

LEAD STORIES

Lighting of the lamp by Dr. A. Sampath, Member of Parliament.

DISSEMINATION

MEETING: SURAKSHA PROJECT

(a targeted intervention project)

Trivandrum Branch organised a dissemination meeting with the objective of sharing the learnings of the project with different stakeholders.

The Suraksha Project, supported by Kerala State AIDS Control Society (KSACS), aims to address the sexual health needs of high-risk groups (targeted intervention). The Branch is focussing on the target – people using drugs (PUD) or injecting drug users (IDU) – in the district of Trivandrum. The Suraksha Project is aimed at behavioural modification from unsafe sexual or injecting practices to safer sex practices and injecting practices.

The focus of the programme is progressive behaviour strengthening to ensure sexual health through behaviour change communication interventions, sexually Transmitted Infection treatment and care, condom promotion, creating an enabling environment and empowering them to take care of their health needs. The project activities include identification, counselling, behaviour change communication, peer education, STI and Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST) management, detoxification and de-addiction, and community mobilisation. There are no rehabilitation centers for IDUs in Kerala. The Branch also screened a short film created for the occasion. As part of the event, a few service users shared their experiences. The project is now in its fourth phase.

The meeting was inaugurated by Dr. A. Sampath, Member of Parliament. He said that work related to health must begin at the community level. "We need to create awareness focusing more women's health.," He appreciated the activities implemented by the Branch and promised to support the Branch in the future. He ended his speech by emphasizing the need to change the mentality of the society, and clear the misconceptions about transgender people. Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, FPAI congratulated the Branch Volunteers and staff members on the successful project and the event.



During the event, Dr. K. Krishnakumari, President, Trivandrum Branch, announced that Mr. G. Venugopal, eminent playback singer, composer, writer, television presenter and social activist has agreed to be a Goodwill Ambassador for the Branch.

MEDIA MEET

In order to increase the accountability on country-wise SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) there is a need for sustained media engagement. Access to information, freedom of expression and an independent media are important for a sustainable future. Mass media has excellent potential to prioritize SRHR issues and report them accurately.



Media Meet, Chennai Branch
Ms. Ramya Kannan,
Bureau Chief –
Tamil Nadu, The Hindu

Media Meet, Lucknow Branch – Prof. (Dr.) Rama Kant, Former Chief Medical Superintendent & Former Head of Surgery Department, KGMU & WHO Director-General's Awardee 2005 being interviewed by Doordarshan News



However, often due to lack of understanding and conceptual clarity, SRHR issues are not projected or highlighted. Keeping in focus, FPAI, in collaboration with Citizen News Service (CNS) (specializes in health reporting and syndicating in-depth news articles on health issues to media globally), and IPPF-SARO, organised Meets in November-December 2015 in Kolkata, Ranchi, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and Chennai. Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President and Representative from FPAI HQ addressed and attended these Meets.

The need to expand the basket of contraceptive choices and allocation for resources in family planning was the focus of the discussions. These events were organised in Kolkata, Ranchi, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Bangalore, Ahmedabad and Chennai. All the events received media publicity. Reports of each of the seven media meetings are available on:

- Ahmedabad: <http://bit.ly/media-meet-Ahmedabad>
- Bengaluru: <http://bit.ly/media-meet-Bengaluru>
- Chennai: <http://bit.ly/media-meet-Chennai>
- Hyderabad: <http://bit.ly/media-meet-Hyderabad>
- Kolkata: <http://bit.ly/media-meet-Kolkata>
- Lucknow: <http://bit.ly/media-meet-Lucknow>
- Ranchi: <http://bit.ly/media-meet-Ranchi>

Journalists (133) from seven cities from seven cities participated in these Media Meets, generating 62 news articles and TV/radio broadcasts.



Media Meet, Hyderabad Branch - Mr. D Roshan Kumar, Executive Director of Social Educational and Economic Development Society (SEEDS), Guntur, Andhra Pradesh being interviewed by ETV



Media Meet, Murhu Project - Dr. Raj Shree Verma, Assistant Professor, Department of Rural Department of Rural Management, Xavier Institute of Social Service, Ranchi



Media Meet, Kolkata Branch – Dr. Baijayanti Baur (R), Head of the Community Medicine Department, Midnapore Medical College, West Bengal

SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS OBSERVED ACROSS BRANCHES



WORLD AIDS DAY

"Getting to Zero" – was theme for 2015. It echoes the UNAIDS vision of achieving "Zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS-related deaths."

A number of activities were undertaken by Branches throughout India.



