

Aspire

A Quarterly Insight into
the Association's Activities

For Internal Use

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FPA INDIA GOES ALL OUT TO 'GET GIRLS BACK TO SCHOOL' IN THE TATA MUMBAI MARATHON, 2018



FPA India made its second stint in the Mumbai Marathon on 21st January, 2018, preparations for which began in July-August 2017. This year, the theme was 'Let's Get Girls Back to School' under the umbrella of 'RUN4FP' calculated for empowering a girl for an entire year - with sanitary pads, comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), income generation skills, and nutrition supplements to prevent anaemia.

Thirteen adolescent girls from the community participated in FPA India's contingent. Three corporate partners were on board – Novartis (a multi-national pharmaceutical company), Bank of Baroda (Indian state-owned international banking and financial services company headquartered in Vadodara), and Group M (one of the world's largest media investment group), with 55 runners. Corporates such as DKT India (a cost-effective family planning organisation in India), EB21 (Experience Box 21 Media Solutions Pvt. Ltd. - an event management company), and Pregna International Limited (a well-known hormonal

Intra-Uterine Device manufacturer in India) also showed support for our cause by sponsoring charity bibs for employees or representatives from their senior management.



Thirteen Adolescent Girls leading the FPA India Contingent

Many FPA India staff and volunteers participated in the Dream Run (6.6 km), Ms. Preethi Mutta, Technical Programme Manager, FPA India; Dr. Vivek Billampelly, Renowned Sexologist, and Mr. Mukul Taparia, Vice-President, Pregna International Ltd., ran the Half Marathon (21.097 km).

Table Tennis Player Mr. Aman Balgu, and Badminton players Ms. Arundhati Pantawane and Ms. Riya Pillai, were FPA India Champions for the marathon.

Besides these runners, 40 charity bib runners including experts from the field of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, volunteers, Branch Managers and General Managers of FPA India, and others, ran in support of the cause to empower adolescent girls. Some of these runners were Mr. Umesh Aradhya, Dr. Kalpana Apte, Ms. Amita Dhanu, Dr. Shrikant Yelegaonkar, Ms. Neelam Dixit, Mr. Manoj Kumar, Dr. Anjana Taluja, Mr. Prasanna Joshi, Dr. Govind Apte, Mr. Varun Anand, Ms. Vijayalaxmi Tulpule, Mr. Suresh Maratha, Mr. Shrinivas Biradar, Mr. Parag Dutt Sharma, Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Ms. Jugnu Doshi, Mr. Vignesh Venkatraman, Mr. Nikhil Devkar, Ms. Sujata Anishettar and Mr. Tushar Chakraborty.

Additionally, Ms. Madhura Ashok Kumar, Mr. Kirti Kashyap, Dr. Nina Puri, Ms. Poonam Muttreja, Mr. Prashanth Aradhya, and Dr. Nozer Sheriar also purchased charity bibs to support the cause.

Eighteen fundraisers supported the cause - 'Let's Get Girls Back to School' by creating their fundraising pages, out of which five of them became change makers – Dr. Kalpana Apte, Ms. Neelam Dixit,

Mr. Manoj Kumar, Ms. Rekha G., Mr. Omendra Singh Chauhan (on behalf of FPA India Kings), for having raised more than INR. 1,50,000/-. Five young leaders below the age of 21 raised more than INR. 50,000/- on their fundraising pages in support of the cause. These were – Ms. Nishiki Varma, Ms. Rhea Anthonyraj, Ms. Gauravi Maurya, Ms. Sanjivani Sadanand Madhavi, and Ms. Madhushree Anishettar.



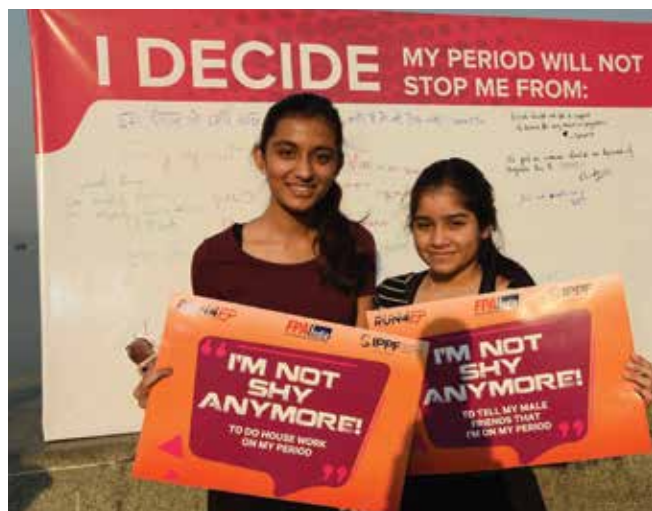
Representatives from Group M accepting their certificate of participation from FPA India President, Mr. Umesh Aradhya.

This year in the marathon, FPA India witnessed thrice the participation and raised three times the funds as compared to the previous year. The total amount raised for FPA India's initiative was approximately INR. 44,00,000/-, with over 750 plus donors supporting the cause. FPA India was one of the only two NGOs to reach privilege level three in the TATA Mumbai Marathon, 2018.

A motivational cheer zone was set up on Marine Drive, Mumbai, on 21st January. Twenty-nine youth volunteers from Mumbai Branch participated. A giant-sized board game called 'The Game of Life – For Adolescent Girls', was organised at the cheer-zone. Besides, an 'I Decide' signature campaign was carried out to encourage people to share their thoughts on "how periods should not be a full stop to a girl's life and education". All this encouraged more people to visit our cheer zone to support our cause.



Participants playing the 'Game of Life – For Adolescent Girls'



Young Girls decide to not feel shy about talking on 'Menstruation'.

The Family Planning League (FPL) was introduced to encourage the FPA India branches to actively be a part of this initiative and help raise funds for this cause. Branches were divided into five teams – FPAI Kings, FPAI Knights, FPAI Warriors, FPAI Stunners, and FPAI Champions, who collectively mobilised funds. FPAI Kings (Jabalpur, Lucknow, Rajkot, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar) was declared winner of FPL for raising INR. 167504/-. FPA India Gwalior, Panchkula, Bengaluru, Bidar, Thane District Project (TDP), Mumbai, Kalchini, Pune, Dharwad, Murhu, Jabalpur, Bhubaneswar, Vijayapur, Yamunanagar, Rajkot, Dindigul, Kolkata, Bhopal, Agra, Ahmedabad, Mohali, Nagaland, Solapur, Lucknow, Chennai, Indore, Madurai, Shivamogga, Trivandrum, Hyderabad, Jaipur and Nilgiris mobilised funds for the cause.



