ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
2013-2014

Development as if child mattered

Vikas Sansthan

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From the Executive Director’s Desk

Dear Friends,

We invite you to share our experience emanating from our engagement with the issue of protection and promotion of child rights in an area where due to wide prevalence of child labour it is intensely painstaking. We are aware that India is home to more than 12.6 million children who are forced to work in order to survive. These children are working as domestic help, on streets, in factories and farmlands silently suffering abuse. Vikas Sansthan had chosen to work in the domain where the violation of child rights was perpetrated by the organized and well-entrenched factory owners’ forces.

No child is born to work. Yet he is made to work, making child labor a crime committed against one out of every seven children around the world. While some people mistakenly think it is better when all members of a family work, child labor actually makes poverty worse. The more children are forced to work, the fewer opportunities there are for adults to earn a living. By driving down adult wages and depriving children of education, child labor ensures that poverty will be passed down from generation to generation. The International Labour Organization (ILO) states, “Born to parents who themselves were uneducated child workers, many child workers are forced to continue a tradition that leaves them chained to a life of poverty” (ILO, United States Policies to Address Child Labor Globally, 2010).

In this years activities we have a rich fund of experience and achievements in regard to how several families have succeeded in breaking the shackles that had chained them to a life of poverty and ignorance.

We owe a deep sense of gratitude to our donors, friends, government departments and other stakeholders and above all to our devoted staff who have made this part of the organization’s journey worth its while. We look forward to your suggestions and views.

Dilip Sevarthi

Vikas Sansthan
2. Rationale of Vikas Sansthan

Pained at the plight of children working in inhuman conditions in glass factories of Firozabad, Dilip Sewarthi decided to do his bit to change their lot. Starting as a lone fighter in 1991 against child servitude in its various forms, he initiated a campaign that snow balled into a movement. Many like minded joined him. The efforts had to go on and therefore, a formal organization Vikas Sansthan was formed. Man is not exploited in childhood only, the onslaught continues throughout life. Women who are half of mankind are exploited all through life. Amongst women it is Dalit, especially Maha Dalit women, who are exploited most firstly by their own male relatives because they are women and secondly by the existing social system, since they are Maha Dalits. Beginning with attempting to overthrow child servitude the issues spread out to removal of extreme kinds of exploitation of women and men in the patriarchal and caste discriminatory social system of our country. Thus with a firm determination to bring about inclusive development by means of including the socially excluded (i.e. Maha Dalit women) and freeing the bonded (i.e. child labour), Vikas Sansthan was rooted and nourished by Dilip Sewarthi.

3. Our Vision Mission and Objectives

Vision

A society free from exploitation, where the people, especially women and children are not discriminated on the basis of their sex, caste, creed and religion.

Mission

The strive for a society where the poor are marginalized and disadvantaged sections can progress towards socio-economic development by reducing poverty through eradication and rehabilitation of child labour, empowerment of women and providing better access to health care and educational opportunities for the community.
**Objectives**

- To empower the weak and vulnerable human beings, be they children, Maha Dalit women, the physically and mentally challenged persons and the poor without any distinction of caste, creed and sex;
- To work for the uplift of socio economic status of women;
- To ensure and protect the rights of children and women;
- To work towards promotions of gender equality in society;
- The empower women through their self-help, promoting income generation activities through SHGs,
- To provide elementary education and vocational training to women for their self-reliance,
- To organize community measures like workshops, seminars, street plays and other participatory ways.

**4. Our Community**

**Target community and groups**
Vikas Sansthan works with the most vulnerable sections of society, namely, children and women of the poorest families and the society excluded women including those as manual scavengers.
Vikas Sansthan works with child labourers, children of migrant bricks kiln workers, liberated children and physically disabled children.

**Area of Operation**

Vikas Sansthan has been working in the rural and urban localities of Firozabad and Agra districts of Uttar Pradesh.

**5. Our Processes of Development**

For us development is a process of realization of human rights. Instead of service delivery, our commitment is to follow a rights based mode which tries to empower people
to manage their development themselves. Therefore, a strong belief in the essential dignity of the people and in their ability to tackle the forces that can crush or exploit them is the value statement which is reflected through the interventions of Vikas Sansthan.

Although we started with organizing rallies, staging large scale gatherings and demonstrations, campaigning for raising awareness and highlighting the issue at the higher levels and continued it for a few years after registration, during 8 to 9 years, we have started striking a balance between "activism" and "development", and are pursuing inclusive development through peoples participation.

Processes of Community Organization

Vikas Sansthan has well thoughtout processes of community organization

Key Themes of Vikas Sansthan

- Community based rehabilitation for child labour,
- Empowering the socially excluded women through self-help,
- Strengthening community based organizations,
- Promotion of livelihood,
- Entitlement realization and access to essential services.

I Child Rights Protection Process

The Role of CWCR

The campaign for women and child rights (CWCR) is a voluntary and social movement of people, being spearheaded by Dilip Sewarthi since 1991. The campaign identifies children in the age group 6 to 14 years working as child labour through surveys and door to door contact. These are the children who have never gone to school or have dropped out to work as child labour. For such children the campaign establishes non formal child education centres, where they are imparted joyful education up to standard five in three years. They are then enrolled with a school, where also their progress is followed up. The weak students are given tuition support up to five years.

II. The Role of Bal Panchayat
With a view to instilling the "we" feeling among the children, Vikas Sansthan forms their Bal Panchayats. A Bal Panchayat is an organization of children, demanding the right to education from the parents and the government. Bal Panchayat plays a critical role in weaning away children from child servitude by means of peer group pressure that their own organization builds on them. The Bal Panchayat comprises of child labour working in villages and urban localities. It has a president and a secretary elected by members, who collectively discuss the cases of atrocity and exploitation and make written complaint for their resolution to the Gram Pradhan or Nagar Palika president. Apart from seeking justice for cases of exploitation, other typical demands of a Bal Panchayat are for provision of quality education and facilities like playground and park.

III. The Role of Kishori Balika Manch Adolescent Girls Forum

Vikas Sansthan works with adolescent girls through forming an adolescent Girls Forum or Kishori Balika Manch. Just a bulk of child labour being hired by glass industry are boys, girls are engaged as child labour in carpet industry. The agenda before the forum centres round weaning away girl child labour, mainstreaming against child marriage and removing gender discriminatory practices.

Adolescent girls' forums work shoulder to shoulder with Bal Panchayat leaders and the CRPC. The trio seeks to ensure that the children liberated from child labour status do not lapse into the same trap for want of quality education and discouraging atmosphere in government schools. Similarly all-out and holistic attempts are made to let girl children under 18 remain unmarried for making the most of the formative age.

IV. The Role of Child Rights Protection Committee

The CRPC is a local committee of educated persons with social concern, which works for overall development and carries out advocacy for the cause of children. Members of the CRPC elect their President and Secretary through consensus. Committee meetings are organised every month to discuss matters related to protection of child rights in the area. Apart from this, the CRPC reviews the status of education in Non Formal Education Centres and neighbourhood schools. Office bearers of CRPC are elected once a year. The role of campaign for women & childhood CWCR organizes periodic health check-up
camps, for the children engaged in child labour as they are prone to contract diseases like asthma, tuberculosis and even cancer, if not detected and treated on time.

CWCR imparts training to CRPC members on regular basis to strengthen it. It highlights the problems raised by CRPC and communicates them to the press, media and administration.

Thus both CWCR and CRPC go hand in hand with synergy and unity of purpose.

Vikas Sansthan makes special endeavour to link movements of CRPC and CWCR with other people’s movement. Once a CRPCs stands on its own feet, it is linked with people’s movements being run by CWCR.

V. Formation and Strengthening of SHGs and Seed Federation

With a view to strengthening economic and social status of the parents of, mothers of child labour are motivated to form SHG to save regulatory so that they become eligible to get the benefit of cumulative savings and through that indirect bank credit four times their savings. SHG offers them good support through additional income by using credit. Aside from the economic advantage of coming out of the yoke of the money lenders, they get opportunities to deliberate on problems related to their health, education and other obstacles to smooth living.

