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

**Annual Report** 

2008 - 09

#### 1. PREFACE

National Institute of Women Child and Youth Development has completed twenty five years from its registration in 1985. The organisation is strengthening their programme in areas of –

- (i) tribal empowerment for their rights
- (ii) agriculture promotion for food security
- (iii) child rights, specially platform children, child labour and girl child
- (iv) promotion of village volunteers (Gramdoots) for rural development
- (v) women empowerment through self help promotion and skill training
- (vi) networking with like minded organisations and their capacity building
- (vii) strengthening of self governance
- (viii) establish linkages with government agencies for convergence of different schemes on welfare and livelihood

Activities carried out on above areas during the year 2008 – 09 are presented in this report.

R.K. Malviya Chief Functionary

#### 2. Programme Progress Card

#### A. LIVELIHOOD

In 2008 - 09, the programme was supported by six resource partner's viz. AWO, OXFAM, TdH, IGSSS, LWR, MPRLP, 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.

## A1) Self Help Project for Baigas

**Location**: 12 villages in the Samnapur block of Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh, and 5 villages in Kondhagaon block of North Bastar district of Chhattisgarh.

**Project Objectives:** Improving the living conditions of the primitive tribal groups

# **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. Five villages included from Chhattisgarh state are inhabited by Madia primitive tribal population.

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. Insurgency in the project area in Chhattisgarh posses challenge in implementation of project activities.

#### Results and planned measures/activities – level of accomplishment

**Result 1**: In the 32 villages of direct interventions livelihoods of primitive tribal will be secure and they will not be forced to endure hunger.

The land development activities have been initiated in the new 22 villages (17 in Samnapur block of Dindori district and 5 in Kondhagaon block of Jagdalpur district in Chhatisgarh) water structures such as stop dam, lake and temporary bunds have also been developed in old 12 villages for the irrigation purpose. Also the wormi compost pits have been developed in the project area. 60 farmers have been selected from the old 12 villages for the improved agriculture practices. 51 farmers from new 17 villages in Dindori district have started the paddy cultivation by Madagascar techniques. In Dindori district nearly 40% families from 29 villages have given their claims for the work on their livelihood resource, i.e. land and water for the under different government schemes.

#### Output:

1. 119 acres of land development in 15 villages of Samnapur block district Dindori

- 2. 25 Acres of land development in 5 villages of Kondhagaon block of North Bastar district, Chhatisgarh.
- 3. One stop dam, one well, one lake, 14 earthen bunds have been developed in 10 villages of Samnapur block, district Dindori.

## **Use of Output:**

- Developed land brought under paddy cultivation
- 15 acres of land brought under irrigation.

**Direct benefits:** 859 families benefited.

**Result 2:** Other development actors be they NGOs, government and corporate entities will address the livelihood of the tribals through different government schemes.

NIWCYD has initiated the movement of developing village volunteers in the villages for overall village development and liaison with the administration at the block and district level through network of NGOs in 6 districts of Madhya Pradesh and Chhatisgarh states. 15 block level advocacy forums have been established in four districts of Madhya Pradesh. Four district level advocacy forums have also been established in the four districts. In Chhatisgarh state, the formation of block (Kondhagaon & Lakhanpur) level forum is in slow process as the area is *naxal* affected.

Under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, people are raising the demands for the livelihood resource development work such as land leveling, well development for drinking water, lake development etc. The resolutions to this effect have been passed in the village assemblies. The government has taken up the livelihood resources enhancement work in the Dindori and Jagdalpur districts. In Dindori district, the forest department has also taken up the land leveling and water structure development work.

#### Output:

- 1. 155 village volunteers have been trained to raise the issues of the people at various level in Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh.
- 2. 345 village volunteers are raising the issues of the people at various levels in three other districts of Madhya Pradesh.
- 3. The livelihood resource generation work such as land leveling, well development, stop dam etc has been done by Village Panchayat through NREGS to the tune of Rs. 64,70,000/- in the 29 project villages in Dindori district.
- 4. Infrastructure development work done by the village panchayats in the 29 villages of Dindori district under NREGS to the tune of Rs. 86,24,000/- in 29 villages of Dindori district.
- 5. Forest department has also undertaken the livelihood resource generation and the infrastructure development work to the tune of Rs. 53,80,000/- in these villages.

#### **Use of Output:**

People are raising more and more demand for the livelihood resources generation work with the government through the village Panchayats.

**Direct beneficiaries:** 839 families from 29 villages have been benefited from the government interventions.

**Result 3:** Sustainable people's institutions and structures will be established and controlled by the tribal themselves.

In the old 12 villages of the project area in Samnapur block of Dindori district, The grain bank seed banks and the cash fund are managed by the people's committees without any direct intervention by the organization or the project staff. In the new 22 villages of Madhya Pradesh and Chhatisgarh states, grain and seed banks have been initiated by the people from their own contribution and organizational support. Cash fund has also been developed by the people in the new 22 villages from the organizational support for land development and water structure development work.

Women self help groups have been promoted in all the 34 villages in the project area. These women self help groups have started the savings. The women in the villages have also started participating in the village meetings and the Panchayat meetings.

# **Output:**

- 1. A total deposit in the grain and seed bank in 34 villages is 29,800 kilograms.
- 2. The cash fund developed in all the the project villages is Rs. 17,50,000/-
- 3. The total savings of women self help groups is Rs. 91,730/-
- 4. Village development committees set up in all 34 villages.

# **Use of Output:**

The dependency on external forces for the day-to-day needs has reduced significantly in the project villages of Samnapur block in Dindori district. Women have started participating in the meetings of the village assemblies and are raising the issues of their concern.

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 2757 families from 34 villages

**Result 4:** The forests in the area will be managed by the people in consultation with the forest department.

Forestry Study Groups have been developed in Samnapur block of Dindori district in Madhya Pradesh. There were consultations between the forest department and the people of the area. The Conservator of Forest held the meeting with the people in which about 4000 people from the area stated their views about the forest conservation and management. In villages Rajanisarai and Ranjara the forest department had done the markings in the forest for clear felling without consulting the people. People debated with the district level authorities over the issue and opposed the markings. In village Ranjara, the clear felling was stopped and in village Rajanisarai, only 33% of the marked trees were cut as per the recommendations of the people. Also in the area people opposed the move of the forest department for deputing the labor from outside. They demanded that the forestry work should be given to the people from the area only.

#### **Output:**

- 1. Forest department has completed the work such as well development, lake development etc which were left unfinished.
- 2. In every village the selection of the president of the forest protection committees is done by election process thereby stopping the practice of ad hock selection by forest department.

- 3. People have stopped the cutting of immature and green trees.
- 4. Some of the species on the verge of extinction have now started to grow due to the studies of the forestry groups.

# **Use of Output:**

There is better coordination between the people and the forest department on the issue of forest management. Forest department is consulting the people and also the organizational workers.

**Direct Benefit :** People are not afraid to consult and even confront with the forest department on the issues of their concern.

**Result 5:** Education and health systems in the project area will become functional.

The Parents Teachers Associations in the Samnapur area of Dindori district have started intervening in the school. Parents are encouraging the students to go to schools. People are taking actions against erring teachers. Due to the organizational interventions through bridge classes and non formal education classes, the number of girls attending the schools has increased.

Due to mobile health van of the organization, there is a better coordination with the health department. The government health workers are also providing regular health services to the people. Forest department and the government health department is conducting the health check up camps in the area in Samnapur block of Dindori district. People have started adopting family planning practices.

#### Output:

- 1. 3272 patients treated in the Samnapur area of Dindori district.
- 2. 80 women and 22 men have done family planning operations.
- 3. 14 health check up camp held in the project area in Samnapur block of Dindori district with the coordination of district health department.

#### Use of Output:

People in the project area are taking the help of government health services. Also the functioning of the government health system has improved. There is also increased awareness among the people about the education.

In the Kondhagaon area of chhatisgarh state, the programme could not be established as expected. There are few reasons for that. The important being that, the area where NIWCYD is working in *naxal* affected. As a consequence, the activities had to be started at very low intervention level. The other reason is that the field staff appointed there was new to the whole programme concept. Organisation could not get the field coordinator for the coordination of the field activities.

#### **Impact**

In the implementation of the government programmes, the focus of the government has shifted from infrastructure development to livelihood resource generation. People are demanding regular and proper wages for their work from the government agencies. The health department in the area has become active and the health services have improved, particularly during the emergency situations like epidemics during the rainy seasons.

Advocacy groups of village volunteers are exerting the pressure on the government departments, especially the Integrated Child Development Department for the proper implementation of the Mid-day Meals Scheme. The women self help groups from the project area are implementing the Mid-day Meals Scheme in 3 villages of the project area.

