

**National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development  
Nagpur**

# **Annual Report**



*Horticulture plantation, Serajhar, Dindori, MP*

**2006 – 07**



*Soil and Water Conservation Measures, Amarpur, Dindori, MP*



*Lantana craft promotion, Chougan, Mandla, MP*

## **1. PREFACE**

National Institute of Women Child and Youth Development has completed twenty three years from its registration in 1985. In the two decades since its small beginning NIWCYD has metamorphosed from a grass root implementing NGO to the incubator of smaller groups. This journey of two decades is in the process of documentation with internal team members joining hands with some of the associates to share the institutional and programmatic canvass of NIWCYD.

If Eighties was the period of infancy, nineties of schooling then, the first decade of the new millennium is the period of consolidation, streamlining, resource pooling and vertical leverage. As the programme expanse grew exponentially/geometrical progression, the institutional growth was imminent. So along with the programme streamlining, NIWCYD as an institution is carrying out exercises to turn it into a resource organisation with institutional systems of reporting, monitoring, evaluation and management gearing up for the role the organisation is envisaging for itself. In retrospect the report is a curtain raiser for the "Twenty Three Years of NIWCYD" and also shares the glimpses of the institutional mechanisms/exercises that went in to build the "Futuristic Institution".

By the start of 2005, the institution was looking to move away from the project based to programme based. The scene was scary as it is tedious job to bring in synergies in the approaches of different resource partners working on a single issue. The organisation has been deliberating with its partners.

The organisation has been working in four broad thematic areas viz. Livelihood of the Tribal and Marginalised; Child rights; Gender and women empowerment and; Governance (strengthening of Community Based organisations for control and management of village economy). The organisation has adopted the strategy of promoting small grassroot level CBOs and village volunteers (Gramdoots) to act as bridge between community and government for providing better services.

The organisation humbly feels that the task ahead is onerous and requests all of you to contribute with your feedback, critique and suggestions to make NIWCYD into a learning organisation.

R.K. Malviya  
Chief Functionary

## **2. Programme Progress Card**

### **A. LIVELIHOOD**

In 2006 - 07, the programme was supported by six resource partner's viz. AWO, OXFAM, TdH, IGSSS, LWR, MPRLP, CIDA, MoT and UNDP. Geographically the area under operation with the seven partners was distinct and no overlapping occurred. Below is the project wise progress report for the concluded year.

#### **Self Help Project for Baigas**

**Location:** 12 villages in the Samnapur block of Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh, India.

**Project Objectives:** Improving the living conditions of the tribal in 12 villages in Samnapur block of Dindori district

#### **Specific Objective**

1. Promotion of self-sufficiency of the tribal through capacity building and self-help mechanisms.
2. Self-steering capacity of the target group built.

#### **About Project Area**

Fifty-two villages constitute the Baiga Chak area, spread across three blocks of Dindori District in M.P. These are the Karanjiya block which has 26 Baiga villages, Bajag block with 9 Baiga villages, and Samnapur block with 17 such villages. All these villages are Forest Villages (not revenue villages) and their administration is in the hands of the forest department, which manages the reserved forests surrounding these villages. High illiteracy and food insecurity are major problems faced by the tribals in the area.

#### **Progress Card:**

- Land development on 184 acres of land was done in the year 2006-07. 6208 person days of employment was created in the villages benefiting 757 families.
- 3 lakes were developed in the field area. 2898 person days of employment was generated in three villages in the project area.
- People have done community contribution to the tune of Rs. 12,600/- in the construction of Hydraulic Ram in village Chhapara. The Hydraulic ram is started and 45 acres of land brought under irrigation in village Chhapara.
- Hand pumps have been introduced in the project villages for the kitchen gardening and vegetable cultivation. Nearly 500 families have been benefited through this activity.
- 54 wormy compost pits have been developed through which nearly 200 quintals of compost manure has been produced and used in the agriculture fields by new farmers.
- 11 bamboo nurseries were developed in the project area. 45,000 bamboo siblings were replanted in the forests surrounding the project villages.
- 18 self help groups have been developed in the project villages.

- Two groups have started Floor Mill with project support in two villages. Oil expeller unit has been established in the project area which is managed by the members of the Self Help Groups.
- Grain and seed banks worth 237 quintals have been developed in the project area through people's contribution.
- Cash fund amounting to Rs. 11.50 Lakh has been developed in the project area.
- 17 women from these groups are performing their roles in the PRIs as the elected village representatives. Two women are the heads of their respective village Council. 3 women self help groups have initiated income generation activities.
- Food security ensured in all project village from 4-5 months to 9 months. Women's participation has increased in social, political and economic activities.

### **Key Achievements**

#### **1. Forest & Forest Department:**

- The forestry study group have documented species useful to the community as medicinal plants, etc. 10 new species of the forest trees have been identified.
- People have started the protection of the vanishing species of the forest.
- The livelihood enhancement schemes of the government of Madhya Pradesh and the forest department have started implementing in the project area.
- Land development and the water resources development programme is being implemented by the forest department in the project villages.
- Regular meetings with the forest protection committees on the issue of forest conservation.
- Forest protection committees have been established with community participation.

#### **2. Food Security**

- Food availability of families of 12 villages has increased from 4 to 5 months to 9 months.
- Increase in the food grain production by 40% due to promotion of second crop.

#### **3. Development**

- Line sowing in the paddy cultivation has been taken up by the farmers
- The scheme of fishery of the agriculture department is being implemented in the project village Titarahi where organisation had developed a pond last year.
- People have started protecting the forest from illegal cutting of trees and grazing.
- The development plans (micro plans) of the forest villages are prepared and submitted to forest department with priority on work related to livelihood resources.

## **Fostering Livelihood by Promotions of NTFP Based Income Generation Activities for Poverty Alleviation in Mandla and Dindori District, M.P.**

### **Objectives of the project:**

- To supplement income of poor and tribal families through land and forest based income generating activities and empowerment of women through economic activities.

### **About the area :**

- Project is implemented in 10 tribal villages of Dindori and 10 villages of Mandla district in Madhya Pradesh. Traditional skills of people were upgraded under this project to improve quality of their produce.

### **Progress Card :**

- 6 SHGs formed and are involved in collective action of Dona Pattal making covering 120 women.
- Two groups are involved in broom making comprising of 60 women.
- 10 VDC and SHGs organized for mustered processing activity consisting 70 men and women
- Skill training on different trades was given to 191 men and women from the project area.
- Apart from that in surrounding villages of the project, 184 women self help groups have been promoted in three project area, around 2000 women mobilized and these are under process for empowerment.
- 160 family members of 12 villages are engaged in plate and bowl making activity. These families got income support of Rs. 1100/- to Rs. 1200/- approximately.
- 50 families directly involved in Mawai area of Mandla district. They have produced 9,200 simple brooms. Each family got support income of average Rs. 1,288/-
- 10 indirect families involved in collection of mowa grass got wage support.
- 12 SHG and VDC groups in Baiga Chak area comprising of 150 families collected 200 quintals of Rai and Ramtila and processed it. Due to collective storage and processing of the oil seeds at village level, these families got increased price of Rs. 450/- per quintal from the basic price of 950/- per quintal. Also they got the correct measurement for their produce. Because of this activity 100 families from peripheral villages got the fair price for their produce from the middlemen.
- 80 quintals of processed seeds was sold. The total net income from the entire process earned was Rs. 40,800/- for expansion and sustainability.
- 30 groups of above three trades involved and each group maintaining revolving amount in the range of Rs. 16,000/- to Rs. 20,000/- for continuation of activities.
- More than 250 women are involved in income generation activities
- 28 SHGs have been linked with the banks and have started income generation activities in the villages

### **Key Achievement :**

- Different initiation of different income generating activities following benefits were provided to families -

- Income support of Rs. 450/- to Rs. 500/-
- Beneficiaries linked with market
- They got fair price for their produce
- The interference of middlemen reduced.
- Reduction in the mal practices in measurements.
- Traders in the region are compelled to increase the prices of mustered seeds and leaves

### **Improved Livelihood through Agriculture Development of Tribal - Kanker**

The programme is in its second phase of implementation. The livelihood programme is carried out in 10 villages of Antagad Block of Kanker district of Chhatisgarh state.

