

GRAMYA SANSTHAN



Annual Report Year: 2016-17

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Gramya Sansthan has been working at the grassroot level since its inception in the year 1996 for the upliftment of the poor, marginalized and excluded communities through its various interventions. We reached upto this stage with support from the numerous sources,

We deeply acknowledge the signification support of our donors/funders i.e. Asha for Education (Chicago Chapter), Phia Foundation, Action Aid, Plan International (India Chapter), SAHAYOG-Lucknow. Apart from this, we also acknowledge the valuable support of the network partners of Behatar Shiksha Haq Abhiyan (BSHA, like-minded individuals, academicians, social activists and volunteers associated with the organization over the period of time.

The community based organization (CBOs) formed by the organization during the time with prime objective of empowering people especially to the women and adolescent girls belonging to the target population to overcome their problem by themselves. The CBOs leaders of respective women's group and adolescent girls group through their initiative join hands with us at the very grassroot level and marked their presence felt amid the local communities we are working with and also at the government counterpart as well.

Further, we would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the Govt. Officials at Block and District level with whom we raised issues and problems of local areas in public service delivery, discrimination, irregularities and who in turn addressed those issues step by step to improve the situation and made govt. services more qualitative and accessible to the intended beneficiaries

At the end we thankful to our committed organizational and project team members who performed excellently, sometimes in challenging situation in their working areas by providing hand holding to the targeted beneficiaries in their development process and bring out change in their lives.

With All Best Wishes

Thanks

*Bindu Singh
Secretary-Gramya Sansthan*

Message

Dear Friends!
Hearty Greetings!

We are pleased to share Gramya Sansthan Annual Report of 2016-17 with all of you. Time alters, situation get change and it enfolds new beginning, new hopes and aspirations, happiness, successes and failures as part of human lives. This year too, our organization made great efforts by a number of interventions in the different working locations with good results.

This year our organization entered into some new partnership and initiated some new interventions. We started Digital Empowerment of the women in two districts i.e. Ghazipur and Chandauli district and implemented the project titled as "Internet Saathi in partnership with Phia Foundation. This was an initiative of Tata Trusts and Google India aims at spreading awareness towards internet and its uses in rural areas. This project with wider coverage of above 2000 nos. of revenue villages, 20 blocks in 2 districts we worked with 511 nos. Internet Saathis, all females only identified preferably from schedule caste, muslim communities. By the time they reached to thousands of women and girls residing in the allotted villages and spread awareness and increase their knowledge about the internet and its uses to get them online. Imparted knowledge by Internet Saathis was beneficial to their learners in their daily lives and access to the information readily available in digital world and raising their confidence.

In educational initiative, we have been partner organization of Behtar Shiksha Haq Abhiyan (BSHA), a state level network of like-minded CSOs working in to promote quality education in the government and improving school governance through strengthening SMCs in the government schools. Within limited resources and team, we activated to the SMCs of the targeted schools and regularize its meeting and community participation at the school level to raise their accountability in service delivery under the framework of Right to Education.

The organization also got associated with some government initiative in which Weekly Iron Folic Implementation (WIFS) in which we have been able to impart training to the ICDS Supervisors and CDPO and Nodal Teacher of each & every government school and govt. added schools ranging from Junior High School to Intermediate Colleges of Varanasi city and all the blocks in rural areas. As invitee in the Master Trainer to impart training to the SMC, we worked in some of the blocks of Varanasi. Through these initiative Gramya Sansthan marked its presence and establishing functional linkages with the government department on one hand and on the other hand relation building with concern ing govt. staff.

For the adolescent girls and women in district Chandauli we have been constantly working mainly on their reproductive health & rights, access to the health services at the front line workers level and institutional level both. This year we emphasized for regularizing meeting of the government committees e.g. Rogi Kalyan Samiti (RKS) meeting at both block and district level. This also make different in improving health services and mitigating gaps in accessibility of the services by the women and girls of target population in working blocks of the district. In line of the same, larger women's collectives namely Mahila Swasthya Adhikar Manch actively carried out advocacy with the government department as strong collective and hence find recognition at their level and in local communities.

We hope your support would be continue in our endeavor in the future and new milestones of the success would be achieved for the larger benefits of the people in need to bring improvement and lasting change in the society at large.

Thanks

Bindu Singh

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Digital Empowerment of Girls and Women in Rural India

Gramya Sansthan entered into the partnership with Phia Foundation 6 for implementing a project titled “Internet Saathi”. It was, however relatively new area for the organization and proclaim theme of the project was ‘Helping Women Get Online’. This signifies meaning of digital empowerment of rural India. Preferably socially excluded communities i.e. schedule caste, Muslims and Dalit communities’ girls and women were taken as beneficiaries. Also girls and women selected as Internet Saathi (trained women and girls from the cluster/villages for imparting knowledge in order to promote and use of internet in their daily lives and enabling them to have access to the spectrum of knowledge.

Background note of Internet Saathi: Internet Saathi Project was initiated in the year 2015. It was an initiative focusing on bringing women in rural India online; women form only 12% of Internet user base in rural India. Google India partnered with Tata Trusts and Intel to launch ‘Internet Saathi’. Under the initiative, Internet cycle carts equipped with Internet enabled devices and operated by women influencers trained to reach villages and in turn train the women on how to use Smart phones, access the Internet through phones and tablets and search for information online.

In Uttar Pradesh, Gramya Sansthan and Phia Foundation worked together in two districts to implement this project during the time:

A. Project Coverage

Project Statistics
No. of Districts: 2 (Two)
Name of Districts: Ghazipur and Chandauli
No. of Blocks: 19
No. of villages: 2048
No. of Internet Saathis: 511
Population covered: 3,57,700

Aim– Project aims to overcome the digital gender disparity in rural India and empower rural women and communities to facilitate digital literacy by making them aware of the benefits of the Internet and promoting its uses.

Objective

- ❖ To empower women and their communities in rural India: enabling them to use the Internet and benefit from it in their daily lives.
- ❖ To bridge the technology gender divide
- ❖ To align with the Digital India vision of the country.

Interventions:

The project has limited activities in numbers. However, geographical coverage and direct reach in remote villages of the working blocks/area, number of beneficiaries and application of the internet knowledge from Internet Saathis to the targeted beneficiary(s) was the key aspects of the project. Following were the key activities carried out under the project:

Recruitment of the key project's personal: The project begins with recruitment of the approved key project's personal to assign the task and its completion against the signed deliverable during the time. For this staff requirement for the post of Block Coordinators (BCs) were communicated in the working areas through local networks/CSOs and resources for inviting applications. Short listing of the applications based on defined eligibility criteria for respective blocks; personal interviews were conducted to finalize the staff recruitment process for the project. Total 19 Block Coordinators in totality, 9 BCs for Chandauli district and 10 BCs for Ghazipur district were selected.

Orientation of the BCs and core team:

A preliminary round of the orientation of the BCs was conducted at the state level. All the partner organizations alternatively called CSOs in project context were invited along with the Project Manager, Block Coordinators from respective block and district. The motto of the orientation was to discuss about the goal, key objectives of the project, target to be achieved, selection criteria of the Internet Saathis, about the Collect App (a kind of App designed mainly for Internet Saathi project) Using this app an Internet Saathi fills details of herself called Saathi Profile as well as she fills learners data/form called MIS. Further she upload filled data in collect app by using the Internet for further consolidation and tracking the progress against the target during the time. Sharing of the MIS and consolidation of the learners data in million on as and when require could be generated due to online submission.

Clustering of the identified villages:

At the starting of the project, we listed down all the villages of the concerning block(s) taking support as source of data Census 2011 as authentic one and have greater acceptability than other source of data at all levels. Village having very less population or no population were cut off/not taken for the project's interventions. Accordingly, villages were finalized and cluster of the villages were formed as required and targeted for the project. Clustering of the villages helped in finalizing the catchment area of Internet Saathi for their working and filling MIS forms of the learners to whom they enabled for using internet in their daily lives.

Identification and selection of Internet Saathis: Block level coordinators facilitated the process of identifying Internet Saathis out of clustered villages based on the recommended minimum eligibility criteria. Clusters is comprised of 4 villages and were formed through the field visits in the village, interaction with local contacts persons, self knowledge of the locale, geographical areas, route, regarding the proximity of the village(s) at the Block Coordinators level itself. The village/cluster records of respective block were prepared on the customized format and finally submitted for entering details into the software and further process at next stage by the partner organization(s).

Training of the Internet Saathis: After the selection of the Internet Saathis in respective blocks two days training were conducted as per finalized plan. Training was facilitated by the trainer's team from PMG Asia, a technical agency hired for procurement of the devices i.e. Smartphone, Tabs & accessories) and imparting training to Saathis in targeted block under the project. Training schedule was shared to the organization and accordingly preparation and local arrangements were made. It's worthwhile to mention that likewise women learners, mostly Internet Saathis were had never used devices i.e. Smartphone and Tabs. It was required to provide them technical knowledge of on menu, functions of the devices, internet, its applicability in different fields and increasing their knowledge how they can impart knowledge.



