



CUTS Centre for Human Development (CUTS CHD)

PACE

Participation and Action towards Community Empowerment

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National Environmental Awareness Campaign



Participants at the NEAC workshop listening to Ratan Lal Khateek

CUTS International with the support of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India organised various awareness programmes like rally, seminar and essay competition under the National Environmental Awareness Campaign (NEAC) on the theme: 'Solid Waste Material Management'. Vermi Compost pit was also prepared as a part of the physical work under the programme.

Awareness Rally

An Awareness rally was organised jointly by CUTS CHD and Chitragupt Middle School, on March 13, 2007. The rally started from the campus of CUTS CHD and passed through *Purani Aabadi Senti*, Madhuban Colony, Math Marg and then returned back to the Centre. In the rally, wooden plates with slogans were used to generate awareness among the people about solid waste material management. About 35 students of Chitragupt School participated in the rally.

Essay Competition

An essay competition on the theme, 'Solid Waste Material' was organised at the Centre on the same day, in which 35 students of Chitragupt School participated. Raichal Rajan, Maya Gurjar and Komal Dhubhi got first, second and third position respectively. They were given prizes

by Rajeshwari Meena, *Pradhan, Panchayat Samiti*; Vimla Sethia, Member of State Consumer Protection Commission; and G P Bohra, District Supply Officer Chittorgarh.

Seminar

A seminar was organised on the theme, 'Solid Waste Material' at the premises of the Centre, on March 13, 2007. Participants present in the seminar included representatives of District NGOs (DNGOs) of Chittorgarh and three students from a local school. Ratan Lal Khateek, as a resource person in the seminar, elucidated the composition of Vermi Compost and better means of solid waste management. He suggested solution for better management of open garabages and kitchen waste materials through Vermi Compost pit.

Dinesh Joshi, *Anubhooti Seera Sansthan*, stated that apart from the available resources, a person could easily carry on better management of waste materials. While providing information about environmental pollution caused by plastic bags, he stated that plastic bags are a big issue. He said that they are not properly utilised and also polluting the environment. Today, these plastic bags are mixed with *Damar* (pitch) and are used in the construction of roads, which is a useful initiative towards the

About NEAC

NEAC is organised by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India every year since 1986 with the objective of creating environmental awareness at the national level. It is one of the major programmes of the Ministry to involve public participation in conservation and management of the environment.

The main motive of the programme is to create awareness among the public and make environmental protection a people's movement, so that each and every citizen of this country should be involved in the protection of the environment. The local environmental problems must be highlighted during the programme to find a long and lasting solution for them.

The MoEF has further identified sub-themes for conducting the campaign. These include management of household waste/municipal waste/bio-medical waste/plastics waste/electronics waste and industrial waste, including fly ash, composting/vermicomposting and waste management at higher altitude.

environmental protection. Mohanlal Namdhar, Treasurer, DNGOs while putting the marble slurry in the category of solid waste material stressed the need for its better management and suggested construction of bricks from it.

Vermi Compost Pit

A Vermi Compost pit was built in the CUTS CHD campus as a part of physical work of National Rural Empowerment Programme (NREP). Under the supervision of Ratan Lal Khateek, Scientist, *Krishi Vigyan Kendra*, Vermi Compost would be prepared from the cow dung. The pit is for demonstration purpose. Once vermi compost is ready, people will be shown and encouraged to use it instead of chemical fertilisers.

INSIDE

- Mother NGO Project
- Self-Help Group
- World Consumer Day
- Road Safety

Mother NGO Project Chittorgarh

In Chittorgarh, CUTS CHD, is working as Mother NGO for the implementation of Reproductive and Child Health schemes supported by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GoI. The field survey has been completed with the help of three field NGOs: HELP, VIKASH and Arunodaya. A two-day's FNGOs workshop was organised by CUTS CHD on Project proposal development.