## A2) Sustainable Livelihood for Tribals, Antagad Block, Dist. Kanker, CG

The programme is in its second phase of implementation. The livelihood programme is carried out in 2 villages of Antagad Block of Kanker district of Chhatisgarh state. The project duration is from June 2008 to Sept. 2010. 883 families are covered from two villages – Icchapur and Amajhola.

**Objectives:** Improvement of livelihood options through natural resource management and appropriate agriculture inputs.

#### Achievements:

- a) 11 farm ponds are constructed. 38 families are benefited directly while 57 other families also take benefit of the farm ponds.
- b) Two canal diversions were constructed which stopped soil erosion along the stream bank.
- c) 14 loose boulder plug structures were constructed which helped in preventing soil erosion on farm land.
- d) One gabion structure was constructed which provided irrigation to 9 acres of farm land. 57 families benefited directly and indirectly.
- e) 30 families practiced NADEP and vermicompost and used the organic manure in their farms.
- f) Two village development associations were formed in both the villages. They will take care of maintenance of old structures and monitoring of new work.
- g) Ten women self help groups (SHG) were formed in two villages. 132 women are members of these SHGs having a total saving of Rs. 1,65,671/-. Six SHGs have received loan of Rs. 2,40,000/- for Piggery and trading in weekly market from DRDA.

# A3) Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project (MPRLP) – Mandla, MP

National Institute of Women Child and Youth Development was the facilitating NGO since the first phase of MPRLP in a single cluster at district Mandla. In the second phase the programme has expanded into another two clusters and presently NIWCYD is running the project in three clusters that comprises 46 villages. Villages under the three clusters are forty six in numbers as (Mawai – 14, Sijhora – 15 and Ghutas – 14). The entire project area geographically falls in Mawai development of Mandla district having the majority of the target group as tribal community. The total household coverage of the project is 2388 and 400 family among them were identified as poorest and vulnerable both in terms of socially and economically, which is categorized as D according to the project plan.

# **Project objectives:**

- 1. To strengthen the local institutions, significantly Gramsabhas as the village level constitutional body which focus on decentralized process right from the planning, decision making, implementation and monitoring of each development activity in the village. In this perspective, MPRLP is utilizing all its strength, resources and expertise to strengthen Gramsabha and ensure the participation of community members in the whole process so as to reach the benefits of all government schemes and programmes to the genuinely deserved target groups.
- 2. To create a community with the capacity to take steps to make their own decision and freedom to entitle to their livelihood through collective bargaining by using institutions like Panchayat Raj, community based organizations like self help group, youth group etc.
- 3. To reduce the level of poverty by enhancing the capacity of community members especially, vulnerable sections like women, destitute, tribal groups, and elderly, landless to ensure the access of their basic livelihood needs.
- 4. To Improve the capacity of various sections of the societies like traditional entrepreneurs, farmers, agricultural labors and resulted increase in the total production of food grains.
- 5. To reduce gender inequality and the poverty and discrimination as the direct consequence of such inequality.

## Major achievements

- Completion of baseline survey and wealth ranking and village micro plan.
- Among the total project area the level of participation of Gramsabha has been increased by 15 – 30 percent.
- An average increase in the participation of women members in Gramsabha was 15 percent.
- 25% of the identified D category families among the total project area were entitled to various government schemes which has direct and at the same time positive impact on their livelihood.
- A total seventy five SHGs were strengthened and opened separate bank accounts for each SHG.
- 200 identified families were linked with micro entrepreneurship activities like village shops, cycle repairing, two wheeler maintenance, agricultural marketing, fisheries etc.
- Nearly 50 acres of land has converted as irrigated field and 20 acres among has
  effectively used by the community to produce vegetable.
- Improved seed and agricultural techniques were applied among 25 acres of land in the project area.
- Nearly 25% percent of the total job card holders in the project villages had linked with jobs according to the rules under MNREGA, the project team has done the role of catalyst in the process.
- Various government schemes were converged into the villages and provided additional resources for the targeted community for their livelihood and poverty reduction.

#### Project level learning:

 Village level institutions like SHGs can perform in a better level to improve the role of women in Gramsabha if proper facilitation programme has conducted in the village.

- The real objective behind MNREGA like importance and right based scheme
  designed for reducing poverty and the creation of community assets in the
  villages needs to be convinced to all sections of the community, with a further
  focus on vulnerable sections so that the benefits of the schemes can be diverted
  to the genuinely needy sections.
- If government schemes were properly implemented and participation of community members are well ensured, improvements in the agricultural production can be achieved and resulted reduction in the food scarcity with is common in the regions where tribal communities lives.

# Changes in the project area:

- By using Gramsabha like platforms, community members started to take collective approaches and actions to assert their rights and needs. This has evident in the level of participation of women members in Gramsabhas, proposals and demands forwarded by the community members to various government departments.
- The realization of efficacy of various technical interventions in the agriculture among farmers in the community has its results as more numbers of farmers started to do systems rice intensification (SRI), organic manure making like activities in the project villages.
- Women members of the community got a different perspective on SHG as a socially responsible group, which is apart from its mere existence as a savings group.

# A5) Education and Development Through Linkages to Govt. Schemes

Villages - 120, Families - 11,187, Children - 6,708, Communities - Baiga, Madia, Korku & Gond

**About the project:** This project started in Sept. 2007 and is implementing the programme to empower the tribal communities for access to the government programmes in the sates of Madhya Pradesh and Chhatisgarh with the support of TdH, Pune. The programme is being implemented in six tribal pockets spread across six districts in Madhya Pradesh and Chhatisgarh states. The programme is implemented by a network of five CSOs with NIWCYD as the lead NGO. Of these six areas, four areas are predominantly primitive tribal areas with the following primitive tribal groups: Baiga, Madia and Korku.

Information on project area and network partners is as follows:

S.N.	State	District	Blocks	No. of villages	Network Parner
				covered	
A.	Madhya Pradesh				
1		Dindori	Baiga Chak	20	NIWCYD
2.		Mandla	Mawai	20	NIWCYD
3.		Jabalpur	Bargi	20	Sewa Kunj Samiti
4.		Chhindwara	Bichhawa	20	GKSS
5		Betul	Bhimpur	20	Pradeepan
B.	Chhatisgarh	_			

S.N.	State	District	Blocks	No. of villages	Network Parner	
				covered		
6		Bastar	Kondhagaon	20	Adim Jati Se Sangh	wak
			Total	120	-	

**Project Objective :** Building and strengthening people's institutions and access to education in 120 tribal villages.

# **Progress Card:**

- I. Child Rights and Education
- 1210 children were enrolled in the schools in 120 villages of the project area at the beginning of the session in July 2008. Of these 12 children in Bichhua area of Chhindwara district dropped out because their parents migrated to other places for work. Thus the school retention is nearly 98% in these villages.
- The shiksha mitras and the Parents teachers Associations in all the project villages are taking efforts for regularizing the school systems. They are monitoring the regular in attendance of the children in schools. By the facilitation of Gramdoots and field workers with schools, PTAs out of 1568 irregular children in the project area, 1086 children including 585 boys and 501 girls have been regularized.
- Gramdoots and field workers mobilised the PTA members through series of
  meetings for opening of the schools which were totally non-functional and also
  for regularising the teachers who were not regular. Of the 120 PTAs 85 PTAs
  have been activated. The monthly meetings of the PTAs have been regularised.
  The PTAS have started taking action against the erring teachers. In Baiga Chak
  area, in village Sahajana the school teacher was absent for 8 days without the
  permission of PTA. PTA asked Gramdoot to conduct the classes regularly and
  after that the teacher became regular.
- In Jabalpur area in village Khamkheda there is no school building. The PTA and the Gramdoot have demanded for the school building to Janpad Panchayat and district education department and are following same.
- In kanker area in village chamai there was only one teacher but with the pressure from PTA second teacher has been appointed. In village Mendhpal there are four teachers but all were absent for nearly 20 days. The PTA brought this to the notice of Gram Panchayat and the Gramdoot was asked to conduct the school regularly.
- Process has been initiated to mainstream the dropout children with the counselling of teachers, gramdoots so that they can appear for the examination.
- There were 932 slow learner and irregular children in the project area. Out of these 416 children have been streamlined in to the formal education system. The Shiksha Mitras have played a very key role in bringing these children in the mainstream of the education.
- There are 132 children's groups formed in the project area. The total membership of these groups comprise of 1595 children. Various activities have been started by the children through these groups. Story narrating is main focused activity to improve their memory and vocabulary. Wall painting on child rights has been depicted on walls. Because of this the interest of the children towards schools has increased, In Baiga Chak area, 17 slow learner children have become the members of these groups.