Visit of the donor/funder: Time by time visit of the funder's donor's were conducted in the different blocks in order to took stock of the progress, implementation process, challenges at the field level, interaction with Internet Saathis performing better in their field area/villages in the given situation and changes brought by the project in terms of socio-economic, mitigation exclusion and gender gaps as per field findings and experience shared by the Internet Saathis. During the time, donor's team visited in the respective village and interacted with both Internet Saathis and the learners (Girls and Women) in local communities, received knowledge by the Internet Saathis and sharing their experiences, like how knowledge imparted on internet helped them and what changes they feel within after using internet use in their routine life.

Case Study: 1

Renu Yadav is a 23 years old woman working as Internet Saathi in the project. She lives in village-Dhanaipur situated in block-Devkali of Ghazipur. She had never used android phone prior to the being in the project and hardly stepped out from her home. After the training she imparted knowledge of using internet to the learners i.e. girls and women in the villages. In this sequence she enables them for learning internet use, browsing for collecting required information, menhadi art and clothes designs etc. Once, some local community people/villages asked whether internet can help in their vegetable cultivation and is there any information available regarding the pesticides also. She responded them yes its possible and it can help. She searched and collected required information pertaining to the pesticides, different names, its uses and other technical information. She shared with the farmers growing vegetables in their fields. It helped them a lot after getting such useful information and applied the same.

Case Study-2

This story is about Anjana. She is resident of a Shikarganj village of Chakiya block, Chandauli district. Before joining as Internet Saathi I was doing sewing work and earning was rupees 40 to 50 in a day. After receiving training I started providing knowledge about use of internet to the girls and women in the villages, I thought that I can also use this useful medium in making new designs in sewing work. I made some new designs in the women cloths using internet and my customer like it, too. Now, I earn rupees 90 to 100 in a day of the same work which is almost double. It happens all because of knowledge and use of internet through the project's support.

Case Study-3

My name is Faridabano. I live in Dariyapur village, Chahania block of Chandauli. I had never used an android phone before joining as Internet Saathi. There are many girls and women in the village who never used smartphone and use of internet was a distant goal to them. This inspired me a lot and I decided to work as Internet Saathis but my in-laws parents were against my decision and said how you would be able to do the work having a small baby and on a low payment of just Rs. 1000/- in a month. My husband stands with me and said there are many girls and women in the village but only you have got this chance so you must go ahead with this opportunity. This helped me a lot and after this I established my own identity and people know to me in my name in the village(s) as a result of working. Now, my in-laws parents also feel happiness and support me in my work.

Key Achievements of Internet Saathi Project:

- ☐ *Project leaves a good impact upon the Internet Saathis, associated during the time and enhanced their capacities, self confidence building to step out, ability gained to make their learners able to use internet that further gives impetus to the project to scale up.*
- ☐ *Gramya Sansthan partnering with Phia Foundation implemented the project in two districts in Ghazipur and Chandauli. This creates a new identity of the organization amid the wider level target audience and government functionary of District and Block level administration.*
- ☐ *In Phase I of the project total 511 no. women selected as Internet Saathis and associated with the organization for a minimum period of six months as per signed agreement.*
- ☐ *Project has greater coverage/reach in the listed village of working blocks that were remotely situated and have no facility of internet for the rural folk. Only few shops/computer jobs shop were running in these area and not sufficient for online services.*
- ☐ *Total 351,994 nos. of learners (girls and women) in 2000 number of villages and above were reached by 511 nos. of Internet Saathis in Phase I.*
- ☐ *31% Internet Saathis were from Scheduled Caste out of total selected Internet Saathis. Rest 60% were from OBC and 9% from General caste.*
- ☐ *Approx. 90% of Internet Saathis who had never used Smartphone/Tablet by their own before are now able to impart knowledge on Internet to the girls and women alike them in villages.*
- ☐ *Apart from working as Internet Saathi they also explored opportunities in learning latest trends, designs in sewing, tailoring, menhadi, home based job, filling online forms, E-ticketing and digital payment for small earning and value addition in their existing work.*

Overall Impact:

The project endeavored to reach larger number of the audience/beneficiaries in remotely situated and geographically challenged villages during the period of time and make them able to use Internet and widens the scope of its usability in their daily lives and opens a new gateway of knowledge and its easy access via using the internet in the village.

The girls and women termed as learner here in the project had rarely seen and used the device such as Smartphone and Tabs learned to operate it and different uses of the internet with support of cadre of Internet Saathis working on each 4 village cluster in the project. Internet Saathi project, an initiative to Tata Trust and Google India left a good impression upon the targeted communities, learners, Internet Saathis in knowledge building, empowering them, mitigating social issues e.g. exclusion, gender disparities and digital divide to some extent during the time.

Team efforts ranging from Phia Foundation to the organization level put synchronized efforts to meet out the target and also translating the plan into action that bring out changes.

Smart Village Adopted by ReNew Power Group (SVARG)

Plan International (India Chapter) and ReNew Power Ventures Pvt. Ltd under its CSR initiative entered into a partnership for the project 'Smart Village Adopted by ReNew Power Group' in short 'SVARG' in Gram Panchayat-Paniyara, block-Arajiline, district-Varanasi. Gramya Sansthan is implementing partner organization based at Varanasi for providing community level interventions under the project. ReNew have been working in Paniyara since year 2015-16 mainly for providing solar energy in the village (both household and street lighting).

The project now aims at holistic development of the community and aims to address issue pertaining to quality education, maternal. Child and adolescent health and WASH (community and School/ICDS) as these issues have a direct bearing on the lives of the community. Making renewable energy available across all the communities remains an important component of the work under the project.

Location: Paniyara village, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh)

Target Population: 335 Households

Main occupation: Agriculture & wage labour

Needs of the community

- Absence of sustained availability of energy
- Lack of safe source of drinking water
- Lack of access to basic health care services
- Need for improvement to quality of education for rural children
- Lack of livelihood opportunities for youth, women etc
- Need to strengthen agriculture practices: promoting efficient
- Agriculture management practices
- Need to conservation to groundwater & increase green cover
- Lack of access to social security net schemes

At the starting of the project's initiative, it was aimed at improving situation on the ground in view of the local needs related to electricity to the poor families or having no electricity connection, WASH facilities preferably at the institutional level i.e. Govt. Schools and Anganwadi Centers through the project support itself and mobilizing support for drainage, toilet construction from Gram Panchayat or governmental initiative e.g. Swachcha Bharat Mission (SBM) at the community level. Also it was prioritized to develop Model Anganwadi Centre existing in the village by equipping with required playing, learning, sitting and other materials, decorative work and developing playground areas.

Apart from this we also focused to increase community awareness on different thematic areas, mobilizing them into the groups, issue based discussion, awareness drive activities comprising health & hygiene, MHM, access to the government scheme benefits and services to the targeted beneficiaries. Community engagement was promoted during consultation with diversified age groups in feasibility analysis, hardware activities and participation in different events like celebration of important days, awareness sessions during the time.

The SVARG Project was on its initial stage till the time and most of the activities were to be implemented for which preparatory level planning meeting within the project's team and community level consultation were conducted. The project's key objective was developing the village into a 'Model Village' in phase wise manner in view of the donor's perspective. There were two broader categories of the project's support.

The first category was hardware interventions that refers here setting up key infrastructure for the solar electrification by setting up community based solar micro-grids, upgrading school infrastructure and solar electrification in the classrooms, setting up community water units for access of safe water throughout the year and improvising WASH facilities primarily at the institutional level in which Govt. schools and Anganwadi Kendra were taken. The hardware interventions support was made in close collaboration and making consent with the Gram Panchayat body in order to sharing the responsibilities and sustaining the efforts in future. We have been able to establish good coordination with the Gram Pradhan, PRI members and other service providers during the time.

Another category was software interventions that refers community level mobilization activities, mobilizing the adolescent girls and women into the groups, awareness generation on thematic issues particularly on MHM, health & hygiene, cleanliness, environment, children's education especially girls, WASH component, gender issues and child protection issue, organizing community and school level events for celebrating the important days with diversified beneficiaries and target groups, training and capacity building of the groups members, govt. committee members and the stakeholders, leveraging govt. schemes benefits to the desired/eligible beneficiaries and handholding for ensuring quality govt. services especially in terms of immunization, distribution of supplementary nutrition at ICDS level were provided during the time.

Resource Mapping Exercise

A Resource Mapping exercise was carried out in the panchayat by the project team. Consultation with the community people for highlighting the route/paths, hamlet location, and resources (water points, agricultural fields, buildings and other structures in the village etc) and key issues pertaining to health, nutrition, education, community development and livelihood.



Formation of Adolescent Girls Groups (AGGs):

Preferably we formed AGGs in SC Hamlet in the starting of the project in Jan-2017. In next month AGG was also formed in another locality i.e. Upadhyaypur of the village, where general caste people reside.

Presently, 2 AGGs are functional properly while 2 AGGs are yet to strengthen by organizing their monthly meetings and issue based discussion and raising confidence among the adolescent girls.