**Objectives :** Improvement of livelihood options through appropriate agriculture inputs covering 150 families.

#### **Progress Card**

##### **1. Agriculture:**

- 20 acres of land developed.
- Demonstration on crop rotation and inter cropping done in five villages.
- Horticulture and vegetable cultivation by families. Vegetables are sold in the market.
- Follow up Livestock trainings conducted.
- This has led to increase in agriculture yield and conservation of rural livelihood of the beneficiary families.
- Crop rotation and inter cropping practices initiated in seven villages.

##### **2. Micro-credit through women's groups**

- Income generation programme of Minor forest produce collection and marketing started by Self Help Groups.
- Initiation of minor forest produce collection and marketing by four self help groups.
- Formation and strengthening of self help groups.

#### **Achievements :**

- Land development work has helped in improving the fertility of the soil and agricultural productivity by three times.
- People have started adopting better agricultural practices such as vermi compost, use of improved varieties of traditional seeds, better management of the livestock.
- Women are participating in the Gramsabha meetings and are putting their views in the meetings.
- People were not using the manure but now they have started using organic manure.
- People have started raising the issues related to the wages with the competent authorities.
- Selected families have started earning income from the sale of vegetables.
- Children are going to the schools.

- People have become aware and are taking the benefits from the government schemes.

### **Food security and irrigation for tribal farmers - Kanker**

This program is being implemented in 2 villages of Kanker district in Chhatisgarh, namely Gumjeer & Pusaghati. In collaboration with Afro (Action for food production) Raipur, the program is being focused on the livelihood support to the tribes. This project has been completed in Sept. 2006

Achievements :

- 11 self Help groups formed in two villages and linked to the Banks. Their saving amount is Rs. 29,656/-.
- In Gumjeer village Pond & Gabion structure are constructed & repaired. Second crop is now taken by the villagers.
- 21 people of these two villages started business like Mahua collection, grocery shop, cycle repairing, and carpenter work.

### **Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project (MPRLP) – Mandla & Dindori**

Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project (MPRLP) is a state run programme and is in the first year of implementation. The programme is implemented by the govt. machinery. In two of the districts viz. Dindori and Mandla, the MPRLP collaborated with NIWCYD in two fields: technical know how and community mobilisation. This was so because of the nature of the MPRLP programme i.e. livelihood and the technical know how the organisation had gained in working on enhancing the livelihood of tribal in Mandla and Dindori as well as the grass root level workers and coordinators who have gained immense expertise in community mobilisation.

MPRLP is being implemented in two clusters in Dindori and one cluster in Mandla district since Aug. 2005.

Achievements :

- Several land and non-land based income generating activities started by members of SHG groups.
- 120 families started vermin-composting units.
- Linkage with NREGS scheme achieved resulting in construction of 300 farm ponds, 62 lakes and 90 wells under Kapildhara scheme.
- Women's participation increased from 10 % to 30 % in meetings.
- Potato, Onion and Ginger production has started in Mawai cluster.
- Sowing of Maize and Paddy is now done with appropriate technique.

### **Small and Marginal Farmers Promotion for Livelihood - Dindori**

#### **Project background**

This project was initiated in December 2005 in 35 villages of Bajag, Karanjiya & Amarpur Block in Dindori district of MP. Processes are being initiated through exposures to the

innovative methods of Agriculture development i.e. Wadi program, line sowing etc. Thus the major interventions undertaken during the span of time are as under;

### **Knowledge Management:**

**a) Mapping and resources analysis :** In the 35 project villages extensive mapping and analysis process initiated especially on livelihood, forestry and agriculture with PRA method.

**b) Impact assessment :** Impact assessment of previous phase of was done in three villages of Baiga Chak in association with *Arithik Anusandhan Kendra*. The changes in the resource profile of the people was mapped, changes in mentality of the people, extent of enhancement of food security, changes in position of women and community's assessment of further work required, challenges confronting the community were documented. This assessment helped to improve our process of developing village development action plans.

**c) Farmer profiling:** Through the process of social mapping, small and marginal farmers were identified & involved with whom the processes will be carried subsequently.

In this context, district administration involved NIWCYD in the National Agriculture Improvement Program (NAIP) of Dindori, especially in the villages where it has a long working experience. Collectively Department of agriculture, Madhya Pradesh rural livelihood project & NIWCYD is involved in district to initiate the processes under NAIP. Under this program profiles of 6,000 farmers of 120 villages were collected.

**d) Evidence documentation :** Status of Public Distribution Shop and people's access to it was studied in depth and their issues taken-up with concerned authorities.

### **Agriculture Development:**

**a) Land and water development :** 127 families were benefited from 10 villages under NRM activity. 2,49.108 cu.ft of earth work was done for land development generating 3,898 human days of work.

**Water development:** - With the support of district administration, under the scheme of Kafil dhara in 120 villages, 379 kaccha nala bund works is completed. Through this work 120 farmers support 200 acre land for irrigation during Rabi crops. This helped the availability of Water for local farmers and livestock of the area.

### **b) Farmer's Innovation and Propagation**

Exposure visit was organized for 36 farmer's. They went in 2 batches to see the WADI programme of BAIF in Nasik area. The result was a significant spurt in people desiring plantation. 4,000 pits were readied for plantation. The community members were also very interested in protecting the sapling. Those planted in the first year are protected well and are also doing well.

Additionally the consultant also facilitated post harvesting produce management of the production of *Rabi* and *Kharif* crops.

**c) Plot Demonstrations :** In 35 villages of the project area farmers have given improved seeds of wheat (MPO 1106, HI 1479 and Sujata), gram (GNG 469) and Musturd (Laxmi) is given to improve their production.

**d) Low cost irrigation system and vegetables, seeds distribution :** For supporting their agriculture irrigation systems, twelve hand pumps and vegetable seeds are distributed between 16 farmers of 13 villages. 4 pumps out of the 12 are distributed in groups for collective actions.

#### **Collective Actions:**

**a) Mass mobilization around the issue of trading of NTFP :** As a build up to field interventions a day long cluster level people's workshop was held on collection and sale of non-timber forest produce.

**b) Revolving fund for Collective Action :** SHG groups started collection of Mahua and Char Seed and making of *Dona Pattal* in Amrpur and Baiga Cheak Area from their collective revolving fund.

**c) Exposure for SHG Federation :** 17 SHG female representatives and staff members of Amarpur block visited the initiative to learn from their work on federation & agriculture development. This 4 days visit led these members in boosting up their confidence.

**d) Live-stock Development Program :** Under this program an assessment of land less farmers and farmers having land below then 1 acre is done. For selecting beneficiaries under this program, criteria are finalized. 75 people from BPL families are motivated for gottery in 14 villages of the project area. They have been provided with the local varieties from nearby area.