Vikas Sansthan sets much store by this vital process of running quality SHGs. To make them self- dependent and sustainable SHGs are federated into their own higher level organizations i.e. Seed Federation. Each individual SHG is a member of Seed Federation which looks after the quality and sustainability aspects of member SHGs, as also marketing of the products made by members SHGs. SHGs formed by Vikas Sansthan do not aim at mere economic prosperity. They are an effective tool of empowering and consolidating the women who are mothers of the children recently freed from child labour. This offers the members a unique socio-psychological force and warmth of regaining the unfettered childhood for their dearest ones.

6. List of Activities during the year April 2013 to March 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. N.</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date/duration</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Exposure Visit of SHGs Women Members-who are Mothers of Children Liberated from Child Labour</td>
<td>5-7 April, 2013</td>
<td>54 Mothers as SHG Members</td>
<td>Organization Bund Bachat Sangathan, kanpur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>Location</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Training of PRI members on Elimination of Child Labour</td>
<td>25 April, 2013</td>
<td>45 Panchayat Representatives</td>
<td>Ambedkar Park, Pachokhara, Tundla</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Training of CRPC Members/Leaders on Elimination of Child labour in Carpet of Firozabad and Agra Distt and glass Industry of Firozabad Distt.</td>
<td>16-17 June, 2013</td>
<td>24 CRPC Members/Leaders</td>
<td>Vikas Ashram, Rupaspur</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Six days residential training on teaching issue for instructors engaged for the elimination of child labour in carpet and glass industry</td>
<td>16th-21st Sep. 2013</td>
<td>12+4 other staff member</td>
<td>Vikas Ashram, Rupaspur Shikohabad Firozabad UP</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Training of representatives of bal panchayat formed of the freed child labourers of carpet and glass industry</td>
<td>1st-2nd October 2013</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Vikas Ashram, Rupaspur Shikohabad Firozabad UP</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Training of</td>
<td>8th-10th Oct. 2013</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Vikas Ashram,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Date Range</td>
<td>Participants / Details</td>
<td>Location</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Bal mela (children's fair) for the freed children of carpet industry</td>
<td>16th Nov. 2013</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>Rasal Singh Junior High, Daya Ki Garhi, Firozabad</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Diwali mela (Diwali fair) for the freed child labourers of glass industry</td>
<td>30th Oct. 2013</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>Vikas Ashram, Rupaspur Shikohabad Firozabad UP</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Anti child slavery rally for the freed child labourers of carpet and glass industries</td>
<td>5th-10th Dec. 2013</td>
<td>75 activists and thousands people of the community</td>
<td>10 villages of carpet belt and 2 slums of glass and bangles industries</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Project Evaluation by Expert Consultants</td>
<td>1st January to 31st January 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Vikas Ashram and the area of project’s operation</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>Vocational Training</td>
<td>1st January to 1st March 2014</td>
<td>32 Girls</td>
<td>Camp at Daya ki Garhi</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>Vocational Training</td>
<td>17th February to 16th April, 2014</td>
<td>26 Girls</td>
<td>Camp at Narayan Nagar</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Induction Training for Instructors</td>
<td>7th February to 9th February, 2014</td>
<td>15 participants</td>
<td>Vikas Ashram, Rupaspur Shikohabad Firozabad UP</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>Health Camp for Freed Children from Carpet and Glass Industries</td>
<td>10th to 17th February, 2014</td>
<td>415 participants from 10 villages and 2 slums</td>
<td>Carpet and Glass industries</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>Training of Instructors on Freeing of child labour from carpet and glass industries</td>
<td>26th February to 3rd March, 2014</td>
<td>15 instructors as participants</td>
<td>Vikas Ashram Rupaspur, Shikohabad</td>
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7. Activities Details

Activities in description

1. Exposure Visit of Women SHG Members, Mothers of freed Child Labour

A three day exposure visit of 54 SHG women members who are mothers of the freed child labour was organized from 5 to 7 April 2013. The members of SHGs visited was in Kanpur district in the name of Boond Bachat Sangathan, Kulganwa. The main aim of the exposure visit was to offer the women an opportunity to learn from observation and direct experience about how to manage SHGs effectively and start income generating activities. It is quite expedient to learn about the formulation of rules and regulations of running the SHG as also about the financial discipline necessary for the sustainability of SHGs. Shri Ram Narayan Varma, the CEO Boond Bachat Sangathan was the resource person along with the office bearers and members of the Mawaiya and Jagatapur villages SHGs, who acted as the narrators of procedures that the SHG observes. Mawaiya SHG leader Savita Devi, president and Smt. Madhu Devi, secretary, Jagatpur SHG talked about the functioning of the SHG. The women there started with a regular monthly saving of Rs 10, now stands increased to Rs.150. The members have been receiving loans in range of Rs 10,000 to Rs. 40,000 and earning very good monthly income from pursuing dairy activities. They shared their experiences about group insurance and how they together celebrate different festivals to generate a sense of cohesion and common purpose. The members of Firozabad district SHGs learnt to their amazement how the women could bring about conspicuous betterment in their socio-economic situation if they establish loving and harmonious relationship and small
profitable economic activities. The women were very much inspired by the success stories of some families who could bear the expenses of higher education of their children from the support of the SHGs. They also internalized that if no individual life insurance is possible at least group insurance must be obtained to ensure security.

Sri Ram Narayan Varma, the CEO Boond Bachat Sangathan was the resource person along with the office bearers and members of the Mawaiya and Jagatapur villages SHGs, who acted as the narrators of procedures that the SHG observes. Mawaiya SHG leader Smt. Savita Devi, president and Smt. Madhu Devi, secretary, Jagatpur SHG talked about the routine functioning of the SHG. The women there started with a regular monthly saving of Rs 10, which now stands increased to Rs.150. The members have been receiving loans in the range of Rs 10,000 to Rs. 40,000 and earning very good monthly income from pursuing dairy activities. They shared their experiences about group insurance and how they together celebrate different festivals to generate a sense of cohesion and common purpose. The members of Firozabad district SHGs learnt to their amazement how the women could bring about conspicuous betterment in their socio-economic situation if they establish loving and harmonious relationship and small profitable economic activities. The women were very much inspired by the success stories of some families who could bear the expenses of higher education of their children from the support of the SHGs. They also internalized that if no individual life insurance is possible at least group insurance must be obtained to ensure security.

2. Training of Panchayat Leaders on Elimination of Child Labour from carpet industry

The training was held on 25th April 2013 at Ambedkar Park Pachokhara in which 45 persons took active part. The objective of this programme was to emphasize on the common purpose of eradicating child labour and to work towards this by raising awareness level as well as economic capability of households affected by child labour. The main objective of the programme was to sensitize Panchayat leaders on the issue of rampant practice of child labour which is a very serious obstacle to socio-economic development and social inclusion. Towards this end the PRI leaders should make all the relevant government services
accessible to them so that they are able to earn additional income or reduce their expenses on health care and food etc and desist from sending their children to hazardous occupations right when they ought to be studying to realize their right.

Aside from this other objective was to remove gender discriminatory mind set and provide health to children 0 to 6 years with their pre school education and early child care at Anganwadis, greater participation of Dalits and women in Manrega was also emphasized.

The 45 persons who participated belonged to 10 villages under the project. resource persons Shri Dilip Sevarthi and Shri Premvir Dev, who drove home the message of integrated efforts of Vikas Sansthan. The Chief Guests were Shri Harihar Prasad, Pradhan, Rajmal, Smt. Shila Devi, Member, Sawai, Mohd. Alim Khan, Kshetra Panchayat Member, Nagla Sikander, Shri Ram Sanehi, Pradhan, Bhabin. Shri Dilip Sevarthi and Shri Premvir Dev were the resource persons.

The programme was very well received by the participants as was clear from their highly interactive participants.

3. Training of CRPC Members/ Leaders on Elimination of Child Labour in Carpet Industry

A two days training programme of CRPC members was held on 16-17, June 2013 at Vikas Ashram, Rupaspur, Shikohabad. 25 members of the Child Rights Protection Committee were trained.

The objective of this training was to orient CRPC members towards their protecting child rights of children in the age group of 6 to 14 years working in hazardous conditions in carpet and glass industries.

The main aim of the training was to acquaint the CRPC members and leaders and especially the plight and violation of the right of children engaged in carpet and glass industry in the project area.
Along side the above training had before it the objective of briefing these active functionaries about their role and responsibilities in the context of the entire development activities of the organization under which they have to play a vital role in keeping the children disease-free, healthy and linked with regular schooling by strengthening the working of Non-formal Education Centres And for this as a necessary back-up the parents have to be organized into SHGs to generate additional income to make up for the gap due to getting the earning child labour released.

