

Aspire

*A Quarterly Insight into
the Association's Activities*

For Internal Use

Vol. 13 No. 1 - MAR 2017



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Umesh Aradhya

■ This issue of ASPIRE is dedicated to our historical participation in Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon on January 15, 2017. The Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon (SCMM) 2017 was evidently the best platform for creating visibility and fundraising for FPAI for the years to come. In our very first year, we generated enthusiasm and visibility of the issue amongst our Branches and peers. We created many new logos and launched the first ever #RUN4FP campaign. Among all new events and initiatives we launched some things stand out:

- I was privileged to participate in the Dream Run of 6 KMs, along with six other Volunteers and staff in Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon. The Run Team was led by Dr. Vivek Bellampelli, Volunteer FPA India Pune Branch who completed the Full Marathon

Run of 42 KMs in the name of FPA India! Dr. Sonali Tank and Ms. Preethi Mutta also ran the Half Marathon of 21 KMs for the cause of Family Planning and FPA India.

- A very significant amount was mobilized from the SCMM 2017 from sale of bibs, fundraising pages, corporate team
- Mylan supported FPA India as the Corporate Partner and CEOs from other Civil Society Organizations committed to the cause of Family Planning donated as well as participated in the Dream run and in Social Media campaign.
- High visibility among marathon runners through the Motivational Zone setup on Marine Drive, FPAI won the runner up prize of INR 25,000
- Whole hearted support from our Patrons Dr. Nina Puri and Ms. Sujatha Natrajan who donated generously and participated in the Dream Run and Dr. M N Tavergeri who cheered the group and donated generously.
- The members of Central Executive Committee and Audit Committee wholeheartedly supported this endeavour. Generous donations were received from Ms. Freny Tarapore, Prof Shrikant Yelgaonkar, Prof. Poornima George, Prof U. Natrajan, Ms. Madhura Ashok Kumar, Ms. Sujatha Natrajan and Mr. Vinod Kapoor (Audit Committee Member).
- One of our Online Donation Pages managed by our SG, Dr. Kalpana Apte was declared Change Maker, a coveted fundraising title in the SCMM, resulting in a free additional charity bib for FPAI. Ms. Neelam Dixit, Branch Manager Gwalior Branch was awarded that Bib to celebrate her effort of being the top Fundraiser in 2017.
- Press Meet & Online Visibility: Press meet resulted in phenomenal visibility for FPAI with articles across English, local print media and online media. The Press

meet was attended by celebrities like Mr. Tom Alter, Dr. Mahinder Watsa and others who supported FP movement.

- Privileges: FPAI invited to the marquee zone, Ms. Amita Dhanu received an invitation to the Corporate Tent
- FPA India HQs Team worked hard behind the scene, enthusiastically and wholeheartedly to ensure that all preparations were done impeccably. The Cheer Zone was in place through hard work done overnight and excellent brunch was provided to everyone after the Run ended!!
- Last not the least, the super powerhouse behind this was the VIVA Team, who helped FPA India to make a mark in this Marathon. Led by Ms. Vinitha Venkatraman and Varadarajan Rajagopalan, VIVA Team handled the back operations smoothly and ensured that FPA India made a mark on SCMM scene.

It is noteworthy that Branches participated enthusiastically and raised resources. A total of 12 fundraising accounts which helped raise an amount in excess of INR 3,50,000; of which 7 fundraisers with over 10,000/- raised on their page. The Fundraising Star Branches were Bangalore, Bellary, Bidar, Bijapur, Dharwad, Gwalior, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Panchkula, Pune, Chennai, Jabalpur, Yamunanagar, Jaipur and Kalchini.

Further, we successfully initiated a new and exciting venture "Sunehari Shaam" dedicated to Women's Empowerment and Health! This was an innovative Fundraising and Issue Based Event dedicated to Women of India! FPA India reached another milestone with the first Musical Evening on 24th February, 2017 in Mumbai. It was a resounding success. Similar evenings are planned in Kolkata and Ahmedabad on 1st April and 7th April respectively. We are totally sure of the success of these events. Besides this, we organized an interesting Advocacy meeting with Members of Parliament where MPs committed to support Family Planning. An Advocacy Kit was released during this meeting.

We are delighted with such phenomenal achievement. We are sure that this is a beginning and we would achieve even better success next year. There are many opportunities for everyone to be a part of this exciting journey of Fundraising. I appeal to each and every one to contribute their efforts in raising resources and funds for the growth and stability of our Organization.

■ The year 2017 for FPA India has dawned with new hope, new energy and new vigor. It is said that the true spirit of an organization can only be assessed when it faces challenges. Internationally, even as we witnessed declining support to Sexual and Reproductive Rights and resultant funding support to issues on the ground, there were many bright spots that reaffirm our commitment to the work we choose to do.

The Association moved on in new direction of Fundraising through various events. Realizing the basic Mantra that 'Visibility' leads to 'Credibility' and that in turn results in Fundraising success, the Association reinforced its presence of the Social Media strategically. Twitter and Instagram Accounts were opened, Facebook page was strengthened.

The Association created history by successfully participating in its first ever Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon 2017 on January 15, 2017. A total of 6 Volunteers and Staff members actually participated in the 'Dream Run' and over 50 volunteers and staff were part of the Marathon by engaging with runners, explaining SRHR issues and generally cheering the crowds to #RUN4FP! We learned valuable lessons,

besides generating precious resources; that will go a long way in ensuring the success of our next run in 2018. Closer tracking of progress on a day to day basis, greater involvement of staff and volunteers from Branches including specific interventions to maximize the branches' mobilization efforts and deeper engagements with Corporate partners are some of these learnings. Social Media emerged as the Game changer in this specific event. The power of Social media is unfathomable and FPA India is finally on the way to capitalize on its immense possibilities.

The Fundraising events "Sunehari Shaam" were successfully conceptualized and implemented. Corporate teams and small business houses along with individual donors including Community level volunteers were enthusiastically engaged in ensuring success of this evening, starting at Mumbai.

The Association is committed to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, in a gender just environment. Visibility, credibility and growth are part of its strategy to not only generated much needed resources, but also to ensure it achieves its core purpose of sustainable development.



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Dr. Kalpana Apte

FPA INDIA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE MUMBAI MARATHON

Interface with the media

Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General



Mr. Tom Alter, Actor and Dr. Vivek Billampelly, Volunteer FPA India, who ran the complete Marathon supporting FPA India



Ms. Poonam Muttreja, Executive Director, Population Foundation of India sharing her views with the audience during Interface with Media



FPA India had enrolled for the Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon (SCMM), which was held in January. This is the first time that the Association had taken part in the Marathon and it had decided that the focus would be on support for family planning.



From left to right (Front row): Ms. Amita Dhanu, Director, Adolescent Programs, Dr. Nina Puri, Patron, FPA India, Dr. Nisha Gupta, Public Health Consultant, Ms. Poonam Muttreja, Population Foundation of India, Ms. Preeti Uchil, Dr. Vivek Billampelly, Volunteer, FPA India (Last row from left): Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, Ms. Neelam Dixit, Branch Manager, Gwalior Branch, Mr. Venkatesh Iyer, Head of Family Planning Business, Mylan, Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, FPA India, Mr. Varun Anand, Acting Regional Director, IPPF-SAR, Mr. Tom Alter, Actor



From left to right: Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India, Mr. Varun Anand, Acting Regional Director, IPPF-SAR, and Mr. Venkatesh Iyer, Head of Family Planning Business, Mylan

To help augment this cause, FPA India was able to mobilize individual runners as well as other NGOs. This is the first time that an NGO focused on family planning in a sports event in order to enhance visibility and sensitize people towards the need for family planning.

An interface with media was organized a day ahead of the marathon. During the meeting, media representatives were present with whom FPA India representatives shared the benefits of family planning which is an integral part of SRHR.

