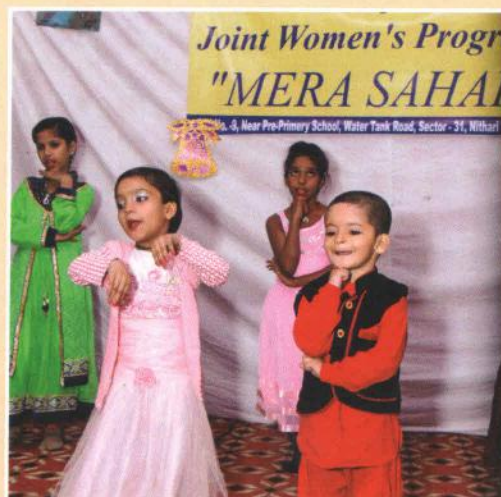


Annual Report 2016-17



Joint Women's Programme
Redg. Office : D-45, Press Enclave, Saket, New Delhi - 110017.

JOINT WOMEN'S PROGRAMME

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17

CHAPTER- ONE

INTRODUCTION- VISION, MISSION AND STRATEGY

The Joint Women's Programme (JWP) is a non-profit and rights-based organisation. It works to empower women and children by building a movement for freedom from violence in all forms. JWP has been developing platforms through various activities, where anyone can participate and express themselves the way they want on the need for constitutional rights. It has been creating awareness in the community about a healthier and violence-free democratic society.

The JWP has an active presence in both urban and rural areas, as well as urban villages. With emphasis on research, awareness-raising, need for policy change, and gender sensitisation through grassroots organising, JWP conducts issue based meetings; and networks at the regional and national levels among women's groups, children and other members of the community. Systematic research and documentation; cultural activities; seminars; conferences and workshops related to empowerment are some of the means of awareness-generation and action employed by the organisation. Issue-based legal information & action especially for battered women has also been an important function of JWP.

With the aim of nurturing and promoting ordinary women's role in the decision-making process at different levels JWP has played an important role in contemporary political issues related to women such as the demand for 33% reservation of seats for women in Parliament – the Women's Reservation Bill. It has actively participated in national and international campaigns against gender-based violence. JWP has where relevant, linked up with like-minded national campaigns –for example, Clean India Campaign, *Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao* Campaign, *Bell Bajao* Campaign.

Another function of JWP is related to education and skill building programmes with women and children. The organisation conducts adult education programmes for adults, teenagers and school dropout children. It provides

computer education to the young and to school dropouts. Skill is an important part of any person's dignity and well-being; thus JWP conducts skill training programmes such as tailoring, designing, durrie making, nutritious cooking and training in beautician skills among the women and young girls.

Education and protection for the children is a major concern of JWP; therefore the organisation runs education and protection centres for children in slums and rural areas such as **Mera Sahara in Nithari Village**, Noida, UP and others in Delhi, Kolkata, Faridabad and Kausani in Uttarakhand. JWP centres provide a safe, healthy and happy zone for children to learn and grow with a feeling of safety and togetherness. Providing nutritious food to school children with the help of other institutions is another central activity of the organization.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND HISTORY

JWP was the organisation 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. In 1983 the Devadasi Prohibition of Dedication Act was passed.

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

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**.

Networking with seven National Women's organizations led to the amendment and passage of laws such as the Dowry Prohibition Act and the Women's Reservation Bill; PCPNDT Act; Domestic Violence Act; JJ Act; National Policy for Children; National Policy on Women; and Immoral Trafficking Prevention Act. JWP has also been involved in the campaign for more comprehensive and progressive laws on rape and against sexual harassment in the workplace, on land rights for women, and on prohibition of child labour.

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; Government's position on Missing Children, Child Sexual Abuse, Child Trafficking and the need for changes in the National Plan of Action for children and related matters such as the conditions existing in the shelter homes for women and children. Also, review of Government of India's proposal on the National Policy for Women.

JWP has been a member of the Central Advisory Committee against Trafficking under the Ministry of Women and Child, Government of India and the Delhi State Committee.

JWP has conducted several studies for various governmental and non-governmental organizations, including the National Commission for Women (NCW). Reports on "The Condition of Women in the Jails of Punjab" and "Children with Women in the Jails of Punjab" were conducted by JWP researcher Dr. Jyoti Seth. These were later published by the NCW.