A visitor signing the #I Decide Campaign

FPA India executed a social media campaign on official Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages, with over 100 posts/tweets over three months (November, 2017 to February, 2018). This campaign witnessed an increase in followers and page likes on all three social media platforms. Participation in the Mumbai Marathon for the second time, was a grand success and has only raised the bar for FPA India's participation in Tata Mumbai Marathon (TMM), 2019.



FPA India team at the Tata Mumbai Marathon, 2018, flag-off point

STRENGTHENING ADVOCACY INITIATIVES IN THE FPA INDIA BRANCHES

A workshop on Strengthening Advocacy Initiatives in the FPA India Branches was held in Delhi from February 28 – March 1, 2018. FPA India branches - Agra, Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Chandigarh, Gwalior, Lucknow, Jabalpur, Indore, Pune, and Yamunana-gar participated in the workshop.

As part of the advocacy planning workshop the following areas were covered: (i) Definition of the problem; (ii) Definition of the Advocacy Expected Results, (iii) Audience Analysis; and (iv) Self-Assessment of the advocacy action and capacity so far.

The four advocacy issues and objectives identified by branches are as follows:

- Advocacy issue: Inefficient stock management of at District / State level**
 Advocacy Objective: CSO Engagement Mechanism to support [or Strengthen Quality Assurance Checklist (QAC)] the government health system in 10 districts of Uttar Pradesh (UP), Madhya Pradesh (MP) & Haryana for regularising Family Planning (FP) & HIV specific commodity supply mechanism by March 2019.
- Advocacy issue: Strengthening government response to the provision of male sexual and reproductive health rights and services**
 Advocacy Objectives: (i) Increasing by 10% Male Sterilisation in Family Planning in 10 districts of UP, MP, and Haryana by 2019; and (ii) Male centric family planning program by Government by creating male centric sexual & reproductive health and services model.
- Advocacy issue: Regularised rollout of Comprehensive Sexuality Education / Adolescent Education Program + (AEP+) in Districts/ States**
 Advocacy Objective: Obtain approval from Education Authorities for Implementing AEP+ in 10 districts of Gujarat, UP, MP, and Haryana states for government schools by March 2019.
- Advocacy issue: Criminalisation of same sex behaviour in India**
 Advocacy Objective: To build a state-level momentum in support of de-criminalisation of section 377 by creating champions & high-level support.

A follow-up workshop has been planned in Mumbai next month. Meanwhile, the branches will interact with their branch volunteers and staff members to finalise the advocacy issue and action plan.



Few workshop participants along with Dr Kalpana Apte, Secretary General

'I Decide'

As a part of the 'I Decide' grant received from International Planned Parenthood Federation - South Asia Region (IPPF-SAR), FPA India conducted the following activities.

Collaboration with India Spend - Young people's access to family planning methods in India:

India Spend (IS) is a not-for-profit organisation and a data journalism initiative which utilises open data to analyse and publish articles on social and political issues. FPA India partnered with IS to develop an article on young people's access to family planning methods in India.

Link:

<http://www.indiaspend.com/cover-story/india-is-unprepared-for-its-gathering-teen-sexual-revolution-23183>

The article not just mentioned about the need for access to family planning, especially for young people, but also mentioned about FPA India's initiatives to empower the youth.

Apart from the quotes from other Civil Society Organisations Ms. Amita Dhanu, Assistant Secretary General (Programme Implementation) was quoted in the article.

Amita Dhanu, Director, Family Planning Association of India (FPA), a 68-year-old non-profit, provided the example of 19-year-old Sana (name changed), who was in a relationship and was only aware of emergency contraceptive. So, wherever she had unprotected sex, she used only emergency contraceptives.

The consequences were that when Sana missed her periods once, she took an emergency contraceptive to induce an abortion. But she didn't get her periods again and came to one of 39 FPA India clinics nationwide and was found to be pregnant-emergency contraceptives cannot induce abortions after pregnancy: she had had unprotected sex again. She was counselled about oral contraceptives and provided a safe abortion.

"Service providers and staff at these [FPA India] clinics are trained to address adolescent health issues," said Dhanu. "The environment at the clinics is friendly and services are available at timings suitable to young people."

The article made about 10410 impressions by the end of March, 2018, and well-known news platforms such as Business Standard, The Statesman, Millennium Post, The News Minute, First Post, Bloomberg Quint, and Hindustan Times also picked it up and published it on their portals.

I Decide - Short Film:

A short film was prepared to bring out the message that everyone has the right to access contraceptives and family planning methods. It was called '#I Decide My Health, My Life, My Right' and was launched and shared on FPA India's social media channels on 'World Health Day, 2018'. Link to the short film:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ejbC7mijMzA>



A Snippet of the 'I Decide' Short Film

In the short film, a series of stop-motion paintings highlighted how people of different sexual orientations and gender identities decide to opt for contraception to make their lives better. They unite to access their right to family planning methods with the help of FPA India.



LEAD STORIES



NATIONAL YOUTH DAY - 12TH JANUARY THEME: SANKALP SE SIDDHI (ATTAINMENT THROUGH RESOLVE)

BIDAR

An awareness programme was organised to celebrate National Youth Day in collaboration with Sri. Sai Chaitanya Degree College, Bidar. The programme was inaugurated by Dr. Savita Chakote, Executive Committee (BEC) Member, FPA India, Bidar. Dignitaries included Shri. Dattatrey Patil, Principal, Shri. Sai Chaitanya Degree College, Bidar; and Smt. Jayashree Patil, President, Shri. Sai Chaitanya Degree College. Dr. Chakote addressed the audience with a speech on "Youth are the Power of the Nation". Forty-six youth participated in the programme.



Prize Distribution to Winners of Elocution Competition

HYDERABAD

A youth meeting was conducted at Jinnaram Outreach Centre, Medak district, Telangana, in collaboration with the local Gram Panchayat. This meeting was held to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. The meeting was held with an aim to motivate the youth of today to strive towards a better society by following the path and teachings of Swami Vivekananda. The Programme Officer spoke on the importance of the role played by the youth today in health and social welfare activities. It was an interactive session that highlighted topics like personal hygiene, environmental sanitation, nutrition, child care, safe motherhood, immunisation, communicable diseases, HIV and AIDS etc. Twenty-nine participants attended the meeting. They were highly enthusiastic and expressed their desire to volunteer in their spare time.

