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ANNUAL REPORT NANAK 2014-2015



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NANAK

Network and Alliance for
Non-profit Activities & Knowledge



Foreword

NANAK began its journey in May, 2014 with small yet firm steps and resolve to make a difference in the lives of the people. Since then it has taken great leaps and has grown from its core in Delhi to have created and nurtured ten centers in rural and urban parts of the country. In the short time, its relentless effort and the committed stride has borne widespread results.

NANAK is committed to setting up integrated models of rural and urban development projects. It also acts as a resource platform for other development partners- connecting them and promoting their work; organizing knowledge sharing events and conferences; and working on knowledge creation and dissemination on development themes (particularly to foster the idea of inter-sectoral convergence).

The focus is on the following core themes:

- Education And Early Childhood Development
- Women's Empowerment Through Capacity And Leadership Building

An overarching theme is village development. Besides these, we also hold regular health and hygiene workshops and advocacy efforts on the issues and concerns ranging from anti-alcoholism to protecting the environment.

NANAK firmly believes in a convergence-based approach, hence the National Forum of Action on Convergence (NFAC) is one of our unique initiative programmes. The idea of convergence is simple yet essential for substantive impact. It is to converge services, schemes, programmes such that they tackle the multi-dimensional nature of

underdevelopment and the multi-dimensional nature of poverty. The effort is to not confine ourselves to a particular thematic area, but stretch ourselves so as to address interrelated issues of education, health, poverty, gender discrimination, etc. Addressing issues in isolation to each other does not bear results, hence the convergence based approach.

We apply this approach to all our centres. For instance, in the remote village of Majhui in Sasaram, Bihar, we are running a primary school which is much more than a school for formal education. We believe in recognizing the potential of the school to act as a community hub, and tap on its potential to bring about a positive change in the village and its surrounding areas. This becomes even more important in rural and remote areas, where there is a severe lack of formal structures. So, we regularly hold awareness campaigns on social issues such as anti-alcoholism, health camps, tree-plantation drives for the entire village community. Through a partnership with READ India, we have built a Library and Information Centre within the school premises which are open to use for the entire village community after school hours.

To develop the concept of Convergence and push for its inclusion in policy, NANAK publishes knowledge products and organizes several knowledge-sharing events including the the Annual Convergence ThinkFest- which has now become a unique USP of this organization.

As we move towards a new year, we are aiming to focus on a new thematic areas- skills training and strengthening local governance. In particular, we are working at strengthening female participation in local governance. There is a lack of awareness of the structure, powers, and functions of Panchayats as stipulated in the Constitution. While reservations for women in Panchayats has led to increased female Panchayat members, this is often only on paper and in reality the phenomenon of female proxy leaders is rampant.

We would like to thank the NANAK team, in all its field offices and in Delhi, along with our partners and friends who have contributed to NANAK's endeavors, without whom it would not have been possible to take such strides. We look forward to bringing more positive change in society with the contribution and commitment.

NANAK- An Introduction

NANAK is a national organization, set up with a vision to harness the full potential of individuals and institutions through knowledge creation and dissemination with the goal of empowering the disadvantaged. NANAK aims to bring changes through micro and macro level changes (policy change), we combine direct action on the grassroot with aggregation of experiences which can inform policy action. While the primary movers of this organization are our rural communities at the grassroots in Bihar, and the urban poor of Delhi, and NCR region, the promoters, advisors and members of NANAK are a set of individuals who come with years of experience, competence, passion and commitment to bring about positive change in communities through a participatory approach. NANAK dedicates its efforts towards bridging the divide between government and communities, between various civil society groups and reaching out to the unreached. The major activities are highlighted below:



1. Advocacy, Knowledge Sharing and Capacity enhancement for Good Governance Practices

NANAK has set up a platform for promoting convergence action as an approach towards good governance. This is fostered through a programme called National Forum for Action on Convergence (NFAC).The programme has been initiated with a vision to make governance of social development programs and welfare schemes more effective and result oriented by institutionalizing convergence and enhancing participatory processes/ norms, and building capability and leadership at multiple levels. This is a resource platform that has emerged out of previous and ongoing initiatives aiming to strengthen convergence for social inclusion and gender justice. This initiative has brought together different stakeholders (experts, serving and retired civil servants, civil society organizations) to share experiences based on research, ground level actions to inform policy and bring useful insights for effective implementation and reach of government programs and services. It is also a platform for generating better understanding and fostering collective action on critical issues and emerging priorities such as sustainable livelihoods, violence against women, sanitation, financial inclusion and governance of social development programs and welfare schemes.

2. Promoting Value Based Quality Education

NANAK supports value based quality education primarily in rural area of Bihar for children of low income families. Dr. RadhikaRaman Public School is a Flagship Initiative in Rural Education with a hub and spoke approach covering a cluster of villages in Sasaram in Bihar. This school supported by NANAK is committed to providing quality education and infrastructure to all children in the region and has adopted an innovative approach to education by combining computer education, audio-visual learning with the use of projectors and the teaching of values and morals in addition to the standard course curriculum to prepare a more skilled, responsible, and compassionate future generation for the nation. The organization also identifies girls from low income families who need financial support to continue their higher education and gives them mentoring support for higher education. One such recent successes has been getting 11 girls from very low income family enrolled in Engineering college in Bihar with fee waiver and part sponsorship from NANAK.

3. Women Empowerment

NANAK has set up a number of women empowerment centres in Bihar and UP to provide vocational training, awareness on health, hygiene and nutrition, legal literacy, counseling, collectivize women in Self Help Groups and build their capacities for income earning opportunities. The trainers help women from the disadvantaged community to collectively manufacture products and facilitate their marketing through participation in fairs and exhibitions. One of the pioneering initiatives at Rohtas district, Bihar has been the training and facilitation of women led SHGs into making hygienically produced, local nutritious food item of 'Sattu' packed in a professional manner. Through such enterprise women are trained to use their local skills and knowledge into income augmentation activities through which they can be economically empowered. This has also ushered in social empowerment of women in the region since the women SHGs are also taking up various social issues in a collective manner, such as anti-alcoholism, promoting the education of girl child, raising voice against domestic violence etc. Women from low income groups are trained in account keeping, branding, communication, pricing, customer interface etc by giving them exposure to exhibitions and fairs. Women from rural areas are provided rare opportunity to get first-hand experience in entrepreneurial development by exposure visit held from time to time. Self-defense training for women and girls has also been promoted for women and girls for enhancing safety and self-protection for the target area.

NANAK has partnered with PHD Chamber of Commerce Family Welfare Foundation to support its pioneering programme called 'ChaloGaon Ki Ore' which a holistic model of empowerment through women as key drivers of the change

4. Other Development Initiatives

NANAK also supports Environmental Promotion Initiatives through Tree plantation drives, Awareness Generation programs, and involving community in a community based sanitation approach. Major breakthrough in sanitation has been convincing community members in Bihar to participate in the government programme of building toilets under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan. Health care interventions also form a part of the focus area of intervention for the community in need. Awareness generation programmes for women and children have been taken up on a regular basis. In order to instill a sense of social responsiveness, children are encouraged to collectively take up social issues such as campaigns against child marriage, alcoholism and gender discrimination. Women are also given platforms for taking up social issues such as sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, etc. Special days such as teachers day, children's day, Gandhi jayanti etc are commemorated with special events in the rural areas where NANAK is has adopted a hub and spoke model.

National Forum for Action on Convergence

NFAC is a unique initiative anchored by NANAK which serves as a resource platform that has emerged out of previous and ongoing initiatives aiming to strengthen convergence for social inclusion and gender justice. This initiative has brought together different stakeholders (experts, serving and retired civil servants, civil society organizations) to share their experiences based on research and ground level actions to inform policy and bring useful insights for the effective implementation and reach of government programs and services. It is also a platform for generating better understanding and fostering collective action on critical issues and emerging priorities such as sustainable livelihoods, violence against women, sanitation, financial inclusion, and governance of social development programs and welfare schemes

NFAC consists of eminent patrons, a national convener, regional conveners, thematic experts, and an executive body including a functional management team with its Head Office at Delhi. The Annual NFAC agenda is steered with expert advice and guidance by a National Experts, Resources and Advisors Group.

The legal entity which anchors this program is called 'Network and Alliance for Non-Profit Activities & Knowledge' (NANAK), a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

AIM AND THRUST AREAS

- Strengthen inclusive and equitable policies of the government to reach the most marginalized and vulnerable groups through evidence based advocacy.
- Strengthen program implementation with support of evidence and data related to socio-economic demographics in areas of interventions planned, and undertake capacity building & skills development of implementing agencies.
- Design and institute pilot projects on various thematic & cross-sectoral convergence models.
- Promote action-oriented research on gender equality and social inclusion as well as other new emerging challenges and development concerns of the nation.
- Promote operational and workflow level innovations in CSS flagship schemes.
- Appropriate/ purposive study, research, technical & technological explorations.
- Undertake assessments / evaluations and perspective development between the governments and NFAC including its various partners.
- Engage with the government, corporate sector and other development agencies for creating an effective CSR policy/ program development strategy in keeping with the thrust areas and focused approach of the organization and the developmental priorities of the nation.

VISION

To make governance of social development programs and welfare schemes effective and result-oriented by institutionalizing convergence and to achieve this in a collaborative manner by enhancing participatory processes/ norms, and building capability and leadership at multiple levels.

MISSION

To bridge the divide between government and communities, between various civil society groups, and to reach out to the unreached.

Convergence in Action



Round table consultation on sharing good practices on convergence and their role in informing NFAC's agenda including the release of the NFAC brochure at IIC, Delhi, 8th September 2014



Delhi City-level consultation on 'Improving Access to Sanitation in Unreserved Settlements', at ND TiwariBhawan, New Delhi on 15th October 2014. Seen in the picture are CFAR and ERAG members of NFAC, MsAkshilaSivadas and MsRashmi Singh along with women from Delhi's slums



Glimpses from the Convergence ThinkFest 2014 (left: Mr Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Railways, lighting the lamp). The theme of the ThinkFest was 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance, From What to How' and it was held at Constitution Club of India, New Delhi, 26 December 2014.

NFAC Initiatives

Detailed reports of the following can also be found at <http://nfconvergence.org/events.html>

S.No	Activity	Date	Highlights
1.	Public launch of the website of NFAC (http://www.nfconvergence.org/index.html) Constitution Club, New Delhi	13 th Aug, 2014	NFAC website was launched by NFAC patrons -Mr Sanjay Paswan, former Union minister, Dr Mohan Giri, chairperson, Guild of services, Dr Pam Rajput, founder Director of the Centre for Women's Studies & Development and other stakeholders. The National Convener of NFAC, Ms Rashmi Singh presented a model of convergence of social security schemes for women.
2.	Round table consultation on 'Sharing good Practices on Convergence and their Role in Informing NFAC's Agenda' <i>India International Centre, New Delhi</i>	8 th Sept, 2014	Rich insights and experiences on good practices on convergence were shared by participants from across the country. Perspectives and salient points of action emerged while envisioning the challenges, problems, and opportunities towards institutionalizing convergence
3.	Village Convergence Forum Meet-Sharing of Village Development Plan <i>Village Majhuin, District Rohtas, Bihar</i>	13 th Sept, 2014	The villagers were briefed about the district level development process. The <i>Sampurna Swachhata Abhiyan</i> project, with special reference to issues of water, health and sanitation, Adarsh Panchayat, and related issues were highlighted. Area DDC, Mukhiya, ICDS supervisor, and other village level functionaries attended the meeting and identified the priorities through discussions involving the key stakeholders.
4.	Delhi- City level consultation on 'Improving Access to Sanitation in Underserved Settlements' <i>N.D Tiwari Bhawan, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi</i>	15 th Oct, 2014	NFAC partnered with CFAR in co-hosting a city-level consultation on sanitation to contribute to the month-long <i>Swachha Bharat Abhiyan</i> . This gave a platform for dialogue with vulnerable communities who face the problems of sanitation, and an opportunity to brainstorm solutions. The consultation process included significant inputs from policy makers, decision makers, implementers and service providers with representatives from local bodies.

S.No	Activity	Date	Highlights
5.	Strategic planning meeting <i>Indian Social Institute, Lodhi Road, New Delhi</i>	16 th Nov, 2014	A strategic planning meet of NFAC stakeholders was held for laying the roadmap, and to identify focus areas for NFAC intervention. Concrete suggestions emerged in terms of its vision and mission, organizational structure, constituencies and areas of intervention, and partnerships and collaborations
6.	Expert group consultation on the Vulnerability Index and Family Development Index <i>Nigam Bhawan, Delhi</i>	28 th Nov, 2014	Chaired by Mr Rakesh Mehta, State Election Commissioner, Delhi & Chandigarh region and in the presence of Mr Amitabh Kundu, professor, the expert group consultation deliberated on Vulnerability and Family Development indices and their usefulness for targeting interventions
7.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for Southern Region' <i>Bengaluru</i>	22 nd Dec, 2014	Aam Sabha of the Southern Region reiterated the need for convergence as a single window system for easy access to schemes and benefits provided by the government. People expressed the need for greater community involvement, re-evaluation of the inept IT systems, and increased accessibility
8.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for the Central Region- Bhopal' <i>Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh</i>	22 nd Dec, 2014	An Aam Sabha of the Central Region for the States of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Odisha was organized in Bhopal, with the theme 'Public Services and Accessibility to the people'. The focus was on the quality of services delivered from State authorities, as well as the new model of e-governance and how it impacts marginalized sections of society. The meeting highlighted the issues of Social security of the unorganised sector and the need for convergence on this issue. Towards the end of the meeting people signed the Statement of Intent as put forth by NFAC.
9.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for North East Region- Manipur' <i>Tripura and Manipur</i>	22 nd Dec, 2014	Women from different ethnic communities were present at the Aam Sabha. The consultation resulted in heightened awareness of various government schemes, their access and availability, challenges, and steps taken by the government to improve these schemes

S.No	Activity	Date	Highlights
10.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for Eastern Region' <i>Deep Narayan Singh Regional Institute of Cooperative Management, Patna</i>	22 nd Dec, 2014	Representatives from civil society, research institutes, technical institutes, government and social activists, highlighted and deliberated on vulnerabilities of different communities. The need for a national index on vulnerability and creation of database following extensive survey was suggested.
11.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for North Region' <i>Indian International Centre, Delhi</i>	25 th Dec, 2014	Various activities of the Gender Resource Centres were highlighted. The participants spoke in favour of strengthening GRCs and expressed their support and willingness to promote them.
12.	National consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How' <i>Constitution Club of India, New Delhi</i>	26 th Dec, 2014	Attended by more than 100 participants from different parts of the country, the roadmap for institutionalizing convergence and the key processes, mechanisms and tools for the same were shared. The underlying aim was the development of inclusive, people centric, and effective governance that addresses structural issues such as poverty, gender inequality, and social exclusion, and reduces the disconnect between the people and the government.
13.	Felicitations of women achievers & NGOs at the International Women's Day celebrations held in Rohtas district, Bihar <i>Sasaram, Rohtas district, Bihar</i>	8 th Mar, 2015	On the occasion of International Women's Day, the work and efforts of women achievers and NGOs was recognized and felicitated with mementoes. It was the first time that such a celebration was held at a village-level in the region and the high point was the participation of hundreds of women who saw the occasion as an assertion of their socio-cultural identity and voice.
14.	Brainstorming session on opportunities for NGOs to strengthen their outreach and ongoing initiatives for convergence <i>Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi</i>	22 nd March, 2015	Participating NGOs shared their experiences at the grassroots level and highlighted the gaps in their connect with the government. A few women were felicitated and given awards for their exemplary contribution in their respective fields.