Monthly meetings of AGGs:

Regular monthly meetings were conducted that helped AGG members to increase their knowledge level on different issues pertaining to personal hygiene, menstrual hygiene management (MHM) in particular, violence against girls and women, helpline nos. such as police 100, free ambulance service no. 102, 108 and Asha Jyoti Kendra 181, Anemia, right food intake practices etc.

Result of it is that adolescent girl's feel a bit more confidence within to talk on these issues presently in their groups. Also they talk about future plans, dreams and interest.

Total 14 meetings are being organized including all 4 AGGs so far in which average attendance of 70% to 80% was ensured.



Meetings were organized generally on Sundays & Holidays as per convenience and availability of the AGG members.

Visit of ReNew and Plan India team in the village:

A visit of ReNew and Plan India team was conducted in this month from 20th to 21st March-2017 in village-Paniyara. The visit was mainly aimed at taking stock of the situation of work done so far by the implementing partner organization i.e. Gramya Sansthan in the village and interacting with the project's team members, local community, adolescent girls group members, committee members like mother's committee, SMC, VHSNC and service providers working in the village.

Overall progress during the time:

The project interventions were initialized in the adopted village during the time from Jan to Mar-17. Till the time, we established community level rapport building, coordination with the govt. service providers, Gram Panchayat members and stakeholders. Apart from this collection of the village level information, resource mapping were conducted through community consultation process.

Our efforts were conferred upon mobilizing members of the govt. mandatory committees with regard to motivating them for taking part in the monthly meeting of committee enabled them to know more about the committee members they are nominated and it motivated them to some extent. It was found that School Management Committee (SMCs) formed at the govt. primary and upper primary level, Mother's Committee formed at the AWC level, Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC) formed at Gram Panchayat level were defunct as generally found in most of the govt. committees where members are nominated for namesake or not active for participation in the meeting.

The govt. service providers were consulted and their services like immunization, counseling, health check-up during the VHND, supplementary food distribution from the ICDS centers to the PWs, lactating mothers and malnourished adolescent girls. This resulted in regularizing routine immunization, VHND and distribution of supplementary distribution to beneficiaries.

The project team members realizes their presence felt in the local communities and mobilization process started during the time were reflected in active participation of the community men, women, adolescent girls and children in the event organized that is described ahead that further motivated them to take part in the proposed intervention and recognizing work initiated for the well-being of the beneficiaries and developing the village into a 'Model Village' in future.

Events organized:

Republic Day Celebrations-26th Jan 2017

The Republic Day is celebrated across the nation on 26th Jan every year. On this very day India was declared a republic nation. It is our national festival which is celebrated with great joy and gaiety. On this occasion, Gramya Sansthan organized an event in the project location Gram Panchayat Paniyara, block-Arajilina, District-Varanasi of Uttar Pradesh with support from Plan India and ReNew, New Delhi.

A prior planning meeting was done with the school teachers of both schools and Gram Pradhan also regarding the event celebration. Responsibilities were shared for making it successful. At the school level, children's preparation for the proposed cultural events performances was ensured. Additionally, the school teachers also suggested to organize local games on the occasion with both boys and girls preferably with class 6th to 8th students and it was finalized.



As scheduled the event was organized on the day. For this, children from two government schools of the Gram Panchayat namely Junior High School and Primary School, Paniyara were invited to come together and participate in the cultural and sports activities as proposed for the day. An open common ground nearer to both schools was finalized as venue for the day celebration with consult of the school teachers and prior consent were taken by the team members.

Earlier preparation for the cultural performances and participants' names were finalized at the school level respectively. A schedule of activities was prepared by the school teacher and facilitation was assigned to them. It was emphasized to ensure maximum no. of children's presence on the day enrolled in the school(s). Accordingly all things took place with support from one another.

The event began with flag hoisting ceremony in both the schools as customary ritual and attribute of the citizens of the nation. The Gram Pradhan, principal/Head Master of the schools, ex-Principal, senior citizens, teaching staff and Gramya team members along with the children participated in it followed by recitation of our national anthem '*Jan Gan Man Adhinayak Jai Hey*' that permeate a patriotic fervor and creates an atmosphere for the occasion.

All the children of both the government schools were organized at the event venue that was an open ground identified enough space was there for cultural as well as sports activities. Here the process began with the warm welcome of the guests on the chairs and garland of flowers were offered to the guests by the school children one by one. A welcome song was sung by two girls students. Facilitation of the events was jointly being done by the Gramya Team Member and School teachers both.

Almost all the enrolled children were present on this occasion of both the schools. Besides this some of the parents both men & women and community members also joined the celebration as it proceeds.

The Ex-Principal of the Junior High School, Paniyara addressing to the participants expressed his warm greetings, memories, changes brought and development of the nation over the period of time. In this context, Bindu Singh, Secretary and chief functionary of Gramya Sansthan also expressed her heartiest gratitude and thanks. She said that republic means where power is restored to the people and it signifies the meaning of people's participations that is crucial for development process of a nation.

She said that she believes that if each and every one would contribute his/her part in the development visible changes would definitely be reflected in the village and beyond. She said that our organization comes up with a vision of development through people's participation of this Gram Panchayat as whole and especially educational development that factors for future generation development.



The Gram Pradhan addressing to the participants said that it's really of great happiness for all of us that organization i.e. Gramya Sansthan is working with a development perspective in the village for the common interest. He assured his full support and cooperation where needed. He further added that an Education Hub would be established in next few months at the place where event was organized. This hub would definitely be a model in educational advancement of the children not only for the Gram Panchayat but also for block and district level schools. After this cultural performances were began in which children including girls and boys of both the schools performed enthusiastically in the group dance on the theme, individual thematic song and it was appreciated by applaud of the participants during the time. Girls students performed group dance on the popular patriotic songs like *"Des Rangila Rangila Des Rangila"*, *"Panchi Ude Mast Gagan Mein, Aise main azad udun"* etc. Individual performances by some students was also appreciated by the participants who presented thematic song on importance of girl child, social evils like dowry that was quite appealing in its meaning. Local games were also scheduled for the occasion and it began after the successful completion of the cultural performances. This began with Kho-Kho game in which 2 teams are formed. It is one of the popular outdoor games and children like it very much.

Different types of race were conducted and participants were told that fastest runner and touches the final line would won the race. Thus, they took part in the race with a competitive spirit and full of energy. The winners also received prizes by the respective guests on the occasion and it was very motivational to them and other participants also. The clapping sounds by all the participants added new fervor and also captured the attention of the people moving on the road which passes nearby to the school(s).

In the end, prizes were distributed by the guest on chairs namely Gram Pradhan, Ex-Principal, Secretary-Gramya Sansthan, School Health Teachers (principal), in the sequence of first, second and third positions winners of different races and cultural performances as recognized during the time. Then rest of the participants also received consolation prizes for their participation in the event and encouragement. Sweets were also distributed to each & every one after concluding all this.

In the end thanks was extended by the Secretary-Gramya Sansthan and School Head Teachers to all the children, Schools staff, Gram Pradhan, local community, parents of the children for their valuable support and presence on this important day.

Result:

- Approx. 200 and above children of 2 schools participated in the event
- A good start successful organizing the event leaves a good impression upon the stakeholders that would be advantageous for later work of the project.
- The organization and stakeholders also came to know more about one another through this event and assured for providing support at their end.

International Women's Day:

Gramya Sansthan, Varanasi organized an event 'Women's Day Celebration' in village-Paniyara, block-Arajiline, District-Varanasi of U.P. This was organized on 10th March 2017 that is also marked as death anniversary of Savitri Bai Phule, who played an important role in improving women's rights and strived for women's education.

This event was special for the girls and women of the village in the sense that they had never participated in such event before. Many of them were not informed about Women's Day that falls on 8th March every year. The event began with a warm welcome from the Chief Functionary of Gramya Sansthan i.e. Bindu Singh followed by the event facilitator Ms. Neetu Singh. It was organized at Panchayat Bhawan situated amid the different hamlets so that participation of girls and women from each corner can be ensured and it happened accordingly. Girls and women participated in the event were from all castes and religions.



The Chief Guest was Ms. Shahina Ji, Rtd. Professor, Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi and known social activist and feminine thinker participated and expressed her view and opinion on the day in which she laid emphasis on the gender equality that can be materialize when men & women both realize their responsibilities and due respect, space, opportunities and freedom of choice would be avail to the women for their development and society as whole. She also underlined the importance of this day and story behind it that has been full of struggle for the women's rights & their emancipation.

Village Gram Pradhan joins and expressed his opinion that it is good to see that girls and women from each & every hamlets of the village is participating on this day in a good numbers in the Gram Sabha that was not before and for this he thanked to the organization's team members and participants.

The organization also invited two women named Ms. Manju and Ms. Kismatti Devi who came from another block of the district where organized worked for around 4 years and empowered them by formation of their groups called Mahila Manch (Wome'n Group). They shared their experiences like how they joined with the organization and received knowledge, started to take initiative on the problems/issues with support of their group members, faced challenges and overcame from their problems and resolved the issues ultimately. This was very appealing to the audience and they appreciated also. Thematic songs in locale language were also sung by them in between that heighten the effect as well. A Film show was also conducted on this day entitled "Change Maker" that was suited for this year theme 'Be Bold for Change'.

