

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18



HOLISTIC CHILD
DEVELOPMENT INDIA



Annual Report 2017-18

OUR KEY PARTNERS

ERIKSHJÄLPEN

Erikshjälpen, Sweden is a large child rights development organization working in more than 20 countries with over 125 projects. Presently ERIKS is supporting 8 large projects of HCDI.

 **ICA Japan**
The Institute of Cultural Affairs

ICA Japan, earlier known as Ecumenical Institute, was supporting one large project of HCDI in Bihar. Now, one large community based project is likely to be initiated very soon. ICAs are present in 30 countries and its international secretariat is in Brussels, Belgium.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



It gives me great pleasure to share with you an update on the performance of Holistic Child Development India through this annual report for the year 2017-18. It is because of the unstinting support of our donors we are able to continue to transform the lives of thousands of children and their families.

In the year 2018, our desire and effort has been to increase the number of projects considerably, so we may touch the lives of a greater number of underprivileged children. Sadly, budgetary constraints limited our efforts and we did not meet success. However, we are confident that in the year 2019 a new scenario will unfold. The expansion of our work is very likely to change, in our favor since the negotiations held with a new international organization for the financial support from 2019 have shown positive results.

While our efforts to increase the coverage of children and their families by taking up many more new projects in different parts of the country will continue, our commitment to maintain a high quality of the programs of the existing projects and our accountability to donors remains steadfast.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank ERIKS, Sweden which is presently our major partner and the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA), Japan for all their support towards creating happy childhood moments for so many children. Also, I would like to express my gratitude to all the members of our Governing Body for their guidance and support and to the staff of HCDI for their hard work. Of course, without the co-operation of the partner Churches, project directors and staff it would not have been possible HCDI to touch the lives of so many children. Above all I thank our Almighty God for His continued blessings upon this organization.

N. Thomas Rajkumar

OUR VISION

HCDI has a vision of children, youth and communities growing up in a holistic and friendly environment, to fulfil the God-given human potential within them, and thereby become creatively productive, responsible and caring citizens to promote equality and justice, peace and harmony in the society and to create a harmonious, equitable and sustainable global community.

OUR MISSION

HCDI, in partnership with Churches and other Christian Organizations with similar objectives as that of HCDI, endeavours to serve children, youth and communities who are alienated, deprived and marginalized for any reason whatsoever, irrespective of caste, creed, colour, sex or religion by facilitating them with opportunities for a wholesome growth within a community setting, to realize their full God-given human potential, thereby enabling them to be productive and economically self reliant, socially responsible, spiritually alert and ecologically friendly.

HOLISTIC CHILD DEVELOPMENT INDIA

Holistic Child Development India stands tall with its working experience for children and their well-being.

In four decades it has grown to be an active promoter of child rights. HCDI endeavors to bring about positive changes in the quality of life of exploited children and their families who are deprived of basic human rights. HCDI is committed to addressing this group by implementing programs and activities with the Child Rights Approach that would help them develop themselves and progress in life. Children are the primary beneficiaries along with their families and community because we firmly believe that investment in a child today will surely bare fruits tomorrow.

HCDI is a registered society under the Societies Act with its Head Office in New Delhi and Administrative Office in Pune, Maharashtra. HCDI presently works in over eight states in India through its local partners promoting the rights, interests & dignity of children, their families and communities.



HCDI Projects at a Glance



CFCD PROJECTS

Number of Projects	Villages Covered	Households Covered	Population Covered	Children Covered
6	85	7814	40158	2904

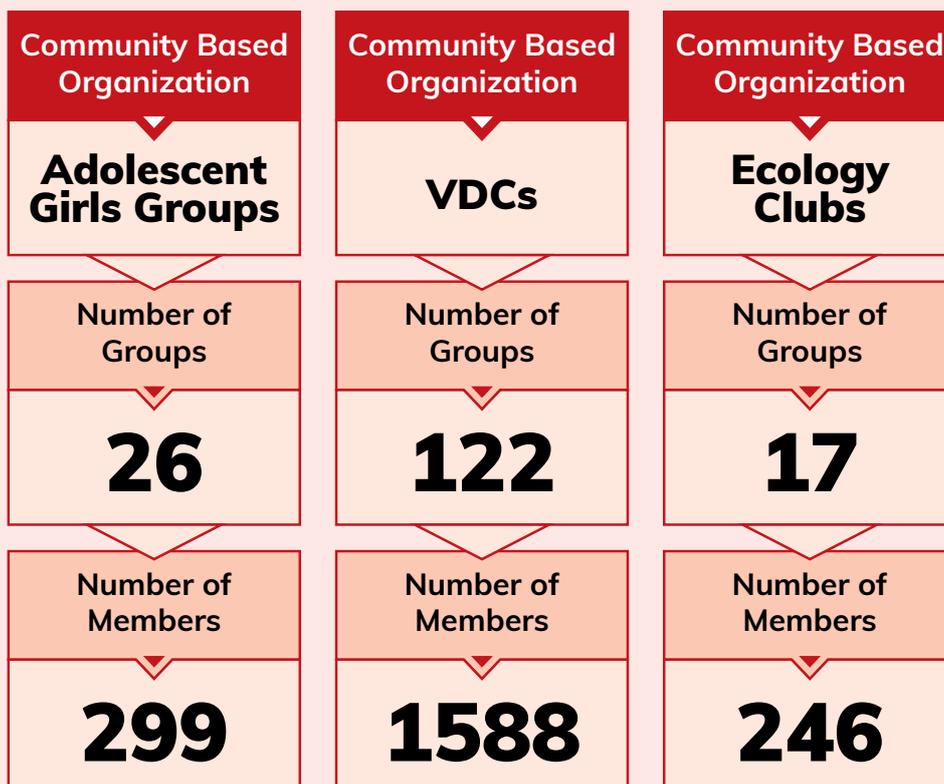
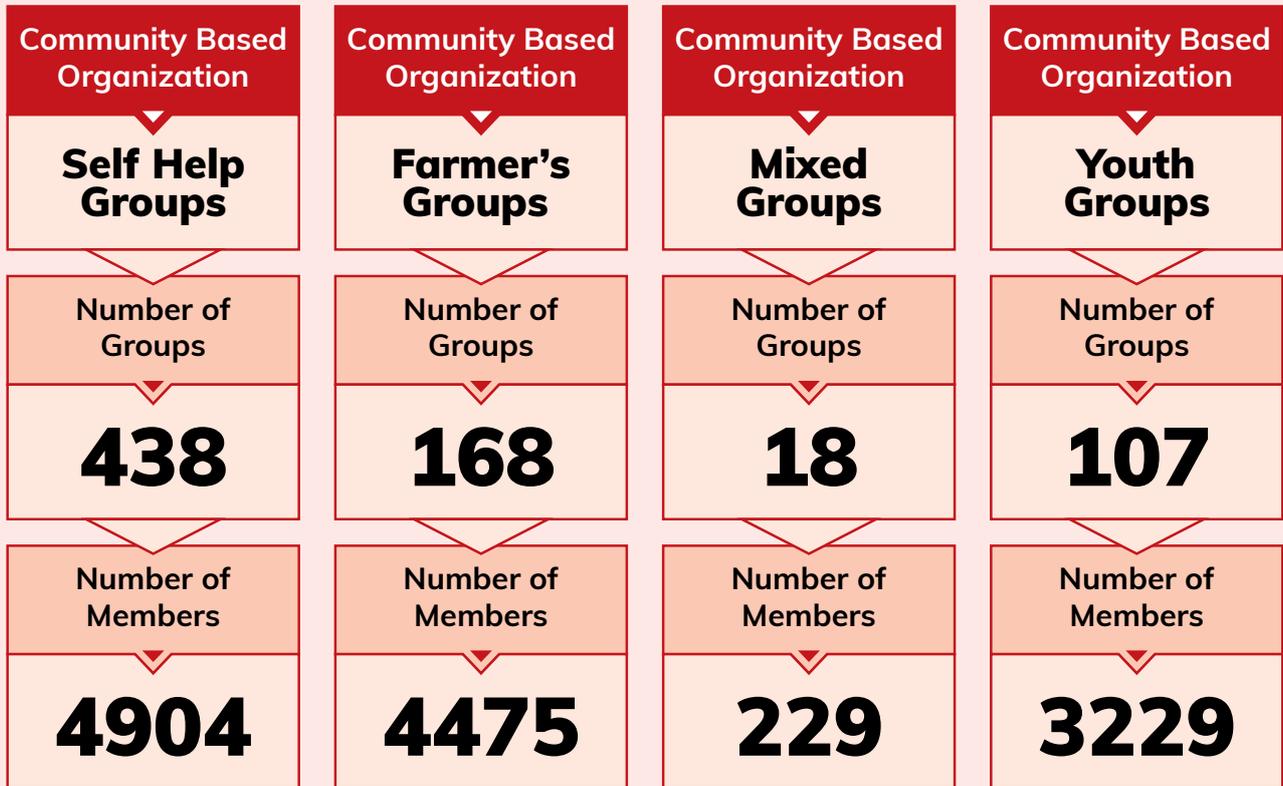
PROJECTS FOR CHILDREN AT HIGH RISK

