhi Singh from Sightsavers visited CHD on May 05, 2017 to attend 'Orientation Workshop for DPOs on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'. The workshop was attended by about 30 members of DPO.
- Rajesh Kumar, District Coordinator and Abhishek Kumar from Rajasthan State Livelihood Development Corporation visited CHD and discussed about the SHGs' livelihood training on June 19, 2017.
- Lokesh Saini and Sachin Badetia, District Development Managers, NABARD from Bhilwara and Chittorgarh respectively visited CHD to discuss about the progress of FPO.
- Ram Singh Thakur, Chief Executive Officer, FPO, Madhya Pradesh attended the Annual General Meeting of FPO in Chittorgarh on July 20, 2017.