 Due to the facilitation of the project team and also increased awareness among the PTAs the functioning of the mid-day meals has improved in the entire project area. The women self help groups are playing a very important role in the proper functioning of the scheme. 40 women SHGs are directly linked with the MDM This has resulted in providing the meals according to the norms in 75 schools of the project area.

# II. Livelihood and strengthening of people's institutions

- There are 37 Villga Panchayats in 120 villages of the project area. There are three main committees in all these panchayats. In 27 Panchayats, the development committees have been activated and they are functioning and performing their roles. People have started raising their concerns related to NREGS with these panchayat committees. Four special gramsabhas were organised in all the Panchayats during the year in which various resolutions related to the the work under different schemes were passed.
- In all the 120 project villages, Gramdoots are raising the issues of the people in the Gramsabhas and the Panchayat meetings. Block level Gramdoot forums have also been formed in Bichhua, Mawai and Baiga Chak areas. In Baiga chak area, in village Chakrar, the wages of the road construction were not paid to the people for last one year. The Gramdoot raised this issue with appropriate authorities at district level and the secretary of the Panchyaat was removed.
- In Mawai area, one gramdoot has taken up the issue of non payment of wages under NREGS in 3 villages amounting to Rs. 32 Lacs. The collector intervened in the matter and the bank account of the Sarpanch has been sealed.
- In Jabalpur area, in village Babeha Grmdoot took the initiative for the protection of the land from forest dept. In Kanker area, Gramdoot of village Bagdoda organised people for starting the Balwadi and got succeeded
- All the eligible 9300 families have got the Job Cards for work under NREGS.
  Nearly 22% families have started putting up the demands for the various
  livelihood resource generation activities. Only 25% of the total families have been
  able to open their bank accounts. The main constraints being that the banks do
  not have adequate staff and infrastructure to open the bank accounts on such a
  large scale.
- People in the project area have become aware about the government schemes and the programmes, especially the NREGS scheme being implemented in the areas. Under NREGS, 1983 families from the project area have got the work under different activities. Even though there are hardly any families having got 100 days of employment as stated in the act, people are now getting the work in their own villages. Because of this the migration has reduced drastically in all the project. Wages to the tune of Rs. 3,69,09,080 have been paid to the people.
- Under Indira Awas Yojana, 113 families living under poverty line have been provided shelter.
- Under various social security schemes 257 families have got benefits.
- As a result of constant dialog with the Panchayats and the district administrations, 53 girls have got the benefits of the ladli laxmi Yojana. Similarly in Chhatisgarh, 21 girls have got the bicycles for continuing their education after 8th standard.
- 81 women from the project area were assisted to take claims of maternity benefits under Janani Suraksha Yojana (Maternal Protection Scheme).

- Due to the resolutions passed by the Gramsabhas and the collective efforts of the people, 7 PDS shops have been opened up in the project area. This has helped the people in getting the ration from nearer places to their villages.
- Forest Rights Committees have been formed. In the project villages. Trained gramdoots and project staff conducted series of meetings in forest villages and discussed about the formation of Forest Rights Committees under the Forest Act. Also the meetings with the forest protection committees were held for their strengthening. People have put up 4407 individual claims to the FRCs for the rights over resources. 53 village communities have also filed the claims for community ownership.

# III. Women Empowerment

- 164 women self help groups have been promoted in the entire project area. The total membership of these groups is 2460 women. These women organise themselves for the economic activities. The total savings of these groups is Rs. 8,58,039/- 64 SHGs have been linked with Mid-day Meals Scheme. 19 SHGs have started their own small income generation initiatives. Majority of these SHGs have been linked with the banks. The total revolving fund of these SHGs is Rs. 33,79,000/-
- As a impact of these activities, the women in the project area have started coming together and discussing their issues.
- The participation of the women in Gramsabhas has increased from 5% to 35% in all the areas except Kanker area. In kanker area the increase has been 12%.
   Women have started raising their concerns in the meetings off the Gramsabhas.
   The self help groups have played a key role in this regard.
- The women members of Panchayats are being mobilised and are encouraged to play their roles as per their rights in the Panchayats. Women members are raising the issues of the villages in the meetings of the panchayat

# **Overall Impact of the Programme**

The most important impact of the programme is that the children are being linked with the education system in the project area. Also the functioning of the schools has improved. The participation of the women in the development process has also significantly increased. The community has been mobilized for demanding the work under NREGS and also the pressure is being created by the people for more work on the livelihood resource generation.

# A6) Endogenous Tourism Project (ETP) - Chougan, MP

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.

The project completed in December 2008 and was handed over to the local body which was formed to carry forward the activities. The site will be completely functional after completion of the hardware activities – the rest house.

## A7) NREGS Campaign in Dindori & Mandla District

No. of villages – 150 No. of Village Volunteers (Gramdoot) – 150 Population Covered – 22,000

# **Major Achievements**

- The resolutions for the work under NREGS were passed in the village assembly meetings and people raised the demand for livelihood related work.
- In the reserved forest villages, the people have demanded and succeeded in getting the work under NREGS.
- Development work and livelihood resource generation work to the tune of Rs. 2.27 crores has been sanctioned by the forest department.
- Gramdoots also taken up the campaign for the effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act. Village level forest rights committees formed in 78 villages.
- One year old payments of the people have been disbursed to the tune of Rs.
   3.27 crores.
- Gramdoots are supervising the work under NREGS and are raising the issues with the government authorities if required.
- The Gramdoots from the project area in Dindori district held discussions with the block level government officials for the payment of the wages which were not paid for more than one year. The Gramdoot forum also had discussion with the block CEO regarding the grading of the women self help groups. At the district level the Gramdoot forum presented a charter of demands to the district collector for the various issues such as regular payment of wages, the issue of land titles in the forest village etc.

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

# B1) Bachpan – Bringing back childhood

The mission of the **Bachpan project** is to address primarily the rights of children, who suffer the most intense denial of rights. The vision of Bachpan is to use rights – based approach of development, emphasizing on participation, empowerment and non-discrimination while addressing vulnerability, marginalization and exclusion.

#### Thematic areas

- Women Rights
- Right to Education
- Right to Participation
- Right to protection
- Right to Survival

# Objective of the programme

- Enforcing women and girls rights.
- Building alliance of the marginalized group.
- Strengthening pro poor governess.
- Addressing immediate poverty needs of poor and marginalized.
- Diversifying resources through Civil Society and state collaboration.
- Advocacy.

#### **Area of Work**

Bachpan works in 20 slums of Bhopal and covers a population of 22,748 and 3 Railway Junctions of Madhya Pradesh i.e. Bhopal Katni and Itarsi.

As Bachpan works is to facilitate the processes to enable children's and women to assert their rights as they are among most marginalized. Therefore, Following activities were organized in this year to address the issues concerning the child and women rights.

# **Activities at community level**

## **Childs Rights**

★ Meetings: BAL Panchayats (Children Assembly) is a forum for the child rights where children raise their voice and address children's problems as a group. They also share their problems and situations for the betterment of their daily life. This is also a forum that helps children to empowering and strengthening them towards leadership where children can take decisions in their matters.

Regular meetings were held in once a month of Bal Panchayat where they will be linked with PTA of schools and discuss the problem faced by them in schools. This will support the children of Bal Panchayat in influencing the teacher's behaviors of concerned schools and support in retention in school by building pressure on the parents of the irregular children. Total 82 children were linked in this year out which 44 were girls 38 were boy. The orientation about Child Labor Act, right to education and child rights were also given to Bal Panchayats. These 82 children are the key leaders of the CDG groups.

- ☆ Capacity building programme of Bal Panchayat- Different training/workshop related with Child rights, leadership development, Advocacy tools, Child Marriage, child labour, sexual abuse etc and Journalism were organized for strength the group and to build Capacity of the Children's Group so that they become vocal and able to raise their issue in front of concern person/Department.
- Recreational activities:- Entertainment is also one of biggest component under Rights to participation. For increasing their skill. Bachpan organized recreational activities like Clay modeling, Worling Paintings, Paintings and Drawing etc.
- ★ Enrollment: Enrolment drive was organized in campaign mode to enroll children in schools for attaining mainstream education. To serve the purpose the children identified as dropout & never been through base line in each slums were enrolled in the schools of their respective slums. This activity was carried on in most of the slums where Govt. schools are functioning at present. About 427 out of school children were enrolled in schools with the help of this process from total 623 out of school children in our projected area.