Number of Projects	Households Covered	Population Covered	Children Covered
2	3939	21780	2633

CHILDREN'S PARLIAMENTS

Number of CPs	Number of Girl Children	Number of Boy Children	Total CP Members
173	2398	2462	4860

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS (CBOs)



Towards Ensuring Children's Rights



GIVING THEM A VOICE



“ The Right to Education is the fundamental right of children as per our constitution and all children must get basic education. But many children like me are denied this right. Neither we or our parents are aware of this. My parents are illiterate and don't know the value of education. Besides the village school was far, so my education ended after class VII in 2013, and I had to help my mother in house hold work. In 2014 we were made aware of our rights and I rejoined school in Class VIII. Now our CP is strong and we see that every child of my village must get education.

Sohagini Hansdak

Prime minister

Sida Kanhu Bal Sansad,

Partapur, Pakur Jharkhand

“ Before the entry of Dibrugarh Adivasi Community Development project, we didn't know about the child rights. Neither did our parents, as nobody talked about child rights. When the



Children's Parliament was formed, we started coming together to discuss about our rights and we realized that we need to create awareness in the families and in the community. We organized awareness programmes, organized cultural programmes, sports and games, competitions, etc. slowly parents started to accept what we are doing. Now our opinion is heard and respected by elders which makes us very happy.

Alcohol consumption is one of major problems due to which basic needs of children are left out. All the children decided to take out rally against this social evil. After our efforts, the alcohol consumption has slowly decreased now.

We have started to create awareness of child rights among children outside our target villages. We want to see all children join this movement and be aware of the rights of children.

Konklota & Anand
CP of Gilipung & Charaipung Village,
Dibrugarh, Assam

“ In one of our parliament meetings we discussed the issue of midday meal in the school. We decided to check the menu and see what the schools really give. When we checked, we saw the menu is very good but what is distributed was different. Our parliament approached the headmaster and



expressed our right for a proper diet. At first, he laughed at us and asked us not to get into these issues. We continued our demand by contacting the District Councilor. With his help, we had a meeting with school management committee. They in turn made regular visits to monitor the meals. The school started following a proper menu and today we are enjoying our midday meal. Yes! We cannot keep quiet and blame others, we need to express our concerns and if required raise our voice in public.

Sandhya Tete,
Prime Minister,
Khushi Children Parliament,
Turbunga, Dalmadih

“ The Right to Education is a challenging thought when you are growing up in a remote village. In my village Bechanfalia (Khandwa) there are 34 school going children. All are registered in the school records. Unfortunately, the school has



never opened and teachers have never come. Our parents also never bothered. My friends and I who are interested in studying formed a Children's Parliament in the village and started discussing about the need of education. Our plan was to have the school reopened. We asked our parents to join us to motivate the teachers. A School Chalo Abhiyan rally was taken out in our village. All the children and parents joined the rally. Finally, the teachers returned and classes have started from 15th August 2018. But a few children are still not coming to school. We will not give up, we shall motivate them again. "Education is our fundamental right"

Suresh Bamaniya
Khandwa

“ Good health is very essential to every person, to enjoy life fully. A few months ago I had a very serious health problem, and despite treatments and tests at hospitals I was sick. Finally, the project staff took me to Guru Tej Bahadur Medical College Hospital (GTB) where I was diagnosed with acute diabetes. After 8 days treatment I was discharged, and am perfectly healthy.

I share this experience because good health, good and timely treatment is our right. Every child should enjoy this right. Sometimes due to several reasons, parents cannot provide treatment. There are also government services available, especially for children

Anisha
Balaswa Dairy Dumping Yard,
Delhi.

“ Just a few year ago if I was asked, what are Child Rights, I would have not have understood the question. But now, when I am asked about Child Rights, I immediately connect to the four R's, Right to Participation, Right to Development, Right to Survival and Right to Protection.

I have strongly felt and advocated that every child should have good and quality education, as

in other developed towns. I want govt. schools to deliver better results and have qualified teachers. I feel the Village Education Committee should support the school management committee for strengthening the education system.

I have many ideas about improving education here which we advocate through Children's Parliament in the meetings. We discuss many issues of quality education and improved curriculum for all children.

Our village children voice is heard in the community level. We exercise our right to participation by putting our suggestions in the village school management committee. The elders respect our rights and consider our suggestions and ideas during school board planning. It makes us feel great.

Keyikingle,
Azailong village,
Nagaland



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CAMPAIGNS

It is well known that children are the most vulnerable groups in the development sector as they have no voice of their own. Development initiatives have time and again compromised the interest of children. Yet children are the essential key in the building of a new, more sustainable and resilient society, so they have a voice through various campaigns on issues affecting them.