Director of JWP, Dr. Jyotsna Chatterji has received the "Woman of the Year" Award from the National Commission for Women in 2014, the "Woman of the Year Award in the Social Sector" from Amity University, Noida, UP in 2015 and Navratan Foundation Award in 2016 for "Development in the Social Sector."

Our Director Dr. Jyotsna Chatterji with some Staff & Volunteers



CHAPTER TWO

MERA SAHARA-PROTECTION AND LEARNING CENTRES

The *Mera Sahara* Centre for Children and Women in Nithari Village, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, continues to provide learning, protection and day care for children and promotes interaction with the community for empowerment of children and their well-being.

Classes are conducted for children of different age groups – from nursery and day care to class 5th. Subjects taught in these classes are the following: English, Hindi, Sanskrit, Science, Social Studies, Mathematics, General Knowledge, Environmental Studies and Computer Literacy. Art and craft, music and dancing, morning yoga and outdoor exercises are all part of the overall programme for healthy development of the mind and body. Visits to museums and places of historical interests expose the children to the reality around them. These kinds of activities help them to develop their own view point and understanding; and build their own knowledge.

PRACTICES

The children at *Mera Sahara* are involved in reading, writing, listening and sharing practices, not only through their school textbooks but also through story-books. These practices help them to grow and make them understand their neighbourhoods and their immediate environments. Through these practices, one can understand different characters, situations, living conditions, and environmental conditions around them. The practice of speaking is to share their small experiences in groups without any fear. Observing is another important practice. Observing and hearing other languages, people, nature, neighbourhood and their community gives them the understanding of people from other parts of India. This gives them the knowledge of the diverse nature of the country.

NURSERY AND DAY CARE

Children between the ages of one to two are admitted to this section. Most of the learning is through oral repetition, recognizing pictures on pictorial charts and lots of play time, under the care of teachers. Storytelling groups interaction while playing with puzzles and toys and games are specifically taken care of. The total numbers of the children in this section are 20.

DAY CARE



LEARNING THROUGH PAINTING



PRE-PRIMARY

There are two sections, A and B. 'B' section has children who are slightly older than section 'A'. The age group varies between three to five years. 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 one to hundred in numeric and words is through small regular exercises. Children learn the names of fruits, vegetables, plants and trees, week days among other things. They also learn to draw with the help of pictorial charts. The total number of the children in both sections is 47.

Mera Sahara Centre follows the Uttar Pradesh Educational Board syllabus, with a view to educating the children to become eligible for admission in government schools and other mainstream schools. The additional reading material is provided to children from our library. Educational videos are shown to the children to strengthen their all-round learning.

Apart from regular books prescribed by the state board, an effort is made to incorporate a few lessons from books of the other private schools. Grammar and literature along with regular exercises in writing and speaking constitute the teaching process.

Class	Crèche	Pre-primary (A+B)	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
No. of the children	20	47	17	20	14	11	4

The children who are capable of admission to mainstream schools are helped to get admission there. These numbers start decreasing soon after class 3rd.

That Subjects that are taught in the centres:-

Subject	Description
Hindi	Hindi is the primary language of the children and medium of the education too. This language is given special attention as the family, neighbourhood and school use this language widely. Reading, writing and grammar are stressed.
Social Science	This subject has large number of important contents, like history of early human life, descriptions of the different communities and their languages, festivals of the country and a short history of India's struggle for freedom, etc.
Science	Under this subject, children are taught about human body, hygiene and primary health care. They are also taught about the earth and its characteristics. The idea of the environment and its impact on the lives of people are also taught.
Mathematics	This is an important subject which contains small daily calculations, for example buying things from the shops etc. It is a part of the routine. Additions, subtraction, multiplication, division, geometrical shapes, decimal points, measurements of the length, breadth, height, perimeter and the area of the circle, are a part of the teaching activity.
Computer Literacy	Technology based skill development is essential for the children. We provide basic knowledge of the computer. Theory and oral classes are held on – what is a computer, how does it work, and what are its parts. They are taught how to open MS Paint and MS Office, how to save a file and cut, copy and paste commands.
Extracurricular activities & Physical Education	<p>One of the major concerns has been to provide extra classes every afternoon to those children who cannot cope with their studies. On Sunday, TCS volunteers come to the centre for two hours to teach those subjects for which they require help.</p> <p>In the activities of physical education children go to the parks along with the teachers for playing and the other exercises. They are also involved in dance and music programmes. We are wishing for a mobile van for the children to bring them to the open ground and park for the playing the games and other sports.</p>