SOLAPUR

National Youth Day was organised in alliance with Mangalvedhekar Institute of Management, Solapur. Prof. Dr. Shrikant Yelegoankar, FPA India Treasurer; Mr. Sugat Gaikwad, Branch Manager, FPA India, Solapur; and BEC members inaugurated the programme with the lamp-lighting ceremony. Activities like yoga asanas, group

discussion/feedback session and recitations were conducted. The objective of the programme was to increase health awareness among adolescents. Dr. N. B. Telli, Branch Secretary, FPA India, Solapur reflected on the works and thoughts of Swami Vivekananda and highlighted on the affordable SRH services available. An active participation of the youth was noted. They were felicitated with certificates.



Students felicitated with Certificates on National Youth Day

NATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD - 24TH JANUARY

MADURAI



Gender and Equality session for Adolescent girls

A special HB testing session and Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) service session was conducted for government schools students in partnership with HCL Foundation. 630 students benefited through this screening session. They also distributed 155 Nutrition Packs for some school students.



Nutrition Packs distributed to students for increasing Haemoglobin level

WORLD CANCER DAY - 4TH FEBRUARY

THEME: 'WE CAN, I CAN'

BALLARI

An awareness session on Cancer was organised in coordination with Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD)/National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP)/Surveillance Unit & Primary Health Centre (PHC), Millerpet, under the National Health Mission (NHM) project. Women from Bisalahalli village participated in this session.

During the session, different types of cancers, significance of cervical cancer screening, and self-breast examination were discussed. The programme informed women about prevention, early detection, and treatment. This was followed by a screening and health check-up session on cervical and breast cancer.

Twenty-eight women out of 125 clients were screened for cervical cancer through Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid (VIA) wherein six were tested as positive. They were further treated with medications and referred to Reproductive Health and Family Planning Centre (RHFP) for treatment. Participants vowed to undergo regular check-up and screening.

DHARWAD

Cervical Cancer screening and awareness programmes were organised for Female Sex Workers (FSW) and People Living with HIV (PLHIV). Sessions were conducted on Gender Based Violence (GBV), safe sex, personal hygiene, causes and symptoms of cancer, and early detection of cervical & breast cancer. Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid (VIA) tests were conducted for the clients at their door step and they were further referred to the RHFP for treatment. This service resulted in reducing Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR). This programme benefitted 2146 Antenatal Care (ANC) clients and 1956 children.

MUMBAI

An awareness session on Cervical and Breast Cancer was conducted at Shivneri Nagar, Mankhurd. Link workers helped in organising the session with 21 community women. Signs and symptoms of the disease, diagnosis, and treatment were explained. Women were taught self-examination to avoid breast cancer and maintain personal hygiene. It was an interactive session facilitated by Dr. Shraddha Bhagat, Medical Officer, FPA India, Mumbai, and three interns. Flyers were distributed among the participants.

NILGIRIS

An awareness programme along with a special service session were conducted in collaboration with Centre for Integrated Human Development and Social Action (CIHDSA) office, Coonoor. Sister Latha, Director CIHDSA; Branch Manager, FPA India, Nilgiris; Programme Officer, and Staff Nurse attended the programme. Seventy-two tribal women participated. Fifty-three women underwent screening and examination of Cervical Cancer and Breast Cancer. A session explaining cancer, types of cancer and its causes was conducted.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - 8TH MARCH

THEME: PRESS FOR PROGRESS

AHMEDABAD

A mass awareness programme on the theme "Nanhi Pari (Little Angel) Avataram" was conducted at the Urban Health Centre, Thakkarnagar. Mrs. Binduben Kakadia, Mrs. Arunaben Shah, Mr. Dixitbhai Patel, Counsellors from Assistant Municipal Commissioner (AMC) Ward, were invited as resource persons.

Shri. V.R. Chaudhari, Police Inspector, also attended the programme and spoke on different laws pertaining to gender and harassment. Dr. Deepak Mishra, Medical Officer, Urban Health Centre (UHC), Thakkarnagar, explained about Pre Conception & Pre- Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC & PNDT) Act. Participants were sensitised on the decline in the sex ratio in Gujarat. MAMTA kits (these kits comprise of a bag containing mackintosh, disposable gloves, mucus extractor, packets of condoms, oral contraceptive pills, and iron tablets), silver coins, and sweets were distributed amongst participants.



Awareness Programme conducted at Ahmedabad on the eve of International Women's Day

Under the observance week, four sensitisation programmes were conducted in different areas for parents, teachers, in-school and out-of-school youth. Principal and teachers were introduced to CSE Module- 'Growing Up is Fun' in Gujarati. Parents and teachers who were sensitised, realised the need for Sexuality Education for Young People and appreciated the module.

A total participation of 177 was noted. A Masters Training Programme was conducted for 19 resource persons including the Counsellor, Medical Officer, Lady Health Visitors (LHV), Community Welfare Workers, Teachers, and Youth Volunteers, on the 'Growing up is Fun' Module.

AGRA

An awareness programme on SRH was conducted for community leaders, Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), Community Based Depot (CBD), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) workers, and Self Help Group (SHG) members. The programme aimed at enhancing SRH knowledge, encouraging decision making power of women in their families and developing their understanding on social and political sectors. Dr. Arun Tiwari, Branch President, FPA India, Agra, was invited as the key speaker. Dr. Hemendra Chaturvedi, branch

member, FPA India, Agra; and Mr. Parag Dutt Sharma, General Manager, FPA India, Agra, graced the occasion. Gender Equality, Health & Hygiene, SRHR and contraception were some of the topics that were covered. It was observed that 62 women who attended the programme were made aware of the significance of raising their voice for ending violence against women and take responsible steps to prohibit sex selection.



Celebration of International Women's Day

BHUBANESWAR

A meeting was conducted to discuss different gender-related issues on the occasion of International Women's Day at Chilipokhari. The programme was facilitated by Ms. Geeta Pattnaik, RHPC Counsellor. Resource persons included Mr. Ashok Kumar Samantaray, Branch Manager, FPA India, Bhubaneswar; Ms. Soumya Mishra, Programme Officer, FPA India, Bhubaneswar; Mrs. Sanjukta Das, Branch Treasurer, FPA India Bhubaneswar. The programme emphasised sensitising 36 women participants on gender equality and empowerment, discussing issues of gender discrimination, celebrating womanhood, and encouraging women's participation on safeguarding their rights.



Tailoring Course: Certificate distribution to trainees

BENGALURU

A reproductive health check-up service session was organised in co-ordination with Abhayashrama. Young Women from Abhayashrama participated in this programme. The programme aimed at serving the poor and underserved groups, addressing SRH issues of women, providing SRH services, and celebrating womanhood. The participants were oriented on Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) / Reproductive Tract Infections (RTI) and its consequences.

Significance on early diagnosis and treatment was emphasised. Clients consulted doctors with their problems, during the service session. Five clients underwent the Papanicolaou test (PAP Smear Test) and the result indicated many women as positive. This showed that women are at high risk of STI/RTI and the need to be diagnosed and treated early.