“**School Chalo Abhiyan**” has been one of the common themes for campaigns in most of the projects supported through HCDI. The Children’s Parliaments across the projects have focused on Right to Education as one of the key areas they have to work on. Through campaigns, rallies, awareness programmes and street plays, children have created awareness among parents as well as children on the importance of education. As a result, there is more than 80% success in school registration and attendance. The teachers have become regular and are committed. In one of the projects a school

which was closed due to absence of teachers and students, was reopened after the awareness campaign.

The campaigns and rallies also focused on environmental issues in line with the Clean India (Swachh Bharat) the national initiative of the country. Children had an opportunity to raise their concerns about the callousness of the society towards social issues especially those that bring children to centre stage.



Celebration of Children’s Day across the projects was an important event, where children showcased their talents and expressed their feelings. Children had an opportunity to come together and feel their presence in large numbers. Various activities and cultural programmes boosted their spirit and they enjoyed their day with full participation.

The children also joined the campaigns organized by the Municipal authorities in Kalyan, Mumbai, and participated in street awareness programmes of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle campaign. Their efforts were hugely appreciated.





CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEES



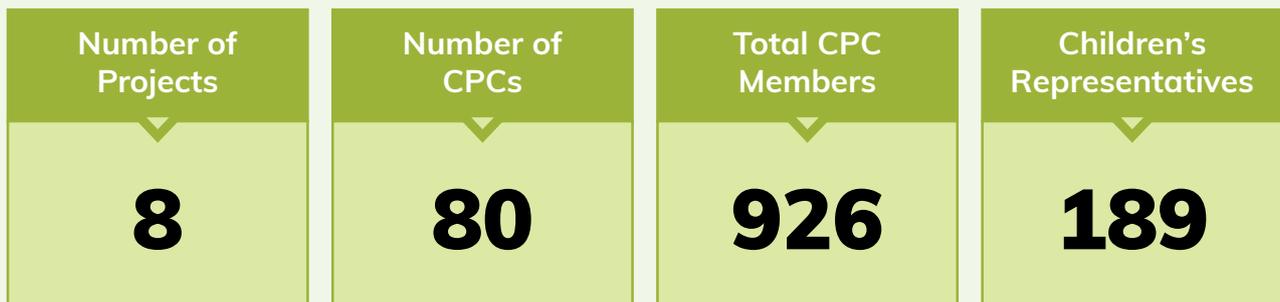
In India, the fact that the children have the right to protection has not been fully accepted or understood by the society particularly the parents due to lack of awareness. In order to protect children from violence, exploitation and abuse, all the projects have established Child Protection Committees. Their primary role is to create provisions within the village set up for protecting children and ensure that the children live in a safe environment that promotes the rights of children.

The members of child protection who understand the rights of children and uphold in all circumstance are carefully selected. They must identify the factors and situations where the violence and abuse can take place and have the capacity to address the issues of child protection without any inhibitions or reservations. HCDI also encourages two child representatives from Children's Parliaments to be part of the CPC so that they too have a say in decision making regarding protection of children.

All the projects are in the process of developing their own Child Protection Policies. These will be

translated and shared with the CPCs. Trainings on operationalization of the policies will be organized so that the committees are empowered to function effectively. The committees are given the responsibilities of:

- A. Safeguarding through prevention:
- B. Taking up any issues of violence, exploitation and abuse without any delay in the best interest of children and networking with concerned legal institutions if necessary;
- C. Creating awareness in the community and among parents on child rights and protection,
- D. Identifying the vulnerability and needs of children and creating support systems for protection;
- E. Ensuring the implementation of Child Protection Policy; and
- F. Overseeing the functioning and sustainability of Children's Parliaments in the village.



TRAININGS ON CHILD RIGHTS



The trainings imparted to the children and parents on child rights have been effectively related to their daily life to address the issues on child rights violation and exploitation. Child Rights seminars for parents covered the four Rights of children such as; Survival Rights, Development Rights, Protection Rights and Participation Rights. Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act, and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act are totally new to the rural communities, but they are opening their eyes to the injustices done to the children in various forms, knowingly or unknowingly. Small examples from village life make them open their eyes. The parents have slowly started recognizing their role in protection of their children from exploitation, abuse and violence.

CP members have taken up development issues and raised their voices in the decision-making process in the village council. This builds confidence, knowledge and self-esteem, which will eventually support their redressal community in the future successfully. Child Protection Committee at all the projects are given training on various issues affecting children and their rights.

Children are given training and awareness on environment protection and promotion. They are actively contributing in keeping their environment clean by regular social work. Parents and teachers in their own way, are also supporting the action taken by children and are recognizing that the children have their rights.



Children and youth are sensitized regarding social concerns like alcoholism, drug abuse, child labour etc. The youth in Nchangram in Nagaland have done a creditable job to stop alcoholism and keep their village drug free. Cleanliness is also given absolute importance in the village. The awareness on basic infrastructures has led to demands regarding road, drainage, transport, health, postal facilities, sanitation, etc, before the government officials in and around Balaswa dairy dump yard Delhi and drinking water facilities in Kalyan dumpyard, Mumbai.

Capacity building of the staff has been one of the key factors that helped the projects to achieve certain success. As the majority of the staff are grass root local people, they were given regular trainings and refreshers courses on Child Rights,

various legal provisions, procedures to register any complaints and identify the child rights violations.

Training programs conducted for children on Children's Participation in the local institutions like, Gram Sabha, Child Protection Committees, Project Management committees, etc., has created a new avenue for children to be part of decision- making body to express their concern.

One of the major results achieved through trainings and capacity building is parents realizing their negligence towards the rights of children. They have also recognized their failures of discharging their responsibilities. This awareness and realization will in long run yield good results in the child rights area.

CHILDREN'S PARLIAMENTS

OF THE CHILDREN, BY THE CHILDREN AND FOR THE CHILDREN

The Children's Parliaments across the projects have become strong movements of the children, by the children for the children. Their presence has been felt in the communities now as never before. The focus is very clear and through children's parliaments, children have participated in all the decision-making bodies of the village.

The staff opine that there has been a threefold benefit of children's parliaments. One is building up the child's confidence and self-esteem by education and awareness. The second is the community started feeling the importance of child rights and their responsibility to ensure the rights of children. The third is children have become effective change agents and influence elders as well as government officials.



Children have been motivating parents on the importance of education and one of the major achievements of children's parliaments across the projects is the education of children. Children have approached the government officers for better infrastructure and facilities at schools. In Bhandartal village of Mandla, MP, an uncompleted school building leaked during the raining season that led to closure of classes. The CP children discussed the matter in their meeting and decided to go for the public hearing with the help of the VDC members. All the CP children along with the VDC members met the district collector and submitted the petition. Instant action on the collector's part led to a new school building.

Parliamentarians of Gyansarovar, Delhi took initiatives in requesting for a public toilet and its maintenance, pathways and dirty streets to be repaired, street lights to be installed and health care facilities to be offered, though these facilities are very seldom provided in the dump yard dwellings. Thanks to the concerted effort of children's parliaments these facilities have been made available.