Children during their classes, Nithari, Noida



Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) helps us with the cooperation in the activities like visits, competitions, health awareness camps etc. Below are the key areas addressed by TCS:-

- Educational trip: Students visited “Parliament House” and “Rashtrapati Bhawan” as part of an educational trip.
- TCS Visit: Students visited TCS Noida 6 office and showcased their talent. TCS got a chance to mingle with NCPL children. Also, TCS *Maitree* team felicitated the NCPL kids with some gifts.
- Modernization: TCS Maitree Team donated a Whiteboard and set up a computer lab for NCPL kids and *Mera Sahara* School at Nithari Village.
- Stationary Distribution: Notebook, pencil box, dictionary etc. was distributed by TCS Maitree Team to NCPL kids.
- Painting Competition: Painting competition was organized on *Swachhh Bharat Abhiyan*.
- Health Awareness Camp: TCS *Maitree* volunteers visited Nithari Village; conducted a health awareness session; and distributed toiletry kits to Nithari Villagers.
- Library Setup: Volunteers brought a wide variety of books to the NCPL library for the children.
- New Year Celebration: TCS volunteers celebrated the New Year with NCPL kids. They organized some activities for all the children.
- Holi Celebration: The festival of colours Holi was celebrated in the centre with the children. The volunteers talked about the significance of this festival and also shared the Do's and Don'ts to play safe and peaceful Holi.

Immunization by Max Hospital, Noida



Morning Yoga



Physical Exercises



Eid celebration at Nithari Centre, Noida



Deepavali



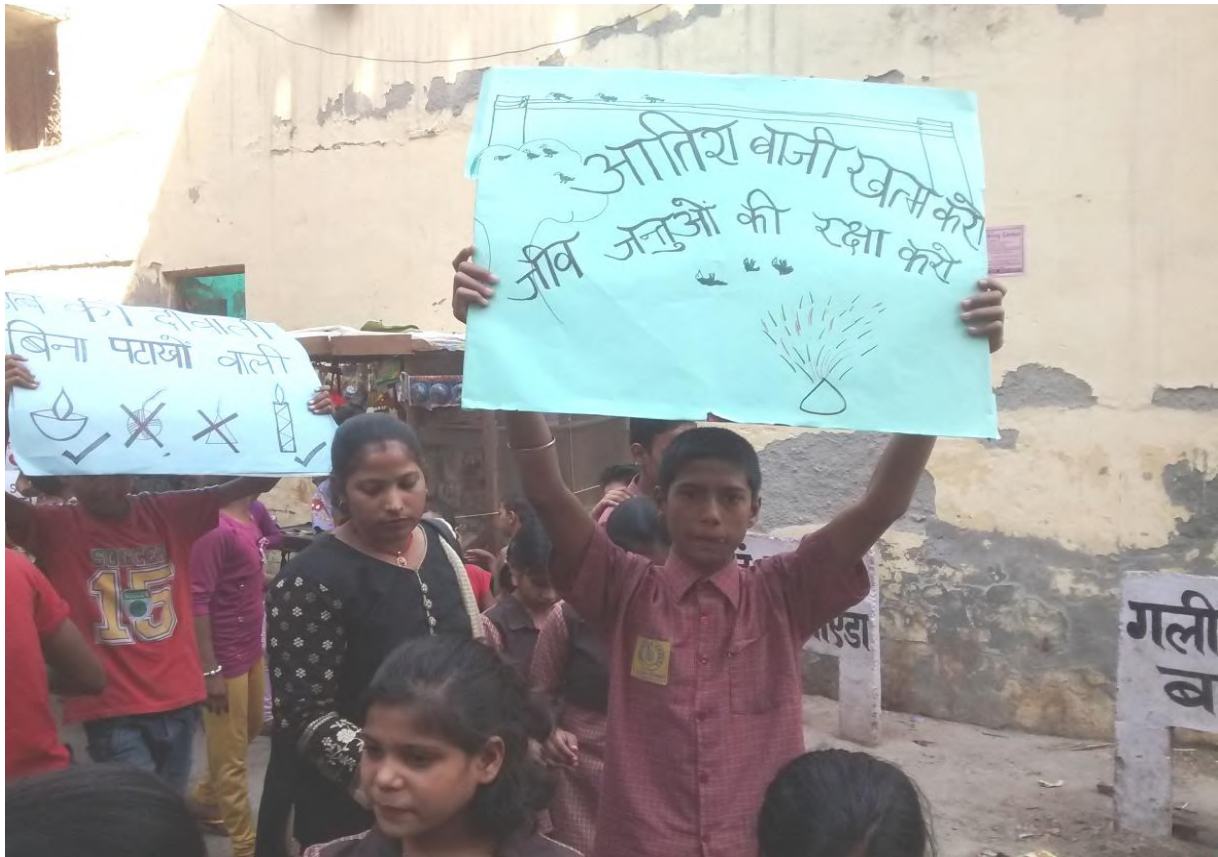
Pre-Diwali celebrations at War Widows Association