The workshop was conducted jointly with UPKAR Sansthan, Alwar based NGO working in Sawai Madhopur as a Mother NGO. Two representatives each from HELP, Vikash and Arunodaya (FNGOs of CHD) and Sewa-Shayog



CUTS representatives at the two-day FNGO's Workshop

Sansthan, Samajik Arthik Vikas Samiti, Prayas, Samya Gram Vikas Sikshan Sansthan (FNGOs of UPKAR) attended the training programme. Madan Lal Keer, Manoj Kumar Dixit, Devendra Kumar Paliwal, Seema Yagnik and Amit Chowdhury from CHD, and Santosh Bhargav and Shiv Ram from UPKAR attended the training programme as resource persons. After identifying the problems from the field survey data, FNGOs submitted their proposals to CHD.

Project Launch of Bhilwara District

CUTS CHD has been selected as Mother NGO for implementing the Reproductive and Child Health schemes in Bhilwara district. The objectives of the programme include: information dissemination on reproductive and child health issues in project areas; capacity building of institutions and enhancing their capacity at state, district and local level; and advocacy and enhance awareness level.

In Bhilwara, the project will be implemented with the help of three-four field NGOs (FNGOs), which would be selected by CHD. The duration of the project is for three years with the possible extension of two more years.

The Induction Training programme was organised by Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI), New Delhi on January 15-16, 2007 at New Delhi. Madan Lal Keer and Devendra Kumar Paliwal attended the training.

SHGs, NABARD – Bhilwara Project

CUTS CHD has formed 200 self help groups (SHGs) and finished loan linkages of 202 SHGs with local banks. The meeting of Project Implementation & Monitoring Committee was held at National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) Bhilwara office, on January 23, 2007.

Five committee members were present during the meeting. All members unanimously endorsed the progress of the work and approved third and fourth installment. The last installment will be paid by March 2007 end. A new proposal on formation of 400 SHGs has been submitted to NABARD. The submission of new proposals related to SHG capacity building and training on livelihood opportunities were also discussed.

Maternal Health Care Project

Joffa Charitable Trust, UK is funding for a base line survey on maternal health care services in Rajasthan. CUTS CHD has got the fund to carry out the survey in 100 villages in Chittorgarh and Bhilwara districts of Rajasthan.

The villages are falling under Modified Area Development Agency's (MADA) scheme. These areas are the most backward areas in Rajasthan. The purpose of the survey is to identify the problems and requirements in maternal and child health services.

Mid Day Meal Survey Scheme

CUTS CHD has been selected as one of two NGOs in India for making a documentary film by the World Bank (WB) on Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) project. Piyush Chakrabarty, Director, Adhar, Mumbai visited CHD campus with nine team members to shoot the Participatory Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS) technique adopted by CUTS in studying the effectiveness of MDMS.

The shooting was done in Semeliya Village of Dungla block, on February 23-24, 2007. The documentary was shared in a workshop held in Hyderabad, on March 12-13, 2007.

Road Safety

The Road Safety week was observed from January 01 to 07, 2007, in coordination with District Transport Department and Consumer Information and Resource Centre, Chittorgarh. It was organised in 14 Blocks of Chittorgarh district.



**District Transport officer (DTO) during the Seminar (Left)
DTO giving instructions to drivers (Right)**

Distribution of reflectors

Vehicles were checked for reflectors with the help of district administration. Red and green reflectors were fixed on vehicles and headlights were half painted with

black colour. Reflectors were fixed specially on those vehicles, which have higher probability for accident such as bullock cart, camel cart, tractor trolley and cycles. CUTS staff and district transportation department checked vehicles on all major roads.

World Women Day

On the occasion of the World Women day, a district-level workshop was organised at CUTS CHD, on March 08, 2007. The theme of the workshop was 'Collective Initiative for the Achievement of Millennium Development Goals' and was organised in partnership with DNGOs Hindustan Zinc, Aditya Jan Sewa Trust, *Rajasthan Patrika*, *Dainik Bhaskar* and *Dainik Navjyoti*. Among



A view of the workshop

the special dignitaries were B L Paliwal, retired Additional District Collector and Consultant, Rural Non-farm Development Agency (RUDA); G S Ranawat, Director, Hindustan Zinc Smelter; Rajeshwari Meena, *Pradhan*

Panchayat Samiti; and Mahendra Kunwar, *Sarpanch*, *Gram Panchayat*.