Thus giving importance to women's health and the need to provide health care facilities at shelter homes. Participants: 63

An awareness programme with 183 participants from youth and women's groups was conducted in coordination with Ekatha Charitable Trust, Hegganahalli. Mrs. Padmavathi Narasimha Murthy, Vice-Mayor, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Karnataka, inaugurated the programme. Mrs. Madhura Ashok Kumar, Co Treasurer of FPA India Branch President; Dr. Sharada Nasimath, Hon. Secretary; Mr. Soundarya Manjappa, Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) - Executive Committee Member; Mr. Yashas. S, Secretary, State-level Information Technology Cell, Karnataka, and the European delegates participated in this programme.



FPA India, Bengaluru, felicitating women on International Women's Day, 2018.

BIDAR

An awareness programme on the significance of education and empowerment of women through education, and women's rights was conducted for around 53 women, including 38 ASHA workers. Smt. Shakuntala Beldale, Zilla Parishad Member, Bidar, inaugurated the programme. Sri Penta Reddy Patil, Branch President, FPA India, Bidar, presided over the programme. Guests included, Prof. Poornima G, Former Hon. Treasurer, FPA India; Dr. Dhanalaxmi Patil, President, Karnataka Janapada Parishattu, Dist. Women's Unit; Smt. Neelamma Rogan, Former Vice-President, Zilla Parishad; Dr. Vijayashree Bashetty, Former President, FPA India, Bidar; and Smt. Suma, Member of Akkana Balaga Mahila Mandal; and North Eastern Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NEKRTC) Officers.

BALLARI

An awareness programme on SRHR was conducted at Soma Samudra village. Women were introduced to empowerment services and schemes of the government like Anila Bhaghya Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission, Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) and Udhogini Scheme.

A rally was organised in collaboration with Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Associated Cement Company (ACC), and Ford Foundation. Mrs. M H. Kathyayani, Principal Senior Civil Judge & Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM), along with Member Secretary, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Ballari, flagged the rally. Games and skits were performed to emphasise the appropriate age of marriage for girls. The significance of Protection of Children from Sexual Offense (POCSO) Act and its benefits to women were highlighted. The 650 participants were felicitated.



Press for Progress for Gender Parity

DHARWAD

A free health check-up and two awareness programmes were organised for 150 adolescents and community dwellers. This was conducted in collaboration with District Child Protection Cell, Department of Social Work, Karnataka University of Dharwad (KUD) and M. S. S High School, Nigadi village. Discussions on empowerment of women and decision making power of women in family planning process was shared. Social work students enacted a role play on gender based violence, child marriage, sexual and reproductive health, and safe abortion.

HYDERABAD

Branch conducted two Breast and Cervical Cancer screening service sessions in alliance with Reliance Day-to-Day Care Polyclinic and Primary Health Center, Jinnaram. Dr. Dorothy, Medical Officer; Mr. Prashant, Programme Officer; and Dr. Sami-ul Hassan, Managing Partner, Reliance Day-to-Day Care Poly Clinic, graced the occasion. Significance of cancer screening and PAP Smear Test was shared. Women participants were encouraged to get an annual check-up done for early detection of carcinoma of cervix. Cancer screening with Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid (VIA) was conducted for 130 women. Results indicated five women as positive; were provided antibiotics and asked to come for follow up at Punjagutta.

A mass meeting was organised in coordination with Mandal Parishad Development Officer (MPDO) at Jinnaram Mandal. Mr. Ravindar, Mandal Parishad Development Officer (MPDO); Mr. Prabhakar, from Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency (ZPTC); Mr. Mothi, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS); and anganwadi teachers attended the programme. Participants were explained the benefits of 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' Scheme – to Ensure the Rights of the Girl Child, health and nutrition education, counselling on breastfeeding / Infant and young feeding practices to mothers. Two-hundred Antenatal Care (ANC) and Postnatal Care (PNC) women were taught how to prepare nutritious food by Anganwadi teachers.



Mass Meeting at Jinnaram to spread awareness on the 'Rights of the Girl Child'

A Women's Day programme was organised for 170 participants by Rakshana Welfare Society at Rasoolpura. Mr. Sada Keshav Reddy, Local Area Leader, during his speech, encouraged women to stand for their rights. Ms. Laxmi Kumari, Child Development Programme Officer (CDPO), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS); Ms. Neeta, Airport Authority of India; Mr. Laxmi Narayana, M V Foundation; Dr. Renu Kapoor, General Manager, FPA India, Hyderabad; and Mrs. M. Radhika, Counsellor, attended the programme. Mr. Sada Keshav Reddy, felicitated Dr. Dorothy, Medical Officer; Dr. Renu Kapoor, and other women. Sarees were distributed to senior citizens in the community. The programme was covered by local print media.

KOLKATA

A rally was organised with 40 mothers at Topsia slum area. The objective of this rally was to celebrate women hood by creating an awareness on the significance of the day, encourage women to collectively strive towards achieving gender equality by raising their voices against gender inequality. Mrs. Nandini Bhattacharjee and Ms. Swati Chatterji, Social Activists; Mr. Asish Basak, Film maker & Journalist; graced the occasion. Mr. Supratip Mazumder, Branch Manager, FPA India, Kolkata; and Mrs. Nandini Laha, Social Activist hosted the programme. Placards and banners displayed in the rally highlighted major issues like gender discrimination, women rights, and significance of International Women's Day.

Field areas of satellite units in Topsia also observed this day with 68 women. Discussions on SRHR of women and menstrual health & hygiene were also conducted with mothers. Hundred participants from the rural area of Rajarhat, Kolkata, also participated in singing, dramatics, and poetry recitation about women empowerment, on this occasion.



Rally at Topsia slum area on International Women's Day

MADURAI

An adolescent health education programme was organised for 100 young women employees in collaboration with Loyal Textile Mills at Kovilpatti. Mr. Vijayakumar, Senior Manager-HR (CSR) and Mrs. Ashifa, Programme Officer, FPA India, Madurai, presided over the function.

A sensitisation programme for adolescent boys and girls was conducted on the theme "Time is Now: Rural and urban activists transforming women's lives" and "#Press for Progress". Mrs. Suryakala and Mrs. Banumathi, Women activists from Madurai, were invited as Chief Guests. Dr. S. Prathiban, Branch Manager, FPA India, Madurai, conducted the programme.

MUMBAI

An awareness programme on Cervical Cancer was conducted by KSK, Mumbai Central, in collaboration with Swabhimani Mahila Vikas Mandal. The programme explained detailed information about occurrence, prevalence, signs, symptoms, screening methods, and importance of HPV vaccines along with emphasis on treatment.

