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Special Issue on
World Health Day
2017

Depression
Let's talk



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT FOR EVERYONE

2016 Human Development Report launched

Statement of UNDP Administrator Helen Clark

Stockholm, 21 March 2017

“ The Human Development Report in context

The first Human Development Report in 1990 began with a simple, yet powerful idea: that “people are the real wealth of nations”. The human development concept defines development in terms of enlarging people’s choices and capabilities to live lives they value. It puts people at the centre of development, both as its drivers and its beneficiaries. The Human Development Index which accompanies each global report has indicators for income, education, and health status in order to give a more balanced picture of progress than measuring by GDP per capita alone can.

This report, “Human Development for Everyone”, has a particular focus on those who have been left behind by development progress over the past 25 years, and how that exclusion can be overcome. Ensuring that development progress is broadly shared is not just the right thing to do; it is essential to building and sustaining the foundations for the peaceful, just, and inclusive societies envisaged in the 2030 Agenda. That Agenda too puts people at the centre of development as its ultimate beneficiaries, and seeks to advance all three strands of sustainable development – the economic, the social, and the environmental – simultaneously.

Main messages of the report

Allow me to highlight three of the report’s key messages.

I. Averages disguise inequalities. The Human Development Index (HDI) has registered substantial progress on average in every region since 1990 – across

educational attainment, health status, and income levels. Yet when one looks beneath the averages, it is clear that a significant number of lives have been scarcely touched by that progress. One-third of the world’s population continues to live in low human development, and hundreds of millions of those people live in countries classed as having medium, high, or very high human development overall.

In almost every country, certain groups are more disadvantaged than others. These include women and girls, rural populations, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, indigenous peoples, migrants and refugees, older people, and LGBTI communities. The disadvantage they face is multidimensional. Those born into disadvantaged families are more likely to suffer disadvantage themselves throughout the life cycle.

Those who have been systematically excluded often face deep and persistent barriers which are embedded in laws and local norms, resulting in unequal access to economic resources and political participation. They are also more vulnerable to the impacts of shocks and crises.

Gender inequality and the lack of women’s empowerment remain significant challenges to global progress on human development across all regions. Women tend to be poorer, earn less, and have fewer opportunities to participate in civic life than do men. In some countries, a husband’s permission is still required for a wife to work. In around 100 countries, women are denied access to certain jobs – including factory jobs or working at night – simply because they are women.



2. Ensuring human development for everyone requires better data and analysis to inform policy and action. National statistical systems need to collect disaggregated data across a wider range of socio-economic indicators. Even gender-disaggregated data is in short supply in many countries. New sources of data, like “big data”, need to be tapped to expand knowledge of where development challenges lie.

Both quantitative and qualitative data is needed to inform policy. It is encouraging, for example, to know that girls’ enrolment in primary education has increased in many countries, but discouraging to learn that in half of 53 developing countries with relevant data, the majority of adult women who completed four to six years of primary school are illiterate.

The report recommends taking a broader view of development which recognizes both the traditional more tangible aspects of development, such as better health and education, and the importance of more intangible aspects. Voice and empowerment, for example, are both objectives of human development and a

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT FOR EVERYONE

powerful means by which communities can achieve it, including by ensuring that all groups are represented at the table when national priorities are being set.

3. Global institutional reforms which produce a fairer multilateral system are important for development to reach everyone. The report argues that these reforms should support better regulation of global markets, governance of multilateral institutions, and strengthening global civil society, and that they should address key challenges like the generation of global public goods.

Call for Action

The report concludes with a set of national policy recommendations to complement the reforms to global institutions I just mentioned. These include:

- Ensuring that policies and programmes which promote human

development are designed for and reach everyone, including those who have been left behind. Making development more inclusive is a critical component of this. The Global Deal is cited in the report as a good example of promoting inclusive development. The Global Deal would put decent work at the centre of macroeconomic policy. It needs support from national governments, employers, unions, and broader civil society.

- Recognizing that the most disadvantaged need extra assistance to overcome discrimination. This is important if human development for everyone is to be realised.
- Making human development progress more resilient. A range of shocks – from natural disasters and epidemics to economic crises and conflicts – can reverse hard won development gains,

and they generally hit vulnerable and marginalized groups the hardest. By building resilience into development pathways, including through stronger social protection systems and effective risk management, countries can mitigate against shocks and development setbacks.

Conclusion

Allow me to conclude by emphasizing the optimism of this report. Human development for everyone is not a dream, it is attainable. Sweden has long inspired me with its commitment to equitable development. Now the 2030 Agenda provides commitment at the global level to leave no one behind in development. The Report we are launching today shows how the human development approach supports achieving the broader 2030 Agenda and building a more peaceful and equitable world. ■



Dylan Lowthian/UNDP

UNDP Administrator Helen Clark at the launch of the 2016 Human Development Report in Stockholm, Sweden.

Exclusion and inequality lead to uneven development across Asia and the Pacific

Disparate progress in South and East Asia and the Pacific due to discrimination towards women, ethnic minorities and populations in remote areas, says UNDP Report.

Exclusion of women, ethnic minorities, and people living in remote areas create chronic barriers that have stymied human development progress and led to significant disparities within the Asia and the Pacific region, leaving many behind.

A stronger focus on those excluded groups, and on actions to dismantle these barriers is urgently needed to ensure sustainable human development for all.

These are among the key findings of the Human Development Report 2016 entitled 'Human Development for Everyone'

The report makes clear that progress in the Asia and Pacific region has not benefited everyone. Despite a steep drop in poverty between 1990 and 2013 – in East Asia, the proportion of people living on less than \$1.90 a day fell from 60 percent to under 4 percent, and in South Asia from 45 percent to 15 percent – some 54 percent of the world's multidimensional poor live in South Asia, as measured by the Multidimensional Poverty Index.

South Asia also has the highest levels of malnutrition in the world at 38 percent (measured by the prevalence of severe or moderate stunting in children under five years), and the lowest public health expenditure globally as a share of GDP, at 1.6 percent (2014).

"This report uncovers a deeper story behind the statistics," said Haoliang Xu, Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific. "Even in a region that has made such remarkable progress, pockets of exclusion continue to prevent millions of people from fulfilling their true potential."

The report shows that the disparities disproportionately impact certain groups. Women, ethnic minorities and people living in remote areas can suffer deprivations both overt and hidden.

