

## Annual Report 2014

### *Social Action Research Training Health Awareness and Knowledge*

#### **Child Right Project, UNICEF, Mirzapur**



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## About SARTHAK

**SARTHAK** has been working for last 17 years for women and children in districts of Mirzapur, Varanasi and Sonebhadra. It has required experience and expertise to implement the Child Rights proposed project in Majhwa and City block of Mirzapur. SARTHAK has already undertaken the Child Rights Project held in the Majhwa block earlier. It has had enough experience and resources in the field of child right protection & women empowerment. SARTHAK enjoys a very good relation with the District level government departments, NGOs, CBOs and PRIs in its working areas.

The present initiative is to ensure protection of child rights, especially of those children that are involved in labor and ensure the right of 6-14 year old children to education across 204 villages in Majhwa and City blocks of Mirzapur district. Concerted action from children, community representatives, i.e. female Panchayat heads, WG and CPC members, SMC and VEC members, and government officials, including teachers would be promoted and facilitated to ensure protection of child rights. Special emphasis would be given to the 10 point child friendly agenda. The agenda consists of three (3) home based & seven (7) service dependent behaviors including the following.

### Major Activities under Child Right Project:

#### **Outcome 1: Quality education available for all children 06-14 years**

**1.1: SarvaShikshaAbhiyan**Rallies were organized in various villages (PS & UPS) like Jamuwari, Ramapura, Aahi, Baraini, Kanaksarai, Naraynpur, Tulapur, Gegrao etc. The objective of this event was to support the education department and School as well for motivating and mobilizing the community for the education. In the rally school staff and students takes part and moved to the village to promote all children. In the year 27 villages are covered in this program education department and project staff planned together to work for the better implementation



### **1.2: SMCs & VECs Orientation :**

If people aren't even aware about what their responsibilities are, then how can they be expected to work the way they are supposed to? School Management Committee (SMC) should be so talked about that it becomes as well known a fact as India has 28 states. They need to follow up and continuous such type of training so that they could aware about their responsibilities. Considering such above facts SMCs and VECs Members were trained on their responsibilities in respective committees in which they are members. In the training program 16 SMCs 4 members of each and 15 VEC 2 from each are oriented on RTE in Manjhwa block. There are 32 Male, 28 Female from VECs and 79 Male & 97 Female members were attended in the training Programme. Other remaining SMC's were oriented by the project staff during the monthly SMC meeting its support to the newly selected member to work well.



### **1.3: Interface Meetings:**

Village level quarterly meetings with SMCs Members, CPCs & WGs in working villages in which education project is organized. Interface Meeting conducted with the aim of making coordination in such committees and groups which help to introduce the issues related Child Rights in their respective communities most of the time it seems that in the village lots of committees are working but they don't have any coordination few of them are working for the child rights issue so

