

**ARTHIK ANUSANDHAN KENDRA**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **2013 -14**

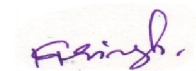
**Registered Office :**  
2/130 T.B.Sapru Road,  
Civil Lines,  
Allahabad -211001  
[aakendra@gmail.com](mailto:aakendra@gmail.com)  
[www.aakendra.org](http://www.aakendra.org)

## **From the Director s Pen**

The Annual Report for the year 2013-14 is another stepping stone towards the achievement of the goal for a just, empowered & egalitarian society, especially the women section. This annual report will give you glimpses of our major programmes and activities carried out in the year 2013-14.

AAK extended its partnership with UNICEF by starting a new project GARIMA , a project on adolescent girls issues. The project is also being implemented in 95 villages of Hallia block and 115 villages of Lalganj block in Mirzapur district.

Our achievements & progress rest on the level of commitment and dedication exhibited by community volunteers and AAK team who consistently work for the attainment of set goals and targets. We acknowledge with thanks and gratitude the valuable contribution of our donor agencies , support organizations , our bankers and the entire AAK team and last but not the least our target groups. We also expect their support and co-operation to strive in this field in our future development interventions.



**Hari Govind Singh**  
Director

## **ABOUT AAK**

AAK was established in 1968 as a Registered Society in Allahabad by Dr. Kripa Shankar, Professor in Economics. The initial years were devoted towards undertaking research on problems facing the rural India. However, AAK decided that direct developmental interventions were also necessary and focussed its energy towards building capacities of people, preparing them to play a more active role in the management of public resources and institutions as well as in local government. This institutional commitment was adopted since the early 1990s and continues to this day.

AAK works with the community to enable them to exercise their rights on issues such as health and education, have access and control over natural resources, land rights and livelihoods as well as working to facilitate the provision on welfare and development schemes of the government. AAK believes that focussed attention on children, especially the girl child is essential to transform society. AAK works in Hallia and Lalganj blocks of Mirzapur district around issues of child rights, education, health, children with disability, organizing self help groups, livelihoods, community organizing, supporting local self-governance. AAK has also worked in Allahabad city , Sonebhadra and Chitrangi block of Rewa district in the past.

While focusing on working with the community at the grassroots level, in both rural and urban areas, AAK also looks at linkages between the local, meso and macro level processes affecting hunger, poverty and rights of people. AAK thus seeks to understand the impact of global, national and regional processes on local communities. It recognizes that globalization and climate change processes have an influence as much as local power dynamics in shaping local conditions and links up with national level advocacy campaigns.

AAK is a registered Society with registration with the Income Tax authorities under Section 12 A and 80 C of the Income Tax Act. AAK is also registered under FCRA allowing it to receive foreign contributions.

AAK is accredited under desirable norms by Credibility Alliance which is a consortium of voluntary organizations committed towards enhancing accountability and transparency in the voluntary sector through good governance. Accreditation is given only when a comprehensive assessment is done by CA, and a VO is found to be following norms of accountability, transparency and good governance

Arthik Anusandhan Kendra (AAK ) is registered as a voluntary organization under section 21 of **Societies Registration Act 1860**. The registration number is **93/1968-69**. The registration has been renewed on 17.10.2013, The renewed registration number is 1059-2013-14 and it is valid for five years from 10.10.2013.

AAK is also registered under section **12A** and **80G** under section 12A of Income Tax Act 1961. The registration number is **80G(5)vi/alld/2008-09**.

Also, AAK is registered under section 6(1) of Foreign Contribution Regulatory Act (FCRA) 1976. **FCRA** registration number is **136230059**.

**AAK s PAN No. : AAAAAA2870M**

**AAK s Bank : Punjab National Bank, Meerapur branch, Allahabad.**

**AAK s Auditor : Jha & Associates , Chartered Accountants, Flat No.406-407 Grand Plaza, Frazer Road, Patna - 800001**

For more information about us, kindly visit our official website

[www.aakendra.org](http://www.aakendra.org)

Except Director , no salary or honorarium of any kind has been given to any of the AAK s board member.