One of the greatest achievements the CP experienced is at Madhyanchal Tribal Development Project, Bhopal. By joining hands with Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Movement) and promoting toilets in the villages they wanted to stop open defecation. There is a great success where CPs are actively playing the role of promoters. 50 to 60 percent of the families have constructed toilets. The CP children had to make a lot of efforts to change the habits of people. They organized rallies with placards and banners to raise awareness often personally going from house to house talking of improving sanitation.

Supporting the ones in need:

It is a matter of pride for the CPs and its promoters under the projects supported by

ERIKS Development Partner, that the children have imbibed the spirit of ERIKS to brighten the life of their companions or friends in need. Firstly they assess the difficulties faced by each member of the group and help them in their need, may be support in kind or in cash from their little piggy bank:

- A. CP children supported two families of the CP members who lost their house due to fire in Assam. (361511)
- B. Supported a boy for his medical care (Khandwa 361501)
- C. Supported notebooks and education material to the member whose parents could not afford (361511)
- D. Supporting a child of widow by providing educational material and collecting food materials for the widow and her children (361513)
- E. Mother Teresa CP in Nagaland has made a mark in showing social concern by identifying widows and widowers and senior persons. They then help these persons collecting firewood, fetching water and sometimes in the paddy fields.



ASSESSMENT OF THE CHILDREN'S PARLIAMENT

Development of Future Strategy

The assessment of the Children's Parliament was conducted for 5 projects 3 CFCD and 2 CAHR projects. The outcome of the assessment proved a good learning for HCDI and its partner organizations. It highlighted the major achievements in the areas of child education, health and cleanliness, attitudinal change among elders, increase in self-confidence and self-esteem among children and the role children played in development. It also highlighted the existing gaps and where improvement in the strategy was most necessary. It was clear in the assessment that the initial stage of formation and capacity building of staff, the children and the community are the most important factors. The community involvement from the beginning of the programme needs to be ensured for the sustainability of



children's parliaments. The Children's Parliaments are mainly promoted in the villages where the projects are being implemented. The evaluation also suggested that the ripple effect of the parliaments spreading out to neighbouring village has also to be considered. They must be spread around the projects first and then to wider area. Many good stories are highlighted in the assessment where children have achieved great success, however, there are also areas we need to focus our attention for better impact. The assessment report presents the strengths and limitations of the CPs and the promoting organizations and gives concrete recommendations to fill the gaps to make Children's Parliaments sustainable and achieving its desired results.



Education is Basic to Ensure Child Development



BASIC EDUCATION IS THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF A CHILD



HCDI has ensured that there are anganwadis in all the project villages. This way the basic preschool programme and its benefits reach the village children. To this end during the year, most of the villages were able to start anganwadies. The projects have rendered a supportive role by supplementing with educational and play material. The projects also play the role of capacity building of anganwadi teachers, so ultimately the quality of child care is improved.

In Nagaland the Government anganwadies were neither regular nor evaluated. Once the village councils were made aware, they began to play a positive role giving due importance as also monitoring the functioning.

Informing the parents of village children of the constitutional right to education for their children

is reiterated to them across HCDI projects. Parents are invited to anganwadi meetings to give them a sense of purpose.

In the dump yard project of Delhi, non-formal education has been organized to educate children. The non-formal education centers also serve as the preparation for children to be registered in the formal schools. There has seen a sharp rise from 37 to 79 percent of the school going children.

The registration of children in the schools has increased across the projects from lowest 37 percent in Delhi dump yard project, to highest 92% in Jharkhand. The steady improvement in school enrollment and attendance is very encouraging. As the parents have realized their responsibility of educating their children, the enrollment and retention will improve further.

The government provides Rs.400/- to children for their uniforms, which the parents were putting to their own use. Now the CPs have made it very clear that the amount has to be used only for the educational ends. One of the major factors responsible for increased enrollment is the School Chalo Abhiyan (Enrollment drive). This is entirely through the consistent efforts of CPS.

This year we have been trying to promote the merger of Village Education Committees with the School Management Committees in every school. The projects give inputs to the SMCs for supervision of the regularity of schools, the mid-day meals and the quality of teaching. They also discuss with school teachers about improvement in quality of education and urge the parents to send their children to school regularly.

Cluster level cultural programmes and educational competitions have been very helpful for the children to present their talents and improve their self-confidence.

The non-formal education centers in Delhi and Day Care Centers in Kalyan have proved to be extremely beneficial for the non-school going children. This ensures further their enrollment in the formal school. Children going to schools are enrolled under various government schemes which act as an added incentive in the pursuit of education. The enrolment ratio has gone up while absenteeism and dropout rates have come down thus improving the literacy rate. Adolescent children who have not completed their basic education are educated via open/ distance education thus giving them better employment opportunities.



EMPOWERING GOVERNMENT ANGANWADI WORKERS FOR BETTER CHILD CARE



The focus of the projects has shifted from providing Early Child Care and Education to empowering government anganwadi teachers by giving time to time trainings. The trainings are focused on child care, play way method, children's development stages and proper care, contact with parents, etc. It is observed that the care for children in

government anganwadies has improved. The anganwadi workers also take care of the health and nutrition of the children, regular immunization and general health of the children. The project staff collaborate with the anganwadi workers for the child care duties.

EXTRA COACHING

A Support to School Going Children



Coaching classes were found beneficial for the school going children as their parents are unable to monitor their studies. The weak children are given more focus and their difficulties in grasping the lessons are attended to by coaching class instructors. More than 2900 children across the projects have benefitted from the coaching classes. The impact of coaching classes is clearly visible from the academic performance of children. In Dibrugarh Adivasi Community Development Project, Assam volunteers from the village have come forward to give coaching classes to the weak children.

The children in Pakur, Jharkhand do their extra studies in groups. There are 57 study groups with 811 children, where the elder children help the younger ones in their studies. The staff visit the study groups and help them to organize themselves. The parents have understood the importance of studies and they support the attendance to these group sessions. Besides improved academic performance their interest in studies has also been augmented.

SUMMER CAMPS



Children get an excellent opportunity to showcase their talents and experience the joy of sharing their achievements during summer camps. Summer camps organized this year in Delhi, Pakur, Turbunga were attended by large number of children. The camp activities include leadership & personality development, vocational guidance, educational awareness, child rights and child development. Both officials and parents who attend the functions were pleased and satisfied with the progress of the children. In Delhi the children have become more responsible and take their studies seriously. In Pakur and Turbunga the tribal children have become positive and forthcoming for camp activities.





VOCATIONAL AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAININGS



Skill development opportunities are severely lacking in rural India. The projects facilitated by HCDI have given more importance for the vocational trainings mostly for drop out children and the adolescents. 386 adolescent girls and youth were given trainings at different centres. Some of the trainings are as follows:

- A. Tailoring classes in Khandwa, Nagaland, Dibrugarh for girls who want to start self-employment.
- B. Nursing training in Mandla and Dibrugarh,
- C. Vocational training through Don Bosco Technical Training in Delhi,
- D. Driving and beautician training in Mumbai.