In addition, FPA India has tied up with SRH experts to propagate the message of family planning through an initiative called 'Run4FP'. Representatives from Population Foundation



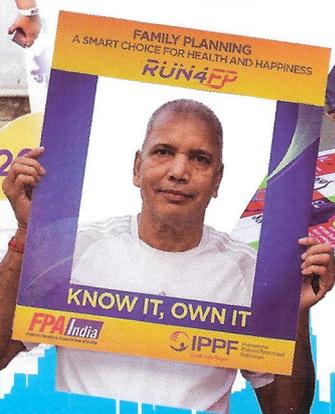
Dr. Nina Puri, Patron FPA India addressing the audience. Others on the dais (left to right) Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President FPA India

of India, International Planned Parenthood Federation – South Asia Region and others were present in the meeting. Apart from this, FPA India Volunteers and friends of FPA India who were supporting the cause were present.

FPA INDIA'S RUN4FP CHAPTER

The year 2017 began by keeping everyone at FPA India up on their feet, with their soon-to-be big break in the Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon (SCMM) on January 15, 2017.

SCMM is Asia's largest sporting event held on the third Sunday of January every year in the city of dreams - Mumbai. It also allows people to run for a select cause and gets the largest mass participation from all over the world. FPA India made its debut in this very grand event with the message, 'Family Planning - A Smart Choice for Health and Happiness' and it was branded as 'RUN4FP'.





TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MARATHON, WE FOLLOWED A THREE - PRONGED APPROACH

STEP
1

FPA INDIA & SCMM PARTNERSHIP

To begin with, FPA India enrolled itself in the SCMM in September 2016 while the preparation had already begun in August. However, the task was not as easy as it seemed. Everyone at FPA India was working towards getting the required documents and information in place for the tedious enrolment process. This step was successfully completed and we geared up for the next.



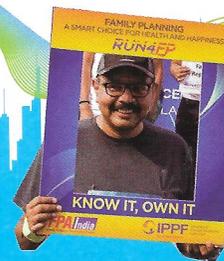
STEP
2

FUNDRAISING STRATEGY

Our team put their best foot forward in order to raise funds for representing our cause in the marathon. We successfully partnered with Mylan Inc. - a global healthcare company, who sent their 15-member team to RUN4FP.

India's best-known sexual and reproductive health experts, members of the fraternity, CEOs of organisations working in Family Planning ran in support of our cause.

These included Mr. Anand Sinha from The David and Lucile Packard Foundation (India), Denny John from International Centre for Research on Women's (ICRW), Asia Regional Office, Dr. Nisha Gupta, Public Health Consultant, Ms. Poonam Muttreja, from Population Foundation of India (PFI), Ms. Sujatha Natarajan, from International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), and Dr. Kalpana Apte, Ms. Amita Dhanu, Dr. Nina Puri, Mrs. Neelam Dixit, and Mr. Umesh Aradhya from FPA India. Ace runners such as Dr. Vivek Billampelly ran the full marathon, while Dr. Sonali Tank and Ms. Preeti Uchil ran the half marathon for FPA India.



- FPAI STAR RESOURCE MOBILISER

RUN4FP

- BANGALORE
- BELLARY
- BIDAR
- BIJAPUR
- CHENNAI
- DHARWAD
- GWALIOR
- JAIPUR
- KALCHINI
- NEWDELHI
- PANCHKULA
- PUNE
- RTC BHOPAL
- YAMUNANA



FPA India branch managers and volunteers also provided immense support by raising amounts for the run and making it a great success. The top 10 branches to raise maximum funds for the marathon were Bengaluru, Gwalior, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Pune, Panchkula, Ballari, Bidar, Vijayapur, and Dharwad.

Consultant, Ms. Poonam Muttreja, from Population Foundation of India (PFI), Ms. Sujatha Natarajan, from International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), and Dr. Kalpana Apte, Ms. Amita Dhanu, Dr. Nina Puri, Mrs. Neelam Dixit, and Mr. Umesh Aradhya from FPA India. Ace runners such as Dr. Vivek Billampelly ran the full marathon, while Dr. Sonali Tank and Ms. Preeti Uchil ran the half marathon for FPA India.

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STEP 3

MARATHON DAY VISIBILITY



We grabbed the chance to spread awareness about Family Planning and contraception by creating our own 'Motivational Cheer Zone' at the most strategic point of Marine Drive, where the marathon was held.

Our volunteers and participants made the cheer zone a happening one by showcasing our programs and services through banners, interesting games like Snakes and Ladders on SRHR, skits and dances, and even a flash-mob by the youth volunteers of our Mumbai Branch. To top it all, expert doctors on our panel also interacted LIVE with our audience and answered their queries on SRHR and Family Planning – A sight unusual for other participating NGOs. FPA India managed to interact with over 15,000 people at the cheer zone.

marathon and a #RUN4FP social media campaign which ran across Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram with posts from runners, donors, stakeholders, and fundraisers. FPA India got featured in various mainline media for all the efforts undertaken. And among 16 NGOs who participated, FPA India proudly bagged the 2nd place for the Motivational Cheer Zone because of its content, design, and range of activities to engage the audience!

Participation in the marathon not only helped in raising funds for the cause, but also gave our team and our cause great exposure with the press meets before and after the

After putting in tremendous efforts over days and many nights too, every member of the FPA India team, though exhausted, stood smiling at the finish line, enjoying their sweet success in the Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon, 2017!



Advocacy Resource Kit on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) for Members of Parliament



Last Row: (left to right): Dr Nozer Sheriar, Member of Medical Advisory Panel; Dr Rustom Phiroze Soonawala, Patron FPA India; Mr. Manmohan Sharma, Executive Secretary Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development; Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President FPA India, Shri Shantaram Naik Member of Parliament (MP), Shri. Arjunlal Meena, MP; Shri. Ananda Baskar Ropulu, MP; Shri. Sharad Bansode, MP; Shri Husain Dalwai, MP; Prof. (Dr.) Shrikant D Yelegaonkar, Vice President, FPA India; Dr Shirish Malde, Honorary Treasurer, FPA India
Front Row: (left to right): Dr Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India; Smt. Varsha Sharad Bansode; Ms. Bindiya Nimla, Director – Advocacy, FPA India; Dr Usha Krishna, Chairperson; Medical Advisory Panel; and Patron FPA India

FPA India has been implementing the project – Strengthening MDG 5a and 5b in South Asia: Creating Champions and Garnering Momentum for Progress in SRHR funded by EU through IPPF-SAR.

In this project, FPA India had meetings with Members of Parliament (MPs) and developed an Advocacy Resource Kit on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for them. The Kit was released by Shri Sharad Bansode, Shri Shantaram Naik, Shri Arjunlal Meena, Shri Ananda Baskar Ropulu and Shri Hussain Dalwai, all MPs.

Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, gave the welcome address and Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, spoke on FP 2020. A panel discussion on 'Linking SRHR and Women's Empowerment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)' was moderated by Mr. Manmohan Sharma of the Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development. All the MPs agreed to give their

commitment to Women's Empowerment, SRHR and Family Planning by signing the declaration.

Dr. R P Soonawala, Patron, Dr. Usha Krishna, Chairperson of Medical Advisory Panel, and Dr. Nozer Sheriar, Member, were present. Also present were some members of the Central Executive Committee. They urged that health and education are important and the focus on maternal health is essential.

Later in March, the Resource Kit was shared with Dr. Subhash Bhamre, Minister of State for Defence, Dr. Shashi Tharoor and Mr. M B Rajesh, Members of Parliament.

Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President FPA India presenting the Advocacy Resource Kit on SRHR to Dr Subhash Bhamre, Raksha Rajya Mantri (Minister of State for Defence) along with CEC members, Dr Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India and Mr. Sreedharan Nair, Director External Relations





Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, FPA India, a few Central Executive Committee (CEC) Members, Dr Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India interacting with Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament and Mr. Sreedharan Nair, Director External Relations

Mr. M B Rajesh, Member of Parliament (MP) sharing his views on the Advocacy Resource kit on SRHR with Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, few Central Executive Committee (CEC) Members, Dr Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India and Mr. Sreedharan Nair, Director External Relations



Maharashtra State Level Partnerships

This two-day meeting was organized in collaboration with White Ribbon Alliance India in Mumbai. In her opening remarks, Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General,

FPA India, said that the recent past has seen many strong voices being raised for the betterment of women.

