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Participation and Action towards Community Empowerment

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Disability Matters – Let's Make their Votes Count

CUTS Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD) received appreciation by District Election Commission, Chittorgarh for effective interventions in the area of electoral registration meaningful and high voter turnout with greater participation from persons with disability under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Programme launched by the Election Commission of India.



Timely Disposal of Consumer Complaints

CUTS CHD organised 'National Consumer Day' on the theme 'Timely Disposal of Consumer Complaints' on December 24, 2018. Gauhar Mahmood, Assistant Director, CUTS CHD spoke about basic rights and responsibilities of consumers. Sunil Kumar Jha, Rtd RAS highlighted the Consumer Protection Act 1986.

Shivram Choudhry, Inspector, District Supply Office opined that Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill will holistically cover all aspects of consumer grievances redressal, streamline functioning of consumer fora to meet future challenges for more effective consumer protection. OP Toshniwal, Assistant Director, Social Justice & Empowerment spoke about specific relief or award of compensation. Ram Narayan Jat, Manager, Rural Bank; BS Tanwar, Environmentalist; and Ram Chand Gurjar, Ward Member, Municipality were part of the discussion.

Stop Child Labour

The meeting was held at Sajjangarh, Banswara on November 29, 2018. Seema Joshi, Member, Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights; Madhu Sudan Sharma, Member, Child Welfare Committee; and Sharda Labana, Child Development Project Officer were main guests.

George Cheriyan, Director, CUTS provided a brief overview of the organisation and shared statistics related to child labour. Joshi interacted with participants and promised to extend his support to make Banswara a child labour-free district. Om Prakash Arya, Programme Manager, Save the Children stated that the aim of the project is to activate and strengthen *panchayat*-level child protection committees and develop child protection workforce towards preventing child labour.



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CHILDLINE Se Dosti

CUTS CHD organised CHILDLINE Se Dosti week during November 14-21, 2018. The aim is to reach out to people from different walks of life to get to know CHILDLINE, begin to care about vulnerable children and initiate action towards change. The



purpose is to generate friends for CHILDLINE and acquaint people with child rights and protection. About 800 people participated.

Improving the Lives of Vulnerable Children

2 *Palanhaar* (Adoring) Camps were organised in Sajjangarh and Gangar Talai blocks of Banswara district of Rajasthan. *Palanhar Yojana* (caregiver scheme) is monthly cash transfer programme that aims to nurture, educate and provide healthcare to orphans and other vulnerable children in a family setting. The programme is available for all children under the age of 18 years who have lost either one or both parents.

Making Cinema Accessible for Visually Impaired

Audio described screen movie 'Hichki' was shown to 19 visually impaired (VI) children and adults at Bhilwara. Earlier, the VI impaired could only hear the dialogue portions and during the non-dialogue portions, they would not know what was happening on the screen. In audio described movies, there is an audio track that describes everything that is being played on screen, in between dialogues with the help of a separate audio track where the narrator describes segments without dialogues.

Inclusiveness, Equality and Empowerment of Disabled



The International Day of Disabled Persons on theme of 'Empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring inclusiveness and equality' was observed at Chittorgarh on December 03, 2018. It aims to promote the rights and well-being of PwDs in all spheres of society and development, and increase awareness of the situation of PwDs in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life. More than 24 participants attended the event.

Accredited Social Health Activist Training

Eye Health Programme was conducted at Gangrar and Dungla blocks of Chittorgarh on November 15, 2018 & December 26, 2018 respectively. B Kanwar, Trainer GNM Training Centre, Government Hospital, Chittorgarh laid emphasis on the importance of eyesight, problem and prevention to ASHA workers, role of auxiliary nurse midwives (ANMs) in rural eye health, maintaining register of eye patients and referring eye patients to screening camps. More than 113 ASHA workers attended the training.



Rural Eye Health Camps

19 Rural Eye Health Camps were conducted jointly with Government Hospital, Ram Snehi Eye Hospital, and District Eye Relief Society. Total 976 eyes screening of patients were held in camps 201 cataract patients were identified and 137 were referred to District Government Hospital during three months. During the project period, 2968 eyes screening of patients were done, 546 cataract patients were identified and 337 were referred to government hospitals for eye surgery.

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Increasing Voter Participation

SVEEP Campaign was organised jointly with District Election Commission, Chittorgarh on November 30, 2018. The aim of the campaign is to enhance electoral awareness, increase electoral registration in the forthcoming Assembly elections, inclusive election of PwDs. Inderjeet Singh, District Collector; Manoj Kumar, Superintendent of Police; Ankit Kumar, Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Director,



Social Justice and Empowerment flagged off the grand rally, where more than 1800 PwDs participated.