MADURAI

A three-day long events were organized. A medical camp organised for PLHIV, 67 clients availed counselling and consultation services, in addition to hemoglobin testing and free medicines. An awareness programme on cervical and breast cancer to PLHIV was also conducted, with 26 male and 41 female PLHIV participants. In the GIPA-Children's Day programme, 66 HIV-infected mothers participated while 47 children took part in song and drawing competitions.



AHMEDABAD

Five awareness programmes were held where 276 participants were sensitized on the theme "Getting to Zero". They were also briefed on how to reduce HIV new infections, stigma and discrimination in the society.



BANGALORE

The Branch observed Day PLHIVs and the Transgender community.

BELGAUM, BHUBANESWAR, DHARWAD

At Belgaum rally was taken out on the Day. Awareness programmes were conducted where over 300 students attended, while 90 NSS students attended a separate programme. Around 80 students participated in the essay and elocution competition.



BHUBANESWAR

The Day was observed with an awareness session and a quiz for children.



A session for Anganwadi Workers.



The community.

GWALIOR

An HIV testing and awareness programme was conducted for truckers of Hindustan Petroleum on World AIDS Day.



SHIMOGA

In co-ordination with the District Health Office, Advocates' Association, NCC students and others World AIDS Day was observed.



Oath-taking on World AIDS Day.

OBSERVANCE OF OTHER SPECIAL DAYS

BIJAPUR

On October 10, 2015, "World Handwashing Day" was observed with an awareness programme and AEP+ session. Various hygiene topics were covered, with youth from the audience asking questions and getting their doubts cleared.



The session in full swing.



BELLARY

Global Abortion Day was observed focusing on "Access to Safe and Legal Abortion", with programmes on how to "Bust the Myths, Fight Abortion Stigma & Discrimination". Seven clients benefitted from free abortion services offered.

On the 7th Memorial Day of Smt. Sharada Malebennur, Past President of the Branch, a seminar on POCSO Act was organised. Three ASHA workers were felicitated for their work in FP motivation.



JABALPUR

The Branch organised a panel discussion "Bust the Myths, Fight Abortion Stigma and Discrimination" on Global Safe Abortion Day. An activity on Myths and Facts was conducted by Youth Forum members.



NEWS FROM ALL OVER



Workshop for Peer Educators

A training programme was organised by IPPF Central Office and South Asia Regional Office for Youth Volunteers to build capacity on addressing issues around stigma associated with abortion. The two-day workshop was organised from December 3-4, 2015 for Peer Educators of 10 Branches.

MID-TERM REVIEW OF PROJECT

Mid-term review of "Stigma: The unseen barrier to young people's access to SRH services" Project, Murhu, Jharkhand

FPAI, with support from the Packard Foundation, is implementing this 2-year project in Murhu Block in Jharkhand. At its mid-term review from November 30-December 2 2015, a team comprising of members from IPPF CO, IPPF SARO and FPAI HQ visited Murhu. The project's progress, capacity strengthening of staff, and development abortion stigma related IEC messaging was reviewed.



The review team visiting Murhu.

Capacity building workshop for Youth

Under the EC project "Strengthening MDG 5A and 5B in South Asia: Creating Champions and Garnering Momentum for Progress in SRHR", a training programme was conducted to build capacities of young people to advocate on Comprehensive Sexuality Education and SRHR. The project will be implemented as a South Asia Regional Youth Network (SARYN) activity at FPAI Branches in Ahmedabad, Jabalpur, Solapur, Mumbai and Dharwad. Under the project, a three-day workshop was organized from 17-19 December 2015 in Mumbai. Two youth forum members from each of the selected branches participated.

The workshop covered topics on Steps in Advocacy Planning; Sex, Sexuality and Gender; Body Mapping Exercise; Understanding HIV/AIDS; Sexual Abuse; and Sexual Citizenship and Pleasure.



Workshop on Resource Mobilisation

Resource Mobilisation (Res-Mob) is a key priority for FPAI. The recent changes in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and the space for CSR funds is a great opportunity for FPAI to have a structured approach to identify and work with local companies and industrial houses. In this context, a two-day workshop on Res-Mob was organised on 17-18 December 2015 in Mumbai.

A group exercise was conducted wherein participants were asked to make presentations. An expert panel comprising of the Deputy General Manager, L & T and the Manager-CSR, Welspun India, judged these presentations.

Mr. Noshir Dadrawala of CAP speaking on Res-Mob.



Updates from 'Human Resource Development for SRH Care Services'

Under Project 'Human Resource Development for SRH Care Services', six training courses were conducted from October to December 2015. A total of 91 individuals were trained in Counselling Course for Trauma, Guilt & Self Esteem, Use of Social Media, Counselling for Children, Sex & Sexuality Counselling, and CSE. Participants were from CSOs and academic institutions.

