

Bihar Voluntary Health Association

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17



BVHA



From The Desk of President and Secretary

It gives us immense pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Bihar Voluntary Health Association, Patna for the year 2016-17. This report reflects the activities carried out by the BVHA and network partner organizations through active participation of different stakeholders and its impact on marginalized communities for their holistic development.

During implementation, BVHA has gained many milestones and glimpses of such achievements are mentioned in the report.

Now, we would like to extend heartiest thanks to all the respected Governing Board members of BVHA for their valuable inputs during interventions and review of programs during board meetings to give proper directions.

We would like to express gratitude to all General Body members of BVHA and other network members for their co-operation and support to achieve the goals and objectives of the organization.

I hope, you will find that BVHA has adopted strategies and implemented it successfully with full dedication and professional determination to achieve the desired goals.

With warm regards.

Sri. Yogendra Kumar Gautam
President, BVHA

Sr. Anita C J
Secretary, BVHA



Executive Director's Words

I feel privileged in presenting the annual report of BVHA, Patna of 2016-17 at the 49th A.G.B.M. It is a matter of great pleasure for me to present some of the bright features of the achievements of the organization.

This annual report, deeply appreciates the insights and dedications of the members of the B.V.H.A, who are spread over the in every corner of the state. The association is proud of the dedicated employees involved in human resources directly or indirectly with the parent organization. I would like to invite all of you to spend more quality time by surfing through the website and be acquainted with the track record and commitment in improving the health scenario of Bihar.

Our organization has been trying its best to provide new horizons for the promotion of community health since inception. It has maintained its records of providing various services in the different areas of health and development even during previous financial year i.e 2015-16

As regards its activities during current financial year BVHA has continued to implement various programs and issues related to –Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, Menstrual Hygiene Management, Child Marriage, Arsenic Mitigation, Child Protection, Tobacco Hazards, Personal Hygiene and Sanitation, Gender participation, Eye care and protection etc. In addition to that, BVHA has also raised its voice for the rights of the marginalized communities of Bihar by joining hands with Health Watch Forum, Wada Na Toda Abhiyan, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, Alliance for Immunization and health in India and other allied fora. Again Capacity building, networking and advocacy were the main strategies adopted by BVHA.

BVHA is indebted to various development agencies whose continuous support and supportive supervision have helped it in achieving its set target for the current financial year. Hence, in this regard, BVHA would like to extend its special thanks to the State Health Society Bihar, MOH&FW-GOI, Department of ICDS-GOB, Department of Panchayati Raj-GOB, Women and Child Development Corporation-GOB, the UNFPA, Unicef-Bihar, the SIMAVI Netherlands, The KKS-Germany, Misereor-Germany, Sightsavers, the Oxfam India, CHAI-New Delhi, World Vision, Save the Children-Bihar, YUVA & WNTA, S. C. Johnson Company Ltd., etc.

Last but not the least, I would like offer special thanks to all the BVHA staff and members who have contributed and have put in their best effort in BVHA for achieving the set objectives.

Here, I on behalf of BVHA appeal to all the well-wishers to come forward to support BVHA in its mission to help support the needy and marginalized community to move on to mainstream with the pace of development.

Swapan Mazumder
Executive Director



BVHA : Introduction

BVHA has been working on health improvement of Bihar through community health promotion for last five decades. It is a secular and non-profit making registered society under SRA 1860. It was established in 1969 by Fr. James Stuart Tong and Medical Mission Sisters with a noble vision to assist in making community health a reality for the people with priority for the less privileged millions. It is an association of 147 member Organizations and more than 300 associated non-member organizations: Grass-root CSOs, Charitable Hospitals and Health Centers/clinics run by church based institutions covering all the 38 districts of Bihar. It has been formed with an aim to increase their organizational capacities and to address the health and social needs of the communities. BVHA is one of the pioneers in the domain of Voluntary Health Association in India since 1969. Since its inception, BVHA has been contributing immensely by providing impetus and direction to the Community Health Promotion in the State of Bihar. BVHA is actively involved in addressing the major health problems e.g. Sexual & Reproductive health and rights, Child Health, Malnutrition among women and children, youth development, prevention of vector-borne and water-borne diseases, communicable and non-communicable diseases, school health, eye health in school and urban slums, prevention of early marriage, WASH & menstrual hygiene management, child trafficking and child rights protection, gender based violence etc. Goal of the BVHA is to have a healthy community through community health action, by promoting social justice in the provision & distribution of health care. Mainly BVHA's strategies in addressing the BVHA's objectives are by doing Advocacy (with Govt. Dept. and other stakeholders), networking (with likeminded CSOs and international development agencies) and support to communities, grass-root CSOs and Govt. stakeholders by capacity building, resource mobilization, community mobilization etc.

Vision: BVHA assists in making community health a reality for all the people of Bihar with priority for the less privileged millions, with their involvement & participation through the voluntary health sector.

Mission: The mission is to reach to the un-reached through Charitable Hospitals, Dispensaries, Health Centers & Voluntary Organizations/ Institutions involved in health promotion and also groups, professionals & individuals engaged & dedicated with some concern in health promotion of the people of Bihar with priority for the less privileged millions with their involvement and participation through the Voluntary Health Sector.

BVHA's Management

General Body of BVHA comprises of 147 member organizations is the ultimate body of the organization. It is mandatory to have yearly meeting with General Body members to discuss on the policy and programs of BVHA. Among these members Governing Board of 11 persons are being selected/elected for 2 years which can be extended for another 2 more years after approval from General Body. Quarterly meetings of Governing Board members are being held where Executive Director of BVHA (Ex-officio member) has to present the current situation program and finance of BVHA with the support of Director Program, Director Admin and Accounts Head.

For smooth and democratic functioning of BVHA, there are standing committees are available where the Executive Director acts as an ex-officio member. These committees are Finance Committee, Sale & Purchase Committee. Legal & Enquiry Committee, Policy Development Committee, Building Development Committee, Program Advisory Committee. Apart from the BHVA's member organizations, few experts of relative fields are the part of these committees.

Organizational Strategy

BVHA mainly works through its member organization in Bihar. It implements various health related programs in different districts of Bihar through its member organizations and/or associated organizations. In some cases, BVHA also directly implement the project by itself. Basically, BVHA has 3 strategies to implement any program.

Support to organization

- Need Assessment
- Capacity Building of HR
- Supportive supervision and regular monitoring
- Linkages with Govt./INGOs
- Proposal Dev. and fund raising
- Consultancy
- EC material dev and distribution
- Medical relief support

Advocacy with State and Dist. Level Govt. Dept. and plicy makers

- Policy Advocacy
- Implementation gap Advocacy

Org. Strategies

Networking

- with Different Development agencies and Alliances
- Secretariat of different Alliances/network

Dev. of Communication

Materials as per the need of project and partner organizations.