Dr. Shruti Rai, Medical Officer, facilitated this session. Free screening test (VIA) was conducted for 60 women. HPV vaccines and sanitary napkins were distributed. The programme received a live media coverage by ALL IN ONE NEWS & CNN NEWS. Mr. Avinash Mahatre was the Chief Guest. An appeal was made to the government to conduct more such screening programmes and provide HPV vaccines free of cost to the masses. The full report is available here: http://yotu.be/Y2oCkVaa_s8

An awareness programme on Cervical Cancer, health and nutrition, menstrual hygiene (SRH) was organised with Kasturba Mahila Gruha (Shelter for the Homeless, Chembur Naka). Mrs. Vaishali Bhosale, sister in-charge, Shelter for the Homeless, along with Mrs. Priya Detke (ORW) and Mrs. Dipti Panekar, Counsellor, conducted the session which was attended by 32 women. They were very pleased with the session; hence also requested for VIA session. There were challenges as many clients were differently abled but with the help of staff members of AWHC and Shelter for the Homeless, the session was successfully conducted.

A rally was organised on account of International Women's Day in coordination with Mr. Vijayji Khaire, Sr. Police Inspector, Tilak Nagar Police Mitra Samiti; and the Mahila Daxata Samiti. Participants included youth members, internship students from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), and Mrs. Nirmiti, Statistical Officer & Stock in-charge, FPA India, Mumbai. Four schools namely Lokmanya Tilak English High School, Holy Family High School, Swami Vivekananda High School, and Saraswati Vidyalaya High School participated in this rally. More than 500 students participated.

More report & Photograph on <http://twitter.com/MumbaiPolice/status/971804051917692928?s=19>

Additionally, Family Planning SNEH Project, Govandi, in collaboration with Mumbai Districts AIDS Control Society (MDACS) organised street plays which were performed by the Varnam group. The main objective of this event was to create awareness about HIV for migrant people. In total 358 participants attended, 307 of which underwent HIV testing.

NILGIRIS

An awareness programme was conducted in collaboration with Government Polytechnic College, Ooty and RHFPC service unit. Mr. Manogaran, Ret. Headmaster and Branch Executive Committee (BEC) member, Mr. J. Varatharajan, Branch Manager, Mrs. Puvanewari Packiyannathan, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. G. Premanand, Branch President, attended the programme. Fifty female polytechnic students participated in the programme. Dignitaries vowed to take committed action and collective efforts towards gender parity.



Gender Parity Session in Progress

An awareness programme on Vasectomy was organised jointly with District Family Welfare Bureau and Golden Hill Estate Pvt. Ltd., for 30 Migrant Estate Workers at Karambalam. The session was facilitated by Dr. Gopinath, Block Medical Officer, Primary Health Centre, Ketty and Mr. J. Varatha rajan, Branch Manager, FPA India, Nilgiris. Mr. Charles, Mass Education Officer, District Family Welfare Bureau, spoke on Vasectomy and shared their experiences.

NEW DELHI

FPA India, New Delhi, organised a session on SRHR for young girls from schools and colleges in collaboration with Vivek Manthan Foundation. Mr. Jameel Zamir, IPPF representative, was welcomed as the chief guest. Invitees spoke about the dignity of women, significance of ending crimes against women, and rights of women. Discussions on behavioural change, peer pressure, relationships, family planning, which are part of FPA India's 'Growing Up is Fun' module for adolescents were conducted. A quiz competition was organised for the participants.



International Women's Day Session in Progress

NORTH KANARA

An awareness programme was organised at Shankakeri in collaboration with Sneha Kunja Trust, Honnavar. This programme aimed to motivate communities to think and act in unison to raise their voice for women's rights and gender equality. Dr. Radhika Ramkumar Bhat Kodlekere, Medical Officer, and Ms. Manjula Gouda, Programme Officer, facilitated the programme for 46 participants. The programme focused on social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women and highlighted family planning methods and SRH services available at FPA India.



International Women's Day in collaboration with Spandana Health Trust & Govt. Women's College

SHIVAMOGGA

An awareness session was organised in collaboration with Spandana Health Foundation Trust and Government Women's College. Also debate and essay competitions were organised for 60 students and community people. Mrs. Pushpa Shetty, Branch Vice President, and Mrs. Hema Appaji, were invited as chief guests and key speakers for the programme. They shared examples of how this day is celebrated world-wide. Participants were informed that this day is also recognised as the 'United Nations (UN) Day for Women's Rights and International Peace'.

SOLAPUR

A health awareness programme was organised for Volunteers, Peer groups, and Master of Social Work (MSW) students in collaboration with Dhan Foundation and Inner Wheel Club at Ubale Samaj Mandir, Shelgi. Sessions on gender equality, personal hygiene, and cleanliness were conducted. Activities included games and rangoli competition. Mrs. Vijaya Bijjani, President, Inner Wheel Club; Prof. Dr. Shrikant Yelegaonkar, Treasurer, FPA India; Dr. Nabha Kakade, Branch President, Prof. Dr. B. N. Kamble, Branch Hon. Treasurer, Prof. Dr. N. B. Telli, Branch Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Teja Kulkarni, BEC Member, FPA India, Solapur; and Mr. Sugat Gaikwad, Branch Manager, attended the programme. The programme proved to be fruitful and useful to all participants, students, and organisations.



Rangoli Competition on International Women's Day at Ubale Samaj Mandir, Shelgi.

BRANCH NEWS

AHMEDABAD

A training programme on "Women's Health, Gender Based Violence, and Family Planning" was conducted for the FPA India, Ahmedabad staff. Participants included Medical Officers, Counsellors, Medical Officer, M & E Officer, Out-reach Workers and, Local Health Workers (LHW)

H K Arts College held its annual day function in collaboration with NSS Department. Dr. Neha Panchal, Programme Officer, was invited as the Chief Guest. Invitees included Mr. Suresh Maratha, General Manager, FPA India, Ahmedabad, spoke on FPA India's vision, mission, and facilities provided. He also praised the students for their achievements and felicitated them with awards.

AGRA

An awareness programme was conducted with members of Agra Social Forum with an aim to sensitise SHGs and CBOs on Gender and Empowerment; and to reduce the myths and misconceptions on SRH. It was suggested that parents and teachers are the best mediators to guide and protect the youth, to support community based programmes, and motivate SRHR activities. Forty-three participants committed to update their knowledge on SRH and share the same with other students, thus creating awareness among them.