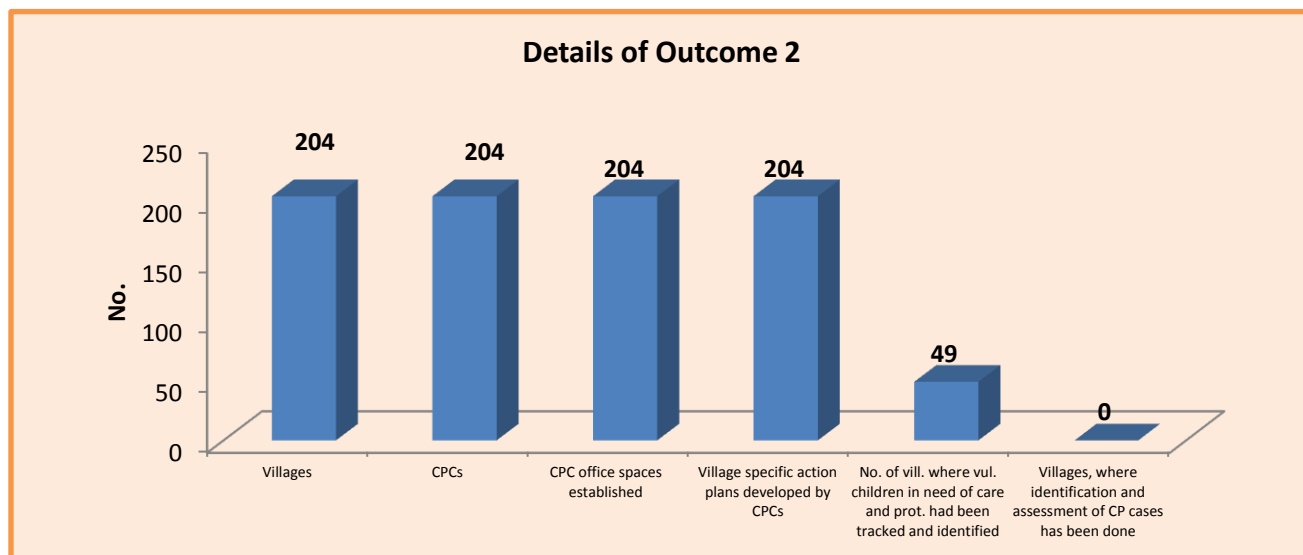


that in the program interface meeting was organized to set one platform. Till the date 177 meetings organized in Male 1987, Female 2568 from the community and SMCs Male 480 & 433 female members were present in during the meetings.

**Few achievements under education part:**

In the year education staff works hard to create better environment in the school with this work we find that 101 children's are enrolled in the year that are out of school from a long time. 42 girls transition from 8<sup>th</sup> class to 9<sup>th</sup> at Kashtuba Gandhi Balika Vidyalay (KGBV) is done at Manjhwa block with the support of community as well as SMC of the village. Toilet facility in the government school are very poor but after the implementation of education project in the village few of them are become model village where toilets are properly functioning that villages are Baraini, Tulapur, Kanaksaray, Ramapur, Narayanpur, Aanhi and Larwak etc. Water facilities, MDM playground of few villages are improved with the support of SMC and CPC of village.

**Outcome 2: Child protection structures in place addressing child rights, and child protection issues, especially child labour.**



**Child Protection Committee detail covered under the project**

## 2.1: Capacity Building Programme for Child Protection Committee (Training):

Under the project Child protection committees are formed in the village and these committees are working to the protection of child rights before the work on the issue organization planned a capacity building training program for the few selected member to make them more aware on the protection issue. village under was planned to batches for the implementation program and it according to the members got various issues community rights like Child Labour, Sexual trafficking and trained training to members of through cascade meeting is being as per need and result of sensitization of community people many cases like child marriages, abusing, and exploitations issues are being identified and raised during the meetings and resolved these by Committees Members.



To cover the entire the project it conduct 14 better and in this is conducted plan. The CPC training on occurs in rural related child Marriage, Child Abuse, education. The members gave remained committees model. The regularly organized quarterly basis. As the

After the training program other all remaining member of the CPC were orientated by the cascade model in the orientation program children's of CPC were also oriented by the trained member. After training and orientation program each CPC have its action plan and responsibilities given to members for looking the issues and required action against it. Till the date 49 vulnerable children in need of care and protection had been tracked and identified and mentioned these in its CPCs register of respective villages and try to provide support to them.

## 2.2: Civil Society Alliances

Child protection committee is formed in the village level and one at block level and the both are working for the protection issue but a big part of the community who are voluntary working on the same issue they don't have any group or identification so that under the project it is proposed to for formed a civil society at block level who worked independently on protection issue. So that this powerful group could take action and advocate the child rights issues at top level. In



this group the participants were from the community like Teachers, Advocate, Social Workers, active Pradhans, and Local Leaders & Service Providers etc. Alliances established in both working Blocks Manjhwa and City Block. In the year six meeting is organized two at city block and four at majhawa block in the meeting alliance worked on their action plan and also they prepared their code of conduct and also agreed to work with the trade union to prevent child labour at hotel, dhaba, factory's and at small vender.

**Outcome 3: Knowledge enhanced and attitude changed of families and communities in 5,160 villages for the promotion of child rights and the protection of children against violence, exploitation and abuse**

**3.1: Training Program for Community Based Organization WG/WSHG and Panchayati Raj on 10 Child Friendly Agenda:**

A training programme organized to enhance the knowledge of WG members on 10 point Child friendly Agenda and communication skill. After completion of identification of WSHGs in project area and listing them we held meeting with 2 from each WSHGs and told about the Child Rights project implementing in three districts of Uttar Pradesh. We also shared project outcome and accessibility of project to reach to vulnerable community and families. Some existing WGs were none functioning and interested only the economic activities when we shared and explained about the activities to be done under the project then some of the women from non-functional group were ready to reconstruct their group and ready to disseminate 10 point child friendly agenda in their respective villages/ Community. During the four day, 2 active members from each selected group attended training. The training conducted successfully and facilitated by project manager, block coordinator, CBTs and field animators.