Projects Details 2014-2015

Projects Details	Progress
<p>Dr Radhika Raman Public School</p> <p>Education Early Childhood Development Access to Information</p> <p>Activities: School for classes LKG- VI, Community Library and Information Centre, Early Childhood Development Centre</p> <p>With support from: READ India</p> <p>Start Date: April 2014</p> <p>Location: Majhui, Sasaram, Bihar</p>  	<p>NANAK set up a remedial centre for education in Majhui, Bihar. After strong demand from villagers, the centre was turned into a full-fledged school, set up through the Radhika Raman Public Trust. It serves children from low-income groups. Children from ten neighbouring villages attend the school including Khudnu, Raipurchor, Kajhao, Basantpur, Kenarkala, Kenar, Bhati, Bartali, Sarya, etc.</p> <p>The school acts as a community hub for the entire village which lacks formal structures and infrastructure. Therefore throughout the year there was an effort by NANAK to make use of the space and position of the school in the village by conducting development and social awareness-generation activities.</p> <p>The year saw a tree plantation drive being organized by the school for village residents, along with a self-defense training, cleanliness drives, and health and a hygiene workshop.</p> <p>Six mentoring, monitoring and evaluation visits were undertaken to the school in the year by the core team of NANAK and other experts.</p>
<p>Kolkatta Learning Centre</p> <p>Education, Early Childhood Development</p> <p>Activities: Remedial classes for children aged 4-14 years, extra-curricular activities</p> <p>Start Date: May 2013</p> <p>End Date: 30 June 2014</p> <p>Location: Kolkatta</p>  	<p>NANAK supported the Kolkatta Learning Centre that provided free-of-cost remedial classes, with a focus on extra-curricular activities, personality-development, and English-speaking, for children from low-income groups.</p>

Projects Details	Progress
<p>Bishunpur Learning Centre Education</p> <p>Activities: Remedial classes for children aged 3- 7 years</p> <p>Start Date: 17 February 2014</p> <p>Location: Bishunpur, Sasaram, Bihar</p>	<p>Bishunpur is a small village, home to people who predominantly belonging to backward socio-economic caste and class.</p> <p>To facilitate their upward mobility in society, NANAK opened a centre providing remedial classes to children aged 3-7 years. NANAK has also opened a community library for village residents at the centre.</p>
 	
<p>Rural Community Empowerment and Village Development through IEC campaigns</p> <p>Health, Environment, Women's Empowerment, Skills Training</p> <p>Activities: Health work</p> <p>Start Date: March 2014</p> <p>Locations: Majhui, Bihar</p>	<p>NANAK initiated a series of IEC activities for bringing greater awareness and engagement on issues related to the environment, sanitation, health, hygiene, etc. A health camp was organized with the participation of doctors from the local area as well as from Delhi. Tree plantation and environment-awareness-raising drives were organized. Women were mobilized to participate in skills development programmes and micro-enterprise in the areas related with cutting, stitching, handicrafts, and sattu-making. Women were organized into self-help-groups and encouraged to make producers collectives. Exposure visits of women were organized to Delhi to get hands-on experience on marketing of producing exhibitions, etc.</p>
 	

Projects Details	Progress
<p>Promoting Higher Education of Girls Education, Women's Empowerment</p> <p>Start Date: March 2013</p> <p>Location: Bihar</p>	<p>NANAK has been encouraging higher education of girl child by bringing awareness to families of girl-children of the need of sending girls for higher technical education. A collaboration was forged with SITYOG Institute of Engineering Aurangabad with the understanding that girls from low- income families would be enrolled at the institute free-of-cost/ at nominal fees.</p>
	

Calendar of Events 2014-2015

Date	Activity	Place	Core Theme	Details
March '14	Health Camp for villagers	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Village Development 	A health camp was organized by NANAK in village Majhui, where a team of local doctors and a gynecologist from Delhi gave free check-ups, medical advice, and medicines to village residents.
4 April '14	Self Defense Training Camp for village girls and women	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills Training Women's Empowerment Village Development 	A self- defense training camp was organized to generate self-confidence amongst the village girls and women. The training by a Majhui resident who is a black belt in Karate, and was conducted with support from the local SHO (Police) who interacted with young people in the area giving them tips on safety and protection. A total of 100 girls and women from underprivileged backgrounds were trained.
5 June '14	Tree plantation and environment-awareness raising drive in Majhui village	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Village Development 	NANAK, in collaboration with the Dr Radhika Raman Trust undertook a tree plantation and environment-awareness drive in the Majhui village. The drive included affecting behavioural change to keep the village ponds and streets clean.
15 Aug '14	Independence Day Event in the village	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Village Development 	A cultural event on the occasion of Independence Day was organised in Majhui village. It included a Prabhat Pheri on the importance of education for the development of the country. Children and adults from neighbouring villages also participated.



Calendar of Events 2014-2015

Date	Activity	Place	Core Theme	Details
13 Sept '14	Village Convergence Forum Meet	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convergence Village Development 	A very unique initiative undertaken in the year 2014-15 was the conduct of a village level Convergence Meeting on September 13, 2014 to bring different key stakeholders from the government and civil society, and elected representative face to face to discuss the micro-level challenges hampering growth and development in the area as perceived by the community members. Through this a new model of development was elaborated where a dialogue could be possible with a large number of volunteers who worked in close association with the villagers especially women and at the gram panchayat level. Through this forum an attempt was made to connect government programmes with citizens, and raise greater awareness for schemes such as NREGA, Swachhta Abhiyan, NRLM, SSA, NRHM, Financial inclusion, Indira AwasYojana.
26 Oct '14	Cleanliness begins at home- Village cleanliness drive	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village Development 	Village Youth mobilized to lead a cleanliness campaign in the village, organise cleanliness drives, and spread awareness on the need for cleanliness.



Calendar of Events 2014-15

Date	Activity	Place	Core Theme	Details
11 Dec '14	LSR Enactus Team rural excursion	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village Development Rural-urban exchange 	Our team demonstrated the process of manufacturing the cleaning liquid to the ever so enthusiastic women of the Village Majhui, who would be making and supplying the cleaning liquid to us under this project. It was a great learning experience for both these women as well as for us volunteers
1 Jan '15	New Years Celebrations in the Village	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	Students inspired to take up new year's resolutions through interactive sessions with RRPS students by teachers
9 Jan '15	Chalo Gaon ki Ore Exhibition	Chanakya Puri, Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Empowerment 	Exhibition organized for women entrepreneurs from NANAK's Raipuchor Women's Empowerment Centre, LSR Enactus, and CAFI
Jan '15	Knowledge sharing and dissemination session with MBA students from Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota	Chanakya Puri, Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convergence 	Interactive session with Sneha Palit, from the Right to Education Forum ; Indrani Palit, social worker; Vinita Singh, development sector specialist, was organized.
26 Jan '15	Republic Day Event	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	Cultural show at RRPS and Prabhat Pheri with neighbouring villages on the importance of education
Feb '15	Stall by rural entrepreneur women at LSE Annual Festival 'Tarang'	LSR College, University of Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills Development Women's Empowerment 	Women from NANAK's rural centres sold products made by them at a stall at the festival



Looking to the Future

In a short span of time and with relatively limited resources, NANAK has managed to launch operations and establish itself as an active change-maker. The coming year will be full of plenty of work however, with existing interventions to be sustained and expanded and new initiatives to be taken up. NANAK is putting emphasis on creating drivers of change, particularly women, through leadership development and other kind of support. NANAK is also putting a focus on self-sustainability to break existing cycles of dependency that are prone to get created in development aid and operations. There is an effort to increase activities in micro-enterprise and create revenue models for certain existing models such that they are able to generate their own funds. We are looking to explore further partnerships and collaborations with like-minded organisations to channelize our collective resources present and future initiatives.

Sponsors and Implementation Support Partners

- 1) Takshila Education Society
- 2) CURE Surgical
- 3) Sulabh International Social Service Organisation
- 4) NFAC Partners:
 - East: NIDAN (Bihar)
 - South: CFAR, IT for Change
 - North East: CAFI
 - Central: PWESCR, NIWCYD
 - North: PROACT (Uttar Pradesh), Delhi NFAC partners



The NANAK Family

Patrons and Advisors

1. Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak
2. Dr. Pam Rajput
3. Mr. Amod K Kanth
4. Mr. Sanjiv Kumar
5. Ms. Anuradha Goel

Executive Board

1. Mrs. Rashmi Singh- Founder President
2. Mrs. Indrani Palit- Secretary
3. Mr. Tanay Gupta- Treasurer
4. Mamta Sahai- Joint Secretary
5. Dr. Deepali Garg- Member
6. Mrs. Y Bharathi- Member
7. Mr. Sanjay Bansal- Member
8. Mr Kumar Rakesh- Member

Other

Primary/Associate/Volunteer Members

1. Meera Singh (Uttar Pradesh)
2. Deepti Gulati (Uttar Pradesh)
3. Vartika Nanda (Delhi)
4. Abhay Singh (Madhya Pradesh)
5. Indu Bansal (Rajasthan)
6. Bonnah Ghosh (West Bengal)
7. Kiran Singh (Bihar)
8. Parul Gupta (Uttarakhand)
9. Mona Khot (Maharashtra)
10. Deepak Chaudhary (Delhi)
11. Priyanshi Ujjain (Bihar)
12. Sneha Palit (Delhi)
13. Vinita Singh (Delhi)



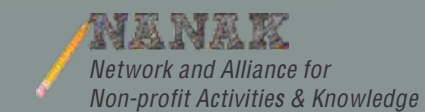
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2. Khushboo Rani- Programme Coordinator
3. Chandra Shekhar Prasad- Programme Associate
4. Vishal Singh & Roopa Singh - Project Coordinators and Principal. Dr. Radhika Raman Public School
5. Manjit Prasad- Teacher and Coordinator, RRPS, Majhui
6. Poonam Kumari- Teacher and Coordinator RRPS, Majhui



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Foreword



NANAK began its journey in May, 2014 with small yet firm steps and resolve to make a difference in the lives of the people. Since then it has taken great leaps and has grown from its core in Delhi to have created and nurtured ten centers in rural and urban parts of the country. In the short time, its relentless effort and the committed stride has borne widespread results.

NANAK is committed to setting up integrated models of rural and urban development projects. It also acts as a resource platform for other development partners- connecting them and promoting their work; organizing knowledge sharing events and conferences; and working on knowledge creation and dissemination on development themes (particularly to foster the idea of inter-sectoral convergence).

2015-2016 saw swift progress- we now have 10 fully operating centres, 4 Community Libraries and Information Centres which we run/support; 212 people have been trained in Beauty & Wellness courses, and 90 in Stitching, Tailoring & Merchandising, 127 people have been trained in Computers and Digital Literacy, and 260 children have received free of cost remedial education.

The focus is on the following core themes:

- Education And Early Childhood Development
- Skills Training
- Convergence
- Women's Empowerment Through Capacity And Leadership Building
- Local Self-Governance

An overarching theme is village development. Besides these, we also hold regular health and hygiene workshops and advocacy efforts on the issues and concerns ranging from anti-alcoholism to protecting the environment.

NANAK firmly believes in a convergence-based approach, hence the National Forum of Action on Convergence (NFAC) is one of our unique initiative programmes. The idea of convergence is simple yet essential for substantive impact. It is to converge services, schemes, programmes such that they tackle the multi-dimensional nature of underdevelopment and the multi-dimensional nature of poverty. The effort is to not confine ourselves to a particular thematic area, but to address interrelated issues of education, health, poverty, gender discrimination, etc. Addressing issues in isolation to each other does not bear results, hence the convergence based approach.

We apply this approach to all our centres. For instance, in the remote village of Majhui in Sasaram, Bihar, we are running a primary school which is much more than a school for formal education. We believe in recognizing the potential of the school to act as a community hub, and tap on its potential to bring about a positive change in the village and its surrounding areas. This becomes even more important in rural and remote areas, where there is a severe lack of formal structures. So, we regularly hold awareness campaigns on social issues such as anti-alcoholism, health camps, tree-plantation drives for the entire village community. Through a partnership with READ India, we have built a Library and Information Centre within the school premises which is open to use for the entire village community after school hours.

Similarly, we have several Women's Empowerment centers which runs 6-month stitching, tailoring and merchandising, and beauty and wellness courses – Timarpur, Raipurchor, Dawath, Deo. We encourage women to use these centres as spaces to derive positive and constructive strength from each other and form self-help groups, collectively escalate gender issues to local Panchayats, etc. Mahila Samooh (Women collectives) are encouraged to take keen interest in ownership of the centre for sustainability of our projects. Apart from skills training, we regularly conduct workshops in personality development, health and hygiene, and talks on gender justice, women's empowerment, etc.