Asia-Pacific has the largest gender gap of all developing regions.

The report shows that gender-based inequalities linked to patriarchal social norms afflict women over their entire lives. Such disparities manifest in myriad ways: higher malnourishment, morbidity and mortality for women; starkly imbalanced sex ratios due to sex discrimination; lower labour force participation rates for women, but higher workloads and less rest; less access to financial decisionmaking; and the pervasive risk of violence against women.

Between their first and fifth birthdays girls in India and Pakistan have a 30 to 50 percent greater chance of dying than boys. Women consistently have, on average, a lower HDI value than do men across the world, but the largest difference is in South Asia, where the female HDI value is 20 percent lower than the male value. Indeed, according to the report, the Asia-Pacific region is the second most genderunequal of all developing regions, after the Arab States region. In South Asia, gender gaps in women's entrepreneurship and labour force participation account for an estimated income loss of 19 percent.

Minority groups, whether by ethnicity, language or religion, continue to face barriers to social, economic and political participation. For example, the report shows that in Vietnam some 85 percent of children aged 12–23 months from the Kinh-Hoa majority were fully immunized in 2014, compared with only 69 percent of ethnic minority children.

Evidence from Nepal in 2011 shows similar patterns of disadvantages among

ethnic minorities, with wide variations in HDI values across population groups, albeit with trends towards less inequality. The Newar people have the highest HDI value (0.565), followed by the Brahman-Chhetris (0.538), Janajatis (0.482), Dalits (0.434) and Muslims (0.422). The variations in HDI values are significant within these groups, depending on location. The highest inequalities are in education, which impact capabilities over the lifespan.

It is time to face up to deep-rooted barriers to development

"By eliminating deep, persistent, discriminatory social norms and laws, and addressing the unequal access to political participation which have hindered progress for so many, poverty can be eradicated and a peaceful, just, and sustainable development can be achieved for all", Helen Clark said.

Marginalized groups often have limited opportunities to influence the institutions and policies that determine their lives. Changing this is central to breaking the vicious circle of exclusion and deprivation.

To this end, the report calls for far greater attention to empowering the most marginalized in society and recognizes the importance of giving them a greater voice in decision-making processes.

It also calls for a more refined analysis to inform actions including making a shift toward assessing progress in such areas as participation and autonomy. Key data, disaggregated for characteristics such as place, gender, socioeconomic status, and ethnicity is vital to identifying who is being left behind.

The report stresses the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to build on past development gains noting that the agenda and human development approach are mutually reinforcing. ■

WORLD HEALTH DAY

World Health Day 2017

Depression: Let's talk

Feeling sad consistently? Losing interest in activities you normally enjoy? Unable to carry out daily activities for 2 weeks or more?

You might be going through depression. It can happen to anybody and you are not alone. Globally, 322 million people are living with depression and it is the single largest contributor to global disability. In India alone, one in 20 Indians suffers from depression (National Mental Health Survey 2015-16).

At its most severe, depression can lead to suicide. It is estimated that in 2015, globally 788 000 people died due to suicide. For each adult who commits suicide, there are more than 20 others who attempt suicide. The aftermath is often a traumatic life, including legal harassment. Estimates indicate that in 2012, India had over 258 000 suicides, the age-group of 15-29 years being most affected.

These are staggering numbers but they don't tell the whole story. It is ironic that mental health in general, and depression in particular, is something not talked about though being a vital component of wellness.

To address this important public health issue, **Depression - Let's talk** is the theme for World Health Day 2017.

Celebrated on 7 April every year to mark the anniversary of the founding of the World Health Organization, the World Health Day provides a unique opportunity to mobilize action around a specific health topic of concern to people all over the world.

The overall goal of this year's campaign is that more people with depression seek and get help. More specifically, it is aimed at creating a better informed general public on depression, its causes and possible consequences, including suicide, and help available for prevention and treatment; encouraging people with depression to seek help; and facilitating family, friends and colleagues of people living with depression to provide support.

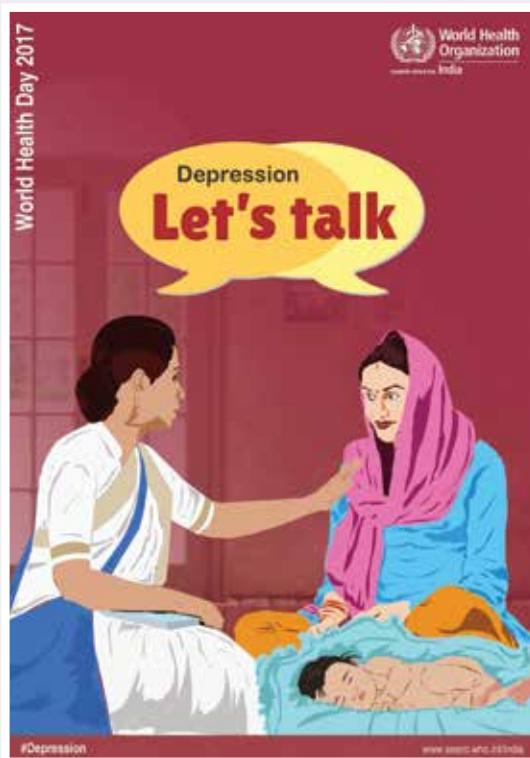
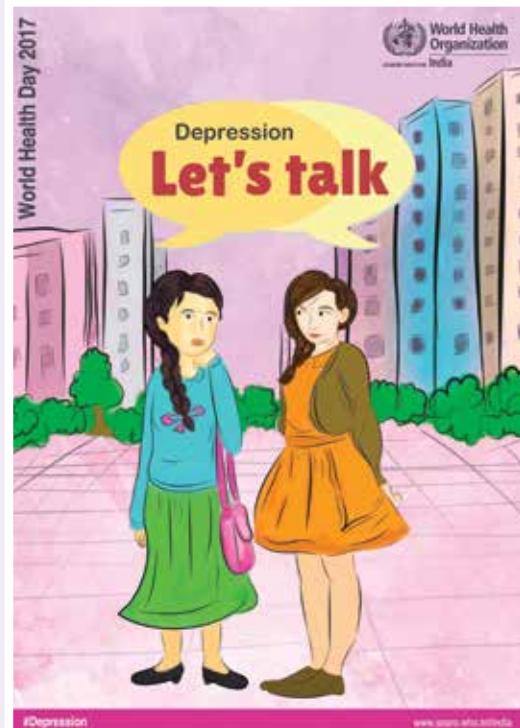
At the core of the campaign is the importance of talking about depression as a vital component of recovery. The stigma surrounding mental illness, including depression, remains a barrier to people seeking help. It is the elephant in the room. Talking about depression,

with a family member, friend or medical professional; in schools, the workplace and social settings; or in the public domain, helps break down this stigma, ultimately leading to more people seeking help.