Participants in the workshop expressed concern over the violence against women and felt the need for girl education and women to be self-reliant. On the occasion, experiences of the efforts of NGOs towards women empowerment under the women SHGs programme were shared. Social activists, government officials, representatives from NGOs and SHGs were among the 300 participants.

Redressal Efforts for Consumer Empowerment

Those poor consumers, who are cheated in the districts are unable to file their complaints in 'Consumer Redressal Forum' due to lack of money, would be provided Rs 300 by the district governments through the efforts of Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS).

P L Agarwal, the District Collector, Chittorgarh, while releasing the book entitled, 'Consumer Redressal Efforts in Chittorgarh district' published by the District Supply Office said that in spite of implementation of the Consumer Protection Act 1986, there is a need to make the consumers aware of their own rights. Therefore, CUTS CHD has been endowed with the duty to make the consumers aware of their own rights.

World Consumer Rights Day

To commemorate the World Consumer Rights Day, CUTS CHD, jointly with District Supply Office, Chittorgarh organised a seminar on 'Empowerment of Consumers – Assert Rights, Pursue Remedies' at Chittorgarh, on March 15, 2007. P L Agarwal, the District Collector, Chittorgarh, while stressing the need for



P N Khandelwal addressed the stakeholders at the meet

empowerment of poor and incapable consumers, informed the participants about the consumer empowerment programme being implemented by the District Supply Office. P N Khandelwal, District and Session Judge said that

awareness among consumers is a proof of the fact that development is going on in the country. He pointed out

that even educated consumers, due to lack of awareness and shame, hesitate in obtaining the bill from shopkeepers, thus not making proper use of their rights. Because of this indifferent approach, not only the consumer suffers but also the government has to suffer the loss. There is, therefore, need for an initiative in the area of consumer awareness. He said that consumers should protect their own rights, and then only a change in the society is possible.

Activities in Chittorgarh District

The road safety awareness programme formally started on January 04, 2007. One-day workshop was organised at the State High School, Bhopal Sagar. District Transport Officer Trilok Chand Meena and Shanti Lal Bafna, *Sarpanch*, Bhopal Sagar shared their views with students. Pappu Yadav was the chief guest. Teachers and students from 20 schools along with the local people participated in the function. Another meeting was organised at the State High School, Nimbahera, on January 04, 2006. Officials from District Transport Department, local police and travel officials participated in the discussion and shared their views with students.



A view of the participants

Among the 152 participants present on the occasion were P L Agarwal, the District Collector, Chittorgarh; P N Khandelwal, District and Session Judge; Rajeshwari Meena, *Pradhan*, *Panchayat Samiti*; Vimla Sethia, State Consumer Protection Commission; BL Sisodia and Rajneesh Pitalia, G P Bohra, the District Supply Officer, Chittorgarh; social activists, government officials, representatives from NGOs, SHGs.

Awareness campaigns organised in various parts of the district during January 2007 are mentioned below:

Activity	Date	Venue
Inauguration meeting on road safety with district collector	December 28, 2006	Collectorate Campus
One day workshop on Road Safety for school students	January 04, 2007	Bhopal Sagar & Nimbara, & Badhesar, Chittorgarh
Awareness Campaign on reflectors	January 05, 2007	Kapasan Chowk, Chittorgarh
Information dissemination to four wheelers (light and heavy) and two wheelers on road safety	January 06, 2007	Kapasan Block, Chittorgarh
One day workshop on Road Safety for school students	January 06, 2007	Dungla, Chittorgarh

VISITS

- About 50 undergraduate students from *Samaj Karya Mahavidyalaya*, Kampti, Nagpur, Maharashtra studying social work visited CHD on February 07, 2007 They were briefed about organisational profile and other activities of CUTS. A healthy discussion was held on development issues and their queries were answered.
- A batch of 35 MSW students from PT College of Social Work, Nagpur visited CHD on February 24, 2007 where they were briefed about the function of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), its problems, challenges, opportunities and organisational structure. SHG concept was also discussed.
- The members of SHGs formed by *PRAYAS Sansthan* and members of *Panchyat Samiti*, Shahpura, Bhilwara visited SHGs of Kamalpura village of *Panchayat Samiti*, Banera. Total 173 members were present in the group. The group acquired the information about the activities of the *Bal Panchayats* being performed by the children. They also coordinated with the members of women SHGs and obtained information about the procedures of the attainment of loan from the Bank.