A brief discussion was also held with the participants as what did they see in the films, what message it gives to them and so on. Later on, girls and women were asked to speak something as what they felt. A woman spoke that *“she was not known to this day. Now she got knowledge about this day and she feels quite happy”*. An adolescent girl also expressed that *‘This organization is very good that organized such an event in this village that was not before and she expressed her desire to organize such activities again and again in her village.*

In this event, service providers like the Principal of Govt. Junior High School and Primary School both, ICDS Supervisor, Anganwadi Workers, ASHAs, ANM, Rojgar Sewak participated. They also extended their support in spreading the message in the local communities and mobilizing the women and girls also.

Result: Nearly 175 nos. of participants attended it in which 40 adolescent girls 100 women and 25 male persons and other stakeholders.



Behtar Shiksha Haq Abhiyan-2017

Ensuring Non-Discriminatory Access to Quality Education

Education is a fundamental human right, essential for the empowerment and development of an individual and the society as a whole. RTE Act provides free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years. By implementing RTE Act, it is also expected that issues of school dropout, out-of-school children and quality of education and availability of trained teachers would be addressed. Gramya Sansthan has been working in a state level network in Varanasi to ensure inclusive & quality education for the children in target villages in Varanasi district.

Partnering with Behtar Shiksha Haq Abhiyaan, a network working in 14 districts: *Behtar Shiksha Haq Abhiyan* is a campaign for strengthening the school governance for inclusive education in Uttar Pradesh and is being undertaken by a consortium of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) since year 2013. The campaign is being supported by Poorest Areas Civil Society Programme [PACS] which is an initiative of the UK Government's Department for International Development (DFID) and funded by Christian Aid.

The primary objective of this campaign is *to strengthen the systems that need to provide inclusive education to children, especially, the out of school children from the socially excluded communities*. The basic strategy is to integrate The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 parameters within the activities of the campaign so that existing systems function well and add to the overall objective of the campaign.

Issues pertaining to Education:

- The key issues pertaining to this were people were not aware about the provisions of RTE Act. The drop out children was also found due to being ignorant about this facility.
- School Management Committee had no proper representation of the socially excluded group and those were in SMCs from this category had no information about their role & responsibility.
- Children from the SEGs were made to clean ground and other menial jobs. In some cases they were not allowed to take meal with the upper caste children and MDM was distributed in the end.
- School level authorities were not responsive to the concern raised by SEG men & women if any.
- Caste based discrimination is deeply rooted thing in our society and age-old socio cultural practices.
- Socially Excluded people had been devoid of any such opportunity to know about their basic rights and entitlements that causes to less or sometimes no access to the govt. schemes benefits in which RTE Act is included.
- Unorganized and fear factor to being devoid of the currently avail govt. services in case of raising issues before the influential person or govt. authority was another reason of discrimination.

Overall coverage:

District	Block	Gram Panchayat	Total Population	Total Men	Total Women	PWD	No of men (SC/ST)	No of women (SC/ST)	No of men (others)	No of women (others)
Varanasi	Sevapuri	Chitrasenpur	3946	2039	1907	4	278	202	1761	1705
		Deipur	3719	1904	1815	2	415	385	1489	1430
		Suilara	811	420	391	1	229	208	191	183
		Basuhan	600	337	263	2	13	15	324	248
		Gaharpur	479	234	245	1	133	119	101	126
		Total	9555	4934	4621	10	1068	929	3866	3692

Children's Enrollment and SMC Membership of Excluded Community- RTE framework

Name of district	Name of CSO/ CBO if any engaged with	No of children enrolled in schools				No of schools in which SMCs formed		Representation of SMC members consists of			
		Boys	Girls	PWD	Total	Urban	Rural	SC	ST	others	Female
Varanasi	Mahila Manch	285	287	2	574	0	5	47	0	28	42

Key Activities carried out during the year under BSHA-2017

- SMC reformation process in 35 nos. of Govt. schools in Varanasi district.
- Facilitation to organize monthly meetings of the SMCs in 5 Govt. Schools in Varanasi.
- School Development Plan (SDP)- Facilitation in preparing SDP.
- Block level and District level dialogue with Govt. Educational Officials.
- Community based organization engagement in SMC related awareness in villages.
- Linkage building with the school level staff and local community members and CBOs.

Overall impact of the campaign:

The most significant changes the campaign brought about in relation to educational initiative observed are increase in school enrollment, children's attendance, minimal drop out, quality supply of mid day meal to the children, greater participation of the parents members of SMC come from excluded community and taking part in decision making, improving educational services and raising accountability of the teachers to adhere to their duties and responsive to children's need.

Gramya worked in close collaboration with the Govt. Education Department. Apart from district Varanasi, the organization has also been recognized in other working district(s) under educational initiative. The chief functionary of Gramya was nominated in School Monitoring Committee in district Chandauli for observing status of fulfillment of quality standards in Govt. schools against the key indicators on basic infrastructure, school environment, WASH facilities, health & personal hygiene awareness, school enrollment, attendance. This resulted in increase cooperation and support from the govt. educational officials.

Weekly Iron Folic Supplementation (WIFS) Training

This year Gramya Sansthan was joined hands with Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG) as partner organization under WIFS supported by Micronutrient Initiative (MI) in order to impart training to the nodal teachers, one from each of the Govt. and Govt. added Junior High School Intermediate Colleges and ICDS supervisors of Varanasi district including rural blocks and urban areas both. Iron deficiency anemia is one of the common phenomena among the adolescent girls between 10 to 19 years age group. This was provisioned by Govt. health initiative under National Health Mission (NHM). A large nos. of population can be reached of this age group by imparting through schools and ICDS. In view of the same, it was planned impart training to one nodal teacher in each of the govt. and govt. added junior high school and intermediate colleges. Drop out/non school going through ICDS Supervisors.

Name of the Division: Varanasi

Name of the Districts: Varanasi

No of Block covered: 8 (+ Urban)

No of Batches covered: 24

General Information:

Training starting date	06-01-2017	Training Completion Date	25-01-2017
No of batches planned	23	No of batches held	24
No of expected Teachers in training	572	No of Teachers trained	540
No of expected ICDS supervisors in training	97	No of ICDS supervisors trained	96

Proceedings /Main Highlights based on Topic Covered:

First of all a Training of Trainers (ToT) was organized at the district level by Micronutrient Initiative (MI) and GEAG at CMO Office, district Varanasi on dated 20th Dec 2017. For this 3 Trainers from the organization attended the training. In a day long training, the resource person Dr. A.K. Maurya, Deputy C.M.O. Varanasi imparted useful knowledge to the trainees on Anemia and related topics as given in the training module itself.

After this, a letter was issued from the C.M.O. Varanasi with a schedule of 23 training batches for block level trainings of nodal teachers and ICDS supervisors in both urban areas and rural blocks. The letter were also circulated to the concerning senior government official of Health, Basic, Higher Secondary Education and ICDS department for their acknowledgement & support.

Further, one day orientation cum partner meet was also organized by GEAG and MI team in Lucknow where necessary discussion were held regarding budget, module, reporting etc. for successful completion of WIFS training.

Accordingly, block level trainings were organized. One trainer from NGO and one from Govt. department were ensured in each batch. Quality monitoring by the organization head, MI team along with govt. officials was also done

Iron rich food such as green vegetables, food grains, fruits were also taken into training sessions and discussed. It was told that calcium rich food e.g. milk, calcium tablets itself, tea etc. must be avoided to take it along with iron rich food or tablets that is contradictory and affects the absorption of iron in human body. Other precautions such as iron tablet should be taken after breakfast or lunch to avoid any such adverse effect as generally predicted symptoms. In addition to this, importance of citrus food such as amla, orange, apple, lemon use is beneficial in iron absorption in human body. This chapter has been very informative to the participants and many of them were not known to this as responded by themselves.

The 4 pager printed module contents was also explained to the participants in a participatory mode and focus was given on important points highlighted in bold like National Deworming Day, WIFS key points and others.

Communication and advise/counseling was also taken in the training in which mainly GATHER technique was briefly told as its equally important in promotion of new healthy & positive behavior like I.F.A. intake.

Reporting formats and registers sample was oriented to the participants. The process of entering details of I.F.A. intake in concerning register i.e. Individual card, NIPI/WIFS register was told and further entries compilation in related reporting format was oriented in point wise manner.

Tools used:

(i) Pre Test and Post Test: This was applied to know the status of improvement in knowledge level before and after imparting training on I.F.A.

(ii) 4 pager module: It was given to all the trainee/participations. It's a compact guide book that contain related topics discussed in the training for further reference and sharing knowledge to others.

(iii) Reporting formats: A set of reporting formats almost 5 types of formats in each set was provided to each & every one attended the training for having better understanding on the reporting procedure and columns for the entries.

