

Annual Report

2015-2016



Joint Women's Programme

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JOINT WOMEN'S PROGRAMME

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

Chapter -1

VISION, MISSION AND STRATEGY

The Joint Women's Programme is a movement of women & children for freedom from violence, empowerment of women & children, and the creation of a new society characterized by an equal partnership between women and men.

The JWP currently has a presence in both urban and rural areas, actively combating the multiple manifestations of violence and discrimination against women and children with emphasis on research, awareness-raising, advocacy for policy change, gender sensitization, and other grassroots activities.

The process is through grass root level organizing of women and the community; issue based campaigns; networking at the regional and national levels among women's groups and others. Systematic studies; research; publications; documentation; cultural action; seminars; conference and workshops related to action are a means of awareness generation & action. Issue based legal information & action is an important function of JWP.

Nationwide movements with other organizations for amendments to existing laws and for new laws and policies for women's empowerment and protection are an essential aspect of its work.

II. Achievements

It was successful in convincing the Indian Government to make amendments to Section 10 of the Indian Divorce Act, 1869 in 2001, which made divorce possible for both Christian men and women on equal grounds.

The JWP was the organization and driving force behind the passage of Devadasi Prohibition of Dedication Act, 1984 against religious sanction for Child Prostitution through its study on the Devadasi Problem- Prostitution with Religious Sanction and Advocacy with the Govt. of Karnataka in 1982-83.

Its 10 workshops on Child Marriage in different regions of India sponsored by UNICEF prepared the data for the passage of the new Act, The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.

The study conducted on trafficking of women and children in India and its training manual for community organizers and govt., functionaries for the prevention of child trafficking led to the govt. emphasizing the need for schemes for prevention, rescue, and rehabilitation-UJWALA.

Networking with seven National Women's Organizations for the amendment and passage of laws on:

(a) Dowry Prohibition Act

- (b) Laws on Rape
- (c) Women's Reservation Bill
- (d) Sexual Harassment in the workplace
- (e) Land Rights for women
- (f) Prohibition of Child Labour
- (g) PCPNDT Act and,
- (h) Domestic Violence Act
- (i) JJ ACT
- (j) National Policy for children
- (k) National policy for Women
- (l) Immoral Trafficking Prevention Act

Increasingly the legal and socio-economic rights of women, as well as their struggle for human rights, are attracting the attention of Joint Women's Programme and all its projects are executed to address this concern.

At present, Joint Women's Programme is working with The India Alliance for Child Rights which is involved in the Country Review of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Govt's. position on Missing Children, Child Sexual Abuse, Child Trafficking and the need for changes in the National Plan of Action for children and other related matters such as the conditions existing in the existing Shelter homes for women & children.

JWP has an education and Protection Centres for children in slums and rural areas such as Mera Sahara Nithari Village, Noida, UP and others in Delhi, Kolkata & Faridabad. These Programmes addressing the rights of a child to education and wellbeing also involves parents and local communities to understand children's concerns and their rights as citizens of the country.

Capacity building programmes with other institutions, both govt. & non-govt. for gender sensitization and Constitutional rights is an important activity of JWP in the context of community empowerment.

Training programmes for legal knowledge, health and political empowerment are carried out jointly with other organizations working on these issues.

Networking with local police desks, women's cells, National Commission for Women & the National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights etc. have broadened its area of action and its sensitization efforts.



Chapter 2

MEERA SAHARA - PROTECTION AND LEARNING CENTRE

The Meera Sahara Centre for Children and Women in Nithari Village, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, India, continues to provide learning, protection and care for children and promote interaction with the community for its wellbeing.

Education Programme

Our efforts to ensure that children are protected while they are also taught during the day when their parents are at work is through our education cum protection centres.

Classes equivalent to 1 to 4 are being conducted to enable the children of these communities to reach the mainstream education provided by the Uttar Pradesh state Government Schools.

Subjects taught in these classes are English, Social Studies, Science, Sanskrit, General knowledge, Environmental Studies, Mathematics and computer literacy. Art and craft, music and dancing, morning yoga and outdoor exercises are all a part of this programme for the healthy development of the mind, body and soul.