Membership with other Institutions

BVHA is the full member of the following national level networks:

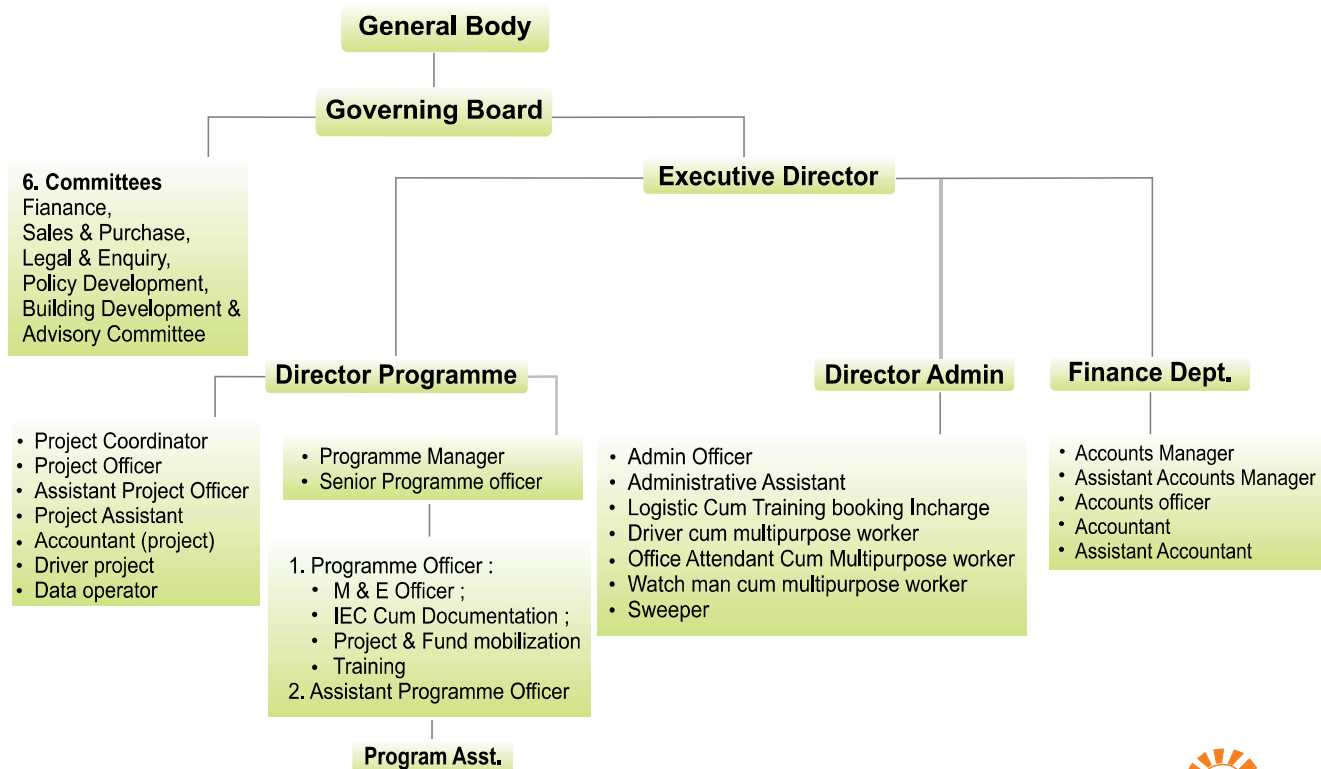
- Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI), New Delhi.
- Voluntary Action Network of India (VANI), New Delhi.
- Accredited with Credibility Alliance, New Delhi.
- Besides that BVHA is member of India SRHR Alliance and various govt. formed committees at State level as well at District level.
- At present BVHA is the secretariat of Health Watch Forum-Bihar, Wada Na Todo Abhiyan-Bihar and Alliance for Immunization and health-Bihar, Gender Alliance Bihar, National SRHR Alliance.

Organizational Infrastructure

Bihar Voluntary Health Association has its own 3 storied building on its own land with all modest & modern facilities. BVHA office has well equipped and furnished office set-up with internet /Wi-Fi facilities. Apart from office set-up, it has 3 AC training halls (One big hall of capacity 70-80 persons and 2 small halls of 25-30 persons each). Also residential facilities for 70 participants and outsource catering services is available round the clock.

Vehicles (4 motorbikes/scooty, one four wheeler), telephone, internet, Wi-Fi, fax, Computers and Laptops, Camera, Scanners, Printers, Photocopier, LCD Projectors, & necessary office furniture and fixtures.

Organogram of BVHA



Highlights of Project and Programs for the year 2016-2017

Arsenic Mitigation Project

The project was implemented with the support of Misereor, Germany. The focus of the project is to improve health seeking behavior of the communities for safe and arsenic free drinking water in 10 Panchayats of Bidupur Block of Vaishali District. The major strategies were to create community sensitization, strengthening of PRI members, CBOs and other stakeholders so that they can take initiatives for safe drinking water and able to put issue in the agenda in Gram Sabha. Advocacy with concerned departments and appropriate authorities were important interventions.



Activities:

The major activities undertaken were testing of 187 water sources (handpumps) by Tara kit, conducted Jan Samvad block level with different stakeholders, sensitization of front line health workers at Block level, meetings with PRI members and other stakeholders at District level and Block level, Media meet at district level etc.



Major Outcomes:

After testing 187 drinking water sources, 42 water sources were found Arsenic contaminated more than the permissible level. District level respective departments were also sensitized and aware the some facts and figures. They also commit to scale up the safe and secure drinking water to the most vulnerable communities. NGOs were also played the vital role for information dissemination and behaviour change communication in whole district. Media houses had provided wide space in newspapers coverage.

Improving Comprehensive Abortion Care & Services

The project was implemented with support of Ipas Foundation in 4 Regions (Patna, Purnea, Magadh&Munger) covering 21 districts in Bihar. The major objective of the project was to collect information and views of key stakeholders about availability, accessibility and quality of abortion services and share the issues and concerns on abortion care services based on evidence and approaches for policy advocacy with the government. It was also focused to develop common understanding about abortion care and services as legal right among network partners.



Major Activities conducted under the project are capacity building of CSOs in 21 Districts, data collection through intensive focus group discussions among adolescent girls, married women, men, PRI members, front line health service providers etc., handholding support to CSOs in doing proper FGDs. and compilation of data and prepared report.

Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Project

Empowerment of the Community to improve the nutritional and health status in a sustainable way with focus on mother and child in Maner Block of Patna District Bihar State.