Protection of child rights calls for an integrated approach in which their need for quality education, as well as need to have timely vaccination and nutritious food especially to adolescent girls on the verge of puberty.

Both resource persons Shri Dilip Sevarthi and Smt Sarita Dilip Sevarthi imparted training, making use of lecture method interspersed with experience sharing, open discussion, movie show to drive home the element of sensitivity towards gender discrimination.

The training succeeded in its purpose as evidenced by very positive feedback from the participants.

4. Training on Income Generation for SHG members for Elimination of Child Labour

A three days residential training programme for women SHG members on taking up income generating activities was organized at Vikas Ashram, Rupaspur from 25th June to 27th June, 2013 in which 46 persons took active part.

The training programme aimed at linking the parents of child labour freed from the carpet and glass and bangle industry with income generating activities. Before they take up certain activities they have to be assessed in regard to their past background, personal aptitude about the activity and only then they engage themselves with it so that it is performed with commitment which alone would lead to success.

The programme further aimed at building the members’ capacity on assessing the cost and in comparison to it decides upon the sale price so that the
activity yields handsome returns to meet the cost and generates enough surplus to be able to repay the instalments and income to meet family’s essential living expenses. The training therefore had the objective of marketing the product or service selected for generating income.

The resource persons were Shri R.K.Pathak, Chief Functionary, Government Training & Extension Centre, Shikohabad, district Firozabad and Shri Dilip Sevarthi who talked at length to the participants on appropriate selection of the income generating activities, the project cycle- how from collecting raw material to applying manufacturing process to the raw materials to converting them to finished products, packaging, marketing and realizing sale proceeds. Besides this the matter of obtaining finance from the Seed Federation was also discussed.

The women liked the programme and gave the feedback that earlier the only standard income generating activity they thought was setting up retail shop and selling goods of daily need. But now a number of choices were thrown open to them like dairy, piggery, goat rearing making papads, pickles etc.

The resource persons made use of group discussion, success stories, charts, and film show to bring home the points of learning about income generation. Bua Bhatiji film was shown in the training. This film made by Pria Delhi.

5. Collective birthday celebration of freed child labourers of carpet industry

A collective birthday celebration of the freed child labourers of carpet industry was organized with lot of excitement. It began from 20th July and ended on 30th July 1735 freed child labourers of carpet and glass industry, their parents, community people, members of CRPC and project 2013.

staff participated in this program. Following were the objectives of this program:

- To make the parents of the child labourers aware on the children’s rights so as to facilitate the mainstreaming process.
• To motivate and convince the parents of the children of carpet weaving on
discouraging the child marriage practices.

Objectives
• To celebrate the collective birthdays of the child labourers in the project areas so as
to motivate the parents pay the attention to their children.
• To motivate the parents to celebrate the birthdays of their children especially of the
girl children so as
• to discourage the gender based practices.

The gues

• Actual and legal age of the marriage for the boys and girls.
• Need to celebrate the collective birthday of freed child labourers of carpet industry.
• Role of parents in the children’s development.
• Rights of the child labourers of carpet weaving work.
• How to make the children’s life happy.

The program was facilitated by Mr. Dilip Sevarthi together with his team, children, their parents and other community people. Everyone present in the program shared his/her experiences and incidences to exchange the learning. Question and answer session was also the part of the program and very well moderated by the team members with the children’s parents. Lastly oath taking ceremony was started where the parents ts of this program were Mr. Dilip Sevarthi, the Executive Director of Vikas Sansthan, Premvir Dev, Maharaj Singh, Narendra Singh and Ms Kunti who inaugurated the program followed by cutting the cake by the children. Following issues were discussed in the birth celebration:

6. Health check-up camps for the freed child laborers of carpet and glass industries

Health check up camps were organized for the freed child labourers of carpet and glass industries in Piparia, Daya Ki Garhi, Nagla Karan Singh, Ramgarh, Nagla Sikandar,
Lalgarhi, Nagla Dhimar, Chilasani, Bhamain, piparia , Rajmal, Pratap Nagar and Narain Nagar.

These health camps were started from 31st August 2013 and ended on 6th September 2013 with total coverage of 336 children. Following were the objectives to organize these health camps:

**Objectives**

- To diagnose, prescribe and provide the medicine without any charge to the freed child labourers of Firozabad and Agra districts.
- To refer the children to government hospital for further treatment after the required tests as suggested by the physician in the health camp organized under the project.
- To make the freed child laborers of carpet and glass industries and their parents aware on health problems detected in the health camps organized under the project.

Dr. Ghanshyam BAMS was the physician who rendered his outstanding services. Mr. Dilip Sevarthi-executive director inaugurated these health camps together with other team members. Dr. Ghanshyam BAMS diagnosed the children thoroughly and prescribed the treatment. Later these children were provided the free medicines by the project team. These health camps not only catered the health needs of the children but also laid emphasis on the awareness part so that the incidences can be reduced. During the awareness session with the freed child labourers of carpet and glass industries, their parents and community people, following health issues were dealt to create a wide awareness:

- How carpet weaving augments the tuberculosis among the child labourers, its precautions and treatment.
- Causes and treatment of anemia and its affected girls.
- Balanced food and nutritional requirement of the adolescent girls
- Community hygiene
- Dangers of working in the carpet and glass industries, how children can be affected, precautions and treatment available.
Results and impacts captured

- Freed child labourers of carpet and glass industries and their parents realized that working in carpet and glass industries leads to creating tuberculosis, asthma, respiratory problems, jaundice, stomach ache and watering problems of eyes.
- Regular carpet weaving and glass work leads chronic diseases, it was realized the children and their parents.
- Parents expressed their views that by health camps we can monitor the health of our problems. They said, “We are not worried of our children’s health problems as these health camps are fulfilling this need very well”. “we got the free medicines” they further added.
- Freed child labourers and their parents have developed their knowledge on various health issues concerning the diseases caused by the carpet weaving and glass work.

7. Six days residential training of instructors engaged for the elimination of child labour in carpet and glass industry

In order to build up the capacity of the instructors involved in teaching the freed child labourers of carpet weaving and glass industries, six days residential training of instructors of non-formal education centres during 16th-21st September 2013.

It was held in Vikas Ashram of Rupaspur Shikohabad Firozabad in which 12 instructors actively participated and showed their great interest throughout the training and built the capacity pool to work with the children. This training was conducted with the following

Objectives

- To train the instructors who are linking the child labourers of carpet weaving and glass work.
- To enable these instructors to liberate the child labourers of carpet and glass industries,
educating the through bridge course and mainstream them into formal education.

- To enable the instructors to provided the joyful, easy and innovative education and learning to the children of the centres.
- To polish the hidden talents and skill of the instructors.
- To enable them to use pitara (learning material) and to develop the teaching aid.

Training was started with the inaugural address of Mr. Dilip Sevarthi who emphasized that participation heart and mind is the key way to learning. He further added that the more you ask the questions the more you learn. He then wished all the participants for best of learning and closed the inaugural session.

The training then was moderated by Mr. Ghanshyam Tiwari of Eklavya, Madhya Pradesh and Mr. Premvir Dev-program manager of Vikas Sansthan. The trainers focused on the following agenda:

- How to understand the psychology of the child labourers of carpet and glass industries.
- How to link up these children to the education after liberating them from the carpet weaving and glass work.
- How to categorize the children as per their mental capacity.
- The easy to learn methods possible for the child labourers
- How to divide the course to teach the child labourers.
- How to ease the Mathematics and Hindi so that the children can learn.

The instructors training was conducted with participator approach by having the equal use of black board, chart sheet, card sheet, group discussion, games, group, oral lecture, presentation sharing and film etc.

**Results and impacts captured**

- The instructors have learnt the methods, technique and ways to liberate the child labourers from carpet and glass industries and to mainstream to the education.
- They developed their understanding on the joyful, easy and innovative learning and education.
- They also developed their understanding on the techniques to teach Mathematics and Hindi.
- They produced teaching and learning material during the training sessions to use in their respective centres.
They have also learnt to use the “Pitara” a learning material which reflected from their demonstration.