Visits to museums and places of historical interest exposes them to the reality around them and of the country. Knowledge of living together in harmony as equal citizens is strengthened with activities on their basic constitutional rights as children.

This is the process that is followed in all our other educational centres in Faridabad, Jamia, Howrah etc.

A. NURSERY AND DAY CARE

Children between the ages of 1 to 3 are admitted to this section. Most of the learning is through oral repetition, recitation, recognizing pictures on the pictorial charts and lots of play time. Storytelling, group interaction while playing with puzzles and toys and games are specifically taken care of. Learning to stay under the care of teachers and sharing the toys with other children are practiced at this age. Good health is a big concern as the living conditions of these children are unhygienic and need constant intervention.

Alphabets, numbers from 1 to 20, names of colours, animals, flowers, trees, and vegetables are taught. Drawing books and crayons are provided to engage them in focusing and improving their motor skills. Action songs and rhymes are enjoyed by them. A little physical exercise in the Centre's covered terrace and sometimes in the local park is loved by the children.

Ms. Soni, Ms. Saroj, and Ms. Radha are extremely helpful colleagues.

B. PRE- PRIMARY

Pre-Primary sections are looked after by Ms. Manoj Sharma and Ms. Anju Singh. The subjects Taught are English, Hindi, and Counting.

Single, double and three letter words, both in Hindi and English are taught. Learning to count from 1 to 100 in numeric and words is through small exercises. Recognizing and learning names of fruits, vegetables plants and trees and to write them within the lines in the notebook helps to develop writing skills. Pictorial charts, poems, and reciting rhymes, coloring & drawing and indoor interactive games nurture friendship and working together. Storytelling and listening to stories are part of developing the skill of imagination and memory. The children are encouraged to play with each other and in groups to help them to develop cooperative action.

They are also taught to keep themselves clean and healthy by bathing every day, (if water is available), brushing their teeth and combing their hair. Basic cleanliness is checked by the teachers every day.

Primary 'A' Section has children from the day care and some new admissions. Age group varies between 3 – 4 years. These children are new to the concept of reading, writing and focusing. Hence, they go through the routine of learning from alphabets, poems, and pictorial charts. If some of them are found fit enough to hold pencils, focus on what is being told by the teacher, they are moved to primary '8'.

'B' section has children who are slightly older than Section 'A'.

They are taught to learn both in English and Hindi. Counting backwards, spelling the numbers and simple addition and subtraction are also taught.

They learn to draw Charts of animals, birds, and plants and then color them. Children thoroughly enjoy such activities.

Class 1 Ms. Preeti Singh teaches Class 1. Apart from being the class teacher, she also teaches Hindi to classes 1 to 4.

Class 2: The class Teacher Ms. Neeta Tiwari teaches Sanskrit and Social Studies to classes 1 to 4.

Class 3 Ms. Renu Choudhry teaches Class 3 and takes Science and Maths classes from Classes 1 to 4.

Class 4 Ms. Gayatri Sharma teaches English to classes 1 to 4 apart from being the class teacher 4.

'Mera Sahara' Centre, follows the Uttar Pradesh Educational Board syllabus, with a view to educating its children to become eligible for admission to Government schools and other mainstream schools.

Apart from following regular books prescribed by the Board, an effort is made to incorporate a few lessons from books of other private schools.

Grammar and literature along with regular exercises in writing and speaking constitute the teaching process.

The additional reading material is provided to them from our small library. Education specific videos are shown to the children to strengthen their all-round learning. For

grammatically correct writing, small compositions, exercises on exclamations, punctuations, prepositions and using all these in the construction of sentences are taught and revised.

Both oral and written work is given importance to strengthening memory. These children get no support from their parents as their parents are not literate. Hence, it becomes the responsibility of the teachers to see that their learning skill and interests are developed to keep them motivated to continue their education even after leaving Mera Sahara.

Teaching aids such blackboards, charts and classroom models etc. are used.