Children, celebrating Independence Day



Dipawali Celebration Message: Children raise voice against firecrackers along with members of Lioness Club.



Children celebrating and performing on Republic Day.



Annual Day Function - Martial Arts Performance



Annual Day Function - Invocation



Ms. Damayanti Tambay presenting Awards to Children



Visitor from The US Bead for Life



Play “Chandalika” at the Annual day Function



Exposure Visit to Monuments



Exposure Visit to the Fire Station



COUNSELLING

Children in most slums do not have a normal life. Most of the parents are working and they go to work every day by 6:30 am. They do not have time to spend with their children. At times children in Nithari and other areas fall prey to domestic violence, general societal aggression and other forms of anti-social activities. Our teachers have been enabled to build linkages 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 for other reasons.

Our teachers counsel the children in their domestic as well as academic issues. They are helped by extra classes during exam time. We have been campaigning against child abuse and violence against women. We have been actively encouraging them to report the incidents. We are confident that our children have learned to report and also keep away from abuse and antisocial elements.

Children and women are counselled regularly through mutual discussions in a spirit of understanding. This is carried out at different levels like parents meetings, women's meetings and community meetings. Experts are invited to speak to the parents and women on issues related to health issues, violence in the work places, home, also on laws and protection possibilities such as role of police etc. These expert-led sessions are useful for them as they get new information and insights from the experts.

As part of JWP's mandate, we do not refuse to admit children with mild physical disabilities and provide necessary facilities to them. We try to create normal environment to them so that they can learn in a natural way with a feeling of equality. Every year a teachers training programme is conducted to inform and revitalize the teachers to be friends as well as gurus of the children.

The JWP Kausani, Uttarakhand team has also organized a few counselling meetings with women. Topics discussed include sex education, safety of women and children, strife at homes and sexual exploitation of children. Women shared their experiences with others. Most of them shared that they are beaten up by their husband and in-laws after consuming alcohol. Some of them report these incidents to the police but many do not. Reporting the incidents to the police was an important concern during these meetings.

Children in a session on domestic violence with Ms. Padmini Kumar



Children listening with interest to discussion on child abuse in the home & society



CHAPTER THREE

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Empowerment of women through adult literacy and skill training continues with the same commitment by the teachers. Women and young girls come regularly to the centre and learn and practice cutting, stitching, knitting, durry making, diet-based cooking with great interest.

I. Adult Literacy

JWP organises the **adult education programmes** for school dropouts, women and young girls. (Who have left schooling for some reason) They come regularly to the centre for the classes. The number of the students is 15.

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 classes. Now women have become capable of reading newspapers, government and bank related forms. They keep their important documents well and help the others to do so. Women are also playing an important role in helping their children's daily school homework. 15 women are in adult literacy programme and they are doing well.



Skill Training Programmes

Tailoring

Marketable skills are helpful to become economically sound in a competitive world. It also helps a person to make her/his own space in daily life in the society and enable them to earn a living. Our tailoring classes are conducted every day. Usha International's *Silai School* is strengthening our work by providing sewing machines and training syllabus. More women are connecting with this course. The course of tailoring is making them more self-reliant. 20 women and young girls are in the tailoring programme.