8. Training of representatives of bal panchayats formed of the freed child labourers of carpet and glass industries

Training of representatives of bal panchayats formed of the freed child labourers of carpet & glass industries was organized during 1\textsuperscript{st}–2\textsuperscript{nd} October 2013 at Vikas Ashram, Rupaspur Shikohabad Firozabad. A total of 30 children-representatives of bal panchayats actively participated to learn the issues of bal panchayats’ functioning. Following were the objectives of this training:

**Objectives**

- To make the 6-14 years child labourers of carpet and glass industries aware on their rights.
- To support and facilitate the process of mainstreaming the child labourers of carpet and glass industries to the education.
- To motivate the parents of these children to enable them to access to education and liberate them from carpet and glass work.
- To make the children engaged in carpet weaving aware about the ill effects of child-marriage and the right age.
- To enable these children to advocate the issues of child rights violation.

This training was moderated by Mr. Dilip Sevarthi-executive director and Mr. Premvir Dev-program manager of Vikas Sansthan. It started on 1\textsuperscript{st} October 2013 at 10 am with the inaugural and motivational speech of Mr. Dilip Sevarthi followed by the set training agenda as given below:

- Pathetic situations of the child labourers engaged in carpet and glass industries
- Need of education, health, games, sports and competitions for the children.
• Sensitization of parents to safeguard the children’s rights.
• Sensitization of parents on gender issues.
• How to sharpen the hidden talents of the children through the bal panchayat.
• How to say no to the products made by the child labour.

The resource persons kept a fine balance of participator approaches and moderate entire training by “learning by doing” method. They used lectures as per the situations, examples of child rights violation, group discussion, presentations, anti child slavery slogans and film. 30 children participated were from 10 villages of carpet belt and 2 slums of glass industries.

**Results and impacts captured**

- Child labourers developed their understanding on the pathetic situations of children engaged in carpet and glass work.
- They also developed their understanding on how important is to liberate them from that dangerous work.
- They understood the significance of education, health, games, sports and competition.
- Child labourers developed their knowledge and understanding on mechanism to advocate the issues of child rights violation.
- Child labourers also understood the right age of marriage to lead a healthy life.

**9- Training of representatives of CRPC formed for the freed child labourers of carpet & glass industry**

Training of representatives of child rights protection committee (CRPC) for the freed child labourers of carpet and glass industry was organized during 8th-10th October 2013 at Vikas Ashram, Rupaspur Shikohabad district Firozabad in which 16 representatives of the CRPC of 10 villages of Agra district and 2 slums of Firozabad district participated actively.

**Objectives**
• To mainstream the freed child labourers with the formal education through the CRPC formed in village & locality.
• To support the CRPC to stop the incidences of child rights violation happening against the child labourers engaged in carpet and glass industry.
• To enhance the capacity of the CRPC members so as to make their functioning more effective.
• To reduce the gender gap through the CRPC platform
• To motivate the parents through the CRPC not to engage their children in carpet and glass work.
• To make the child labourers of carpet industry understand the ill effects of child marriage.
• To advocate and lobby in the target communities to stop the incidences of child rights violation.

It was started at 10 AM with lighting the lamp by Mr. Dilip Sevarthi-Executive Director of Vikas Sansthan, Mrs. Sarita Dilip, Mr. Premvir Dev and the representatives of the child rights protection committees. The resource persons dealt with the following issues during the entire period of the training:

• Actions need to take to safeguard the rights of the children.
• Capacity building of the representatives of CRPCs.
• How to mainstream the freed child labourers to the education.
• How to minimize the gender based discriminatory practices and the role of CRPC members.
• Child marriage: marital age of girls and boys and available legislations on child marriage.

Training was moderated by a required amount of lecture, instances of child rights violation cases, group exercise, games, case study discussion, documentary “Adhoora Bachpan” incomplete childhood based on child labour scenario, “Aparajita” a film on gender sensitization and “Bol Basanto Bol” a film on legal awareness on child labour.

Results and impacts captured
• Representatives of child rights protection committees (CRPCs) developed their understanding the scenario of child labour around the world and especially in their areas.

• CRPC representatives developed their attitude towards the education and gender necessities of the freed child labourers.

• CRPC representatives realized their social responsibilities and took an oath to mainstream every child to the education.

• CRPC representatives sketched the line of SHGs responsibilities towards the education and overall development of the free child labourers.

10. **Bal mela (children’s fair) for the freed children of carpet industry**

Bal mela (children’s fair) for the freed child labourers of carpet industry was organized on 16\textsuperscript{th} November 2013 at Rasaal Singh Junior High School Daya Ki Garhi Firozabad. 225 children and others their parents, community people participated in the event. Mr. Dilip Sevarthi-Executive Director of Vikas Sansthan inaugurated this children’s fair with his inspiring speech emphasizing the child labourers’ integrated development and incorporate them into the mainstreamed society.

**Objectives**

• To develop the inner talents, interest and motivate the freed child labourers of carpet industries towards the games and sports.

• To advocate the rights of the deprived freed child labourers of carpet industry through the games, sports and competitions.

• To develop the skill of sale and purchase process among the freed child labourers of carpet industry to make them self-reliant.

• To make the freed child labourers of carpet industry aware on their rights through the games, sports and competitions.

Children’s fair was planned and implemented with full of interesting events centered on the children development. Following were the activities conducted:

• 100 meter race, tug of war.
• 50 meter lemon race.
• 50 meter needle race.
• Drawing competition.

Participants who came to be a part of the children’s fair were from Pipariya, Bhawain,, Nagla Sikandar, Nagla Dheemar, Daya Ki Garhi, Nagla Karan Singh, Rajmal, Ramgarh, Chilasani and Lalgarhi villages of the project areas.

Results and impacts captured

• Ms. Rakhi of Lalgarhi village got 1st prize, Ms. Gayatri of Piparia village of Aitmadpur received 2nd prize and Ms. Suneeta Bhawain got the 3rd prize in 100 meter race of 43 children of 12 centres of freed child labourers of carpet industry.
• Tug of war of 110 children of 11 centres was won by the children of Daya Ki Garhi village. Children of winning team were Ms. Kalpana, Ruby, Sadhna, Manisha, Premlata, Kavita, Yashoda, Arti, Rachna, Gauri & Rajni.
• Ms. Gayatri of Pipariya village got 1st, Ms. Rekha of Bhawain village got 2nd and Shri Devi of Pipariya village got 3rd prize in 50 meter lemon race of 44 children.
• Ms. Premlata of Bhawain village got 1st, Kuldeep of Ramgarh village got 2nd and Sarla Rajmal received 3rd in 50 meter needle race of 54 children.

11. Diwali mela (Diwali fair) for the freed child labourers of glass industry

Diwali fair was for the freed children of glass & bangles industry was organized on 30th October 2013 at Vikas Ashram under the project. 70 children of 2 slum areas i.e. Narain Nagar and Pratap Nagar of Firozabad district became the part of this event.

Mr. Maharaj Singh-accountant of Vikas Sansthan being the chief guest of the event delivered an inspiring speech to the freed children of glass and bangles industry and also gave his precious time to conduct the entire event with other team members of the project.

Objectives

• To develop the inner talents and motivate the freed child labourers of glass & bangle industry.
• To create the interest of the children towards the games, sports & competition.
• To motivate the freed child labourers of glass & bangles industry to become self-reliant.
• To make the freed child labourers of glass and bangles industry aware on their rights through the games, sports and competitions.

During this program, 100 meter race of the children was conducted. 22 children of both the centres (Narain Nagar and Pratap Nagar) participated in tug of war. 50 meters of lemon race was also conducted in which children were supposed to run with a lemon on the spoon. 50 meters needle race was the next event in which children were to put the thread in the needles’ hole and the one who does it first will be the winner. Drawing and singing competitions were organized in last.