SCIENCE CLASSES

Children are taught about the human body, hygiene, and primary health care. They are informed about the Earth and other planets in the solar system and its impact on our lives and our responsibility towards nature.

MATH

Math's classes consist of Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, data handling, fractions, decimal points, geometrical shapes, measurements of length, breadth, and height, perimeter, the area of the circle, are part of the teaching process. What is meant by weight, volume and capacity, money, simple interest, temperature are various components of this learning.

HINDI

Hindi being the primary language that is used in teaching is given special attention. Reading, writing, and grammar are stressed. Poetry recital, speech making has been quite enjoyable for the children.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social studies classes consist of a short history of early human life, our country and its people in different regions and different languages are an integral part of this section of education. India as a country with its regional differences is manifest in this Nithari community also and children quickly understand the idea of living together despite differences.

The Indian Constitution and rights of the Child under it are explained. A short history of India's struggle for freedom which today emphasizes the freedom of all citizens having equality before law and equal protection before the law are explained.

SANSKRIT

Reading and writing and the use of pictorial charts to teach meanings and word formations are explained. Sentences are translated into Hindi and writing them in their notebooks for practice and ensured. Oral practice of small couplets and reading is done in every Sanskrit class.

COMPUTER LITERACY (familiarization of machine with some basic literacy for the older children):



Basic knowledge of computer and its parts are the aim of this extra knowledge, which Mera Sahara provides. Since technology based skill development is essential for their future, skills like cash machine operation, entering stocks at stores and shops, food courts etc. familiarity with a computer is necessary.

Classes 2 to 4 are taught a basic introduction to the computer.

Theory and oral lessons are on:

1. What is this machine (computer)? types of machine parts of the computer are explained.
2. How to open MS paint, shortcuts for MS paint theory and practical
3. How to open MS word, shortcuts. Cut, copy and paste. Font, increase decrease, highlight text, numbering and page alignment.

The final results for this year were prepared after the annual examinations to determine how many and which child has qualified for admission in Govt. and private mainstream schools. Around 21 children this year will be leaving us to continue their education in higher classes. New admissions have also begun.

Extracurricular activities

One of our major concerns has been to provide extra classes every afternoon to those children who cannot cope up with their studies. These children are from the community studying in Govt. schools. On Sundays, TCS volunteers come to the Center for two hours to interact with the children and teach them those subjects in which they require help. TCS helped us with the following: -

NCLP is a CS Initiative of Tata Consultancy Services in association with an NGO-Joint Women's Programme (JWP). Below are the key accomplishments of TCS.



- Educational trip: Students visited “Parliament House” and “Rashtrapati Bhawan” as part of the Educational visit.
- TCS Visit: Student visited TCS Noida 6 office and showcased their talent. TCS associates got a chance to mingle up with NCLP Kids. Also, TCS Maitree team felicitated the NCLP kids with some gifts.
- Painting Competition: Painting competition was organized on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and distributed the prize to Top 3 students.
- Stationary Distribution: Stationary (Notebooks, dictionary and pencil box) was distributed by TCS- Maitree team to NCLP kids.
- Modernization: TCS Maitree Team donated Whiteboards and had set up a computer lab for NCLP kids and Mera Sahara School at Nithari Village.
- Health Awareness Camp: TCS Maitree volunteers visited the Nithari village and took a health awareness session and distributed toiletry kit to Nithari villagers.
- New Year Celebration: TCS volunteers celebrated the New Year with NCLP kids including fun activities and cake cutting.
- Holi Celebration: This time we have got a chance to celebrate Holi with NCLP kids and share the significance of this auspicious festival. Also, share the Do's and Don'ts to play safe and peaceful Holi.
- Library Setup: To provide library facility to the kids and volunteers some books (Like Mathematics books, English grammar and reading books, Moral education books) were brought to the NCLP Library.

Dance classes for classes 2 to 4 -Performing for the War Widows Association





Every day trip to the Playground, an important aspect of Mera Sahara for overall development.