Annual Salary of Director : Rs. 3,21,715

Total travel expenses of the staff and board members ( within India ) : Rs.9,18,380

Total travel expenses of the staff and board members ( outside India ) : NIL

#### STAFF DETAILS

| <b>Gender</b> | <b>Full Time Salaried</b> | <b>Volunteers</b> |
|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Male          | 46                        | 00                |
| Female        | 39                        | 00                |

#### SALARY DETAILS

| <b>Total Monthly Salary</b> | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Upto Rs. 5,000              | 16          | 27            | 43           |
| Rs.5,001- Rs.10,000         | 17          | 10            | 27           |
| Rs.10,001- Rs.25,000        | 12          | 02            | 14           |
| Rs.25,001- Rs.50,000        | 01          | 00            | 01           |
| More than Rs.50,000         | 00          | 00            | 00           |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>46</b>   | <b>39</b>     | <b>85</b>    |

## **OUR VISION**

Developing a discrimination free society where each and every person is capable of taking its own decisions to live an independent, dignified, and enlightened life.

## **OUR MISSION**

AAK s mission is to facilitate the socio-economic development of poor communities (especially the more vulnerable due to caste, class, age and gender barriers) through their active participation, concretization and encouraging collective decision-making.

To encourage a participatory process of change, with the poor, in favor of the poor, by enabling them to build and strengthen their beliefs, ideas and organizations. Our core strategy is based on the belief that the consciousness of the poor, marginalized people needs awakening with respect to the exploitative processes that have been internalized and that an adequate support net would ensure that the rest would follow.

## **OUR OBJECTIVES**

The aims and objectives of AAK are varied, yet pointed towards the common goal of making a positive difference to the quality of life and to encourage local peoples preserving their cultural and traditional heritage. We can put it as under:-

- To work for abolition of illiteracy and provide education to all.
- To help in improving health care services in the target area.
- To involve community in sharing the responsibility of improving its sector wise growth.
- To create awareness about the importance of environment and its preservation for dignified and quality living.
- To empower women through income generation skills.
- To promote SHGs(Self help group) for economic independence of the community.

## **OUR AREA OF OPERATION**

AAK works in 210 villages of Lalganj and Hallia blocks in Mirzapur district .

Mirzapur is located in the South-East part of Uttar Pradesh and the district is geographically divided in the Gangetic plains area and the Southern Plateau land, known as the Kaimur Plateau. The Southern part of the district, with poor soils and dwindling forests, is also a place with a significant population of Kols, Gonds and other tribal communities. The undulating nature of the landscape and poor soils in the area, combined with unequal land-holdings have trapped the resource-poor and marginalised communities into a low-level sustenance existence. Seasonal migration has been a long-standing coping mechanism in the area and youth in the recent past have started moving out of this rural hinterland to permanently seek employment in neighbouring towns as well as migrating to urban centres like Surat, Mumbai and Delhi.

## **OUR GOVERNING BOARD**

Arthik Anusandhan Kendra s Governing Board comprises of the following eminent persons:

| <b>S.No.</b> | <b>Name</b>           | <b>Occupation</b>                       | <b>Designation</b> |
|--------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1            | Mr. Lalla Singh       | Social Worker                           | President          |
| 2            | Mr. Manoj Kumar       | ADGP UP                                 | Vice President     |
| 3            | Dr. Sanjeev Bhadauria | Associate Professor, Univ. of Allahabad | Vice President     |
| 4            | Mr. Hari Govind Singh | Director, AAK                           | Director           |
| 5            | Mrs. Kanta Chopra     | Nurse                                   | Treasurer          |
| 6            | Mrs. Maharaji Devi    | Housewife                               | Member             |
| 7            | Prof. Ganga Ram       | Farmer                                  | Member             |
| 8            | Mr. Kishun Prasad     | Farmer                                  | Member             |
| 9            | Dr. Kripa Shankar     | Retired                                 | Member             |
| 10           | Mrs. Mithila Singh    | Social Worker                           | Member             |
| 11           | Mrs. Preeti Rani      | Principal Junior High School            | Member             |

## PROGRAMMATIC PROCESSES

### **Planning**

On this front transparency is ensured by following a system whereby the community does all planning for the year. This includes planning in the area of community capacity building, social ills that need to be addressed and the very tangible services. This is done through an intensive community analysis of their situations and felt needs followed by their planning for the activities in the year, the resource allocation required for the same and the community contribution/role in the same.