Durri Making

Our durri making programme is continuing with two new projects. One is to weave durries for clothes factories who have requested us to provide them with small durries in Nithari and one in Kausani, Uttarakhand where single women/mothers and widows are being taught to make durries for sale in the market.



Kausani Uttarakhand

The Uttarakhand projects aims to develop skill along with adult literacy and legal awareness programmes. It follows the JWP pattern of empowerment for the 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. It is important for them to find time and space for sharing and learning.

Girls during the Sewing Course, Kausani, Uttrakhand



**Community women discussing various issues in a meeting,
Kousani Uttarakhand**



Mehka Aangan, Faridabad, Haryana

The area activities are monitored by Kiran Arora. The programme covers seven resettlement colonies. Regular skill training in tailoring and adult education programmes are carried out and diet-based cooking classes are also held. Through regular meetings, women participate in conversations related to the courses. Family problems and community issues are discussed. Legal education and legal action is also a major area of work as women in crisis need immediate attention and action.

Meetings have been organized on the issues of domestic violence at Tigaon Village, Faridabad. Women celebrated Valentine's Day as Violence Free Day. Discussions were also held on the rights of the consumer, especially with regards to women who are usually the primary agents managing household consumption. As a follow-up, 10 women participated in 'Balanced Diet Cooking Course', for 3 days in a week at Sector-11, Indira Colony Centre. They learned to make nutritious food. The main objective of this activity was to use this cooking skill as a means of income and also to make nutritious food for themselves and for the family. The young girls learnt in the parlour about various facials such as gold facial, anti-wrinkle facial, fruit and aroma facial.

Women meeting at the Mehka Aangan centre.



Halishahar Women's Programme, West Bengal

The education of community children in this programme is managed by Ajay Mazumdar, who plans to extend his programme for children living on the railway lines. This area consists of migrants who are extremely poor and are mostly engaged 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.



II. WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE

When we change the use of a terminology we actually change the idea of own thinking and the idea of viewing particular things, actions are plans. In the sentence, '**violence against women**' the idea is defensiveness and fear and all conversations are centralised only around the violence and how to protect them. But when the sentence is changed into '**women against violence**' it emphasises and expresses the idea of women as citizens with equal rights and for a violence free society.

Therefore, regular meetings are conducted for community women and men in different areas to encourage those living nearby to learn about their constitutional rights, 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. The issues such as violence against women and children, child labour and child marriage are also discussed in these meetings.

Women are also given awareness on basic legal procedures on legal separation and divorce and how to file a First Information Report (FIR) when faced with domestic violence. 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 the JWP to create women leaders who can actively participate in the Gram Panchayat.

Meetings on various issues of violence



Demonstration on the issue of violence in Noida



International Women's Day rally



CHAPTER- FOUR

NETWORKING WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

For decades, apart from seeking their space in the development process, women have also been asking for their constitutional rights as equals. There is a growing recognition that the issue has gone beyond 33% reservation of seats in decision-making bodies; the women's movement should demand nothing less than 50% participation in state assemblies and parliament. JWP initiated the coming together of all organizations in different states on this important agenda. The present government promised to give 50% reservation in its election manifesto; but no relevant steps have been taken yet towards it. This is the reason that this issue needs to be raised tirelessly.

Other programmes conducted together were:

- 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 and women right to their space in the world.
- 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 describing the condition of women and children and their need for community participation in building a safe society.



MEETING POLITICAL LEADERS
PRAKASH JAWADEKAR (Union Minister for HRD)



WITH KANIMOZHI (Rajya Sabha Member)



27th July, 2017

To,
Ms. Sumitra Mahajan,
Hon'ble Lok Sabha Speaker,
Government of India,
New Delhi -110 001

Subject: Passage of Women's Reservation Bill

Dear Sumitra Mahajan ji,

We the undersigned are a broad alliance of women's organizations and other democratic, secular groups which stands for 33% representation for women in Parliament and State Legislatures.

We wish to express our deep sense of betrayal that yet again, the Women's Reservation Bill has not been passed by the 16th Lok Sabha. The solemn assurance given by the BJP Central Government in its election manifesto has not been honoured. A historic opportunity to strengthen the democratic character of Parliament and State legislatures has been lost.