Discussions on Adolescents' and SRH needs were facilitated for 23 participants. Community Based Organisations (CBO) emphasised the necessity to provide SRH knowledge to both youth and parents in today's world. Parents also felt that the youth today should be informed and educated on health-related topics and were supportive of the idea. CBOs and parents were interested in getting SRH knowledge but at the same time were reluctant in providing knowledge to their students.



Meeting with CBOs and Parents

BHUBANESWAR

A sensitisation meeting on National Health Mission (NHM) was conducted at the ward level and was supported by the City Programme Management Unit (CPMU). Resource persons included Branch Manager and Field Workers of ORS Unit. 553 participants comprised of community women, MAS members, SHG leaders, ASHAs, AWWs, ANMs, Corporators, CPMU officials, members of Ward Kalyan Samiti, and Slum Leaders. As per the assignment given by CPMU, National Urban Health Mission (NUHM), Government of Odisha, ten ward-level sensitisation meetings have been conducted in urban slums. The main objective of the meeting was to appraise and sensitise the slum community members and group members on activities and services of NUHM that have been implemented to promote health of the mother and child, community sanitation, and health seeking behaviour above all.

DHARWAD

Training programme was organised for women in coordination with Bhasavashree Foundation. This was an income generation activity of making incense sticks aimed at empowering women. Women were taught how to make incense sticks. One link worker has independently started preparing it at home.



Incense Stick making as a part of the Income Generation Activity

A rally and skit were organised on Gender Based Violence (GBV) and empowerment of women in collaboration with social work students from Karnataka University and Yuva Spanadana Kendra. Syndicate member, Karnataka University, Mr. P S Kale, inaugurated the programme of 200 participants. Skits on child marriage, sex selection and HIV & AIDS were performed.



Participants at a Rally

Four CSE training programmes were organised for 117 participants - peer educators, community mobilisers, facilitators, and master trainers. The main aim of the programmes was to extend their services to a larger audience and to reach the unreachable. Topics like sexual rights, gender and GBV, sexuality, pleasure, interpersonal relationships, communication & decision making skills, puberty, and reproductive health were covered. Thirteen trainees are working on CSE sessions.

An awareness session for 182 link workers on cervical cancer, women empowerment, infertility, and reproductive system was conducted.

A special health check-up service session was organised in partnership with Tata Powers Community Development Trust Project. The check-up included anaemia detection, gynaecological and cervical cancer detection, diagnostic tests like blood groups, haemoglobin, lipid profile, VIA, pap smear test, ECG, among others. Branch covered 3088 beneficiaries. Participants were sensitised on hygiene, sanitation, cervical cancer, child care, breast feeding and nutrition. Adolescent girls identified with anaemia, STI, RTI infections and cervical cancer were provided treatment and followed-up through Primary Health Centre (PHC).

A project on Maternal & Child Health Services has been initiated in sponsorship with Deshpande Foundation with an aim to decline Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and to bring about a behavioural change towards health care. This intervention was implemented in 58 villages, where services were not easily accessible. The branch successfully covered 2146 Antenatal Care Women (ANC) and 1956 children.

GWALIOR

An advocacy meeting was organised in support of de-criminalisation of Section 377 in collaboration with PLHIV and Civil Society Organisations (CSO) working for HIV prevention. Officers from Madhya Pradesh State AIDS Control Society and also representatives from industries, government officers and doctors participated in this programme. Members from Target Intervention (TI) Projects working on Men having Sex with Men (MSM), truckers, migrants, drug users and female sex workers were also present. Dignitaries included Mr. Jaiveer Singh Bhadoriya, Superintendent of Police, Special Zone, Gwalior; Mr. Rahul Bhadoriya, Sabhapati, Vanijya & Udhog; Mr. Darpan Chaubey, Programme Officer, Madhya Pradesh State AIDS Control Society (MPSACS); and Members of District Panchayat. Health & social problems of Lesbian/-Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer (LGBTQ) were discussed. Support towards de-criminalisation of Indian Penal Code (IPC) Section 377; right to healthy life, and effects of IPC Section 377

on sexual health care & gender were highlighted. A documentary based on stigma, discrimination, and social problems faced by these groups was screened. The programme received a positive feedback and 47 participants gave their written consent to support decriminalisation of IPC section 377.



Advocacy Initiative by FPA India, Gwalior, with PLHIV and CSOs working for HIV prevention

HYDERABAD

An awareness programme on HIV & AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis, STI, nutrition, and health & hygiene was conducted at Kalburgi Cement Pvt. Ltd., Chatrasala, Kalburgi, in collaboration with Bharati Cement Corporation Pvt. Ltd. Hundred and nine participants including truck drivers, employees, and community dwellers were present. The main focus was on prevention measures for HIV and AIDS.

Another programme was organised in coordination with Dr. Reddy's Foundation. Forty-five participants included principals, teachers, and representatives from the foundation. A session on Child Protection Policy was conducted. Aspects like child abuse, forms, signs and symptoms, behaviour protocols for staff & students, institutional set-up for achieving zero tolerance, redressal mechanism, POCSO Act, good touch and bad touch were discussed. Other facets of adolescents like nutrition, menstrual health and hygiene, relationships, unwanted pregnancies, infections, suicidal tendencies, and drug abuse were also discussed.

A Masters Training Programme on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) was conducted for lecturers, school teachers, doctors and consultants under FPA India's Adolescent Programme. Dr. C. Ambuja, Hon. Jt. Secretary & Chairman, Medical Sub Committee, Member of Central Executive Committee, FPA India was the resource person. She spoke on the significance of SRH aspects with students from school and out-of-school area concentrating on government high schools. Participants came up with different ideas like seeking assistance of State Council of Education Research & Training (SCERT), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Andhra Pradesh Academy of Rural Development (APARD) for preparing modules in Telugu (local language). Mr. S. D. Madhukar, Consultant, suggested on having mock presentations by the participants prior to proceeding the session with students. Social media platforms were recommended in order to have a dialogue and communication. Challenges faced while implementing the programme were also discussed. Dr. Jamuna Devi, Gynaecologist and BEC Member, assured that she can arrange for anaemia sessions at Yashoda Foundation where children may be tested for haemoglobin,

sugar, and thyroid problems by coordinating with diagnostic labs, thus improving their Haemoglobin levels by providing supplementation. Lecturers from Kallam Anji Reddy Vocational College suggested such programmes be held with different hostels and orphan homes where there is a need for these sessions.

KOLKATA

The branch organised a series of programmes aimed at increasing access to SRH services for adolescents, women, and vulnerable groups. These programmes included various SRH sessions organised for youth from school and out-of-school. In total, 287 adolescents were provided free health check-ups whereas 312 other participants received general SRH service sessions.