CHD REPRESENTATIONS

- On January 17-18, 2007, Madan Lal Keer and Devendra Kumar Paliwal attended a two-day 'Data Entry Training Programme' organised by VHAI, at New Delhi.
- On January 23-24, 2007, four students who are members of CUTS' supported *Bal Panchayat* participated in a two-day workshop on 'Adolescence' organised by Mamta, a Delhi based NGO at Jaipur.
- During February 05-08, 2007, Amit Chowdhury attended a four-day workshop on 'Citizen Participation and Democratic Governance' organised by PRIA International, at New Delhi.
- During February 06-09, 2007, Madan Lal Keer and Seema Yagnika attended the final round of Training of Trainers (ToT) under Mother NGO (MNGO), organised by VHAI at New Delhi.
- On February 08-09, 2007, Manoj Dixit attended a two-day training programme on accounting system under MNGO project, organised by VHAI, at New Delhi.
- On March 09-11, 2007, Amit Chowdhury and Manoj Dixit attended a two-day training programme on 'Protection of Children from Child Marriage and Child Sexual Abuse' organised by Human Rights Law Network, New Delhi, at Udaipur.
- On March 19, 2007, Madan Giri Goswami and Amit Chowdhury met manager of NABARD, Bhilwara to put forth the Project proposal of forming 400 SHGs and connecting them to banks. They also met District Collector, Bhilwara in this context.

PUBLICATIONS

CUTS-CHD has been engaged in the publication of resource and information materials since 1991. The aim is to disseminate information on issues of people's concern at the grassroots level and to support its interventions by providing knowledge-based modalities. Some select publications are:

- *Soochna Hi Shakti Hai* (Information is Power)
- *Logon Tak Nyaye* (Justice for People)
- *Sasakt Nari Sudrid Samaj* (Empowered Women Robust Society)
- *Jaiv Vividhta Ke Samvaahak Guni* (Traditional Healers are the agents of Bio-diversity)
- *Alakh Jaga Hai Gaon-Gaon* (Awakening in the Rural India)
- *Khuli Khidkian Khule Darwaze* (Open Windows and Open Doors)

परियोजना प्रस्ताव निर्माण कार्यशाला

चित्तौड़गढ़, स्वयंसेवी संगठन कट्स मानव विकास केन्द्र, चित्तौड़गढ़ एवं उपकार संस्थान रूपा का बाया अलवर के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में सेंती में फिल्ड

परियोजना प्रस्ताव निर्माण पर कार्यशाला

चित्तौड़गढ़, 24 फरवरी [पत्र]। स्वयंसेवी संगठन 'कट्स' मानव विकास केन्द्र एवं उपकार संस्थान अलवर के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में सेंती में फिल्ड एन सी की दो दिवसीय परियोजना प्रस्ताव निर्माण कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। 'कट्स' मानव विकास केन्द्र के समन्वयक अमित चौधरी के अनुसार

'उपभोक्ता अधिकारों की मांग करें'



वाद के लिए मिलेगी आर्थिक सहायता

चित्तौड़गढ़ जिले में उपभोक्ता संरक्षण की विशिष्ट योजनाएं

जिला उपायुक्त, चित्तौड़गढ़
दूरभाष नं. 01472-240051



जिले में उपभोक्ता क्लबों के संचालन एवं उपभोक्ता संरक्षण में जागरूकता के लिए चयनित स्वैच्छिक उपभोक्ता संगठन 'कट्स' मानव विकास केन्द्र, सेंती रावला, चित्तौड़गढ़
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