Women of this country have been continuously denied their rightful democratic space. This failure has led to a very low presence of women in State Legislatures and Parliament. In Parliament too, the under-representation of women remains a long-standing injustice, with only 64 women MPs in the current Lok Sabha.

In this context, we appeal that no move should be made to dilute the Bill in the name of a consensus. We request that the original Bill be passed immediately.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

JWP and Other Women's organisations



With Hon. Lok Sabha Speaker - Smt. Sumitra Mahajan

CHAPTER FIVE

CHILD RIGHTS PROGRAMME-RESEARCH AND POLICY CHANGE

A major area of concern this past year was to address government actions on the rights of the child. The Juvenile Justice Bill was amended recently 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 would be kept in custody for mandatory period of a minimum of 7 to 20 years as provided by section 376 of IPC.

The basic concern was to ensure that the children sent to prisons be given counselling 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 18 years. 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 reformatory and reparative rather than retributive justice which gives a chance to juvenile till the age of 18 years to turn their lives around. Also, that government at the State and Centre uphold their obligations under the Constitution of India and under International Human Rights Convention. This document was used for advocating with Government on developing better policies and budget increases for the empowerment of all categories of children.
- B. Government's examination of the role of communication technologies in reaching children, especially through social media was suggested. 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 the depiction need

to be discussed. The National Policy for children should include this in their policy

- C. Another suggestion was to prepare a forward-looking plan for children which could examine the creative use of radio and television.

Our children in the session on ‘Hamare Haq’ (our rights) Violence free society



Street children brought for Protection and Education



JWP promotes child rights and safety. We have been constantly working against child abuse, child marriage, child labour and child trafficking. These are serious issues and need to be underlined. We are also against all other kinds of violence which are happening against children. The facts on the ground reveal that millions of young Indians are having to pay the price for adult negligence; social, cultural, political and official. It is time to 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. Counselling women and children on violence and sexual abuse is one of the mandates of Joint Women's Programme.

CHAPTER SIX

OUTCOMES

The outcome of our work can be underlined at these following levels.

- 1. At the level of our Teachers-**Teachers of JWP feel they are more confident and are eager to learn more. They are now economically independent. They are aware of their rights. They participate in meetings, seminars and community gatherings, which they were hesitant to do earlier. This has given them the confidence to deal with day to day problems and find solutions in their family and in the Centre. They work with children, young girls and women of the community. Many face domestic violence and issues of safety and security; yet they have overcome these to become good teachers. They have been successful in opening bank accounts in their own names and operating them. The teachers now handle social issues in their environment with sensitivity and use their knowledge to solve the problems of the community women. They understand the importance of having a Voter ID which gives them voting rights at par with men. They think themselves to be an important part of the family, centre and the community. They are now better sensitised informed and capable teachers and community leaders who can help in solving and preventing crimes against children.
- 2. At the level of children-** The children spend valuable time in the centre learning new things. They study in a violence-free and creative environment, which is helpful to their school education as well as natural growth. They participate in different educational activities which help them to express their thoughts without hesitation and fear. There are indications which show positive changes in them. They are eager to take part in both study and extra-curricular activities. They come regularly and do not often take leave or skip classes. They have learned how to be safe and discuss it with their classmates in the school and friends. Most of the parents tell our teachers that they study at home also and are anxious to learn. Children have learnt how to be clean and keep their classroom and surroundings clean. They also take part in campaigns such as *Swachhh Bharat Abhiyan*, *Baal Adhikar Rally*, *Surakshit Bachpan* etc.

- 3. At the level of women-** It is very necessary to understand the visible and invisible changes in women in our programme. Women do many things at the same time and it is important that they feel empowered in all these areas. Traditionally, women in our community have been facing problems within the family, as well as social, economic, political, cultural barriers to their empowerment. Being uneducated or without any marketable skill, they remain vulnerable to these challenges. However, JWP is helping women to understand their problems and solve these consciously and intelligently with the knowledge of existing laws and other protection policies.