### **Implementation**

This takes the baton from the planning process and the group members in each village chalk out in detail, the implementation plan through a number of sangathan meetings for each activity. The time frame, the roles and responsibilities of each community member, the benefits for them, benefit sharing among them and the maintenance function all are sorted out and stated in very clear terms. The same is displayed at the community center for reference at any time by any one- from the community or otherwise. This detailed process also acts as a monitoring and evaluation indicator for the community.

### **Monitoring**

The plans for monitoring of interventions are built into the detail plans prepared by the community in each village. The responsibilities are divided among the community members and AAK. The progress of the same is monitored and shared in periodic (or monthly) meetings.

### **Review**

Annual programmatic review of the interventions of the last year is done at the village level. In this, they are aided by the detailed plans they have prepared during

the course of the year which brings out clearly as to the status with respect to benefits from the activities, the successes and failures of the past and, therefore, helps in learning from the past and integrating the same in future plans. The review process is also a capacity building exercise during which the community analyses the past year, the prevailing socio-economic situation around them and therefore feels the need for changes, which are then, incorporated in the future plans.

The community at the village and at the cluster level evaluates the performance of the organization as a whole as well as that of the key staff with whom they interact more closely. This includes the Cluster Supervisors and Animators. This evaluation is then built into the annual appraisal of the staff and helps plan the capacity building requirements for them in the coming year.

At periodic intervals, AAK has reengineered itself on the basis of participatory review with the community. The need for this was felt from both the sides- the community as well as AAK. With the change in the community's economic status and awareness levels, there was a need to take the issue forward in new ways a task that required changes to be effected within AAK. On the other hand, the increasing capacities of the AAK staff presented an opportunity to set higher goals for the future.



## **PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES**

### **Child Centred Community Development Program**

AAK regards children as the prime catalysts for change in the wake of continuing rural health and education reform. The activities done under CCCD are:

#### **1. Child Participation**

Advocacy by the children was done at block level . Members of children group federation organized a meeting with BDO Hallia. Federation members raised their issues before the BDO regarding the sanitation in the school ,condition of the toilet in the school and cleanliness of play ground and children participation in the PRI meetings . One day exposure meeting with DM was organized by the Children Federation to raise issues like education, health and sanitation. Life skill training of children/adolescent groups was organized at 32 locations in the project area.

Training was given regarding story/poem composition, use of water colour and making things out of paper like garland, flower etc.

#### **2. Child Protection-**

Public hearing was organized at cluster level regarding child labour and child problems This program was organized at 8 places of the project area. Public hearing highlighted the child labour problems. 26 children were selected who indulged in seasonal labour during cropping season. Child labour families appeared before the labour officer with the help of organization. Labour officer warned the families that if they send their children to work as child labour, they will be punished. Information regarding 16 labour related schemes was provided by the organization staff and labour dept. officers.

Sensitization of media on child related issues was done at block level. 20 media persons were sensitized on child protection issues prevalent in the area. The importance and role of media was discussed so that it can highlight the child related issues to the govt. officials, legislative and community. Discussion centered on inactiveness of the govt. employees and rights of the children. Also suggested

for raise the level of awareness and gain the knowledge. To sensitize the media and children produced a demand letter before the media mentioning the following points

- 1-Govt. assure the availability of separate toilet for girls and boys in each school.
- 2-Govt. assure quality MDM in the schools and regular monitoring
- 3-Assure the molestation of children in free community
- 4>Create children related environment in the schools.
- 5-Timely availability of dress, books and other education related matters.
- 6- Take action against child marriage.

Support was provided to get aids and appliances for special need children during government check up camps (About 20 children participated for certification and aids and appliances) . AAK staff tracing the children. A list of the identified disabled children submitted by the FLWs in the office. Between the time information received by the SSA office regarding to the faces camp for disabled children. On the basis of the information selected children participated in the camp and completed the assessment of the children. 11 disabled children received aids and appliances according to need at primary school, Mujehra, Mirzapur. Social welfare officer, BSA and state Minister Mr. Kailash Chaurasia as a chief guest were present on the occasion. 6 tricycle, 2 AFO,3 wheel chair received by the disabled children.