She said that the one thing that all NGOs had in common was that they worked for the economically poor. She stressed the need to work together on the issue of maternal health. Dr. Apte also said that in Maharashtra, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) could be a strong coalition with FPA India for promoting the WRA India. The session on reproductive health and family planning issues in Maharashtra was facilitated by Dr. Attar Qureshi.

Ms. Deepa Jha from White Ribbon Alliance India explained the campaign Hamara Swasthya Hamari Awaz. Later, sessions on Advocacy Planning were conducted for the participants.

It was emphasized that FPA India would help the Maharashtra Chapter to gain ground, but the participants need to show a deep interest and a willingness to work for the Alliance or State Level Chapter – even without the possibility of any funding. The Maharashtra State Level Chapter was able to get about 1,600 forms filled already.



Left to right: Dr Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India; Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, FPA India and Ms. Deepa Jha, Program Officer, Center for Catalyzing Change (Secretariat of White Ribbon Alliance India)

Media meetings on Family Planning

Family Planning is an essential component of primary health care and reproductive health. It plays an important role in reducing maternal and newborn morbidity and mortality, as also transmission of HIV and reducing unwanted pregnancies. There is a need for increased efforts to advocate for the recognition of the role of family planning in achieving health and development objectives at all levels.

FPA India Panchkula, Kolkata, Jaipur and Bhubaneswar branches organized a series of media meetings on family planning. As part of these meetings, CSOs also participated in some of the branches.



Lighting of Lamp Ceremony, Bhubaneswar



Chief Guest, Shri Gian Chand Gupta, Minister of State, Haryana and Chief Whip in the Vidhan Sabha sharing his views at the media meeting held in Panchkula. Others sitting on the dais (left to right) Mr. Vinod Kapoor, President FPA India - Panchkula Branch; Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India; Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President of FPA India, Dr. Saroj Aggarwal, Deputy Civil Surgeon, Panchkula and Mr. Manoj Kumar, Branch Manager, FPA India - Panchkula Branch

Media representatives suggested that such sessions should be conducted prior to the State budget session so that the government can be pressed to consider an increase in budget to strengthen family planning services. Many branches encouraged media personnel to make field visits-cum-media tours to further understand the work of FPA India.



Media Meet Jaipur

The media asked several questions related to total fertility rate, quality of care and modern spacing methods. Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, was present in all the media meetings and spoke about the Association and its work.



From Left to right: Mr. Haradhan Dutta, Honorary Treasurer, FPA India Kolkata Branch, Dr. Dipanwita Hazari, Honorary Secretary FPA India - Kolkata Branch, Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, FPA India; Headquarters, Dr. Suman Roy, Renowned economist, Mr. Chinmoy Kumar Bose, President, FPA India Kolkata Branch, Dr. Indranil Saha, Psychiatrist

Western Regional Event Awards

The 8th edition of Laadli Media Awards for Gender Sensitivity, 2015 - 16



The Western Regional Event Awards ceremony in Gujarat was organized in February. The event was conducted with the support of UNFPA and with Colors Viacom 18 as the Cause Partner.

FPA India had supported the event for the Western Region Awards through the small grants initiative under the project - Strengthening MDG 5a and 5b in South Asia: Creating Champions and Garnering Momentum for Progress in SRHR funded by EU through IPPF-SAR.

The Western Region Awards event was held at Gujarati Sahitya Parishad, Ahmedabad. The 275-strong audience included jury members, media professionals, freelancers, students of journalism and representatives of NGOs. In addition, there were award winners from Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

The Chief Guest, the danseuse Dr. Mallika Sarabhai, was impressed by the range of entries and commended the work being undertaken by Population First. The evening glittered with performances by Ms. Suneeta Rao, pop diva, and a dance rendition by Darpan.



National Civil Society Partnership - Round Table Meeting on Family Planning



Seen in the picture are: Dr. Vivek Malhotra, Population Health Services (PHS), Hyderabad, Mr. Sharad Agarwal, Hindustan Latex Family Planning Promotion Trust (HLFPPT), Noida, Mrs. W. Sita Shankar, Engender Health, New Delhi, Mr. Kiran PVS, Pathfinder International, New Delhi, Dr. Balaiah Donta, Deputy Director, National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health (NIRRH), Dr. Shubhra Phillips, Project Concern International (PCI), Country Representative (India), Prof. Fauzdar Ram, IIPS, Dr. Malabika Roy, Consultant, Dr. Nozer Sheriar, Co-chair, MAP-FPA India, Mr. Anand Sinha, The David & Lucile Packard Foundation, N. Delhi, Mr. Niranjana Saggurti, Country Director, Population Council, N. Delhi, Dr. Abhijeet Pathak, Programme Specialist - Medical & Abortion, IPPF - SARO, N. Delhi, Ms. Aarti Dhar, Senior Journalist, Dr. Sandeep Ghiya, Consultant, Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, Ms. Amita Dhanu, Director, Adolescent Programs, Dr. Shamala Dupte, Project Director, GCACI, Dr. Manisha Bhise, Director, Clinical Services and Quality Assurance, Ms. Bindiya Nimla, Director, Advocacy, Dr. Kshama Nikam, Technical Programme Manager, GCACI, Ms. Usha Radhakrishnan, Manager, M&E, GCACI, Armin Jamshedji-Neogi, Mr. Narayan Kokate, Asst. Director, Monitoring & Evaluation, FPA India



FPA India had invited thought leaders representing academicians, clinical experts, social scientists and the civil society for a 'Round Table on Family Planning' at Hotel Lalit, Mumbai. The objective of this meeting was to analyze the current trends, examine the latest demographic and clinical evidence with reference to the national commitments, think out-of-the box to deliberate on the efficacy of current strategies, and the need to innovate to achieve timely gains.

The main sessions during the meeting were: Emerging demographic evidence, and Emerging clinical evidence – findings of clinical trials on Implants and PVR Ring and panel discussion to improve Family Planning (FP) programmes in India.

There were representatives from International Institute of Population Studies, Project Concern International, Population Council, Population Services International, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Consultant - ICMR, National Institute for Research in Reproductive Health, Engender Health, Family Welfare Training and Research Center, Population Health Services-India and IPPF-SAR.

It was strongly felt that CSOs working for family planning must come together and develop effective implementation strategies to improve the programme in India.



Women's Network Meeting at Singhbhum

A meeting on Women's Network was organized by FPA India Singhbhum Branch at the Reproductive and Family Planning Centre (RHFPC) Hall. The purpose of the network meeting was to encourage eminent women to become catalysts of change and mobilize their peers for sexual and reproductive health for all.

Women from diverse fields working in the area of empowerment were invited to participate in the meeting. There were discussions on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its crosscutting impact on SRHR and other human rights. There were sessions on advocacy planning which included the concept of advocacy, components of advocacy, qualities of a successful advocate, tips of advocacy practices and understanding the advocacy planning model.

A declaration was signed by the women who participated in the meeting, the network was formed and roles and responsibilities were discussed. There were representatives from government, CSR, Panchayat members, peer educators and CSOs.

Some of the roles and responsibilities include:

- Support for the advocacy on SRHR for all
- Promote and continue to create a demand for SRH including family planning and rights in different forums
- Work with the rest of the women's team to communicate and plan strategies for sharing the views and opinions, and
- Attend in person at least two out of three meetings each year, and if not present, continually communicate with the team to ensure a clear understanding of all current affairs.

Capacity building initiative: Training course at Breach Candy Hospital, Mumbai

The topics of the course were: Micro-skills in Counseling, Overview of HIV/AIDS in India, Pre-HIV Test Counseling and Post HIV Test Counseling. It included role-plays, group discussions and simulation exercises that helped participants to understand HIV Counseling better.