**Detail information of the training and participants**

<b>Unit of Measurement</b>	<b>Planned Coverage</b>	<b>Actual Coverage</b>	<b>No. of Women</b>
<b>No. WGs</b>	235	235	2842
<b>No of Batches</b>	16	16	470
<b>no. orientations</b>	1880	2372	2372

**Outcome of the training:**

- 1- Increased knowledge of SHGs women on 10 point child friendly agenda.
- 2- WGs women acknowledged their role to make aware the community.
- 3- WG women made a plan to train the remained members of WG/WSHG through cascade model.
- 4- Enhanced the quality of learning and improved their communication skill.

5- Orthodoxies and myths have been merged from their mind.

### 3.2: Training Programme for Women Gram Pradhan

With an objective to build capacities of Women Gram Pradhan, a training program organized in 2 phase in both block Manjhwa and City Block during 2013-14 on their roles and responsibilities, knowledge of 10 points child friendly agenda, social security, social assistance entitlement. This programme strengthened capacities of Women Pradhan and building their analytical skill so that they could be able to analyse village situations and issues particularly related to child right and protection.



Some of them are taking steps to make aware community on 10 CFS. Aahi Gram Pradhan Samudra Devi is one of them who awarded a District level Meeting of Government officials for their dedicational works for children.

### 3.3: Model Gram Sabha

In Our proposed villages Model gram sabha were organized with the support of Gram Pradhan for getting involvement in Panchayat and spreading awareness on child rights amongst participants as we know that gram sabha have very important role in the village and maximum community members are gathered at one place and it is good to share protection issue in the meeting. In the year organization planned to participate to the 10 gram sabha meeting of village and with the support of gram Pradhan he



offered us to open discussion with Pachayati Raj Members and community. While discussion, Organization staff briefed the child rights and its importance for overall development of a children.

### **3.4: Celebration Nation & International Days with community members and School Children**

In the project organization have to conduct few important international day to celebrate for awareness in the community to know them about the importance of the day. Few days are listed by the organization like Independent day, Republic day, Children's day, Hand Washing day, Aides day and women's day etc. These events make more effect on the community few of the villages are celebrating this important day on their own responsibility. Hand washing is one of them this activity is conducted in the school and after the event most of the schools are regularly practicing hand washing with the children before taking mid-day meal and after use of toilet.



**Celebrating Handwashing Day in Schools with the students in October Month**





**Celebration of Republic Day by Women Group Member**

**Celebration Poshan Maah (Nutrition Month) :**

Nutrition for a child is very important aspects which determine that the stages of development are right or wrong. The overall development of child from starting of the birth to the end of adolescent age. Considering such importance SARTHAK celebrated the September 2013 as Poshan Month for making aware the community on Nutrition for a child.



This activity organized in community with name 'Annaprashan Sanskar' (a child receive liquid and solid food by his/her Mama first time after Breastfeeding) for children age group 6 to 8<sup>th</sup> month when they need Complementary feeding. We got support from Service provider and Panchayati members (AWWs ,ASHAs and WG members, Ward Members, Panchayt Mitra) to organize successfully this event. Community members and Mothers Group enthusiastically participated and made 'Kheer' for attended children. The community participation shows sensitization on this issues.

Covrd. Villages in No.	No. of Children in Village	No. of Adolescent Girl attended	Children attended with parents	No. of Parents participated	Participation of Service Provider	Message Delivered						
						(11-18 Years)	(6-8 Month)	(6-8 Month)	AWW	ASHA	ANM	GP
114	1022	1221	655	1362	99	68	17	9	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Actual Coverage of Nutrition Month**

**Case Study:**

**A Woman took a step forward to empower herself and the community as well**

***Something about Pradhanji:***

The name Samudra Devi which is known as trained Women Pradhan of Aahi village living with her educated family. At an early age she got marriage that is why she did not get even primary education in her childhood. But she had zeal to do something for the family to gain extra money for surviving monthly expenses because her husband did work as Huckster 'Feriwale' that was not enough to fulfil the needs of families. So she worked as 'Dai' in her basti toward safe delivery.

Actually, Samudra Ji belongs to Schedule caste family so it was very difficult to be a candidate in the

Gram Panchayat election. The days are coming she was elected by voters and accepted as women gram pradhan of Aahi village in the 2010 election. Ten years have been going to pass away from her husband and recently she has to face second son's murder in enemy.