- ☆ Campaign Against child Labour: Child labor is done by any working child who is under the age specified by law. Child labor is a hazard to a Child's mental, physical, social, educational, emotional and spiritual development. Broadly any child who is employed in activities to feed self and family is under child labour. Bachpan has taken an initiative to eradicate this Problem by doing different activities like press conference, networking with CACL, Jatha Presented by children on Bhopal doordarshan and on different areas of bhopal for making people awaked related with child labour issues.
- ☆ Orientation/Training of Parents Teacher association; Govt. has constituted Parents Teachers Association in every Govt. schools for better functioning of schools. Most of the PTAs formed do not have the basic knowledge of their roles & responsibilities so they are facing immense problem in managing the functioning of governance of schools. Some of the main issues discussed in PTA meetings are given below:-
  - Ensuring availability of basic services in schools.
  - Ensuring retention of out of school children enrolled in schools.
  - o Discussion on roles & responsibilities of PTAs.
  - Management of funds allotted for schools.
- ☆ Jan shiksha yojna Under these activities a one day orientation progamme on Jan shiksha yojna and Budget Tracking was organized at school level. A discussion was held with PTA,Teachers and Group of the community on Jan Shiksha Yojna. Through this Jan shiksha yojna the requirement of basic facilities at block level where incorporated in 2009.

# **Women Rights**

- ★ Mahila Manch'- In the year 2009 as per plan special attention was given in the strengthening of Women groups in the slums. Presently there are 18 women groups in 20 slums. Covering the population of 721 women out which 119 are representative of Mahila Manch, out of which 341 women are working. Bachpan has initiated this process to increase the participation of women to understand the issues of child protection and development specifically for girl child. Women of Mahila Manch have built a community network which will ensure the protection of child from abuses and marriages in there community.
- ★ Meetings-As women groups are moving towards the functional stage, where women started to raise their concern issues with the support of Community Organizer. Some of the activities that are liable to rose by the Manch on the issues of entitlements of women residing in these areas and follow-up of the applications filed through use of existing mechanisms like RTI. Child Rights related issues rose jointly with children. Incidents of child sexual abuse and monitoring of the Anganwadi was also be done by Manch along with Domestic Violence issues. Special attempt were made to include person living with disability and Single women in the Munch. So that they could equally participate in the processes of alliance building and use the democratic space to asset their rights.
  - 468 meetings were held in this year of women groups and mahila manch. 721 women;s participated in this meetings. Out of 721, 11 were single women and 3 were disable women.
- ☆ Mahila Manch Training (Women Chetna Shivir) To developed an understanding on the issues of gender and women violence. This training helped women to identify the issues and plan a comprehensive strategy to overcome

women violence and gender in their homes and neighborhood. It would also ensure linkage with the larger women's rights issues in the State.

- ★ Mahila Manch Convention Larger number of working women in slums is belonging to an unorganized sector. They work either a domestic worker or as wage labour. Hence, the need was felt for building of larger women groups that would be able to raise their issues related with violence of women. With this a aim Convention was organised by the bachpan with the initiative of Mahila Manch. were they taught about the Domestic violence, sexual exploitation and types of violence. They also linked with legal aid authority for any legal assistance.
- A meeting with Reflect Circle Reflect is the process of learning through participation method. It has proved to be a new vision in the field of social change that helps in building the capacity of the community. The processes of reflect circle was initiated with the women of Saraswati Nagar and Shyam nagar. Daily the members of the Reflect Circle made a strategy for solving the problem at community level. By the efforts of this group the problem like Water, electricity, Aganwadi and Violence of women were solved.

# Platform Initiative (Right to protection)

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 79% of children have run away from home because they have faced violence at their home, where around 18% of children have left home due to heavy work load at home and 4% of the children run from the home on misguiding by the core group.

Bachpan is working for home placement of platform children as an ongoing process, as we believe that for the right of protection and development of children home plays an important role. This year the major emphasis was given on advocating the issues related with implementing of JJ act. 2000.

- ★ Efforts had done with Bal Adhikar Mitra- Bal Adhikar Mitra is a group of influential people from different stake holders like TI of local Police Station, GRP and RPF personnel, local vendors, trade union person, local teachers and principle, etc. This group would be linked with DISHA shelters as Bal Adhikar Mitra (Child rights friends). Regular meetings and trainings were organized build their capacity on Bal Adhikar Mitra on related with child Rights and JJ Act. 2000. 105 members are associated as a Bal Adhikar Mitra.
- ☆ Child Friend Centre: Permanent shelter support is being provided for the vulnerable children by SSA such as Disha in Bhopal, Muskan in Itarsi and direct intervention of Bachpan in Katni. Emphasis was given on formation of child committee to ensure right of participation of children in their shelter to make a child friendly shelters. Activities to generate interest towards education were organized in collaboration with Education Department in RBC of Bhopal, Little Star in Katni and Muskan in Itarsi. At present 192 Children is in Disha. (179 Boys and 13 Girls).
- ☼ De addiction and Home placement camp-Home Placement camp was an important effort of de-institutionalization. Though home placement and de-

addiction camp, the platform children were mentally prepared to stop taking addiction and to go back to their homes. At last the parents of platform children were invited in camp ending ceremony. They were counseled by the professional counselor "on good parenting and how to deal with their child". The parents were also made understood that the development of children is the only way for the development of the community. They were also asked to take special care of their children and at the end of the workshop the children were handed over to their parent. Through this camp 18 children were home placed.

★ Home Placement. We have analyzed that children living on platform for more than a week are difficult to counsel back to home. Hence our effort is to trace and outreach the child within 2 to 3 days of his/her arrival on platform. For girl child on platform we immediately link them to their homes or send them to institutions that could provide shelter to them. This year 942 children were outreached out of which 152 are old children and 722 are new children on three platforms, i.e. Bhopal, Katni and Itarsi, out of which 110 ran from the shelter. Out of which 210 boys and 29 girls were home placed this year.

#### Liaison with Child Welfare Committee and Juvenile Justice Board

- ★ Besides providing them food, clothing and shelter, we as their parents and guardians should help them to develop to their fullest- by providing proper education, vocational trainings, medical facilities and other such amenities And we should safeguard their rights and see to it that their rights are not being violated. For avoiding violation of child it is necessary to establishing a system as mention in JJ Act 200 for the Children in need and care protection.
- ☆ In this year Bachpan's Majorly focus is on establishing a system as per JJ ACT. Through regular meetings and interaction, we are able to bring all CWC members of Bhopal, Katni and Hoshangabad together and aware them about their roles and responsibility including child rights. After providing in house training the CWC members started to do their job. Now all the CWc has functioned in our projected area.

# Regional Consultation Meetings on Child Rights and JJ Act with Child Welfare Committee:

After establishing cwc a regional consultation meeting was held with all the members as a followup of our work on the issues of platform children and their protection. This consultation meeting is for sensitization of these groups on the legal instruments and various child rights issues and the policy provisions (JJ Act) through the mode of trainings. We also oriented on the vulnerability of platform children, their rights and duties and rehabilitation of children. In this consultation 17 CWC members were present from Vidisha, Bhopal, Hoshangabad, Harda, Narsingpur, and Jabalpur, Katni, Satna and Umaria. Mr. Nazmi and Sinha serves as resource person. In interactive session, mjorly the problem focused on the issue of over crowding in shelter homes.

- A strong network was build with Academy of Administration.
- A network was built on the issue of over crowding.

#### Special juvenile Police Unit

A Special Juvenile Police Unit was constituted under Juvenile Justice Act 2000 for the protection of Children in need and care or the child conflict with law. In Madhya Pradesh this SJPU was notified constituted through M.P. State rules in 2003 in the districts of Madhya Pradesh. But, unfortunately due to lack of state will & resources the

constituted SJPU was not functioning properly. This unit was dismantled in November 2009 when some NGO like Bachpan raised their voice in front of the government that this body is not functioning properly. Again SJPU was constituted in November 2009. But still the problem arise the same.

On this issue a discussion was held with Deepika Suri (Suprindentent of Police) on establising a new SJPU for the protection of Children. A Record of children placed in JJ homes with data present before her. The data shows that 75 Children were placed in jj homes through a joint efforts of Bachpan and GRPF. A orientation was also given on the JJ act. to Deepika Suri and the provision for establishing SJPU under JJ Act. She was convinced with the procedure and passed an order to open a SJPU for the children found in Hoshangabad or Itarsi junction.

On 6<sup>th</sup> September 2009 a SJPU was established and an orientation was given by the Ms. Rekha Shridhar, Mr. Jha (Member of CWC) and Mr. Sharma (sub Inspecter CID). In this orientation programme all the child welfare officer from Hoshangabad District was present.