The feedback received from participants was positive. They appreciated the content and participatory methodology of the course. Participants were awarded a Certificate of Attendance from FPA India. This was the third such course organized in association with Breach Candy Hospital Trust.

Mr. Shivrudra Lupane,
Manager, Capacity Building and
Partnerships conducting a session
for staff of Breach Candy Hospital

A day-long training course was organized on 'HIV Counseling' at Breach Candy Hospital Trust by FPA India Headquarters. 24 participants including medical officers, staff nurses, medical social workers and lab technicians, blood bank managers, and microbiologists took part in the training. These personnel were from hospitals across Mumbai: Breach Candy, Nanavati, Prince Aly Khan, Holy Spirit, Bombay and Wockhardt.

Sensitization Meetings on Status of Family Planning in Madhya Pradesh



From Left to Right: Mr. Neelesh Chaubey, Project Manager, FPA India Bhopal; Ms. Lopamudra Sanyal, Program Manager, Population Foundation of India; Dr Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India; Mr. Umesh Aradhya; President, FPA India; Mr. Sharad Dwivedi Editor in Chief, Bansal News; Mr. Mukesh Nayak, Ex. Parliamentarian; Mr. Neelesh Awashthi; Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA); Mr. Jaivardhan Singh, MLA; Ms. Mamta Misra; President, FPA India – Bhopal. Ms. Tulika Mishra Honorary Secretary, FPA India – Bhopal Branch, Ms. Bindiya Nimla, Director Advocacy, FPA India; Ms. Manjula Varma, Director Governance and Branch Management

FPA India is implementing a project in the state funded by the Population Foundation of India: Evidence Based Advocacy for Expanding Contraceptive Choices in Madhya Pradesh. As part of this, two sensitization meetings were held in March on the 'Status of Family Planning in Madhya Pradesh' exclusively for MLAs and MPs. The objective was to share key findings with the elected representatives.

FPA India is implementing a project in the state funded by the Population Foundation of India: Evidence Based Advocacy for Expanding Contraceptive Choices in Madhya Pradesh. As part of this, two sensitization meetings were held in March on the 'Status of Family Planning in Madhya Pradesh' exclusively for MLAs and MPs. The objective was to share key findings with the elected representatives.

Among the attendees was Mr. Vishwas Sarang, Minister for Bhopal Gas Tragedy, Panchayat & Rural Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh. All the MLAs were appreciative of the work done by FPA India. In the words of one of them: "Family Planning is (like) life planning and one should understand the importance of it... (It's) a key driver of all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are a must for overall development and wellbeing of all people and countries... (But) a topic like Family Planning is still a taboo; even politicians avoid talking on such issues..."

The meetings were also attended by state officials and representatives from the National Health Mission. On behalf of FPA India, Mr. Umesh Aradhya, National President, spoke about Family Planning as "an essential component of primary health care and reproductive health". Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, said: "Family Planning plays an important role in the development of India." Citing the example of the UNFPA-funded project on Addressing Adolescent Fertility IN Barwani district of Madhya Pradesh, she outlined the key activities of FPA India.

An important outcome of these meetings was the recommendation to reach the unreached sections of society, and to improve the quality of service. Representatives from Indore, Gwalior and Jabalpur branches also participated in the meetings. Dr. (Mrs) Mamta Mishra, President of the Bhopal branch, welcomed the gathering in both meetings.

CASE STUDIES



How FPA India is helping to change the society – slowly but steadily



This story of courage comes from **Bhubaneswar**. Ms. Sarika Das (name changed) is 21, a graduate, and pursuing her post-graduation. She's the eldest among five girls, so her parents were in a hurry to get her married. They found a match – a teacher – but a man addicted to alcohol and gutkha.

Ms. Das was not interested to marry a person with such bad habits, but the family under societal pressure went ahead and had an engagement ceremony. Suspecting that she was avoiding him, the man called her friends to find out the reason. When he realized that she was not keen on marrying him, he started sending her

abusive messages on the phone. He also threatened her, in case she avoided meeting him. One day, he went to her hostel and created a scene there, trying to convince her to marry him.

When she was still adamant, he started shouting at her much to her embarrassment. Feeling humiliated, she started getting into a depression. That was when she came into contact with FPA India, Bhubaneswar Branch.

The Counselor at the branch briefed Ms. Das about SRHR and gender equality. She was made aware of her rights and was informed about the

agencies that dealt with women's issues. This knowledge strengthened the confidence of Ms. Das. She now spoke to her family, informing them that she would, if needed, approach the Women's Commission or even lodge an FIR with the Mahila PS.

That sent a strong message to her family who then got in touch with the boy's family. The marriage was called off to the relief of Ms. Das – she's now able to continue her studies without interruption.



Medical sub-fertility case study

In our **Panchkula** Branch, the sub-fertility of Mrs A was treated successfully. Mrs A is 22 years old and her husband works in the private sector. She was curative at the 8th visit and was converted into an ANC client. This change from sub-fertility to ANC is a confirmed success story for FPA India.

NEWS FROM OUR BRANCHES



AGRA

One-day training programme for Peer Educators

Youth, identified for the role of Peer Educators, were given specialized training. They were imparted critical knowledge on SRH and were prepared to conduct CSE sessions in their locality. Participants: 15.

AHMEDABAD

'Good health' competitions held

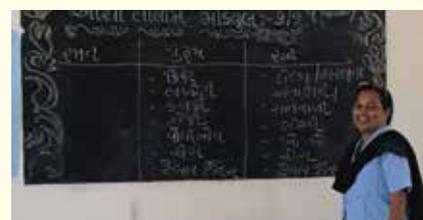
Two competitions – 'Healthy Antenatal Mother Competition' and 'Healthy Recipe Competition' – were conducted in Thakkarbapanagar. The event was inaugurated by Councilors of the Ward, Mrs Bunuban Kakadia, Mrs Arunaben Shah and Mr. Dixitbhai Patel. Dr. Deepak Mishra, MO at the UHC, spoke on the occasion. Participants: 48.



An elocution competition was organized for school children on the theme: 'Educating girls to reduce poverty'. Participants: 563. Winners: 26.

Capacity building programs for ASHAs

Gender Based Violence was the subject for training sessions in capacity building for 253 ASHAs in different wards of Ahmedabad. Across 7 sessions, different forms of violence, signs and symptoms of violence, the female lifecycle in the violence and the role of ASHAs, and legal help to be sought were discussed.



BELGAUM

Health checkup camps



Two health checkup camps were conducted for adolescent boys and girls belonging to two high schools. Dr. Umesh Chrantimath and Dr. Jayasheela Bagi, of JNMC Belgaum, examined the students and distributed free medicines. Participants: 126 (58 male, 68 female).



Gender and empowerment programme

This programme was organized for the staff and volunteers of the branch. Prof G K Khadabadi, President, presided over the programme while Mrs. Sadhana Pote, Officer, Employment Exchange was the Resource Person. Participants: 21.

Youth Centre inaugurated

The Centre was inaugurated by Prof G K Khadabadi, President, FPA India with Mr. K N Gumaste, PO, as the Resource Person.

Cervical cancer awareness and screening programme

The programme was conducted for female sex workers. Mr. R M Patil, Chief Executive Director, BIRDS-Naganur was the Guest of Honour. Prof G K Khadabadi, President, and Mr. K N Gumaste, PO, addressed the gathering. Beneficiaries: 55 female sex workers.

BIJAPUR

'Anti Criminal Day' observed

The branch was involved in the 'Aparadha Tade Masaharane' (Anti Criminal Day), which was held in association with the Police Department and BLDEAs. It was inaugurated by Dr. Shivakumar Gunare, Additional SP. Everything from awareness to the need to avoiding drunk driving to the role of NGOs was discussed. Mr. V N Kotawal, PO, was one of the speakers. He spoke on 'Adolescents, Their Role and Rights'. Participants: 182 males, 73 females.

Programme on reproductive health, mother and newborn care, children's health and adolescent awareness conducted



This programme was organized in Sindagi in collaboration with the Field Publicity Office (Government of India), Zilla Panchayat, Women & Child Development Department and the Department of Education.

