

Participation and Action towards Community Empowerment

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Consumer Awareness Programme



CUTS Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD) in association with Telecom Regulatory Authority of India an Cawareness programme was organised in Chittorgarh, Pratapgarh, Bhilwara, and Banswara on August 16-17 and September 11-12, 2023.

The centre provided a brief Introduction of TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India), rights as a consumer of telecom services, understanding the telecom sectors, providing feedback regarding issues, consumer complaint redressal, Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), consumer-friendly measures, value-added services, mobile Apps, tower frauds, and key takeaways representatives for Telecom Service Providers were part of the event. A total of 480 consumers were part of the four events.

Meetings on Organic Gardens

The meetings were held in Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Banswara, and Pratapgarh districts with teachers, students and various officials. These activities aimed to teach a culture of sustainable consumption and bring the campaign of organic farming to the children's level.

Organic clubs were developed comprising of 25-30 children in each district to develop organic gardens at school and farm levels. These activities also supported the

Midday Meal (MDM) initiative in schools, and the children's nutrition problem was addressed to some extent. A total of 205 students attended the meetings.

Child Help Line Services

This initiative aims to reach every child in need of care and protection by responding the emergency calls and advocating services for children who are inaccessible or non-existent.

A total of 5439 child cases have successfully intervened in various vulnerable case intervention categories i.e. Medical, Shelter, Restoration, Rescue from Abuse, Sponsorship, Child lost/missing, Emotional support and Guidance, Child labour, Child Marriage, Conflict with laws, Information and Referral to Services etc. The centre has successfully stopped 214 child marriages and rescued 284 child labourers since the inception of this project.



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PROGRAMMES & INTERVENTIONS

Education to Vulnerable Children

Under this project the centre has started 10 Asha Kiran Centres (Bridge Schools) covering 400 vulnerable children from 10 locations in Bhilwara. These children dropped out, and were irregular in schools, after the 09-month classes.

323 children were admitted into government, private and government aided schools to bring them into mainstream of education, remaining children are migrated to other locations. The team met with various parents about the importance of admitting children into schools and motivated them to send their children to schools regularly.

Meetings on Community Managed Seeds Cell

The meetings were held in Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, and Pratapgarh districts where the team checked the storage facility of progressive farmers, the listing of seeds, identification of farmers who processed the seeds, management practices of seeds health, preservation of the seeds using traditional methods, distribution of seed and multiplications parameters were checked. Farmers were encouraged to become part of community managed seed cell. A total of 145 farmers attended.



FPOs Training of CEOs and Exposure Visits



t was held in the Centre for Excellence of Custard Apple, Horticulture Department. During the session, several resource persons shared their expertise and insights. These included Praveen Meena, Business Development Manager, Nab-Kisan; Mahendra Dudi, Direct Digital Marketing Manager, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development; Vineet Shukla, Disaster Recovery Planner, Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme; Manzoor Qureshi, District Manager, Common Service Centres; Jaideep Singh, District Manager, Common Service Centres; Pankaj Sharma, Assistant Manager and Anuj Kumar, Star Agriculture; Bindresh Paswan, Agricultural Field Officer; Aman Awasti,

Agricultural Field Officer, and Shanti Lal Dangi, CEO, Subhash Kabini Power Corporation Limited.

- The session covered a wide range of topics:
- roles and responsibilities of CEOs, the collection of agricultural produce for marketing,
- value addition at the Farmers Producer Organisation (FPO) level,
- marketing FPO products through online platforms,
- agricultural challenges and solutions,
- common service centres (CSC),
- ICT infrastructure,
- working for warehousing facilities for agricultural commodities,
- the Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme, and
- access to farm mechanisation solutions through rental of tractors and farm equipment, and credit for the promotion, expansion, and commercialisation of enterprises in agriculture, allied and rural non-farm activities.



Workshops on Sustainable Consumption and Production

The workshops were organised on July 20-21, 2023 at Chittorgarh and Bhilwara respectively. These aimed to promote social and economic development within the carrying capacity of ecosystems, raise efficiency and ensure sustainability in the use of resources and production processes, reducing resource degradation, pollution and waste.

A total of 85 people from the Municipality, Pollution Control Board, Krishi Vigyan Kender,



Public Health and Engineering Departments, Ward members, NGOs, Chief business officers, Academician, Students, Women's Clubs, and consumers participated.



FPOs Training of Accountants

Participants from Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Banswara, Bharatpur and Pratapgarh on 04 August participated in an event at Excellence Centre for Custard Apple, Department of Horticulture with the aim to improve the financial management skills of the FPOs.

The resource persons delivered various sessions including to create and maintain financial records, prepare budgets and financial statements, manage cash flow, obtain loans and grants, using accounting

software and others related. The training has provide them the skills to manage their FPOs more effectively. A total of 34 people attended.