**e) Visit to Central Institute of Agriculture Engineering :** Visit of 10 farmers from Dindori visited to Central Institute of Agriculture Engineering (CIAR) to understand the suitable techniques, especially based on animal energy, which can be applied in their respective areas.

## **Advocacy & Governance:**

**a) Liaison and collaboration of other NGO & Government Depy. for convergence of govt. programmes.**

**b) Advocacy & People actions :** Advocacy on project relevant issues is an integral part of the project design. In a step in that direction two **multi-stake holder consultation** sub-district level meeting was organized at Dindori with representation from different line departments vis Chief Executive Officer of the *Zila Panchayat*, Head of Fisheries department, Nodal officer of the *District Udyog Vyapar Kendra*, and other organizations like bank officials.

**c) Workshop on Farmers Policy (Draft) :** A state level workshop was organized on Farmers Policy (draft) at Bhopal. 50 -60 representatives of NGOs, Media, Farmers movement have participated in the workshop to understand the prose & cons of the proposed farmer's policy (draft).

**d) Inter cluster sharing :** Some people from the project villages and the project staff had gone on a cross visit to BAIF. For wider dissemination of the matter a block level meeting was held.

The key achievements of the program are as under;

1. People in the project area were provided job card in an accelerated process following *Jan Sunwai*
2. People started indenting panchayat for more work
3. People learnt the wage rates specified by the government and were able to obtain the same. Earlier panchayat functionaries used to siphon of the money.
4. Meetings of *gram sabha* became regular and community took interest in its proceedings
5. Action plans have been developed in the 35 project villages and additionally in a further 15 villages adjoining the area for the year 2006-2007.
6. The district administration especially CEO Zila Panchayat, District Collector, department of agriculture, horticulture etc. are supporting the interventions through their departments under the schemes of NREGS, WADI program, BRGFS etc.

**Capacity Building of staff :** Staff participated in various orientation & training programs for building their perspective as well as understanding on the issues.

## **Tribal Peoples' Organisation with Agricultural Development in Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh (India)**

Villages - 30, Families – 2,079, Population – 11,236  
Families: 1,300, Women: 2,500, Children / Youth: 1,250

### **Progress Card:**

#### **Land Improvement and agriculture development**

Among the land improvement & agriculture development program 591.46 ha land of 1300 families developed. Training & orientation on Role of Study Group on Water Conservation, Management of Seed/Grain banks, Vermi-compost – field demonstration, seed selection & storage and vegetable promotion, have been organized with 293 participants during the period.

#### **Access to Safe drinking water & water resource development**

Restoration and excavation of wells, construction of new wells, excavation of ponds, training for operation and maintenance conducted.

#### **Women Empowerment**

For involving women in the processes different literacy courses, educational seminars, leadership trainings, awareness programs regarding various government schemes, management of SHGs, vocational trainings were conducted.

Total 71 Self Help Groups were formed in the respective project areas with the membership of 1,020 members. Through this collective actions they are able to collect the amount of Rs. 4,10,153/-. They also supported 218 their co-members by internal lending procedures.

#### **Village Institutions & Shock proofing measures**

**Learning groups for voluntary actions :** There are 30 groups of male & female are being formed. The learning groups had the task of identifying problems in districts and developing strategies for improving the situation.

**Village Fund :** Gramkosh is a village fund, which has been built through financial contributions from the people. Total Village Fund is Rs. 12,79,119/- in 30 villages. Rs. 5,34,737/- distributed to 452 families for social, educational, health & economic needs.

**Grain banks / Seed Bank :** As an important intervention towards the self reliance of village Grain banks & seed banks were introduced in these villages. 1,044 persons benefited.

**Impact of the Program :** The initiative was being taken up during the mid of 2002. During the period of the major impact of the program can be seen as follows;

- Land Improvement & Agriculture Development – Intervening with construction & up gradation of various structures of bunds, nala bunds, nala trench, stone bunds, stop dams etc. we are able to increase the cultivable area by 35 % in the project fields. The processes were reached to the 63 % of total population with coverage of 27 % of most marginal farmers having land holding of below 1 acre.

The overall production from all the crops shown an increase from 535.78 quintals to 919.78 quintals through the various inputs in the area. Second crop is being introduced in the area of Chhindwada & Kanker due to the availability of water resources & 740 families started taking up second crop due to access to the irrigation facilities.

- Reduction in Migration – Migration has come down from 492 families to 68 families
- Due to the interventions regarding water resources, safe drinking water problem of 722 families was solved.

### **Endogenous Tourism Project (ETP) - Chougan**

Government of India, Ministry of Tourism (MoT) & United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has selected 31 locations of rural India as sites for sustainable rural tourism. The objective of this programme is rooted on the internationally discussed concept of tourism as one of the effective and sustainable catalyst to lead the country towards economic development.

In Madhya Pradesh village 'CHOUGAN' is selected for its unique features as the location of one of the popular tribal sacred seat called Madhiyaji, which attracts thousands of tribal and other devotees not only from Madhya Pradesh but also the neighboring states Chhatisgarh, Maharashtra and Orissa during the Chaitra Navaratri festival which falls in the month of April – May.

NIWCYD works as the software implementing agency basically community mobilization of the project whereas district administration of Mandla undertakes the hardware component of the project. The software activities started on the month of November 2005 with the baseline survey and PRA during the time of Chaitra Navaratri festival celebrates in the sacred seat of thousands of tribal community from different neighboring states.

To promote community livelihood sources through tourism related entrepreneurship development in which all the sections of the community of the host village Chougan will be benefited. So the project in the title itself one thing is obvious that local resources both human and natural will be used in a sustainable manner as the products of tourism, at the same the values of local culture and tradition remain intact.

One of the major challenges during the first quarter of activity period during April 2006 to March 2007 under Endogenous Tourism Project, Chougan was the strengthening of Tourism Development Committee formed in the village. Different level orientation workshops and training programmes were conducted in different locations where tourist activities were gaining significant achievements. The Belgat tourist location of Jablapur, Kanha National Park and Tiger sanctuary, Pilgrim spot, Amarkantak has selected as locations for providing trainings for different entrepreneurship development groups in the village. Village Tourism Development Committee (VTDC), the village level body formed with an objective of developing the capacity of community members of the site for taking up the responsibility of management of the entire tourist activity in the village

especially the tourist arrival, services, monitoring - has given several exposure to private tour operators, state owned tourism initiatives during the training and exposures.

Another significant progress was the initial process of drawing up Charter of Sustainable Tourism (CST) has started through participatory method. The main focus in this process was to ensure the ecological conservation and protecting the tribal culture and rituals in their sacred seat Madiya as an important point in the charter. Lantana Craft making group has achieved success in finding their market and got identity from various organizations and government bodies by inviting the group members as master trainers in village level training programmes under different schemes. The system following to contribute a percentage of income to the VTDC has proved to have ideal in the view of the long time management of all activities.

Efforts to document oral history and traditions in the village also have intensified in the site villages through expert in concerned subject. Motivational programmes for school children in hygiene and sanitation included in the total activity plan. About 60 families are benefited to the tune of Rs. 45,000/- from different income generating ventures.

The major tasks and accomplishments were the strengthening the entrepreneurship development groups in the villages, developing a sustainable tourism charter for the site ETP Chougan and launching of awareness programmes on sanitation, health and hygiene of the village through children and community members. The Charter of Sustainable tourism has been brought in to the process by conducting meetings and discussion with community members and Village Tourism Development Committee (VTDC).