Queries/questions raised by participants:

- a) What teacher would do in case of facing any side effect/adverse effect of I.F.A. intake?
- b) What is the grievance redressal mechanism e.g. parents threat, community reactions?
- c) Is WIFS training is conducted for the primary school?
- d) An extra work load on the Junior High Schools and Higher Secondary School Teachers?
- e) From where teachers would receive I.F.A., records/registers & reporting format?
- f) Till when the I.F.A. tablets and records and registers would be available to them?
- g) How WIFS register would be maintained where many section of the same class is running in the school because for a class only 1 WIFS registers are provisioned?
- h) There are many rumor and misconception and its is great obstacle in promoting I.F.A. consumption in the rural community and especially among the children?

- i) How we can check the Hemoglobin level only on the basis of using tools like redness in eyes, tongue, palm and finger tip?
- j) In case of holiday on Monday in the week, when we should provide the I.F.A. No. of days gap from one I.F.A. dose intake to the next dose of I.F.A. intake.
- k) Why government is providing I.F.A. only in government or govt. added schools only and why it's not for private schools/public schools.
- l) Is it necessary for teachers to intake I.F.A. along with their students in school every week?

Major Challenges and Gaps: (Max 100 words, in bullets)

- i) Late coming of the participants especially of teachers at the training venue on date.
- ii) Teachers were routing to training venue from their schools instead of prior information.
- iii) Communication gap in the information flow to the nodal teachers..
- iv) Nodal teachers were not properly informed about purpose, duration of the training hence difficulty to retain them till full duration.
- v) Late presence of the teachers. Indulgence of some of the teachers in other official works at BRCs.
- vi) Name of the nodal teachers was not available. Only no. of participants per day/batch was given.

Action Taken/Solution found: (Max 100 words, in bullets)

- Listing of the absentees and immediate sharing with the concerning nodal person at the district level.
- Follow up, prior visit at the BRCs, meeting with BRC Coordinators, ABSA before training to ensure participants presence on schedule date and time.
- Including the drop out participants from respective block in next planned/running batches to reduce drop outs.
- Having presence of district level senior officials like C.M.O, ACOMO (Nodal RBSK and WIFS), BSA in training batches to highlight the training performances and ensuring their cooperation.
- Coordination with GEAG, MI Team along with concerning govt. officials and school authorities

Major Out Comes:

Pre Test- Post Test Analysis	Question wise average percentage Pretest and Post test:		
	#	Question	Pre (%)
	1	Level of RBCs is decreases during Anemia	92
	2	Sign of Anemia	57
	3	Main reason of Anemia	90
	4	Classification of Anemia	59
	5	Third Link in Gather Process	15
	6	Which food helps in Iron Absorption	45
	7	Composition of weekly IFA Tablets for adolescent girls	34
	8	Reccurence of WIFS Reporting	63
	9	Worm Infestation	10
	10	Dose of Blue IFA as per WHO	71
			Post (%)

Feedback regarding improvement (overall):

BSA Varanasi said that there could be uniformity in identification/nomination of the nodal teachers for WIFS training like head teacher, female teachers etc.

CMO, Varanasi in one of the training batches said that priority should be given to the science teachers of a school for such types of training. However, anemia is general things now a days that can be understood by other subject teachers but they need to focus on the topic and same must be conveyed to other working staff in their schools.

Some photos of WIFS:



ASHA for Education

Education is one of the basic rights of children that is enshrined in the article 21 of Indian constitution. Gramya Sansthan is working for promoting children's education especially of girl children belong to the vulnerable and marginalized communities in the different blocks of district Chandauli for last 10 years and above. Like-wise in other parts of the state, government schools i.e. Primary School and Upper Primary School does exist in conformity with universalization of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA) and Right to Education (RTE) Act 2009. But retention of children, inappropriate learning environment, irresponsible attitude of the teaches towards the children to engage them in the classroom and extra curriculum activities reflects in age appropriate poor learning outcome, drop outs, less attendance against the enrollment especially girls students in the govt. schools.



The Project entitled 'ASHA for Education' is funded by ASHA for Education, Chicago Chapter. In this context, the organization works at the very grass root level and have established learning centers locally known as 'Chirag Kendra' in respective working village. Our motto is to ensure quality education to the children and provides basic educational facilities at the centers and ensure enabling environment, apply innovative means for better learning outcome among the children. One of the major aspects is engagement of the teaches especially with the parents in functionality of these centers and sharing responsibilities. Time by time follow up visit also conducted to the family of the enrolled children in case of drop out or any such issue arise. It has been effective to build good rapport for local level support in regular attendance and functionality that makes difference from the govt. school practices.

A brief profile of the district is given in below table:

Sl. No.	Contents	Measures (in nos.)
1	Total population of Chandauli district	1,952,756
2	Male Population	1,017,905
3	Female Population	934,851
4	SC Population	446,786
5	Literacy Rate of the district	63.09%
6	Male Literacy rate	68.72%
7	Female Literacy rate	50.83%
8	No. of Tehsil (Sub-Division of the district)	3
9	No. of Blocks	9

Chandauli district has been affected with naxals movement and due safety measures are taken by the government Naugarh is one of the blocks of the district that is situated amid forestry surrounding and far from the district headquarters. This block is devoid of many basic facilities like road connectivity, public transport, govt. hospital, schools and colleges for education in proportion to the population and geographical stretch. There are total 43 Gram Panchayats and 111 revenue villages in this block. Enrollment of each and every child quality education is still a distant goal in the block.

The district is known for poor human index indicators like basic health care services, sub-standard educational facilities and less livelihood avenues. Unavailability of female doctor/nursing staff in emergency is frequently observed. Cases related to deliveries, critical diseases are just referred without examine to the patient and primary treatment by the appointed doctors and nursing staff. There are 14 A.N.M. Centers (Sub-Centers) are established but mostly are in poor condition and some of the centers where A.N.Ms are not visiting and serving to the women and children.

In the context of the Education in Naugarh block, there are total 95 primary schools, 45 Upper Primary Schools, 7 Higher Secondary Schools and 2 Intermediate colleges.

Programmatic Interventions:

Education:

- Functioning of the Educational Centers in 8 villages
- Running of the Children's Library in 5 villages
- Children's Fair (Bal Mela)

Health:

- Safe Motherhood

People's Organization/Collectives

- Strengthening of the Majdoor Kisan Morcha
- Formation of Mahila Swasthya Adhikar Manch
- Strengthening of Youth Groups
- Strengthening of District Forum

Major Highlights:

Bal Mahotsav: For increasing children's participation in some extra-curricular activities and providing them platform to realize right to participate, we organize Bal Mela every year. In the continuation of the same this year too, we organized Bal Mahotsava' (a kind of Children's celebration) in village Laltapur, Block Naugarh district-Chandauli. The two days event was organized from 1st and 2nd March 2017. The events was mainly aimed at increasing children's expressiveness, participation, social harmony, exhibiting their natural talents before the wider audience come from local community/adjoining villages. We organize all the running centers enrolled children at one place in a larger number once in the year to know each other, sharing & learning. Children' interest rise to realize their potential prompts to perform better than earlier and consequently builds confidence that further impacts for their overall development.



The event was inaugurated by lighting the lamp jointly by the invitee guests namely (i) Mr. Jai Prakash Singh-BDC, Dr. M.B. Singh-Ex Principal of an Intermediate College, Ms. Bindu Singh-Chief Functionary-Gramya Sansthan. After the inaugural ceremony, a group of 4 girls sang welcome song in the honor of the guests for the occasion titled as “*Man Ki Bagiya Se..*”. Also hymn song to Goddess Saraswati was also being sung by the girls followed by various thematic song on education titled” *Chal Padhe Padhai Na*”, “*Schooliya mein Padhe Chale*”, “*Shiksha Ka Jyotiya*” in Bhojpuri that is local language of the eastern part of U.P.



A puppet shows was also showed mainly to highlight the importance of education in one’s life. They message delivered through the show was that education is such a wealth that can never be stolen by anyone. Story of a non-school going girl was central theme of the play that further got support of the project and parents got motivated to send her back to school.

Collective P.T. exercise was also being done guided by the concerning teacher/staff to warm-up and make the children’s active for upcoming participatory activities scheduled for the day. In this sequence cycle balance by Mr. Vikas, different type of clapping sound resonance catches the attention of the audience.

Also some other activities like frog Race, slow cycle rate in boys and girls categories, biscuit race, mathematical contest, English contest, G.K. Test and Kabaddi completion with boys girls category in Primary section and upper primary section, separately and rope pulling game were organized on the day. It was appreciated by the participants and prizes in first, second and third categories to the winner/best performers in each category completion, sports activities were distributed in later part of the event that was motivational.



A Health Camp was also organized during the event with support from the government doctors based at the CHC, Naugarh, The health check-up of the children was being done by the doctor’s team and basic medicines were provided and in case of needed more clinical examination or further treatment, beneficiaries were referred to the govt. hospital.