The project was implemented with the support of KKS, Germany in 1000 families in 12 villages of Maner block of Patna with an objective to improve the nutritional and health status of marginalized children and women by empowering communities and security of nutrition.



Major Interventions done under the project are:

1. Establishment and strengthening of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and the linkages with state departments and their governmental schemes.
2. Improve the status of health and nutrition of marginalized children and women.

3. Improvement of the health status of youth concerning reproductive and gender-specific health.
4. Installation and repair of water hand pumps.
5. The livelihood of marginalized families is improved through vocational training and skill development of youth in 12 project villages.



Major Outcomes:

- Increased in community ownership in the project activities.
- Significant reduction in malnutrition among target children and families.
- Growth monitoring has started by AWWs with support of project staff.
- The parents of the severely malnourished children are convinced to take them to Nutrition & Rehabilitation Centre (NRC) of government. This year, there are 22 severely malnourished children were sent to NRC and treated.
- The women and the adolescents have learnt about Village Health Sanitation & Nutrition Day (VHSND) and gather at AWCs on that day.
- Capacity building of RKS, VHSC, PRI member. The meeting of RKS is now regular.
- Untide funds of VHSNC are being utilized in all target Panchayats.
- Youths from target community got benefited from vocational training and have got the start-up kits to start self-employment. Some of them have started earning.
- Access to the safe drinking water is now possible for target families after installation of 22 hand pumps in all twelve target villages leading to reduction in waterborne diseases.
- The Water User committees are saving money to maintain the hand pumps.
- Eleven Self Help Groups have been provided loan amount Rs. 5, 20,000/- by Jeevika, Govt. of Bihar. 14 members have started their own business and started earning as well.
- 7 women and youth are engaged in JIVEEKA field level activities with the support of BVHA.

More than Bride Project

More than Bride – Marriage No Child's Play is a project implemented to prevent child marriage in 34 villages of Majhaulia and Raxaul Block of West Champaran and East Champaran respectively with support of SIMAVI – The Netherlands.

Major Interventions:

Inception Phase (Jan - June 2016):

More than Bride Project was started in the month of January 2016 and initially 6 months time has been kept as Inception period. During the phase the base of the project was strengthened by modifying the project activities as per the goal in order to attain the utmost output. Basically, BVHA did liaison with concerned government departments like Health, ICDS (Integrated Child Development Services) & Education department at three levels; block level, district level & state level. BVHA officials also contacted Child Development Officer.



Implementation Phase (June-December 2016):

During the Implementation Phase BVHA has established office at the project area Raxaul where it is implementing the project directly. The staff were recruited for both the blocks Raxaul&Majhaulia and they underwent 3 days training on SRHR, 5days training on “Lalita&Babu” module. Analysis to identify the target adolescents boys & girls in both the blocks were conducted to form the adolescent groups & selection of Discussion Leaders.

The officials of MTB project are continuously in touch with the concerned govt. authorities at state level, district level and block level for smooth functioning of the project activities and to achieve its output. In this regard, the project officials had meeting with ACMO, DPM, Nodal person of RKSK at Motihari.

Major Outcomes:

- 67 boys and 389 girls Adolescent groups of male and female are formed.
- 778 Discussion leaders identified and among them 81 girls were trained under 5 days Lalita&Babu Module and 112 girls were undergone 3 days training on SRHR issues.
- Good Coordination with District level and State level Govt. officials were established.
- Successful participation of female legislators in the meeting on child marriage and girls' education.

Making Periods Normal

The project “Making Periods Normal” is a project of Menstrual health and hygiene project of women which is supported by SIMAVI, The Netherlands. The project is being implemented in 13 Blocks and 108 Panchayats of Munger and Bhagalpur districts of Bihar.

The project aims at improving the Menstruation health and hygiene management of women, so that they are able to stay part of normal private and public life during their menstruation. In addition to married women the Project also includes married men as one of the prime target group and this inclusion has come up as one of the strongest approach behind the



overall success of the project. The Government District functionaries and Frontline Health Workers were the other prominent stakeholders.

The major interventions of this project were focused to create awareness among the women on how to ensure hygiene during menstruation to avoid infections. In addition to emphasize was given on educating men and women so that they can regard menstruation as a normal change in a woman's body. The various BCC activities which were organized to accomplish above mentioned purpose in this financial year are Women and Men Awareness Sessions, Audio-Video Shows, Information on Wheel and Home visits. These community level engagements have ensured our reach to 78,549 women and 40,934 men in the two districts. Advocacy with the District Govt. stakeholders and strengthening the capacities of the Government Frontline workers has remained an integral part to ensure sustainability of the project. Several capacity building activities was organized to strengthen the Government Front Line workers that is 277 ASHA, 275 ANM, 93 VHSNC and 279 Jeevika Mobilizers (BRLM) and 362 PRI members on the concept of MHM.

Major outcome:

This year we observed a concrete outcome both at the community and at the Government involvement level. This year special emphasis was given on strengthening the relationship with the Government stakeholders at the districts. This result in huge accolades and appreciations from the Government Department. More over the Government (Health Department) invited the District team in several platforms to share the significance of MHM. The district team of BVHA actively participated in various Government platforms such as District/State foundation Day and also invited the Government functionaries in the events like Menstruation Day and International Women Day. The Govt. ANM schools invited BVHA team at

both the districts to provide training to the students specifically to share the subtle issues of the communities related to Menstruation.

We were also invited by the District Superintended Police Office to impart training to women police work force on the importance of menstruation hygiene.

The committed effort of BVHA was also recognized by the District Program Manager of Bihar Rural Livelihood Mission and they are willing to introduce a session on Menstruation Hygiene Management during the monthly meetings of SHGs and VOs.

A mobile Application on Menstruation Health was developed with the technical support partners of Simavi and on the verge of launching across the state.

The community has overcome the barriers of myth and silence around menstruation and graduated to one step ahead. The awareness at the community level has reduced the gap between them and the Government service providers. The women and men groups are together discussing on their concerns on menstruation specially for providing a normal life to their daughters together. The men are now aware of their non-replaceable role towards the female family members and are found determined to provide such physical and financial support. The project has recreated that lost essence of bonding between each and every relationships of a family.

Vidya Jyoti School Eye Health Project

The project has been implemented in Seven Blocks of Patna district namely as Patna Sadar, Nauwatpur, Punpun, Maner, Danapur, Fatuha and Phulwarisarif with the support of Sightsavers. The focus of the project is to do eye screening of the school children in 1450 Govt. schools and coordinate with other agencies to provide free spectacles for those who have refractive errors as well create awareness of teachers and school children about the care.



Major Interventions: Training of Trainers of Block Resource Persons of Bihar Education Project, eye screening camps in schools, refraction of children.