Entertainment and Mental stimulation- a Magic Show organized by Lioness club



Self Defence Classes



Visit to the State sponsored orphanage for Holi Mela-Bal Sahyog



Christmas celebration in the Center





Deepawali Celebrations! In the centre



Deepawali Celebrations! In the centre



Children singing during morning prayer at the Mera Sahara Centre



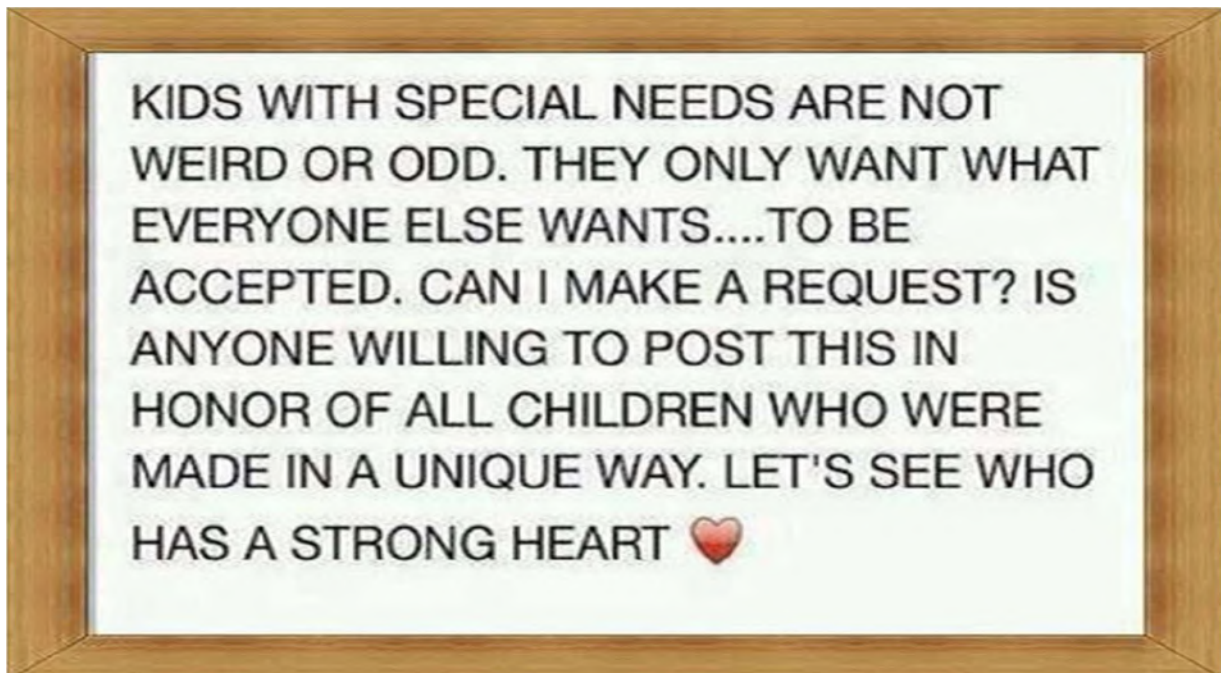
Our Girls of class III and IV dancing at a function at the War Widows Association



Mera Sahara children taking part in “Safai Abhiyan”.



A poster in the Mera Sahar Centre



Flag Hoisting on Republic day



Midday Lunch, supported by Sai Seva Sansthan, sector 40 Noida.



Children absorbed in listening to stories by “Dadaji” Col. Chopra (retd).





**Ex-Students! Working to support their families and pursuing part-time studies.
Proud Teacher Renu Choudhry.**



Manoj Sharma Renu Choudhry with adolescent school dropout girls



Immunization cards issued by Max Hospital, Noida. This programme was sponsored by Lioness Club.



Immunization by Max Hospital, Noida



A play by Space Theater Group to create awareness on how both environment and children are abused!! The group travels to educational institutions to spread the message through poems, plays, and interactive sessions!



One Billion Rising Against Violence (OBR)



Nithari is an area where children fall prey to domestic violence, aggression and all forms of anti-social activities. Our teachers have been enabled to provide a linkage with the homes of the children and their parents. We thus act as agents of change and keep guard on children from being forced into child labour, child marriage, drug trafficking and trafficking of children.