Mental health disorders are a burden to our economies, both for the countries and also the individuals. Investing in mental health, yields good returns. There is evidence that every dollar spent on scaling-up treatment for these common conditions brings about a return of four dollars in improved health and the ability to work.

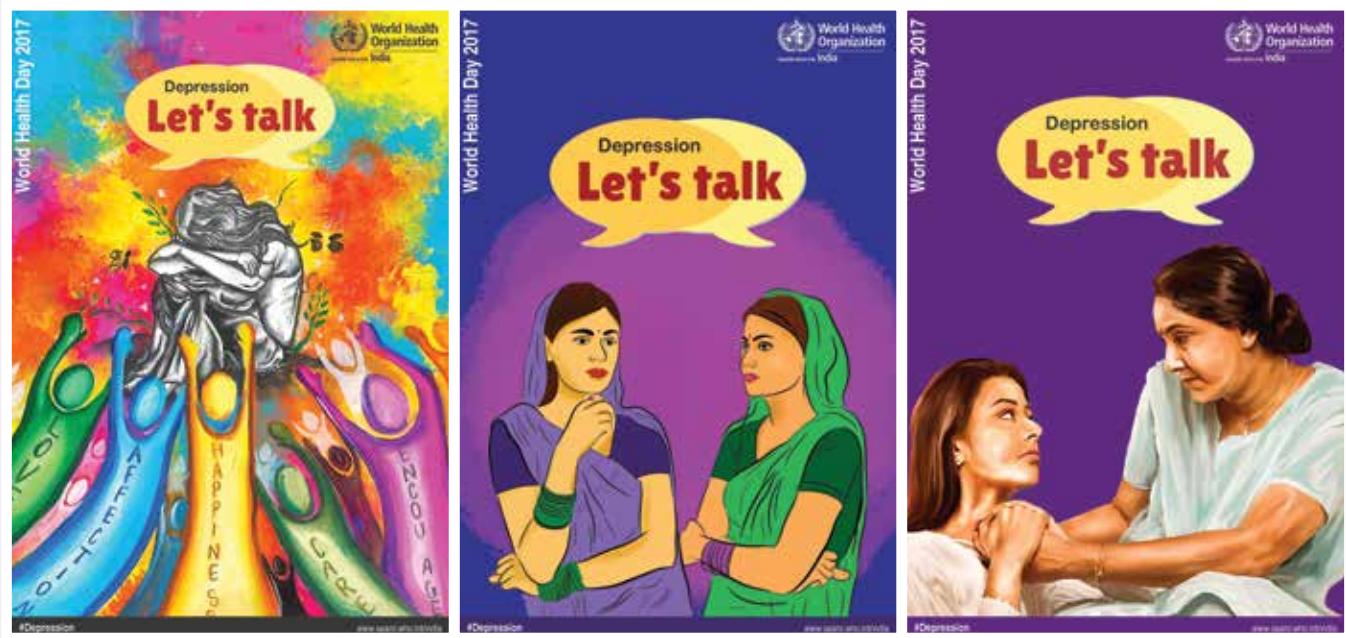
More focused attention for addressing the causes, disabilities and socio-economic consequences of depression, is the need of the hour. Government policies must be in place to ensure availability of essential services. There is an urgent need to enhance integration of mental health services with the existing health system at primary health care level to cater to the burden of depression and other mental health problems.

India has only 3500 psychiatrists, most of them in urban areas. To address





WORLD HEALTH DAY



this gap, under the National Mental Health Programme, the government is strengthening the capacities of non-specialist medical officers to diagnose and treat common mental health illnesses, including depression, at the primary health care level and also ensure timely referral. It would also be worthwhile to identify linkages

- with other national programmes like adolescent health, trauma care, and elderly care.
- Inclusion of 'mental health' in the Sustainable Development Goals has brought new hope and enhanced visibility to mental health as a public health priority. It is imperative that we
- make lives around us happier and healthier – in our homes, in our neighbourhood and the workplace. Lifestyle changes are low-hanging fruits. Equally important is to spread the message of living life to our full potential — in other words a 'state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity'. ■

What is depression?

Depression is an illness characterized by persistent sadness and a loss of interest in activities that you normally enjoy, accompanied by an inability to carry out daily activities, for at least two weeks. In addition, people with depression normally have several of the following symptoms: a loss of energy; a change in appetite; sleeping more or less; anxiety; reduced concentration; indecisiveness; restlessness; feelings of worthlessness, guilt, or hopelessness; and thoughts of self-harm or suicide.

Who is most likely to get depressed?

Although depression can and does affect people of all ages, from all walks of life, the risk of becoming depressed is increased due to poverty, unemployment, life events such as the death of a loved one or a relationship break-up, physical illness and problems caused by alcohol and drug use.

How do we address depression?

Depression can be prevented and treated. Treatment usually involves either taking therapy or antidepressant medication or a combination of these. Talking with people you trust can be a first step towards recovery from depression.