Major Outcomes:

- Training of Trainers for 1255 Government school teachers.
- Primary Screening of 2.25 Lakhs children through school teachers.
- Refraction of 151 Schools done by the expert technical agency, which covers the 5286 Children and 1256 spectacles prescribed due to vision problems.

Amrita Drishti Urban Eye Health Project

This project is being implemented in Patna urban slums where urban PHCs are located: Digha-Mushahari, Kaushal Nagar, Kamlanehru Nagar, East Lohanipur, Marufganj and Kankarbagh with the support of Sightsavers. The purpose of the project is to reduce the prevalence of blindness in urban slums by increasing awareness level, building capacity of health workers (Urban ASHAs), strengthening of community groups - MahilaArogyaSamiti (MAS), and providing primary eye health services in the urban PHCs.



Major Interventions were primary eye care services through the Urban PHCs on roaster basis, Diagnosis and identification of patients with an eye problem and referral of surgeries to the base hospitals/institutions with follow-up mechanism.

Major Outcomes:

The programme started in September 2016, but the screening and refraction started from November 2016. Under the project, the total screening was 27604, and among these, 6442 were referred for refraction errors and 519 patients were referred to base hospital for cataract surgery.

BVHA's response to flood affected victims

In the month of August 2016, the rising level of the Ganga has created a flood-like situation in all the districts situated along the banks of the river. The river Ganges (Ganga) so the Ganga river was flowing above the danger mark in six places of Patna District and LCT Ghat is one of the most badly affected sites. Around 50 families were totally affected. Their cottages were damaged and drown in flood water. Mainly these families were from most marginalized communities (MahaDalit). The main earnings source of these families are from rag picking, junkshops, rickshaw pulling etc.

BVHA had started a temporary relief camp at BVHA office premises for the flood victims. BVHA has provided its training hall and rooms for accommodation of 100 flood victims. BVHA also made the arrangement for adequate food and safe drinking water for sheltered people. Food were available for 3 times a day including the milk for the children. BVHA also ensured the 24x7 lighting availability.

In the shelter premises, the first aid and common treatment facilities was ensured to prevent flood victims from infection and recovery of health.

Education of children got hampered due to flood as the schools are closed, reading materials are damaged or drown in flood. In this situation, the education session for the children were conducted in BVHA office itself. Also

sanitary napkins were distributed among the women/girls of reproductive age group.

In this venture, two member organizations of BVHA – **Sewa Kendra, Patna and Bhartiya Jan Utthan Parishad (BJUP), Nalanda** contributed immensely especially for food and milk of the children residing at BVHA. It was a great help to these flood victims.

Free Distribution of Insects/Mosquito Killer with support of S.C. Jonson. Time to time they are providing insect killer / mosquito repellents for distribution among most vulnerable communities susceptible for vector-borne diseases : Kala-Azar, Malaria, Japanese Encephalitis etc. During heavy flood in Bihar, S. C. Jonson came forward with their different range of insect killer / mosquito repellents for flood affected areas. BVHA distributed these mosquito repellents through its network organizations across the Bihar. These organizations distributed these products freely among the marginalized community people who are affected from the flood as it was found that increase of vector-borne diseases. BVHA also contacted the charitable dispensaries run by missionaries and distributed them such products. These dispensaries were also distributed among poor patients attending the clinics. As the products are in less numbers but BVHA able to reach approximately 9,000 population/ flood victims.



BVHA has also informed the concerned authorities to rehabilitate other flood victims of LCT Ghat and Kurjee area in the campus of Sadaquat Asram, Patna and did continuous follow-up.

Regional Meetings

BVHA has organized regional meetings since last few years with its member organizations and other likeminded NGOs, Govt. officials to understand the need of the member organizations, their expectation, regional specific health related problems, gaps in accessibility and availability of health services and how such gaps can be reduced by better engagement of the civil societies through proper advocacy.

In the above context, BVHA organized Regional Meeting of member organizations

- Patna & Magdh Regions consisting of members from Patna, Nawada, Jahanabad, Gaya, Nalanda, Ara and Aurangabad districts. The meeting was organized at Gram Nirman Mandal, JP Ashram-Shekhodora-

Kauwakol Block-Nawad District on 3.09.2016. The meeting was chaired by Smt. Aruna Devi MLA of Warsaliganj. In the meeting about 41 participants from different network member organizations of Patna & Magdh region were present.

- 16th December 2016 another Regional Meeting was held at Latauna, Ttrivenyanj, Supoul where CSOs representatives from Supaul, Purnea, Madhepura, Kisanganj, Araria etc. were participated.

Networking

BVHA is working with different national and international alliances; BVHA has privileged to be a part of different networks and Alliances. At present, BVHA is the secretariat of different Alliances and forums which are as follows:

1. Alliance for Immunization and Health (AiH)
2. Wada Na Todo Abhiyan
3. Gender Alliances
4. Health Watch Forum

Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA)

WNTA Bihar is a form of various organizations including CSOs, INGO, Activists group, Educationist, etc which tries to collect information time to time to advocate at higher policy level for required social change. WNTA has presence in every state of India with its National Secretariat at New Delhi. In Bihar, the secretariat of WNTA is presently at BVHA. WNTA has been putting pressure at higher level/policy level and tries to remind the policy maker as well as various political leaders about their promises which they have made before and after election for its fulfilment so that, the benefits should reach to the marginalized/ poorest of poor community people. This is also to mention that WNTA has organized several events at National level as well as state level by involving various Civil Society Organizations/ Social Development Organizations, social and legal activists, media etc which also include many of BVHA members. WNTA is one of the strong platforms which can help in advocating our issues and concerns at the policy level.

Gender Alliance - Bihar

Gender Alliance, Bihar, is a collective Initiative of 234 Organizations seeking to advance and promote Gender Equity norms, policies and legislations for women and adolescent girls in



Bihar. It has been proactively engaging with wide range of stakeholders with an aim to generate a meaningful discourse on gender equitable legislations and policies affecting rights, equality and empowerment of women, particularly those of adolescent/young girls. Gender Alliance has been endeavoring to facilitate discourse/discussion on key legislative/policy issues to protect and promote gender equal rights for adolescent girls and explores administrative and legislative solutions with the objective to achieve the following:

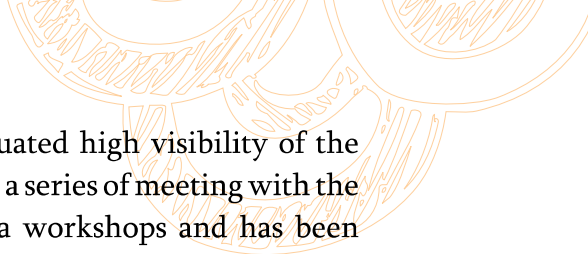
1. End under 18 marriages of girls
2. Promote High Education for Girls
3. Eliminate Dowry System
4. Adolescent/youth empowerment through a policy framework
5. Promote young girls political participation and leadership

In this light the Alliance has been proactively engaging with the parliamentarians and the cabinet ministers to bring forth legislative changes seeking to eliminate child marriage and dowry in the state, it has been engaging with the ministry of



education to promote higher/secondary education of girls, by increasing the provision of free and compulsory education from 14 years to 18 years of age. The engagement with the ministry of youth culture and sports has been seeking to bring a youth policy for adolescent and youth rights in Bihar.