Present status – Actvities at SJPU, number of children engaged, supported by SJPU in a month, community interventions near SJPU, issue of rag picking children,

#### Efforts with GRP and RPF

A regular efforts /seminars and meetings were made with GRPF and RPF on the issue of Right to protection of the Platform children. In regular meetings a point were discussed on the issue of SJPU, Roles and Responsibility of CWC members and orientation of JJ Act. They also oriented by the work done by the Bachpan.

- As a result 68 children were home placed by the GRPF.
- 21 regular meetings were held with GRPF.
- 03 children Family were traced by the GRPF.

# Policy change for children living on platform...

#### Liaising with GRPF/RPF

In this process the advocacy were done with GRP and RPF to do out reaching in Platform and send these children to Shelter home through CWC. As a result on every Thursday and Monday the Railway police present children in front of the cwc and send them to Shelter Home or Disha this process were streamlines. As a result population of platform children has been reduced in platform.

# Other activities related with Policy level intervention

#### Co sensitization with rag pickers children in Bhopal

Rag picking children are most vulnerable children living in the slums. They are devoid of their rights in aspect of health, education, food security and dignified life including the physical torturing by police/criminals. Children also abused sexually, especially girls' are most exploited. For understanding the situation of the children, Bachpan volunteer spent whole day with Rag Pickers children and found that Many children begin working as ragpickers at the young age of five or six years. the majority of the ragpickers are between 8 and 10 years old. Most of them never attend school and don't have any formal education. School teachers and staff behevious towards these

children are not so good that's why the retention of these children in school is less Their families are generally in need of extra incomes from their children.

Child ragpickers who collect garbage from street bins or residential areas, In most cases, the children work for a middleman who takes the major share of the sales and pays only a small amount to the children. Girls were traditionally more involved in ragpicking than boys; Adolescent girls are less involved in ragpicking because it is believed to be unsafe for them to be out on the street. They are involved in taking care of the house chores and help in sorting the collected garbage from home. Some of the child ragpickers go to school and work the other part of the day or during holidays. Some girls are found working as ragpickers in the morning; sometimes attending school in the afternoon and coming back home in the evening to help their mother with the household chores or to care for their younger siblings.

#### State legislation

Ragpicking work is ignored in legislation under child labour Act. Contrary to most child laborers, ragpickers are self-employed or working with their parents and therefore not answerable to any employer.

To make them understand the situation of Rag Pickers in front of the stake holder a documentary movie was prepared on the situation of the rag pickers children. This documentary movie shows the daily routine of the rag picker children and their issue. 10 case study of the rag pickers children were also prepared. Orientation programme was organized on 17, 18 and 24 December at cluster level school, in this orientation, "a discussion was also held on retention of rag pickers in school". Another efforts were made on this issue was. Placed a condition of Rag pickers children before CACL and do advocacy to incorporate ragpickers children under child labour Act. We are also in processes to take an appointment with NCPCR on the rag pickers children for public hearing. We also placed the situation of the Rag Pickers children Before CWC on 29<sup>th</sup> December at CWC meeting in Hotel Classic to incorporate these children under need and care protection.

Such effort may ensure the favorable change in policy and provisions particularly on food security (provisions of MDM, ICDS) institutions and their functions to provide the nutrition security ensure the quality education especially to rag pickers and to incorporate the Rag pickers children in Child labour Act.

Public hearing was conducted by NCPCR in Madhya Pradesh with local support from M.P Education Campaign, Right to Food Campaign and MV Foundation. 4 cases were presented by Bachpan were on poor infrastructure in government school, high fees in school and increase in the budget for school building. The cases were shared by children and their parents in the hearing. Till now, the action has been taken on infrastructural case by increasing the budget of school building in Harswardhan nagar.

#### **Collector Public Hearing**

26 cases were raised on the issue Infrasture of school building, fees, Certificate, Ration card and Enrollment of the children in school in the Public hearing. This public hearing was organized by the Collector on every Tuesday. All the cases were solved in this public hearing.

## Right to Information

By availing the facilities of RTI, CBO's of Projected area filed an application on the issue of Displacement and Jan shiksha yojna. Total 15 applications were filed on the above issue.

## **Liaising with Education Department**

In the process of advocacy and liaising, in this year advocacy were done on Jan shiksha yojna. On the issue of Jan shiksha yojna, enrollment and Construction of school building, Fund etc a lisoning were done with the govt. department for availing these facilities.

## Media Advocacy

- 1. Media Visits organized to the platforms in collaboration with the organization directly working on media advocacy. A story on the issues of platform children also published in the Magazine of the state.
- 2. Media Visits organized to the platforms in collaboration with the organization directly working on media advocacy. Electronic media like Raj TV, Voice of India and sadhana covered the news of platform children and their issues. All the local news paper also covered the news of the programme and issues.
- 3. A press conference was organized on the issue of Implementation of JJ Act. 2000.
- 4. Articles were published in News Paper on the issue of child addiction, Child Rights, Platform Children, demand of Jj Homes etc. Total 37 news paper covers the issue in this year.
- 5. Media Advocacy were done on the issue of Displacement, School building and on child labour.
- 6. Press conference was done on the issue of implementation of UNCRC. And child labour.

#### Legal Advocacy

- 1. Legal advocacy were on the issue of State child Rights Commission. A writ petition was filed on behalf of Rajiv Bhargav for the formation of State Child Rights Commission. As a result order was passed to create a child rights commission in Madhya Pradesh.
- 2. PIL was launched on the issue of JJ Institution in every district as well as on the condition of Institution.

#### **Achievements**

- 1. 36 cases of the Domestic Violence were solved by the Mahila Manch.
- 2. A state Level child alliance was build.
- 3. 17 Applications were filed under Right to Information.
- 4. Efforts were done by the mahila manch by reducing the amount of electricity bill from 300 to 150. This shows the empowerment of mahila manch.
- 5. Through the efforts of Mahila manch and bal panchayat 12 Water tank were provided in Cluster I by Nagar Nigam.
- 6. 26 cases were solved by the government of India under Public hearing on the issue of school building, fees, certificate, and ration card.
- 7. An advocacy was done on the issue of free education. As a result an order was passed by the Education Department for charging a nominal for primary classes Rs 2 and for Middle Rs 39.
- 8. 25 Application were filed for labor card.

- Construction of Meera Nagar School was completed and Harshvardhan Nagar School started.
- 10. 2 Sulabh toilets passed for 8 communities.
- 11. 18 children were linked with open school.
- 12. As a result 68 children were home placed by the GRPF.
- 13. 21 regular meetings were held with GRPF.
- 14. 03 children Family were traced by the GRPF.
- 15. A strong network was build with Academy of Administration.
- 16. A network was built on the issue of over crowding.
- 17. With the help of this Committee, in this year 96 boy and 2 girl children were placed in JJ Institutions.
- 18. 13 children send to a shelter through coolie and vendor
- 19. International women's day was celebrated by Mahila Manch. A programme was organised with collaboration of Police department. The visit was done by Mahila Manch representatives in Women Police Cell. The main objective of the programme was to give an orientation to women about Protection of women from Domestic violence act and sexual exploitation at work place and how they can take the help of Police for their protection.
- 20. Alliance building process was initiated with government departments and other NGOs such as shiksha adhikar Manch, Aarambh, NCPCR etc. to work collectively for ensuring child rights. Liasioning with government departments mainly education, labor, health and WCD departments.
- 21. Child welfare Committee (CWC) under JJ act has been made function through advocacy with Social Justice Department in Bhopal, Katni and Itarsi.
- 22. Linkages with NCPCR established by sharing cases on child rights violation in public hearing. The follow-up cases are being done.
- 23. Through advocacy with police department has been done opening & functioning of Special Juvenile Police unit in Itarsi which was now started.

# B2) Girls Education and Community Health Project - Hoshangabad

NIWCYD has supported this project for poor and tribal children for their education and health. 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.

Main activities and achievements during the year are -

- Enrolled 1290 children in anganwadies
- Parents and youths are closely monitoring the mid-meal to ensure the quality in all the 30 project villages.
- In all the project villages CHWs ensure that mid-day meal menu is followed strictly in anganwadies and schools.
- CHWs ensured that immunization in anganwadies and schools in all the project villages.
- CHWs conducted sessions on Child Rights, health and child marriages in the project village schools. Sahmet provided education kit and trained government schools teachers to promote playful education in school.
- Bal Melas (fun events for children) conducted in 15 villages. Children get opportunity to read story books, play games, drawing, singing etc.

- Experiments in science are done in 10 middle schools, reaching out to roughly 420 children of std. 6, 7 and 8. This will help them in their performance in the exams.
- 778 youth are mobilized to form the groups and take indicatives for village development
- Of the 385 boys and 393 girls registered in the villages (aged between 15 and 25) only approximately one or two boys in each village are actively involved in village gram sabhas.
- 50 girls of std. 9, 10, 11 and 12 belonging to 24 different villages lived and studied in the High School. This academic year 6 will pass out of std. 12 and go to college.