Perception Study of Public Procurement

A study was conducted in Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Banswara, Pratapgarh, Bharatpur, Deeg, Shahpura, and Salumbar Adistricts of Rajasthan. It aimed to enact the Public Procurement Act to bring about efficiency, economy and transparency in public financial management. Inform about "Rajasthan Transparency in Public Procurement Act, 2012 (RTPP Act)" Govt. of Rajasthan, this perception study intends to measure/acquire facts on the perception of stakeholders on the following key Indicators- Awareness about State Procurement Facilitation Cell, Efficiency; Fairness & Transparency; Promotion of Competition; and Enabling Environment. About 250 survey studies were completed.

Developed Kitchen Garden in Schools

This initiative aimed to teach a culture of sustainable consumption and bring the campaign of organic farming to the children's level. Organic clubs and gardens are developed in each district.

Through the government's MDM scheme, the children's nutrition problem could be addressed to some extent. If organic gardens are developed in these



schools, then the grown vegetables will be used for MDMs with the help of teachers. CUTS CHD is showing keen interest in organic gardens so that these gardens can be started in their home/agriculture fields. A total of 215 students attended three events.



Post Cards Campaign on Food of Packed Labelling

This initiative aimed to support consumers to make healthier food choices at the point of purchase by delivering simplified and at-a-glance nutritional information which is also easy for consumers while purchasing, allowing them to distinguish between healthy and unhealthy food and drink options. A total of 150 postcards were dispatched from five districts.

REPRESENTATIONS AND MEETINGS

- Gauhar Mahmood, Madan Giri Goswami and Rajesh Kumar attended the Consumer Awareness Programme under the TRAI at Banswara and Chittorgarh on September 12, 2023.
- Madan Giri Goswami, Gauhar Mahmood and Gaytri Moud attended the District Monitoring Committee meeting of 8 FPOs at Chittorgarh on September 27, 2023
- Narbada Choubisa visited FPOs to orient the accountants regarding complete statutory compliance, prepare the financial report and tally entry etc.
- Rajendra Bahadur Mahurey attended along with progressive farmers a Fair and Exposure Visit on Millets Demonstration at Peepla. A total of 160 farmers attended.
- Kamlesh Jangid participated in a training organised by Reliance Foundation, and Prakruti Foundation, along with various CEOs, BoDs, and progressive farmers to establish business linkages.
- Hemant Singh attended the Workshop on Child Rights organised by CLRA at Bhilwara on September 05, 2023.
- Gourav Chaturvedi attended the Rajasthan Agriculture Mission meeting on Sustainable Agriculture at Bhilwara on September 02, 2023 and the DMC meeting on September 26, 2023.

NETWORKING AND VISITORS

- Piyush Samaria and Gaurav Agarwal, District Collectors, Chittorgarh.
- Chief Executive Officer and Additional CEO, District Council, Chittorgarh.
- District Development Managers, NABARD, Chittorgarh, Pratapgarh, Bhilwara, Bharatpur and Banswara.
- Rajender Solanki and Yogender Kanojiya, Scientist, Krishi Vigya Kender. Dinesh Jaga, Joint Director, Agriculture (extension) department.

- Madan Keer, along with CEOs, attended the FPOs National Conclave in New Delhi on July 14, 2023. Amit Shah, the Home Minister of India, also attended the event, where there was discussion on various objectives, activities, and government schemes.
- Madan Giri Goswami and Kamlesh Jangid, along with CEOs and BoDs under NCDC, attended two days of residential training on the management of a custom hiring centre at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pratapgarh on July 21-22.
- Gauhar Mahmood and Madan Giri Goswami provided orientation to CEOs in Bhilwara and discussed a plan of action on July 21, 2023.
- Madan Giri Goswami and Rajesh Kumar Bishnoi CEOs attended Pradhan Mantri Samridhi Kendra's programme at FPO Bassi, organised on July 27, 2023 by Chambal fertilisers Company Limited.
- Rajendra Mahurey attended the fertilisers workshop and meeting held at DMRC on July 21, 2023 and Krishi Mool Agro Jaipur on July 25, 2023.
- The FPO team attended a workshop on Export/Schemes/ Facilities/Marketing with APEDA held on August 24, 2023 aiming to promote the export of products for the FPOs, the resource persons informed participants on linking with export markets and the schemes promoted.
- Gauhar Mahmood attended the meeting on Mission 2023 organised by the Department of Women and Child Development, Health Department, and Labour Department to take suggestions on various issues.
 - Rajaram Sukhwal, Deputy Director and Shanker Lal Jat, Deputy Director, Horticulture. Chittorgarh.
 - KD Singh, Project Director ATMA, Chittorgarh.
 - OP Sharma, Deputy Director, Agriculture department.
 - Dharmaraj Parihar, Deputy Director, Social Justice and Empowerment, Bhilwara.
 - Bhawani Singh Palawat, CEO, District Council, Banswara.
 - R. Verma, Assistant Director, Agriculture, Banswara.



MEDIA



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