The JWP is particularly concerned about child safety and security. Both teachers and children have learnt to report incidents of violence to enable us to take action at the earliest.

COUNSELING

Children and women are counseled regularly to sort out differences through mutual discussions in a spirit of understanding. This activity is considered essential to promote the fabric of social harmony. This is also carried out at different levels through community meetings and interactive sessions that are regularly organized in the Centre. Experts are invited to speak to the parents on issues related to health issues, violence in the workplace and in the domestic sphere, wages they receive as labour-construction and domestic etc.



As part of JWP's mandate, we do not refuse to admit children with mild physical disabilities and provide necessary facilities to them.

The Annual Exams were held on the 12th to 18th March the exam papers were corrected and the results were prepared on the 2nd of April, 2016

Some children have secured admission into a nearby Government school, and some others have secured admissions to private schools.

New admissions have commenced and the Centre is continuing to function with enthusiasm and commitment. We feel proud that a number of children are going into the mainstream schools to continue their education.

Our teachers counsel the children in their domestic as well as academic issues. They are helped by way of extra classes in the afternoons to cope with learning. The environment where these children are growing is full of domestic violence aggression and other forms of unsocial activities. Our teachers who are the links to these children between their homes and society, act as agents of change to see that they do not get into unsocial activities like child labour, drugs or petty thieving etc. Joint Women's Programme has been particularly concerned about their safety and security. We have been campaigning against child abuse along with violence against women. These children witness domestic violence most of the time and tend to become immune to it. JWP has been actively encouraging them to report these incidents and also form a trust group. We are confident that our children have learned to report and also keep away from abuse and from unsocial elements. As part of JWP's mandate, we do admit children with mild physical disability. We also are part of IACR's child rights core group in policy analysis and report making.



Chapter 3

Women's Empowerment

Skill Training and Adult Education for the Community Women

Empowerment of women through adult literacy and skill training continues with the same commitment by the teachers.

Our tailoring classes are conducted every day and the community women, who are keen to learn and earn welcome the facilities provided by JWP. We are fortunate that Usha International's Silai School have strengthened our work by providing sewing machines and training syllabus. These women are also a part of our literacy programme.

M/s. Usha International Ltd., conducted a 7-day course, under their scheme 'Usha Silai School' for our community women. Women trained under the scheme have received free sewing machines at the end of the capsule course. The certificate enables them to start tailoring classes in their own neighborhood and stitch clothes on order. This self-reliance skill training has trained 12 women and they in turn will continue to train many young women in their own community.



Literacy is imparted in both tailoring classes and '*durry*' (rug) making classes by encouraging them to write whatever they measure or learn through oral teaching. Some women and girls attend both tailoring and literacy class. Their syllabus is equivalent to pre-primary class, to begin with and goes up to class 3. Thus enabling women to become capable of reading newspapers govt. and bank related forms.

Our *durry* making programme is continuing with two new projects. One project is to weave *durries* for clothes factories who have requested us provide them with small

durrys, and another one in Uttarakhand where single women/ mothers and widows are being taught to make *durries* for sale in the market. The Uttarakhand project aims to develop skill along with adult literacy and awareness programmes and follow the JWP pattern for the empowerment of women, children, and the community. The regular meetings provide a platform for discussion on local problems and individual needs.

This also acts as an interactive time for them to talk to each other, observe and learn, which otherwise is not possible due to their social restrictions and their daily chores at home and work outside.

Empowerment of women through adult literacy and skill training continues with the same vigor and commitment by the teachers.

Our tailoring classes are conducted every day and the community women, who are keen to learn and earn welcome the facilities provided by JWP.

Regular meetings are conducted for community women and men in the homes of women in different areas to encourage them living nearby to learn about Constitutional Rights and Duties Existing Policies and Laws for protection and how to use them. They participate in discussions which are led by experts on law and policy, health, economic matters etc.