Results and impacts captured

• Kumari Bharti of Narain Nagar got 1st prize, Karishma of Narain Nagar received 2nd prize and Kumari Puja of Pratap Nagar got the 3rd prize in 100 meter race.
• Tug of war was won by the children’s team of Narain Nagar slum of Firozabad district.
• Kumari Karishma of Narain Nagar got 1st, Kumari Bharti of Narain Nagar got 2nd and Kumari Madhuri of Pratap Nagar got 3rd prize in 50 meter lemon race of 25 children.
• Kumari Puja of Narain Nagar got 1st, Kumari Madhuri of Pratap Nagar got 2nd and Kumari Sitara of Pratap Nagar received 3rd in 50 meter needle race of 35 children.
• Kumari Vimlesh of Narain Nagar received 1st prize, Kumari Vandana of Pratap Nagar received 2nd prize and Bheem Singh of Narain Nagar received 3rd prize in the drawing competition.
• Bheem Singh of Narain Nagar got 1st prize, Bobby of Pratap Nagar got 2nd prize and Kumari Rashmi got 3rd prize in the singing competition.

12. Anti child slavery rally for the freed child labourers of carpet & glass industries
An anti-child slavery rally for the freed child labourers of carpet & glass industries was organized during 5th-10th December 2014.

75 participants including the freed child labourers, their parents, community people and other civil society actors were from Pipariya, Bhawain, Nagla Sikandar, Nagla Dhimar, Daya Ki Garhi, Nagla Karan Singh, Rajmal, Ramgarh, Chilasani, and Lalgarhi and two slum areas of Firozabad district (Narain Nagar and Pratap Nagar). Some activists are participated from the Agra distt and out of project part of Firozabad distt.

Objectives

- To mainstream every child of 6-14 years of carpet and glass industries into the formal education.
- To make the parents of child labourers aware on the child rights and motivate them to safeguard the children’s rights.
- To create the wide awareness on gender related issues so as to bridge up the gap.
- To make the child labourers aware on their rights so as to enable to safeguard their own rights.
- To mobilize the parents towards the issue of quality education.
- To organize, mobilize and make the parents of child labourers aware on improving their socio-economic situations.

This rally was started on 5th December 2013 and ended on 10th December 2013. It covered Pipariya, Bhawain, Eitmadpur, Nagla Sikandar, Nagla Dhimar, Daya Ki Garhi, Nagla Karan Singh, Rajmal, Ramgarh, Chilasani, and Lalgarhi and two slum areas of Firozabad district (Narain Nagar and Pratap Nagar). Following issues were discussed:

- Gender based discrimination.
- Child rights.
- Health problems of the children working in carpet and glass industries.
• Education of the children.
• Parents’ awareness and sensitization on children related issues.

Results and impacts captured

• Parents of the freed child labourers developed their understanding on the promotion of livelihood through self-help groups.
• Parents of the freed child labourers and the community people understood about the gender equality.
• Parents of the freed child labourers developed their understanding on the health problems arising out of the carpet and glass work done by the children.
• Freed child labourers of carpet and glass industries and their parents developed their understanding on child rights.
• Freed child labourers and their parents understood the significance of education.

13 Project Evaluation by External Expert Consultants sponsored by Misereor

The Programme titled ‘Comprehensive Integrated Programme for Child Labour through Socio-Economic Development of Families in Glass & Bangle Industry of Firozabad and Carpet Industry of Agra, sponsored by Misereor was evaluated by a team of two experts- Dr. Gisela Burckhardt and Mr. MadaiahMandgowda. The team carried out the evaluation study with effect from 1st January, 2014.

14 Vocational Training of 2 Month Duration for women and Girls Camp at Daya ki Garhi

A two month long camp for training of 32 women and girls was successfully run in which training of 240 hours was imparted in 21 different skills to enable the trainee to execute a complete work of sewing and stitching in its entirety.

Objectives

• To enable the women and girls from the families whose children have been freed from the shackles of carpet and glass industries to learn a vocation
• To enable the women and girls to use the skills learnt for income generation or livelihood.

**Results and Impacts Captured**

• Having been trained the families took to stitching the clothes for their own families and saved avoidable stitching charges. Some of the trained women and girls have started working as business units and supplementing to family income.

15. **Vocational Training of 2 Month Duration for women and Girls Camp at Narayan Nagar**

A two month long camp for training of 26 women and girls was successfully run in which training of 240 hours was imparted in 21 different skills to enable the trainee to execute a complete work of sewing and stitching in its entirety.

**Objectives**

• To enable the women and girls from the families whose children have been freed from the shackles of carpet and glass industries to learn a vocation.
• To enable the women and girls to use the skills learnt for income generation or livelihood.

**Results and Impacts Captured**

• Having been trained the families took to stitching the clothes for their own families and saved avoidable stitching charges. Some of the trained women and girls have started working as business units and supplementing to family income.

16. **Induction Training for Instructors**

A three day training programme from 7th February to 9th February, 2014 was held at Vikas Ashram Rupaspur was held with a view to train a cadre of 15 instructors to groom them in various aspects of the process and activities of freeing the child labour from both carpet and glass industries.

The main objective of the training programme was to bring the children freed into mainstream of education up to class 5 in the minimum possible time. For this the instructors are required to learn how to
prepare learning materials so that they learn language and maths in an easy manner. The instructors learn to make and execute monthly action plan.

**Objectives**

- To train instructors for linkage of children freed from carpet and glass industries into the formal education.
- To educate child labourers at least class 5 standard and link them with mainstream of education.
- To make learning materials according to children and motivate their interest in education through plays activities.
- From learning materials e.g. paintings, pitara and clay prepared by children freed from carpet and glass industry to make learning process easier, increase their interest in education and link them with mainstream of education.
- To educate, instructors for children freed for carpet and glass industry with different methods to teach children.
- To teach about the various diseases that the children freed suffer from and to educate them about the safeguard to be taken against the bad effects of these diseases.

**Result and Impacts Captured**

1. The main outcome of this activity was to develop understanding in children freed from carpet and glass industry and link them with mainstream of education.
2. Children have been freed from child labour and joined with the mainstream of education and they understand basic rights.
3. They are capable to understand the use of learning material.
4. They become capable to teach children according to monthly syllabus and according to subject to prepare annual action plan.

**17. Health Camp for Children Freed from Carpet & Glass Industries**
The eight day long health camp from 10\textsuperscript{th} to 17\textsuperscript{th} February, 2014 was well conducted by Dr. Ghanshyam Lahari and Nurse Suman Devi. In these camps basic needs of health, education and nutrition of the children were discussed. Workers from these industries are mostly suffering from diseases like T.B., jaundice, and illness related to respiratory tract and stomach. Beneficiaries belonged to Pipariya, Daya ki garhi, nagala Karan singh, Ramgarh, Nagala Sikander, Lalgarhi, Nagala Dheemar, Chilasani, Bhamadan, Rajmal, Pratapnagar and Narayan Nagar.

**Objectives**

18. **Training of Instructors on Freeing of child labour from carpet and glass industries**

Six days training of instructors from 28 Feb to 3 March 2014 at Vikas Ashram Rupaspur, Shikohabad was held with a view to train a cadre of 15 instructors to groom them in various aspects of the process and activities of freeing the child labour from both carpet and glass industries.

The main objective of the training programme was to bring the children freed into mainstream of education up to class 5 in the minimum possible time. For this the instructors are required to learn how to prepare learning materials so that they learn language and maths in an easy manner. The instructors learn to make and execute monthly action plan. The programme resource person was Shri Nadeem Ahmed,

**Objectives**

- To train instructors for linkage of children freed from carpet and glass industries into the formal education.
- To educate child labourers at least class 5 standard and link them with mainstream of education.
- To make learning materials according to children and motivate their interest in education through plays activities.
• From learning materials e.g. paintings, pitara and clay prepared by children freed from carpet and glass industry to make learning process easier, increase their interest in education and link them with mainstream of education.

• To educate, instructors for children freed for carpet and glass industry with different methods to teach children.

Results

5. The main outcome of this activity was to develop understanding in children freed from carpet and glass industry and link them with mainstream of education.

6. Children have been freed from child labour and joined with the mainstream of education and they understand basic rights.

7. They are capable to understand the use of learning material.

8. They become capable to teach children according to monthly syllabus and according to subject to prepare annual action plan. Ms. Caroline from German News was the chief visitor guest on the occasion of celebrating Holi. She related the status of children by highlighting that in Germany no child is engaged as labour. In Germany if a family, does not send 5 year old child to school it is deprived of benefits under any welfare scheme. She distributed gifts to Shramik Kendra School children and placed Gulal-Tilak on the foreheads of students.