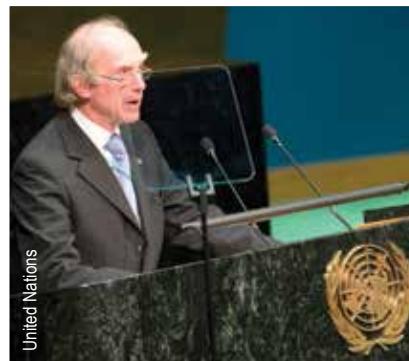
For more information, please visit: http://www.searo.who.int/india/mediacentre/events/world_health_day/whd_2017/en/

In the 21st century, we finally need to tackle the gender gap in drug policy

by Werner Sipp

I will never forget the visit I made to the women's outpatient treatment service at Pereira Rossell Hospital, in Montevideo, Uruguay, in November 2015. I was in the country in my capacity as President of the International Narcotics Control Board and had the chance to participate in a group therapy session with some of the drug-dependent women at the hospital. Many of them spoke about how they had become estranged from their families and communities as a result of their drug dependence, some had been living on the streets; many held their children in their arms. I met Ana-Paula^[1], a mother in her twenties, whose optimism and warmth I admired, given her ongoing struggle. I was deeply moved by her story of how she had sought treatment for her coca paste dependence upon discovering she was pregnant. She realised she had lost control of her life and wanted nothing more than to have a healthy baby. She had succeeded in not using coca paste for the past few months, found a place to live in a housing centre for women and a job – the money from which she entrusted to her friend for safe-keeping out of fear that she may be tempted to use it to buy coca paste again. Her main concern now was raising her son and planning for his future, and she told us that coming to the treatment service had allowed her to regain control of her life.

Unfortunately, unlike Ana-Paula, many drug-dependent women do not have the opportunity to access treatment and shelter, or are prevented from doing so. All over the world drug-dependent



women are ostracized from their communities and left without support. Although women and girls account for one-third of global drug users, only one in five drug treatment recipients is female. Women who take drugs are often stigmatized and discriminated. For this reason the International Narcotic Control Board's Annual Report for 2016 emphasises the need for drug policies and programmes that take women into account.

For drug policies to be truly effective, we have to consider the distinct situations of men and women. Governments need to take the specific needs of drug-dependent women into account to make sure their rights and those of their families are protected. Unfortunately, many drug-related policies and programmes worldwide still fall short in this regard.

Our Report shows that female prisoners and sex workers are at particularly high risk of drug use.

If we look at the past fifteen years we see a major increase in the number of women arrested for drug-related offences and, once imprisoned, female prisoners are much more likely to become drug users than men. When

women are imprisoned, family life is often greatly disrupted.

There is a strong link between sex-work and drug use; women may turn to sex work as a means to support a drug-dependent lifestyle, while sex workers may use drugs to cope with the demands and nature of their work. Sex workers in many parts of the world are prevented from accessing treatment due to stigma, judgmental attitudes as well as the discomfort felt by the women themselves in predominantly male-attended treatment centers. Drug-dependent women with children may also be reluctant to access treatment out of fear that they will be seen as unfit mothers and that their children will be taken from them.

One-size-fits-all drug policies are not enough. We need better-informed policies, a more efficient allocation of sorely-needed resources and prevention programmes which are targeted specifically at pregnant women, sex workers, people living with HIV/AIDS and prisoners.

All this is essential if we want to protect and improve the health and wellbeing of women and move closer to a solution to the world's drug problem. It is my hope that this will ultimately give more women like Ana-Paula the chance to regain control of their lives and provide brighter futures for them and their families. ■

*

Werner Sipp is the President of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), which is the independent, quasi-judicial body that monitors implementation of the United Nations international drug control conventions.

^[1] Name has been changed to protect the individual's privacy.

OPINION

When youth shine, India shines

by Toily Kurbanov

A young man walks down a crowded street. To the left of him is a gang offering him quick cash to join them. To the right is a group of young volunteers, cleaning up the nearby river, handing him a leaflet that says, “volunteer to make a difference”. Which way does the young man turn? To the left for quick cash, or to the right where his potential lies?

If he chooses the path of joining volunteerism, he is also choosing a path that the nation is advocating for in partnership with our organization, United Nations Volunteers: the path of volunteerism as a means to sustainable development and a way for all individuals, including youth, can thrive and shine.

Millions of volunteers contribute to peace and development worldwide. They work for people, planet and prosperity – an inclusive and equitable world. UNV alone mobilizes 20,000 volunteers every year around the world and over the internet to assist UN agencies, governments, private sector and civil society in the long journey to sustainable development. Every day they help to eliminate poverty, improve basic health and education, stop environmental degradation, reduce

the risk of disasters, combat social exclusion and violent conflict.

By 2020, India shall have a demographic profile with a median age of 28. Acutely aware of demographic dividend for inclusive and sustainable development, the authorities in India are recognizing the importance of engaging youth in volunteerism that supports human development.

Since 2014, youth and UN volunteers are working in partnership with the government to strengthen one of the largest youth volunteer movements in the world – Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan and National Service Scheme – reaching 11 million people.

Hindprabha Karve, is one of the UN Volunteers with the Nehru Yuva Kendra. She is the District Youth Coordinator in the state of Maharashtra and works with the state's Thane-Palghar region – home to the Katkaris – a particularly vulnerable tribal group. Hindprabha mobilizes youth to help village children get adequate nourishment. Volunteers have helped more than 5000 tribal villagers get job cards – putting an end to outward migration and displacement.

This is the power of volunteerism – and making a difference with youth and communities.

Toney Thomas, another UN Volunteer, is assigned to Ernakulam district, Kerala. Under “100 volunteers, 100 toilets” initiative, he is on a mission to make the impossible possible. Toney and his team mobilize youth volunteers to end open defecation among tribal communities. Around 37 pits were dug entirely by youth volunteers, while living in harsh conditions, without electricity, piped water supply, sanitation facilities and phone connectivity. A testament to India's Society Above Self mantra – these volunteers are the force for social change.

Engaging youth to decide for themselves and their communities – and giving them the power to change their destinies – that's when youth shine. UNV is committed to keeping the light on in partnership with the government.

We commend millions of young women and men who are turning to the right as they walk on their life journeys, take the metaphorical leaflet and volunteer to make a difference. ■

Toily Kurbanov is Deputy Executive Coordinator, United Nations Volunteers programme



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



the **UNworks** in India



WFP supports fortification in the Mid-Day Meal Programme for children

For good health and wellbeing, it is essential to have adequate quantity and quality of nutritious food – also known as a “balanced diet”, in order to stave off hunger and malnutrition.

WFP's work on **SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture** is very closely inter-linked with **SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages**. Responding to the challenge of widespread malnutrition in the country, WFP, together with key players in the area of food fortification, is advocating for policy reforms supporting the inclusion of fortified foods in the government's food-based social safety nets. To this end, WFP has contributed to the national dialogue on rice fortification, and is a technical partner to the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

At the state-level, WFP is supporting governments in improving nutrition amongst vulnerable populations by way of fortifying food served through food-based social safety nets. Working closely with school children, WFP is fortifying mid-day meals distributed to children in government and government-aided schools. The Mid-Day Meal programme in India reaches out to 120 million children per day, and has played a significant role in impacting their growth, development, general health and education.