Mehka Aangan, Faridabad, Haryana is monitored by Ms. Kiran Arora. The programme covers 7 resettlement colonies. Regular skill training of tailoring and adult education programme is carried out.



Women are given awareness on basic legal procedures on divorce, and maintenance law and how to file a First Information Report with the police when faced with domestic violence. When a complaint is lodged with the police, the contents the applicants need to cover under these procedures are discussed and taught during their community meetings. Domestic violence and sexual harassment in the workplace are constant occurrences. With minority women, special attention is paid for imparting information pertaining to their personal laws and how to use the family courts to address their complaints.

Meetings on Decision Making. A major area of concern is to make women useful functionaries for the Panchayat raj system. With several States having 50% reserved seats for women it has become essential for JWP to create women leaders who can actively participate in the Gram Panchayat.

National Conference on Parliamentary Procedures was held by a research organization, Initiatives Women in Development (IWID) in consultation with Joint women's Programme at Amity International University in Noida. Women delegates from all over India attended the three-day conference. Participants were women from collective farming sector to academicians making it a unique meeting. These aspiring MPs presented bills from every Ministry from the perspective of women.

Halishahar Women's Programme, West Bengal, runs a programme for the education of community children. This is managed by Shri. Ajay Mazumdar. He has recently plans to extend his programme for children living on the railway lines. This area consists of migrants who are extremely poor and are mostly involved in rag picking and begging. The children often become prey to trafficking for prostitution and forced labour. The programme primarily emphasizes education, health intervention, legal rights and skill training for the women such as sewing and doll making.



Weaving & Durrly Making for Economic Empowerment of Women



JWP's New Skill Training Programme at Kausani, Uttarakhand



Political Empowerment:





Chapter 4

Child Rights Programme-Research and Policy Change

In preparation for the Government discussion on 'stock-taking meetings on child rights and National attention,' a meeting was convened of researchers, activists, and decision makers etc. to properly assess the status of the child in India. This involved:

(a) fact based assessment of where children stand today (b) Benefits of programme undertaken (c) things that could have been done/provisions that could have been ensured but have not happened (d) Groups and categories among children who still await Government attention (older children, migrants, children in institutions, children with disabilities, children who are not citizens, married girls who legally not able to complain, children of stigmatized groups, children who are rape victims.

A fact-based analytical document was prepared and used for advocacy and ongoing communication to influence Parliament, especially in relation to the budget session. This was in collaboration the India alliance for Child Rights.

A major area of concern this year was to address some of the Government actions on the rights of the child. The Juvenile Justice bill was amended by Parliament to provide for dealing with 16-18-year-old children as adults to be subjected to adult punishments. In the case of rape, it meant, that they may be kept in custody for a mandatory period of a minimum of 7 to 20 years as provided by section 376 of IPC. The basic concern was to ensure that children sent to prisons be given counseling to be reformed and live as decent citizens. Women and children's groups demanded that this is amended to ensure that the definition of a child is upheld. A person is a child till the age of 18years. A large amount of public pressure has been built around this and the matter is before the juvenile Justice Board.

IACR and JWP organized a meeting on crimes committed by children and came up with findings that no substantive increase in juvenile crime, despite no punishments in the past years in juvenile crime. It is a myth that harsh punishments including the mandatory punishments for 20 years will deter juvenile crime against women.

- a) Our demand included reformative and reparative rather than retributive justice which gives a chance to juveniles till the age of 18 years to change their lives around. Also, that government at the State and Centre uphold their obligations under the Constitution of India and under International Human Rights. This document was used for advocating with the Government on developing better policies and budget increases for the empowerment of all categories of children.
- b) Governments Examination of the role of communication reaching children including through the social media with the advance in communication technologies. This matter WAS ALSO DISCUSSED with emphasis on ALTERNATIVE MESSAGING AND COMMUNICATION FOR CHILDREN. The basic

question to be discussed was what are children learning and from where, who is guiding the transmission? Is there any impact analysis? Some suggestions that were made to provide safeguards on the portrayal of children and impact of depiction. The National policy for children should include this in their policy.