The trained youth are then given placements at retail stores such as Big Bazars, Pantaloons, Lifestyles, retail terminals, City Municipalities, General Motors, etc. Girls in Mumbai have started their beauty parlour which also trains other girls. Life skills trainings, like beautician and 'Mehendi' (Floral designs) are imparted to young girls. They are also taught multiple designs of 'Rakhi making', jute works, craft works, room hangings, wall hangings, etc. The vocational and skill trainings not only make the youth skilled, but also open the avenues of employment opportunities, presently a major concern for the youth.

Child Health and Community Well Being



SUPPLEMENTARY NUTRITION



HCDI is focusing on children in rural India and children who work in the dump yards of Delhi and Kalyan, often deprived of basic necessities. In India more than 43% children under 5 years of age are underweight and 48% children are stunted due to chronic malnutrition (UNICEF Latest Stories). The story is even grimmer when rural children are considered. Research shows that malnutrition is more acute where the mother is uneducated. Therefore, all the projects facilitated by HCDI focus on child nutrition as the most important survival right of children. Special attention has been paid for the nutritional care of children below 5 years. Though government anganwadies provide nutritional support through mid-day meals, these are found to be inadequate for the severely malnourished children. Protein, vitamins, multi grain cereals, Horlicks etc. are provided as supplementary nutrition. These are necessary for the initial growth of young children. Around 920 children receive nutritional supplements at the 6 rural projects and 610 children are given nutritional

support in the two urban projects of Delhi and Kalyan.

Government support at the Khandwa (Madhya Pradesh) project has successfully improved the nutritious status of 98 children below 6 years in project area. By collaborating with anganwadies and ANMs the project helped 96 expectant mothers and 115 lactating mothers to avail various schemes of health and nutrition. Similarly, 336 pregnant women were registered in anganwadies and 110 women received benefits through Janani Suraksha Yojana in the Pakur project.

One of the most remarkable achievements of the projects is the reduction in IMR and MMR to zero. This is mainly due to awareness and health education provided to the communities through the projects. The trainings on child nutrition and health have been instrumental in improving the overall condition of the children and reproductive health of women.

COMMUNITY HEALTH



Awareness on personal health, has increased sensitivity of the general community. When there is a health issue ANMs and PHCs are immediately approached. The awareness through street plays have equipped them with the knowledge and information about governmental schemes available. This way they took responsibility of expectant and lactating mothers and children in general.

Medical camps organized at project locations have helped the community immensely. Awareness on health and hygiene has played a great role in keeping their surroundings clean and the use of sanitation facilities. The Swachh Bharat (Clean India) scheme introduced by the Government of India has slowly penetrated and children of the Children's Parliaments have been active agents of change. Communities in the two dump yards are well aware and both children and adults join to maintain cleanliness in their surroundings. Precautions are taken for clean drinking water and cleanliness in the food. This has reduced the seasonal diseases in the dump yard areas. Easily accessible First Aid facilities are made available in all the non-formal education centres in Delhi. These have created a sense of well-being in the minds of children and adults. More than 85% of the community and children know of first aid at the time of minor injuries.

Unlike before the communities are keen to address the issues on health with the PHC and Community Health workers. 100% immunization is reported in all the project areas. Community Health Workers and ANMS visit the families for monthly updating of immunization for children.

Traditional health practices that were on the decline are being revived in Nagaland. Two practitioners of traditional healing were supported for developing and maintaining their herbal units, so that the village needs are catered for. Safe drinking water plays an important role in health of the community, which was a major problem in all the 7 villages of Tening. During the reporting year, all the 7 villages have built the drinking water tanks and made arrangements for the water supply through pipelines to the nearest points of community residence, from where the families can collect drinking water.

Special focus at discussions and meetings was given to the menstrual health and hygiene of the adolescent girls. Better understanding and knowledge of physical changes has resulted in better responses.



Community Organization Towards Leadership Development



SELF-HELP GROUPS FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



To augment the process of empowering women in rural India, Self Help Groups (SHGs) are formed across the projects. The groups are supported with trainings and information dissemination. In this way women are capable of managing their group activities efficiently and independently.

HCDI considers the SHGs as one of the most important Community Based Organizations because:

- SHGs are platforms for social and economic development of community in general and families in particular
- SHGs promote /upgrade standard of life for the poor people and ensure a better quality of life.
- Inculcate saving habits among women which lead to pooling the rural resources to help each other in the groups.
- Reduce dependency and emancipate from

exploitation by the money lenders.

- SHGs help members for financial discipline; identification of credit needs, create opportunities for consumption and production through credit /loan facilities.
- SHGs teach management mechanisms, boost confidence, enable participatory decision making.
- SHGs promote unity among members, concern for social issues and collective action towards change.
- SHGs generate awareness on various issues affecting the community, Govt. schemes, rights, laws, etc.

Women have been empowered economically, socially and politically through SHGs. Regular trainings organized for women on SHG management and leadership have yielded good results. This has enhanced their confidence in

approaching the banks, panchayats, block and district level offices. More women have been able to find themselves in the local panchayats, either as Sarpanch or as ward members. One of the most significant change taking place is the participation of women in local institutions like gram sabha, which was not a practice earlier.

Various vocational trainings and income generation activities initiated through SHGs are helping women to earn some income of their own. The trained SHG members in tailoring in Khandwa have been able to register for school uniform contracts, as also start a bag making unit. The various activities undertaken in Groups and individual are: Vegetable vending, selling of grocery items, poultry, piggery, group farming,

petty shops, tailoring, selling snacks in the village market, seasonal items like Rakhi, etc. SHGs have networked with banks for micro finance and with National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) for their economic sustainability.

The leadership development has enabled women to take up social issues of education, health and hygiene, infrastructure development, child health and nutrition through anganwadies, etc.

SHGs have joined the federations in Khandwa and Jharkhand, Village Organizations in Bhopal and cooperative society in Mandla. These senior organizations have enabled women to take up issues at higher level.



SHARE EXPERIENCES AND LEARN

Farmers share their experiences and learn from each other in groups



One of the main focuses in community development projects is enhancing the existing livelihood options of the rural communities. Agriculture being the main source of livelihood, HCDI pays more attention to develop the soil, land and water resources along with various methods of improving agricultural practices, necessary for agricultural development.

The community has been organized across the rural projects into Farmers Groups or Farmers Clubs on which platform they meet and discuss their concerns, issues and development activities.

Linkages with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Agriculture Science Center) at district level in all the projects, has helped the farmers to tap government training programmes and schemes available for

agricultural development. Farmers are assisted at the projects to promote vermin compost, bio-manure, bio-pest control methods and reduce use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Farmers were given exposures to farms developed by KVKs. In Dibrugarh, the farmers visited pineapple farms, turmeric farms, cow grass cultivation, vermin compost, sugar-cane, papaya, fishery farms, etc. The interactions with the scientists enhanced their knowledge. They received training on mixed cropping, seed selection, soil test and treatment, seed treatment, crop treatment, etc., The interest of the farmers in agriculture has increased as they have experienced the possibilities of making agriculture a sustainable source of their livelihood.