## **B. CHILD RIGHTS AND EDUCATION**

### **Bachpan – Bringing back childhood**

Bachpan initially initiated its efforts in 10 slums of Bhopal and 3 platform stations of Madhya Pradesh. This year the initiative has further expanded its efforts in nearby 10 selected slums hence Bachpan is now working in 7% of total slums of Bhopal. The main emphasis in new slums was given on awareness of community towards child labor and linking of children to education. While in the initiative for platform children the emphasis is on de-institutionalized approach. The intervention aims towards their restoration back to their families or foster/adopted families.

#### **Overview of Plan**

The initiative has completed six years. The focus in 2007 was on working children and asserting their rights for development. The overall processes in slum initiatives were strengthening of community based institutions and rights based approach.

In platform initiative, the focus was to advocate the issues of platform children and their rights. The overall processes in platform initiatives were:-

- to involve stakeholders in the chain, filter/de-segregate the most antagonistic elements in the chain and build a positive environment on the platform

- to build a general environment in the capital city that is more sensitive to the needs of children.

### Child Labor Initiative

A working child, for our programme, is defined as a child labor, either paid or unpaid, and is working within or outside the family: basically, a child who is deprived of the right to education and childhood. It unambiguously clears that all out-of-school children are child laborers in one form or another. Presently 18 women, 31 adolescent and 21 children groups are formed.



### (A) Right To Education-

- **School Enrolment** : To ensure right to education major focus is given on school enrolment and retention of children in school. According to the survey of 20 slums in the year 2006 our working area the total population of children is 5,021.

The major achievement of enrollment was that this year community participation was high which ensures sustainable retention of children in school. Presently around 15% of children of the age of 6 to 14 years are still out of school.

No.	Slums	Out of school children of the age group of 6-14 years 2006			Children enrolled in school of the age group of 6-14, till December '07			Total children still out of school of the age group of 6-14 till December '07		
		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1.	20 slums	462	422	884	283	271	554	179	153	332

- **Linkage/ Advocacy with government** : The efforts of Bachpan paid off when a primary school was initiated by Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan in the displaced slum of Sukhi Sevaniya on July 2007 and in the slum of P.C. Nagar on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2007. This became possible by applying pressure through community and liaising with the education department. Right to information played an important role in opening of school in P.C. Nagar slum whereas pressure by youth and women group of Sukhi Sevaniya brought in success in opening of school for displaced community children.

### B) Right To Participation

**Intervention with Child Development Groups** : To ensure right to participation of children Child development Groups (CDG) are formed in around each slum. The CDGs

are an exemplary part of the Bachpan programme. There are eighteen CDGs with the strength of 344 in 20 slums of working area.

**2.2 Pro-Poor Governance :** Refresher Training of Jatha, Quarterly meetings of representatives of BAL Panchayat, Orientation Workshop of Bal Panchayat were organized.

**Intervention with adolescent girls :** This year the major activity planned with adolescent girls were awareness campaign against child marriage and exposures.

### **Liaising with Government Department**

- **Education Department-** Liaising with education department was made at different levels. Linking with the education department DEO has issued letter for free admission of children in any government school.
- **Women and Child Development Department-** Women and Children groups are strengthened and are monitoring the activities of Aaganwadi
- **Labor Department-** Efforts were raised to link the children involved in labor with the educational schemes of labor department.

**Networking with NGO's :** To build a network of NGO's Bachpan actively participated and conducted various programs organized by other like minded NGO's.

- **Child Rights Committee** – Madhya Pradesh child rights consultation was conducted to evaluate the experiences and situation of child rights. The recommendations were given by the committee to United Nations.
- **National Alliance of Grassroots NGO's (NAGN)** – Bachpan has also participated in NAGN, which has given a National level identification.
- **Support to Pakhawada (Fortnight)** : Women rights resource center (WRRC) and seven other organizations celebrated a Fortnight on Violence against women. For the purpose various awareness and orientation programs were initiated in our slums.
- **Intervention for Disabled** : The efforts are made on getting certificate; pension and helping aid for disable children and adults.

**Platform Initiative :** Platform children belong to the most vulnerable category and are among the marginalized children in India. Children living on platforms are stigmatized and labeled as delinquents and criminals in the society. In Bachpan we had analyzed the situation of children on 3 platform junctions of Madhya Pradesh, i.e. Katni, Itarsi and Bhopal. Major reasons of children running from home are due to poverty and violence at home. Around 51% of children have run away from home because they have faced violence at their home, where around 24% of children have left home due to heavy work load at home.

Bachpan is working for home placement of platform children as an ongoing process.

## **C. Right to Protection:**

With focus on right to protection & right to shelter platform initiative is continued in the third year of its interventions. Many interventions were planned this year to ensure the access of rights of protection for platform children. The planned interventions were as follows:

1. Sensitization
2. Reunion with families
3. Liaising with the government

## **A. Building Capacity of the poor & marginalized:**

**Activity Center (Recreational & Educational Support):** According to this year's plan the shelters were converted into Activity center. For the purpose children along with workers decorated the shelters with their drawings around 125 children participated.

**Food Support to children (Bhopal and Katni) :** This year 95 children were provided food support in centers. In Bhopal, after liaising with the government the support of center was totally provided by education department in the Residential Bridge Course (RBC) program called DISHA. Local contribution was also gathered to ensure the food support in centers.

**Support for hygiene and sanitation :** The 8 children were given the treatment in local government hospital. In Bhopal shelter check-up camp was organized when chicken pox was prevalent

**Support for Hygiene and Sanitation :** 8 children were taken to local government hospitals for the treatment from the centers.

## **Right to Shelter:**

**Training camp for Jatha formation :** The processes of Jatha formation of platform children was organized where 15 children from platforms of Bhopal, Katni and Itarsi actively participated.

## **Platform to Train: Forming Group of Traveling Friend (Yatra-sakha) Publishing Support Material :**

**Outreach Facilitator :** The Outreach facilitators contact children at the platforms, identify new children, bring them to the shelter and undertake family tracing, contacting parents and facilitate their home placement.

**Workshop:** A workshop of all members of Platnet.org and other organisations, media persons, bureaucracy, politicians in 2nd quarter was planned. But as the intervention was extensive this year and meetings were organized at each station, this program was not conducted.

**Meet the Street:** In the program was organized on date 13<sup>th</sup> July 2007 at Gandhi Bhawan Bhopal (M.P.). In this program Bhopal Divisional Rail Manager (D.R.M) Shri Ashok Agrawal was the Chief Guest & Bhopal Child welfare Society's Shri. Mahesh Saxena chaired this program and Kamal Kishor Dubey (Pro. Railway) was Special Guest.

**State Level Rally:** The State level rally was planned to be organized to build-up the pressure to form the Child Welfare Committee. But as the committee was formalized in October 2007 and is working at present, hence the plan of was cancelled.

## **Rights of Women and Children**

**Home placement camp (De-addiction):** Home placement camp is an important effort of de-institutionalization. Through home placement and de-addiction camp, the platform children are mentally prepared to stop taking addiction and to go back to their homes.