Our Achievements

Non-formal schools for the freed child labourers

Non-formal education for the child laborers was made a significant component of the project to release them, educate in the project-supported-centres and mainstreamed them into the formal education for the sustainability and continuation.

Highlight of the non-formal schools for freed child labourers

• 596 freed child labourers of both carpet and glass industries were enrolled in non-formal schools 12 localities of Agra and Firozabad distt supported by the project.

• Out of total 267 freed child labourers are in current studding in the non-formal schools.

• 262 children were mainstreamed into the formal education.

• 67 children dropped out due to migration to some other places.
Detail of all of the above is given below:

**Enrollment in totality**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of non-formal schools</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Narayan Nagar, Firozabad</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pratap Nagar, Firozabad</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babhain</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagla Dhimar</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chilasani</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagla Karan Singh</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramgarh</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajmal</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daya Ki Garhi</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagla Sikandar</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pipariya</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lalgarhi</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>143</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>596</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12 non-formal schools for the freed child labourers were functioning well in carpet belt of Agra and slums of Firozabad districts. Till this reporting period, 596 children i.e. 143 boys and 453 girls were on the freed from child labor and enrolled in NFEs.

Project focused on gender approach with its sensitivity by mobilizing and enrolling more girls into the non-formal schools running with the support of the project. Apart from this, girls are engaged more in number in the carpet and glass bangles industries as compared to the boys who get more opportunities for the education because of the gender based discrimination practiced in Indian society.

**Current Studding children in non-formal schools of freed child labourers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location of non-formal schools</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>OBC</th>
<th>Gen.</th>
<th>Minority</th>
<th>SC</th>
<th>OBC</th>
<th>Gen.</th>
<th>Minority</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Narayan Nagar, Firozabad</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
267 (30 boys and 237 girls) freed child labourers are currently enrolled in 12 centres located in the project areas.

So far as the caste composition is concerned, 94 children enrolled were from the scheduled caste, 112 children belonged to other backward caste (OBC), only 01 child was from the upper caste and 60 children belonged to minority (Muslim community) caste. However this is obvious that the project is focusing on the vulnerable sections of the community in every matter.

Mainstreaming of the children

| Pratap Nagar, Firozabad | 12 | --- | --- | 29 | --- | --- | 41 |
| Babhain | --- | --- | --- | 1 | --- | 6 | 7 | 14 |
| Nagla Dhimar | --- | 2 | --- | --- | --- | 19 | --- | 21 |
| Chilasani | --- | --- | --- | 2 | --- | 4 | 19 | 25 |
| Nagla Karn Singh | --- | 1 | --- | --- | --- | 10 | --- | 11 |
| Ramgarh | 2 | 1 | --- | --- | 9 | 20 | 1 | 33 |
| Rajmal | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 17 | 4 | 21 |
| Daya Ki Gari | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | 18 | --- | 18 |
| Nagla Sikandar | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4 | 2 | --- | 14 |
| Pipariya | --- | --- | --- | --- | 4 | 14 | --- | 18 |
| Lal Gari | --- | --- | --- | --- | 8 | --- | --- | 8 |
| Total | 18 | 4 | --- | 8 | 76 | 108 | 1 | 52 |

267 (30 boys and 237 girls) freed child labourers are currently enrolled in 12 centres located in the project areas.

So far as the caste composition is concerned, 94 children enrolled were from the scheduled caste, 112 children belonged to other backward caste (OBC), only 01 child was from the upper caste and 60 children belonged to minority (Muslim community) caste. However this is obvious that the project is focusing on the vulnerable sections of the community in every matter.

Mainstreaming of the children

Freed child labourers mainstreamed to formal education

- 262 freed child labourers of carpet and glass industries were mainstreamed into formal education.
- 42 children in 1st class, 45 in 2nd class, 33 children in 3rd class, 15 children in 4th class, 28 children in 5th class, 62 children in 6th class, 21 children in 7th class, 11 children in 8th class, 01 child in 9th class and 3 children in 10th class.
The freed child labourers of both carpet and glass industries were mainstreamed in government and private schools in the close vicinity of project areas. See annexure-1 for details of mainstreaming of freed child labourers in formal education.

**Drop out**

There was drop out seen in slums area of Firozabad glass industries. 67 freed child labourers dropped out of these centres till December 2013. In the home visits of these children, it was found that they have migrated to some other places and will never come back.

**Academic progress of the children**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Hindi</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class-1</td>
<td>Children have learnt the Hindi alphabet</td>
<td>English alphabet</td>
<td>Freed child labourers of non-formal schools have learnt to write the names of own and their parents.</td>
<td>Freed child labourers of non-formal schools have memorized the numbers up to 100, tables up to 8 and learnt the additions of two figures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class-2</td>
<td>Hindi book reading as per their syllabus</td>
<td>Names of 5 animals and 5 vegetables</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tables up to 12, Simple additions, subtractions and multiplication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class-3</td>
<td>Book reading in Hindi as per their structured syllabus</td>
<td>Word meaning from A to Z.</td>
<td>They write the names of own and their family members in Hindi &amp; English.</td>
<td>Simple and complex additions, subtractions, multiplications, divisions and simple algebra</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Changes among the children brought by the project’s intervention

Regular classes taken in the non-formal schools, joyful learning, games, sports competition, exposure, counseling, motivation and parents meetings for sharing the progress have brought the tremendous changes among these children. During the intervention this period, we have captured the following changes:

- Unlike their previous situations, freed child labourers now sit and study in the non-formal schools till the end of the classes.
- Unlike the initial period, freed child labourers became punctual in terms of timing.
- Freed child labourers now come to the non-formal schools themselves.
- With the start of the day, freed child labourers in non-formal schools offer the prayer to God.
- Freed child labourers became more disciplined.
- Freed child labourers now follow the time table of their study at the non-formal schools, at home and play accordingly.
- Freed child labourers now play and enjoy in the non-formal schools.
- Freed child labourers now respect their parents and family members
- Freed child labourers now come tidy in the non-formal schools and maintain the personal hygiene
Women empowerment through SHGs drive
(Self-help groups & inclusion of members)

Till this reporting period, 27 groups were functioning with the total strength of 346 members who were included in these self-help groups.

Saving in a common pool

Rs. 3, 87,350 has been saved by 346 women members of 27 self-help groups. Despite all the ups and downs, women were able to save the money and were putting in the groups’ common pool which has made this amount possible. It seems to be a great saving for the women who never saving even single penny.

Loan advancement

Rs. 10, 73,225/- has been advanced by the groups to their different members for productive and unproductive purposes.

On time repayment (OTR)

Rs. 6, 80,716 is an amount which was repaid back to the respective groups by the women members. The amount of repayment shows a good indicator of groups’ sustainability as the women are now repaying their loans.

Outstanding loan

Rs. 3, 92,509/- is an amount of outstanding loan which is still to be recovered by the respective groups. It will be retained by the respective groups during the next period of the project. The average rate of outstanding loan is 36.58% of the total loan disbursed by the groups because the loan distribution and repayment is going on continue on every month among the SHG members.

Interest
Rs. 50,590/- has been collected by the groups from the members. This is the interest charged on every loan which was repaid. It has now become the earning of all the groups which has added the entire fund to advance further for credit creation.

Cash in hand & at banks

Rs. 50,695/- is an amount lying as cash with the groups and also in the local area banks. It is also available with the groups for further transactions. **Detail of all of the above is given in annexure-2 given in the end of this report.**

Unproductive loan matrix

Under this category of unproductive loans, a maximum 43 loans were distributed for the domestic consumptions amounting Rs. 87,750 Followed by the loans given for medicines to 38 women amounting to Rs. 85, 125. Loans for education were given to 11 women amounting to Rs. 28,280. Group also made 4 women free from the clutches of moneylenders by providing them the loans for debt repayment which amounts to Rs. 17300 and only 1 loan was given for marriage amounting to Rs. 7,000.

Livelihood promoted by the self-help groups

It has been a good time for the project to bring a distinction in the women’s lives by creating livelihood opportunities to enable them to be economically self-reliant.