At the end of the day and late evening, cultural performances comprised of local folk song, holi song, entertaining activities such as short plays on social evils such as Dowry were presented by the boys and girls both. A short play on ‘Unemployment’ and a play by group of girls was played in which a girl of poor family becomes doctor after her struggle signifies meaning of girl’s education was also played. Likewise one by one boys and girls performed on the stage and it was continued till 2nd day morning. It concluded by the prize distribution and vote of thanks.

Key points of the event were:

- Mass mobilization and Community contribution (in food grain, vegetables cooking of meal for 800+ nos. of participants, local arrangement of the required materials)
- The community members takes this programme as their own instead of projects and realize that it meant to their children's development enrolled at the respective centre.
- Social harmony find its place where all caste category children and their parents come together once in a year and enjoy themselves in two days children's celebration.
- The parent's witness their children's performance and natural talent. It make them ignites a competitive spirit to perform better.
- Stakeholder, influential persons and Govt. official's participation support in building relationship, strengthening cooperation to make joint efforts in public interest.
- The Youth Brigade, pass out students of Gramya Educational Centers (Chirag Kendra) are working as support hand at the community level event and enthusiastic support extended by them makes the event more participatory entertaining.
- A composite effort of the children, adolescent girls & youths make this event a great success.
- Parent's participation in the event boost their children's confidence and they observe the children's hidden talent that also helps in sending their children regularly instead of engaging them in domestic work especially to the girls children.
- In remote areas, where children found no such opportunity, 'Bal Mahotsav' proves an effective medium to exhibit their natural talent that is recognized at wider level also.
- Community awareness on some social evils like alcoholism, addiction, dowry, child marriage, gender based discrimination, illiteracy through the children's performances during the event.

Educational Centers:

The educational centers are running in two blocks i.e. Naugarh and Chakiya of district-Chandauli. In Naugarh we started the educational interventions first. Hence, the centers running in this blocks for last 14 years and in Chakiya blocks it is running for last 7 years. Total 4 villages in Naugarh Block and 4 villages in Chakiya block, and 8 villages in totality educational centers are running with support from local community and stakeholder.

The centers are being run by the local instructors/teachers. Enrollment of the children is ensured from the vulnerable and marginalized community families on priority. The centers aims to impart education to the children of such families to enable them to have an opportunity for school education that is not possible either due to far away situated schools or defunct school education in govt. schools of the working areas. This further laid a solid base to the enrolled children for being streamlined to the formal education and higher studies.



Children's Enrollment Data at the Educational Centers glance:

Sl. No.	Block	Village Name/ Center	No. of Male	No. of Female	Total Enrolled Children
1.	Naugarh	Laltapur Pratham	139	127	266
2.	Naugarh	Laltapur Junior	34	35	69
3.	Naugarh	Jhumariya	28	19	47
4.	Naugarh	Basauli	31	18	49
5.	Naugarh	Amdaha	62	68	130
6.	Chakiya	Ganeshpur	27	19	46
7.	Chakiya	Mujaffarpur	14	28	42
8.	Chakiya	Kusahi	17	12	29
9.	Chakiya	Pakawa	27	15	42
Total			379	341	720

Result:

- **Total pass out children from class 5th are 41 nos. (Boys students-23 and girls students-18)**
- **Total pass out children from class 8th are 54 nos. (Boys students-31 and girls students-23)**

Celebration of the Different Days:

Apart from the regular classroom leaning, on the occasion of the different days like the Republic Day, the Independence Day, Gandhi Jayanti, Children's Day and other such occasion co-curricular activities are organized at the Centers in the villages by the organization to facilitate the children's participation in such activities for exhibiting their natural talents, confidence building and overall development. Likewise previous years, this year too we organized events on the different days where children performed themselves in cultural activities, songs, group dance, speech, rallies, debate, short plays and other participatory activities. It was appreciated by the audience including the teachers, community men and women and other stakeholders taking part on the occasion. This also helped to convey the importance of the day, key messages and thoughts of the eminent personalities of the nation for imparting lessons to the children and formation of a good society and guiding to the children for future.



Meeting of the Shiksha Core Team:

Its our regular interventions in which Shiksha Core Team meeting was organized. It was discussed during the meeting on completion of the teaching and learning within the session and yearly exams of the children. The next year session it to begin from the month of April was shared. For the yearly exams, necessary preparation points were discussed like setting exams papers, interchange of the teachers from their centers to maintain fair exam practices. This could also be helpful in developing teachers self capacities and improvement among the children by proper assessment of the progress through exams.



Centre Evaluation by the Shiksha Core Committee:

The running centers under ASHA for Education is being evaluated by the committee members to assess the progress on completion of the course as prescribed, learning level of the children enrolled at the centers, notebooks and its cross checking by the teachers and what is the method of cross checking of the children's notebook. What is the situation of teaching learning materials at the centre and how it is being used by the teachers for in teaching process, how it is maintained. Attendance of the children and teachers follow up on absentee was also acknowledged and necessary suggestions were given by the committee members. Improvement on the observed points by the committee members is seen at the respective centers.

Parents Committee formation, contacts and meetings:

For the proper functioning of the centers and community monitoring, parent committees are formed in the villages. Regular monthly meetings are organized with the parents committee to share the progress of the their children studying here, their attendance, learning level, home works and other co-curricular activities apart from the curriculum. For this, teachers of the centers also contact to the parent in case children are engaged in doing household work by their parents itself that affects their education. There are some other children who miss the school also and indulge in playing and other activities.



Monthly Exam of the children:

In the last two days of each month, monthly exam of every child is being conducted at each centre. The teacher set paper by themselves of related subject and evaluate accordingly. This helps to assess the learning level of the children against taught lessons based on that next month planning is prepared by the teachers.

Yearly Exams of the children:

For yearly exam of the children, necessary arrangements were made with regard to the time table to get it completed till end of March-15, question papers, appointing teachers by interchanging of their centers to make sure fair exams. Incharge of the exam was finalized to manage it properly. Those centers where children were too young, teacher were the same. Before one day of the starting of the exam, on 22nd March a common meeting with all the teachers was organized to orient them about the entire process of conducting exams, necessary preparation and their centers details to avoid any miscommunication and handling the task properly. It was decided that after exam, mark sheet of the children will be prepared and will be further distributed to their parents by organizing their meeting.



Teaching Work:

All the children were being divided into the groups based on their learning level. Accordingly teaching work was done. For the younger children, teaching learning materials were used. As learning level get advance among the children, they will be shifted into the next group. For teaching purpose, monthly, quarterly, six monthly and yearly action plan was being prepared. Teaching learning material is being designed at centre level. To know the progress of each child enrolled at the centre, progress chart of each child was maintained on the register. In this register, subject and month wise progress of each & every child was being documented.

Prayer and Morning Assembly:

As part of the routine activity of the center, prayer in worship of Almighty and morning assembly of the children was organized. It happens around 9:40 am on working day. Recitation of some slogans was conducted by the children like: “Sabko Shiksha, Nihshulk Shiksha” (Education for All, Free Education), “Sabko Shiksha Ek See” (Equal Education for All), “Sabko Shiksha Sabko Gyan, Ladka Ladki Ek Samaan” (Education for All, Knowledge to All, Boys and Girls are Equal).



Quiz contest were also organized by dividing children into two groups. Questions were being asked from one group children to another one and it was answered by children. This help to know their basic knowledge about the block name, district name, prime minister, chief minister names, country names, capital, DM name, Gram Pradhan name etc. numbers in ascending and descending order, month, days name.

At the week end e.g. Saturday, Bal Sabha are organized where different co-curricular activities like song, dance, speech, short plays are organized to ensure the children's participation and development in other areas. The entire event is facilitated/anchored by the children identified for the day that build confidence and also motivational to other children. Theme based activities are taken for this purpose like from Laltapur and Jhumariya village children from upper class took part in discussion on MGNREGA, Gender discrimination, environmental pollution. Children were prior informed to prepare themselves on these topics.

Summer Camp:

Gramya Sansthan with local community support organizes a four days Summer Camp from 20th to 23rd June 2015 in Basauli. This camp was aimed at to provide an opportunity to exhibit hidden talent of the children, to let them express, information exchange, knowing each other and learning new things apart from the bookish knowledge. Besides this, sport events, songs, poems were also carried out performed by the children in camp.



Health:

Women are active in information dissemination to other community women about the govt. health services under NRHM and also started community monitoring of the Govt. health services under NRHM like immunization, ANC, PNCs etc. Janani Suraksha Yojna (JSY) that provision for Rs. 1400/- cash incentive for maternal and child health is taken on priority to have its access by the women. In Karmabandh, women talk about to the women from local community and village about health card, importance of immunization, balance weight, care during pregnancy and routine checkup and institutional delivery at the govt. hospital etc. During the discussion with women, it was found that at Naugarh CHC, Nurse did not take care of women patients and even without diagnosis, cases were referred to the district hospital. It happens in delivery cases also. Less cash benefit is given in case of sterilization and JSY benefit. On these issues it was decided by a women group of members that initiative would be taken in case of such irregularities in the govt. health services. Puppet shows were organized for information dissemination on such issues in the villages by the organization.

Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee:

In meeting with the women at community level and their groups, it was found about VHSNC that no such committee exists at Panchayat level. They were not informed at all about the committee. However, the women were interested to know about VHSNC as what kind of work this committee does? It was informed to them that a VHSNC is being formed at each Gram Panchayat level under NRHM. Village Health and Nutrition, generally known as VHND would be organized by VHSNC in villages.



It was told to the women about VHSNC that it comprises upto 50% women members, 30% NGOs and representation of each section/caste category, people from different hamlet of a revenue village, Gram Pradhan become President and A.N.M. become vice-president of this committee. The purpose behind intervention on it was to functionalize this committee for better health planning and services to its beneficiaries i.e. women and children in villages.

Community Based Organizations:

Mahila Swasthya Adhikar Manch (MSAM)

In Naugarh Block of Chandauli district, a group of women called Mahila Swasthya Adhikar Manch (MSAM) is being formed for last 7 years. It was formed to build leadership capacities of the most vulnerable and marginalized community women. Women after being associated with MSAM started to monitor working of ANM, ASHA visits, PDS shop distribution of food grain and other items, functioning of the Anganwadi Kendras, Sub-Centers, utilization of the fund Untied Fund, VHND is organized or not, suggestion box at the govt. hospital.



Every month MSAM meeting is organized and issues are being discussed and action is taken by the women. Time by time training is organized by Gramya Sansthan for their capacity building and on different issues relevant to them. The meeting of MSAM is organized at different levels shown below:

(i) Block Level Forum Meeting

(ii) District Level Forum Meeting

The issue based discussion are being held and prioritized issues interest to the greater proportion of target population mainly women and girls are taken further by the group of leaders of MSAM at the block and district level govt. health department and concerning authority to draw their attention for necessary support and resolving the matter at their level. Through our regular intervention with MSAM, now group leaders through this collective forum of women are able to raise demand & carrying forward advocacy issue by their own.

Project title: ‘Promoting Livelihood in Vulnerable Communities by MNREGA Campaigning’

Gramya Sansthan implemented a project entitled ‘**Promoting Livelihood in Vulnerable Communities by MNREGA Campaigning**’ supported by Action Aid Association (AAA). This project was located in district Chandauli of U.P. with total coverage of 40 target villages of 2 blocks namely (i) Chakiya and (ii) Shahabganj.

The target beneficiaries of the project have the majority around 80% of schedule caste (SC) people; rest 20% beneficiaries were of other caste category(s) e.g. other backward caste (OBC). The major source of their livelihood is very limited in this area.

Before this intervention, Gramya Sansthan in association with Action Aid have been implementing another project entitled “Eradicating Bonded Labour” in Chandauli and worked for around 2 years duration. In this way, basic ground work like community rapport, issues identification, base line survey and other such tasks were already being performed to roll out the planned activities, appropriately.

Main motto of the project:

The project was aimed at imparting knowledge on MNREGA through a campaign mode in the target community of the most vulnerable and weaker section people including Musahar and other Scheduled Caste i.e. Chamar, Dhob and other sub-categories. A base line survey was conducted in the working area of 2 blocks in the district.

Background of the intervention:

Most of the community people were not aware about the MNREGA like minimum wage in the MNREGA, guarantee of the employment, allotment of the work in their local village within 5 KM, payment of the wages into the bank a/c, equal wages for men and women both. In the project area, source of livelihood for the target families are mainly daily wages works at brick kilns, stone mining in many cases including whole family members at the place. Uneven wages were paid to them against their hard work. Influential persons and owner/employers dominate and exploit labourers in many ways and abuses are frequently observed.

In view of the above, it was pertinent to focus on availing alternative livelihood option to the targeted beneficiaries through promoting MNREGA job in the villages for the desired beneficiaries. Following activities were carried out as given ahead:

Community Level Meeting:

- Community meetings were organized in all 40 targeted villages by the staff.
- Issue base discussion e.g. on MNREGA, minimum wages, work demand, rashan card and other local issues were held with the participants that raises awareness level among the target beneficiaries.

Meeting with the brick kiln workers:

- Before the April-2016 and starting of this project, the brick kiln workers of both blocks i.e. Chakiya and Shahabganj of Chandauli district were getting wages on an average rate of 400/- to 450/- per thousand unfired bricks.
- After the project's interventions at both fronts brick kiln workers and their owners now brick kiln workers are getting wages on an average rate of 600/- to 650/- per thousand unfired bricks in the working villages of 2 blocks as told by the workers.
- Total 432 nos. of brick kiln workers got employment for 3 months on average of 26 days in a month and approx. 78 days employment in the season. Since, in rainy season for around 4 months in a year unfired brick making work remain stop.

Kaam Mango Abhiyan (Work Demand Campaign):



The work demand campaign was conducted with a view to promoting MNREGA job to the identified targeted no. of families spread in 40 village under the project. Based on the previous working experiences in the areas, information were collected with regard to the current situation of job employment, people's awareness level and other gaps & challenges in implementation of MNREGA. The activities

conducted under the campaign were:

- Mass awareness generation in the target villages on MNREGA
- Organizing puppet shows as popular means of communication for raising awareness
- Mobilizing targeted families & local community to submit written job application
- Disseminating key provisions of MNREGA by Gramya and project's team.
- Coordination making with the concerning stakeholders e.g. Rojgar Sewak, Panchayat functionaries, BDO and district administration.
- Record preparation and documentation of the submitted applications for follow up



Result:

- Kaam Mango Abhiyan was conducted in total 40 villages including 2 blocks namely Chakiya and Shahabganj blocks against the project target.
- Puppet shows were organized in each target village and 40 shows in totality. Total 5219 no. of participants, female 2436 nos. and male 2783 nos. participated.
- Total 1665 families (90%) are able to assert their rights on livelihood under MNREGA against the project target out of total 1851 families.
- Total 1665 families (90%) are aware on some key provisions of MNREGA out of total 1851 families.
- Total 1665 families (90%) received job cards against the project target of 1665 out of total 1851 families.
- Total 1665 families (90%) applied for the MNREGA job against the project target of 1665 out of total 1851 families.
- Total 1107 nos. of families (85%) against the project target of 1295 families received MNREGA job through the project's support.
- On an average, approx. 20 to 22 days mandays were provided to the 1107 families.
- Information dissemination through the puppet shows on the issues such as: demanding MNREGA job in writing, use of the helpline no. 18001805999 for complain on problems, right method of writing application helped in raising awareness and conveying key messages and generating demand for MNREGA work.

One day workshop on Bonded Labour Act for community stakeholders:

A one day workshop was organized on Bonded Labour Act on 22nd Sep 2016 in Varanasi. The key objective of the workshop was discussing on the key issues pertaining to the bonded labour in working area and drawing the action plan to address problems and such incidences.



Interface meeting/dialogue between Govt. officials and stakeholders:

An interface meeting/dialogue was organized between the government officials and stakeholders on the status of Food Security on dated 22nd Aug 2016 in the conference hall of of Chakiya Block. The implemented project aims to serve to the dalits and marginalized community people primarily the schedule caste i.e. mushar community, chamar, dhaikar etc. These people are excluded from the society and long for even two times square meal. Thus, food security to these people is crucial in all the season as elementary need for life.



A rapid survey on the food security status was also conducted prior to organizing this dialogue from 1st to 18th Aug-2016 with a view to present the real ground situation and key findings on the government services and to know the status as to whom and to what extent services are delivered or govt. benefits are reaching to the end beneficiaries.

Key Challenges:

- As informed by the block level govt. officials, since July-2016 outstanding MNREGA wages amount of Rs. 33 lacs in Chakiya block and Rs. 45 lacs in Shahabganj block is due for the payment. Installment from the central govt. could not receive till the time.
- Much delay/outstanding payment against MNREGA work discouraged to the targeted families to work anymore. This situation forced them to search other options for earning their livelihood in the area.
- Irregularity and negligence of the government officials towards the workers issues e.g. speed up in wage payment also hampered in achieving the desired result.
- No work in MNREGA since July-2016 onwards due the above given reasons that also hampered in achieving the project's target as planned 1295 (70%) out of total 1851 families would be able to receive the MNREGA job.

- The project impact is realized in many ways. The first and foremost thing is that after working on MNREGA in a campaign mode under the project, many aspects of the MNREGA like its implementation gap, fund allocation and delay in wage payment and its disbursement due to nexus of the central and state government on political interest, flaws in MIS and corruption at different level were deeply understood by the project staff and added knowledge in how to work efficiently on this issue. As a result, now Ms. Neetu got selected state level trainer out of 6 trainers selected at the state level for 'MNREGA Social Audit'.
- Worker's bargaining capacities also increases through imparting knowledge to the targeted families e.g. brick kiln workers and vulnerable communities with utmost focus on promoting livelihood through MNREGA, minimum wages and other entitlements. Now, workers at the brick kiln, MNREGA laboures raise their voice of demand that was not observed before.
- Increase in the wage payment especially of the brick kiln workers for Rs. 50/- to 100/- in the targeted 40 villages. While rest of the villages not covered under the project, situation is not changed. Thus, project's work has been quite supportive in increase of the worker's wages.
- Government officials related to MNREGA, Education and Labour Department in particular consult to Gramya Team and support is sought in school monitoring, social audit and community level support. This helps in strengthening and sustaining the project inter.
- Community people of the target villages come forward and claim for their entitlements related to rashan card, fair wages against their work, demand for MNREGA job/employment, govt. services. Especially youths are active on these issues and take initiatives.