*DRM, MrA.shlok Agarwal giving bouquet to Sonu with his mother Jyoti Devi and father Nandlal Rai*

### ***I was beaten by policeman ...***

*I am 13 years old Sonu, the eldest among the five brothers and sisters in my family. I have two younger sisters and brothers. My father's name is Nandlal Rai and mother's name is Jyoti Devi. I belong to Dumra village of Dudhi Tehsil, in District Sonbhadra of Uttar Pradesh. I was regular student of class 4 in my school. I was very bright and talented child in my class. My father used to get annoyed of me and used to hit me for silly reasons. Many times he had beaten me while he was drunk. He was addicted to alcohol and after getting drunk he used to quarrel at home. For this reason I ran away from home. I took a warm shawl and Rs.200/- from my grandmother and eloped at night to platform of Renukut, Uttar Pradesh, from where he caught the train to Jamnagar, Gujarat, where my uncle resides. But in morning I realized that I was traveling in wrong train and I dropped at Katni platform.*

*Till then my money finished and I started to sweep in trains and beg for my living. I did not like the company of other children. I used to sleep on platform and eat snacks in morning and evening. I didn't like other children as they used to stink of whitener and alcohol and fight with each other. I lived on platform for ten days when staff member of Bachpan asked me to come along and live in shelter, where I met other children of platform. I was not agreeing on going back to home. I was afraid that my father will beat me. In de addiction and home placement camp I enjoyed a lot. I was told about the ill effects of addiction and various stories on parents and teacher. I thought that I was beaten by policeman, passengers and local vendors on platform whereas at home my father used to beat me only when I made mistakes. Then in closing ceremony of the camp I suddenly saw my father approaching me. I was surprised and thrilled to see him. He promised me that he will not beat me again and hugged me. I believed him and agreed on going back to home.*

*Presently I am living at my home with my siblings. I am studying in seventh standard and want to become Doctor. My favorite subject is Science. I am thankful to Bachpan for sending me back to my parents.*

The details of the children supported from the shelters are as follows:

<b>Details</b>	<b>Bhopal</b>	<b>Itarsi</b>	<b>Katni</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b><i>Contacted children</i></b>	291	260	223	<b>774</b>
Old Children contacted	38	35	25	<b>98</b>
New children contacted	213	216	189	<b>618</b>
Girls contacted	40	9	9	<b>58</b>
<b><i>Children reached to shelter</i></b>	304	239	139	<b>682</b>
Children ran from shelter	62	77	39	<b>178</b>
Children in home placement camp	10	7	19	<b>36</b>
Children sent to Observation homes	0	3	0	<b>3</b>
Children linked with other org. for education	8	16	0	<b>24</b>
<b><i>Children repatriated</i></b>	114	108	77	<b>299</b>
By staff	22	56	51	<b>129</b>
By parents	86	45	20	<b>151</b>
Self or through telephone	6	7	6	<b>19</b>
Meetings with children	40	21	40	<b>101</b>
Health check-up of children	81	39	14	<b>104</b>
<b><i>Picnic (Times)</i></b>	4	3	5	<b>12</b>
<b><i>Children included in Jatha</i></b>	8	8	0	<b>16</b>

Platform initiative's main focus is on home placement of children to ensure the right to protection of a child. This year 299 of children are home placed by parents, where 151 children were home placed through parents by contacting parents to take their child from shelter.

### **Liaising with the Government**

**Liaising with Railway Department :** The efforts made by the project to mainstream the platform children have paid back this year. The advocacy for children living on platform was finally heard by Railway Department.

**Liaising with Education Department :** In the process of advocacy and liaising, Education Department extended its hand by launching of Residential Bridge Course (RBC) for platform children named as 'DISHA' (Direction). As a result, the shelter run by Bachpan is taken up by Education Department. Honorable Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Mr. Shivraj Singh Chauhan inaugurated the program DISHA and appreciated the efforts of Bachpan NIWCYD. Presently RBC 'a bridge course', which helps children of older age complete their curriculum in lesser time, as well as ensures accommodation, food and formal education is supporting 30 children living on platform.

### ***I want to be a social worker ...***

*I am 14 years old Yogesh studying in class 5 in DISHA, Residential Bridge Course. My life begins at 6 in the morning, when I freshen up and exercise. After having breakfast I dress in my uniform and go to school. As I have dropped my school in class 3, special classes are given to me to catch up the course of two years.*

*I belong to Akola, Maharashtra. When I was born my father expired followed by my mother. I was taken care by my uncle. He was very generous and taught me up to third standard. When he married his wife, my aunt would hit me and force me to do all household work. She would wake me up early in the morning for daily chores. As a result I was lagging behind in my studies. My school Principal sent the letter to my uncle, frightened of which I left home. For two years I spent my life on Bhopal platform station, addicted to whitener and alcohol, hungry for days. I used beg or sweep the train carriages for my living. Everyone used to beat me up whether passengers or police person. One day I met the worker of Bachpan, who brought me to this shelter. Here I had gone to de-addiction camp, where I pledged to leave addiction and become a good human being. Initially it was tough for me to control my urge, but slowly and with regular counseling of Bachpan staff members I have left addiction completely.*

*Now I am concentrating on my studies and in future I want to work as social worker and continue the efforts of Bachpan, like Didi and Bhaiya (Staff members of Bachpan are called as elder brother and sister). I am thankful to Bachpan for showing me the right path and becoming a good human being.*

## **MAJOR OUTCOMES & ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- 2 new schools initiated with the efforts of community.
- Formation of Mahila Manch in two clusters.
- Formation of Bal Panchayat in two clusters.
- 17 child laborers linked to school through Jatha presentation.
- 8 new aganwadis initiated in 20 slums with the efforts of Mahila Manch.
- Monitoring of Aganwadis by Women groups.
- Addressing the issues with the help of Right to Information by women groups/ Mahila Manch.
- 33 children received disability certificate with the efforts made by women groups.
- Addressing the issue of water facility in community by Mahila Manch.
- Received order letter from Collector regarding free admission and enrollment of child in school at any time of session.
- Liaising with Education, Labor, Railway and Police Department.
- Initiation of special Residential Bridge Course as “DISHA” program to ensure education and shelter for the children living on platform.
- Advocating the issues of child rights for the children living in slums and platforms by children in Child Rights Observatory and Hyderabad Conclave.
- Network of NGOs formed and recommendation send to United Nations regarding execution of Child Rights in Madhya Pradesh.
- Repatriation of 326 children to their home.
- 30 children living on platform receiving education in the program of ‘DISHA’.

## **Girls Education and Community Health Project - Hoshangabad**

NIWCYD has supported this project for poor and tribal children for their education and health. 56 girls of std 7 to 12 were enrolled in the Hostel. All the girls have been attending the Govt. Middle and High School regularly. Medical facilities are provided to the girls by the organization.

This year Shyamvati of std. 12 had a serious abscess in the right breast and is still undergoing treatment. Savitri of Std. 11 was diagnosed with glandular tuberculosis and has been taking treatment at Padhar Mission Hospital, Betul. Her condition has improved greatly and she has put on some weight too. She is being given special diet of milk and eggs in addition to regular food. Other girls have suffered minor illnesses from time to time.

On November 16, 2006 girls of std. 7, 8, 9 and 10 (total 33) plus the warden and supervisor visited the Regional Science Centre in Bhopal. They got an opportunity to see various models, scientific experiments, the planetarium, 3-D films and so on. In December the girls of std. 11 and 12 visited Balajipuram in Betul district. Now only girls from std. 6 and 7 remain and they will be taken to Bhopal zoo after the final exams.

All through the academic year, the Supervisor coaches the girls in the evenings in the hostel in Maths and Science. The Warden, who is currently doing her M.A., helps all

those who need assistance in Hindi. The Coordinator teaches English to all the 56 girls in batches on Sundays and evenings when she stays overnight in the hostel.