The alliance has been intensively engaging with the Ministry of Finance advocating for appropriate Budgeting for gender Rights and issues. A series of meeting with the Finance Minister of Bihar lead to the budget speech of the finance minister include Adolescent group as an important group for Bihar .Further it lead to an increase in budget by 20 % for the adolescents. The alliance has been intensively engaging with the Youth across colleges and universities in Bihar, through a series of orientation and awareness generation sessions and programs with an attempt to sensitize the youth on the issues. The meaning participation of the youth has been an enabler in fostering gender equity and with one voice advocating for the required legislative reforms. The secretariat team took a series of participatory sessions in Patna Women's college, BIT Mesra, Patna University, NIT, A.N College, Magadh Mahaila College on all the five issues and the need for legislative reforms. The campaign with the colleges was successful in mobilizing their support and participation for having an open public dialogue with the political representatives of all the parties of the state and challenging the status quo legitimizing pronounced gender disparity in the state. Their intensive engagement on social media tools of Gender Alliance, lead to bringing attention to some of the much hushed issues of gender inequality,



created a discourse in public domain and punctuated high visibility of the issues. The Alliance has been successfully meeting a series of meeting with the media both one to one meetings and also media workshops and has been successful in garnering their support as partners on the issues on which the Alliance has been advocating for.

The engagement of the alliance with its network partners which includes 234 civil society organizations, media, youth, academicians and activists has been an important point of intervention. Gender Alliance also organized consultation workshop on Gender Equality in Bihar. The meetings and the consultations held with the civil society organizations has lead to the formation and strengthening of Gender Alliance Forums at the divisionary and district levels the meetings has also been instrumental in building the capacity of the network members on the issue of Child marriage, dowry and adolescent rights and the legal provisions related to them.

In an attempt to Sustaining High Level Policy Advocacy on Gender Equality & Generating Public Opinions, The alliance also organized a series of Advocacy campaigns in Samastipur, Patna Constituency and West Champaran where the all the participants present including the Finance minister and the political leaders, the mukhiyas and other functionaries at the Panchayat level endorsed and agreed to the concerns the Alliance has proactively working on. Standing in solidarity to the five issues and the need for legislative reforms on them, all the participants and the community signed the charter demanding these rights. . The honorable Speaker of the Legislative Assembly endorsed and patronized the objective of Gender Alliance and promised to extend full cooperation to enhance its activities in Bihar at the Program organized in Samastipur.

Alliance for Immunization and Health (AiH)

Under this alliance, an advisory group has been formed which includes representatives from development partners who have been part of all the NSC meetings and have been instrumental in guiding and lending their support in the decision making processes. The vision of AiH is to protect lives of people in India with strengthened health systems through increased access to quality immunization coverage and its sustainability with community linkage/participation. The Mission is to participate in the immunization program to jointly address major constrains in delivering immunizations to underserved populations and to act as a bridge between the government and communities at all levels, ensuring to improve coverage with quality.

The AiH has its national secretariat at New Delhi with state offices in four states namely-Bihar, Utter Pradesh, Jharkhand and Rajasthan. In Bihar, BVHA is hoisting the Secretariat and Mr. Brijesh Kumar is the State Coordinator appointed by CHAI (Catholic Health Association of India). The AiH has been recognized at national level by Govt. of India and at the state



level by Department of Health, State Govt. This Alliance is very closely working with State Immunization Department to help them to reach out the low immunization coverage area with CSO involvement.

Under this alliance many eminent development agencies like-CRS (main fund managing agency), CHAI (main technical agency), CMAI, World Vision, FPAI, Save the Children, PCI, CORE, Unicef, etc are closely attached. In Bihar, there are only 40 CSOs/institutions attached to it. So, as per the emerging demand, it is going to cover whole Bihar state and help in immunization coverage with the CSO involvement vis-a-support State Govt. for quality immunization coverage.

Health Watch Forum Bihar

Health Watch Forum Bihar has been operating in Bihar since 1996 with its secretariat at BVHA. The objective of Health Watch Forum is to address the health issues and to activate the govt. for quality health services as per IPHS. Health Watch Forum Bihar has done some specific studies on the available facilities at the govt. health facilities, community perceptions on the health facilities and given its recommendations to the concerned govt. authorities. Health Watch Forum Bihar has very activities raised the issues of maternal deaths occurred during sterilization camp held at Kaparfora Govt. Middle School, Kursakanta in Araria district and accordingly filed PIL at the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and accordingly the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India issued directives to all the concerned authorities of respective Indian states to follow the IPHS norms strictly. Likewise this forum has also raised the issue of few dalit women at Samastipur district in Bihar who were victims of ill treatment by govt. health service providers and now they have received the compensation. Health Watch Forum Bihar is continuously raising the health issues with special focus to ensure the rights of the poor and marginalized community people and does PIL for any such violation of health rights. The convener of Health Watch Bihar is Ms. Devika Biswas who has earlier worked with BVHA.

Capacity Building of BVHA personnel

The main aim of Capacity Building is to develop the Human Resources in the organization which help the organization to achieve its desired goal. BVHA is providing opportunities for its staff for better personal and organizational growth. During the year 2016-17, BVHA team members got many opportunities for capacity building by participating various training and workshop organized by different Development agencies such as Save the Children, Oxfam-India, C3, world vision, Unicef, Unfpa and many more. One or two BVHA team members used to participate in such workshops in rotation basis and as per their area of work.

New Membership

In the year 2016-17, BVHA introduced 9 New Members in BVHA family. BVHA feels immense pleasure to welcome and introduce the new members in the BVHA family. The organizations are as follows:

1. Dalit Uthan Samiti, Ghopt Bigha, Sakri Chawk, Arwal, Arwal.
2. Ram Narayan Vikas Seva Samiti, Sonki, Darbhanga.
3. Koshi Viklang Vridha Kalyan Samiti, Chakhusaini, Manshi, Khagaria
4. Jyoti Vihar, Kaithi Niyan, Jhanjharpur, Madhubani
5. Gram Seva Bharti, Kamalpur, Supaul.
6. Jan Vikas Seva Sansthan, Genour, Madhubani.
7. Khadaghari Gramin Vikas Sansthan, Kako, Jehanabad.
8. Acharya Rammurti Samagra Vikas Sansthan, Riga, Sitamarhi.
9. Srijan Sanskar Vikas Samiti, Barhara, Banka.