97 women were linked to various livelihoods in 6 months period. Table below shows the details of livelihoods created for the mothers of freed child labourers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livelihood</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40 women were linked to the agricultural livelihood by accessing the loan of Rs. 1,17,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle rearing</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26 women started the livelihood of cattle rearing by accessing a loan of Rs. 99, 480 for the production of milk and its sale.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petty shops</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17 women have established the petty shops by investing Rs. 41,900 which they received from their respective groups.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Goat rearing 9 women opted for goat rearing as their livelihood by acquiring and investing the loan of Rs. 34,800

Bangle work 03 women started bangles selling work by investing the capital amount of Rs. 11,112/-

Carpet 01 woman started the carpet work by investing Rs. 1500 which she took from her group.

Poultry 01 woman started poultry business spending Rs. 200 borrowed from the group.

See annexure-3 for details of livelihoods promoted by the groups

**Financial inclusion with Seed Federation and livelihood promotion in New Project Area**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Previous loan details</th>
<th>Current loan given by Seed Federation</th>
<th>Loan repaid</th>
<th>Outstanding loan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No. of loans</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>20436.6</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>19584.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo rearing for milk</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>20000</td>
<td>10810.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo cattle feed</td>
<td>20000</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9979.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chain making machine</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>2079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat rearing</td>
<td>70883.6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>60000</td>
<td>71559.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grocery shop</td>
<td>15426.2</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10415.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>2079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile shop</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>40000</td>
<td>16632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petty shops</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>4158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piggery</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>2079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweets making</td>
<td>2089.4</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2089.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tailoring</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>2079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,33,835.8</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,50,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,53,544.6</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Out of the total groups, various groups were linked to the Seed Federation for financial inclusion and livelihood promotion.

30 loans of Rs. 1, 50,000 was mobilized from Seed Federation i.e. 4 loans of Rs. 20000 for buffalo, 1 loan of Rs. 5000 for chain making machine, 12 loans of Rs. 60,000 for goat rearing, 1 loan of Rs. 5000 for horse, 8 loans of Rs. 40,000 for mobile shops, 2 loans of Rs. 10,000 for petty shops, 1 loan of Rs. 5000 for piggery and 1 loan of Rs. 5000 for piggery.

Rs. 153544.6 is an amount repaid by the groups out of their earning from the livelihoods. Rs. 1, 30,291.2 is the amount of outstanding loan which is yet to be recovered from the group members. **See annexure-4 for details of the financial inclusion and livelihood promotion.**

**Child rights protection committees (CRPCs)**

Being an important component of the project, all child rights protection committees were strengthened so as to enable to display their functions required to safeguard the children rights and the developmental issues. 12 child rights protection committee (CRPCs) in all the locations of the project were functional with the strength of 364 members including the representatives. 12 child rights protection committees organized and held 72 meetings in the period of 6 months. In July 161 members participated, August 169 members, September 173 members, 166 members in October, 160 in November and 171 members took active participation in December 2013. **See annexure-5 for the details of CRPC members.**

**Results/impacts of CRPC meetings**

- 4 children freed from the bangles work and linked to education by the CRPC.
- 5 parents agreed to link up their children to the non-formal schools of project.
- CRPC had the interaction with the children and reviewed their progress.
- Parents developed their understanding on gender and took oath to practice gender equality
- 4 parents agreed not to send to work as the child labourers.
- 3 parents agreed to take their children back and send them to schools.
- 5 parents took their children back from carpet and mainstreamed to schools.
- 12 parents became aware on to send their children to education.

- 12 parents send their children tidy to the non-formal schools
- 04 parents agreed not to send their children to work.
- 10 parents have decided not to practice the gender discrimination
- 04 parents agreed to send their girls to non-formal schools.
- 12 parents understood the significance of education and agreed to send their children to non-formal schools.
- Parents agreed to send their children to non-formal schools regularly.
- Parents developed their understanding on child rights
- Parents and children became aware and agreed to maintain the hygiene in their houses.

- Members of CRPC decided to free the children aged 6-14 from bangles work and send them to education
- Members of CRPC decided to safeguard the children’s rights.
- Members decided to mainstream the girls to the non-formal schools.
- Members decided to marry the girls at 18 and boys at 21 years of age.
- Members decided to maintain the community hygiene

- Members decided to take all their children from bangles work and make them healthy
- Members decided to get their children practice to wash hands with the soap.
- Members decided to regularize the children in the non-formal schools.
- Members decided to provide better nutrition to their children.

CRPC members decided to stop the foeticide.
CRPC members organized a rally to mobilize other parents on children’s education.
CRPC members decided to provide the higher education to their children
CRPC members decided and shifted the non-formal school to a peaceful area
CRPC members decided to provide better health to the children.

**Bal panchayats: children’s platform to access their rights and development**
12 Bal panchayats (children’s parliaments) in all the locations of the project were formed and made functional. There are 450 children both those who study in non-formal schools supported by project and out of school children.

12 Bal panchayats organized and held 72 meetings in the period of 6 months. In July 235 children participated, August 194 children, September 187 children, 180 children in October, 204 children in November and 202 children took active participation in December 2013 and discussed various issues of their development concern.

Results/impacts of bal panchayats meetings

- Children developed their understanding on their rights, education and significance of games, sports and competition.
- Children developed their understanding on the right age of the marriage i.e. 18 for girls and 21 for boys.
- Children developed their knowledge and understanding in functioning and management of bal panchayat.
- Children got the knowledge on health issues, proper care, self-care (health & hygiene) and the harms of wool inhaling inside their body.
- Children became aware on proper food and nutrition
- Children became aware on legislations available to combat child labour.
- Child became aware on child labour elimination and gender equality.
- Members of bal panchayat decided to motivate the irregular children through the rallies.
- Children of bal panchayat decided not to let any child to work in carpet and glass but to link to the non-formal schools.
- Children became aware on the safety net and safeguarding their rights.
- Children became aware on the significance of education
- Children became aware to assist in the domestic chores.
- Children became aware on malaria and proper use of mosquito net
- Children became aware on saving the peacock the national bird.
- Children became aware on the significance of plants and trees and their proper care.
• Children became aware on the age group of child labour.
• Children became aware on the superstitions and its prevalence in the society.

Kishori Balika Manch (Adolescent group)

12 Kishori Balika Manch (adolescents’ groups) in all the locations of the project were formed and made functional. There are 337 adolescent girls in these groups. Kishori Balika Manch (Adolescents Group) provides a platform to the adolescent girls to assemble, interact, discuss and resolve the issues of their growth and development.

12 Kishori Balika Manch (Adolescents groups) organized 72 meetings in the period of 6 months and registered a good quantum of participation. Following issues were discussed:

• Adolescence
• Age of marriage and need of remarriage, child marriage-pros and cons
• Health-menstrual cycle, reproductive health, family planning, balanced and nutritious food, carpet causing various diseases, anaemia, health & hygiene, infections, iodine and the disease causing by it
• Gender sensitization and rights of the adolescent girls
• Educational need of the adolescent girls
• Female foeticide
• Social taboos and various superstitions prevailing
• Dowry-pros and cons and how to stop it
• Domestic violence
• Disadvantage of veil system
• Population explosion and its side effects

Case Studies

I found my lost childhood...

My name is Kumari Laxmi and my age is 14 years. Mr. Rahees Pal is my father and Mrs. Riki Devi is my mother. I live in Rajmal village of Firozabad district. Unfortunately, I was born in such a village which is famous for the carpet weaving for years.
Hundreds of children used to work in the carpet weaving and I was one of them. My father was an agriculture labourer and my mother was involved in carpet weaving. The earning of my parents was not sufficient to fill our stomachs. I have four sisters and two brothers. 

Due to acute poverty, my parents put me into carpet weaving. Since there was no any other option but to spend all our earning to satisfy the family’s needs. Hence I became a prey of carpet weaving in 2007. It was the grey time of my life when I was weaving the carpet instead of going to school for education. I used to work for 12 hours and earn Rs. 50 to 60 every day.

Unknowingly, I was inhaling a good amount of the fibers of carpet wools which led to the stomach ache, lose motion and waist pain. This all gave birth to the frequent ill health and with the passage of time, my body became weak. I always wanted to study in the school but…

That time the Campaign for women and child rights (CWCR) started the survey in 2012 meant for child labour aged 6-14 years and never went to school. Fortunately I was also counted and happy that I now would go to study. Later non-formal school for child labour was established. Team members then counseled and motivated my parents to free me from the carpet weaving and the day came when I was enrolled in non-formal school for child labour leaving the carpet weaving.