By and large the quality of food and education in the hostel are good and the girls are learning a lot. Both the resource persons interact regularly with the hostel girls when they come for staff trainings.

## **Empowering Slum Dwellers for Basic Rights – Bhopal & Jabalpur Slums**

This project was initiated in July 2006 in Bhopal and Jabalpur slums in MP.

### **Understanding the issue ...**

#### **Synergizing between child rights and larger issues of urban poor**

A four day orientation program was organized for the teams of Bachpan project and Oxfam program. The aim was to understand the issue of child rights and other related issues in context of urban poverty. A synergy was developed on Child rights and Urban housing Rights of the poor. During our work with urban poor, experience gained while working with the children major issues that of social security of the poor working in unorganized sector were developed. Understanding developed at the institutional and as well as individual level. Bachpan's work initiated in 2001, the staff composition also contributes to the understanding developed at the institutional level (55% of Bachpan's staff is from the community where Bachpan works). Bachpan works primarily with children for the fundamental rights. In the process an effort is made to mobilize the community and organize them in groups. The work initiated by securing Education as the fundamental right of children. The issue of child labor got linked. An understanding developed over the period of years about the main cause being lack of social security measures as being manifested in the problems being faced by the children.

### **Process undertaken ... ..**

**Visit to the communities:** The aim for the community visits is to build a rapport with the people, understand the context, identify various issues and identify people for formation of groups. The communities were divided among the four team members.

**Issues Identified:** Various issues emerged in the communities. An effort was made to collect the information about the issues that emerged and provide to the bastiwalas. The issues are as follows:

- i) Ration Card: Name in the Bpl, process of formation of Ration card, and process of inclusion of the excluded names.
- ii) Process of formation of Caste Certificates
- iii) Drinking water problem: Regularizing the tankers
- iv) Sewage problem in Mira Nagar
- v) Toilet problem

The efforts put in for the issues are as follows:

- i) People are being identified for old age pension, widow pension, and disability pension. An attempt is being made to organize them in a group.
- ii) Caste Certification: The process for the formation of Caste Certification has been learnt and is being shared with the community through the information centre.

### **PLA Training for the Bench Mark Survey: 10<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Jan '07**

The purpose of this Benchmark survey is to gain first hand information on the issues concerning the slum communities mainly related to water, sanitation, toilets, and to understand the dynamics that play in the communities in order to increase our understanding of the context. The aim is to identify key areas for interventions and encourage participatory program development.

Methods Applied: PLA (Participatory Learning and Action) tools were used for the collection of data.

Process observed: This is the phase one of the benchmark survey. A four days training program was organized from 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Jan and subsequently data was collected in four days (14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 07) using PLA tools and participatory techniques in 8 slums. The course of the training program includes understanding in brief the concepts of participation and community, behavior, attitude and communication skills of PLA facilitator, and importance and role of team. Background of PLA, stages of participatory program development and different PLA tools were also explained. Various exercises were conducted to enhance the understanding of team on different concepts and for team building. Two teams comprising of eight members each was formed. The structures of the teams were such that it had one facilitator and one who would document the whole exercise. The other team members would conduct the exercise. The various tools used for data collection include mapping, transect walk to get an idea of the geographic space; time lines and seasonal calendars; semi structured interviews, chapatti diagram and Venn diagram. The use of the tool and its sequence was left to the discretion of the team.

### **Methodology: Ensuring community participation for community ownership .....**

**Alliance building :** While the State govt is implementing the JNNURM there is a constant problem of the communities being displaced. The bastis included in the first phase are Shyam Nagar, Shabri Nagar, Bapu Nagar. With institutions like the Brahmoshe Education Society, Muskaan, Nagrik Adhikar Manch, and Sangini (WRRC). Took active part in the campaign against displacement. During the campaign two meetings were organized in Saket Nagar, six in Bapu Nagar, one each in Rajiv and Indira Nagar, and four in Shabri Nagar. Took active part in the planning meetings of Sangini (WRRC) for organizing a 15 days Pakhwada. Nearly 30 women and adolescent girls participated in the rally organized on International Human Rights Day (10<sup>th</sup> Dec). Also proactively participated in the activities organized by the Nagrik Adhikar Manch.

### **Initiation of the information center and formation of the Sanchalan Samiti**

**Information Center :** Three meetings of Sanchalan Samiti have been organized in the IC, which includes the women from Gulab Nagar, Saraswati Nagar, Sabji Farm, and

Laxman Nagar. The process of stabilizing the activities of Information center has been initiated. Various activities for children are organized. A reading group is being initiated. Youth and women meetings are conducted. Various issues like Ration card, Bhopal List, Caste certification, Water irregularity were raised during the meetings.

- Exposure visit of the women and youth of Sanchalan Samiti (Saraswati Nagar, Sabji Farm and Gulab Nagar) to Vigyan Foundation Lucknow and Allahabad was organized from 19<sup>th</sup> Jan to 24<sup>th</sup> Jan '07. A team included 22 participants. The aim was to learn from the community mobilization processes initiated by the colleagues.

**Potential of youth :** Meetings with the youth of Sabji Farm and Gulab Nagar were organized in the information center. The aim is to organize them for the welfare programmes of the communities.

- A Jatha training program comprising 17 youth of JyotibaPhule Nagar and Rahul Nagar was organized from 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 07 to 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 07. The script of the play was the threat of displacement that haunt the slums and the need of people to come together.

### **Crèche cum Balwadi Programme -**

There are 5 creches in slum areas of Nagpur benefiting 150 poor SC / ST children through nutrition and health support.

## **C. Self Governance & Institution Building**

### **Swayam Samarthan Project**

The Poorest Area Civil Society (PACS) Program is a DFID supported project launched in July 2003 with the coverage in most cornered areas of four districts in Madhya Pradesh i.e. Dindori, Mandala, Betul & Chhindwara. The villages in the project area share common characteristics like forested areas with 73 % tribal populations. For addressing the vulnerable situations in the area strategies are designed in such a manner that the effected people will become self reliant and their voice will just their concerns in respective of their issues i.e. SWAYAM – SAMARTHAN. The project is being implemented with the network of 9 NGOs of 4 tribal populated districts lead by NIWCYD.

#### **Major Concerns;**

- Improved Local Self Governance in rural and urban areas
- Women's empowerment
- Self Help to meet basic needs
- Poverty alleviation

#### **Project objectives**

The overall project goal is "Building and strengthening people's institutions in 450 villages in Mandla, Dindori, Chhindwara and Betul districts of Madhya Pradesh; thereby

enabling conservation and efficient use of their natural resources and benefits under government schemes”.

### **Strategic Actions**

**Gramdoot (Village Animator):** Gramdoot is not a new concept. There are a few in the villages who are always there to provide assistance, suggestions, to one and all. This person carries out his work to earn the livelihood and takes time out to be of any help to the others. We call this person as Gramdoot.

Activities during the year –

- Establishment of community based institutions like – SHG, PTA, Farmers clubs, Forest committees, Seed and Grain bank committees, etc.
- 6 training on community forest management and nistar rights conducted covering 276 persons.
- 15 capacity building and orientation training of gramdoots held covering 460 persons.
- 5 EDP trainings organised benefiting 165 persons
- 6 trainings on agriculture covering 358 participants
- 9 women SHG trainings organised covering 270 women
- 5 trainings on PRI were held benefiting 160 persons
- Horticulture and vegetable farming campaign conducted in 86 villages
- Indigenous seed promotion campaign held in 22 villages
- Exposure visits on agriculture and institution building organized for 60 key members of the villages.
- Regular liaison with district administration for implementation of NREGS and other development programme in context of livelihood.
- Dissemination of different Acts and government schemes at village level.