Joint Initiative with the Govt. Department:

Voter's awareness campaign: A voter's awareness campaign was organized on the occasion of Voter's Day dated **25th Jan 2017** in Chandauli district. The purpose of this campaign was making the voter's aware about their constitutional right to vote for electing the representatives. At that time schedule for the general election (Parliamentarian Election) were announced and the schedule for the voting was declared on 8th March 2017 for phase 4th under which Chandauli, Varanasi etc. were included.

For this campaign, Gramya Sansthan staff and targeted beneficiaries from its working block(s) were also invited to join the campaign in which govt. officials from the election commission, district level administrative officials and local stakeholders participated. For these IEC activities such as puppet shows, hands out/pamphlets were being used in the public.



The participants holding the banners and hands out recited slogans related to the importance of voting while passing through the villages, pathways and local communities for raising their awareness, enrollment for the voters id card for exercising their voting rights as per eligibility. It helped in sensitizing the local people for the voting in election.

Press Conference:

A press conference was organized keeping in view of the upcoming legislative elections of Uttar Pradesh. The motto behind this press conference was putting demand on women's issues before the candidates nominated by the respective political parties for the increasing facilities for the women's at the govt. hospitals and other gender based issues like promoting of the girls education, safety and security, employment generation, access to the governmental benefits in equal wages.



A demand note (Gyapan) was also being prepared prior to organize this press conference in order to highlight the issues pertaining to the girls and women and resolving the same by incorporating these issues in the political agenda (Manifesto) of the upcoming elections by respective political parties. Media plays a vital role in information dissemination and effective reach at the different levels so press conference was organized to discuss with them to find the place in their stories on discussed issues.



Photo Gallery



Balance Sheet-FY 2016-17

ANIL KUMAR AGARWAL
F.C.A

A.K.A & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
E-1(FIRST FLOOR)KAILGRAH MARKET
MALDAHIYA,VARANASI
Mob:- 09935424222

M/S GRAMYA SANSTHAN, 1-40, V.D.A COLONY, CHANDMARI, VARANASI
CONSOLIDATED - RECEIPT AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDEING 31.3.2017

PARTICULARS	AMOUNT	PARTICULARS	AMOUNT
NATIONAL		NATIONAL	
To BALANCE B/F		By Fixed assets	28800.00
Cash in hand 5568.00		By Expenses-General	
Balance with PNB 56689.92	62257.92	Bank charges	416.93
		Travelling & conveyance	39312.00
To Bank interest 4311.00		Honorarium	82000.00
To Membership Fee 900.00		Postage & Telephone Exp.	6681.00
To Donation 12000.00		Miscellaneous Exp.	4245.00
To Consultancy fee 30000.00		Printing & Stationery Expenses	4338.00
o Sahayog, Lucknow 49851.00		Repair & Maintenance Exp.	3339.00
To Vigyan foundation 20000.00		To Distt. Forum Meeting	2330.00
To, Advance Receiv 55000.00		To Meeting with Block committee	4290.00
To Surendra yadav-advance 18800.00		To Meeting with Rogi Kalyan Samiti	5801.00
		To Reformation of SMC	20000.00
		sub total	201552.93
		By Vigyan Foundation	5000.00
		By Cash & Bank Balance	
		Cash in hand 7894.00	
		Balance with P.N.B 38672.99	
		46566.99	46566.99
INTENET SAATHI PROJECT		INTENET SAATHI PROJECT	
By BALANCE B/F		By Hon.to Internet Saathis	456000.00
Cash in hand 0.00		By Hon.to Chief Functionary	36000.00
Balance with PNB 0.00	0.00	By Hon.to Programme Manager	75000.00
To Bank Interest 3129.00		By Hon.to Block Coordinator	379750.00
To Grant Received from Phia Foundati 3289585.00		By Hon.to Part Time Accountant	42000.00
To Tab & Mobile Received from Phia l 3795708.00		By Travel to Chief Functionary	3200.00
		By Travel to Programme Manager	19800.00
		By Travel to Block Coordinator	96000.00
		By Training of Internet Saathis	351695.00
		By Tab	1970927.00
		By Mobile	1824781.00
		By Cash & Bank Balance	
		Cash in hand 5.00	
		Balance with Axis Bank 1833264.00	1833269.00



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Balance Sheet-FY 2016-17

<u>F.C.R.A</u>				<u>F.C.R.A</u>			
<u>To BALANCE B/F</u>							
Cash in hand	21364.00						
Balance with Uco bank No.1593	23495.84						
	44859.84		44859.84				
<u>To Grants Received From ASHA for Education</u>				<u>By Expenses against grants from ASHA</u>			
		2446000.00					
To Interest (bank) on ASHA fund		21485.52		Honorarium to Staff		1300300.00	
				Bal Mela		75380.00	
				Creative Workshop		22055.00	
				Health Mela		21990.00	
				Miscellaneous Exp.		9386.00	
				Playing Material		22500.00	
				Taat Patti		11970.00	
				Teachers Training		24055.00	
				Teaching & Learning material		144108.00	
				Women Day		22145.00	
				Audit Fee		6000.00	
				Office Rent		54000.00	
				Postage & Telegram		26324.00	
				Printing & Stationery		20404.00	
				Travelling & Conveyance		60058.00	
				Website Maintenance		5520.00	
				Summer Camp		30015.00	
				Construction of Toilet		90000.00	
				Construction of Centre		405000.00	
				Computer A/c		50000.00	
				Furniture A/c		20000.00	
				Hard Disk		3250.00	
				Invertor A/c		40000.00	
<u>To Grants Received From PACS</u>				<u>By Expenses against grants from PACS</u>			
		257209.00					
				Exp. Paid (previous year)		257209.00	
<u>To Grants Received From TDH GRAMYA INDIA</u>				<u>By Expenses against grants from TDH GRAMYA INDIA</u>			
		0.00					
				Audit Fee (previous year)		1500.99	
<u>To Grants Received From ACTION AID ASSOCIATION</u>				<u>By Expenses against grants from ACTION AID ASSOCIATION</u>			
		262715.00					
				Salary to Staff		84000.00	
				Local and Outstation Travel of Partner		35017.00	
				Computer Repair AMC Expenses		2700.00	
				Postage and Stationery Expenses		10585.00	
				Emergency support to bonded labour		7150.00	
				Facilitated the registration process		9570.00	
				Interface Meeting		14693.00	
				Kam mango abhiyan		72000.00	
				One Day Workshop on Bonded Labour		27000.00	



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Balance Sheet-FY 2016-17

<u>To Grants Received From SAHAYOG</u>		<u>By Expenses against grants from SAHAYOG</u>	
<u>MSAM Project</u>	96345.00	<u>MSAM Project</u>	
		Hon. To Community Health Worker	60000.00
		Programme Coordination	12000.00
		Stationery Expenses	2500.00
		Travel Expenses to Worker	6000.00
		Block Level meeting	4050.00
		Distt. Forum Meeting	2050.00
		Health Watch Forum Meeting	6890.00
		Rogi Kalyan Samiti Exp.	2855.00
<u>TARANG Project</u>	329033.00	<u>TARANG Project</u>	
		Hon. To CBO Head	25458.00
		Hon. To Facilitator	190625.00
		International Youth Day	5000.00
		MHM & ICT Training	56000.00
		Travel & Communication to Facilitator	44325.00
		Travel Support to Supervisor	7625.00
<u>To Grants Received From GEAG</u>	204439.00	<u>By Expenses against grants from GEAG</u>	
		Contingency (Stationery, Photo copy)	12414.00
		Errand boy	2400.00
		Kit material with literature	21000.00
		Lunch, Tea, snack to Participants	56325.00
		Monitoring cost	10000.00
		Resource Person of Govt.	11000.00
		Resource Person of NGO	18000.00
		Sitting Arrangement	500.00
		TA to Participants	63600.00
		Ta to Training Organizer	7200.00
		<u>By Cash & Bank Balance</u>	
		<u>Cash in hand</u>	
		ASHA	15298.00
		ACTION AID	326.00
			15624.00
		<u>Balance with Uco bank A/c no.20110100001593</u>	
		ASHA	25614.37
		GEAG	2000.00
		ACTION AID	5146.00
			32760.37
<u>Total</u>	<u>11003628.28</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>11003628.28</u>

Report: I have examined the above statement on the basis of Books & Records produced before us and found the same in agreement with the books.

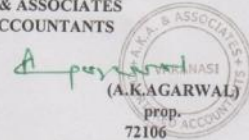
FOR M/S GRAMYA SANSTHAN

Secretary



Place : Varanasi
Dated : 1.9.2017

FOR M/S A.K.A. & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



Registration No. 002956C