2 days training was provided to CPC members on ICPS, JJ Act. & PCPNDT at central level This training was organized at central level. Program was inaugurated by the director of the organization with introduction and brief about the problem and area. During the 2 days program schedule the trained staff facilitated on ICPS, JJ Act, POCSO and PCPNDT act and its implementation at each level. During the session participant clear the concept and raise the question. Also highlighted the issues on female foeticides with the help of local quack. Group work given to the participants and demonstrate the understanding regarding the subject. Second day discussion and facilitation made on the JJ Act. Detail information given to the participants regarding the act.

### **3. Disaster Risk Reduction-**

Half day orientation was organized at school level in the project area for SMC regarding School Disaster Management Planning (SDMP) and school fire safety. 42 schools were selected for the program. Discussion was made on the fire safety in the schools.

Mock drills were organized in one school of each cluster. Coordinators discussed with teacher regarding the mock drill and got permission for the activity. A dummy fire was lighted in the class room and then the class room was evacuated according to a plan. After the activity, an evacuation plan was also prepared by the FLW and coordinator with the help of the children. Children and teacher were made aware to save their life during the disaster.

One day orientation of staff on climate change was organized. Information was provided regarding the climate change process, its reason and bad effect on the community and children. Discussion was also done regarding the increasing carbon dioxide in the environment and responsibility of govt. After the training, an action plan was prepared by staff to aware the community regarding the climate change, its reason and prevention.

### **4. Early childhood care and development**

Two days training program on joyful and growth monitoring learning was organized at central level. 18 AWWs were trained. After the completion of the training program, assessment was done regarding learning of the AWW.

Training provided to 5 AWW and 180 members of the mother groups. This orientation program was organized at selected 5 Aaganwari centres where primary schools and AWCs is at the same premises. An orientation module prepared by the learning coordinator was facilitated by all the coordinators in 2 clusters.

Counseling to 150 couples on family planning was completed in 4 cluster of the project area. ASHA, AWW & ANM were invited as resource persons. Means of contraception was demonstrated during the camps and the couples were advised according to the need.

Support to three Aganwadi Centers for their development as a model center for demonstration. After doing a need assessment at AWC level, an inauguration meeting was organized at AWCs in the presence of village head, mother groups, ICDS supervisors and AAK staff. Support was provided to the centres such as almirah, toy cycles, swings, eating plates, water vessels, play materials and stationary etc. 180 children of the village were the beneficiaries.

2 days training was provided to 80 adolescent girls on anemia, nutritional education and menstrual hygiene. This program was organized at central level. A resource person facilitated the program in the presence of coordinator and female FLWs.

Public hearing was organized at block level in the presence of health and ICDS department on the malnourished children and status of Aganwadi Centres..

50 profiles of the malnourishment children were prepared by the FLWs and coordinator. Chief guest of this program was Medical Officer, PHC, Hallia and ICDS Supervisor, Hallia. Mother group and adolescents shared their problems before the chief guest and children's profile was also provided to the chief guests. Aganwadi supervisor assured to open AWCs regularly and suggested for referring malnourished children to the hospital. Medical Officer facilitated the appointment process for the ASHA. 6 AWCs were regularized.

Strengthening of growth chart was done in ICDS centers in AAK PLAN project area. This program was organized at the field level. 19 AWW and 20 staff were the beneficiaries.

## **5. Education**

The names of newly selected SMC members were displayed on their houses. This helped in establishing an identity of SMC members in the community.

Welcome ceremony was organized at the newly formed SMC members at school level. Established an identity of 451 SMC members in the community and they oriented on their roles & responsibilities.

Bal Divas was organized at block level to celebrate participation of children in schools. Govt. officials from various departments were invited. The program was inaugurated by the BDO Hallia. An exhibition was organized on child rights. Competition such as play, folk song, speech and games etc. were organized for the children. CWC Hallia distributed the prize to the children. 350 children got an opportunity to show their talents and had an interface with BDO and CWO.

Strengthening of schools was done with support of playing materials to schools. Availability of play materials was ensured in 41 schools and the level of retention was raised and there was improvement in presence of the students in the schools.

Creative activity and bi monthly meeting with Bal Mantrimandal. Bal Mantrimandals were structured in 41 schools and stationary materials were provided to them to create their view through various ways like story writing , drawing, poem and craft work. 902 children benefited with the program.

2 days training to the 82 SMC members on RTE and their roles. They were made aware to monitor school level activities such as MDM, Scholarship, teachers regularity, corporal punishment etc.