WFP

Following a successful programme on iron fortification of rice for school children in Gajapati, Odisha which has now been taken over by the Government, WFP recently kicked off its multi micronutrient fortification pilot project in Dhenkanal, Odisha, where WFP is working closely with the Government reaching 137,000 school children. Under this pilot project, WFP is fortifying mid-day meals using two different methods. In four blocks, rice is being fortified with multi micronutrients, while the remaining four blocks receive multi micronutrient fortified curry. The ultimate aim being to present the Government of Odisha with cost-effect and scalable models of food fortification that can be mainstreamed into the Mid Day Meal programme.

Both the modalities help enrich the nutritive value of the midday meals, and are a definite boost to the overall

well-being of children, which further contributes to increased motivation to study and do well in life. Assessments have also demonstrated that food fortification presents added advantages of increase in physical endurance, attendance and school performance of the children. Through these programmes, WFP helps create greater awareness on nutrition and healthy food habits amongst children and also their families. This not only enhances the impact of WFP's initiative, but also helps in creating long-term and sustainable solutions.

The targets under SDG 3 will only be met, once every person on the planet has access to adequate and nutritious food – a very basic for life, and WFP is working towards this very target, reaching the farthest, first; success in India will go a long way in achieving this. ■



Leveraging cost-effective communication technology for promoting nutrition-sensitive agricultural practices

Despite five-decade long history of nutrition programmes in India, the burden of undernutrition including vitamin and mineral deficiencies remains inadmissibly high. There is plenty of scientific evidence describing the pendulum of ill-effects of malnutrition ranging from poor physical and cognitive growth to reduced individual earnings and losses to nation's GDP.

More than a quarter of the children in the country continue to suffer from one or the other types of malnutrition. Anaemia continues to affect 50 percent of women including pregnant women and 60 percent of children in the country. One of the key challenges to improve malnutrition rates is to enhance nutrient intake of the population, in particular of the vulnerable groups.

Nutrition and agriculture interact in a dynamic manner and agriculture can contribute significantly to improve nutrition both at individual and community level. One of FAO's strategic objective is to help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition. In its effort, a pilot project is being undertaken by the organization amongst the tribal communities in Odisha. The pilot aims to promote nutrition-sensitive agricultural practices among the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in the State. Community based communication method, an ICT enabled approach, would be used to identify locally relevant, feasible and impactful nutrition sensitive agriculture practices for improving the nutritional knowledge, practices and hence, the nutritional status of PVTGs.



FAO

Digital Green's ICT-enabled approach which is a participatory process of engagement with communities to produce and share information would be leveraged upon. It is an interactive approach, which involves partnering with local public, private and civil society organizations to share knowledge on improved agricultural practices, livelihoods, health, and nutrition, using locally produced videos and human mediated dissemination. Initial pilot studies have indicated a higher uptake of practices through the video-based approach and have also revealed that this model proves to be more cost-effective than classical systems of agricultural extension. The results from this pilot project may later be used for identifying the nutritional issues amongst the PVTG population from other districts of the country as well.

FAO looks at nutrition from the perspective of food and agriculture-based approaches as the sustainable

long-term solution to hunger and malnutrition. Application of a "nutrition lens" in conventional agricultural practices makes nutritionally rich, diversified and traditional foods available to masses. The fact that our country is facing double-burden of malnutrition i.e. over and undernutrition existing simultaneously in population, needs a multi-sectoral approach along with nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific interventions to address these problems holistically.

There is a need to reiterate the priorities which may include, improved food production to enhance food security; production of high-nutrient foods; reduction in post-harvest losses; firming food value chains with better technologies to retain nutrients and provide safe food; strengthening agro-processing sector to prevent food and nutrient losses and leverage on modern ICT technologies to impart nutrition-linked messages for bringing about sustainable behaviour change. ■



Strengthening capacities for universal and equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation in India

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) has a critical role in saving lives. It contributes positively to health and well-being throughout the life course, from infancy to adulthood.

One out of five child deaths in the country are due to pneumonia and diarrhea, which are among the leading causes of child deaths in India. About 39% of children under five are stunted. Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) such as kala-azar, soil transmitted helminth (worm) infections (e.g., hook worm), leprosy, Japanese encephalitis, and dengue also affect a major population of the country every year. Most of these diseases can be prevented by safe water, sanitation and hygienic practices.

Sustainable Development Goal 6 aims to achieve universal access to safe water and sanitation by 2030. Despite India's significant progress in improving sanitation coverage it is estimated that a staggering INR 13 lakh crores (USD 199 billion) is needed to provide access to and availability of water and sanitation for all by 2030.

Therefore, there is an urgent need for efficient multi-sectoral actions to ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking-water and to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene.

Delivering solutions

Water Safety Plans (WSP): The World Health Organization (WHO) with UNICEF and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

National Environmental Engineering Institute (CSIR-NEERI) has built capacities of providers and communities for adopting and implementing WSP in rural water systems. A WSP helps deliver safe water to consumers by identifying potential risks in the water supply system

from source to the point of use. It has been implemented in many countries for improving drinking water safety and finally protecting public health.

NEERI, a WHO Collaborating Center for water and sanitation is implementing water safety plans in four hospitals in Maharashtra. Capacity-building on WSP has been conducted in Maharashtra and Gujarat for urban water utilities. In February 2017, WHO has also trained around 200 state and district level officials in Haryana.

Sanitation Safety Planning (SSP)

(SSP): To improve safe disposal or reuse of wastewater, WHO had launched a manual for SSP in 2015; it operationalizes the 2006 WHO Guidelines for Safe Use of Waste water and Excreta. This approach



requires identifying health risks in the sanitation system, implementing an improvement plan and conducting regular monitoring. SSP can be used at the planning stage for new schemes and to improve the performance of existing systems. In August 2016, WHO supported SSP training in Kolkata to create champions who can further support countries in achieving their SDG target of providing safely managed sanitation.

Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS) and Tracking Finance (Trackfin):

To monitor investments and the enabling environment for the WASH sector, WHO provided financial and technical support for India to participate in the United Nations-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation

and Drinking-Water (GLAAS), 2016. This assessment provides policy- and decision-makers with a comprehensive global analysis for WASH. Going a step further, the results are viewed from a financing lens. India is also participating in the TrackFin Initiative, which is a methodology to track financing to

drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene at subnational level.

Looking forward

India has the tools and essentials required to provide its citizens with better health outcomes. Major flagship programmes like *Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan* (SBA) reflect this

commitment. Solutions such as Water Safety Plans, Sanitation Safety Planning, and GLAAS and Trackfin are contributing to the achievement of SBA. With enhanced coordination and better alignment, the country can strive to achieve the 2030 Agenda of achieving universal access to safe water and sanitation. ■



Taking to the stage for action on water, sanitation and hygiene SDG6

The Global Citizen Festival Mumbai was more than just a concert, with some 21,000 actions pledged towards SDGs 4, 5 and 6, by key stakeholders (government, corporate leaders and influencers such as celebrities). Young people also undertook a series of actions (such as sharing messages online, participating in community activities, advocating to their local leaders etc.) in the lead-up to the Festival. SDG 6 and actions towards WASH were taken by the most number of people, with 651,712 actions taken.

Global Citizen through The Global Education and Leadership Foundation (tGELF) have a 15-year MoU with the Resident Coordinator's Office linked to the SDGs. UNICEF, UN Women and UNESCO MGIEP provided technical support on the messages on WASH, gender equality and education. An online and mobile phone poll of young people on the SDGs was also activated.

In the lead-up to the Festival a roundtable on WASH was held in Mumbai. Eight leaders representing the five main religions in India (Hindu, Jain, Muslim (Shia and Sunni), Buddhist, and Sikh) associated with the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance (GIWA), 16 senior media



UNICEF

representatives (national and state), and 15 senior corporate leaders including IICA, TATA Power, YES Bank, Essar, HDFC etc. debated and exchanged learnings from actions taken to address the issue of open defecation and access to clean water and sanitation.

The round table discussion led to the commitment by GIWA leaders to engage with over 400 faith leaders and reach out to over 2 million people on the issue by December 2019. This commitment was repeated in front of an audience of 80,000 people during the Global Citizen Concert as well.

Corporate leaders such as the representative from TATA Power committed to work with local faith/religious leaders in areas of their intervention as a strategy to address WASH issues, post this roundtable. The media too committed themselves to disseminating more messages and positive stories around WASH.

This year tGELF will be monitoring all the commitments (through a third party verification) made during the 2016 Festival. Stay tuned for more updates. ■



Breaking Taboos and Barriers - The Sanitation Effort in India's Flagship 'Swachh Bharat' Mission

He jumped down into the pit, scooped up the compost and felt it between his hands. The Government of India's Drinking Water and Sanitation Secretary, Parameswaran Iyer, is not afraid to get his hands dirty but by jumping into a toilet pit he was not just tackling sanitation but also taboos.

On 18 February 2017 Secretary Iyer led top government officials from across India in opening toilet pits that had been left to decompose for over 18 months and taking out the human faeces compost by hand.

"It's perfectly safe and clean to empty a twin pit toilet. The @swachhbharat team joins Gangadevipally village today...Great to be emptying a toilet pit in Gangadevipally, Warangal," Secretary Iyer tweeted from the village 150 km from Hyderabad in South India.

The idea behind this unique exercise was to demonstrate that human excreta in leach pits decomposes and converts into organic manure which can be safely handled without fear of contamination or disease. The Government of India promotes the twin leach pit toilet technology, in which



Photos: UNICEF

while one pit is in use, the other pit is closed for decomposition of excreta turning it into manure.

In India, where the age-old caste system traditionally allocates cleaning toilets and managing waste as a job for those on the lowest rung of the hierarchy, having top civil servants empty a toilet pit is a ground-breaking step towards breaking taboos.

While socio-economic development, coupled with education, has positively influenced caste dynamics, the pace of change, especially in rural areas, has been slow and difficult. Decision-makers at the policy level are also

sometimes influenced by such traditional beliefs, which has affected the speed with which safe sanitation practices and toilet use are adopted by India's rural households.

UNICEF has been supporting the Government towards its Swachh Bharat (Clean India) Campaign towards ensuring that not only do people have access to a toilet but that they are also using them in a sustainable way.

"Eliminating open defecation and promoting the use of toilets is primarily an issue of behaviour change. We are delighted to support this remarkable, hands-on effort of the Government to take on the issue of sanitation and break social barriers. They have demonstrated that impurity is in our minds and not in handling excreta," said Sujoy Mojumdar, Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) Specialist, UNICEF India.

This initiative was also appreciated by India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a practical example demonstrating the importance of cleanliness and, more importantly, changing people's mindset around sanitation. "This toilet pit emptying exercise undertaken by the Drinking Water and Sanitation Ministry is remarkable!" tweeted the Prime Minister. ■



WORLD HEALTH DAY

2017

Depression

Let's talk

Depression is an illness characterized by persistent sadness and a loss of interest in activities that you normally enjoy, accompanied by an inability to carry out daily activities, for at least two weeks. In addition, people with depression normally have several of the following symptoms: a loss of energy; a change in appetite; sleeping more or less; anxiety; reduced concentration; indecisiveness; restlessness; feelings of worthlessness, guilt, or hopelessness; and thoughts of self-harm or suicide.



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- Depression can affect people of all ages, from all walks of life
 - Stigma surrounding mental illness, including depression, is a barrier to people seeking help
 - Depression is preventable and treatable
 - Talking about depression, with a family member, friend and medical professional, helps break down stigma, and aids recovery
 - Treatment usually involves talking to a therapist or medication or a combination of the two
 - A healthy diet, regular exercise, and taking time out for an activity or hobby, helps lift the mood
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Faith leaders come together for SDG 6 in Bihar

Over 20 faith leaders from different religions, part of the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance (GIWA), joined hands for WASH during the *Prakash Utsav*, the 350th Birth Anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh - the 10th Sikh Guru.

UNICEF has been supporting the alliance as a technical partner during major events and religious festivals on key messaging relating to SDG-6.

Over the past three years, GIWA has reached out to over 400 faith leaders and thousands of people, taking the critical issue of WASH to people from a faith based perspective. It has also advocated for WASH to policymakers, legislators and Government functionaries, and also engaged in community-based projects on WASH.