# B3) EMPOWERING SLUM DWELLERS FOR BASIC RIGHTS – Bhopal, Indore & Jabalpur

**Introduction:** The twenty first century is expected to witness not only sustained population growth but also more of urbanization. Economic vibrancy of large urban centers in offering diverse employment opportunities and means of livelihood is the chief cause of migration to these areas. In India, migration has played an important role in accelerated urban growth. However, it concomitantly results in transfer of rural poverty to urban areas. Rural migrants pushed or pulled towards cities for economic reasons regardless of the fact that physical infrastructure in terms of housing, drinking water supply, drainages etc. is not so adequate in the cities.

The quality of life has thus suffered due to continuing influx of migrants and lack of proper planning by the urban planners. This forces the poor to settle for informal solutions resulting in mushrooming of slums and squatter settlements. The slums have become an integral part of the phenomenon of urbanization and are in a way manifestation of overall socio-economic policies & planning's in the states & in the country. But it should not be discounted that slum dwellers have been contributing significantly to the economy of the city by being a source of affordable labour supply for production both in the formal & informal sectors of economy.

National Institute of Women Child and Youth Development has initiated the program to address the issue of urban poor and the interventions extended from child rights to basic rights of urban poor.

To advocate the issues of urban poor in three cities i.e. Bhopal, Jabalpur & Indore of M.P. the major interventions planned during the year are as:

- **Information Centre:** The information centre is established in project slums to moblize as well as builds the capacities of community based CBOs.
- Capacity building of CBOs: Mahila Manch Capacity building trainings are organised on the issues of basic services, women violence etc. to organise them.
- Raising Demand for basic services: The issues of drinking water, land entitlement, ration card, PDS, electricity was raised with the collective involvement of CBOs, especially women members of the community.

# Objectives:

The long term as well as short term objectives of this program is as follows;

To build the capacities of CBOs for advocating their issues.

- To organize the people for a state level forum on issue of urban poor.
- To strengthen the information base of communities through information centre.
- To raise the issues of social securities of urban poor/unorganised sector.
- To facilitate the process of slum dwellers participation in urban local self governance.

To achieve the foresaid objectives activities organised so far are as under;

# **Knowledge Management & dissemination**

1. Information Centre: This year 4 information centres established in the city of Bhopal. One of the centres is opened in collaboration with DUDA in an adjacent slum of project area i.e. Sai Baba Nagar. The information centre are equipped with the reference material, books, posters, forms of different government schemes etc. to mobilize the support of local residents in whole process. Two more centres initiated in the displaced pockets i.e. Sookhi Sewania & Genhukheda (A displaced slum out of project area.) One information centre is managed by the youth volunteers in the project slum of Jyotiba fule Nagar.

# **Community Mobilisation**

- Community meetings/info sharing: Meetings were organised in communities
  to mobilise them around the issues of displacement, housing rights, access to
  basic infrastructure/amenities, JNNURM, etc. The informal groups like Nagrik
  Adhikar Manch, Bal adhikar Manch, Yuva Samvad, Mahila manch would be a
  part of the whole campaign.
- Adhikar Chintan Shivir for youths: It is experienced that the youth force of the community should be motivated towards their engagement on such issues. The chintan shivir is a process to orient themselves towards the ideologies of pro poor governance, policies, program in the context of urban development. With the involvement of around 90 youths from various cities of M.P gathered during 30 Jan 09 to 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 09 for sharing their views. People like Yogesh Deewan, Subhash gatade, with experiential knowledge on the issues share their views for capacity building processes. Youth leaders from Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Dewas, Ujjain & other cities joined the shivir.
- Mahila Adhikar Chintan Shivir: Active women from communities, having potentials of leadership among the community groups, are involved in three days Adhikar Chintan Shivir to organize them in the form of a forum as a pressure group on issues of urban poor. Ms. Anjali Sinha from Delhi oriented the women group members on issues related to gender, its historical perspective & present scenario of women campaigns in State as well as country. 50-55 women group representatives involve in the chintan shivir & planned to work on the issues of basic services & women violence in their respective communities. Theatre activities also organised during the shivir to motivate them selves on the issues.
- Memorandum For Housing as a Fundamental Right: To make housing as a fundamental right, signature campaign was organised in 30 slums of Bhopal.
   5000 people made their signatures on the memorandum for President of India & submitted to Bhopal collector.
- Labour registration Campaign: The State Government of Madhya Pradesh launched scheme for construction labours as 'Mukhya Mantri Mazdoor Suraksha Yojna" for the labour of unorganised sector. Labor Registeration campaign was

organised between 27 August 2008 to First of September 2008 and during the period of time around 1000 labor registered under the scheme.

# Advocacy & Campaign

**Networking meetings/campaigns:** Various organizations are working in the cities of Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Gwalior & Ujjain on the issues of basic services i.e. land, water, health & education etc. Processes initiated to strengthen the networking with such organizations on the issue of urban poor. The issue of social security of urban poor is also focused during the planned meetings to raise the concerns activities organised so far are as under:

- 1. State Convention on Social Security of unorganised workers: In collaboration with CEC Delhi a state level convention on social security was organised at SFRI Jabalpur. 400 people from various cities, slums & peoples organizations involved in the convention to demand for a comprehensive social security bill. A state level committee was formed during the convention to take up the campaign further in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
- 2. Voter Awareness Campaign: This year state of Madhya Pradesh Witnessed assembly elections. "Jago Janmat Abhiyan" was observed in 30 slums of Bhopal. Women groups actively participated in the campaign. A peoples charter of demand on the issues of urban poor was also submitted to the political parties during the campaign.
- 3. Campaign on JNNURM: 19 urban poor pockets are taken under the JNNURM in Bhopal. A campaign was organised in 19 slums of Bhopal city during the period of 17 October 2008 to 12 November 2008. Key leaders of these slums identified & contacted during the campaign. These key leaders would be further involved in the meetings to take the city level processes.
- 4. Campaign for Tenure Security: A state level campaign "Patta Abhiyan" was organised in the state from 15 th June 2008 for inclusion of their name in Mukhya Mantri Ashray Yojna. Regular Memorandum was submitted in concerned government offices to involve the people for entitlements. The details of patta campaign & its outcomes are as under;

Sr. No.	Name of Basti Covered under Project	Number of Patta Distributed / Covered under housing schemes
1	Laxman Nagar	Women groups refused to take one year patta, Demanded for 30 years permanent patta.
2	Madrasi Colony	No / JNNURM – Houses under construction. Earlier 180 families identified, after intervention 209 houses are under construction.
3	Shyam Nagar	No/ JNNURM – House allotted for 162 families.
4	Balweer Nagar	127
5	Jyotiba Fule Nagar	105
6	Sookhi Sewania	130
7	Aam Nagar	150

**5. Participation in State campaigns:** Joint activities organised with Madhya Pradesh Right To food campaign on the issues of Malnutrition, PDS & Red wheat distribution.

- City level activities organised with the campaign on these issues to mobilise the community groups on the issues.
- **6. Liasoning with Government Institutions:** The processes helped to establish linkages with the department of WCD, urban administration, Labor department, JNNURM cell & Municipal corporation.

# At Jabalpur

The interventions planned in Jabalpur mainly focused on building community based groups. A city level structure of Nagrik Adhikar Manch organised to take the issues of urban poor forward. In this context major interventions observed during the period are as under:

- Campaign for Social Security of Unorganized Labor: A campaign was launched to cover the laborers of project areas in the month of June & camps organized in collaboration with labor department. 400 people of project slums covered under the scheme.
- Demonstration for Patta: on 23 July 2008 a demonstration was observed under Patta Campaign for demanding permanent tenure security at Collector's Office.
   100 CBO representatives joined the demonstration.
- Information Center: An activity center was initiated by the local youth of Nagrik Adhikar Manch near project area. The center is managed by the youth volunteers from the project slums.
- Campaign for rights of Agarbatti workers: A campaign was organized for rights of agarbatti workers from project slums to demand for their rights & memorandum was submitted to Labor commissioner.
- Voters Awareness Campaign: Voter awareness campaign was organized in 20 slums of Jabalpur for voter's right & mobilization of urban poor in Jabalpur.
- Demand of Housing as a fundamental right: A memorandum was submitted to Collector on the Name of Pri-minister for making housing as fundamental right.
- Rally on Communal Harmony: On 6<sup>th</sup> December 2008, rally was organized on communal harmony & terrorism.
- Meeting on Human Rights Day: A community level meeting was organized on Human Rights Day – 10 th December 2008.
- Livelihood interventions: A initiative of Embroidery started with 20 women members of a project slum on pilot basis.