### **Major achievements of the project for four years are -**

- Of the total 4800 families (on an average 400 per cluster) whose annual income is less than 6000 INR (as per the BLD, 24424 BPL), 30-40% are linked to micro-credit institutions and or Govt. schemes to initiate Income generation activities and local employment through different development schemes.
- Fair trade becomes a practice in 30-40% village markets
- Initiation of IGP activity in 10-20% of total 450 SHG.
- Decrease in instances of borrowing from moneylenders.

- Migration (no of days and no of families migrating) decreases. Could we break up the migration as per the period of migration/cluster wise based on the trends emerging out of BLD analysis
- DECISION MAKING PROCESSES: Relevance of gram samba realized as demonstrated by at least 30 to 40% of the total population attending every gram sabha
- Women's participation in the decision making process will increase. At least 40 to 50 % of the total women will participate in the Gram Sabha and about 10 to 20 % of those attending take active participation in the proceedings of the gram Sabha.
- Women Sarpanch hold office by themselves (in place of proxy office keeping by their husbands)
- Gram sabhas will adopt natural resource management, health, education and joint forest management (in forest villages) as their primary agenda points.
- 25 to 30 % of the total 69 villages are linked to JFM network and assert their rights
- The Gramsabhas of 20 to 30 % villages gain a say in the matters related to primary education and functional aspect of basic health facilities.
- 25-30% of the Panchayat prepare development plans based on participatory resource mapping, need assessment and prioritization.
- Linkages are being made by 10 to 20% Panchayat bodies with govt. and autonomous institutions for likely partnership to implement the development plans. (outside finance commission)
- Other output : Local varieties and species of crops will be preserved through the promotion of indigenous agriculture methods.
- There will be an increase in the usage of organic agricultural inputs (fertilizers and pesticides) by the farmers in the area.

#### Project Achievements against Outputs

- Members of 606 families have been linked with different income generation activities through the self help groups in 15 clusters of four districts. 14, 345 families have started the collection and marketing of non-timber forest produce from which the income of each family has increased by Rs. 2500 to Rs. 4000/-. 15,537 families have got the work under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. Thus 30,488 poor families from the project area have been linked with different income generating initiatives and local employment.
- In 218 villages of the project area, the people have initiated the collection and marketing processes for the non-timber forest produce and agriculture produce on the collective basis. This has resulted in people getting fair price for their produce from the local traders and middle men.

- 939 Self Help Groups formed in the project area. Out of these 671 are women SHGs. The funds worth Rs. 1,78,42,457/- mobilised by these SHGs from their own savings, linkages with the banks and other financing institutions and various government departments and projects. Of these 224 SHGs (23.85%) have started IGP with the assistance from government, 149 SHGs (15.86%) have started IGP with their own resources and 233 SHGs (24.81%) have got support from other projects and institutions to start the income generation activities. Thus 606 self help groups (64.53%) have initiated different income generating activities.
- Before the start of the project, 10781 families were dependant on the moneylenders and big farmers. Due to the interventions 2251 families (21%) have been totally freed from the moneylenders and big farmers. Dependence of 3497 (32.43%) families on moneylenders and big farmers has partially reduced.
- At the start of the project interventions 23,238 families were migrating from their own places to different areas to make up their livelihood deficit. Due to the initiation of the different income generation activities and linking of various government schemes in the project area, 13,460 families (58% of the migrating families) have completely stopped migrating for the work. 9778 families (42% of the migrating families) are still migrating but the period of the migration has reduced.
- Of the total 185 Gram panchayats in the project area, 78 Gram Panchayats have become active due to the project inputs. In the Gramsabha meetings of all the project villages, 25% to 50% people are participating in the meetings of the Gramsabhas.
- Before the start of the project, the participation of women in the Gramsabhas was merely 5%. Women hardly had any say in the decision making processes in the Gramsabhas. Due to project interventions, the participation of women in the Gramsabhas has increased by 30% to 40% in all the villages. 376 women from the project villages have been elected as the members of the Panchayats and are actively involved in the decision making processes in the Gram Panchayats. Of the 53 women who have been elected as the Sarpanch, 34 women are actively involved in the decision making process.
- Of the total 185 panchayats, 53 are headed by women. Of these 53 women Sarpanch, 46 are the members of the self help groups promoted in the project. This reflects that the self help groups have enhanced the capacities of the women and brought them in to the mainstream of the decision making process. Out of 53 women Sarpanch, 34 are working independently in their respective Panchayats and are asserting their rights and duties.
- Parents Teachers Associations have been activated in 326 project villages to take the issues related with the education especially the primary education with the Gramsabhas. The Gramsabhas have taken action against the non-performing teachers and have appointed new teachers where it required. Due to the interventions by Gramsabhas and PTAs the Mid-Day Meals scheme improved in the 53 villages where it was totally dysfunctional. As a result of the interventions by the Gramsabhas, the health situation in terms of immunization of children and pregnant women has improved. People are taking the benefits of the

government schemes such as the maternity benefits (133 families from 91 villages), Deendayal Antyodaya treatment scheme (886 families from 139 villages). The Gramsabhas in the project villages are also raising the issues such as the social security of the weaker sections, old age pensions etc. The village forest committees have been strengthened and these are protecting their forests.

- There are 69 forest villages in the project villages. In the year 2006, the elections of the Forest Protection Committees were held and in 33 villages (23%) the presidents of the Forest Protection Committees were nominated by the people. The JFM Committees of these villages are functioning in consultation with the people. 32 JFMCs have intervened in the illegal felling of the forest trees and have asserted their rights in preventing the falling of the trees. In Baiga Chak area of Dindori district the Forest Protection Committees have taken up livelihood and infrastructure development works to the tune of Rs. 2.75 Core rupees in collaboration with the forest department and other government development agencies.
- Gramsabhas of 90 villages (20%) have appointed the ASHA workers in these villages. 64 villages (14%) have intervened in the primary education system of the villages. The Parents Teachers Association of 326 villages has become active and are taking the issues with the Gramsabhas.
- The Micro plans of all the 450 villages have been developed based on the felt needs and priorities of the people. The work under NREGS and other developmental work are undertaken in the villages according to these microplans.
- In about 40 panchayats of the project area, the livelihood enhancement programmes and the hardware activities have been implemented with the support of other donor agencies. The other government institutions like NABARD, Zilla Panchayats have also linked their schemes with the project villages in the area.
- The local varieties of species and crops have been promoted by 21539 farmers in the project area who are engaged in traditional cultivation practices. In 285 villages, the traditional varieties of seeds have been conserved by the people through seed banks. In 216 villages across four districts people have strengthened the tradition of "Ramkothi" through grain banks.
- There has been the decrease in the use of chemicals and fertilizers by the farmers as 35% of the farmers have reduced the use of chemical fertilizers in the agricultural practices. 6% farmers have completely stopped the use of chemical fertilizers in agricultural practices. 2130 farmers from the project area have shifted to wormi compost and NADEP method of manure for the agriculture.

### **Community Mobilization for Elderly, Mandla**

The project implementation plan has given priority to the formation of Elderly groups in all project villages early in the present activity period. By the first week of August 2006 elderly groups were formed in all hundred project villages under the development blocks of Nainpur, Mohgaon, Bichchiya and Mandla besides the formation of cluster level elderly group with the project specific identity of Vridha Sanghs.