BELLARY

A new scanning centre and laboratory building was inaugurated. The Centre was established through donations from Cognizant Foundation and Bellary Iron Ores P Ltd.

AGRA

Skill development for women and girls

Skill development sessions in Beautician and Tailoring Courses were conducted for women and girls, followed by an orientation on SRH. Around 45 participants took part.



A quiz competition for school students was conducted, followed by visitor-interaction.

A thematic quiz competition was conducted, with 56 young people participating, in the presence of 23 guardians. Out-of-school youths (10-14 females) were also involved in the competition. This was followed by a 'role play' through which gender and SRH messages were conveyed.



Visitors from SARO, HQ and BSR France

Ms. Andrea Bergstrom, Associate, Partnership Development & Research, Business for social Responsibility (BSR) France
Dr. Rituparna, Coordinator, BSR New Delhi
Mr. Pankaj Anand, Programme Specialist –Resource Mobilization and communications, IPPF-SARO
Dr. Kalpana Apte, Sr. ASG (PI), FPAI Mumbai
Ms. Amita Dhanu, Director Adolescents, FPAI Mumbai

A capacity building programme for Youth Forum members was conducted at a Youth Friendly Centre. The focus was CSE and SRH issues. Participants: 35.

BIJAPUR

The Branch organised a one-day STI/RTI training programme for RHFPC staff members, with guest lecturers speaking on the subject. On November 27, 2015, a series of talks were delivered at the DHO premises. NGO members, nursing college students, community leaders, doctors, and DHO staff members comprised the audience.



A Youth Forum meeting was organised on October 1, 2015. Youth participated in the programme voluntarily.

A health camp and community awareness programme was held on October 6, 2015 at Secab P U College. The staff and students of the college participated in the lecture-cum-discussion.

MADURAI

The Branch conducted various competitions for youth in CSE at Youth Friendly Centres.

A special awareness programme on cervical and breast cancer was conducted for women self-help group members.

A medical camp for college students focussing on anemia was organised.

IPPF and FPAI HQ teams visited the Branch in connection with the Choices Project.



IPPF and FPAI HQ personnel with the Choices Project Team.



Evaluation team interacting with community members and parents.

AHMEDABAD

Training provided to NGOs, Representatives of Alliance

The Alliance arranged a one-day training programme for key staff from Gujarat, Delhi and Telangana. The Branch provided Resource Persons to conduct sessions on SRHR. Participants: 18.



Training on Child Protection Policy

An orientation programme was organised on Child Protection Policy for teachers and staff. The objective was to sensitise them on the policy and how to implement it at the school level. Participants: 20.

State-level NGOs meet

The Branch organised a state level NGOs meet on "Action Plan to Promote and Advocate for Adolescent Education Programme in Gujarat State", with 55 participants.



BHUBANESWAR

Case study

A client's husband was an alcoholic driver having multiple partners. Worried about acquiring HIV she was reluctant to have sex with him. She decided to get a separation. She discussed the matter with her parents, and started living with them.

She was silently suffering from white discharge and severe pain. She was treated at the RHFPC. The client was apprehensive of remarriage, but after repeated counselling, she changed her mind and is now open to the idea. She also brought her sister-in-law who was underweight. After treatment, her weight increased from 41kg to 50kg.

JABALPUR

Abortion awareness campaign under demand generation activities

A series of activities on abortion awareness was organised for the masses, and also for Anganwadi and ASHA workers to create demand for safe abortion. A myths-vs-facts activity and a quiz followed this. Ten such sessions were conducted in various outreach areas.

SOUTH KANARA

Mission Indradhanush

The third round of Mission Indradhanush at the district level was inaugurated at the Branch.



BANGALORE

"Preventing Maternal Deaths and promoting Child Survival by Supporting Elimination of Mother To Child Transmission of HIV" Project supported by Japan Trust Fund – Sharing of evaluation findings

Mrs. Shakuntala Mapa, HIV Office, IPPF CO, gave an overview of eMTCT project. Mr. Jun-ichi Kawau, Head of the Consulate, Consulate of Japan, greeting the audience with a 'Namaskara', said: "Without intervention, the risk of eMTCT ranges from 20% to 45%. FPAI is focused on five key areas advocacy, adolescents, AIDS, Abortion and Access (and that) is commendable" He congratulated the FPAI for helping the poor and marginalised people of society, terming it as 'remarkable.' A film on the eMTCT project's implementation showcased the beneficiaries. Ms. Nisha Jagdish, Director, HIV, FPAI, presented the project evaluation findings, followed by an open panel discussion on how the project has moved forward.