GIWA hosted a WASH Summit in Bihar on 4 January, bringing together 12 faith leaders from five different faiths, including the Chief Jathedar Ji and Patna Jathedar Ji, together with the Governor of Bihar, Minister for Public Health, Secretary for Rural Development and UNICEF Bihar Chief of Field Office. The Summit was organized with technical support from UNICEF.

The GIWA Summit focused on critical issues of WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), specifically with respect to women and children. It also stressed upon the alarming situation with respect to WASH in Bihar- issues of open defecation and hygienic practices were highlighted.

An upcoming Bihar State Interfaith Chapter was also announced during the Summit, with technical support from UNICEF. This start of a GIWA State Chapter to bring together a network of local faith leaders in Bihar to reach out

to their communities with messages on UNICEF priority areas is a direct follow up on the pledge made by GIWA at the Global Citizen Festival in Mumbai on 19 November 2017.

Prior to the Summit GIWA together with UNICEF joined thousands of people paying their respects at the Takht Sri Patna Sahib, the birth place of Guru Gobind Singh. On that occasion faith leaders were invited on stage and addressed a seminar of 2000 members of the Sikh community in the presence of important Sikh Leaders, highlighting the importance of clean water and sanitation.

Side meetings were also held with the Chief Minister Bihar, and the Secretary Department of Rural Development. In the meetings UNICEF and GIWA discussed the possible future direction for a GIWA Bihar interfaith chapter and the role faith leaders can play in supporting the State to become ODF.

A WASH in Sikhism Book was also presented during the festivities. This Book is part of UNICEF's collaboration

with GIWA, where UNICEF is providing technical support for the development of books for five major religions

A delegation of representatives from GIWA and UNICEF met with His Holiness the Dalai Lama at the 40th *Kalchakra Puja* in the Mahabodhi Temple, Bodh Gaya in Bihar. The delegation was well-received and blessed by HH who commended the efforts of GIWA and stressed on the oneness of all faiths.

In front of a gathering of an estimated 300,000 people, GIWA leaders from four different faiths sat alongside H.H on stage and spoke about the importance of faith and the power it has towards catalysing behaviour change. They also emphasised the crucial need for cleanliness both within the hearts and minds of the individual, as well as externally in our communities and villages. All leaders highlighted the urgent need to work together to protect and preserve the environment as well as the need for improved WASH for all. Together they performed a water blessing ceremony. During the event, a preview copy of the WASH in Buddhism Book was shared with the HH the Dalai Lama. ■

Why work with faith leaders?

GIWA India is a pioneer initiative engaging the world's many faiths as allies in efforts to create a world where every human being has access to safe drinking water, improved sanitation and proper hygiene. Religious communities have a proven track record of success in promoting WASH globally, and in India,

an estimated 99% of the population subscribes to one religion or another¹, underscoring the vital role faith can play in addressing this crisis. GIWA brings together leaders of different faiths, educates other stakeholders, engages in behaviour change communication and outreach with people, takes field initiatives and policy advocacy with the Government on issues of WASH.

¹Census of India 2011 <http://www.census2011.co.in/religion.php>

अच्छा स्वास्थ्य और खुशहाली और स्वच्छ जल एवं स्वच्छता

3 अच्छा स्वास्थ्य
और खुशहाली



6 स्वच्छ जल
एवं स्वच्छता



विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम बच्चों के लिए मध्यान्ह भोजन कार्यक्रम में पुष्टिकरण के लिए सहायता देता है।

अच्छे स्वास्थ्य और खुशहाली के लिए जरूरी है कि पर्याप्त मात्रा में उत्तम किस्म का पौष्टिक भोजन भिले जिसे हम संतुलित आहार भी कहते हैं, ताकि भूख और कुपोषण से बचा जा सके।

विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम सतत विकास लक्ष्य 2 पर काम करता है: भूख भिटाना, खाद्य सुरक्षा हासिल करना, पोषण स्तर सुधारना और टिकाऊ खेती को बढ़ावा देना। इस लक्ष्य से गहराई से जुड़ा हुआ है सतत विकास लक्ष्य 3 : सभी नागरिकों के लिए हर आयु में स्वस्थ जीवन और खुशहाली। देश में व्यापक कुपोषण की चुनौती से निपटने के लिए विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम भोजन को पौष्टिक तत्वों से पुष्ट करने से जुड़े अन्य प्रमुख सहयोगियों की मदद से नीतिगत सुधारों की हिमायत कर रहा है। इसमें सरकार के आहार संबंधी सामाजिक सुरक्षा कवचों में पौष्टिक तत्वों से युक्त आहार को शामिल कराने का प्रयास हो रहा है। इसके लिए विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम ने चावल के पुष्टिकरण के बारे में राष्ट्रीय संवाद में योगदान किया है और वह भारत के आहार सुरक्षा और मानक अभिकरण का तकनीकी सहयोगी है।

राज्य स्तर पर विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम लाचार जनसंख्या में पोषण स्तर सुधारने के लिए आहार संबंधी सामाजिक सुरक्षा योजनाओं के जरिए परोसे जा रहे आहार को पोषक तत्वों से पुष्ट कर सरकारों की मदद कर रहा है। स्कूली बच्चों के साथ काम करते हुए विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम सरकारी और सरकारी सहायता प्राप्त स्कूलों में बच्चों को दोपहर में दिए जा रहे भोजन को पुष्ट कर रहा है। भारत में मध्यान्ह भोजन कार्यक्रम रोजाना एक करोड़ बीस लाख बच्चों को भोजन दे रहा है और उनकी वृद्धि, विकास, सामान्य स्वास्थ्य और शिक्षा पर उसका