Participatory mapping of schools was done by SMC members on RTE indicators and parameters. The compiled report was presented to BSA, Mirzapur who assured to fill the gap in the schools such as lack of teachers, electricity, toilet and drinking water facilities in the schools.

## **6. Optimal Health**

One day orientation was organized at cluster level to sensitize the community regarding danger signs during pregnancy . The orientation was conducted by ANM and Health coordinator. There were 64 participants including pregnant women, female head of the family ,active women leaders from the community, ASHA and ANM .

Healthy baby show was organized on mothers day at PHC campus, Hallia . 2 selected children and mothers from village level participated in the program. A team of doctors adjudged the best baby of the show.

One day campaign and screening of film using LCD was organized at village level regarding immunization and malnourishment . This activity was completed in all 32 villages of the project area. FLWs mobilized the community regarding the subject . A film related to the subject Amma Ji Kahti hai prepared by UNICEF was screened in the villages. 32 community members were made aware regarding the immunization and malnourishment.

Awareness program was organized in 32 village of the project on the health related issues such as diarrhea and malaria. Awareness was done through folk songs rendered by a female artist .

Support of the one fogging machine at central level for eradication of malaria.. This machine is operated with the help of the village head and community members.

One day orientation was organized at central level regarding sexually transmitted diseases. The program was facilitated by a resource person. The community was made aware regarding sexually transmitted diseases and preventive measures on HIV, AIDS, RTI and STI and its symptoms, reason and treatment with the help of group discussion.

## **7. Household Economic Security-**

Promotion of organic farming was done through partial support to buy 100 HDPE pipe for irrigation. This support was given to the 18 SHGs in 15 villages of the project area through participatory analysis and on the basis of promotion of organic farming. This support helped group members to increase the irrigation area, intensive, organic, market oriented cropping, raise the production, cash and multi cropping.

## **8. Water , Environment and Sanitation**

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2013, Hand Wash Day was organized in 42 schools. Demonstration of hand washing was done and a quiz competition was organized. regarding sanitation and hand wash. A wash kit (soap with soap case, nail cutter,

mirror, comb) was distributed in all the 42 school including a monitoring chart for teacher and school monitors. They were monitored for 3 months and findings were presented on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2014 . On the basis of the findings, best school teacher and monitor were awarded. 1546 children and teachers were made aware regarding the hand wash system.

On the occasion of World Water Day, a program was organized at project level. 157 community members were made aware regarding the water, use of water and water conservation.

Roll out of the Village Water Supply Scheme (VWSS) module was completed in 10 villages initially and then in all 32 communities of project area. Slogans related to sanitation, use of toilet and avoiding open defecation were painted on walls. A hand bill related to the open defecation was distributed by the FLWs in all the villages.

Partial support was provided to construct IHHL through all the demand generation activity for household latrines. 50 most deprived household were identified for partial support of Rs. 2000/- for construction of IHHL. Selection of the household was done by the FLWs and coordinators. Rs. 2000/- was given to each household after completion of the construction of toilets.

## **Drought Mitigation through MNREGA**

### **Objectives of the Project**

- To ensure effective implementation of MNREGA
- To increase the permanent livelihood of the community
- To reduce the effect of drought in the project area.

### **Outcomes achieved:**

The program is being implemented in 56 gram panchayats ( 51 in Hallia block and 5 in Lalganj block ). There are 25515 families in total including 16242 target families whose total population is 149620.

1878 new job cards have been made and the total number of job cards has increased to 29172 ( an increase of 6.88 % ) out of which accounts have been opened in case of 26242 people. These are the people who work as labours.

There has been an increase of 6.42% in the number of bank accounts and 1582 new accounts have been opened.

Migration has been reduced significantly in comparison to the previous year. In the previous year 6108 people (4951 male and 1157 female ) from 4364 families migrated while in this year 447 people ( 395 male and 52 female ) from 444 families have migrated.

Employment was provided to 18184 families which is about 71% of the total number of families . Out of that, 100 days employment was provided to 12526 target families .

For the financial year 2013-14, the following livelihood generation work was done in 56 gram panchayats : 107 wells, 105 bandhi construction and repair, , 18 check dams, 598 bigha ground leveling, 95 ponds construction & deepening and 10.5 km construction of drains.