To develop the concept of Convergence and push for its inclusion in policy, NANAK publishes knowledge products and organizes several knowledge-sharing events including the the Annual Convergence ThinkFest- which has now become a unique USP of this organization.

For communications and advocacy, Gaon ki Selfie, NANAK's bi-monthly periodical is published which focuses on relevant themes such as good governance, women's empowerment. The periodical is bi-lingual and is widely circulated within the government and development sector in Delhi as well as in the rural areas where we already have our presence.

As we move towards a new year, we are aiming to focus on a new thematic area- strengthening local governance. In particular, we are working at strengthening female participation in local governance. There is a lack of awareness of the structure, powers, and functions of Panchayats as stipulated in the Constitution. While reservations for women in Panchayats has led to increased female Panchayat members, this is often only on paper and in reality the phenomenon of female proxy leaders is rampant. NANAK has recently launched a pilot project in two districts of Bihar- Aurangabad and Siwan, where we propose to run an awareness-generation campaign along with imparting training to increase effective female participation in Panchayats. (More on page xxx)

We would like to thank the NANAK team, in all its field offices and in Delhi, along with our partners and friends who have contributed to NANAK's endeavors, without whom it would not have been possible to take such strides. We look forward to bringing more positive change in society with the contribution and commitment.

Introduction



NANAK is a national organization, set up with a vision to harness the full potential of individuals and institutions through knowledge creation and dissemination with the goal of empowering the disadvantaged. NANAK aims to bring changes through micro and macro level changes (policy change), we combine direct action on the grassroot with aggregation of experiences which can inform policy action. While the primary movers of this organization are our rural communities at the grassroots in Bihar, and the urban poor of Delhi, and NCR region, the promoters, advisors and members of NANAK are a set of individuals who come with years of experience, competence, passion and commitment to bring about positive change in communities through a participatory approach. NANAK dedicates its efforts towards bridging the divide between government and communities, between various civil society groups and reaching out to the unreached. The major activities are highlighted below:

1. Advocacy, Knowledge Sharing and Capacity enhancement for Good Governance Practices – NANAK has set up a platform for promoting convergence action as an approach towards good governance. This is fostered through a programme called National Forum for Action on Convergence (NFAC). The programme has been initiated with a vision to make governance of social development programs and welfare schemes more effective and result oriented by institutionalizing convergence and enhancing participatory processes/ norms, and building capability and leadership at multiple levels. This is a resource platform that has emerged out of previous and ongoing initiatives aiming to strengthen convergence for social inclusion and gender justice. This initiative has brought together different stakeholders (experts, serving and retired civil servants, civil society organizations) to share experiences based on research, ground level actions to inform policy and bring useful insights for effective implementation and reach of government programs and services. It is also a platform for generating better understanding and fostering collective action on critical issues and emerging priorities such as sustainable livelihoods, violence against women, sanitation, financial inclusion and governance of social development programs and welfare schemes.

2. Promoting Value Based Quality Education

NANAK supports value based quality education primarily in rural area of Bihar for children of low income families. Dr.

RadhikaRaman Public School is a Flagship Initiative in Rural Education with a hub and spoke approach covering a cluster of villages in Sasaram in Bihar. This school supported by NANAK is committed to providing quality education and infrastructure to all children in the region and has adopted an innovative approach to education by combining computer education, audio-visual learning with the use of projectors and the teaching of values and morals in addition to the standard course curriculum to prepare a more skilled, responsible, and compassionate future generation for the nation. The organization also identifies girls from low income families who need financial support to continue their higher education and gives them mentoring support for higher education. One such recent successes has been getting 11 girls from very low income family enrolled in Engineering college in Bihar with fee waiver and part sponsorship from NANAK.

3. Women Empowerment

NANAK has set up a number of women empowerment centres in Bihar and UP to provide vocational training, awareness on health, hygiene and nutrition, legal literacy, counseling, collectivize women in Self Help Groups and build their capacities for income earning opportunities. The trainers help women from the disadvantaged community to collectively manufacture products and facilitate their marketing through participation in fairs and exhibitions. One of the pioneering initiatives at Rohtas district, Bihar has been the training and facilitation of women led SHGs into making hygienically produced, local nutritious food item of 'Sattu' packed in a professional manner. Through such enterprise women are trained to use their local skills and knowledge into income augmentation activities through which they can be economically empowered. This has also ushered in social empowerment of women in the region since the women SHGs are also taking up various social issues in a collective manner, such as anti-alcoholism, promoting the education of girl child, raising voice against domestic violence etc. Women from low income groups are trained in account keeping, branding, communication, pricing, customer interface etc by giving them exposure to exhibitions and fairs. Women from rural areas are provided rare opportunity to get first-hand experience in entrepreneurial development by exposure visit held from time to time. Self-defense training for women and girls has also been promoted for women and girls for enhancing safety and self-protection for the target area.

NANAK has partnered with PHD Chamber of Commerce Family Welfare Foundation to support its pioneering programme called 'ChaloGaon Ki Ore' which a holistic model of empowerment through women as key drivers of the change

4. Other Development Initiatives

NANAK also supports Environmental Promotion Initiatives through Tree plantation drives, Awareness Generation programs, and involving community in a community based sanitation approach. Major breakthrough in sanitation has been convincing community members in Bihar to participate in the government programme of building toilets under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan. Health care interventions also form a part of the focus area of intervention for the community in need. Awareness generation programmes for women and children have been taken up on a regular basis. In order to instill a sense of social responsiveness, children are encouraged to collectively take up social issues such as campaigns against child marriage, alcoholism and gender discrimination. Women are also given platforms for taking up social issues such as sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, etc. Special days such as teachers day, children's day, Gandhi jayanti etc are commemorated with special events in the rural areas where NANAK is has adopted a hub and spoke model.

5. Gaon Ki Selfie

NANAK has initiated a unique periodical by the name of Gaon Ki Selfie to give regular space to voices of women, children and other development sector partners from different states. It also focuses on different themes which are contemporary in nature with a view to draw the attention of different stakeholders including policy makers to the issues which need to be articulated and addresses.

National Forum for Action on Convergence.

NFAC is a unique initiative anchored by NANAK which serves as a resource platform that has emerged out of previous and ongoing initiatives aiming to strengthen convergence for social inclusion and gender justice. This initiative has brought together different stakeholders (experts, serving and retired civil servants, civil society organizations) to share their experiences based on research and ground level actions to inform policy and bring useful insights for the effective implementation and reach of government programs and services. It is also a platform for generating better understanding and fostering collective action on critical issues and emerging priorities such as sustainable livelihoods, violence against women, sanitation, financial inclusion, and governance of social development programs and welfare schemes

NFAC consists of eminent patrons, a national convener, regional conveners, thematic experts, and an executive body including a functional management team with its Head Office at Delhi. The Annual NFAC agenda is steered with expert advice and guidance by a National Experts, Resources and Advisors Group.

The legal entity which anchors this program is called 'Network and Alliance for Non-Profit Activities & Knowledge' (NANAK), a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

VISION

To make governance of social development programs and welfare schemes effective and result-oriented by institutionalizing convergence and to achieve this in a collaborative manner by enhancing participatory processes/ norms, and building capability and leadership at multiple levels.

MISSION

To bridge the divide between government and communities, between various civil society groups, and to reach out to the unreached.

AIM AND THRUST AREAS

- Strengthen inclusive and equitable policies of the government to reach the most marginalized and vulnerable groups through evidence based advocacy.
- Strengthen program implementation with support of evidence and data related to socio-economic demographics in areas of interventions planned, and undertake capacity building & skills development of implementing agencies.
- Design and institute pilot projects on various thematic & cross-sectoral convergence models.
- Promote action-oriented research on gender equality and social inclusion as well as other new emerging challenges and development concerns of the nation.
- Promote operational and workflow level innovations in CSS flagship schemes.
- Appropriate/ purposive study, research, technical & technological explorations.
- Undertake assessments / evaluations and perspective development between the governments and NFAC including its various partners.
- Engage with the government, corporate sector and other development agencies for creating an effective CSR policy/ program development strategy in keeping with the thrust areas and focused approach of the organization and the developmental priorities of the nation.

Convergence in Action



Round table consultation on sharing good practices on convergence and their role in informing NFAC's agenda including the release of the NFAC brochure at IIC, Delhi, 8th September 2014



Glimpses from the Convergence ThinkFest 2015, themed 'Convergence for citizen-centric services with Minimum Government- Maximum Governance'. Dr Devendra Chaudhary, Secretary, ARPG, was the key note addressee. The ThinkFest included sessions on 'Perspectives on Convergence for Good Governance from the Government', 'Convergence based CSR practices vis-à-vis Good Governance for MGMG', and 'Regional Experiences on Convergence from NFAC Partners'



Stakeholders meet at Patna, Bihar on 5th October 2015. Seen in the photos are Dr Sanjay Paswan (former Union Minister), Dr Chandrashekhar Pran (Director, NYKS), Mr Nadeem Noor (UNFPA), and



Release of the book 'Women 'Road to Rights- Women, Social Security and Protection in India' by Minister of Railways, Suresh Prabhu, at an event organised by the Programme on Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in collaboration with the NFAC at the Indian Islamic Centre New Delhi on 27 January 2016. The book includes a chapter on ' Women and social security: Convergence model of delivery' by NFAC National Convenor, Rashmi Singh.



Glimpses from the Convergence ThinkFest 2014 (left: Mr Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Railways, lighting the lamp). The theme of the ThinkFest was 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance, From What to How' and it was held at Constitution Club of India, New Delhi, 26 December 2014.



Delhi City-level consultation on 'Improving Access to Sanitation in Unreserved Settlements', at ND Tiwari Bhawan, New Delhi on 15th October 2014. Seen in the picture are CFAR and ERAG members of NFAC, Ms Akhila Sivadas and Ms Rashmi Singh along with women from Delhi's slums



Focus group discussion with girl students who attend remedial classes at one of NFAC's Gender Resource Centres (GRCs) in Delhi. The discussion with community beneficiaries, held in December 2015, focused on assessing the impact of GRCs and establishing the best way forward

NFAC Initiatives

Detailed reports of the following can also be found at <http://nfconvergence.org/events.html>

S.No	Activity	Date	Highlights
1.	Public launch of the website of NFAC (http://www.nfconvergence.org/index.html) <i>Constitution Club, New Delhi</i>	13 th Aug, 2014	NFAC website was launched by NFAC patrons -Mr Sanjay Paswan, former Union minister, Dr Mohan Giri, chairperson, Guild of services, Dr Pam Rajput, founder Director of the Centre for Women's Studies & Development and other stakeholders. The National Convener of NFAC, Ms Rashmi Singh presented a model of convergence of social security schemes for women.
2.	Round table consultation on 'Sharing good Practices on Convergence and their Role in Informing NFAC's Agenda' <i>India International Centre, New Delhi</i>	8 th Sept, 2014	Rich insights and experiences on good practices on convergence were shared by participants from across the country. Perspectives and salient points of action emerged while envisioning the challenges, problems, and opportunities towards institutionalizing convergence.
3.	Village Convergence Forum Meet-Sharing of Village Development Plan <i>Village Majhuin, District Rohtas, Bihar</i>	13 th Sept, 2014	The villagers were briefed about the district level development process. The <i>Sampurna Swachchata Abhiyan</i> project, with special reference to issues of water, health and sanitation, Adarsh Panchayat, and related issues were highlighted. Area DDC, Mukhiya, ICDS supervisor, and other village level functionaries attended the meeting and identified the priorities through discussions involving the key stakeholders.
4.	Delhi- City level consultation on 'Improving Access to Sanitation in Underserved Settlements' <i>N.D Tiwari Bhawan, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi</i>	15 th Oct, 2014	NFAC partnered with CFAR in co-hosting a city-level consultation on sanitation to contribute to the month-long <i>Swachha Bharat Abhiyan</i> . This gave a platform for dialogue with vulnerable communities who face the problems of sanitation, and an opportunity to brainstorm solutions. The consultation process included significant inputs from policy makers, decision makers, implementers and service providers with representatives from local bodies.

S.No	Activity	Date	Highlights
5.	Strategic planning meeting <i>Indian Social Institute, Lodhi Road, New Delhi</i>	16 th Nov, 2014	A strategic planning meet of NFAC stakeholders was held for laying the roadmap, and to identify focus areas for NFAC intervention. Concrete suggestions emerged in terms of its vision and mission, organizational structure, constituencies and areas of intervention, and partnerships and collaborations
6.	Expert group consultation on the Vulnerability Index and Family Development Index <i>Nigam Bhawan, Delhi</i>	28 th Nov, 2014	Chaired by Mr Rakesh Mehta, State Election Commissioner, Delhi & Chandigarh region and in the presence of Mr Amitabh Kundu, professor, the expert group consultation deliberated on Vulnerability and Family Development indices and their usefulness for targeting interventions
7.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for Southern Region' <i>Bengaluru</i>	22 nd Dec, 2014	AamSabha of the Southern Region reiterated the need for convergence as a single window system for easy access to schemes and benefits provided by the government. People expressed the need for greater community involvement, re-evaluation of the inept IT systems, and increased accessibility
8.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for the Central Region- Bhopal' <i>Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh</i>	22 nd Dec, 2014	An Aam Sabha of the Central Region for the States of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Odisha was organized in Bhopal, with the theme 'Public Services and Accessibility to the people'. The focus was on the quality of services delivered from State authorities, as well as the new model of e-governance and how it impacts marginalized sections of society. The meeting highlighted the issues of Social security of the unorganised sector and the need for convergence on this issue. Towards the end of the meeting people signed the Statement of Intent as put forth by NFAC.
9.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for North East Region- Manipur' <i>Tripura and Manipur</i>	22 nd Dec, 2014	Women from different ethnic communities were present at the Aam Sabha. The consultation resulted in heightened awareness of various government schemes, their access and availability, challenges, and steps taken by the government to improve these schemes

S.No	Activity	Date	Highlights
10.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for Eastern Region' <i>Deep Narayan Singh Regional Institute of Cooperative Management, Patna</i>	22 nd Dec, 2014	Representatives from civil society, research institutes, technical institutes, government and social activists, highlighted and deliberated on vulnerabilities of different communities. The need for a national index on vulnerability and creation of database following extensive survey was suggested.
11.	Regional consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How for North Region' <i>Indian International Centre, Delhi</i>	25 th Dec, 2014	Various activities of the Gender Resource Centres were highlighted. The participants spoke in favour of strengthening GRCs and expressed their support and willingness to promote them.
12.	National consultation on 'Institutionalising Convergence for Effective and Inclusive Governance: From What to How' <i>Constitution Club of India, New Delhi</i>	26 th Dec, 2014	Attended by more than 100 participants from different parts of the country, the roadmap for institutionalizing convergence and the key processes, mechanisms and tools for the same were shared. The underlying aim was the development of inclusive, people centric, and effective governance that addresses structural issues such as poverty, gender inequality, and social exclusion, and reduces the disconnect between the people and the government.
13.	Felicitation of women achievers & NGOs at the International Women's Day celebrations held in Rohtas district, Bihar <i>Sasaram, Rohtas district, Bihar</i>	8 th Mar, 2015	On the occasion of International Women's Day, the work and efforts of women achievers and NGOs was recognized and felicitated with mementoes. It was the first time that such a celebration was held at a village-level in the region and the high point was the participation of hundreds of women who saw the occasion as an assertion of their socio-cultural identity and voice.
14.	Brainstorming session on opportunities for NGOs to strengthen their outreach and ongoing initiatives for convergence <i>Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi</i>	22 nd March, 2015	Participating NGOs shared their experiences at the grassroots level and highlighted the gaps in their connect with the government. A few women were felicitated and given awards for their exemplary contribution in their respective fields.