The local MLA, Mr. Ramesh Bhusanur, inaugurated the programme. Mr. V N Kotawal, PO, spoke about Reproductive Health, Mother and Child Care, Adolescent Health Issues, and Health and Community Involvement. Beneficiaries: 260 males, 110 females.

A similar programme was held at Basarakod Village in Muddebihal Taluka. The local MLA, Mr. C S Nandagouda inaugurated the event.



Mr. V N Kotawal, PO, addressed the gathering. Beneficiaries: 195 males, 130 females.



DHARWAD

Community and youth programme

The event was organized in association with Deshpande Foundation, Hubballi. Senior dignitaries from the Foundation and government officials were present at the programme. Achievers were felicitated towards as the programme concluded. Participants: 420, comprising of health partners and NGOs.

Arogya Prerana programme organized for workers

Deshpande Foundation, an important partner and donor of the Dharwad branch, felicitated the Link Workers and the Best Youth Member of the branch under the Arogya Prerana programme. The Foundation organizes the programme every year to honour health workers in partner organizations.

HBSAG sensitization and vaccination drive

Approximately 95% of new HBV infections occur among adults. Unvaccinated adults with behavioural risk factors or those that are household contact or sex partners of HBV-infected persons remain at risk. Beneficiaries: 36.



Colposcopy camp

A cervical cancer awareness and detection camp was organized to enable early treatment. Such camps are crucial because rural women are more prone to contact cervical cancer, and they also tend to be secretive about it. 24 people benefited from the camp. The branch also conducted these camps in collaboration with Ashraya, under the guidance of Dr. Rama Desai. 40 women were examined, and 10 cases were referred for colposcopy checkup.

Training programmes for local doctors

With the objective of orienting local doctors to detect cervical cancer early, 5 BAMS doctors were trained in anatomy and physiology of the vulva, vagina and cervix, screening to detect precursors of cervical cancer, and so on. By the end of the programme, all participating doctors were capable of performing the VIA test.

GWALIOR

Youth guidance meeting on Adolescent Health and Life Skills



Young people are often confused about health, life skills, decisions on life and career, career planning, family issues etc. The meeting, aimed to tackle these problems, was held under the guidance of Mr. Achendra Singh Kushwah and youth volunteers, Mr. Ankit Prajapati and Ms. Deepmala. The session was headed by Mrs. Neelam Dixit, while the Chief Guest was the Honourable ADM Shivraj Singh. Participants: 68.

Sensitization rally on women empowerment

A rally was organized with the objective of sensitizing the community on women empowerment and highlighting girls' education and



health. It was inaugurated by Mrs Samiksha Gupta, ex-Mayor. Participants included 80 young people and around 100 women workers from ASHA and USHA. Slogans like 'Beti hai to kal hai', 'Beti bachao, beti padhao', 'Shikshit nari, shikshit parivar' and 'Mahila samarth, desh samarth' rent the air. The rally was covered by both press and electronic media.



Training in skill development

Today's competitive world demands high quality education as well as finely honed skills among the youth. To help address this requirement, the branch organized a two-month skill development training programme for girls and women.

Participants were invited especially from outreach areas, those that never attended school. The objective was to help them become aware and self-reliant. They were taught mehendi design making and were supplied the required stationary to learn the skill. Beneficiaries: 47 girls.

MADURAI

Capacity building training programme conducted



The programme was conducted for Youth Volunteers and Peer Educators. Mr Ganesan from AID Trust, an NGO, was the trainer. The training was on the skills and techniques of street play, to tackle the theme of Comprehensive Sexuality Education.

MOHALI

Donations received

To mark the World Health Day 2017, Larsen & Toubro Limited, Chandigarh, donated a Urine Analyzer worth ₹ 40,950 for the clinical laboratory and medicines worth ₹ 4,050. The donations were gratefully acknowledged by FPA India.



Rally passing through the streets of Mohali town

NORTH KANARA

Gynecological and contraceptive camp

A special camp offering gynecological and contraceptive services was held at Kasarkod for both men and women. The event was held in collaboration with Snehakunja, an NGO, and laid emphasis on awareness and examination. Mrs Santan Louis, Branch Manager, delivered a speech about family planning. Dr. Suma Bhat examined the patients. Participants: 40 women from remote areas.



SRH awareness sessions and services for adolescents

The special session focused on awareness and examination. Mrs Santan Louis, Branch Manager; Dr. Archana Bhat, BEC Member; and Ms. Manjula Gouda, PO, were the resource persons. Mrs Louis spoke on the occasion, highlighting the importance of SRH awareness. "Student health has to be treated as wealth," she said. Participants: 81.



Anemia awareness and testing

This programme was organized in association with Canara Health Care Centre and aimed to eradicate anemia in adolescent girls. The programme concluded with testing of HB for the girls, recommending follow up treatment where required.

Dr. G G Hegde, President, spoke on anemia and other health issues among adolescent girls. Mrs Santan Louis, Branch Manager, spoke about Family Planning. The girls were tested for HB with the follow up treatment where necessary. Participants: 260 students of New English High School, Honnavar.



A similar programme was held at Dinakar English High School, Dhareshwar. The objective was to sensitize the youth on anemic problems, healthy living and gender issues.

Mrs Santan Louis, Branch Manager; Dr. Preeti Bandarkar, Member, BEC and Ms. Manjula Gouda, Programme Officer, were the key resource persons. Mr Jagadeesh Gunaga, Principal of the School, expressed his appreciation about the Branch's activities and support to the community. Participants: 171 students.

In yet another programme held at the Secondary High School in Hiregutti, 'Behavioural Change in Adolescents' was the subject. Dr. Preeti Bandarkar, Member, BEC, Ms. Manjula Gouda, Programme Officer, North Kanara Branch and Mr. Rohidas Govkar, Principal of the School, were the key speakers and resource persons. Participants: 300 students.

NILGIRIS

Training on child care and crèche management



This programme was conducted across two days and as many batches. Mrs Puwaneswary Packianathan, Hon Secretary, Mr Harimohan, Hon Treasurer; Mr J Varatharajan, Branch Manager, Nilgiris Branch, Mr Lakshmi Narayanan, BEC; and Dr. Mahalakshmi, MO, Yedapalli PHC, were the resource persons.



Topics included effective communication with mothers, nutrition and its importance, sexual and other abuse of children, health and hygiene at pre-school level, crèche management, formal education for 2-5 year old children, feeding practices, immunization and first aid.

The branch mobilized 28,300 from Craigmore Plantation India Pvt Ltd, which the FPA India gratefully acknowledged. A key outcome of the event was that 23 crèche ayahs were enrolled as Branch CBDs. Participants: 46.



PANCHKULA

Awareness programme about family planning and safe abortion

The Branch organised an exclusive awareness session for ASHA workers focusing on safe abortion and family planning. Dr. Nitika Goyal and Dr. Deena were the resource persons. The workers were also introduced to – and oriented on – the new ultra sound equipment acquired by the branch. Participants: 14.

Refurbished USG Centre inaugurated

Mr Umesh Aradhya, President, Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India, Mrs Raman Sachdeva, President, Yamunanagar Branch, Mr I P S Bajwa, Vice President, Mohali Branch, Mr Parag Dutt Sharma, Branch Manager, Agra



Inauguration of Ultra Sound 2

Branch and Mr Suresh Maratha, Branch Manager, Ahmedabad Branch, graced the occasion. The refurbished building offers better facilities and convenience to clients, and has increased their numbers. Participants: 27.

Media meet to announce new and improved services

Thanks to increased budget allocation and better engagement with civil society organizations, the quality of care and family planning services have been enhanced at the Branch.

