

bhavishyavani

A Monthly Newsletter of Bhavishya Alliance

September- October'08

Whats In?:

- **Initiatives and their progress in Nandurbar and Amaravati.**
- **Updates:**
 - o BA congratulates Mumbai Mobile Crèches' efforts
 - o Day Care Centres in Dharavi
 - o 10 more Computer Aided Adult literacy Centres operational in Peint
 - o Training of facilitators for Girls Gaining Ground project started

Updates September-October'08

Initiatives and their progress in Nandurbar and Amaravati:

Nandurbar:

New:

- **Behavioural change and communications on complementary feeding:** - A Core Team represented by professionals from UNICEF, Hindustan Unilever Ltd., and an independent advertising consultant has been formed to design a behavioural change communication plan for community on infant feeding with focus on complementary feeding. The team has identified the broad issues to be addressed and a strategy blue print and work plan is ready. Hindustan Unilever Ltd. is taking the lead to manage the project where as UNICEF would be providing technical expertise on development of materials. ICICI bank through ICICI Foundation is expected to provide the initial part funding support for the project.
- **Hand washing-** Long pending Behaviour change communication initiative for hand washing is now reinstated in partnership between HUL and UNICEF to be implemented through Government and NGO channels to cover all the blocks of Nandurbar district. Hindustan Unilever Ltd. along with it design and execution partner Ogilvy Action shared design & collaterals on the campaign and UNICEF shared their existing 'School in Development' program design. A joint team visit to Nandurbar to understand the field nuances and finalise the modalities of implementation took place during October'08. The team is planning to design a pilot campaign that will add value to the existing SID program of government and UNICEF.

Existing:

- **Second tier of field level training on Food Diversification completed in 2000 AWC's in Nandurbar covering more than 12000 people (AWWs, SHG members, Mother's)**



Following the training on Food Diversification, Cooking Hygiene and Nutrition for the of ICDS functionaries held from 25th to 31st July '08 at IHM Aurangabad (which included CDPO's, supervisors, mothers groups, women SHG's, Anganwadi workers and local NGO's of Nandurbar district) second level of field training have been completed in about 2,000 AWC's. Around 12,000 participants consisting of 6 members from each Anganwadi centre consisting of Self Help Group members, members from mothers committee, the Anganwadi worker and helper were trained at the sector level

of respective talukas of Nandurbar district.

The Baseline data for impact assessment has also been completed and the data is being analysed.

Amaravati:

New:

- ***Initiating a local Newsletter for Melghat*** – The newsletter is expected to share the information and updates on government programmes, positive stories, and seasonal information useful to the people of Melghat, simple communication on what can be done to improve mother and child health. Initially, it would be a monthly newsletter whose costs would be borne by the Zilla Parishad. KHOJ, a voluntary organisation in Melghat is coordinating the contents and translation for the newsletter along with other organisations. As we write this, the first newsletter 'Melghat Darpan' is already out.
- ***Study of Critical Areas of Melghat and take immediate action:*** A study of critical areas having significant proportion of under nourished children) is being undertaken to analyse the pattern of problem in the region. The study was conducted by Health Department with support from Bhavishya Alliance and ICCHN to cover around 700 undernourished children of Dharni and Chikhaldhara. Data collection is completed and is being compiled by District Program office, NRHM and is the analysis is expected to be ready by end of Nov'08.
- ***Engaging the political Leaders:*** A workshop is planned to engage with Political Leaders of Melghat, to understand their perception of the health and nutrition issues of Melghat, identify what could be the possible suggestions for improving indicators of mother and child health in Melghat.

Existing:

- ***Facility based Health and Nutrition Counselling Programme -***
Coordination Committee set up to monitor the activities of the Counsellors Programme met in Dharni to review the progress and identified the need to increase the knowledge and skills of the counsellors on various issues, for them to be more effective in their work. The issues like communication and counselling skills, nutrition education, knowledge about antenatal and post natal care, child development, understanding high risks cases and cases needing immediate medical care in mother and children were identified as areas that need further attention. Training on these areas was held from 13th October -17th October 2008 in Dharni. The Zila Parishad has now extended the project for another six months i.e till March'09. Based on the outcome further scaling up will be planned.
- ***Facility based Day Care centers and crèches:***
Facility based care centers which were initiated earlier by the health and ICDS department is again planned to be started in 90 sub- centers. These centers are expected to provide care and nutrition to severely malnourished children on day care basis. Besides these centers ,10 village based crèches are planned to be initiated jointly by local NGO's and ICDS department for prevention of undernutrition among children 1 to 3 years.

Congratulations to Zilla Parishad, Amaravati for setting up a Helpline for Health for attending to emergencies in both Dharni and Chikhaldhara block. This Helpline is expected to provide speedy service to the patients in need of medical attention especially mother and child.

Updates:

BA Congratulates Mumbai Mobile Crèches Efforts

Project on Day Care cum Anganwadi centre in construction sites in partnership between Mumbai Mobile Crèches (MMC), Nirman, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), B.G. Shirke builders and Bhavishya Alliance has led to major policy change in ICDS. The ICDS Commissioner has issued an order for provision of ICDS services at the big construction sites in Mumbai where the work will go on for 2 years or more and having appropriate number of children in the sites. This is probably the first time ever in India that ICDS services will be reaching to the unrecognised sites with migrant labour.