S.No	Activity	Date	Highlights
15.	SWOT analysis organized for Mission Convergence, Delhi <i>CSOI, New Delhi</i>	13 th Apr, 2015	The stakeholders of Mission Convergence gathered to deliberate on the challenges, barriers, and way forward in order to strengthen the program and recognise emerging opportunities.
16	Sharing and dissemination of the Convergence model for social inclusion and gender justice <i>University of Berkeley, USA</i>	Apr, 2015	The convergence model was shared, discussed, and promoted at the University, in the presence of leading academicians and policy-makers in the sector.
17.	The convergence model was shared, discussed, and promoted at the University, in the presence of leading academicians and policy-makers in the sector. <i>Gandhi Peace Foundation Auditorium, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi</i>	12 July, 2015	With participation from Mission Convergence and its stakeholders, the session was fruitful in identifying the barriers in implementing the program and forward-looking in identifying steps for its improvement.
18.	Partnered in the 'South Asia Women Peace and Security Conference' for developing a national action plan to end violence against women through convergent action <i>India International Centre, New Delhi</i>	21-22 Sep 2015	The conference was organized by the Control Arms Foundation of India (CAFI) in partnership with NFAC. A draft of the National Action Plan on women's peace and security was drawn and presented before Shri Kiran Rijju, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, who offered his full support to the initiative. An impressive range of speakers from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and the Philippines shared their experiences and learnings.
19.	Experience sharing on role of PRIs as convergence platform for social inclusion and women empowerment <i>Deep Narayan Regional Institute of Cooperative Management, Patna</i>	5 th Oct 2015	The role of Panchayati Raj institutions in social inclusion and women's empowerment was deliberated on. The conference was attended by Mr Sanjay Paswan, former Union minister, who emphasised the importance of women-centric models. Mr Chandra shekhar Pran, former director, Nehru Yuva Kendra sangathan, gave a presentation on the TeesriSarkar Initiative. There was a discussion on the feasibility of setting up Resource-cum-Convergence Centres (RCCCs) in partnership with Teesri Sarkar and/or other Centre/State sponsored programmes/schemes.

S.No	Activity	Date	Highlights
20.	Convergence ThinkFest 2015 <i>PHD Chamber of Commerce, New Delhi</i>	22 nd Dec 2015	The event was organised in partnership with PHD Chamber of Commerce and Department of ARPG, GoI with support from UNDP. It focused on how the various sectors of the society like the Government, CSO and CSR can all come together and work towards good governance and convergence. There were different panels for discussion in every session which consisted of eminent personalities like Mr Rakesh Mehta, Mr Devendra Chaudhary, Mr Jatinder Singh, Mr NC Saxena, Dr Sanjay Bhatt, Ms Manisha Priyam, Ms Anupam Nidhi etc. A workshop was also conducted with the participants which channelled the flow of ideas and produced great results in the form of suggestions for better governance. A compendium of good practices was also released and various different models of Good governance were presented to the audience by NFAC's regional partners to set an example for everyone. The event was attended by approximately hundred and twenty people consisting participants from Bihar, UP, Haryana, Rajasthan, MP, Manipur, Maharashtra and Karnataka.



Programmes- Thematic Areas

Education



- Early Childhood Development
- Remedial Classes
- School
- Library and Information Centre
- Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities

Education is a core theme in NANAK's work. Our projects, trainings and workshops look into early childhood development, adult literacy, and remedial education particularly for students from under-privileged backgrounds, information access, knowledge sharing, etc.

"Children are the foundation of sustainable development. The early years of life are crucial not only for individual health and physical development, but also for cognitive and social-emotional development. Events in the first few years of life are formative and play a vital role in building human capital, breaking the cycle of poverty, promoting economic productivity, and eliminating social disparities and inequities."

- UNICEF

In several parts of the country, children need home-tutoring and personalized attention. Many, especially those from socio-economically backward sections of society cannot afford this. To support such children in the studies, with an aim of making them more independent, NANAK runs remedial classes in several of its centres including Bishunpur, Majhui, Deo, etc.

We also recognize that in small places, particularly remote rural villages, education centres become community

hubs. Our aim is to capitalize on this and this is why we seek to bring about positive behavioral change in an entire village community through a school. The primary school we have set up in Majhui, Bihar is a case in point. As described below, we have set up a Library and Information Centre at the school- open to the entire village community after school hours. We also regularly organize plantation drives, health drives, aware-ness campaigns, marches, etc at the school and workshops and training that are open to the entire village to attend.

1) Dr Radhika Raman Public School

Dr. Radhika Raman Public School started on 2nd of April 2014 at Majhui village, registered under the

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, it aims to provide low cost and high quality holistic education and personal development to the children of Sasaram. The school was established by the joint effort of the DrRadhika Raman Trust and the Network and Alliance for Non-Profit Activity and Knowledge (NANAK). Located at Majhui Village, the school is open to all sections of society and takes classes from Standard LKG-VI.

The school offers children in the area the following facilities, at a very nominal token fees-

- Community Library and Information Centre: Through a partnership with READ India and Takshika Educational Society, a fully-equipped and technologically advanced Library and Information Centre has been set up within the school premises. The library includes a range of books on different subjects and for all age-groups, computers, tablets, internet, along with a trained librarian for support. Library periods are included in students timetables and all students are encouraged to form a habit of reading. After school hours, the Library and Information Centre is open to all people from Majhui and neighbouring villages.
- Early Childhood Development Centre (ECD): The ECD provides a fun and active learning environment for children from LKG and UKG. It is a colourful learning space with educational toys and books, and is supported by an ECD instructor and facilitator trained in early childhood care and education. The ECD has been set up in collaboration with READ India.
- Transport: Transport/linkages for all students from Majhui as well as neighbouring villages at a nominal cost.
- Audio-Visual Classes: Innovative teaching and learning material and our classes are interactive with special focus on audio-visual learning through projector/computers. The school also shows educational movies to students and villagers every Saturday.
- Computer training: All students have the opportunity to attend computer classes under the guidance of a trained teacher.
- Extra-Curricular: Students are encouraged to explore and discover their creative passions. Timetables include lessons in music, dance, art, physical education, reading, etc. We also regularly hold events, competitions and marches/drives on social and environmental issues, for instance a tree plantation drive on World Environment day, special assemblies on Independence Day, etc.
- Community cultural events: Cultural events for the entire village and school community. In the past these have included and International Women's Day celebration, Teachers Day, Independence Day, etc.
- Community awareness-generation programs: Community-awareness generation programs for the benefit of village residents. These include health camps, anti-alcoholism drives, hygiene workshops, educational workshops, awareness camps by Banks and government partners.
- Exposure Visits for Students and Teachers: Meritorious children and children of senior classes, as well as teachers, are given opportunities to travel to other states and get leadership training/personality development training
- Support for Higher Education: Children connected to the school, including their siblings, are facilitated to enroll for higher education/technical education (such as engineering, medicine, etc) Scholarships are provided for need-based cases to make technical education affordable

2) Support to SheelKunj Community School Mobile Creche and Learning Centre For Children Of Construction Workers

NANAK is supporting a mobile crèche for children of construction workers in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. The centre gives a chance for children of construction workers to holistic development. Construction workers work long hours under physically stressful conditions, earn minimal wages, and are vulnerable to exploitation- this makes it difficult to devote time to their children, especially in their early childhood care. The first few years of the development of the child is very critical as it affects the physical and motor development of children.

NANAK is providing technical and gap-filling support through resource persons, experts, and learning aid to the project, with partner SheelKunj Community School. The centre has two teachers, one male and one female. So far 40 students have been given remedial education through this project.

3) Durgawati Learning Centre

The Durgawati Learning Centre is located in Kirpalpur village, Kaimur District, Bihar. Kirpalpur has a total population of about 840 (Census, 2011). NANAK opened the centre on 2nd October 2015, with support from Taskhila Education Society (TES). The centre provides free-of-cost remedial classes for children in the area. The centre also runs 6-month computer courses at a nominal cost. The centre currently has 8 computers and a trained computer teacher.

The teacher running remedial classes has an MA in Sociology. The centre was made substantial progress and so far provided remedial education to around 70 students in the area. There is an ongoing demand from other students in the area to attend these remedial classes, and NANAK is exploring the option of hiring an additional trainer and running two sets of classes, contingent on resources.

4) Bishunpur Learning Centre

Bishunpur is a small village of approximately 800 people located in the outskirts (around one kilometer away) of the Majhui village in Sasaram, Bihar. The village predominantly comprises of people who are socio-economically backward (Census, 2011), nearly all from the OBC Bond caste. The majority of villagers survive on agriculture and livestock, with a few inhabitants also involved in the weaving industry. A section of the villagers are engaged in weaving, and supply carpets etc via middlemen. These villagers are not attached to any government weaving scheme, nor do they have registered ID card. Adding to the lack of education, there is a lack of awareness of basic entitlements and rights as well as government schemes.

There is a dire need in the village for good education as well as increasing connectivity to jobs in the formal sector.

Keeping this in mind, NANAK established the Bishunpur Learning Centre (the only facility of its kind in the village) on 17 February 2014, which runs remedial classes for children in the area, and also has a library open to village residents for use. Classes run from Monday to Saturday from three to five o'clock, and a majority of students are between the ages of three and ten. A trained teacher, who holds a Bachelors in Education conducts classes. A key component of the classes is moral and civic education, lessons in personal hygiene, and personality development. NANAK also placed a small library with coaching books for competitive exams.

In January 2016, NANAK conducted a monitoring and evaluation visit to Bishunpur. A public meeting was held with local stakeholders to assess the state and progress of the centre.

Some of the observations made on the village in general by interacting with various members of the community were:

- Most of the village is uneducated
- It is difficult for students to go to government/private schools in neighbouring areas during the rainy season
- The hygiene conditions in the village are abysmal, particularly personal hygiene, shelter and clothing.
- A section of the villagers are engaged in weaving. However they do not have registered IDs nor are they connected to government schemes for weavers and artisans

5) Support to Savera Learning Centre for Children

NANAK supports the Savera Learning Centre in Delhi, which serves children from underprivileged background in Delhi. The centre has 41 children aged 8-14 years. NANAK also resolves to provide the centre with learning material and resources such as computer, books, training and workshops for teachers.

6) Support to Amrapali Community Library and Information Centre

NANAK contributes funds to a Community Library and Information Centre run by Amrapali Cultural Foundation in Delhi. The funds go towards buying books in higher education/organizing workshops on topics of social relevance/support to students for higher education. NANAK regularly conducts monitoring and evaluation trips to the centre, including one in January 2016.

Convergence

At the micro-level NANAK has several projects in rural and urban areas. However, at the macro-level, NANAK aims at affecting the development sector by institutionalizing the idea of convergence. (Read more on NANAK's programme the National Forum for Action on Convergence on page 5)

Livelihood Development

- 6 month low-cost courses in : a) Computers b) Stitching, Tailoring and Merchandising c) Beauty and Wellness
- Creating rural micro-enterprise models
- Personality development workshops
- English-speaking workshops
- Workshops in interview skills and CV writing
- Job fairs
- Career counseling with recruiters

NANAK rural centres, as also the urban centre at Timarpur, provide courses in computer, beauty and wellness, and stitching, tailoring, and merchandising. These are 6-month courses that are primarily aimed at people from disadvantaged backgrounds. There is a focus on developing entrepreneurial skills and connecting trainees to jobs following the courses. Details of these centres are given below.



1) Timarpur Skills Training Centre

In collaboration with TATA Power and PHD Family Welfare Foundation, NANAK set up a training centre with beautician classes and computer classes on 1st January 2016. The centre has high-quality infrastructure with air conditioners, water coolers and eleven computers. The centre is particularly aimed at people from socio-economically backwards sections of the community. Upon completion of the courses, trainees get certified by the Jan Shiksha Sansthan, a Central Government certifying body. The certificate will help students raise their value in the job market. The centre has two trainers and a project coordinator, and runs 6-month certificate classes. The centre is running full classes with many aspiring trainees registering for the next set of classes later in the year. Currently, 80 trainees are enrolled in beauty and wellness training while 75 in computer classes. Classes also have a component on gender-sensitivity, English speaking, personality development, and connecting 70% of trainees to jobs.

The Centre also acts as a focal point in the area for NANAK to conduct awareness-raising programmes, job fairs, and training workshops. These focus on health, hygiene, personality-development, English speaking skills, awareness on social issues, etc. For instance, in partnership with the PHD Family Welfare Foundation, NANAK facilitated a health and hygiene camp attended by over 250 people at the centre in early January 2016. Additionally, we have held multiple personality-development courses in January and February 2016.