Against the another main project objective as linking at least twenty five elderly members per village with government social security schemes addressing their needs related to food, shelter and social security – three hundred elderly have been entitled to three different schemes (Old Age Pension, Antodaya Anna Yojana and Indira Awas Yojana). Second phase of Vridha Mitra training and first phase of Vridha Sangh trainings also have completed in which twenty Vridha Mitras (Project Staff with the responsibility of five village for each appointed among hundred villages) and twenty representatives of Vridha Sanghs had benefited.

Nearly forty charter of demand have submitted to different government offices and Panchayat Raj Institutions related to the food, social security and habitat security of the elderly in the project villages. International Day for elderly has celebrated in the project villages with the support of local community members and Vridha Sanghs.

To fulfill the objective of the sustainability of the Vridha Sanghs, a training center has started at Nainpur development block under the banner of the project and Vridha Sangh of that cluster where eco – friendly, less physical, and no fossil fuel intensive handicraft production has started. This effort was intended to be the creation of a platform in which elderly members from different villages can sit together and exchange their views on various issues concerning to their social and family problems through the medium of the production unit.

Selected Vridha Sangh members could participate in advocacy workshops conducted both at state and national level. Mid – term review of the project has conducted in the village by a two member team. The team had visited the project village of four blocks and had various interactive exercises with the community and project team. For awareness and community mobilization one multi-colour poster and bilingual broacher has been brought out under the project activities. The broacher has officially released on the occasion of National Advocacy Workshop conducted at New Delhi during December 2006.

Case studies of beneficiaries of government schemes (Indira Awas Yojana, Old Age Pension Yojana) have published in the news letters of HelpAge India – News letter published from New Delhi. The Quarterly news letters of the project had also covered stories of success from project villages. The ending of the year 2007 was threw open new challenges for the team like the sustainability of Vridha Sanghs, innovative steps to get the support of other sections of the community to the Vridha Sanghs in the forthcoming days.

## **D. Women and Health**

### **Mobile Medical Unit, Madhya Pradesh**

Ambulance was made available to the project area in Baiga Chak, Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh. This mobile medical unit covers 52 villages in the region and is equipped with medical facilities and medicines. One doctor and nurse accompanies the unit on weekly camps being conducted in different clusters. District Health Officers are

actively cooperating in this effort. 6,000 Primitive tribes were covered by the unit. Serious patients and pregnant women are taken to the nearest hospital for further treatment.

### Home Based Neonatal Care (HBNC)

This project is continued in 16 villages of Mansar area of Nagpur district. Regular health services are being made available to new born by women health workers. Child Mortality Rate in the project reduced by 40 % due to handling of pneumonia and sepsis cases.

### STI / HIV / AIDS Intervention for Migrant Population - Nagpur Slums

Under the national effort to curb spread of HIV/AIDS, NIWCYD initiated efforts to create awareness amongst migrant population in 11 slums in East Nagpur. Project titled 'HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control in Migrants of 11 Slums in Nagpur city' was started in July 2006 in association with Avert Society, Mumbai.

The population coverage was as follows – Primary Target Group : 4,170 persons, Secondary Target Group : 10,834 persons and Tertiary Target Group : 114 persons

Following activities were carried out during the year –

- Counselling - One to one session, One to Group sessions
- Community Mobilization Events - Marker events, Street Plays, World Aids Week
- IEC materials Distribution
- Condom promotion - demo and re-demo
- STI care, counselling and allied services
- Capacity building - peer educators, staff
- Advocacy and Enabling - meetings, marker events, Conferences/Seminar

### Achievements during the year :

Indicators	Achievements
Counselling	
New One to One	4,935
Follow up One to One	1,289
New One to Group	887
Follow up One to Group	
No of events	56
No of population reached through events	2,152
No. of peers identified	25
No. of peers trained	25
No. of condom demo	2,144
No. condom re-demo	2,530
No. of condom distribution	
a. Free	13,195

b. Social marketing	
No of free outlets	22
No. of STI cases identified	83
No. of STI cases treated	33
No. of VCTC referred & tested	31
No. of PLHA identified	3

## **Campaign for Safe Motherhood & Child Health – Madhya Pradesh**

The campaign was initiated from April 2006 with the objective of sensitization the civil society on the issue of safe motherhood & childhood with the support of UNICEF office Bhopal. . The activities was conducted to establish an engagement with the stakeholders i.e. government machinery, CBOs & NGOs, media persons & peoples representatives.

The major activities conducted under the campaign are as under;

- Regional Consultations : 3 regional consultation program was organized in Mahakaushal region, Malwa Nimad region & Bundelkhand region with the NGOs & civil society groups to orient them on the issues of safe motherhood.
- Data collection & analysis : A region wise data base was collected on the health services, delivery deaths, health schemes, services available in the regions & districts etc. These data were analyzed & circulated among the media to raise the issues. A book on the delivery deaths was also published.
- Engagements with Peoples’ representatives : A series of program was organized initiating from the women representatives of Panchayat to the MLAs of the state. Workshops organized with female Panchayat representatives of Dindori district. All 230 MLA of the state were informed with the vulnerable health conditions of their regions as well as state through correspondences.
- Media Advocacy : Media plays important role to disseminate the issues. So 23 correspondents of different news paper were identifies and provided with information packs of analysis on health issues. Press conferences & media consultations were organized to raise the issues of safe motherhood in different regions of MP.
- Networking : The issue of safe motherhood were taken to different platforms with the help of regional organizations.

## **Natural Fibre Project – Madhya Pradesh**

NIWCYD in collaboration with Council of Handicrafts Development Corporation (COHANDS), New Delhi has initiated an effort to generate livelihoods through effective use of natural fibre.

The project titled ‘Survey, Mobilization & Formation of SHG of Female Artisans in Natural Fibre Craft in Madhya Pradesh’ was started in March 2007. Mobilization of women and survey of BPL families was started in six district viz. Balaghat, Chhindwara, Dindori, Mandla, Seoni, Umaria covering more than 50 villages.

## **E. INSTITUTIONAL PROCESS**

- Cluster level monthly meetings
- Quarterly & six monthly meetings
- Team building
- Bridging with Government agencies like NABARD, Panchayat & Rural Deptt. Etc.
- Capacity building trainings through a team of resource persons at regular intervals
- District level trainings of staff
- Project evaluation
- Induction Workshops
- State level advocacy processes
- Media advocacy
- Capacity building of network partners
- Coordination with other networks like Right to food campaign for Issues of BPL, PDS system & ICDS
- Process documentation

## **Partner Organizations**

The NIWCYD Governing Council wishes to acknowledge the support it has received from a variety of individuals and institutions in the year under report. This includes financial support from

- AWO, Germany
- Oxfam (India) Trust, Lucknow
- Indo Global Social Service Society (IGSSS), Bhubaneshwar
- Terre des Hommes (TdH), Pune
- ActionAid India, Bhopal
- DFID through Development Alternatives, New Delhi
- HelpAge India, New Delhi
- SEARCH, Gadchiroli
- Canadian High Commission, CIDA, New Delhi
- Unicef, Bhopal
- Ministry of Tourism through DM, Mandla
- MPRLP, Bhopal
- Avert Society, Mumbai
- NABARD, Bhopal
- COHANDS, Ministry of Textiles, New Delhi

The governing council also wishes to thank the staff, volunteers and various technical associates who have contributed greatly to its programmes and mission.

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