Two days internal tour to Shivdwara area ( in Sonbhadra distt. ) was organized for 28 selected volunteers so that they can learn and have experiences from there. After the tour, the experiences and learnings were shared with the community at the panchayat level.

Meeting with district level officials was organized regarding MNREGA. The result was that resolution of problems was done by MNREGA officials at district and block levels.

One-day workshop was organized for local media personnel to highlight the impediments in the implementation of MNREGA. 8 media personnel along with 14 panchayat representatives participated in the workshop. The issues were highlighted by the media in various newspapers.



Meeting with stakeholders was organized at the district level on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2014. The total participants were 37 including BDO, CDO and other MNREGA officials. Interface with block officials was organized regarding MNREGA issues twice the year on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014 respectively. The total participants were 204 including Village Development Officer, BDO, ADO and community people.

Capacity building of panchayat representatives of 15 panchayats was organized in March 2014. The purpose was to develop an understanding among the participants regarding MNREGA issues.

Support to panchayats on watershed planning was done in 18 gram panchayats in June 2014. Compiling and sharing of MNREGA experiences was done in 20 gram panchayats. 672 monthly meetings of MNREGA labourers were organized in 56 gram panchayats in which 835 women and 925 men participated.

A panchayat level seminar was organized on the theme of MNREGA in February 2014. The objective was to make the community and panchayat representatives aware of the MNREGA process and work so that the MNREGA process can be made more effective. There were 3028 participants covering 41 gram panchayats. Effort was made to make the community aware about MNREGA act via street plays and stalls at local fairs.

A meeting of MNREGA vigilance committee was organized at panchayat level. 948 members participated in the meeting. Members were made aware about the committee's objectives, its work and responsibilities.

A survey was done in the selected 15 new gram panchayats in Hallia block to know the current status of MNREGA and to prepare a baseline after the identification of the major prevalent issues.

By PRA techniques, ward level mapping was done regarding work done under MNREGA in the panchayats. Hence, it showed the work done ward-wise and the wards where there had been no work. The reasons were identified and the planning for 2014-15 was done accordingly.

2-3 volunteers were selected at the gram panchayat level in new panchayats. They were given technical training. They are providing the required support in the gram panchayat planning, site selection of water conservation sources and maintaining the quality of work.

In all the gram panchayats of work area, the gram sabhas provided the support in work planning. It was ensured by special initiatives at the block level that the planning is done by participatory processes and work is done accordingly. In each of the gram panchayat, wall writing has been done at public places to display the proposed work plan.

Prioritization of major works from the work plan was done by participatory methods and it was decided to implement it on a priority basis. For its evaluation & review, important decisions are taken at the quarterly panchayat level meetings.

16 model gram panchayats were formed in Hallia and Lalganj blocks where watershed based planning has been done and community & gram panchayats have been strengthened for the effective implementation of MNREGA processes. Also, initiatives have been taken at block level for inclusive development and efforts have been made to raise funds for those panchayats. 40% of the proposed work plan has been completed. There has been 25% greater expenditure here as compared to the other gram panchayats. 514 bigha land of 397 families have become suitable for dual crops and there has been an increase in the agricultural output. In these gram panchayats, the community and the gram panchayats are active and MNREGA processes are being implemented quite effectively.

Efforts have been made to seek the attention of block level and district level Govt. officials towards major prevalent MNREGA issues. For its solution, strategy has been made by mutual co-operation. Organizing of chaupals at area level has proved to be quite effective in the resolution of problems.

Helpline numbers have proved to be quite effective in the resolution of problems such as payment of wages, forgery, verification etc.

## **Child Rights**

Child Rights project is being supported by UNICEF in 210 villages of Hallia and Lalganj blocks of Mirzapur district.

### **Objectives**

To facilitate SMCs to play a proactive role in ensuring reduction in the number of OOSC, improve attendance of children and reduce the incidence of dropouts, increase in transition of girls after class 5 and of all children after class 8, and increase awareness on RTE, child rights, and CFS norms among members of SMC, VEC, WG and CPC in 210 villages.

To establish and strengthen Child Protection structures in 210 villages of Hallia and Lalganj blocks of Mirzapur district and a Civil Society Alliance at block level which respond to and address the local Child Protection issues.

To enhance knowledge and positive attitude of families and communities in 210 villages of Hallia and Lalganj blocks in the Mirzapur district, for the promotion of child rights and the protection of children against violence, exploitation and abuse.