DECISION MAKING POWER

Decision making power shared by Village Development Committees

In all the community development projects the VDCs are the most important decision making bodies and they are given trainings to take up the leadership role in decision making. All the proposals of CBOs for various activities are discussed at the VDCs and processed for the support. Without their approval no activities take place. Thus, the ownership of the community and its development is on the community. This proves an impetus for their participation. The VDCs are introduced to government departments to avail government programmes for future development.

The VDCs also play the role of Natural Resource Development committees in the village. They



identify and propose the development work of the different village resources. One of the important efforts is towards soil, water and land resource conservation ethics of the community. To understand depletion and exploitation of available resources and to increase efforts towards sustainable management of resources is paramount.

One of the significant elements of the VDC, is membership of the Children's Parliaments. This enables children to voice their views and concerns, especially related to child rights, child education, child development and in areas where rights of children are violated.

ENERGY & STRENGTH

Youth groups consolidate their energy & strength for change.



Social change through the youth has contributed significantly, both in Nagaland and Assam. Youth groups in all the projects have slowly realized their role as leaders of the future and have started taking initiatives to bring changes. They have been able to influence the villages for various initiatives like; clean village, drug free village, alcohol free village, checking the expiry dates of the medicines in the pharmacies, group cultivation to generate income, and other activities. The youth groups in Assam also have joined the state level youth movement to bring social change in the state. Those youth in the rural areas that are away for study or work, when present have meetings and discussions to help in the change.

The youth are also being given vocational training and skill development to get them ready for the job market. Training is given in driving, computer, tailoring, beauty culture, cycle repairs, mechanic, pump repair, nursing, etc. The self-employed youth often start their own units in the village or town to become self-reliant.

STRENGTHENING THE PIO

Strengthening the PIO through Local Project Management committees



HCDI has insisted that all the projects facilitated through it have the Local Project Management Committees (LPMCs) for regular assessment of the performance, to monitor the progress, to monitor the utilization of funds, to guide the project team towards effective implementation and to increase the efficiency of the project team. These committees across the projects are strengthened and they meet three to four times in a year to review and plan for the projects. They discuss the annual action plan, the activity schedule, the budget and the responsibilities of various staff in implementing the project. The experts involved in the committees are from various fields such as; health, education, agriculture, livelihood, etc. give regular inputs and guidance for the projects.



Building Livelihood Security



SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION



India is an agricultural country, where the majority of the people depend on agricultural activity for their source of livelihood. Agriculture, daily wages and animal husbandry are rural activities dependent on the natural resources available in the villages.

HCDI works with the communities, where many of the natural resources are neither properly developed, nor judiciously made use of. At HCDI project areas, it is noticed that due to lack of water, depletion of natural resources and increased impact of climate change, the main livelihood options of the farmers have been adversely affected. To ensure that the farmers are able to adapt and mitigate some of these impacts, HCDI has promoted soil and water conservation measures like land improvement, farm bunding, rehabilitation of existing water resources etc. Implementation of these activities was through Community Participation and Contribution with the support from the project.

The main activities implemented are the following:

- 60 farmers in Pakur, Jharkhand and 70 farmers in Khandwa, MP covered 20 Hac and 34 hac land respectively for farm bunding
- De-siltation of existing water bodies in Pakur for the total work volume 2400 Cum.
- One existing check dam was repaired in Pakur,
- Rehabilitation of 4 farm ponds in Pakur,
- 4 existing old wells were deepened in Khandwa and Dibrugarh
- Deepening and renovation of 4 existing old water reservoirs in Nagaland.

Implementation of soil and water conservation has the following three aspects:

- A. Improvement and management of land, soil and water resources,

- B. Improvement in the status and standard of living of the community
- C. Improvement in community knowledge on land, soil and water resources.

Such measures have a long-term impact on the communities even after the withdrawal of the project because;

- A. Community or individual assets are created.
- B. Wage opportunities for the community, especially for the landless are possible.
- C. Community initiatives to improve the resources.
- D. Community participation is enhanced and assured.

INCREASE IN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION



Almost 80 farmers have sown second crop this year due to more water availability and moisture increase in the cultivable land. Around 12 Hac. of unproductive land has been brought under cultivation. The farmers have been able to reduce their agricultural expenses through vermin composting, bio-pest control and organic farming methods. This has increased their income from the agriculture.

The king chilly and ginger cultivation in Nagaland has increased the confidence of the farmers and in the current year the crop was abundant. On an average the families have increased their income by Rs.5,000 to Rs.8,000 per annum.



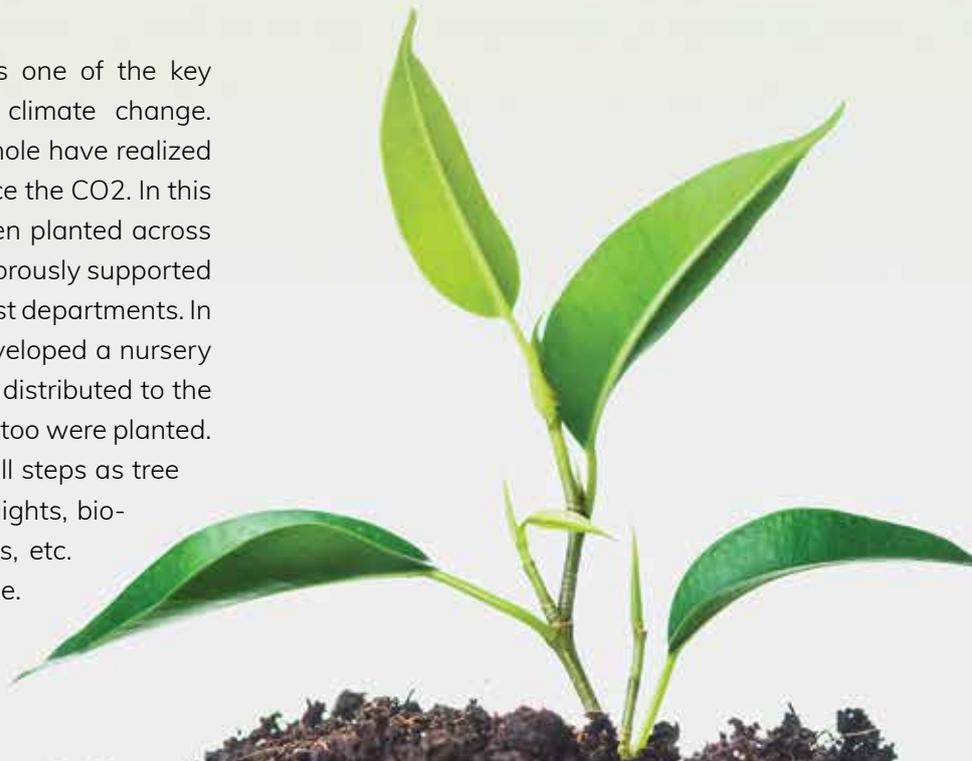
Protection of Environment is Protection of Life



PLANTING TREES TO INCREASE GREEN COVER AND REDUCE CO₂



Planting trees and caring for them is one of the key activities to address the issues of climate change. Children and the community on the whole have realized that only the green coverage can reduce the CO₂. In this year more than 30,000 trees have been planted across the projects. Such activity has been vigorously supported by the gram panchayat as also the forest departments. In Mandla, the villagers at the project developed a nursery and raised 5,500 saplings which were distributed to the villagers. Fruit bearing and shade trees too were planted. Eco Clubs formed at projects take small steps as tree plantation, water management, solar lights, bio-gas, organic farming, vermin composts, etc. to reduce the impact of climate change. The children planted trees around the school campus in the villages and public sanitation compounds in Delhi.