We are also exploring the option of a self-defence workshop in the near future.

2) Deo Women's Empowerment Centre

The Deo Centre for Women's Empowerment is being supported by NANAK since August 2015. It runs classes institching, tailoring and merchandising and beauty and wellness at a nominal cost. There is also an emphasis on the role of the centre in acting as a hub for women to gather, mobilise, share problems, escalate their issues to Panchayats and find strength in number.

Deo Centre has been fully equipped with necessary beauty and wellness and stitching, tailoring and merchandising equipment, and four computers. Products from the centre A field mission to the centre was undertaken by NANAK in January 2016. A total number of six monitoring and evaluation visits were undertaken in the year.

The centre will be starting a community library and information centre along with an early childhood development centre, in partnership with READ India, at the end of March 2016.

3) Raipurchor Women's Empowerment Centre

NANAK started the Raipurchor Women's Empowerment Centre in Raipurchor village, Sasaram, Bihar in October 2015. The Centre aims at empowering women by helping them in becoming financially independent, and by facilitating the creation of women's self-help-groups. The Centre provides 6-month courses in beautician training and stitching, tailoring, and merchandising.

NANAK has fully equipped and staffed the Centre, with support from PHD Family Welfare Foundation. Two trainers have been employed, one each in beauty and wellness and one for stitching, tailoring and merchandising. The Centre provides these training to women, particularly those from disadvantaged background, at a nominal fee. The trainers are actively trying to mobilise women in the area to come together and form self-help-groups. There is also an effort to promote self-sustaining micro-enterprise for women in local foodstuffs and other locally-produced handicrafts products. NANAK is also exploring ways to market clothing products from the stitching, tailoring and merchandising classes.

A key component of this project is also to build the capacity and leadership skills of women, so that they can better act as community leaders and bring gender issues to the forefront.

4) Durgawati Learning Centre

Apart from remedial education, the Durgawati centre also provides 6-month certificate courses in computers. The centre has eight fully-functioning computers and a computer teacher qualified with an Advanced Diploma in Computer Application and a Masters in Economics. For more information on the centre, refer to page...

5) Dawath Facilitation Centre

Dawath is located in Rohtas, Bihar. The Dawath Facilitation Centre was started by NANAK in on 7 April 2015. It organized short-term course in computer training and beautician training. NANAK conducted a monitoring and evaluation visit to the centre in September 2015. So far the centre has trained 12 girls in beauty and wellness, and seven in computers. Two girls from Dawath Facilitation Centre were given the opportunity to attend a 17-day long training programme under Sandarshika (details on page...). A batch of 8 girls were mobilized to participate in the Women's Day Programme at village Majhui, and also take part in a friendly Kabaddi match between the girls from village Majhui and village Dawath.

Strengthening Local Self-Governance

1) Increasing and Enhancing Female Political Participation in Panchayats – A Pilot Project in Siwan and Aurangabad Panchayats or village councils are a historic phenomenon in South Asia. In India, political power has been devolved to the local level through the institutionalization

However, over time people the nature of Panchayats appears to be changing. A pertinent challenge is also the lack of female participation in Panchayats. Through an amendment in 1992, the 73rd amendment, the Constitution stipulates that 50% of seats in Panchayats are reserved for women. While this has increased female members and heads, in reality most of these are proxy leaders.

NANAK, in partnership with Takshila Education Society launched the 'Increasing and Enhancing Female Political Participation in Panchayats' project in February 2016. This was preceded by two workshops organized through NFAC at Delhi and Patna where a number of civil society organisations and experts participated and shared their views. Based on the suggestions received a plan was developed to give focused attention in a campaign mode to awareness-raising on the subject and enhancing women's participation.

Dr Chandra Shekhar Pran, who is an expert on Panchayats and is the founder of the Teesri Sarkar programme, is one of the leading resource persons for this project. The aim of the project is to increase and enhance effective female political participation in Panchayats. This will be done in three main ways: 1) Awareness-generation 2) Building capacity and leadership skills 3) Providing resource material

A systematic awareness-raising campaign is being conducted where information about the Constitutional structure, functions, and powers of Panchayats is being disseminated to villagers in the two districts. In conjunction with this, training in gender-sensitivity will be undertaken to bring about a change in patriarchal mentality that permeates into the political sphere and reflects in its power structure.

The process was kicked off in February through a mission visit to Siwan, Bihar for the purpose of holding a workshop with villagers on recognizing Panchayats as a "third government", and also to conduct an initial baseline research and survey. At TES's Parivartan complex, Dr Chandra shekhar Pran spoke to a gathering of local stakeholders, comprising panchayat heads, husbands of female panchayat heads, women opinion leaders, students, etc. belonging to the area. There was a strong demand amongst women for similar workshops in their own neighbouring villages, and the following day Dr Pran along with the President of TES Mr Sanjiv Kumar travelled to neighbouring villages to conduct similar workshops.

In order to initiate and build the project, NANAK has mobilized a resource team from Aurangabad and Patna comprising enterprising women opinion leaders and social workers. These women, along with NANAK's Programme Associate and Programme Analyst attended and coordinated the trainings, and the first workshop in Aurangabad will be organized by NANAK in the end of March 2016.



Leadership and Capacity Building for Women's Empowerment

As mentioned in the Livelihood Skills Development section (pg ...) NANAK runs several women's empowerment centre that provide skills training and act as a space for community mobilization. All of NANAK's centres, projects, and campaigns have a component on strengthening gender equality- for instance, at all centres there are sessions and workshops on gender sensitivity. NANAK has also initiated multiple advocacy and information-generation campaigns in rural and urban areas on women's empowerment, research and published knowledge products, as well as anchored knowledge sharing and dissemination events on the same.



The aspect related to the capacity development of women has been given a name called Sandarshika which literally means a 'women who can navigate' and a detailed illustration of this component is given below:



Sandarshika

NANAK's programme encourages women participation in skills development leading to livelihood generation but also inculcates leadership qualities and life skills in them. One of the first trainings undertaken under this programme was to guide women belonging to low socio-economic backgrounds to realize their dreams of self-reliance and financial independence by helping them benefit from skills development initiatives, which would ultimately brighten their chances of getting connected to income generating opportunities. Under the aegis of this project NANAK and Bird Academy (a premier training institute dealing in courses related to tourism and hospitality industry) entered into an understanding to customize a short duration course for carefully initiating a batch of raw youth into an untrodden arena. In the first phase of this programme, NANAK nominated 26 candidates from economically weaker sections and girls were drawn from LWE affected areas of Rohtas District and its adjacent areas in Bihar and also from vulnerable areas of Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. The first phase was spread over 17 days with intensive training sessions of 85 hours involving theory, practicals, interactive sessions and exposure visits. The candidate selection was based on their willingness to learn special skills and knowledge associated with the trade, as well as education till Higher Secondary. The objective was to sharpen the skills of these beginners and to encourage them to move ahead by equipping them with skills to become industry- ready and get gainfully employed. The Delhi Police also organized special self-defense classes for the candidates which lent wholesomeness to the entire curriculum.

Well known resource persons were invited to brief the candidates on issues varying from self-help-group formations to social media strategies to basics of camera handling.

Highlights:

1. A major breakthrough in sanitation has been convincing community members in and around Majhui to participate in the government programme of building toilets under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyaan.
2. NANAK Celebrated International Women's Day on 8th March 2015 at Majhui village. On that day, the Member of Parliament from the area, Mr Cheddi Paswan was the chief guest. More than 2000 people from the community, including over 50% women and girls participated actively in the programme which saw demos of self-defense as also kabaddi match of girls from Majhui village with girls who were invited to play from village Dawath.
3. Promoting Higher Education of Girls- The Director of SITYOG Institute of Technology Aurangabad announced that with NANAK, they would sponsor 8 girls for engineering degrees at their university with complete/partial sponsorship.

Theme Based Training Sessions

Name of the Resource Person	Topics covered	Date
Mr. Akhilesh -Expert, Sanitation	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	12.4.15
Mr Lokesh Singh, -Expert, Community Development	Effective Management of Resources Centre, Record Keeping, Roles and responsibilities of project team in running resource centre	14.4.15
Volunteers of Sangatt Foundation	Workshop on recycling of waste material	14.4.15
Mr. Bipin Rai, Actionaid -10 years experience in Gender Construct	Practical exercise of social construction of gender	15.04.15
Dr. Vartika Nanda, Lady Sriram College - Assistant Professor, trained journalist, writes on media and women centric issues, communications training	Role of media, Communication, Effective Social Media strategies - creating citizen journalists out of rural women & young girls	17.4.15
Ms Vimmi Karan, Media person -Journalist, associated with Star News, Doordarshan, Sangatt Foundation	Nuances of Photography – Basics of Camera Handling & Angles	18.4.15
Mr Zuber Khan, Sakshi	Exposure visit to learning centre which includes hands on experience on mainstreaming strategies for out of school children	19.4.15
Mr. Ajit Kumar, CEO Khushigram	Boosting rural economy through enterprise creation in organic food products	19.4.15
Mrs. Mamta Sahai, Member, DCPCR, Govt of Delhi	Menstrual & Toilet Hygiene, Deficiency and supplements of Iron, Calcium and Vitamin D	20.4.15

Gaon ki Selfie

Gaon ki Selfie is NANAK's bi-monthly periodical. It attempts to bring rural and urban perspectives on development issues at one platform.



The Gaon ki Selfie theme song, sung by Padmashri Nominee Malini Awasthi, was released on January 27th 2016, by the Minister of Railways Sh. Suresh Prabhu, along with NANAK President Ms Rashmi Singh, and Ms Vartika Nanda. It took place book launch event for 'Road to Rights- Women, Social Security and Protection in India' organised by the Programme on Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in collaboration with the NANAK-NFAC. Ms Rashmi Singh spoke on convergence of social security schemes for women in India- her chapter on the same can be found in the book.



Projects Details 2015-2016

Projects Details	Progress
<p>Timarpur Skill Development Centre</p> <p>Skills Training</p> <p>Activities: Beauty and wellness training, computer training, personality development</p> <p>With support from: PHD Family Welfare Foundation TATA Power</p> <p>Start Date: 1 January 2016</p> <p>Location: Delhi</p>	<p>In collaboration with TATA Power, NANAK launched a training centre with beautician classes and computer classes in January 2016.</p> <p>The centre has two trainers and a project coordinator, and runs 6-month certificate classes.</p> <p>The centre has received a good response, and is running full classes with many aspiring trainees registering for the next set of classes later in the year. Currently, 80 trainees are enrolled in beauty and wellness training while 75 in computer classes.</p> <p>Classes also have a component on gender-sensitivity, English speaking, personality development, & connecting 70% of trainees to jobs.</p>
	
<p>Raipurchor Women's Empowerment Centre</p> <p>Skills Training</p> <p>Activities: Beauty and wellness training; stitching, tailoring and merchandising training, personality development</p> <p>With support from: PHD Family Welfare Foundation</p> <p>Start Date: May 2015</p> <p>Location: Raipurchor, Sasaram, Bihar</p>	<p>Centre fully equipped and staffed. Two trainers have been employed, one each in beauty and wellness and stitching. The centre provides these training to women, particularly those from disadvantaged background, at a nominal fees. There is also an effort to soon open a self-sustaining micro-enterprise for women in local foodstuffs. Efforts to mobilise more girls and women from neighbouring villages to induct themselves in the courses is ongoing.</p>
	

Projects Details	Progress
<p>Durgawati Learning Centre</p> <p>Education and Skills Training</p> <p>Activities: Computer training, remedial education for children aged 3-7 years</p> <p>Start Date: 2 October 2015</p> <p>Location: Durgawati, Bihar</p>  	<p>Launched and equipped with 8 computers. The Centre runs two batches of computer classes with 20 students each, charging a nominal fee of Rs 100/-.</p> <p>The centre also runs free-of-cost remedial classes to children who are vulnerable to dropping out or need additional tutorial support.</p> <p>An IT specialist attached to NANAK undertook a field mission for upgrading hardware/software in January 2016.</p> <p>NANAK is exploring the option of collaborating with a local high school to facilitate computer classes in the school.</p>
<p>Dr Radhika Raman Public School</p> <p>Education</p> <p>Early Childhood Development</p> <p>Access to Information</p> <p>Activities: School for classes LKG- VI, Community Library and Information Centre, Early Childhood Development Centre</p> <p>With support from: READ India, Takshila Education Society</p> <p>Start Date: April 2014</p> <p>Location: Majhui, Sasaram, Bihar</p>  	<p>A Library and Information Centre along with an Early Childhood Development Centre within the school premises was set-up in January 2016. This was set-up in collaboration with READ India.</p> <p>A new, well-qualified project coordinator and Principal, from Uttarakhand, has been hired to better manage the school and expand its activities. Local talent has been identified and recruited as teachers.</p> <p>A group of seven senior students from the school were selected on merit-basis for a week-long educational excursion trip to Delhi. This including self-defense and art and craft workshops, visits to historical museums, and recreational activities. The aim was to develop these students as role models and future youth leaders in the village area.</p> <p>20 computers have been provided to the school for its computer classes (as part of the school curriculum), by Takshila Education Society. 15 field missions/visits for monitoring and evaluation were undertaken in the year.</p>

Projects Details	Progress
<p>Deo Centre for Women's Empowerment</p> <p>Skills Training</p> <p>Activities: Beauty and wellness training; stitching, tailoring and merchandising training</p> <p>Partners: READ India, PHD Family Welfare Foundation</p> <p>Start Date: 20 July 2015</p> <p>Location: Deo, Aurangabad, Bihar</p>  	<p>NANAK supported two vocational training programs at Deo village from which women/young girls from ten villages are benefitting. Deo Centre was set up and fully equipped with necessary beauty and wellness and stitching, tailoring and merchandising equipment and four computers, in collaboration with READ India.</p> <p>A field mission to the centre was undertaken by NANAK and READ India teams in January 2016. A total number of six monitoring and evaluation visits were undertaken in the year.</p> <p>The centre will soon be starting a community library and information centre along with an early childhood development centre, in collaboration with READ India.</p>
<p>Gaon ki Selfie (GKS)</p> <p>Communication and Advocacy for Women's Empowerment</p> <p>Activities: Bi-monthly periodical of NANAK</p> <p>Start Date: April 2015</p>  	<p>GKS, NANAK's bi-monthly periodical was launched with the aim to bring development issues through a gender lens to the focus of varied stakeholders in the development sector. It is a bi-lingual publication, with articles in English and in Hindi.</p> <p>So far, four issues have been published. December saw a special edition on 'Good Governance', launched on the occasion of Good Governance Day (22 December) and coinciding with the Convergence ThinkFest 2015 that NANAK anchored. The special edition was funded by UNDP. On the occasion of Women's Day, a special edition on Women's Empowerment was also compiled with unique photo-features.</p> <p>Theme song of GKS, sung by noted folk singer and Padmashri nominee MalliniAvasthi, was launched by the Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhu at the Indian Islamic Centre on 27th January 2016.</p>