#### At Indore:

The struggle of the slum dwellers for their basic rights is continue and people went to District office many times to get their rights like BPL ration card voter Identity card, certificate for handicapped pension, old age pension, widow pension, cast certificate etc. In this process near 350 hundred slum dwellers got their BPL ration card from different slums and they also received the ration from PDS shop. Voter ID campaign also made some significant achievement, near 300 people got their voter ID card from different slums and lots are in line to get it.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep we had big protest at district office for not issuing the cast certificate to schedule cast people. The main problem people was facing that department is asking the record of 1950 in case of schedule cast. After the protest department conducted a meeting, the meeting headed by District Collector. In this meeting participation were made by different dalit leaders, political dalit leaders, Dalit Professionals and slum

dwellers. People explain the problems face by the schedule cast people. People demanded to make the process easy and relief from the provision of 1950's record.

Administration showed the circular of the state government but people were not ready to see because provisions in the circular were not in favor of the people.

Collector Mr Rakesh Shrivastav gave assurance and guidance that applicant should Wright all the details and his team will verify the things and will issue the certificate. This protest organized with the help of The Buddhist Society of India, Buddh Samaj Vikas Samiti, Jhuggi Basti Sangharsh Morch, Anna Bhau Sahte Vikas Samiti many children from the slum specially girls.

# **Major Outcomes**

- 1) City level unit of Nagrik Adhikar Manch formed in Jabalpur & Bhopal
- 2) 5 youth groups & one women group formalized in the project area of Jabalpur.
- 3) Issues of Urban poor addressed in 20 slums in Jabalpur with extension of project slums.
- 4) One Information centre initiated with District Urban Development Authority in the Community Development Unit of Shahpura.
- 5) Community based organizations taking up their local issues.
- 6) Women groups from the communities initiated demands for basic services like water, roads, education, anganwadi, PDS and land entitlements.
- 7) 1000 people from project areas got registered for labor cards.

# **B4) READ Project**

#### Objectives of the Project :

- ❖ To ensure 100% enrollment of children in mainstream education within the operational area.
- ❖ To create learning environment in school and mobilizing teachers participation in process. To develop the capacities of community institutions/ CBOs /PTAs for the monitoring of Education program in the community and educational institutions.
- ❖ To alliance with resource organization to advocate the issue in quality education.
- ❖ To bridge the resources pool for development of infrastructure in school from government and civil society organizations.
- ❖ To develop self sustainable system of monitoring in project areas for reducing dropout rates.
- ❖ To draw a special attention on girl child and child labour for linking them with education.
- ❖ To support the slow learner's linkages for the livelihood support to the families engaged in occupations like rag picking, domestic work and other unorganized sector.
- ❖ To organize the CBOs/ Community Institutions on the social security issue of urban poor /unorganized sector especially domestic workers.

#### **Project Area of Bhopal at a Glance:**

#	Particulars	Nos.
1.	Total Project Area Slums Bhopal	30
2.	Total population 21 Existing Slums	22678

#	Particulars	Nos.
	(As Per 2006 Survey in thousands)	
3.	Total population 11 New Slums	8423
	(As Per 2008 Survey in thousands)	
	Total Household 21 slums (As per 2006 survey	6943
4.	in thousands)	
5.	Total Household 11 slums (As per 2008 Survey)	1821
6.	Total Male (21 Slums)	11962
7.	Total Female (21 Slums)	10716
8.	Total Male (11 Slums)	4381
9.	Total Female (11 Slums)	4042
10.	Total Children (21 Slums)	8209
11.	Total Children (11 Slums 0-18 yrs.)	4146
12.	Total Handicapped	127
13	Total No. of Children enrolled in Aanganwadies	3429

# **Activities Carried Out During the Year:**

- Base Line Survey
- CBOs Meeting (Children's Group/ Bal Panchayat/ Women Group/ Mahila Manch & PTA)
- Women's Day Program
- Bal Panchayat TOT
- Motivation Camp
- PTA Samwaad
- Children's Theater Activities workshop
- Enrollment Drive (Rallies & campaigns in Schools & Aanganwadies).
- Mahila Chetna Shivir
- State convention on social security of unorganized sectors
- Media advocacy to ensure quality education
- State Conclave on Child Alliance
- Capacity Building Training of Community Leaders
- Staff Review Meetings / Capacity building trainings

#### **Major Achievements:**

- Through Base Line Survey a clear picture of overall 32 slums was drafted which primarily include data of total houses, total population, total school going children, total out of school children & also status of Patta, voter identity card & ration card.
- During the year 424 out of school children were enrolled in schools directly from a total of 2566 out of school children falling in the age group between 6 -14 years. Out of which 235 were girl child.
- About 8 new children's group formation process is going on currently in newly added slums of the project area.
- About 9 women's group formation process is going on currently in newly added slums.
- 9 BAL Sabhas were conducted in 5 schools through which approximately 470 students were made aware on the issue of Right to Education.
- Case Study of starting Mid-Day Meal in Naveen Primary School Ekta Nagar with the continuous efforts made by children of that school was highlighted through News Papers.

- Capacity Building of 24 core project staff of READ project was done to perform in a more effective manner & achieve the goals successfully.
- Through the IEC Camp cadres of 32 young & energetic children were motivated to address the issue of education & child rights prevailing both in their respective slums & at district level through the structure of BAL Panchayat.
- Mahila Manch was formed to address the issue pertaining in the slums like unavailability of basic services, issues of women violence & lack of quality education in schools & motivating slum dwellers for enrolment of out of school children to schools, especially girl child. At present about 90 women are members of this Manch.
- About 44 children with leadership quality were selected & linked with BAL Panchayat to address children's issues at State Level.
- By the continuous & determined efforts of PTA & field staff pending work of schools of Jaatkhedi & Gehu Kheda got started & is in a progress stage.
- Problem of Drinking water was solved in Ahmedpur Mazaar & Ekta Nagar slums through media advocacy.
- Enrolment of 43 children was done in Sanjay Nagar Aaganwadi, Baghmugalia.
- Through BAL Jatha presentation near about 1500 people of 11 slums were covered & parents were motivated to sent children to schools especially girl child.
- Paintings of 4 children involved in BAL Jatha were published in BAL Bhaskar in Holi special edition.
- Through Women's Day programme about 107 participants were disseminated the information women Violence Act 2005 & present status of women in the community.
- A state level alliance of child members from 20 districts of M.P. was initiated to address child issues at state level.

#### **B5) Advocacy Initiative on Child Protection**

The project was initiated with the support of UNICEF, Bhopal Office since September 2008. The primary objectives of the initiative are -

- To raise the issues of child protection in the state of M.P.
- To organize the educational activities for the platform children on 5 railway platforms of Madhya Pradesh.
- To prepare a status paper of Juvenile Justice act implementation in Madhya Pradesh.
- To support the JJ girls institutions for building a child friendly atmosphere.
- To organize sensitization programs for the CWC members in Madhya Pradesh
- To organize processes of alliance building on the issues of child protection in Madhya Pradesh.

#### **Activities Conducted:**

- 1. Educational & Recreational Activities: Educational & recreational activities organized with the children bridge classes as well as living their lives on railway platforms. Various stakeholders and local people are also linked with the programs for orientation of the children.
- 2. Regional consultation Meetings on Child Rights and JJ Act with Child Welfare Committee: A regional level consultation meetings organized on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at Hotel Classic on Child Rights and JJ act. We initiated the process sensitization of these groups on the legal instruments and various child rights issues and the policy provisions

(JJ Act) through the mode of trainings. In this consultation CWC members were present from Vidisha, Indore, Itarsi, Hoshangabad, Shajapur & Bhopal. Mr. Nazmi (Professor Law) from Administration of Academy explained the roles and responsibilities of the CWC members.

3. "Make Your Valentine" with Platform children: The aim of the program was to create a sympathy among the people in platform we aware the people with the issues of children living in platform. We also tried to explain the reason behind the run away and compulsion to live in platform. We made an appeal to passengers to come forward to protect these children and their rights. We also flagged the slogan 'Hame hai apano se jitna pyar, utane hi pyar ka bachhoan ko de uphar'.

**Status report of JJ homes:** A status report of JJ institutions was prepared & shared with the legal experts. For this Status Report we visited 14 JJ Homes of Madhya Pradesh out of 26 JJ homes.