All the teachers of the centre are community women. They now stand economically better-off and are playing an important role for their own family and for the community. They are agents of positive change. The other women and young girls who are engaged with the centre are also building themselves up with the help of learning skills like tailoring and durry making. Better able now to express their thoughts and understand their rights and responsibilities, they look visibly more confident.

- 4. At the level of the community–** Nithari Village in Noida, has faced a great tragedy in the recent past. As a result, people there are more likely to take serious note of any incident that happens in the community. The same is the case in other areas where JWP is working with the community, such as in Kausani, Uttarakhand, Halishahar, West Bengal, Jamia Nagar, Delhi, Faridabad Dist., Haryana. The community workers and the teachers of JWP meet with community people regularly in meetings and visits. The discussion points are primarily safety and cleanliness in the community, women and child rights, creating a violence free zone; and reporting incidents of violence immediately. The results of these sittings have made people more cognisant about their own rights and duties as citizens. Ms. Gayatri, one of our teachers in Mera Sahara, Nithari, reported, that “on 2nd February 2017 there was a rumour in the village that a suspected man was picking up children by giving them ten rupees notes. A conscious person of the village community group reported it immediately to Gayatri from JWP and to the police.”. Action was immediately taken to prevent kidnapping. There are several examples from our centres. The phrase ‘an aware community is the face of a healthy

society'. With JWP participation, this becoming more real in recent times. Interactive sessions between community members, the police, and gram panchayat members have led JWP carry out joint action on protection.

Teachers participation in an awareness rally in Noida against continuing rape cases on women in UP



CHAPTER SEVEN

OUR TEAM

The Director of JWP, Dr. Jyotsna Chatterji meets the staff regularly and discusses various matters like overall administration, academic concerns and action required. 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 harassment cases, and connects with other organizations in order to inform women workers about their rights, laws and policies for their protection. 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 Nithari Centre every day to oversee the implementation of all aspects of protection, care and education, handles domestic violence cases, networks with local government authorities like the District Magistrate of the area, local police, village head, local partners and supporters.

Ms. Vimla Pant looks after overall day to day management of JWP and counsels the teachers, staff and children on issues concerning local centre matters. She also looks after financial matters along with Mr. Dharam Narayan, the Accountant.

In Mera Sahara, Nithari, senior teachers Ms. Renu Chaudhry and Ms. Manisha Sharma, regularly counsel children in the age group of 9 to 14. The teachers and helpers are active, capable and informed members of *Mera Sahara* Centre. Our outstation centres for skill development and empowerment also have informed and effective colleagues and trainers. They conduct adult education classes as well.

In Faridabad, Ms. Kiran Arora and Ms. Nishi Kinger carefully handle the programme in awareness generation, skill training in tailoring and nutritious cooking with sensitivity and care.

In Kausani, Ms. Prema Joshi and her team, pay special attention to the needs of single mothers and widows and their children as they handle awareness programmes, skill training, legal knowledge and protection in the context of their hilly area and social conditions.

In Halishahar, West Bengal, Mr. Ajay Mazumdar carefully handles gender sensitization programmes, legal education and skill training with the community of migrants and their children living on the both sides of the railway line.

The Guardians of our Mera Sahara Centre, Nithari, Noida



**Local Partner, Village Pradhan -
Ms. Vimlesh Sharma**

**Our NGO Partner
Mr. Ashok Shrivastava
Navratan Foundations**



OUR GRATITUDE

We are grateful to **Asha for Education, The Women's India Association of the UK, Info Edge (India Limited), The Ford Foundation, M/s. USHA International Ltd., M/s. SERA Foundation, M/s. Intercontinental Technocrats Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Tata Consultancy Services, War Widows Association and Lioness Club of Noida, and Smt. Urmila Devi Mittal Memorial Trust.**

We 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, Commodore Chopra, Mr. Devendra Jain, Mrs. Damayanti Tambay, Shri. Ramsaran Sharma, Mrs. Priyali Prakash and Mr. Dhruv Prakash.** We are also grateful to **Mr. Manish Goenka** and several occasional donors for their support.

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

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

JWP's accounts are audited by **M/s. A.K. Nair & Co.,** Chartered Accountant, New Delhi, who have stood with us for professional advice and support. The website of JWP is maintained by Mr. Vipin Grover who is responsible for upgradation of the website.

We are also grateful to all those who come as experts and give their valuable advice to us.

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