Projects Details	Progress
<p>Bishunpur Learning Centre</p> <p>Education</p> <p>Activities: Remedial classes for children aged 3- 7 years</p> <p>Start Date: 17 February 2014</p> <p>Location: Bishunpur, Sasaram, Bihar</p>	<p>Bishunpur is a small village, home to people who predominantly belonging to backward socio-economic caste and class.</p> <p>To facilitate their upward mobility in society, NANAK opened a centre providing remedial classes to children aged 3-7 years. NANAK also opened a community library within the centre which is open to village residents.</p> <p>In January 2016, a field mission was undertaken to the centre, wherein a community focus group discussion was held to identify challenges that the centre as well as the community at large faces, and to come up with ways and means to improve the situation.</p>
	
<p>Sandharshika</p> <p>Leadership and Capacity Building for Women's Empowerment</p> <p>With support from: Bird Academy, Prayas (for first batch of trainees)</p> <p>Start Date: April 2015</p>	<p>Sandarshika was started as a campaign with four components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Exposure visit 2) Communications and personality development training 3) Self-defense 4) Capacity enhancement in vocational skills (first batch of girls honed as tourist guides)
	

Projects Details	Progress
<p>Support to SheelKunj Community School MoblieCreche and learning Centre for Children of Construction Worker</p> <p>Education Early Childhood Development</p> <p>Partner: SheelKunj Community School</p> <p>Activities: Remedial classes</p> <p>Start Date: 1 September 2015</p> <p>Location: Meerut, Uttar Pradesh</p>	<p>NANAK supports the Sheel Kunj Community School at Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. NANAK provides technical and resource support including communications and personality-development workshops for children and teachers. So far, 40 students, from ages 3-10 years have benefited from the school. A monitoring and evaluation trip, along with a workshop, was conducted by two international interns and a resources person from NANAK in January 2016. A second-hand computer to support the school has been provided for the school by TATA Consultancy Services.</p>
	
<p>Support to Amrapali Library and Information Centre</p> <p>Education Access to Information</p> <p>Partner: Amrapali Cultural Foundation</p> <p>Activities: Community library, remedial classes</p> <p>Start Date: November 2015</p> <p>Location: Delhi</p>	<p>NANAK contributes funds to a Library and Information Centre run by Amrapali Cultural Foundation in Delhi. The funds go towards buying books in higher education. NANAK regularly conducts monitoring and evaluation trips to the centre, including one in January 2016.</p>
	
<p>Support to Savera Learning Centre</p> <p>Education</p> <p>Start Date: January 2016</p> <p>Activities: Remedial classes for children aged 3-7 years</p> <p>Location: Delhi</p>	<p>NANAK supports the Savera Learning Centre in Delhi, which serves children from underprivileged background in Delhi. The centre has 41 children aged 8-14 years. NANAK also resolves to provide the centre with learning material and resources such as computer, books, training and workshops for teachers.</p>
	

Projects Details

Progress

Dawath Facilitation Centre

Skills Training, Leadership and Capacity Development

Start Date: 7 April 2015

Activities: Beauty training and computer classes

Location: Dawath, Rohtas, Bihar

NANAK started the Dawath Facilitation Training Centre, equipped with two computers and trainers in beauty and wellness and computers.

NANAK conducted a monitoring and evaluation visit to the centre in September 2015. So far the centre has trained 12 people in beauty and seven in computers, while efforts to mobilise for community members to join the classes are ongoing.



Increasing and Enhancing Female Political Participation in Panchayats

Strengthening Local Self-Governance Women's Empowerment

Partner: Takshila Education Society

Start Date: February 2016

Activities: Information dissemination, community mobilization, training

Location: Siwan and Aurangabad districts, Bihar

NANAK, launched the 'Increasing and Enhancing Female Political Participation in Panchayats' project in February 2016. The aim of the project is to increase and enhance effective female political participation in Panchayats. This will be done in three main ways: 1) Awareness-generation 2) Building capacity and leadership skills 3) Providing resource material

The process was kicked off in February through a mission visit to Siwan, Bihar for the purpose of holding a workshop with villagers on recognizing Panchayats as a "third government", and also to conduct an initial baseline research and survey. At TES's Parivartan complex, Dr Chandrashekhar Pran spoke to a gathering of local stakeholders, comprising panchayat heads, husbands of female panchayat heads, women opinion leaders, students, etc. belonging to the area. There

was a strong demand amongst women for similar workshops in their own neighbouring villages, and the following day Dr Pran along with the President of TES Mr Sanjiv Kumar travelled to neighbouring villages to conduct similar workshops.



Calendar of Events 2015-2016

Date	Activity	Place	Core Theme	Details
4-24 April	Sandarshika Exposure visit to Delhi for rural women from NANAK's centres	New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Empowerment Skills training Rural-Urban Exposure 	Details on page 20
7 April '15	Launch of Dawath Facilitation Centre	Dawath, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills Training Leadership and Capacity Development 	
5 June '15	Tree Plantation Drive	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Village Development 	Tree plantation drive for school students and village residents in Majhui
June '15	Rural Beauty and Wellness Workshop	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills Training Women's Empowerment 	A workshop in beauty and wellness was conducted by instructor from Delhi for a set of 60 girls from Majhui, Raipuchor, and other neighboring villages
5-9 June	Security Guard Training for Girls from Disadvantaged Background	New Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills Training 	Girls from disadvantaged backgrounds were selected and given a certificate course in security guard training by ASTM and in partnership with FICCI-FLOW
20 Jul '15	Deo Women's Empowerment Programme Launched	Deo, Aurangabad, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills Training Women's Empowerment 	
1 Sept '15	Support to Sheel Kunj Community School Moblie Creche For Childern Of Construction Worker Launched	Meerut, Uttar Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Early Childhood Development 	



Calendar of Events 2015-2016

Date	Activity	Place	Core Theme	Details
5 Sept '15	Registration drive for Jivan Bima Yojanas, PNB Bank Raipurchor for women	Raipurchor, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Empowerment Education Village Development 	NANAK held a drive and assisted women in registering for the scheme with the aim of enhanced social security for women in the area
1 Oct '15	Durgawati Women's Empowerment Centre launched	Durgawati, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills Training Women's Empowerment 	
3 Oct '15	Visit by Chairman of Takshila Education Society to Deo Women's Empowerment Centre	Deo, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skills training Women's Empowerment Village Development 	Chairman TES offered support for training of human resources in Deo Centre and of other trainees at Parivartan complex, Siwan.
2 Nov '15	Motivational experts from Lucknow's visit to RRPS	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Village Development 	Aditya Vidyasagar along with Ms Dolly Vidyasagar conducted capacity enhancement workshops for teachers and creativity workshops for students at Majhui village
Nov 2015	Partnership with Amrapali Library and Information Centre launched	Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	For information on the project Details on page 30
22 Dec '15	Convergence Think Fest 2015	Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convergence 	Details on page 7
17-24 Dec '15	Exposure Visit to Delhi for children from RRPS, Majhui	Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Rural-Urban Exchange 	Senior students from the school participated in the exposure visit organized by NANAK. It included historical walks and tours, educational talks by leading educationists, art and craft and dance workshops, self-defence lessons, etc



Calendar of Events 2015-2016

Date	Activity	Place	Core Theme	Details
27 Jan '16	Co-organiser for the book launch and discussion of 'Road to Rights- Women, Social Security and Protection in India'	Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convergence Women's Empowerment 	Minister of Railways, Suresh Prabhu released the song at the book launch event for 'Road to Rights- Women, Social Security and Protection in India' organised by the Programme on Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in collaboration with the National Forum For Action on Convergence
	Gaon ki Selfie Theme Song released			
Jan-Feb '16	International Interns from AISSEC given orientation and exposure by NANAK	Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Rural-Urban Exchange 	Interns from China, Brazil, Indonesia, were attached to NANAK's centres and projects. They also undertook exposure and monitoring and evaluation visits to centres in Meerut and Majhui where they conducted interactive workshops for school children.
18-26 Jan '16	Launch of Library and Information Centre and Early Childhood Development Centre, RRPS, Majhui	Majhui, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	In partnership with Read India, NANAK set-up a Community Library and an ECD Centre. NANAK initiated an anti-alcoholism awareness drive. Additionally, monitoring, evaluation was undertaken along with meeting local stakeholders to ascertain potential areas of further intervention.
	Monitoring and Evaluation of Centres in Majhui, Bishunpur, Deo, and Raipurchor			
	Assesment of potential areas of intervention			



Calendar of Events 2015-2016

Date	Activity	Place	Core Theme	Details
7 Jan '16	Knowledge sharing and dissemination session with MBA students from Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota	Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Convergence 	Talks and interaction by development and education experts. Joint Secretary Ministry of Labour Meenakshi Gupta and Rajiv Gandhi Foundation CEO Dhiraj Shricastava participated in the programme.
8 Feb '16	Increasing and Enhancing Female Political Participation in Panchayats pilot project in Siwan and Aurangabad launched	Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Self-Governance Women's Empowerment 	Project launched in partnership with Takshila Education Society, and with technical support from Dr ChandraShekhar Pran, expert on Local Self-Government and founder of Teesri Sarkar Programme in Uttar Pradesh
19-20 Feb '16	Baseline survey and awareness-raising workshop – Panchayat Project	Siwan, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Self-Governance Women's Empowerment 	Baseline survey conducted by NANAK's Programme Analyst and an AISSEC intern, 17 relevant local stakeholders interviewed. Dr Pran conducted workshops at Parivartan complex and in neighbouring villages.
13-14 Mar '16	Training for local stakeholders – Panchayat Project	Siwan, Bihar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Self-Governance Women's Empowerment 	Dr Pran conducted training for local stakeholders in detailed sessions spanning two days. A team mobilized by NANAK from Aurangabad and Karakaat attended the training in order to take the programme forward in other districts of Bihar.



Calendar of Events 2015-2016

Date	Activity	Place	Core Theme	Details
Mar '16	International Women's Day – Various Activities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Empowerment 	<p>On the occasion of International Women's Day, NANAK organized multiple activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talk by Gender expert Naseem Khan on the Relevance of Women's Day and How to be Gender Sensitive in our daily lives, for trainees at NANAK'S Timarpur Skills Training Centre 2. Screening of the motivational Bollywood movie 'Chak de India' at RRPS in Majhul Village. 3. Gaon ki Selfie special edition compiled on Women's Empowerment with unique photo-features on the theme 4. Social-media campaign on various issues of women's empowerment



Results



Looking to the Future

In a short span of time and with relatively limited resources, NANAK has managed to launch operations and establish itself as an active change-maker. Our thematic areas include education and early childhood development, skills training, leadership and capacity building for women's empowerment, and convergence.

The coming year will be full of plenty of work however, with existing interventions to be sustained and expanded and new initiatives to be taken up. NANAK is putting emphasis on creating drivers of change, particularly women, through leadership development and other kind of support. NANAK is also putting a focus on self-sustainability to break existing cycles of dependency that are prone to get created in development aid and operations. There is an effort to increase activities in micro-enterprise and create revenue models for certain existing models such that they are able to generate their own funds. We are looking to explore further partnerships and collaborations with like-minded organisations to channelize our collective resources present and future initiatives.

Sponsors and Implementation Support Partners

- 1) UNDP
- 2) Takshila Education Society
- 3) PHD Family Welfare Foundation
- 4) TATA Power
- 5) READ India
- 6) AmarpaliSanstha
- 7) Savera Social Welfare Society
- 8) AISSEC
- 9) CURE Surgical
- 10) Sulabh International Social Service Organisation
- 11) NFAC Partners:
 - East: NIDAN (Bihar)
 - South: CFAR, IT for Change
 - North East: CAFI
 - Central: PWESCR, NIWCYD
 - North: PROACT (Uttar Pradesh), Delhi NFAC partners



The NANAK Family

Patrons and Advisors

1. Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak
2. Dr. Pam Rajput
3. Mr. Amod K Kanth
4. Mr. Sanjiv Kumar
5. Ms. Anuradha Goel

Executive Board

1. Mrs. Rashmi Singh- Founder President
2. Mrs. Indrani Palit- Secretary
3. Mr. Tanay Gupta- Treasurer
4. Mamta Sahai- Joint Secretary
5. Dr. Deepali Garg- Member
6. Mrs. Y Bharathi- Member
7. Mr. Sanjay Bansal- Member
8. Mr Kumar Rakesh- Member

Other Primary/Associate/Volunteer Members

1. Meera Singh (Uttar Pradesh)
2. Deepti Gulati (Uttar Pradesh)
3. Vartika Nanda (Delhi)
4. Abhay Singh (Madhya Pradesh)
5. Indu Bansal (Rajasthan)
6. Bonnah Ghosh (West Bengal)
7. Kiran Singh (Bihar)
8. Parul Gupta (Uttarakhand)
9. Mona Khot (Maharashtra)
10. Deepak Chaudhary (Delhi)
11. Priyanshi Ujjain (Bihar)
12. Sneha Palit (Delhi)
13. Vinita Singh (Delhi)