Case Study

Goat Farming improved family income of a Mahadalit family

Asha Devi, a 35 years women, belongs to most marginalized community “Maha Dalit” with low socio-economic status and has limited access to resources. She lives with her husband, three sons and two daughters in Kitachhihattar village of Maner Block, Patna. Her husband works as agricultural labourer and do not get regular employment, which restricts them to meet their daily needs. When BVHA started working in the village, she was included in Self-help group and she used to participate in all the meetings and became the active member of the group. In due course of time, BVHA make linkages with 'JEEVIKA' a livelihood promotion program run by govt department and this group was also linked. She received support of Rs. 30,000 Rupees from JEEVIKA and invested an additional support of Rs. 16,000 Rupees to start a goat farming. She worked hard under the supervision of project team, she has now able to purchase 15 goats and has become a good farmer. From her business, she is able to cover house expenses, health needs, and education costs for her family as well as all the expenses of farming. ASHA says that goat farming is difficult and the farmer must have an understanding of goat nutrition and care to ensure they stay healthy and the business can thrive.



Rising of the youth power over religious myth

Samsed – a 22 years old young men lives in Antichak Panchayat of Bhagalpur. His mother Mrs. Bibi Ruksana is elected ward member. This is one of the operating area of BVHA under the Making Periods Normal – a Menstrual Hygiene project.

Samsed along with her mother visited the Panchayat Mela on MHM organized by BVHA. He visited each and every stall there he realized that being unmarried this is not concerned to him. While about leave, he saw at the middle of the Mela there is an arrangement for Audio-Video show. He attentively watched the documentary film (male engagement story). After the Video documentary got over, BVHA mobilizer asked all the audience to not leave and participate in quiz. The ones with the correct answer will be rewarded. Samsed wanted to raise his hand and answer the quiz question as he had watched the documentary very attentively but he was apprehensive to do that. He feared to be mocked by his friends and others. After a while, he gathered his courage, raised his hand and spoke his heart on breaking the social stigmas and taboos attached to menstruation. He won a prize i.e., a pack of sanitary napkin. Everyone appreciated him, his friends got motivated seeing his courage and they also participated in the quiz.



The day remained very meaningful for him. He understood about the biological process take place in an adolescent girl and in a woman during menstruation. He learnt about severe consequences of ill managed menstruation. This leads to an evolution within Samsed himself. He understood the mal effects of keeping silence around this topic will make women more vulnerable in respect to their health.

The knowledge and the inspiration which Samsed garner from that Panchayat Mela had motivated him to break the silence around Menstruation. But to spread the knowledge and awareness around menstruation in the Muslim dominated village was not a easy task. He asked for support from our community mobilize and his peer group to initiate this revolution in his village. BVHA leverage this youth strength to intervene in this Muslim dominated village. Rigorous awareness generation meetings were conducted followed by various behavior change communication activities.

Now Samsed has become one of the influential persons in the village. They conquered many challenges aroused by the community people who pretend themselves as religion and social guardians. But he never stopped this journey. He along with his peer support put stress on the Muslim Purdah (veil) system to bring focus on the dignity of women. Breaking the silence around menstruation in his village would have remained nacheived if BVHA has not intervened. The journey of Samsed and his peer group is still going on to ensure healthy and happy menstruation days to all girls and women in the village.

Awards 2016-17

BVHA is giving 3 awards in the field of social work.

FR. TONG MEMORIAL AWARD : (Best Organization) : Fr. Tong Memorial Award is given to the best voluntary organization for its outstanding performances in community health initiatives. This year Bhagalpur Social Service Society was selected for Fr. Tong Memorial Award for their extensive work in the field of health in very remote areas and hard to reach areas (flood effected).

SR. CAROL HUSS AWARD (Best Community Health Leader): Sr. Carol Huss Award is being given to organization leaders who are providing their self-less services to the communities so that health services can reach to the last person in the communities. This year committee has selected Mr. Ramshankar Sharma – Gram SwarajSamitiGhosi, Jehanabadas Sr. Carol Huss Awardee for his excellent work in community health.

DEVENDRA PRASAD MEMORIAL AWARD (BEST SOCIAL WORKER) :This award is being given for the Best Social Worker in the field of health and development. Mr. Kumar Prabodh – Chief Editor of ETV was selected for his excellent work in the field of social work through media channel.

Founder Members of BVHA

The journey of BVHA started with Fr. Stuart Tong and Medical Mission Sisters. They initiated the movement of health for all in Bihar and as a result of their efforts BVHA evolved as an institution of high repute with the aims and objective of improving preventive health for the people of Bihar. In the due course of its journey, BVHA got the supports of numerous organizations and development partners and now BVHA is trying to achieve the dreams of their founding members.

1. President : Dr. Madan Prasad, Director, R.M.R.I., Patna
2. Vice President: Dr. Mark Kniss, Medical Superintendent, NavJivan Hospital, Palamu,
3. Treasurer : Dr. C. L. Joshi, Medical Superintendent, Nav Jivan Hospital, Palamu
4. Secretary : Sr. Carol Huss Administrator–Kurji Holy Family Hospital, Patna
5. Joint Secretary: Dr. B.K. Prasad, Medical Supp., Methodist Hospital, Buxar
6. Member : Dr. Margart Owen, Leprosy Mission Hospital. P.B.24, Muzaffarpur
7. Member : Mr. UBI Chelliah, Damien Social Welfare Centre, Dhanbad
8. Member : Dr. Martin Ekka, Holy Family Hospital, Mandar, Ranchi
9. Member : Sr. Rose Kochithara, Administrator, Nazareth Hospital, Mokama, Patna
10. Member : Dr. Sanders, Duncan Hospital, Raxaul, East Champaran.
11. Member : Dr. S.N. Sinha, Medical Officer, Methodist Hospital, Buxar