To announce this, a media meet was organized in which senior dignitaries like Mr Umesh Aradhya, President, Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, FPA India and Mr Gian Chand Gupta, Govt. Chief Whip (State Minister) Haryana, Dr. Madhu Gupta, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health PGIMER, Dr. Ruchi Gupta, M.O, Family Welfare DGHS, Haryana and Dr. Saroj Aggarwal, Deputy Civil Surgeon, Panchkula Minister and Chief Whip, Government of Haryana, were present. Representatives of the media and NGOs in the Panchkula area attended the event. Participants: 72.

Important visitors at the branch

The Panchkula Branch welcomed key dignitaries from the Headquarter and other VIPs, all of whom shared their thoughts and views.

Mr Umesh Aradhya, President, spoke about the comprehensive range of services offered by FPA India to the different and marginalized sections of the society.

Dr. Kalpana Apte, Secretary General, highlighted the need to enhance the role of family planning and increase awareness of SRHR.

Mr Gian Chand Gupta, Minister and Chief Whip, Government of Haryana, had a word of praise for FPA India commending its role as an important factor that helps to control the population at an all India level. Mr Gupta wished the Association success in all its endeavours.

Dr. Saroj Aggarwal, Deputy Civil Surgeon, Panchkula, said that she felt privileged to be associated with FPA India for the last 29 years. She appreciated the Association's dedicated service to the marginalized and needy.



Exposure visit in MCV at Devali Village

PUNE

Training programme for field staff

This programme focused on life skills was conducted by Dr. Dharmadhikari, Dr. Mahajan and Mrs Vaishali Joshi. The objective of the programme was to help remove inhibitions of workers at the grassroots level, so that it results in an increase in demand for SRH services. Communication skills, problem solving, assertiveness and self-awareness were some of the topics covered. Participants: 51.

RAICHUR

Wrap-up of sessions and events at the branch

A session was organized to give training in Mehandi and Beautician course. It was inaugurated by the Dr. V A Malipatil, Branch President, in the presence of Secretary, Treasurer and BEC Members. Mr Malipatil gave the inaugural address.



Mehandi & Beautician training centre Inauguration by President, Secretary, Treasurer & BEC members



Dr. V.A.Malipatil President of the Branch in his speech at Government High School Yarmarus Camp

A health checkup camp was conducted at the Government High School, Yarmarus for adolescent girls. Dr. V A Malipatil, Branch President, spoke on the occasion. Dr. Anuradha, LMO, examined the students.



Dr. V.A.Malipatil President of the Branch in his republic day speech informed to the staff to Provide Honest service for the people in the community

On Republic Day, January 26, a flag hoisting ceremony was organized at the branch. Dr. V A Malipatil, Branch President, unfurled the tricolour and addressed the gathering on the occasion. He exhorted the staff of FPA India to continue providing honest, selfless service to the community.



Dr. Rajeshwari Nesrgi D.GO addressing on Cervical Cancer Screening Sessions in the Siyatlab Slum community & participants



Dr. Anuradha LMO of the Branch, Health check up camp for female Adolescents in GHS Yarmarus Camp

A health checkup session was conducted at RIMS, Raichur for PLHIV. Dr. S Suman Babu, Assistant Professor, RIMS, examined the patients. At a Cervical Cancer Screening Session in the Siyatlab Slum Community, Dr. Rajeshwari Nesrgi, DGO, spoke to the audience. She also personally attended to the patients. A day-long session on female sterilization was conducted by Dr. Anuradha, LMO of RHFC, Raichur. It was attended by women from the local community.



Medical Camp

SHIMOGA

Health camp, blood donation and testing

A health camp was organized on January 25 in collaboration with Spandana Health Foundation Trust, Sanjeevini Blood Bank and Kamla Nehru College. Mr Umesh Aradhya, National President, spoke on anemia among Indian women. Mr Ramesh Babu, President; and Mr Ashok Kumar, Secretary, were also present. Blood testing was done on 72 people, while 11 people donated blood. Beneficiaries: 82. Spandana Health Foundation Trust donated ₹ 6,000 for the event.

SOLAPUR

Republic Day celebrated

Prof. Dr. Nabha Kakade, President, hoisted the flag at the Branch Office. Dr. Madhuri Valvekar, Vice President, Mr. Sugat Gaikwad, Branch Manager, and other senior dignitaries were present.

SRH special service sessions organized

In association with Dayanand College, Solapur, these camps were organized at Mandrup Village. Prof. Dr. C Dande, BEC Member, spoke about the SRH Services available at the branch. Mr Sugat Gaikwad, Branch Manager and others were present on the occasion.



Blood donation camp held

The camp was organized in association with Lions Club of Solapur Central and the Damani Blood Bank. The event was graced by Prof. Dr. Shrikant Yelegaonkar, Vice President, Dr. Nabha Kakade, President, and others. Another Hemoglobin and blood donation camp was organized at Kasturba College of Education.



Safe abortion and AIDS awareness programme conducted

This programme was arranged for self-help groups at Shelgi, in collaboration with the District AIDS Control Prevention Unit, Dolapur; and the Dhan Foundation. Dr. Kishor Hingole, Head of Microbiology Department inaugurated the event and spoke on the occasion. Mr Sugat Gaikwad, Branch Manager and other dignitaries were present.



Two-day training programme for ASHA and Link Workers

Mrs Kalpana Gadgade and Mrs. Shubhangi Naikwadi were the resource persons at a training programme organized in association with Mahila Arogya Samiti (MAS).

FPA India's participation in 'Chuppi Todo' rally

The rally was organized by Cactus Foundation, Solapur, and the branch took part as a partner. It was flagged off by Mr. Pradip Shengoaonkar, Police Commissioner. Dr. N Maldar, National Vice President, Prof. Dr. Shrikant Yelegaonkar, Vice President, and other FPA India members were present on the occasion. Participants: 2,000 students from 40 schools and colleges.



CELEBRATING IMPORTANT DAYS & OCCASIONS

A Musical Evening for FPA India!



Our sensational singers Mr. Lalit Parashar (Sunil Babu fame), Mr. Devang Bisra, Ms. Shubha Mukherjee and Ms. Priyanka Mukherjee, along with the band members, were the stars of this memorable musical evening

Sunehari Shaam is a series of musical evenings organised by Family Planning Association of India (FPA India). It was launched in Mumbai on the occasion of International Woman's Day, on February 24, 2017 at 7 pm at Ravindra Natya Mandir, Dadar. This initiative is dedicated to every woman and promotes women empowerment so that women can live freely with a sense of self-worth, respect, dignity, and access to all their rights.

The event in Mumbai, was inaugurated by Dr. Nishigandha Wad, eminent worker for women empowerment and Mrs. Vijaya Rahatkar, National President, Mahila Morcha, Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, FPA India, and Member of National Commission of Child Rights was present, along with other luminaries – Mr. Dev Dutt Dewoolkar, Dr. R P Soonawala and Mr. Kamal Nathani.

More than 900 people from corporates, NGOs, and educational institutes, participated in the event. The audience also comprised of many music lovers who believe in women power. The Sunehari Shaam team included eminent singers and a band of 10 musicians equipped with 12 musical instruments, world class sound and lights. The evening was indeed made nostalgic with many classic romantic film songs sung by Mr. Lalit Parashar, a singer and actor of 'Sunil Babu' fame in Asian Paints ad, along with a mesmerising performance by his band.



From left to right: Mr. Dev Dutt Dewoolkar, Actor, Dr. Nishigandha Wad, Eminent worker for Women Empowerment, Mrs. Vijaya Rahatkar, National President, Mahila Morcha, and Ms. Amita Dhanu, Director, Adolescent Programs, FPA India



In **Agra**, a meeting was conducted in which 31 women took part, including CBDs, ASHAs, ICDS workers and members of Self Help Groups. The objectives of the meeting were to empower women so that they can use their rights, to enhance their decision-making power in the family, and to improve knowledge of women in social and political sectors. The participants were imparted knowledge on SRH as well as cervical cancer screening.

Another session was organized focusing on gender equality, safe abortion and contraceptives, SRH Rights, ST/RTI and HIV/AIDS, and health and hygiene.