To empower Women especially those from socially excluded groups to champion/promote rights of children and have positive attitude to practice the 10 point child friendly agenda.

### **Outcomes achieved: -**

- Block level CSA have been formed in Hallia and Lalganj blocks and their quarterly meetings are being held regularly. Discussions are held regarding issues related to children, action plans are developed and implemented.
- Village level CPCs have been formed in 210 villages of Hallia and Lalganj blocks. 90% members are trained. Regular quarterly meetings are being held and initiatives are being taken by them by preparing action plans regarding

child-labour, child marriage, child abuse, linkage of children to school and ensuring their regular attendance in schools and quality education.

- 2 block-level CPCs have also been formed and their regular meetings are being held.
- 2540 trained WG members are aware about 10 point CFA and they are giving the info. to other women of the villages during their home visits.
- There has been a behavioural change in the service providers of the project villages. Attendance of teachers in schools has improved, ANM are doing vaccination by going to those underprivileged hamlets where they never visited before and aanganvadi centres have become more active and they are functional on a regular basis.
- There has been an increase in the awareness of the underprivileged community. Objections were raised by the community members against vaccination of many people by a single syringe. The community also refused ANM to give Rs. 10 as vaccination card fee .The community also complained to block level officials regarding irregularities in vaccination and non-distribution of nutritional food in aanganvadi centres.
- 80 % underprivileged families have started using iodized salt.
- 80% women went to hospitals for safe delivery.
- After medical check-ups, Accessories were given to 81 speech and hearing impaired children and 95 physically handicapped children and facilitation was done to have their identity cards.
- 916 drop-outs and under-privileged children were linked to various schools.
- 10 model gram sabha were organized in which child-friendly issues were openly discussed and decisions were included in the proceedings.
- 12 child marriages in 9 villages were prevented by the efforts of CPC members.
- Capacity building and sensitization of 26 gram pradhans was done by providing them block level training on 10 point CFA
- Quarterly village level meetings of WG, gram panchayat members and service providers are being organized regularly which has led to the improvement in the quality of the services.
- Initiatives have been taken by 2540 women to develop child-friendly environment by home visits to 12536 families in 210 villages.

### **Case Study 1 : Construction of road due to efforts of SMC members**

Balhiya Khurd is a village in block Lalganj in Mirzapur district, situated at about 2 km from the block headquarters. There are 136 children enrolled in the primary school of Balhiya Khurd from Balhiya Kala and Balhiya Khurd. Due to the absence of any road nearby the school, the children had to face difficulty in coming to the school specially in the rainy season. The children were unable to come to school in the rainy season. This issue was discussed by Mr. Shashikant Saroj, secretary/head master of the school with SMC president Mr. Vijay Shankar. The SMC president took it very seriously and convened a SMC meeting in which vice president of SMC Mrs. Sunita Devi and members participated. A resolution was drafted for the construction of a road upto the school and was presented to VEC. It was passed by the gram pradhan and a road upto the school was constructed. This has proved to be a boon to the students and they can now freely come to school. Hence, their attendance has gone up. All this was possible due to the efforts of SMC members.

### **Case Study 2 : Prevention of a child marriage**

**Name of child :** Lalti

**Father s Name :** Krishna Prasad

**Mother s Name :** Maina Devi

**Caste :** Kevat

**Class :** 10

**Age :** 15 years

**Village :** Khurda Pandey

**Gram Panchayat :** Bastara Raja

**Block :** Lalganj ( Mirzapur )

#### **Details of Case Study**

There are six members in Lalti s family and economic condition of her family is very poor. The main source of livelihood for her family is farming and labour. Lalti s father thinks that it is better to marry his girl as the prices are moving on the higher side everyday. Lalti is also a member of Kishori group. After her linkage with Kishori group, a lot of awareness has come and she takes the lead role in organizing the meetings and taking decisions. Her elder sister s marriage was a case of child marriage. Lalti has seen her sister becoming weak and

ill. When Lalti's father fixed Lalti's marriage, Lalti took a decision of not marrying as a child. The condition of her sister as a result of child marriage and the discussions held in Kishori group regarding the harms of child marriage facilitated her decision. She pressurized her mother and she was adamant on her decision. Her mother convinced her father. Hence, a child marriage was prevented. Now, Lalti encourages other girls to say NO to child marriage.