CAMPAIGNS AND RALLIES ON ENVIRONMENT DAY



Children and adults have realized the importance of protection and conservation of the environment. Across projects World Environment Day was celebrated with various activities. At the projects 42 rallies marked the Day. The Children's Parliaments members initiated the rallies strongly supported by CBOs, and the community. Posters and placards displaying messages of protection and planting of the trees, no plastic, and optimum use of water and soil resources, etc., were displayed to create awareness. Street plays on issues related to climate change were organized in the project villages.

The Environment Ministers of the Children's Parliaments took a lead role in the campaigns for cleanliness. The children organized clean village drives for this. Youth groups in Nagaland had a similar drive and installed waste disposal bins all over the villages. The message has been effective and impacted the communities. Other changes for environment sustainability include reduction of tree felling, the management of common resources by women, the switch to organic farming systems leading to reduced chemical fertilizers usage.



Towards Efficiency in Project Management through Capacity Building



As a facilitating organization, Holistic Child Development India believes in building the capacity of the project staff for effective implementation of the project. Regular trainings and workshops are organized at HCDI premises as per the need of the project staff. The following trainings were organized during the year;

HOW TO DEVELOP MONITORING SYSTEMS AT PROJECT LEVEL



The workshop was conducted for project directors and coordinators in two phases. In the first phase the participants were asked to revisit the log frame, especially the Result Indicators. On the basis of the indicators, participants were directed to develop monitoring tools. The participants learnt about Project Cycle Management and how to develop the log frame. Most importantly they learnt the logical connections between each stage, starting from situational analysis to project

evaluation. Using examples, the participants were guided towards developing monitoring tools. In the second phase the participants were encouraged to discuss about data collection formats, methods, tabulation and analysis of data. Lastly they learnt how to prepare the monitoring reports for each objective of the project. This training has enabled the projects to develop project specific monitoring tools and use them for monitoring the progress as per the project log frame.

BASIC TRAINING ON CHILDREN'S PARLIAMENTS (CPs)



Holistic Child Development India (HCDI), is primarily a child rights-based organization that, along with implementation of its community development projects, ensures protection of children and promoting their welfare. All the projects take keen interest in promoting the rights of children through the platform of Children's Parliaments, where children are facilitated in governance and their participation in all the decision making institutions of the villages is ensured. The concept of Children's Parliament, has to be properly grasped by the promoters for effectiveness of the programme.

Since it is a programme with children, it needs optimum creativity and continuous activities to be sustainable and attractive. Adult participation is necessary to ensure sustainability.

The Basic Training was organized to enumerate the roles and responsibilities of the parliamentarians, promoting staff and the community volunteers, importance of the methodology of promoting CPs, their sustainability as a movement to ensure child rights and child development, both within and outside the projects.





NATIONAL SEMINAR FOR CP LEADERS



Like every year, the seminar was organized by HCDI for CP leaders to share information about the functioning of the Children's Parliaments in the respective project areas, leadership development among children parliamentarians, formulation of strategies for sustainability with future perspective. 85 children along with the staff participated in the seminar. The participants comprised of representatives from 8 ERIKS supported project.

The unique feature of the seminar was children representatives steering the sessions. The

programme was discussed, agreed upon and each session was conducted by children. This helped children to gain self-confidence and take leadership roles. A very important exercise carried out in groups revealed that, there frequent child rights violations. This exercise was followed by a brainstorming session on "What can CPs do to stop violation of child rights". Children offered various suggestions and recommendations, which are translated into their action plan for the following year.

SHG MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTION OF FEDERATIONS



The training was conducted for women representatives from Self Help Groups (SHGs) and the staff taking care of livelihood activities through SHGs. Through this training the participants learnt about different models of SHGs. The HCDI model is holistic as it promotes social, economic and political empowerment of women along with security for them.

During the training they were also enlightened about the importance of federations as wider networks of women- Community Based Organizations (CBOs). This collective stand was important for emancipation of women from all kinds of discrimination, exploitation and violence. An exposure to a women's cooperative society in Pune gave a platform for direct exchange and interaction with successful women's CBO.

FOLLOW UP AND MONITORING OF THE CHILDREN'S PARLIAMENT



As part of monitoring and facilitating the implementation of CP programme at project level, HCDI officer visited the projects regularly to guide the project staff and children. During field visits the officer interacted with children, women school teachers, stakeholders and CBOs. Their role in furthering the CP programme was emphasized. The visits helped the project staff, children and community in understanding the importance of Children's Parliaments, to ensure Child rights.



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND FCRA COMPLIANCES FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS



The training was organized by HCDI for the project directors/in-charges, coordinators and accountants of all the projects supported by ERIKS and facilitated by HCDI. Inputs were given by the expert auditors. Questions and doubts regarding financial matters, especially FCRA Compliances were clarified for the participants. This was an opportunity to review the financial situation of the project partners with the focus on budget, receipts and payment statements. Clear plans for the project implementation and fund utilization were outlined. The training also featured the importance of having good financial management systems in place to avoid mismanagement of funds.

PROJECT EVALUATIONS AND PHASING OUT



In March 2018 the first 3 project supported by ERIKS phased out after their completion of project cycles. All the three projects were evaluated by External Evaluators and the following lessons were learnt through the evaluations:

- The Pilot Phase of the projects helped the staff and PIA to understand the concept of CFCDP and enabled them to motivate community towards participatory approach.
- Formation of the CBOs and their capacity building has played the most significant role in community participation and successful achievements of the results.
- Regular trainings organized at HCDI and facilitation through visits with guidance thereof played an important role in implementation of the project. Communication skills, community motivation and methods for networking and cooperation have improved vastly.
- The Project In-Charges/directors strongly feel that the success of a project depends very much on staff and animators; hence, their proper selection is the key to effective implementation of a project. Knowledge of newly developed monitoring tool (village survey) is very useful for future projects.

Do Green For Eye Health



**By Chemi & Mitsui Chemicals Inc. with
Institute of Cultural Affairs, Japan**

DISTRIBUTION OF EYE GLASSES



The Eye Health Camp sponsored by CHEMI & Mitsui Chemicals Incorporated (MCI), Japan through Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA), Japan and Holistic Child Development India (HCDI) was implemented in Jhabua District of Madhya Pradesh, India. The programme was organized with the help of Navjeevan Kendra, a social organization of Society of Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Marc.