- c) The final suggestion was to prepare a forward-looking plan for children which could examine the creative use of radio and television.

Another discussion was to understand the status of the child and his/her condition today. The facts on the ground reveal that millions of these young Indians are having to pay the price for adult negligence; social, cultural political and official. It is time to take an honest look at the millions of childhoods denied their constitutional rights. There is a need for an immediate plan to invest in children in such manner as to safeguard and improve childhoods in India.

Sexual Harassment & abuse discussed with our children



Talk about Sexual harassment with Mothers



Public meeting on Violence on women and children



Visiting neighborhood schools to spread awareness on child abuse.





Children absorbed in listening to how they can prevent themselves from abuses

A gynecologist was invited from the nearby Government hospital to advise on family planning and other women related medical issues.



Holding a public meeting on child and women's safety and security.



Chapter 5

NETWORKING WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Ab33nahi50, the right to participate in the political space for women needed a debate in the Parliament. Women's organizations had been planning to raise the issue in a public forum for a while.

JWP initiated the coming together of all the organizations, in different states and in Delhi. The issue which had become cold during the last 4 years, was waiting for the much needed a push to come to the forefront in this winter session of parliament. The present Government promised to give not 33% but 50% in its election manifesto.

Here, JWP member, Ms. Husna Subhani is seen addressing women.





Silent March organized by JWP with other National Women's Organizations on 23rd December to Remind the Government of their commitment to pass the Women's Reservation Bill and a wasted Winter Session!! Though the protest march was taken out for only 2hrs., its effect was powerful!! BBC Hindi News covered the march along with other newspapers.



Representatives of Women's Organizations and NGOs, submitting a memorandum to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Venkaia Naidu to press forth the demand for passing the Women's Reservation Bill.

A memorandum on women's Reservation bill being Presented to the Law Minister Shri. Sadananda Gowda, Govt. of India



A Memorandum to Shri Venkaia Naidu, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Govt. of India



JWP along with other organizations sent a Memorandum to the Government of India to express their concern regarding the Union Budget which seemed to ignore the real and actual needs of peoples, especially women. The Memorandum sent to the Finance Minister is as below:

We the undersigned women's' organizations are writing this memorandum to express our deep concern and resentment about the anti-people and anti-women character of the Union Budget of 2015-2016. We note with concern that while your government has provided several sops and tax reductions to the corporate sector, it leaves much to be desired when it comes to addressing the problems of the mass of the laboring people in general and the women in particular.

We are particularly concerned because the trend in the last few years has been that the actual expenditures are lower than the initial allocations, as reflected in the mid-year Revised Estimates, irrespective of the party in power. The biggest cuts at this stage too are faced by the social sector, employment, and rural development. This imposes a double cut when the finance bill is passed, and one when the funds are given to

the concerned ministries. This year, a third alarming announcement in the budget followed by the Niti Aayog is to reduce support for centrally sponsored schemes. This is in sharp contrast to the promises made in the manifesto of the Bhartiya Janata Party which had promised the opposite.

This is particularly evident in the long term direction for the withdrawal of the state from the social sector, which has been reduced from 16.3% in 2014-2015 (BE) and 15.06% (RE) to 13.7% of the Central budget outlay in 2015-2016. Within this, the amount of funds intended exclusively for women has fallen as a percentage of the Union Budget and GOP in 2015- 16, indicating reduced priority for women.

Other programmes were conducted together were:

1. One Billion Rising (OBR) with a large number of organizations in Delhi in a common programme in Jantar Mantar to raise awareness against increasing violence on women and adolescent girls. This was a part of the World Programme for safety and security of women.
2. JWP conducted similar programmes to raise awareness in five different areas of Noida to demand for a safe city, free from violence against women. Children sang songs and women participated in street plays and gave speeches describing the condition of women and children and their need for community participation in building a safe society.

Chapter 6

OUR GRATITUDE

We are very grateful to **Asha for Education, The Women's India Association of the UK, Info Edge (India Limited), M/s. USHA International Ltd, M/s. Intercontinental Technocrats Pvt. Ltd., Tata Consultancy Services, EdelGive Foundation, War Widows Association, UNICEF, Lioness Club of Noida and M/s. Child Fund India.**

Our special thanks for **Sai Seva Mandir, Sector 44, Noida, UP**, for providing freshly cooked and nutritious food for our children every day.