In spite having these troubles she did not afraid and firmly stand with her confidence. Her family is now an educated and counted as an elite class in the village. Samudra ji

regularly participate in social activities and put her views on issues related to child and women's rights. After being a gram pradhan of village she know about the importance of education so she take care of their villagers that they are sending their children to the school or not if she found any children out of school then she take immediate action to make the children regular in the school. Frequently she visit to the school to monitor attendance in the school and as well as MDM quality. She also participates in our meeting to know more about their village status and always she ordered to the other stakeholder to improve education level of village.

The frequencies of participation in social activities increased after interaction with us. Now, she is a role model for others who believe anything is possible with strong will power.

### *Narayanpur PS-I SMC members' achievements*

Narayanpur PS-I has had no hand pump for drinking water for children so far. So the students had to go near about hundred meters away for their drinking water and other necessities like toilet etc. The members of SMC arose this issue in the presence of all members during regular meeting held in the school. They also talked with CPC member Mr. Pannalal as well as Pradhan on this issue. The President of SMC member Mrs. Mamta Devi and Vice-president Mrs. Rita Devi took this issue seriously for the betterment of students.



Now the scenario has been changed and a new hand pump was installed in the premises of the school. Children are very happy to have such type of basic facility in their compound and this is being availed by everyone gratefully.

गुरु गोविन्द दोरु खडे काके लोगो पाँय, (Village children do need to do? )

**A step has taken toward changing the attitude and thoughts of Discriminator/Racial Abuser**



After implementing RTE Act in all over India it is supposed that the quality education could be access to all children without any discrimination. But nothing has been change the attitude of some teachers belong to upper caste are behaving as a dominator. We found it as bitter example in our projected village name Aghauli located 11 km from the City block of Mirzapur. This case belongs to 5 girls and a boy from a community which is always excluded



at all levels by dominated caste and class. The names of those girls are Mala (12 yrs old) D/O Ramnarayan/Ashrafi, Dharma (11) and Reshma (10) D/O Raju/Gunja, Radha (11), Santara (12), Balli (15) were out of school because of abusing and misbehave.



For reaching at truth FA Sweta and CBT Chandan interacted with children and took an interview. While



discussing with one of them name Santara says “पर साल हम स्कूल ग रहिली तब सर गुस्सा में हमके खिसियाके मार देहलेन हमरे आंखी में चोट लागल पर आँख बच गईल”निशान अबहु बा ,. It was very serious issue when you would meet with this child the sign of injury near her eye could be seen.



Another issues happened with Dharma she is 12 years old and her father is a rickshaw puller, she express her view in own language “हम पढ़अइ जाई त मैडम जी कहलीन कि तौनहन का काम गोबर पाथब हो जो गोबर पाथ पढ़अइ का आव थे”. It was a racial comment, which is unbecoming for a teacher who is supposed superior to God in our culture. These statements demoralize the student in getting education in interesting way and properly. This type

behavior forced children to leave school and discontinuity with education.

While conducting the meeting of Child Protection Committee it was discussed with Pradhan and Shiksha Mitra, then he assured to all for intervening in this matter and said to coordinate with Principal and teacher. He accepted the situation also. Thereafter, Sweta (FA) and Chandan (CBT) contacted their parents and convinced them for sending schools of children regularly.

Now they are enrolled and getting education without any fear and hesitation and making a dream for their better future. Now the children say to thanks to Sweta and Chandan for providing them a Child Friendly Environment in School. Whether these steps counted as a little effort but in facts it is valuable efforts made to change attitude which was supposed very complicated in human behaviour.

## Child Marriage at Narayanpur

Narayanpur is the village of Manjhwa block in this village most of the community is belongs to backward cast and most of them are depending on agriculture work and a few of them who don't have land for agriculture than they move to nearest city Varanasi for the income. Rampati is one of them who moved to Varanasi there he hair on rent a riksah and riksha pulling is the only one source of income. Rampati have six children, three of them are girl and she is house wife and she absence of Rampati. and she is 16 years old, she class and she is a good November of last year her match for her daughter and

In the same month CPC the meeting one outsider marriage this information is because CPC is trying to environment for children law. Mr. Panalal is the CPC the responsibility to find the meeting he moves to found that it is true and this Panalal inform them about about the chandas feeling and about the law and about the future effect of Chanda.



three are boy and his wife is Sita devi takes care of her children in Chanda is the elder daughter in all has completed her study up to 8<sup>th</sup> student in the class. In the parents planned to find the best after a few days they find it.

meeting is also planned and during person informs them about the very shocking for the CPC member make a healthy and safe but this marriage is against the member in the village and he takes the fact from the family so after meet with the family. There he family is planning for the wedding the problems of child marriage and

*Thank You*