Day Care/Anganwadi centre at Pratiksha Nagar, Sion

Two new Anganwadi centres have started in Pratiksha Nagar, Sion and Ganesh Nagar, Malad and are currently functioning beyond normal Anganwadi hours so as to function as Day Care Centre. Self Help Groups are being formed from among the construction workers for providing food for the children at the centre. The site in Kharghar (mentioned in below article) is the third site where ICDS has started the process of extending its services in partnership with MMC and Nirman. BA appreciates the efforts of Mumbai Mobile Crèches for convincing the builder to contribute space, electricity, toilet and monetary contribution for the children and also for continuously being a support in running the centres.

Compassion for children of construction workers to be part of CIDCO policy ToI 26.9.08

CHITRANJAN TENDHAKAR | TOI

Mumbai: If taken, this enlightened decision will warm the hearts of social workers who have fought for years for more humane conditions for construction workers, widely considered to be one of the poorest and most vulnerable sections of the urban underbelly.

CIDCO, the chief planning authority for Navi Mumbai, is studying a proposal to make it mandatory for builders in the satellite township to provide education, food, entertainment and healthcare to the children of labourers at the project sites, until the buildings are ready.

Normally, these children are either left to their own devices in makeshift huts or taken by parents to construction sites littered with wires, pilings, concrete and open pits. Accidents are all too common.

City and Industrial Development Corporation joint MD Deepak Kapoor said, "To start with, we have joined hands with an NGO called Mobile Creches, to provide education, food and health facilities to over 150 children between one month and five years at our housing projects in Seawoods and Kharghar. We are also

CRECHE COURSE


Mobile Creches for Working Mothers was started in 1972 with two centres at Nariman Point and Cuffe Parade, the hub of the construction activity at that time. As construction moved northwards so did the creches to Powai, Vashi, Virar, Parel, Kalyan, Thane and Navi Mumbai. The safe little havens they created have saved many children from the treacherous environs of construction sites, where kids have died by falling into a lift well full of water or falling down from an unfinished upper floor, as one boy did after climbing three floors in search of his mother. Mothers say that they are torn between leaving their children alone at home all day and bringing them to work where if left unattended for a even a minute, they stuff their mouths with mud

massive one of 234 flats. The labourers here are mainly from Andhra Pradesh and Bihar: working. Similarly at the upscale Seawoods complex, nearly 400 new flats are being built. There are more than 150 children who need to be looked after.

CIDCO has constructed three rooms for the children at Kharghar. The NGO has provided special teachers for the infants and half-day teachers for the older kids between three and five years. These above five years will be taught by primary teachers.

Between 8.30 am and 5.00 pm, the children will be given a nutritious breakfast, lunch and evening snack, enriched with rasgi and milk. The Rotary Club of Navi Mumbai Westside is contributing toys, a free health check up and medicine.

Once the project is ready and the labourers move on, the classrooms will be converted into site offices, said Kapoor. CIDCO and NGO are both financing the expenditure on a fifty per cent basis. "We also want our developers on different CIDCO projects to implement this experiment," he said. "Ultimately, we want to make it mandatory for all developers in the satellite city."



LOST CHILDHOOD: Labourers' children will now be sent to creches

thinking of making the provision of such facilities a precondition in any agreement signed with developers of, say, projects like the airport."

Kapoor told TOI that CIDCO officials found on a survey

that 154 children were left home all day while their parents poured concrete, carried brick loads and shovelled gravel under the burning sun. The children had no food, education or recreation all day long.

Now, Mobile Creches, a pioneer in the field of care for labourers' children, has agreed to provide all three things in classrooms constructed near the construction site.

The Kharghar project is a

Day Care Centres in Dharavi-

Another site for Day care cum Anganwadi centre has been identified in Kumbharwada in Dharavi and the repair work to make it child friendly has started. Weighing process of children to identify undernourished children in the catchments of Anganwadi cum day care centre in Kunjikuve Nagar is over and the children in the age 1-3 years identified under grade I and grade II have been enrolled in the center.

10 Computer Aided Adult literacy Centres operational in Peint, Nasik District-

Training of facilitators and supervisors for providing functional literacy to tribal women and adolescent girls has been conducted in Peint, Nasik from 23rd to 25th Sept'08. During this phase 10 facilitators and 4 supervisors participated in the training. Following this training 10 more CAALP centres have been operationalized in Nasik taking the total number to 30 in partnership between Tata Consultancy Services, Department of Tribal Welfare, Nasik and local NGO, VACHAN.



Training of facilitators for CAALP being conducted in Peint

The first batch which started in Triambakeshwar is expected to complete the programme in December'08. BA is exploring Add on modules for enhancing Health and Nutrition awareness among adults which would be taken up at these centers after the completion of literacy programme.

[Training of facilitators for Girls Gaining Ground project started –](#)



Following the Master Trainers training held during end of August'08 at Talegaon, the second level training has been completed in some of the districts. Facilitators training (10 days) has been completed for Trimbakeshwar block in Nasik and Chikaldhara and Dharni block of Amaravati, while 5 days training has been completed for Peint block in Nasik, Mokhada and Jawhar blocks in Thane and Ghatkopar in Mumbai. With the completion of this training, the actual intervention sessions of the girls at the village level have also begun in Triambakeshwar, Peith and Mumbai.

[GGG Facilitators training in Amaravati](#)

Baseline research for the Adolescent Girls Programme has also been simultaneously conducted covering Mumbai and Jawhar and is expected to be completed in rest of the blocks by end of November' 08.

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