

“सरकारी एवं गैर सरकारी संगठनों की नीतियों एवं कार्यक्रमों में उपेक्षित बच्चों की भागीदारी” परियोजना

बाल मेला

22 नवम्बर 2012

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, सावा

Document by Majid Khan



कट्स मानव विकास केन्द्र
चित्तौड़गढ़



Save the Children.



Background

India's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, was born on November 14. After his death in 1963, his birthday has been celebrated as children's Day in India. Children's Day is not just a day to let the future generation have its say. It is a day to remember a leader who, in his quiet but determined way, laid the foundation to convert a nascent nation into a world power. Nehru was immensely fond of children. The more popular and famous of Nehru's pictures everywhere show him with children. In all the photographs Nehru's joy at being with children is apparent. When he is not sharing pleasantries with them, the expression of intense concentration as he listens to them reveals his commitment and attitude to children.

As a tribute to this great man and his love for the children, his birthday is celebrated all over India as 'CHILDREN'S DAY'. Most schools have cultural program for the day, with the students managing it all. All over the country, various cultural, social, and even corporate, institutions conduct competitions for children. Children's Day is a day for children to engage in fun and frolic.

CUTS-CHD, in association with Save the Children, is implementing a Child Protection project named, "Stronger Voice to Excluded Children in Govt. NGOs Policies & Programmes" at 28 villages of 6 Gram Panchayat in Chittorgarh Block. A series of activities are being organized under it with children, community and stakeholders. On the occasion of Bal Divas CUTS was organized huge **BAL MELO** at Senior Secondary School SAWA in Chittorgarh. During Diwali vacation we organised Bal Mela On 22 Nov. 2012.

Objective of Bal Mela

Children are loved by one and all. They win over our hearts with their angelic eyes and innocent smiles. It makes one realize that maybe that's the way God wanted us to be. Making "Bal Divas" a special treat and to add more frolic and fun through different competitions and learning games to children, a huge Bal Mela was planned under IPAP Project. The objectives of it can be specified below.

- Organizing an event which meant for children and giving each child a fun filled and memorable day.
- Providing an occasion to children for meeting, developing, observing, perceiving and creating potential through Co-curricular activities also known as Extracurricular Activities.
- Provide a platform for children to enhance social interaction, leadership, healthy recreation, self-discipline and self-confidence.
- To engage children in fun and frolic irrespective of any discrimination based on socio-economic status.

Preparation & Ground work.

Once the date for the Bal Mela was finalized, during the month of November things started falling into place and everyone in the team began chipping in with their efforts, individually as well as through weekly meetings. The way we perceived it, the Bal Mela this year was to be a litmus test for the dictum "how we do a task is more important than what result we bring out from it". To put this belief into practice, we tried to ensure best practices in all arrangements for the event. It was really invigorating to see the all IPAP staff allocate responsibilities among themselves and diligently noted down their pending tasks. Following the same dictum at another level with the children, we decided to concentrate on eliciting participation from the greatest number of children, and the events for the Bal Mela was planned with precisely this in mind. Invitation with concept note and agenda were given to all participatory schools and honorary guests and followed up properly.

A near about 2000 children and 71 teachers from 13 schools (5 govt. and 8 private) of SAWA Gram Panchayat were taken part in event:-

- ✓ Govt. Senior Secondary School, SAWA
- ✓ Govt. Girls Primary School, SAWA
- ✓ Govt. Girls Secondary School, SAWA
- ✓ Govt. Primary School, Nayi Aabadi, SAWA
- ✓ Govt. Uper Primary School, SAWA
- ✓ Millat Public School, SAWA
- ✓ Gyandeep Public School, SAWA
- ✓ Chitrkoot Public School, SAWA
- ✓ Dronacharya Public School, SAWA
- ✓ Madarsa Nurul-Islam, SAWA
- ✓ Vismom Public School, SAWA
- ✓ Sharda Public School, SAWA
- ✓ Saraswati Public School, SAWA

Project Team

Project Coordinator: - Dharmveer Yadav

Advocacy Officer: - Majid Khan

Community Organizer: - Shanti Lal Dangi

Kailash Vyas

Rehana Parveen

Sumitra Garg

Palace: - Govt. senior secondary school

Chief Guest: - Sh. Mohal Lal Purbiya (Sarpanch-SAWA)

Guest Of Honour:-

Sh.Arun Kumar Dashora, Principal, Govt.Sr.Sec.School, SAWA

Sh.Shankar Lal Gadiya, Member, Varisht Nagrik Manch, SAWA

Sh. Akram Hussain, Member of Panchayat Samiti, SAWA

Sh. Dharmveer Yadav, Centre Coordinator, CUTS-CHD, Chittorgarh

Inauguration Ceremony

Mr. Mohal Lal Purbiya (Sarpanch-SAWA) was chief guest of inauguration ceremony. Mr. Purbiya along with Dharmveer Yadav, CUTS-CHD, Center coordinator, Sh.Shankar Lal Gadiya, Member, Varisht Nagrik Manch, SAWA, Sh. Akram Hussain, Member of Panchayat Samiti, SAWA, Sh. Arun Kumar Dashora, Principal, Govt.Sr.Sec.School, SAWA, formally inaugurated the event through lighting lamp and offering flowers and garlanded to picture of Saraswati . In his commencing speech Mr. Purbiya remembered Nehru and urged to all children for imbibing the values and principles which Nehru stood for – peace, conflict resolution and dialogue, passionate secularism, equality, love for nature, accessibility, relating and engaging with people and all traits,

through he reached apex post of country and became memorable to all. He appreciated CUTS efforts to making it really a Bal Divas by organizing Bal Mela.