Present Governing Board Members of BVHA

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Address With Phone No.
1.	Mr. Yogendra Kumar Gautam	President	Jan JagranSansthan, KagziMohalla, P.O. Biharsharif, Dist. Nalanda – 803 101 Mob: 9431687863. 06112 –223261. 0612- 2347993 @ Email:janjagransansthanindia@gmail.com atsecbihar2012@gmail.com;
2.	Fr. Amal Raj	Vice-President	Director, Sewa Kendra, C/O Bihar Water Development Society, Patna–800 010. Mob: 9430218158 0612 – 2262809 / 2268116. Email: a.rajl76@gmail.com; skendra1@rediffmail.com
3.	Sr. Anita CJ.	Secretary	St. Joseph Health Centre, Vardhaman Nagar, P.O. Marwa, Gulni, Dist. Nawada- 805 124 Mob: 9572610150 , 06325 – 255186. 2666219. Email: manitacj@gmail.com
4.	Mr. Vijay Kr.Singh	Joint-Secretary	LokPrabhat, Postmortem Road, Dist. Nawada – 805110. 06324-214212(O) (Ph. & Fax.) 215518 @ Mob: 9431616689 Email: lokprabhat_vijay@yahoo.co.in
5.	Sr. Sophia	Treasurer.	St. Annes Dispensary Phulwarishari, Patna – 801 505. Mob. 9973583993. Phone: 0612–2556342. Email: st.annesconvent@gmail.com
6.	Sr. Saroj	Member.	Sacred Heart Dispensary Fakirana, Banuchapar, Bettiah, W. Champaran–845 438 Mob. 9430824300, 06254 – 232950. Email:lakrasaroj21@gmail.com; fss_elise@rediffmail.com
7.	Sr. Carol	Member.	St. Joseph Health Centre, Barh, Dist. Patna 803 213. Mob: 7739223399, 06132-243274
8.	Ms. Nirmala	Member.	Sarvo Prayas Sansthan, Ward No.6, Shankar chowk, Madhubani- 847211, Mob-9835004323 ; 9430509449 Email:nirmala_in2002@yahoo.com; spsindia.28@rediffmail.com
9.	Sr.Sushma	Member	Nazareth Health Centre, Vill. Sokho, P.O. Garhi, Via-Khaira, DistJamui – 811 317. Mob: 9931221056. Email: nazarethjamui@gmail.com
10.	Mr. Pankaj Kumar	Member	Yuva Kalyan Kendra, Vill & P.O. Nardiganj Dist. Nawada, 805109, Phone: 06324-266101, Mob: 9973623726, Email: ykknawada@gmail.com
11.	Sr. Mary Elise	Member	Sacred Heart Actions for Peoples' Empowerment (SHAPE) Bettiah, Dist. West Champaran-845 438, Mob-9431212950, 06254 – 242950, Email:fssbettiah@gmail.com; fss_elise@rediffmail.com

BVHA's Human Resource Strength

Core Staff:

Sl. No.	Name Of The Staff	Present Position Held	Total Working Experience	Total Exp . In BVHA
1	Mr. Swapan Mazumder	Executive Director.	25 yrs.	25 yrs.
2	Mr. Binay Fidelis	Director Admin	25 yrs.	22 yrs.
3	Mr. Malay Kumar	Director Program	21 yrs.	6 yrs.
4	Mr. Khurshid Ekram Ansari	Sr. Program Officer	25 yrs.	7 yrs.
5	Mr. Manish Kumar	Information & Doc. Asst.	20 yrs.	20 yrs.
6	Ms. Sangeeta Prasad	Accounts Officer	16 years	4 Years
7	Mr. Sanjay Michael	Driver Cum Multipurpose worker	22 yrs.	19 yrs.
8	Mr. Ranjit Kumar	Peon Cum Multipurpose worker	26yrs.	24 yrs.
9	Ms. Nirmala Das	Sweeper Cum Multipurpose worker	18 yrs.	18 yrs.
10	Mr. Abhay Silvanus	Day Watchman	20 yrs.	20 yrs.

Project Staff:

Sl. No.	Name Of The Staff	Present Position Held	Total Working Experience	Total Exp. In BVHA
1	Mr. Mukesh Kumar	Project Coordinator	19 yrs	3 yrs.
2	Mr. Vivekanand Ojha	Project Coordinator	7 years	7 yrs
3	Mr. Raju Sharma	Asst. Project Coordinator	17 yrs	13 yrs
4	Mr. Sanjay Kumar	Documentation officer	12 Years	4 years
5	Ms. Priyanka Rani	District Coordinator	2 yrs	1 year
6	Ms. Mousam Prasad	District Coordinator	4 yrs.	2 yrs
7	Mr. Sourish Banerjee	Project Coordinator	7 yrs.	1 yr
8	Ms. Arundhati Bhattacharya	Project Manager	10 yrs.	1 Yrs.
9	Ms. Prashanti Tiwari	Alliance Manager	2 Yrs.	2 months
10	Ms. Bina Kumari	Program Officer	5 yrs	2 months
11	Ms. Manisha Rai	Documentation Associate	5 yrs	2 months
12	Ms. Priti Kumari	Nutrition Counsellor	3 yrs.	1 yr.
13	Mrs. Saroj Singh	SHG Coordinator	3 yr.	1 yr.
14	Md. Shadab Quraishi	Accounts Assistant (Project)	4 years	4 years
15	Mr. Sanjay Mark Thomas	Accountant (Project)	19 years	2 yr.
16	Mr. Rajuroop Ram	Field Animators	4 yrs	4 yrs
17	Ms. Manju Devi	Field Animators	8 yrs.	4 yrs
18	Mr. Ranjan Kumar	Field Animators	7 yr	1 yr
19	Ms. Rita Rani Singh	Field Animators	4 yrs.	4 yrs.
20	Mr. Ramanuj Kumar	Field Animators	4 yrs	4 yrs
21	Mr. Umapati Ojha	Field Animators	4 yrs.	4 yrs.
22	Mr. Nishant Kumar	Data Operator	3 yrs.	5 Month
23	Mr. Shiv Prakash	Optometrist	-	4 Months
24	Ms. Urmila Sharma	Community Mobilizer	15 yrs.	3 yrs.