A cervical cancer screening camp for women was conducted on the occasion. Consultancy and counseling were the key aspects of the camp, in which SRH services to women were provided. How to identify cervical cancer? And how to address myths and misconceptions among women with regard to cervical cancer? These were the other questions that were addressed. Participants: 50. All were administered the VIA test, with 6 testing positive. PAP smear was done on 17 women and one of them tested positive.

In **Ahmedabad**, a street play was organized in association with HK Arts College. Gender equality and men's role in society were highlighted. Around 550 people watched the play.



To mark the occasion, a cervical cancer screening camp was conducted for FSW and PLHIV women. During the session, 216 women received SRH services, 48 were screened for cervical cancer, and 19 PAP and 29 VIA tests were done. One woman was referred to the civil



In **Bangalore**, the day was observed by conducting 3 health camps. The activities included cervical cancer screening, STI/RTI screening, FP, urology services, gynecological services, HIV services, GBV screening, VDRL, blood group test, HIV rapid test and hemoglobin test. Beneficiaries: 212.

In **Belgaum**, the special day was celebrated at the Chandragiri Mahila B.Ed. College.



The branch honoured to Dr. (Mrs.) Maitreyani Gadigeppagoudar

The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Maitreyani Gadigeppagoudar, Asst. Prof. RCU, in the blessed presence of Parampujya Dr. Siddaram Mahaswamiji Rudrakshimath. Prof G K Khadabadi, President, presided. Participants: 63 B.Ed. trainees, and lecturers.

A cervical and breast cancer screening and awareness session was organized on the occasion. Mrs. Sulbha D Prabhukhandkar, Hon Secretary and Mr D B Patil, Member, were the key dignitaries. Mr K N Gumaste, PO, explained the objectives of the programme, while Dr. Arati A Kulkarni, MO-RHFPC and Dr. Shivani D Patil, MO-ORS, examined the women who attended. Participants: 45.



Prof. G. K. Khadabadi; President, FPAI, Belgaum delivered his presidential remarks.

In **Bhubaneswar**, a sensitization meeting was organized to observe the important day. Dr. B N Panigrahi, O&G Specialist, and Dr. Basudev Nayak, MO-RHFPC emphasized the role of women in the society and highlighted the need for SRHR. Participants: 41. A screening for VIA was conducted, in which 32 women were examined. Eight of them were found positive and were counseled for Pap smear. Mrs. Sanjukta Das, Treasurer, was the guest of honour.



Programme Officer Ms. N.Mohanty addressing the participants, Bhubaneswar Branch

Our **Dharwad Branch** conducted an awareness programme and health checkup camp to mark the occasion. The event was organized in collaboration with the Lions Club of Dharwad and the Mahila Samakhya, Dharwad.



Dr. Achut, President, Lions Club, and Mrs Arati Sabrad, Coordinator, Mahila Samakhya were the key people who addressed the audience. And their message was simple and clear: "Equal opportunity should be given to women, Be Bold For Change." The audience included women from the community, members of the Lions Club and FPA India staff. Participants: 107, who were administered the VIA test and gynecological checkup.

In the **Headquarters**, a musical evening was organized as part of the International Women's Day celebrations. Sunehari Shaam, as the evening was called, was dedicated to every woman in India. It promoted women empowerment so that women can live freely with a sense of self-worth, respect, dignity and access to all their rights.

The event was inaugurated by Dr. Nishigandha Wad, eminent worker for women empowerment, and Mrs Vijaya Rahatkar, National President, Mahila Morcha. Mr Umesh Aradhya, President, FPA India, and Member of National Commission of Child Rights was present, along with other luminaries – Mr Dev Dutt Dewoolkar, Dr. R P Soonawala and Mr Kamal Nathani. Over 900 people comprised the audience, including officials from corporates, NGOs and students

A procession was the highlight of the celebrations at our **Kalchini Branch**.



The rally was led by Mrs Nirmala Majhi, Sovapati, Kalchini Panchayat Samiti, Government of West Bengal.



An 850-strong crowd of women, which included self-help groups, female sex workers, tea garden workers and adivasi women, walked on



the streets. This was followed by an Open Discussion on women empowerment, rights and gender equality, and a cultural programme – in front of an audience of around 900 women.

In **Kolkata**, a panel discussion was organized focusing on women's equality and emancipation, centering on the theme of 'Be Bold for Change'.



The panelists included Dr. Chinmoy Kumar Bose, President, FPA India; Dr. Dipanwita Hazari, Hon Secretary; Dr. Suman Roy, Economist; Mr Ashok Roy, Social Worker, Ms. Jhimli Pandey, Journalist; and Mr. Sandip Banerjee, Social Worker.



The discussion covered SRH, adolescent abortion, violence against women and girls, sanitation, early and forced child marriage, and institutional bias. Though "women's rights are human rights," according to Dr. Chinmoy Bose, "they are still being denied to them." The event was received well and enjoyed excellent coverage in the media.

In **Madurai**, a training session for capacity building was conducted for clinical staff with regard to cervical cancer screening. Dr. Mahalakshmi, Professor & Head, Department of Oncology at the Government Rajaji Hospital gave a special address covering all types of cancer. Participants: 40.



A health checkup camp was organized in **Mohali** on the special day. In the camp, 40 women were examined for incidence of breast cancer and other related issues. Among them, 17 were identified as having RTIs, 4 with gynecological problems and 6 with antenatal cases. Medicines were supplied to the patients.



Dr. Harish Kumari, Principal, Khalsa College for Technology & Business Studies, SAS Nagar (Mohali) and volunteers and staff members of the Branch while flagging of the Rally

A rally was conducted in SAS Nagar, with around 150 students participating in it. It was flagged off by Dr. Harish Kumari, Principal, Khalsa College. The college staff, volunteers and FPA India staff all took part in the rally. The event got widespread coverage in the media.

In a related event, an Awareness Programme-Signature Campaign was conducted at the Industrial Training Institute for Women at SAS Nagar. Dr. (Mrs) Surjit Kaur Sandhu, Patron, FPA India; Ms. Arsh Preet Kaur, Youth Volunteer; Mrs Harsh Bala, PO; and Mr Kareem Bakhsh, Principal, ITI, were the resource persons. Participants: 200.



Dr. (Mrs) Surjit Kaur Sandhu, Patron FPAI, Mohali Branch presenting Buke to Mr. Balbir Singh Sidhu, MLA during his visit to Office

Another Awareness Programme was organised in a slum colony in Sector 25. Mr Gudev Singh, Project Manager, TI Project for FSWs, Chandigarh; Ms. Samriti Sharma, Counselor; Mrs Bhawna Saini, M&EA, were the resource persons. Participants: 47 (including 9 from the area).

Mr. Balbir Singh Sidhu, MLA, visited the FPA India branch office on the occasion of the Women's Day. The Hon'ble MLA addressed the gathering the theme of the Day before flagging off the rally.

In **Nilgiris**, the Day was observed with an address on gender equality and women empowerment. The speech on the year's theme for Women's Day was given by Mrs Puwaneswary Packianathan, Hon Secretary. Mr J Varatharajan, Branch Manager, delivered the keynote address. Participants: 47.



In our **North Kanara Branch**, a service session for cervical and breast cancer was conducted in association with Snehakunja, an NGO. Dr. G G Hegde, President, FPA India, gave the keynote speech and also examined the clients.



He underlined the importance of frequent testing and self-examination of the breast. Mrs Santan Louis, Branch Manager, and Ms. Manjula Gouda, PO, were the other resource persons. Participants: Over 160 women from remote areas.



In **Panchkula**, an awareness programme was organized to observe the special day. Mr Vinod Kapoor, President, FPA India, and Ms. Rupali, Principal, Nursing College, were the resource persons.



International Women Day Lecture 2



The key takeout from the programme was: 'A woman with a voice is by definition a strong woman'. Participants: Around 150 students of the Kailash Institute of Health and Science, Panchkula.

A cervical cancer camp offering VIA/VIA(s) services was conducted for the local population, which is migratory in nature often living in less hygienic conditions. The camp was successful in increasing the awareness levels of cervical cancer among the local people. Participants: 128.