GLIMPSE OF INAUGURATION CEREMONY



Honorary Guests lighting lamp Mr. Purbiva during inauguration speech Dharamveer Yadav delivering

Sitting Arrangements

The all children arrived at 11 'o' clock in the morning with anticipations written on their bright faces from all the schools. Some of them brought sacks, spoons and colours and some were wore colourful or cultural dresses to take part in different competitions.

Beginning of Bal Mela



Children coming in Bal Mela Children after settling down under tent Gusto and zeal of children in starting of Bal

Upon arrival, they were greeted by the sight of a colourfully decorated mela ground, complete with balloons, paper streamers, banners, tents. As soon as children were coming, all were being settled down under the tent in school ground. After settling down to all, they were briefly introduced about whole day agenda of program. It was encouraging to see zeal and gusto of children to enjoy whole day in event. Huge turnouts of children were invigorating us for making it enjoyable as they want.

Cultural fest and Competitions.

As above said, to give the children a new and exciting experience of staying away from their families and enjoying themselves in whole day lot of competitions and extracurricular activities were planned for Bal Mela. Teachers of all schools requested for joining hands with children to come out their hidden talent than academics and in performing well. Children who were given their name for different competitions were waiting for their bout aggressively. First, **Vandana Chauhan**, Documentation officer CUTS-CHD, took the mike and made a jury to judge top three participants in all competitions including teachers from all schools and rules were convinced to them.

Competitions were started with Dance. Before commencing it, jury members had been taken their attention to give marks to participants. Solo and group dances performed by students in folk and filmy songs of different schools. Children were showing their interest and encouraging performers by clapping during performances. Some other competitions like role play and singing the songs and poems also going on with it. Group of students from schools produced self-created drama based on Dowery System, Superstition and child marriage. All songs and poems were sang by performers were giving a message to listeners and strongly resisting widely spread social evils like Child Marriage and Child Labor. Watching selection of songs and subject for acts and singing performances of children, honorary guests and all spectators were feeling enrapt and applauding discretion of children over right and wrong traditions in society.

TINGE OF PERFORMANCES



Roles play on Superstition

Dance performances and delighting guests

A Girl singing a song

Refreshment and stalls visit:- After these three competitions children were served biscuit and Dal Bati in the lunch time. One more attraction point of Bal Mela was food stalls held by students of different school in Mela ground. All students were given an hour to purchase eating items from stalls. There were hot tea, Pakode, Bundi Rayta, Mirch Bada and other many items for children.



Children enjoying on Stalls

Rangoli & Drawing Competition:-



Drawing- Aware about Environment



Post Lunch Session

After purchasing and enjoying an hour on stalls, all children were settled again for post lunch session. As we said above, whole day plan was shared with students and they know the activities of post lunch. They were impatient to take part in racing game. It was time to organize spoon race. Participants were informed to come in race ground and all children gathered around them. They were invigorating the morale of participants by hooting and showing interest. During race students of different schools were took part with great zeal and enthusiasm and give big fight to each other to take place in top three for getting attractive prizes. To make competitions more hair-raising and competitive, participants of race was divided in two categories according to their standard and age. These all activity was fun for the participating children and an opportunity for their overall development. Different avenues of development open up in child's mind due to this. Which implant something about his future in to their mind and this implantation spreads becoming a tree in the future. These activity is great way to develop the hidden skills in the children. Workability is satisfied by motivating self faith and self confidence in to the children. Through these game it was tried to develop group attitude thinking power, self confidence in children and values are moulded in them. It resulted in to increase in reputation, stabilization and quality improvement in the working field.



Fancy Dress Competition:-



Concluding Ceremony

After completing all the competitions, it was time to distribute prize to winners and conclude the event. A great tinge could be seen in the eyes of participants to get prize and all were in the hope in order to listen their name in winner list and get prize from guests. In this session, Mr. Mohan Lal Purbiya Sarpanch-Sawa, along with some other guests adorned the stage as a Chief Guest. CUTS- CHD Coordinator welcomed the all guests.

Prize Distribution

The prize distribution ceremony brings forward the talents of the students in public to keep instances of splendour for others and encourage them for something alike. Many distinguished persons are invited as guest in chief in this occasion. They deliver speech or demonstrate on various interesting topics and current affairs to entertain as well as encourage the students.

The well performers are awarded by honourable personalities and are blessed with the hope of greater success in their future career. It was pleasure for the CUTS to distribute prize for the top performers.



PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

Valedictory Session

In this session Majid Khan, Advocacy officer-IPAP,CUTS-CHD, Chittorgarh showed acknowledge to children, teachers, honorary guests and community members for taking part in Bal Mela and making it successful. Congratulating to the all, he said the children of the today are the future of tomorrow and it is very imperative to sensitize them about themselves and their surroundings through the medium of non academics and extracurricular activities. These are one of the most excellent tool for the personality development and boost the hidden talent of the children. This is the right time to strike when the child is in his growing stage and very keen to grasp everything.

In the end of program, everybody who engaged with it was so happy. Children have myriad dreams, we need to nurture and help to realize them. Through contributing in a program where they are enjoying and looking jubilant, everyone was feeling satisfied and happy. At last all were tired but enrapt and cheering each other. It can be seen in the smiling faces of all in below photo.



Sweet end Moment of Bal Mela