Sl. No.	Name Of The Staff	Present Position Held	Total Working Experience	Total Exp. In BVHA
25	Ms. Baby Kumari	Community Mobilizer	10 yrs	3 yrs
26	Ms. Shobha Kumari	Community Mobilizer	2 yrs	5 months
27	Ms. Sunita Devi	Community Mobilizer	6 yrs.	5 months
28	Ms. Poonam Kumari	Community Mobilizer	1 yr.	5 months
29	Ms. Indu Bala	Community Mobilizer	2 yr.	5 months

Consultant / Advisor

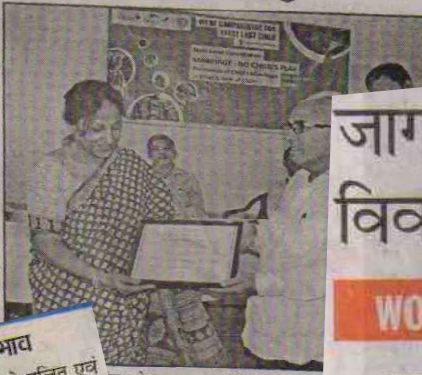
Sl. No.	Designation	Job Responsibility	Tenure
1.	Dr. M. C. Sarkar	Helps in designing BVHA programs. Helps in research and study and also in conduction of evaluation of various projects.	As when needed
2.	Dr.(Mrs.) Sushila Sinha	Helps in research, documentation and health advocacy at various levels.	As when needed
3.	Ms. Devika Biswas	Helps in IEC/BCC strategy /materials and concept development, project/program evaluation, field study on various health and social issues, health facility survey, liaising with resource agencies etc.	As when needed
4.	Dr. Naushad Iqbal	Psychologist	As when needed

बाल विवाह एक सामाजिक कुरीति : 3

बाल विवाह पर रोक हेतु राज्य स्तरीय संगोष्ठी

पटना। बाल विवाह एक सामाजिक कुरीति है। ये बातें बिहार के पूर्व डीजीपी अभयानंद ने सेब द चिल्ड्रेन एवं वॉर्मेन एंड यौवक के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में बाल विवाह पर रोक हेतु राज्य स्तरीय आयोजित संगोष्ठी का उद्घाटन करते हुए कही। उन्होंने सुझाव दिया कि इस विषय पर महिला थानों को सक्रिय भागीदारों होनी चाहिए।

इस अवसर पर सेब द चिल्ड्रेन के विधायक कुमार ने एवरी स्टार्ट चाइल्ड के अर्न्तगत सेब द चिल्ड्रेन के द्वारा बिहार एवं विश्व में बाल विवाह को रोकने हेतु चलाए जा रहे प्रयासों के जानकारी दी।



दैनिक भास्कर

जागरुकता के बगैर विवाह रुकना असंभव

WORKSHOP

पटना • डीबी स्टार

सरकारी जन-जन पहुंचे, तब बाल विवाह रुकना असंभव है।

में व्याप्त है सुआछूत और भेदभाव

बाल विवाह एक सामाजिक कुरीति है। ये बातें बिहार के पूर्व डीजीपी अभयानंद ने सेब द चिल्ड्रेन एवं वॉर्मेन एंड यौवक के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में बाल विवाह पर रोक हेतु राज्य स्तरीय आयोजित संगोष्ठी का उद्घाटन करते हुए कही। उन्होंने सुझाव दिया कि इस विषय पर महिला थानों को सक्रिय भागीदारों होनी चाहिए।

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of child marriage' विवाह हमारे समाज की कमजोर कड़ी है। आएंगे जागरण संवाददाता, पटना : 'बाल विवाह एक सामाजिक कुरीति है। इसके उन्मूलन के लिए कड़े कानून बने हैं, लेकिन समाज में जागरण संवाददाता, पटना : 'बाल विवाह एक सामाजिक कुरीति है। इसके उन्मूलन के लिए कड़े कानून बने हैं, लेकिन समाज में

राज्य के नौ जिलों में गया बाल विवाह का

जागरण संवाददाता, पटना : 'बाल विवाह एक सामाजिक कुरीति है। इसके उन्मूलन के लिए कड़े कानून बने हैं, लेकिन समाज में जागरण संवाददाता, पटना : 'बाल विवाह एक सामाजिक कुरीति है। इसके उन्मूलन के लिए कड़े कानून बने हैं, लेकिन समाज में



सामुक्त समाज होगा, महिलाएं सशक्त होंगी

Fight child marriage

Former DGP Abhayand at the event. Picture by Anjeet Kumar Dey

में कमी आई है, जबकि नौ बड़ा है। कार्यक्रम को राज्य सभा अंतर्गत और बिहार राज्य बा पूर्व अध्यक्ष निशा झा ने विशिष्ट अतिथि बिहार यूनि मजूमदार ने कहा कि विहा फ्रेंसद से घटकर 40 फ्रेंस राष्ट्रीय स्तर से यह आंकड़ा बाल विवाह के रोकथाम रीके से काम करने के वीएचए के वाइक गौत षगत किया। इसके लिए मुहिम चलानी होगी। इस स को त्वरित कार्रवाई क पर स्वतंत्रा ब शादी के बाद गर्भधारण से गर्भपात विकास

सामुक्त समाज होगा, महिलाएं सशक्त होंगी

आमसे 11 डी. हेल्थ स्टाफ दिला और बिहार को उपचार से मिलाने का दुःख, बिहार के समाज में महिलाएं सशक्त होंगी

FIGHT CHILD MARR Page 10

with arsenic poisoning

बाल विवाह पर रोक

सेब द चिल्ड्रेन एवं वॉर्मेन एंड यौवक के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में बाल विवाह पर रोक हेतु राज्य स्तरीय आयोजित संगोष्ठी का उद्घाटन करते हुए कही। उन्होंने सुझाव दिया कि इस विषय पर महिला थानों को सक्रिय भागीदारों होनी चाहिए।

बाल विवाह पर रोक

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बाल विवाह की रोकथाम में महिला थाने की भूमिका विशेष

अवसर पर बिहार का। इसका उद्घाटन अभयानंद, पूर्व डीजीपी ने किया। राज्य सभा अंतर्गत और बिहार राज्य बा पूर्व अध्यक्ष निशा झा ने विशिष्ट अतिथि बिहार यूनि मजूमदार ने कहा कि विहा फ्रेंसद से घटकर 40 फ्रेंस राष्ट्रीय स्तर से यह आंकड़ा बाल विवाह के रोकथाम रीके से काम करने के वीएचए के वाइक गौत षगत किया। इसके लिए मुहिम चलानी होगी। इस स को त्वरित कार्रवाई क पर स्वतंत्रा ब शादी के बाद गर्भधारण से गर्भपात विकास

Launch

Patna: A Rahman, Unicef Bihar head, inaugurated a programme organised by the Bihar Voluntary Health Associa

नारी सशक्तीकरण से कम होगी हिंसा

बिहार वालेंट्री हेल्थ एसोसिएशन के तत्वावधान में दलित समाज की समस्याओं पर सोमवार को कार्यशाला आयोजित की गई। कार्यशाला में पद्मश्री सुधा वर्गीज ने कहा कि नारी सशक्तीकरण से ही हिंसा

बाल विवाह पर रोक

सेब द चिल्ड्रेन एवं वॉर्मेन एंड यौवक के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में बाल विवाह पर रोक हेतु राज्य स्तरीय आयोजित संगोष्ठी का उद्घाटन करते हुए कही। उन्होंने सुझाव दिया कि इस विषय पर महिला थानों को सक्रिय भागीदारों होनी चाहिए।



BVHA

BIHAR VOLUNTARY HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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