Implementing Team

1. Aditya Vidyasagar- Technical Advisor
2. Shaily Bhashanjaly- COO, NFAC
3. Rupin Mahiyaria- Programme Analyst
4. Chandra Shekhar Prasad– Programme Associate
5. Aditi Singh- Development Executive
6. Swati Chauhan- Project Coordinator and Principal, Dr Radhika Raman Public School
7. Laxman Kumar, Project Coordinator, Durgawati
8. Reena Kumari, Project Coordinator, Raipurchor
9. Jhanavi Taneja- Project Coordinator, Timarpur Centre
10. Munni Devi, Project Coordinator, Deo Centre for Women's Empowerment
11. Poonam Kumari- Library & ECD Co-ordinator, DRRPS, Majhui

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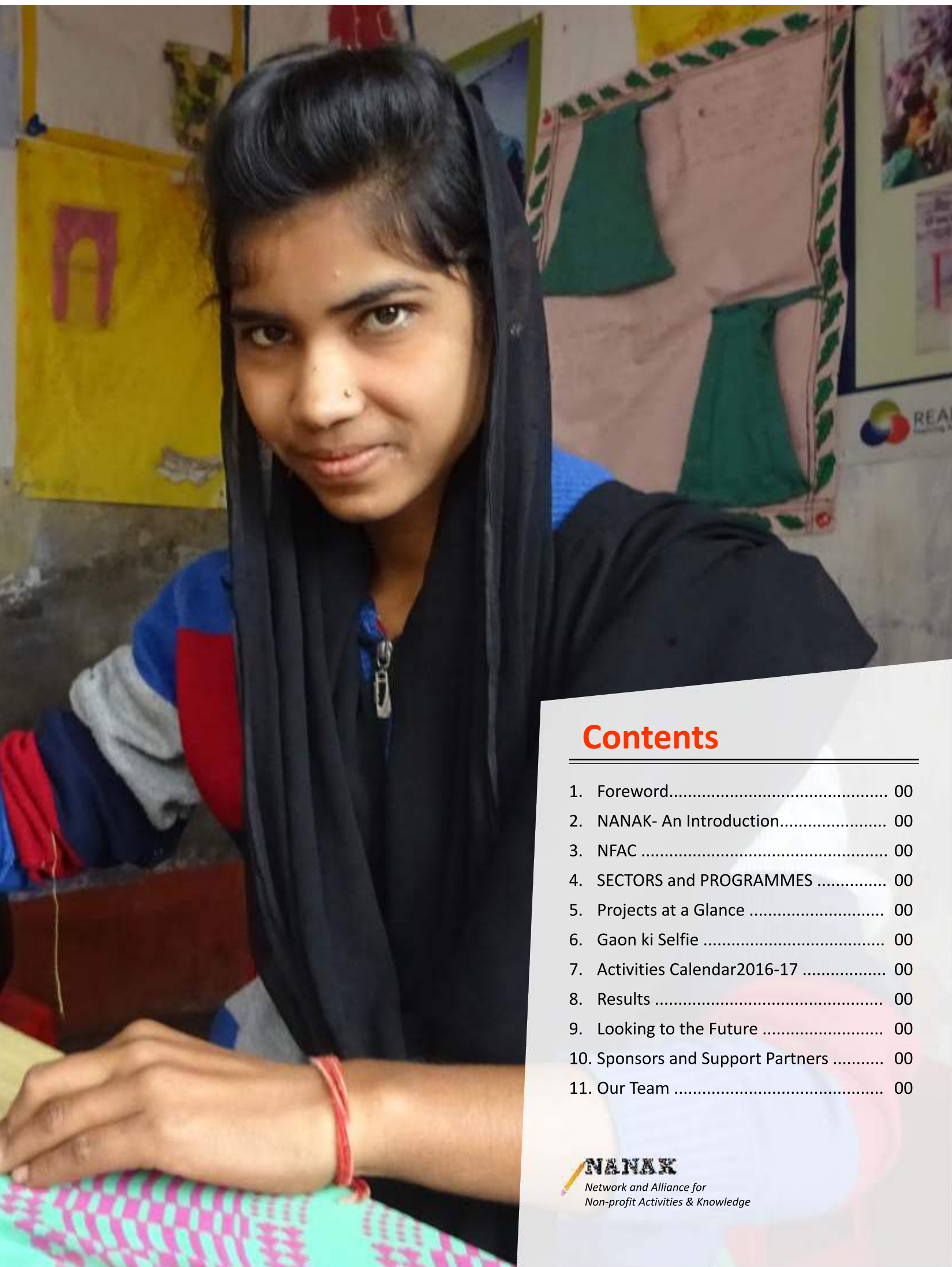
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NANAK

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संस्कृत और शिक्षा





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NANAK

*Network and Alliance for
Non-profit Activities & Knowledge*

Foreword



It is my pleasure to write the foreword for Annual Report of NANAK for the year 2016-17. The year saw further progress in various projects initiated by this organization with focus on holistic development at the village level, especially involving women and children as the prime drivers of growth, development and social change. Convergence and the motto of bridging the rural-urban divide have been the two strong pillars driving all our initiatives which make this organization so unique in its philosophy and commitment.

As in past, NANAK continued with its efforts to bring various stakeholders on a common platform so that we continue to learn from each other and combine our strengths since we strongly believe that no one entity can by itself make the kind of positive difference which is required for any area or segment of persons.

I congratulate the team of committed personnel at NANAK to take the rural school in Bihar to greater heights in this period. It is heartening to see that school has become a hub for several activities with passing time and caters to different age groups through its various community development initiatives.

Taking its commitment towards village development in the areas under intervention forward, NANAK continued its interventions in the areas of Education and Early Childhood Development, Skills Training, Women's Empowerment through Capacity and Leadership Building despite its meagre resources. Advocacy efforts on the issues related to social challenges like Anti alcoholism saw very positive outcomes with the state government in Bihar itself coming up with a strong anti liquor policy in the state which is indeed a response to the collective voice of women from the grassroots.

The organization faced lot of challenge too this year in continuing the standards and quality of education in its village school in the remote village of Majhui in Sasaram, Bihar due to turn over of staff members and the resources not being adequate to match the required pace of development. Despite these challenges it is heartening to see that the school continued to act as a community hub, and bring about a positive change in the village and its surrounding areas. The faculty and volunteers of NANAK continued to organize awareness campaigns on social issues such as anti-alcoholism, health camps, tree-plantation drives for the entire village community throughout the year. Library and Information Centre within the school premises set up in collaboration with Read India was found useful by the entire village community.

Women's Empowerment agenda was taken forward during the year with skill training courses in stitching, tailoring, computers beauty and wellness courses at Timarpur, Raipurchor, Arrah, and Deo. Women have been encouraged to use these centres as spaces to form self-help groups, and Mahila Samooh (Women collectives). Workshops in personality development, health and hygiene, and talks on gender justice, women's empowerment, etc have contributed to the strengthening of women's self esteem and overall personality development.

While NANAK's first priority is the rural community in Bihar, the rural- urban continuum always poses a challenge in terms of communities who migrate from rural areas or small towns to Delhi in search of jobs. In order to provide better opportunities to such families, NANAK has partnered this year with Tata Power to operationalize a centre for imparting vocational training to the youth staying in North Delhi in the vicinity of Timarpur whose parents are mostly casual workers/ daily wagers and living in slum like colonies. Following a life cycle approach children of all age groups have been gradually involved in the centre with medley of activities for their personality development and value education.

I am extremely grateful to all our sponsors, especially individuals who have been associated in this journey, without whom it may not have been possible to scale up the projects and sustain the village level initiatives including the school which has established a name for itself in the region for the quality of education it imparts to the village children and for building a model of convergence where school is a hub for community level activities.

RASHMI SINGH
PRESIDENT

Introduction

NANAK is a national organization which operates at two levels-one at the micro level with direct services at the grassroots and the other at the macro level with advocacy to influence policy change and providing a platform for capacity enhancement of several NGOs and other stakeholders who are connected with its NFAC programme. NANAK's vision is to harness full potential of individuals and institutions through knowledge creation and dissemination with the goal of empowering the disadvantaged. While the primary movers of this organization are our rural communities at the grassroots in Bihar, and the urban poor of Delhi, and NCR region, the promoters, advisors and members of NANAK are a set of individuals who come with years of experience, competence, passion and commitment to bring about positive change in communities through a participatory approach. NANAK's consistent effort is towards bridging the divide between government and communities, between various civil society groups and reaching out to the unreached.



The major activities of NANAK during the year are highlighted below:

Advocacy, Knowledge Sharing and Capacity enhancement for Good Governance Practices

NANAK adopts convergence as its philosophy in all its endeavor and at the same time it has set up a dedicated platform for promoting convergence action at different levels. This is fostered through a programme called National Forum for Action on Convergence (NFAC) with a vision to make governance of social development programs and welfare schemes more effective by enhancing participatory processes/ norms, building capability and leadership at multiple levels, with consistent effort towards institutionalizing convergence as a practice. This is a resource platform that has emerged out of previous and ongoing initiatives aiming to strengthen convergence for social inclusion and gender justice. This initiative has brought together different stakeholders (experts, serving and retired civil servants, civil society organizations) to share experiences based on research, ground level actions to inform policy and bring useful insights for effective implementation and reach of government programs and services. It is also a platform for generating better understanding and fostering collective action on critical issues and emerging priorities such as sustainable livelihoods, violence against women, sanitation, financial inclusion and governance of social development programs and welfare schemes. While this is separately listed as a programme, NANAK adopts the convergence approach in all its other areas of work, hence making convergence serve as its major instrument of social action on ground. NFAC is driven by the vision and mission to bridge the divide between government and communities, between various civil society groups, and to reach out to the unreached, most marginalized and vulnerable groups through evidence based advocacy and programmatic responses. It encourages learning's between various thematic & cross-sectorial convergence models. It encourages innovations to improve the delivery of government schemes and services through formation of convergence centres, convergence forums and convergence meetings. The focus of NFAC is also to bring greater dialogue between government, corporate sector and other development agencies.

During the year 2016-17 NFAC focused on taking forward the agenda of Strengthening Local Self-Governance, and especially women's participation. Efforts initiated at the end of 2015-16 were carried forward with consistent capacity building initiatives through awareness generation measures from time to time in the select districts. A stakeholder's meet was organized on April 6th, 2016 under the chairmanship of Sh Rakesh Mehta, patron, NANAK-NFAC (also serving as Delhi State Election Commissioner). The meet resulted in consensus on the measures needed to make citizens as well as potential candidates aware of the powers, structure, and functions of urban local municipal bodies in the wake of municipal elections expected by the end of the year 2016. For enhancing the capacity of present and potential future members of urban local bodies, measures such as systematic information-raising campaign with proper educative knowledge material (leaflets, briefs, booklets) targeting the general public as well as other stakeholders were deliberated. Dr Chandrashekhar Pran, the architect of 'Teesri Sarkar Abhiyan' with whom NANAK-NFAC has been collaborating actively on this agenda also shared learnings from NFAC experience of similar programme on strengthening rural self-governance in Siwan, Aurangabad, and Sasaram, particularly increasing and enhancing female political participation in Panchayats. Measures for active involvement of the Resident Welfare association was considered desirable in context of Delhi. Other NFAC initiative during the year also saw focused workshop on the theme of convergence related to maternal and child health. This was organized at Timarpur vocational training centre on 30th June, 2016. Village level convergence meets in Deo and Majhui were organized on regular basis.

Promoting Value Based Quality Education

NANAK supports value based quality education primarily in rural area of Bihar for children of low income families. Dr. Radhika Raman Public School is a Flagship Initiative in Rural Education with a hub and spoke approach covering a cluster of villages in Sasaram in Bihar. This school supported by NANAK is committed to providing quality education and infrastructure to all children in the region and has adopted an innovative approach to education by combining computer education, audio-visual learning with the use of projectors and the teaching of values and morals in addition to the standard course curriculum to prepare a more skilled, responsible, and compassionate future generation for the nation. The organization also identifies girls from low income families who need financial support to continue their higher education and gives them mentoring support for higher education. Engineering College in Bihar with fee waiver and part sponsorship from NANAK.



Women Empowerment

NANAK has set up a number of women empowerment convergence centres to provide vocational training, awareness on health, hygiene and nutrition, legal literacy, counselling, collectivize women in Self Help Groups and build their capacities for income earning opportunities. The trainers help women from the disadvantaged community to market their produce through participation in fairs and exhibitions. Women are trained to use their local skills and knowledge into income augmentation activities through which they can be economically empowered. This has also ushered in social empowerment of women in the region since the women SHGs are also taking up various social issues in a collective manner, such as anti-alcoholism, promoting the education of girl child, raising voice against domestic violence etc. Women from low income groups are trained in account keeping, branding, communication, pricing, customer interface etc by giving them exposure to exhibitions and fairs. Women from rural areas are provided rare opportunity to get first-hand experience in entrepreneurial development by exposure visit held from time to time. Self-Defence training for women and girls has also been promoted for women and girls for enhancing safety and self-protection for the target area. NANAK has partnered with PHD Chamber of Commerce Family Welfare Foundation to support its pioneering programme called 'Chalo Gaon Ki Ore' which is a holistic model of empowerment through women as key drivers of the change.

Other Development Initiatives

NANAK also supports Environmental Promotion Initiatives through tree plantation drives, Awareness Generation programs, and involving community in a community based sanitation approach. Major breakthrough in sanitation has been convincing community members in Bihar to participate in the government programme of building toilets under the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan. Health care interventions also form a part of the focus area of intervention for the community in need. Awareness generation programmes for women and children have been taken up on a regular basis. In order to instil a sense of social responsiveness, children are encouraged to collectively take up social issues such as campaigns against child marriage, alcoholism and gender discrimination. Women are also given platforms for taking up social issues such as sanitation, hygiene, nutrition, etc. Special days such as teachers day, children's day, Gandhi Jayanti etc are commemorated with special events in the rural areas where NANAK has adopted a hub and spoke model.

Publication: Gaon Ki Selfie

NANAK has initiated a unique periodical by the name of 'Gaon Ki Selfie' to give regular space to voices of women, children and other development sector partners from different states. It also focuses on different themes which are contemporary in nature with a view to draw the attention of different stakeholders including policy makers to the issues which need to be articulated and addresses.