The 5-day check-up camps were organized in November 2017, with the support of doctors and eye technicians. During the camps around 247 people from the tribal villages and schools were identified for vision glasses.





MCI, Japan promised to supply the glasses with lenses made of bio-product. Three countries namely; Japan, Korea and China have participated in making the eyeglasses. MCI, Japan produced the liquid form and CHEMI, Korea prepared the lenses and CHEMI, China made the frames.

Distribution of glasses which began on the 29th of June 2018, which was conducted in two stages; the first was at New Catholic Mission School, Jhabua where 81 children were provided glasses. Dignitaries from MCI, Japan, ICA Japan, MCI, India and Holistic Child Development India were present for the distribution.

Mr. Rui Chibana, MCI, Japan addressed the school children assembly and explained the importance of eye health and distributed the eye glasses to the children. The children were extremely happy, as their vision had greatly improved.

The Second stage of distribution was in the village Bhandariya of Jhabua District, where around 160 persons attended to receive eye glasses.

As part of this distribution event, an awareness cum training programme was conducted for the community. This was to encourage the rural people to make use of the essential health services available especially for eye care.

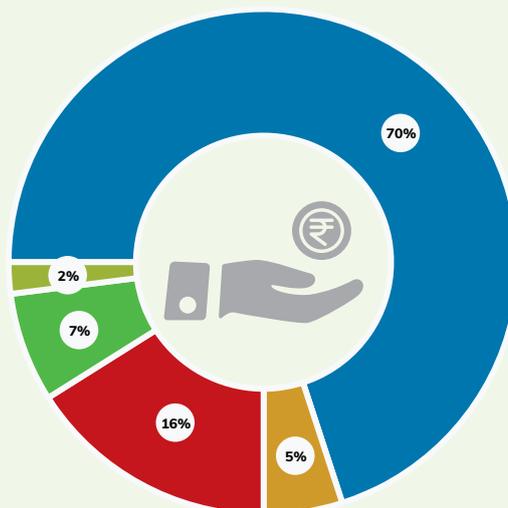
Mr. Rui Chibana, in his presentation explained how the lenses are made from the extract of liquid from a plant grown in India. The liquid was processed and sent to Korea where CHEMI prepared lenses and sent to China, for the frames to be fixed. He also urged the people to avail the eye care services through government hospitals and private charity based eye care facilities available in the area. Ms. Shizuyo Sato, director, ICA Japan, mentioned that the eye is the light of the body and that all parts of the human body have to be healthy. Neglect of the eyes will lead to a life of darkness. Mr. Thomas Rajkumar, director, HCDI expressed his concern about the need for internal nutrients and external care. A better diet will keep the eyes healthy. Dr. D.K Agrawal explained how frequent washing of eyes, is important for eye health. Fr. Anthon Katara explained to the people in Bhili their local language, the importance of the eye health.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF 2017-18



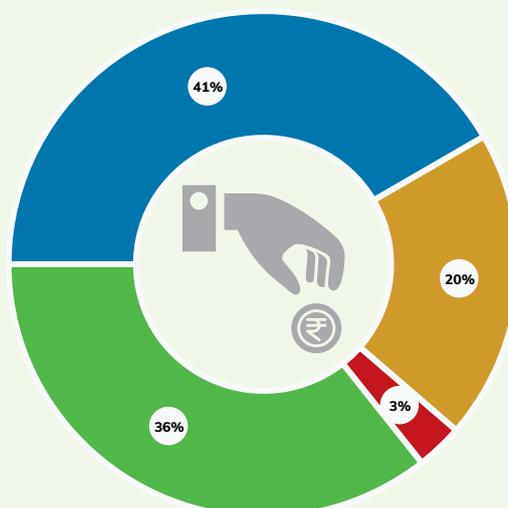
RECEIPT OF FUNDS

Details	Rs. In Lakhs	%
Grants from Erikshjälpen, Sweden	281.69	70%
Grants from ICA Japan	7.63	2%
Grants from Gemeinnutzige	27.82	7%
Bank Interest	66.56	16%
Other Income/Receipts	21.43	5%
Total	405.13	100%



DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TO DIFFERENT PROGRAMMES

Details	Rs. In Lakhs	%
Child Focused Community	233.66	36%
Development Projects [CFCDP]		
Children At High Risk [CAHR]	130.90	20%
Residential Child Care Prog[RCCP]	274.63	41%
Others	17.73	3%
Total	656.92	100%



RECEIPTS		
RECEIPTS	2017-2018	2016-2017
	In Rupees	In Rupees
Opening Balance	33,13,545.53	20,11,678.41
Grants from Eriks, Sweden	281,68,962.50	265,51,952.00
Grants from ICA Japan	7,62,987.00	12,18,574.00
Grant from Gemeinnutzige Stiftung	27,82,104.00	0.00
Donations	2,66,750.00	2,31,300.00
Bank Interest	66,56,613.00	68,76,056.00
Investments Realised	3,86,65,499.00	102,85,269.00
Other Income/Receipts	19,51,523.97	10,37,642.71
Total	825,67,985.00	482,12,472.12

PAYMENTS		
PAYMENTS	2017-2018	2016-2017
	In Rupees	In Rupees
Funds Disbursed to Projects	639,18,349.00	260,43,199.00
Programme Administration	126,06,343.27	129,70,295.43
Other Expenses /Disbursement	19,71,461.00	39,97,859.16
Capital Expenditure	0.00	18,87,573.00
Closing Balance	40,71,831.73	33,13,545.53
Total	825,67,985.00	482,12,472.12

BALANCE SHEET		
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	As at 31-03-2018	As at 31-03-2017
	In Rupees	In Rupees
Reserves And Surplus	646,44,057.72	641,52,946.49
Specific Funds	192,75,277.25	308,41,805.28
Current Liabilities	162,25,773.76	441,13,004.76
Total	1001,45,108.73	1391,07,756.53

PROPERTY AND ASSETS	As at 31-03-2018	As at 31-03-2017
	In Rupees	In Rupees
Fixed Assets	514,04,071.00	523,40,125.00
Investments	444,77,461.00	831,42,960.00
Deposits And Advances	1,91,745.00	3,11,126.00
Cash And Bank Balances	40,71,831.73	33,13,545.53
Total	1001,45,108.73	1391,07,756.53

OUR PARTNERS

OUR PROJECT PARTNERS

Gossner Evangelical Lutheran Church (GELC)

Catholic Diocese of Jabalpur

Malankara Mar Thoma Syrian Church

Catholic Diocese of Khandwa

Missionary Society of St. Thomas The Apostle (MST)

Congregation of Mother of Carmel (CMC)

Nagaland Baptist Church Council (NBCC)

Dominican Sisters of the presentation (OP)

Theodori Rural Development Project (TRDP)

OUR DONOR ORGANIZATIONS

ERIKS Development Partner, Sweden

The Institute of Cultural Affairs, Japan

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