Hence, a child marriage was prevented as a result of awareness through Kishori group.



SHG meeting



Home visit



Meeting with Kishori group



School chalo Abhiyan



Hand Washing Day



CSA Meeting



CPC Training



SMC Formation meeting

## **GARIMA**

Since September 2013, AAK is implementing UNICEF supported GARIMA project in 210 villages of Hallia and Lalganj blocks of Mirzapur district. It is a project based on adolescent girls issues. The objective of the project is to develop and implement a comprehensive model for social and behaviour change communication to reduce embarrassment around menarche, increase the number of adolescent girls who are able to understand menstruation and the benefits of menstrual hygiene, and understand the sanitary options to manage their menstrual cycle period in 210 villages in Hallia ( 95 villages) and Lalganj (115 villages) block (s) of Mirzapur district, UP .

This project aims to ensure the following outputs in the selected project villages -

1. Village level Frontline Workers (ASHA workers, *Anganwadi* workers), Self Help Groups (SHGs), promoters and peer educators (identified as influential sources) are equipped with the knowledge and skills to conduct interpersonal communication (IPC) and community mobilization to promote understanding of menstruation and menstrual hygiene management;
2. Adolescent girls in the project villages are able to: (a) understand menstruation, and the benefits of maintaining menstrual hygiene, (b) are comfortable about discussing menarche related issues with peer educators and village level frontline workers; (c) can talk freely and are not embarrassed by menarche, and (d) know about the availability of sanitary options (e.g. napkins) and begin using them during the menstrual cycles, if available;

At the very beginning, we were unsure of the response from the community as the theme was considered a taboo and people avoided it in discussions . We were advised by UNICEF not to talk about MHM issues directly as it will lead to a negative impact. Instead, we were advised to use stories to communicate the message. We did the same. The community specially the adolescent girls and mothers were sensitized regarding the issue through CPC and SHG members. The series *Ammaji Kehti Hain* led to a significant impact amongst the community. The story of Gauri evoked a very positive response from the community . It boosted the morale of the project team . Even male groups motivated the female members of their family to attend it.



ARTHIK ANUSANDHAN KENDRA  
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS FOR LAST THREE FINANCIAL YEARS

Rs. in Lakhs

| PARTICULARS                                    | 2013 - 2014   | 2012 - 2013   | 2011 - 2012   |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Sources of Fund</b>                         |               |               |               |
| Opening Balances                               |               |               |               |
| Cash & Bank Balances                           | 25.16         | 39.21         | 23.55         |
| <b>Voluntary Contributions - Grant/Support</b> |               |               |               |
| a. Aide - et - Action                          | -             | -             | 1.49          |
| b. Action Aid India                            | -             | -             | 2.95          |
| c. Oxfam India Trust                           | -             | 10.00         | 12.42         |
| d. The Ford Foundation                         | 35.52         | 30.05         | 29.90         |
| e. Plan International (India Chapter)          | 76.20         | 72.60         | 68.32         |
| f. Jamsetji Tata Trust                         | -             | -             | 33.60         |
| g. UNICEF                                      | 68.63         | 37.17         | 10.49         |
| Bank Interest                                  | 1.20          | 0.77          | 0.37          |
| Consultancy & Miscellaneous Receipts           | -             | 0.05          | 0.64          |
| Donation & Membership Fees                     | 0.01          | -             | 0.01          |
| Internal Accruals                              | 2.91          | 2.12          | 2.37          |
| <b>Total: Rs</b>                               | <b>209.63</b> | <b>191.97</b> | <b>186.11</b> |
| <b>Application of Fund</b>                     |               |               |               |
| Project Expenses                               | 159.51        | 176.74        | 136.13        |
| Management & Administrative Expenses           | 2.47          | 1.84          | 1.10          |
| Capital Expenditure                            | 0.75          | 2.91          | 10.11         |
| Grant Refunded                                 | 1.16          | -             | -             |
| Net Provisions & Payables/Receivables          | 11.04         | (14.68)       | (0.44)        |
| <b>Total: Rs</b>                               | <b>174.93</b> | <b>166.81</b> | <b>146.90</b> |
| <b>Closing Balances</b>                        |               |               |               |
| Cash & Bank Balances                           | 34.70         | 25.16         | 39.21         |