A SRH based counselling programme was organised in collaboration with Lutheran World Service India (LWSI), Kolkata where 40 women participated. It was observed that all women participants adopted family planning methods and other services.

Twenty-three mothers participated in the meeting at Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) workers centre and ASHAs at Narayanpur. Counselling for mothers on SRH was also conducted at zonal immunisation centres.

MADURAI

State Level Orientation programme for VIHAAN – Care and Support Centre (CSC) Project (second phase) was organised. Representatives from Tamil Nadu Network of Positive People (TNP+) and Partner NGO's in Theni, Sivakangai, Dindigul, and Karur District participated in the programme.

In alliance with HCL Foundation an Adolescent Training Programme was organised for 14 peer educators from different colleges. Branch also participated in 'Power of One Carnival' programme conducted at Chennai, Madurai, and Noida.

In addition, a mega health service session on Cervical and Breast Cancer Screening was organised by TVS Group of Companies for the employees of TVS Group of Companies. Number of beneficiaries was 124.

A skill development course – 'Monitoring and Mentoring' was conducted for Para-Medical Staff by Mr. Shivrudra Lupane, Manager Partnership and Capacity Building, FPA India. Twenty students were felicitated for completion of their training programme on General Duty and Home Based Assistant Course under the Paramedical Skill Development Unit. This was the first Batch of the course. Representatives from Housing and Development Board (HDB) Financial Service felicitated students with certificates.

Nineteen students from University of Leipzig, Faculty of Education Department, Germany visited FPA India Madurai branch for an exposure visit to learn about Reproductive Health Services in India and activities provided by FPA India. They also visited several other Universities in India as a part of their field visit.

A special service session was conducted for 158 community people on Sexual & Reproductive Health Awareness Day, 12th February.

MUMBAI

A training programme on Family Planning Methods was conducted at Tilak Nagar, Mumbai in collaboration with Advancing Reduction in Mortality and Morbidity of Mothers, Children and Neonates (ARMMAN), an NGO. This NGO works with ANC/PNC clients at BMC Hospitals. Training was facilitated by Branch Manager and Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Officer. Field Workers from ARMMAN also participated in this programme and were explained about contraceptives and condom demonstration.

A session on 'Importance of Hand Hygiene' was conducted at Community Education Centre, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) under its project 'Saksham'. This session was facilitated by Dr. Shaik Nishan Ashraf and Dr. Apurva Kohli, FPA India, Mumbai branch interns. Parents as well as children participated in the programme and were informed on hand-washing techniques, child health, signs & symptoms of common diseases, and importance of hand hygiene. They were also explained on the dos and don'ts of healthy child growth. Parents were also counselled on importance of a healthy balanced diet and toilet habits for their children. Mothers were educated on reproductive health, menstrual hygiene, signs of cervical and breast cancer and its prompt treatment. An awareness session on signs of anaemia and benefits of healthy diet was conducted. Various methods available for contraception were also discussed by doctors. It was observed that many women with Urinary Tract Infections (UTI), abnormal menstrual cycles, and reproductive tract problems came forward during this discussion. A majority of women were noted seeking family planning counselling. The grievances of the women were addressed and clients were referred to the Avabai Wadia Health centre for further treatment.

NORTH KANARA

An awareness programme on adolescent problems like behavioural change, gender and sex was conducted for students from different schools namely H. P. S Holanagadde School, Morarji Desai Residential School, and Kamalabai Pikale High School. Shri. Ganapati Naik, Principal, H. P. S Holanagadde School and Shri. Shrinivas Naik, Principal, Morarji Desai Residential School, were present for the programme. Shri. Shrinivas Naik appreciated the support shown by FPA India. 597 students gained knowledge on behavioural and relationship modifications and resolved their doubts.



Awareness programme for students

An awareness service session on 'Eradication of Anemia Amongst Adolescent Girls' was conducted for students from Government First Grade College in partnership with Halkar Charitable Medical and Information Association, Kumta. This session highlighted causes of anaemia and measures taken to eradicate it. Health problems related to young girls and family planning methods & services was also discussed. HB tests were conducted for 52 participants followed by necessary treatment.

An orientation programme was conducted with 40 women from Janvikas Sangha, Haldipur. The programme aimed at enhancing knowledge on women's health, family planning methods and services.

A skill training programme was organised for 40 women at Sindh Rural Self Employment Training Centre, Kumta. The training helped the women develop their skills and gain self-employment.



Pride Walk to Decriminalise IPC Section 377

PANCHKULA

Mr. Vinod Kapoor, President FPA India, Panchkula, and CEC Member FPA India, has been awarded as the 'Best NGO President' for continued support in implementation of Targeted Intervention (Men Having Sex with Men) projects. The award was given during the AIDSCON-7 conducted by Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society on 16th -17th February 2018.

With an objective to build a momentum in support of de-criminalisation of IPC Section 377 by creating champions & high-level support, FPA India, Panchkula, organised an event for government officials and CSOs and networks in March. The resource persons for the meeting were Dr. Venkatesan Chakrapani, Research Fellow, Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research (PGIMER) Chandigarh. Mr. Aditya Bandopadhyay, Advocate, New Delhi Supreme Court; Mr. Sandeep Mittal, Joint Director TI, Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society; and Mr. Dhananjay Mangalmukhi, Director, Saksham Trust, were present for the meeting. In total 97 participants attended the meeting and many people signed the petition to repeal IPC Section 377 in order to promote sexual rights for all.

Mr. Kapoor said that the initiative taken by FPA India is a starting process and will continue till the repeal of IPC Section 377 in order to promote sexual rights for all. Mr. Sandeep Mittal, Joint Director, Targeted Interventions, Chandigarh AIDS Control Society (CSACS), talked about the need for an enabling legal environment to improve access to and uptake of HIV-related prevention and treatment services. The branch representatives also participated in the Pride Walk organised in collaboration with local CSOs and network groups.



RAJKOT

A special health check-up session was organised in coordination with Tata Power Community Development Trust, Mumbai. The main objective of the project was to provide SRH services and educate the community on SRH care. Seven special sessions were conducted for community members and young people. Primary screening was done by gynaecologists and they were further counselled, investigated and treated. A comprehensive health check-up especially for women with gynaecological disorders and problems was conducted. Investigations included pap smear test, haemoglobin test, blood group identification, sugar and lipid profile tests.



Health Check-Up for Women

SOUTH KANARA

An awareness programme was organised for 55 people from Kasturbanagar to encourage them to opt for family planning services. Fifty-five men and women participated in this programme. Mrs. Harini Damodar, Branch President, gave a brief talk on family planning and urged to avail family planning services. Mrs. Damodar, Patron & Ex Hon. Secretary, FPA India, South Kanara; members from Urban Family Welfare Centre (UFWC), Auxiliary Nursing Midwives (ANM), Smt. Sumangala and Smt. Rekha family planning field workers; also participated in this programme.