SAGAR

Case studies

A client was suffering from secondary sterility, accompanied by several health issues including PID (pelvic inflammatory disease). She was treated at the FPAI Satellite Clinic for six months, after which she reported nausea and amenorrhea. Having detected UPT positive, regular ANC treatment was recommended.

Another client with many health problems wanted a second child. She was treated for PID and FP pills were suggested for three months. After a six-month treatment, she reported amenorrhea, and returned for ANC checkup. She delivered a healthy child on November 9, 2015 and now visits the clinic for PNC.



DHARWAD

As part of the Tata Power Community Development Trust (TPCDT)'s CSR initiative, a health camp for cervical cancer and anemia detection in women and anemia in children was conducted. Pap smear samples were collected in suspected cases and follow up recommended. A total of 111 women and 128 children were treated.



Awareness and health checkup camp for 50+. Free health checkup is being offered every Wednesday for the elderly covering sexuality issues as well as general health camps such as eye camps, diabetes camps and so on.

Medical Officer Training on Mini-laparoscopy

The Branch has been selected as a training center for Mini-laparoscopy sterilisation by the State Institute of Health and Family Welfare. Two government doctors have been deputed for the training, during which 10 cases were observed. The trainee doctors operated five cases each.

GWALIOR

In an NSV campaign organised from October to December 2015, clients got a blanket and extra cash benefits.



NILGIRIS

A session on CSE, in which 10 students and 10 teachers from five schools participated. Sensitisation sessions were held with migrant tea garden workers on HIV/AIDS, Stigma reduction against PLHIV, and video presentation on HIV/AIDS.



Under the Community Based Providers Project, 16 cervical/breast cancer screening camps were conducted between Nov 23 and Dec 15, 2015 at the tea garden hospital and dispensary. Of the 446 VIA screenings, 37 were positive and pap smear was done on 10 clients. Under breast cancer screening, 471 clients were tested and 18 were referred for mammogram.

HYDERABAD

IPPF-ARO-SARO South-to-South learning on eMTCT. Six members from IPPF visited the Branch on October 6-7, 2015 in connection with the ARO-SARO HIV Team Exchange visit. The team visited camps and hospitals where several programmes were in progress, with the members expressing their appreciation at the results.



An orientation and training programme on FP and SRH was conducted for private medical practitioners on December 10, 2015. Topics included various methods of family planning, mother and child health, and Syndromic management of STI/RTIs.

Two cancer-screening camps were held on November 19 and December 15, 2015. SRH, and breast and cervical cancer screening were offered, with 220 women availing of the services.

YAMUNANAGAR

Male involvement in family planning

In November and December, the Branch completed 46 NSVs out of 126 in the whole year. It was a great achievement for the Branch because NSV is a simple procedure of sterilisation compared to minilaparotomy and laparoscopy-procedures of sterilisation for women. Several awareness programmes for men at their work places were conducted, in addition to such programmes for women.



STRENGTHENING THE M&E SYSTEM

In a huge move to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation system of FPA India, IPPF-SAR provided financial and technical support for conducting a workshop in two batches to orient on service statistical definitions and to introduce the DHIS2 (District Health Information System). The DHIS2 system was pilot tested at Ahmedabad, Agra, New Delhi, Mumbai Pune, Solapur. Through two workshops conducted at Mumbai and Bengaluru, at least one representative (55) from 43 out of 45 Branches/Projects was trained in entering data online in DHIS2. Further to this, 65 selected Counselors, Medical Officers and Branch Managers along with all M&E/Statistical Officers were oriented on service statistical definitions. While the Resource Persons from IPPF-SAR were Dr. Ataur Rahman, Director and Mr. Raju Tamang, Project Specialist, Organization Learning & Evaluation and Mr. Rajeev Ragta, IT Consultant; the workshops were facilitated by the M&E Department team at FPA India HQ. In addition to this, a two-day training programme was conducted to orient 30 Clinic Secretaries/M&E/Statistical Officers on the new version (4.1.3) of eCMIS (electronic Clinic Management Information System).



FPA INDIA STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-22

The process of developing a seven-year Strategic Plan 2016-22 began in September. The FPA India Strategic Plan is based on the IPPF Strategic Framework for the period 2016-22. The IPPF Strategic Framework has 4 Outcomes related to Advocacy, Adolescents/Young People, Services and Accountability. Based on these Outcomes, FPA India developed its own Strategic Plan through a consultative and inclusive process of involving community members, partners, branch/project/HQ volunteers and staff and a situation analysis related to sexual and reproductive health and rights which culminated into the development of the Strategic Plan with 8 Outcomes related to Advocacy, Adolescents/Young people, Gender, Empowerment, Services, Resource Mobilization, Efficiency and Accountability. This was approved at the All India Council held in December 2015.

Posted at General Post

BOOK POST

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