In **Pune**, a street play was organized in collaboration with ICDS and the Pune Municipal Corporation.



Mrs. Vijayalaxmi Tulpule, Branch Manager; Mrs. Geetanjali Deshpande, Treasurer; Mrs Rohini Dixit, PO; Mrs. Sulbha Badamilar, Senior Social Worker, Urban Community Development Programme; and Mrs Vaishali Marathe, Corporator, PMC, were the key resource persons. Mrs Dixit wrote the script for the street play, which was followed by a healthy discussion on women's rights.



Audience: 186 people, including women, adolescents and senior citizens from the community.

In another event on the same day, an 'Exposure Visit' was organized at Sampark, an NGO. It was held at Bhaje in Maval. The objective of the visit was to impart information about the health services offered, and to spread awareness about the Domestic Violence Centre.



A film was screened about Sampark, and a general checkup of clients was held in the Mobile Clinic at Devlali village. Mrs Sujata, Counselor, informed the audience about how they can utilize the services of the Domestic

Violence Centre. Participants: 39, including 30 link workers. A two-day training programme was conducted for Link Workers as part of the day's celebrations. Mrs Vijayalaxmi Tulpule, Branch Manager; Dr. Mahajan, Member, BCE; Mrs. Manjari Satpute; and Mrs Lotalikar who spoke on the occasion and shared their experiences.

The training covered SWOT Analysis (Role Play), and the management of Time, Emotions and Stress. Participants: 58.

In our **Rajkot Branch**, an awareness programme on women empowerment and SRH, and a rubella vaccination camp for young girls were the key highlights of the Day.



The programme was held in collaboration with the Government Mahila ITI College, Rajkot. Mr. Kamalbhaj Dhami, Chief Development Officer, The Co-operative Bank of Rajkot, was the chief guest.

He felt that "it is compulsory to change the approach of society for women's empowerment". Mr. Gyaneshwariben Joshi, BEC Member; Mr. Rajesh Triveda, Principal of the college; and Mrs. Riyaben Kesariya, Riya Charitable Trust were the resource persons. Participants: 175 girls.



In **Sagar**, a programme was organized to commemorate the important day at GNM Training Centre.



It was held in collaboration with Abhinyatosh Mahila Bal Vikas Samiti and the Lioness Club of Sagar. Dr. Reena Basu, Deputy Director, Population Research Centre (PRC), was the chief speaker.

Mr N R Patra, Project Manager, FPA India and Mrs. Kavita Laria, Social Worker, also addressed the audience. The need for women to use their time and energy positively was emphasized. Participants: 73.



In **Shimoga**, the Day was observed in association with Abhayadhama Network of Positive People, and Vihaan Care and Support Centre.



Mr. Umesh Aradhya, President, FPA India addressing the gathering

Mr Umesh Aradhya, FPA India President, addressed the gathering and highlights about the rights of women.

He also dwelt on the 'No Refusal Policy' at FPA India Clinics. Mr H B Ramesh Babu, President, supervised the proceedings at the event, in which drawing and rangoli competitions were also held. Participants: 52.

In our **Solapur Branch**, a cancer sensitization and awareness programme was organized at Maratha Vasti. Prof. Dr. Shrikant Yelegaonkar, Vice President, inaugurated the programme.



Mr Sugat Gaikwad, Branch Manager; Dr. Kavita Chandak, MO; and Mrs. Sarla Zhawar, President, Inner Wheel of Solapur, and others were present on the occasion.

Prof. Dr. Yelegaonkar, in his address, spoke about the different types of cancer, the symptoms and causes, and the need for regular testing and timely treatment. An IEC activity was successfully carried out at the venue. Dr. Minal Chidgupkar, gynecologist, explained cancer in detail through a Power-Point presentation.



In another event, Mahila Arogya Samiti organized a Training Programme at the Ahilya-bai Holkar Hospital. The beneficiaries were ASHA workers. A programme on Income Generation Activities was conducted at LBPM College. Prof. Dr. Yelegaonkar, Vice President inaugurated the event in the presence of Prof. Dr. Nabha Kakade, President, Mr Sugar Gaikwad, Branch Manager, and other dignitaries.



**THEME:
YOUTH
FOR DIGITAL
INDIA**

**NATIONAL
YOUTH DAY
JAN 12TH**



In **Bangalore**, an awareness programme was organized to highlight the different forms of violence among young people, the Juvenile Justice Court, child rights and Child Helpline. Ms Gunasheela, a senior worker with Child Helpline, was the Resource Person. Participants: 120.

In **Belgaum**, a programme was organized at the KLS Gogate College of Commerce. Prof G K Khadabadi, President, FPA India, inaugurated the programme. Participants: 63.



Prof. G. K. Khadabadi, President inaugurated the programme

In **Nilgiris**, the celebrations unfolded at the Providence College for Women, Coonoor. The highlight was a Placement Skills Training Games conducted by Mr G Lakshmi Narayanan, Programme Committee Chairperson. Mr R Harimohan, Hon Treasurer delivered the keynote address while Mr G L Rajesh, PO gave the vote of thanks.

A rally was organized in **Panchkula**, supervised by Mr. Dezi Sharma, PO, and Mr Jaswinder, youth leader. Around 70 students from Prakash Model School, Sector 21, took part in the rally, motivated by the slogan: 'Yuva Shakti Aage Badho, Yuva Vahi Jo Badle Duniya!'



Shri. K. N. Gumaste; Programme Officer explaining the objectives



National Youth Day Rally



An awareness programme and health checkup camp was conducted in **Dharwad** in association with PUC College, Nigadi. Mr U R Merejkar, Principal of the college and Mrs P B Kulkarni, were the speakers whose key message was to 'build valuable character'. In this connection, Swami Vivekananda's life and achievements were the topic of discussion, in which students actively took part. Participants: 65.



In **Rajkot**, an awareness programme was conducted, followed by a competition on the thoughts of Swami Vivekananda. Mr Vijay Gosai, President, FPA India gave the keynote address.

In his speech, Mr Jashubhai Patel, Branch Manager, echoed Swami Vivekananda when he asked the audience to 'arise, awake and not stop till the goal is reached'. Participants: 234 students, age group 10-17, of Shri Rahevar School, Rajkot.

In **Solapur**, a celebration was organized at Mangavedhar Institute of Management. Dr. N M Maldar, Vice Chancellor, Solapur University, lit the lamp to inaugurate the event. Prof. Dr. Shrikant Yelegaonkar, Vice President; Prof. Dr. Nabha Kakade, President; Mr Sugat Gaikwad, Branch Manager, and other dignitaries were present.



Inauguration by Dr. N.M Maldar, Solapur University Vice Chancellor

WORLD CANCER DAY FEB 4TH

THEME:
WE CAN,
I CAN



In **Dharwad**, an awareness-cum-health check-up camp was organized in association with Rotary Club. Dr. Jayashree Deshpande, Treasurer, FPA India, and Dr. M A Mummigatti, President of Rotary Club, Dharwad spoke on the occasion. Participants: 90 women from the community.



In our **Nilgris Branch**, an awareness programme was conducted for SRH and cervical and breast cancer screening. Mr J Varatharajan, Branch Manager; Mr Rajesh, PO; and Mr G Lakshmi Narayanan, BEC Member, were the resource persons. Speaking to the audience, Mr Varatharajan underlined the importance of timely screening for cervical and breast cancer. Participants: 54 (female 41, male 13).



PULSE POLIO DAY JAN 29TH

THEME:
WE CAN,
I CAN



Pulse polio at Rajiv Gandhi nagar satellite clinic and Pawan nagar Satellite Clinic under YVVP

In **Pune**, as part of the Yardi Slum Welfare Project, as many as 348 children were administered polio vaccine in Upper Depot. This was a trial programme conducted at the Satellite Clinics at Rajiv Gandhi Nagar and Pawan Nagar. Kudos to the team that conducted this programme successfully.

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