An awareness programme on leprosy was conducted at Kukkikatte and Duglipadav Anganwadi Centres with 36 participants. Similarly, an No Scalpel Vasectomy (NSV) awareness programme was conducted at Indiranagar, Bailoor, and Jagannath Anganwadi Centres with 62 participants. Both the programmes were facilitated by Dr. Srikrishna Aithal, UFWC, Medical Officer.



Awareness Programme with Anganwadi Teachers on Leprosy

An awareness training programme on National Deworming Day (NDD), 10th February was conducted for School and Anganwadi Teachers. A participation of 21 teachers and staff was seen at the programme. Dr. Srikrishna Aithal, UFWC Medical Officer, gave a talk on NDD.

SOLAPUR

A health awareness programme and debate session was organised for social work students at Abhijeet Kadam College of Social Work, Jule. This programme was jointly organised with Abhijeet Kadam College of Social Work, Walchand College of Social Work, and Bhaichannusinha Chandele College of Social Work. Mr. Shoaib Shaikh facilitated the debate session.

Prof. Dr. B. N. Kamble, Hon. Treasurer, of the Branch spoke on FPA India's services and highlighted the government schemes - incentives to laparoscopic clients, 'Janani Suraksha Yojana', 108 ambulance services, insurance, etc. He also indicated that the Government of Maharashtra has approved the ICTC Centre. It was observed that the debate competition helped in understanding the views, opinions and thoughts of the participants.

A health awareness programme was conducted for an adolescent group at Saraswati Baburao Chakote Pathshala in collaboration with the Inner-Wheel Club. Drawing competition was organised for the students. Winners were felicitated with prizes and certificates of appreciation.



Winners of Drawing Competition felicitated with Certificates

VIJAYAPUR

An awareness programme along with Cervical and Breast Cancer Screening special session was conducted in collaboration with BLDE Medical College & Hospital at RHFPC. Doctors from BLDE Medical College & Hospital attended the programme. Dr. Bharati Hanjagi, Dr. Jahnvi, Gynaecology Department; Dr. Preeti Holla, Dr. Aprajatha Shaha, Dr. Basavaraj Narasangi, Surgery Department; Dr. Vijayalaxmi Patil, Department of Pathology; Dr. A P Joshi, LMO; Dr. C M Chippalkatti, Additional LMO; and FPA India, Vijayapur, Branch Manager; were some of the dignitaries present. Twenty-two pap smear tests were conducted. Few clients were given the option of availing other lab & RHFPC services. Sixty-seven clients were registered and benefited from services.



YAMUNANAGAR

An awareness session on "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" was organised at Araiyawala village. This session highlighted the 'Save the Girl Child'/'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' programme and encouraged everyone to make a strong commitment towards reducing Gender Disparity. People from the community, village and school staff participated in this event. Shri Chaudhary Kanwar Pal Gurja, Vidhan Sabha Speaker and Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly (M.L.A) Tehsil Jagadhri district, Haryana graced the occasion. Mrs. Raman Sachdeva, President, FPA India, Yamunanagar, and CEC member, FPA India, welcomed the guests and participants. A health check-up session was also organised for eye and dental check-ups and medications were also provided. The service sessions for 498 participants was organised in collaboration with R R Eye Hospital, D.A.V. Dental College, and the Sarpanch of the village.

NEW DELHI

Mr. Sreedharan Nair, Director External Relations was invited as a Guest speaker for Changing Landscape of Corporate Social Responsibility in India at the International Conference on 'Changed Social Responsibility - Mutually Inclusive and Exclusive' organised by the School of Management and Business Studies, Jamia Hamdard University, New Delhi. Speakers from various universities and countries were invited. Around 240 people attended this conference from different countries and states of India. Nine speakers from India presented papers during the conference. Mr. Nair was felicitated with a certificate.

CASE STUDIES



BHUBANESWAR

Mother and Child Health Project (MCH) A Response in Time Can Save a Life

A special health service session was conducted by FPA India team along with gynaecologist, Dr. B.N. Panigrahi at Chudunga village. Dr. Panigrahi informed the team about a case of an expecting mother whose mother-in-law was not in favour of having the baby being delivered at the hospital; but at home since this was their ancestral practise. The 19-year-old client, Ms. Kanchan Sahay was in labour. FPA India team reached the site immediately. On interrogating the client, it was found that the client's estimated date of delivery was already overdue and thus was suggested an urgent transfer to the hospital to avoid further complications. FPA India Programme Officer intervened and successfully managed to convince the mother-in-law on the benefits of having the delivery done at the hospital. The FPA India team soon got her admitted to the hospital and assisted in providing the necessary care and support. The client finally underwent a surgery and delivered a girl child. Her husband thus learnt about the services provided by FPA India and expressed his sincere gratitude to all FPA India staff. FPA India Programme Officer informed the concerned Anganwadi Workers (AWW) to follow up the matter with Accredited Social Health

Activists (ASHA) for registration of the client in the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), so that she will be able to avail all facilities provisioned under the National Health Mission (NHM) for mother and child care, in the future.

DHARWAD

Behaviour Change as a Success of Counselling

Uma (name changed) is a forty-year-old widow who lives with her daughter. A financially sound Uma is a graduate working for the government. Uma fell in love with her colleague who eventually became her boyfriend. They often had unprotected sexual relations, because of which she was accidentally impregnated. Uma's boyfriend declined taking responsibility for this, which made her indecisive about continuing with her pregnancy or not. Through this phase, Uma shared a difficult relationship with her daughter, who was upset with her and even refused to stay with her. Uma needed love and acceptance from her boyfriend as well as her daughter. However, with no support from either, a lonely Uma underwent depression. Disturbed and confused, Uma even became suicidal. All this, when she was in her first month of pregnancy. Uma was referred to the FPA India clinic during this period. The counsellor at FPA India heard her out and counselled her over a period of time to help her overcome depression and take her own decision. After the counselling sessions, a strong Uma decided to undergo Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP). With each passing day and every follow-up visit, Uma seems to be bringing her life back on track.

OTHER NEWS

Dr (Mrs.) Rathnamala M Desai donates ₹ one lakh to FPA India

FPA India gratefully acknowledges the donation of ₹ one lakh received from Dr. (Mrs.) Rathnamala M Desai, CEC Member, FPA India and Branch President, FPA India Dharwad. The funds will be utilised for Dharwad branch services.



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BOOK POST

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