We also gratefully acknowledge the several individual supporters who continue to help with financial support and gifts for our children. They are **Mr. Sunil Kumar Talwar, Mr. Bhupendra Jain, Mr. Devendra Jain, IPS Wives Welfare Association, Shri. Ramsaran Sharma, Mrs. Priyali Prakash, and Mr. Dhruv Prakash, individuals who supported from the USA, Mr. Manish Goenka, Mr. Arun Goenka** and several occasional donors for their support

Tata Consultancy Services continues to give its support with dedication and skill training through its Mera Sahara Computer literacy programme.

We are also grateful to **Ms. Bulbul Das, Advocate**, who continues to help us in our community programme on legal awareness and use. **Ms. Anju Grover** for the advice regarding media related matters.

We are very grateful to our Board Members who are concerned about JWP's development and advise us on action to be taken.

We are very thankful to our team with Dr. Jyotsna Chatterji, Director and Secretary of JWP and Ms. Padmini Kumar, Assistant Director for their continuous commitment. Ms. Vimla Pant, the competent Centre-in-charge and Finance Officer. We are also thankful to our Accounts in charge, Mr. Dharam Narayan, and all staff members who are the real pillars of strength in our programme.

JWP's accounts are audited by **M/s. A.K. Nair & Co.**, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi, who have stood with us with their professional advice and support.

Finally, we extend our gratitude to the JWP Board Members who have advised us and have supported us in all our decisions and actions.

OUR DEDICATED STAFF OF MERA SAHARA



Chapter 7

CONCLUSION

Joint Women's Programme continues to follow its goal of empowering women and protecting the rights of children within its total mandate of inclusive growth. It continues to promote networking with the local authority as well as nearby medical centres to enable community members to have quick and easy access to these places. It has helped the community to secure birth certificates for their children, bank accounts, ration and voter 10 cards.

The Director, Dr. Jyotsna Chatterji meets the staff regularly to discuss various matters like overall administration, academic concerns. She shares and discusses local and national issues pertaining to women and child rights, laws and how to use them. She also discusses domestic and sexual harassments cases, which she handles with other organizations on rights of women and children. As a consultant and expert on the matter, she gives suggestions to solve difficult situations arising among the staff and their families, domestic violence cases and how to handle them.

Ms. Padmini Kumar visits the Centre every day to oversee the implementation of all aspects of protection, care and education, handles domestic violence cases, networks with Government authorities like the District Magistrate of the area, local police, village head, local partners, and supporters.

Ms. Vimla Pant looks after the overall management of the Centre and counsels the teachers, staff and children on issues concerning day to day matters. She also plans and gives suggestions on syllabus related issues, events in the Centre, taking children out to participate in various competitions and events and attending meetings related to education.

Ms. Renu Choudhry and Ms. Manoj Sharma who are our senior teachers regularly counsel children in the age group of 9 to 14 and conduct tutorial classes and adult education.

All accounts are maintained by our accountant Mr. Dharam Narayan, assisted by Vimla Pant. We are happy to inform that all accounting procedures are computerized and well recorded.

Our Volunteer partner Tata Consultancy Services provides volunteer support for extra classes for the community children on Saturdays and Sundays.

Mera Sahara is committed to its resolutions and mandate of working for the education, protection and care of the underprivileged children and empowerment of women through skill training and adult literacy

Dr. Jyotsna Chatterji
Director & Secretary
Joint Women's Programme

Demand for Violence Free Society



Meeting community women in their own space gives them freedom to express!



Series of meetings in the community as part of One Billion Rising- Violence against women, every week, from November to February 2016.



Women listening to a Talk on violence against women



Expert speaking on Mental abuse on children



Dr. Jyotsna Chatterji, Ms. Padmini Kumar and other Mera Sahara Staff.



Joint Women's Programme



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