# **Major Achievements**

- Mahila thana opened as a temporary night shelter for a missing girls during emergencies.
- Working days of CWC increased from 2 days to 6 days with our regular intraction.
- 07 Member's of Bal Adhikar Mitra associated on supporting the issues of children living on Betul platforms.
- Formation of Bal Samiti in Beena to support the outreach of children on Platform.
- The staffs of JJ homes are now inviting us to help in home placing of children.
- Officials from Ujjain observation home also want engagements regarding family tracing.
- 62 platform children & 2 girls from JJ homes send back to their families.
- 33 children are continuously engaged in education through shelter support.
- CWC members opened in discussions to design future strategies in their districts for child protection issues.
- A platform for interactions with JJ institution officials sought with the help of Academy of administration to work jointly on child protection & quality improvement issues in JJ institutions.

#### **B6) Platform School, Jabalpur**

Platform school is initiated with the objective of mainstreaming the street children into the formal education system. With the help of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan Jabalpur, 35 children were supported through the residential bridge course at Damoh Naka Jabalpur.

Out of the 35 street children, 30 children linked with the neighbor school & 5 children sent to the Disha RBC at Bhopal.

## B7) Advocacy Campaign on Child Rights – Satna, MP

This programme was conducted in Mazgawa block of Satna district in MP. Community mobilization on primary education was conducted. 15 villages were covered.

#### C. Health

# C1) 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.

# C2) 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.

# C3) RCH Programme, Samnapur, MP

This programme was conducted in 15 villages of Dindori district in Baiga Chak area. Women's maternal and child health issues were promoted amongst the Baiga tribal population. The programme concluded in June 2009.

#### D) Women

#### D1) Tejaswini Rural Women Empowerment Programme

National Institute of Women Child and Youth Development has been facilitating Tejwsini Rural Women Empowerment programme – a project of Madhya Pradesh Women Vit evam Vikas Nigam Ltd, Bhopal (MPVVN) - in two locations that comprises 90 villages spread across two development block areas of Mandla during 2008, in Bijadandi development block location villages, it started by September 2009. In Niwas total 1224 families 122 women under the category of below poverty line (BPL) are district of Madhya Pradesh. In Niwas development block location, the project activities started the target group of the programme during this reporting period.

**Goal:** Empower poor women members of the community to take better economic, social and political opportunities and utilizing such opportunities for their integrated development.

# **Programme objectives:**

- 1. To form and develop women self help groups by ensuring its sustainability and capacity of self reliance
- 2. To link the self help groups and its head organizations with micro finance

- 3. Facilitate the formed SHGs to explore options for livelihood and derive its best utility
- 4. To improve the capacities of SHGs for better access to social justice and development.

# Village level interventions of the project team:

A team of 12 members including 10 community mobilizers, 1 coordinator and an accountant that comprises the location staff, had regular visits and meetings with the community members. The agendas discussed in general during the meetings were, the objectives of Self Help Groups, role of women in the development process, need of an exclusive platform for women to express and share their needs in the life.

The first agenda – objectives of SHGs has incorporated in the meeting to give a clear perspective of SHG which is envisaged by NABARD (National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development) from the very beginning itself and during the course of time, there was a number of maladministration in process of SHGs reported from different rural areas. The mentioned fact later here has become a cause for diminishing the trust of community members on SHGs. The first interventions of the team with the community members those who were associated with SHGs in the past has revealed that; for them the existence of SHGs are limited up to the saving of the household money, internal loaning according to the vested interests of the power holders among the community members and poor has nothing to hope with them. So the first task in front of the team was to convince the real objectives and purpose of joining SHGs for poor community members especially women.

The second agenda was the role of women in the development process; that widely deals with the collective approaches towards entitling to various government schemes and programmes, the necessity of women to assert on the inclusive development plan, fight against all kinds of discrimination especially in the perspective of gender sensitive approaches, gramsabha like village level institutions and its scope as a constitutional body for raising the voices of all sections of society.

An SHG – in its initial phases performs as an informal institution in the village, provides a space for all sections of the community – significantly, when it comes to women, other marginalized groups such space add their confidence to raise their voice in gramsabha like village level constitutional proceedings.

Achievements so far: A total 102 self help groups were formed among the project villages. Savings amount with the SHGs was Rs 138305/- (One lakh thirty eight thousand three hundred five only). For internal loaning process, Rs 22850/- (Twenty two thousand eight hundred fifty only) has utilized out of the total savings. A project level grading exercise also has conducted among the SHGs, in which, 33 groups were rated as A grade, 52 in B grade, 17 in C grade respectively. Bank account of 25 SHGs has opened, 4 groups identified income generation activities like vegetable cultivation, vermin- compost making. Orientation training by using picture book manual designed by Tejaswini has conducted among 96 SHGs. The identification process for a community level accountant for each SHGs has also completed.

#### Learning of the team through out the intervention:

1. When household members of the project villages had either a partial or distorted picture of SHGs in front of them in the past; this has become a reason of refrain

- for them to join SHGs. However, when project team made their interventions, it has revealed that continuous household level interaction with women members has an impact to change their earlier views on SHGs.
- 2. The habit of saving a portion of their earnings has improved the confidence of women members to take important decision on household level consumption issues.
- 3. Ideas of livelihood and income generation activities slowly got space into the discussions of monthly meetings of SHGs, which is an indication of increased awareness among women members of the community.

# D2) Economical Empowerment of Women in Kasturba Nagar, Nagpur

The project was started in August 2008 to improve the economic status of economically backward women in Kasturba Nagar locality in Nagpur city. The women were provided skill training and support for initiating employment by forming different activity groups.

# Objectives -

- To strengthen the economic status of 100 women through skill training and self employment.
- To provide employment opportunities to 200 women and unemployed youths (girls and boys) through training in MS-CIT computer course.
- Organize the women by forming their self help business groups and Federation for strengthening their business units and social awakening.

# Activities carried out during the year

- Formal Inauguration of the project
- Training Programme (ITP) for the Project Staff
- Computer Training MS-CIT course
- EDP Trainings
- Finalization of Trade wise list of beneficiaries for skill training
- Preparation of entrepreneurial profile of selected beneficiaries for skill training
- Business Group Orientation Training Programme
- Exposure visit: Dress Designing and Garment Manufacturing Business Group, Catering Business Group
- Monitoring visit by Hope Foundation, New Delhi representatives
- Training on Dress Designing and Garment Manufacturing
- Skill Training on Catering Trade at Government Polytechnic, Department of Hotel Management and Catering, Nagpur
- Assorted Business Dental Mechanist Training seven participants & Hot Bag Production - three participants
- Business Group Orientation Programme Milk Processing
- Skill Training on Milk Processing at Maharashtra Centre for Entrepreneurship Development (MCED), Training Institute at Nagpur
- Social awareness programmes Excursion, Republic & Independence day celebrations, etc.

#### **Key Achievements**

- 20 women trained in Catering business
- 20 women trained in Dress Designing and Garment Manufacturing

- 10 women trained in Milk processing
- 60 persons trained (in three batches of 20 students each) in Computer operations - MS-CIT course
- 7 persons trained as Dental Mechanist
- 3 women trained in Hot Bag production

The trained women initiated income generating activities in respective trades.

# D3) Skill Training of Women in Natural Fibre Craft

NIWCYD's resource centre at Nainpur in Mandla district, MP conducted four training programmes in Dindori district of MP. 80 women were trained in preparing attractive & decorative items from Sun, Jute, Ketki and other natural fibres. MPCOST, Bhopal supported this activity.

Two training programmes were organised for manufacturing different utility products viz table, chair, stool, tray, basket, mobile stand, etc. from Lanta, a weed found in plenty in forest. 40 women were trained in Satna district with support from Zilla Panchayat.

#### 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

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- o Zilla Shiksha Kendra, Jabalpur, MP
- o Zilla Parishad, Satna, MP

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

# **PHOTO GALLERY**



Transplantation in Paddy field, village Gaura, Baiga Chak, Dist. Dindori, MP



Farmer training with Krishi Vignyan Kendra (KVK), Dindori Linkages



Exposure visit of women of Kasturba Nagar to M/s. LORDS Garment Manufacturing Centre, Nagpur



Women of Kasturba Nagar undertaking Skill Training in Catering at Govt. Polytechnic, Nagpur



Participants attending Dental Mechanist Training at Nagpur



Cycle Rally held by Gramdoots for NREGS awareness in Nainpur, Mandla



Bhoomi Poojan function at Mira Nagar School, Bhopal



Concluding function of Home placement camp at Bhopal



Umbrella rally on World Habitat Day



Bal Panchayat orientation



State Consultation on Child Rights at Bhopal, MP



State Convention on Social Security of Unorganized Sectors



Facilitation of women SHGs to undertake innovative models of livelihood security



Technical intervention under MPRLP, Sizhora, to improve agriculture production



Training and awareness creation on MNREGA



Training programme for members of primitive tribe - Baiga for improving access to government schemes

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