I used to go to the centre every day. Meanwhile my mother was involved in the self-help group. I feel very happy and confident to be a part of the non-formal education. Gradually I became aware on my rights and I have been elected for the secretary of Bal Panchayat (Children’s parliament). I now an aware on the rights of the child labour. I have a plan to study further and would join either government or private job.

My father has joined the child rights protection committee and developed his understanding on child rights. My father now wants to fulfill all my dreams and makes an
endeavour to free the children from carpet weaving and mainstream them to education. And indeed it is a pious work for the development of the children.

**A fortunate escape...**

Aneesa Bano is the daughter of Mr. Mohammad Rahees. She is a child of 12 years and illiterate. She lives in Bhawain village of Aitmadpur block of Agra district. She belongs to Muslim (minority class). She and her father were engaged in carpet weaving. Her mother is a housewife and she has two bothers and one sister. Her elder brother is also working in carpet loom.

Aneesa Bano is living in this village since their birth. Her parents’ education is very less due to which they could not get any good job. There was not any option to feed the family. The income of all the members was able to support two times meal while for other needs such as cloths and medicines etc. they had to take the advance from the carpet loom owners.

It made us to work like bonded labourers for at least 10 hours a day. This is because I could never go to the school and my mother was not able to start any other livelihood due to the shortage of funds.

Meanwhile, “campaign for women and child rights (CWCR) was running a program on child labour elimination and the self-help group for the poorest women. Aneesa Bano was also found in this village who was sacrificing her childhood for carpet weaving. Project staff intervened in her family by providing the counseling to her parents and motivated them.

As a result of which her mother joined the self-help group and started Rs. 100 everyday. Her mother then started poultry work by taking the loan from the group. Aneesa Bano then became the fortunate child who was freed from the carpet weaving and enrolled in the non-formal school for child labour. She now regularly attends the school every day.
Her father is now sensitized and aware of the child rights through the meetings of child rights protection committee (CRPC). He father is now acting as change maker by making the people aware of the harms of carpet weaving. Aneesa Bano is now very happy and intends to become a teacher.

Jannat Begam has changed her fate...

Mrs. Jannat Begam is a middle aged (35 years) woman whose husband is Mr. Sayeed Khan. She is a Muslim woman and lives in Nagla Sikandar, Tundla of Firozabad district. She was unemployed and her husband was also not able to get round the year employment. Her children were engaged in carpet weaving. Due to sky rocketing inflation, it is indeed very difficult to sustain the family. Everyone in the family was earning to fulfill their needs and because of that children were deprived of getting the education. Helplessly children were nowhere but to work in the carpet weaving.

Day after day there was financial crunch in the family. It was very difficult to borrow the money. Though they could get the loans but it was available at higher price. Earlier, they took some loan on higher rate of interest which they were repaying for the last so many years but it had become difficult to finish it up. Due to all these situations, the vicious cycle of poverty was not coming to an end.

In 2012, “Campaign for women and child rights (CWCR)” started the child labour elimination and women empowerment program. The project team during that time was on a mission to mainstream the rural women into self-help groups to improvise their economic conditions. Inspiring from the project team, Mrs. Jannat Begam also joined the self-help group and started saving Rs. 100/- per month which proved to be step towards her socio-economic development. She took the loan of Rs. 5000/- from the group and Seed Federation and bought a machine of “sweet making”. She started making the sweets at her home and her husband was selling these sweets in the villages. By doing this, she was earning Rs. 100-200 everyday.
Mrs. Jannat Begam then took her daughter back from the carpet weaving and sent her to the school. She enhanced her learning from the regular trainings and meetings and improvised her home situations. Not only this but she also actively participated in the project activities especially rally to eliminate the child labour. Her husband after getting sensitized in the CWCR meetings is now making everyone aware in the village about child rights.

Chhoti Devi: A change maker...

I am Chhoti Devi and Mr. Netra Pal Singh is my husband. I am 36 years old and belong to Dhimar caste. I live in Nagla Dhimar of Firozabad district. I and my husband are the labourers and work in agricultural fields. I am Chhoti Devi and Mr. Netra Pal Singh is my husband. I am 36 years old and belong to Dhimar caste. I live in Nagla Dhimar of Rajmal in Firozabad district.

I and my husband are the labourers and work in agricultural fields.

My husband never respected me. I have 9 children six daughters and three sons. I married two of my daughters at the tender age of 14. Now my daughter Kamla works on carpet loom. My house is kutcha. I have always been struggling with my financial conditions due to which my children were deprived of education. In such situations, nobody was helping us. Once I took the loan from the moneylender on a high rate of interest which I was repaying years and years but it I could not. I was also not able to have the money for food, clothes and medicines etc. We had our life like the hell.

In 2012, “campaign for women and child rights (CWCR)” was implementing a project based on the child labour elimination and women’s empowerment. It was a comprehensive program focusing on children’s development through education and women’s development through the groups. I too was made aware on the development issues of women. I joined the Rashtriya Self-help group on 20th April 2012 and started saving Rs. 50/-.
I then took a loan of Rs. 5000 from the Seed Federation and bought a goat. This livelihood gave me 2 more goats. I sold one goat for Rs. 3000/- which became my earning. I took my daughter back from the carpet weaving. I am in the process of repaying back my loan to the Seed Federation. I am experiencing improved situations and miracle is that my husband now respects me. My husband has become aware in the meetings and trainings organized by “Campaign for women & child rights”. I and my husband regularly attend the child rights protection committee meeting every month. We also try to aware the community people and children on their rights. I am very happy to be the part of this development campaign which has taken me out of the poverty trap. My children are now in the school. I am now mainstreaming other women of the village into the self-help groups to break their poverty cycle.

My name is Shakuntala Devi and Mr. Amar Singh is my husband. I am 34 years old. I belong to scheduled caste locally called “Balmiki” which is lowest in the Hindu caste hierarchy. I live in Lalgarhi village of Bachhgaon Firozabad district. I have three children two daughters and one son. I used to sit idle and my husband was working casually. One of my daughters was working in the carpet weaving. My husband was the heavy alcoholic and used to spend all his money in drinking the alcohol. Being a woman it was quite difficult for me to sustain the family. Due to all reasons, my children could not go to school. I was losing control over my family’s raising needs of expenses. My husband did not contribute in the family’s income while there was the only source of my daughter’s earning. There was no one who could lend us some money.

“Campaign for women & child rights (CWCR)” during that period was working in our village to eliminate the child labour and women’s empowerment. Project team was in full swing to make the people aware on development issues. Having developed my
understanding on development agenda, I joined the Bhole Baba self-help group and started saving Rs. 100/-. I borrowed a loan of Rs. 2000 from the group and bought a goat. Later I sold one goat for Rs. 2000/- which became my earning. My other goats are growing which would also give me good earning.

I took my daughter back from the carpet weaving and mainstream her to the school. Since my inclusion in the group, I have been attending the trainings on income generation programs and other issues and improvising my family situations. My husband too has become aware becoming member of the child rights protection committee (CRPC). He is playing a catalyst and making men, women and children aware on the agenda of women and children. I am very happy. Project has given me the insight which will prove to be a basis to go ahead. Thanks to Vikas Sansthan and agency supporting for the development of the poorest women.

Our Journey Ahead

We look forward to strengthening the campaign for women and child rights (CWCR) by making it a strong forum in the region. CWCR will be enabled to address child rights issues through protecting and safeguarding Child Rights of Participation, Survival and Development.

The CWCR, duly strengthened will be made self- sufficient to make Child Rights Protection Committee more functional and active and capable to protect and safeguard child rights focusing on education rights of the freed children with focus on girl children. The CWCR will carry forward its agenda and build pressure on the government and PRIs to ensure that all the children go to school and no incidence of child labour occurs in the project area.

We envisage to expand our area of operation to nearby districts as also to other traps into which child labour lies like bidi and agarbatti making.
Our Donors and Supporters

- Misereor, Germany
- Manos, Unidas, Spain

Our Network

- Uttar Pradesh Voluntary Action Network (UPVAN), Lucknow
- Campaign for women and child rights, Firozabad
- ACDSSS, Agra
- Voluntary Action Network India (VANI), New Delhi
- Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), New Delhi