The programmes and projects of NANAK include a life cycle approach and area based convergence approach for early childhood development, primary education, support for higher education to meritorious children from low income groups, skill training, leadership development of women, community awareness on social issues etc. The projects being implemented by NANAK are described below:

A. Education & Early Childhood Development

- Regular sessions for Early Childhood Development for children in 3-6 years
- Remedial Classes for children who are drop outs, out of school children or children going to school but needing tutorial support
- Village School with quality education from 1-5 class
- Library and Information Centre
- Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities

Education continued to be the core theme in NANAK's work with concrete interventions in the areas of early childhood development, adult literacy, and remedial education particularly for students from under-privileged backgrounds. Information access, and knowledge sharing has been encouraged for the community as a whole. During the year partnership between READ India, and NANAK was continued for running of library, community information centre and the ECD classes from Kamta Seva Kendra at Village- Bhawanipur, Block- Deo, and District- Aurangabad, in Bihar and from Radhika Raman School Premises at Village- Mujhai, Block- Shivsagar, and District- Sasaram in Bihar.

NANAK has been driven by the vision that in remote rural villages, education centres have a very significant role in becoming community hubs especially for bringing about positive behavioral change in the community as a whole. The primary school set up in Mujhai, Bihar is a case in point for such innovation. Setting up a Library and Information Centre in the school premises was imbued with such a vision so that the same infrastructure could be optimally used for the entire village community after school hours. The school thus became a hub for taking up social issues like plantation drives, health drives, aware-ness campaigns, marches, etc.

Some highlights related to the village school

- Audio-Visual Classes: Innovative teaching and learning material through use of audio-visual learning using projector/computers has made the classes very interactive and learning simpler. The school also shows educational movies to students and villagers every Saturday.



- Computer training: All students have the opportunity to attend computer classes.
- Hobbies/ Extra-Curricular: Students are encouraged to explore and discover their creative passions. Timetables include lessons in music, dance, art, physical education, reading, etc. Events, competitions and marches/drives on social and environmental issues are organized on a regular basis, for instance tree plantation drive undertaken on World Environment day, special assemblies on special occasions like Independence Day, etc.
- Community cultural events: Cultural events for the entire village and school community are organized from time to time with school as the hub. International Women's Day celebration, Teachers Day, Independence Day, etc. have been used as occasions for spreading awareness on rights, duties, responsibilities with students being the brand ambassadors for change.
- Community awareness-generation programs on schemes and services: Community-awareness generation programs have been organized from time to time for the benefit of village residents to bridge the gap between public schemes/ services and the community. These include enrollment in Aadhar, opening bank account, improving health seeking behavior, building toilets at home through government schemes, besides awareness on social issues like ill effects of alcoholism, hygiene workshops etc.
- Support for Higher Education: Children connected to the school, including their siblings, are facilitated to enroll for higher education/technical education (such as engineering, medicine, etc). Scholarships are provided for need-based cases to make technical education affordable.
- Training and capacity development including Exposure Visits for Students and Teachers: Meritorious children and children of senior classes, as well as teachers, are given opportunities to travel to other states and get exposed to good practices being adopted by other schools and also get personality development training. Library trainings were conducted through experts from READ India for NANAK team members engaged in these activities at Majhui (Sasaram) and Deo (Aurangabad). Training of Library coordinators focused on how to run and make best use of the Library. Trainers explained library functioning, book categories, How to place books and categories and record, registering new members, keeping records, etc. As an outcome of this training capacity enhancement was seen amongst all functionaries and project coordinators to efficiently run the Library and Community Information Centres, and also conduct meetings of the library management committee.
- Transport: Transport/linkages for all students from Majhui as well as neighboring villages have been organized by the school at a nominal cost.

The Village Library and Information centre

The village library includes a range of books on different subjects for all age-groups. It is equipped with computers, tablets, internet, along with a trained librarian for support. Library periods are included in student's timetables and all students are encouraged to form a habit of reading. The Information desk provided assistance to village students in and around village Majhui in getting relevant information about scholarships, other government schemes, and tuitions for competitive exams, etc. It assisted in filling and submitting application forms. Books useful for the village women procured as per their need such as cooking books, framing techniques. Collaboration with Read India could upgrade the education programme of NANAK with provisioning of more books as per local demand, provision of tabs with training of local girls to run the same with digitally uploaded e learning modules customized to various age groups.

The library and computer centre have provided new opportunities for adolescent girls and boys. The total outreach through the library and information centre at both the locations in the year 2016-17 was 2610.



The library and information centre provided opportunity for digital literacy classes for staff of Dr Radhika Raman Public School too and children could get access to diverse range of books besides course books. Amongst the events organized at the library, Quiz competitions were conducted and prizes were given to the best students. Women were also encouraged to use the library and awareness session on cleanliness, health and nutrition were conducted with library as the hub. As part of the environment awareness programme, tree plantation drives were undertaken. The garbage heaps and filth in many areas of the village was taken up for special cleaning drives by youth as part of the cleanliness awareness programme.



National Library Day was celebrated with activities like Drawing Competition (Age group: 10 to 18 years Children), Slogan Competition (Age Group: Teenagers/Youth), Reading Session (Age Group: teenagers and children), Short Story telling (no age bar). Other activities with community library as the hub included celebration of festivals like Holi, Diwali, Christmas and Eid, National festivals like republic day, Independence Day and Gandhi Jayanti, Sports day, Yoga Day, Children etc. Occasions like these have been used to encourage talent shows in different age groups.

Early Childhood Development Centre (ECD): In several parts of the country, children need home-tutoring and personalized attention. Many, especially those from socio-economically backward sections of society cannot afford this. To support such children in the studies, remedial classes were made an ongoing programme at village Durgawati, Bishunpur, Majhui, and Deo. This was also added in the urban setting of centre at Timarpur in North Delhi later during the year. The ECD provides a fun and active learning environment for pre school children. It is a colorful learning space with educational toys and books, and is supported by an ECD instructor and facilitator trained in early childhood care and education. There were 67 children in ECD Majhui and 60 children in ECD Deo. To make education children friendly, with



the support of Read India 9 girls were identified who would travel to different villages with individual tablets loaded with rich content of audio video in an age appropriate manner. 960 children were covered through this distance education programme through the use of audio video aid across 7 villages in Aurangabad district.

Mobile Crèche and Learning Centre for Children of Construction Workers-Construction workers work long hours under physically stressful conditions, earn minimal wages, and are vulnerable to exploitation- this makes it difficult to devote time to their children, especially in their early childhood care. The first few years of the development of the child is very critical as it affects the physical and motor development of children. However the children of mothers who are employed as labour in construction sector often remain neglected lacking basic care and nutrition. Hence NANAK supports the running of a mobile cum learning centre for children of construction workers in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. The centre gives an opportunity for children of construction workers for getting mainstreamed into the development process.





Durgawati Learning Centre-The Durgawati Learning Centre is located in Kirpalpur village, Kaimur District, Bihar. Kirpalpur has a total population of about 840 (Census, 2011). NANAK provides free-of-cost remedial classes for children in the area and also digital literacy to the youth at nominal cost.



Bishunpur Learning Centre-Bishunpur is a small village of approximately 800 people located in the outskirts (around one kilometer away) of the Majhui village in Sasaram, Bihar. The village predominantly comprises of people who are socio-economically backward (Census, 2011), nearly all from the 'Bind' community. The majority of villagers survive on agriculture and livestock, with few involved in weaving who supply carpets at low cost to middlemen. The village lacked awareness on government schemes. In this context, Bishunpur Learning Centre set up through NANAK continued its efforts to provide remedial classes for children in the area, with provision of books to serve as community library for the village residents. Local teacher from the minority community was engaged empowering the daughter in law who had come to the neighbouring village after her bachelors degree but had no opportunity elite to step out of her house. Moral and civic education, lessons in personal hygiene, and personality development were integrated in the lesson plan. Coaching books for competitive exams were provided based on local requirements as assessed from time to time. Some of the challenges encountered were low value of education in the community, difficulty of access to send children to regular schools especially during rainy season, poor hygiene conditions including abysmal



condition of personal hygiene, shelter and clothing. Based on this need assessment NANAK worked out a systematic plan to bring the schemes of DC Handicrafts to this village so that the condition of the villages improves in a structured manner. Series of consultations were held during the year to concretize a plan for overall area development. However much more needs to be done to hasten the pace of development in this village.

Learning Centre for Children in South Delhi - NANAK collaborated in the running of a Learning Centre set up by SAVERA organization for children from underprivileged background in peri urban area of B-46, Retreat Apartments, 20 I.P Extn Mother Dairy Marg, South Delhi – 110092, bordering Haryana. 70 children aged 8-14 years benefitted from this centre on a regular basis and awareness building measures covered the mothers too.

Support to Amrapali Community Library for children and youth- NANAK gave gap filling support to a community library in an urban village Saurabh vihar, Jaitpur Road, New Delhi in South East Delhi where children and youth from low income groups came in large numbers for getting support of books, periodicals and computers.

ECD and Remedial Education programme at Timarpur, North Delhi- Details of the intervention in this centre can be seen in the separate section added for Timarpur, Delhi since this project has started in 2016 itself.

Awareness Program for Women including Leadership Development

For increasing and enhancing the Capacity of Elected Women Representatives and Village-Level Women Leaders in Effectively Delivering Social Services and for promoting Sustainable Village Development through Panchayats in Bihar, Orientation Workshop for Newly-Elected Women in PRIs in Majhui Bihar was undertaken from 15-18 August 2016. Eminent experts and Guest speakers included Mr. Chandra Shekhar Pran, the founder of Teesri Sarkar, and former Director of Nehru Yavak Sangathan, Mrs. Rashmi Singh, President NANAK, Mrs. Mamta Sahai, Joint Secretary, NANAK, and Rupin Mariya, the specialist cum Project Coordinator, NANAK. The team interacted with elected women representatives to build their capacities for more effective local governance. 75 and 150 women respectively at Majhui and Deo attended this orientation workshop. The initiative focused on improving participation of women in local self-governance for sustainable rural development, adopting a multi-dimensional strategy for overall village development through better usage of Panchayat funds and government social schemes, social action involving other village women, Empowering and enhancing leadership skills and capacities of rural women, along with their human development including health, education, and livelihood. The initiative focused on encouraging elected women representatives in Panchayats and women opinion leaders (Mahila Samuhs) to play a crucial role as drivers of these local development initiatives. The focus of this initiative was on empowering women to participate more fully, and effectively in decision making using the instrument of Panchayats

NANAK has also initiated multiple advocacy and information-generation campaigns in rural and urban areas on women's empowerment, research and published knowledge products, as well as anchored knowledge sharing and dissemination events on the same.

C. Livelihood Development- NANAK's initiative towards livelihood development has focused on imparting skills to village youth in Bihar, rural women and those residing in the vicinity of Timarpur in North Delhi. 6 months courses have been run in Computers, Stitching, Tailoring, Merchandising and Beauty and Wellness. The other areas of interventions included creating rural micro-enterprise models, personality development workshops, English-speaking workshops, workshops in interview skills and CV writing, participation in Job fairs and Career counseling with recruiters. These are 6-month courses that are primarily aimed at people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Vocational Training Centre, Timarpur, North Delhi

This centre is a model of voluntary sector and corporate partnership through the element of CSR ie corporate social responsibility. The prime objective of the centre is to create opportunities for growth and development amongst the slum dwellers, those inhabiting the jhuggi jhopries, and families from low income groups engaged in daily wages, casual work, unorganized sector work etc. It has a special focus on families from the scheduled castes. The catchment area is habitations in peri urban areas of North Delhi and includes colonies and habitations like Timarpur Basti , Sanjay Basti, Pattrachar Basti, Indra Basti . This centre is supported by the Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited and during the year 2016-17 PHD Family Welfare Foundation was also a collaborating partner. With daily operations of running the centre with required standards resting on the NANAK team of staff members with guidance and oversight from its board and other volunteers associated with the organization. The centre has already during the course of this year made a very positive difference in the lives of many youths from socio-economically backwards sections of the community. The courses are of 6-month duration and end with a certificate from the Jan Shiksha Sansthan which helps students raise their value in the job market. The interventions are aimed at early childhood development for children in the age group of 3 to 15 Years and creating livelihood opportunities for youth through training and placement linkages in beauty wellness, and information technology.

Trainees are given soft skills which can prepare them for corporate/IT/Outsourcing jobs, business venture opportunities, and other viable career options.



BEAUTY &
WELLNESS



COMPUTER
TRAINING



ECD/ REMEDIAL
EDUCATION

The highlights of courses imparted are:

Beauty & Wellness

The course content includes Mehndi, Saree Draping, Bridal dressing, Make-up, Hair Styles, Pedicure, Manicure, Body Massage. After the basic, specialised courses are offered for advanced Mehndi (Arabic and Bridal), Tattoo Making and advanced Bridal-makeup, different types of massages and advanced courses in hair Spa, rebounding &smoothening and Nail Art.

- **Practical Training** - Students enrolled in this centre are not only given classroom learning but are also provided with Practical hands on learning through "MARKET EXPSOURE" by participating in various market events like college/ NSS fests, fairs and exhibitions like Winter carnival organized by the IAS wives association etc.
- Enrollments-127 Beneficiaries During the year 2016-17
- **Innovative practices** - NANAK introduced SHAKTI JEEVIKA SAMOOH (JSS) with the objective of "Earn while you learn". JSS is a self-help group organized for collective income earning activities by the trainees of beauty and wellness course. This was launched by the founder president of NANAK in September, 2016 from the Civil Services Institute, CSOI during the course of a carnival organized by the IAS officers wives association as a fund raising event for the association. Services offered by the SJS are Mehndi, Nail Art, Pedicure and Manicure, and Advanced Make-up

How does the model work?

One SJS comprises of 5-8 trainees who are further equipped with market skills for direct client handling in fairs and exhibitions facilitated by NANAK and providing group services in Mehndi, Bridal Make-up on occasions like Marriages, Anniversary, Festive events. They are further trained for "Door-to-door Beauty services" like waxing, threading, facial, pedicure, manicure etc. during 4th month of the course.

This way, the SJS student member is able to earn as much as 2000 INR per month while they are learning, as against a fee of 100 paid by general candidates and Rs 50 rupees per month by SC candidate.

Our USP (Unique Selling Point)

- Hygiene practices
- Best quality products
- Customized service