Protecting the Rights of the Disabled

two-day training on United Nations Convention for Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD); Rights for Persons with Disability (RPWD) Act 2016; and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under Social Inclusion Programme was held at Satkhanda, Bassi, Vijaypur and Keljar gram panchayats. The objective of the training was to protect rights and dignity of PwDs and ensure full enjoyment of human rights. Madan Giri Goswami and Deepika Sen were resource persons. More than 242 members received the training.

Enhancing Financial Consumer Protection

protection workshops were held in Chittorgarh and Bhilwara districts of Rajasthan in January 2019. The objective of workshops was to enhance financial protection of consumers, in particular women through financial literacy initiatives.



The bank officials, labour officer, skill trainer and financial literacy coordinator were key speakers, who shed light on saving, investments, loan, financial inclusion, financial involvement, process to open bank accounts and need of KYC, prime minister micro insurance, pension and security schemes, credit linkages for livelihood, grievance redressal, protection while doing digital transaction. More than 235 participants attended the workshops.



Giving Poorest Consumer Greater Voice

CUTS CHD organised a three-day Rapid Mid-term Assessment of the project entitled, 'Giving Poorest Consumer Greater Voice' at Eral and Netawalgarh during February 06-08, 2019. The aim of the assessment was to capture the extent to which the project interventions have been successful in addressing the mandated results set against the baseline data. George Cheriyan and Amar Deep Singh were part of the discussion.

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Eat Right Movement

CUTS CHD participated in *Swasth Bharat Yatra* (SBY) campaign initiated by the Government of India in Chittrogarh and Bhilwara districts of Rajasthan during December 19-21, 2018. The objective of the campaign is to sensitise people about eating safe food and be healthy.

Satish, Coordinator, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) led west track campaign to propagate a powerful message 'Eat Right India'. Additional District Magistrate, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Medical & Health Officer flagged off the rally. More than 500 students, NSS/

NYK volunteers, medical, para-medical, DPO members partcipated.

Empowering Girls for a Brighter Tomorrow

National Girl Child day was observed at Government School, Bhilwara, on January 24, 2019. The day in 2019 was celebrated with theme of "Empowering Girls for a Brighter Tomorrow". The team delivered message on Child Rights, Prevention of Child Sexual Offence Act, Prevention of Child Marriage and Save Girl, Educate Girl. 150 students attended the event.



Making Women Economically Self-Reliant



Programme on Tailoring under Social Inclusion Programme was provided to 20 PwDs and their family members at Gilund in Chittorgarh during November 14, 2018-December 13, 2018. The aim is to enhance the quality of life of women and teenage girls through enhancement of their skills and knowledge which can help them earn more income and become economically self-sufficient and independent.

Promoting Organic Consumption in Rajasthan

About 21 village-level awareness workshops under the project entitled, 'Promoting Organic Consumption in Rajasthan' were held in Chittorgarh, Pratapgarh and Bhilwara districts of Rajasthan. Organic farming-related documentary film was showcased to farmers and consumers. The team provided a detailed information about organic farming/products and responded suitably to the queries of villagers. The events witnessed the participation of 1150 participants, including 230 women.



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REPRESENTATIONS I

- Hemant Singh Sisodiya attended a workshop on 'Child Marriage and Sexual Violence' organised by Child India Foundation, Save the Children, Rajasthan Institute of Public Administration at HCM-RIPA, Jaipur on December 26-27, 2018.
- Gauhar Mahmood and Madan Giri Goswami participated in Telecom Consumer Outreach Programme organised with support of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) at Kotri, Bhilwara on December 28, 2018
- Madan Lal Keer and Puran Sharma attended the Training on 'DPO Vision Building and Strengthening' at Jaipur on December 19-20, 2018.

- Hemant Singh and Gourav Chaturvedi attended Learning Workshop on 'Reporting of Child Marriage in Rajasthan' organised by Save the Children; Child Resource Centre, HCM RIPA; Childline India Foundation; and Sajha Abhiyan at Jaipur, on November 19, 2018.
- Madan Giri Goswami along with four consumer networkers attended Roundtable on 'Power Sector Reforms in Rajasthan and Role of Civil Society Organisations' at Jaipur on January 21, 2019.
- Shanti Lal Dangi attended State Level Review Meeting at Jaipur on January 04, 2019; and Capacity Building Programme for Resource Person organised by NABARD Consultancy Services (NABCON) at Jaipur, during January 08-12, 2019.
- Gaytri Moud attended 'Nature Teaching Camp' organised by Bharat Scout and Guide held at Government Upper Primary School, Palka on January 21, 2019.

VISITORS

- Seema Joshi, Member, Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights and Suman Trivedi, Chairperson, Child Welfare Committee discussed CHILDLINE achievements, case interventions on November 01-02, 2018.
- R K Thanvi, Chief General Manager and Lokeshi Saini, District Development Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development met farmer producer organisation members on November 19, 2018.
- Ratish Keshvan, Finance Manager, Sightsavers Bhopal visited CUTS CHD to conduct internal audit under Social Inclusion Programme on November 20-21, 2018.



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