गहरा असर पड़ रहा है। ओडिसा में गजपति में स्कूली बच्चों के लिए चावल को आयरन से पुष्ट करने का कार्यक्रम सफल रहा और अब सरकार ने उसे अपना लिया है। इसके बाद विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम ने ओडिसा में ही ढेंकनाल में प्रयोग के तौर पर एक साथ कई सूक्ष्म पोषक तत्वों से भोजन को पुष्ट करने का काम शुरू किया है और सरकार के साथ मिलकर 1,37,000 स्कूली बच्चों तक पहुंचने का प्रयास कर रहा है। इसके अंतर्गत विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम दो अलग—अलग तरीकों से मध्यान्ह भोजन को पोषक तत्वों से पुष्ट कर रहा है। चार विकास खंडों में चावल में कई तरह के सूक्ष्म पोषक तत्व मिलाए जा रहे हैं, जबकि बाकी चार विकास खंडों में दाल—सब्जी में सूक्ष्म पोषक तत्व मिलाए जा रहे हैं। कुल मिलाकर इसका उद्देश्य यही है कि ओडिसा सरकार को ऐसे किफायती और बड़े पैमाने पर अपनाए जा सकने वाले मॉडल दिए जा सकें जिनके उपयोग से मध्यान्ह भोजन कार्यक्रम में भोजन का पुष्टिकरण किया जा सके।

इन दोनों ही तरीकों से मध्यान्ह भोजन में पोषक तत्वों की मात्रा बढ़ती है और बच्चों के समग्र स्वास्थ्य को बढ़ावा मिलता है। इसके साथ—साथ ही बच्चों को पढ़ाई जारी रखने और जीवन में सफल होने की कोशिश करने का प्रोत्साहन भी मिलता है। आकलन से पता चला है कि भोजन को पोषक तत्वों से पुष्ट करने से बच्चों की शारीरिक क्षमता, स्कूल में उपस्थिति और पढ़ाई—लिखाई में प्रदर्शन में



फोटो:
उद्दीप कुमार

सुधार होता है। इन कार्यक्रमों के जरिए विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम पोषण स्तर और खान—पान की स्वस्थ आदतों के बारे में बच्चों और उनके माता—पिता में जागरूकता पैदा करने में भी मदद कर रहा है। इससे न सिर्फ उसके प्रयास का प्रभाव बढ़ता है, बल्कि लंबे समय के लिए टिकाऊ समाधान जुटाने में भी मदद मिलती है। सतत विकास लक्ष्य 3 के उद्देश्य तभी हासिल किए जा सकते हैं जब इस पृथ्वी के हर निवासी को जीवन की बुनियादी जरूरत के रूप में पर्याप्त और पौष्टिक भोजन सुलभ हो। विश्व खाद्य कार्यक्रम इस दिशा में काम कर रहा है और उसने सबसे दूर सबसे पहले पहुंचने से शुरूआत की है। भारत में सफलता मिलने पर यह उद्देश्य हासिल करने में बहुत मदद मिलेगी। ■



पौष्टिकता के प्रति जागरूक खेती के तरीकों के प्रसार के लिए किफायती संपर्क तकनीक का उपयोग

भा रत में पौष्टिक भोजन कार्यक्रम पांच दशक से चल रहे हैं। फिर भी अत्यं पोषण का स्तर इतना ऊंचा है जिसे स्वीकार नहीं किया जा सकता। इसमें विटामिन और खनिज की कमी शामिल है। यह सिद्ध करने के लिए तमाम वैज्ञानिक प्रमाण मौजूद हैं कि कुपोषण के कारण शारीरिक और मानसिक वृद्धि कमज़ोर होती है, व्यक्तिगत आमदनी घटती है और देश के सकल घरेलू उत्पाद को भी चोट पहुंचती है।

देश में एक चौथाई से अधिक बच्चे किसी न किसी रूप में कुपोषण के शिकार हैं। अनीमिया यानी रक्त-अल्पता देश में गर्भवती महिलाओं सहित 50 प्रतिशत महिलाओं और 60 प्रतिशत बच्चों को धेरे रहती है। कुपोषण की दर में कमी लाने के लिए एक प्रमुख चुनौती खासतौर पर लाचार वर्गों सहित कुल आबादी के भोजन में पौष्टिक तत्वों की मात्रा बढ़ाना है।

पौष्टिक भोजन और खेती के बीच बहुत गहन संबंध हैं। व्यक्तिगत और सामुदायिक दोनों स्तरों पर पोषण स्तर सुधारने में खेती का बड़ा योगदान हो सकता है। खाद्य एवं कृषि संगठन का एक महत्वपूर्ण उद्देश्य भुखमरी, खाद्य असुरक्षा और कुपोषण को मिटाने में मदद करना है। संगठन ने इस सिलसिले में ओडिसा के आदिवासी समुदायों में एक प्रायोगिक योजना शुरू की है। इसका उद्देश्य राज्य में विशेष रूप से लाचार आदिवासी समूहों के बीच पौष्टिकता के प्रति जागरूक खेती के तरीकों का प्रसार करना है। इन समूहों में पोषक तत्वों की जानकारी, उनके उपयोग की विधियों और पौष्टिकता का स्तर सुधारने के लिए खेती की ऐसी विधियों की पहचान की जाएगी जो स्थानीय रूप से उपयुक्त, व्यावहारिक और पोषण की दृष्टि से प्रभावकारी हों।

इसके लिए समुदाय आधारित संपर्क संदेश विधि का उपयोग किया जाएगा।

डिजिटल ग्रीन की आईसीटी से संचालित विधि का उपयोग किया जाएगा जिसमें सूचना पैदा करने और आपस में बांटने के लिए समुदाय की भागीदारी होगी।



एफएल

इसके अंतर्गत स्थानीय, निजी, सरकारी और सामाजिक संगठनों के साथ मिलकर खेती के बेहतर तरीकों, आजीविका, स्वास्थ्य और पोषण के बारे में जानकारी का प्रचार-प्रसार किया जाएगा। इसके लिए स्थानीय स्तर पर वीडियो तैयार किए जाएंगे और लोगों के बीच बातचीत से संदेशों का प्रसार होगा। प्रारंभिक अध्ययनों से संकेत मिलता है कि वीडियो दिखाने से इन विधियों को अधिक अपनाया जाता है और यह भी पता चला है कि कृषि विस्तार के पारंपरिक तरीकों की तुलना में यह विधि अधिक किफायती साबित हुई है। इस प्रायोगिक योजना के परिणामों का उपयोग करते हुए बाद में देश के अन्य जिलों में भी खासतौर से लाचार आदिवासी समूहों के बीच पोषण की समस्याओं को पहचाना जा सकता है।

खाद्य एवं कृषि संगठन पोषण स्तर को भूख और कुपोषण से निपटने के टिकाऊ दीर्घकालिक समाधान के लिए भोजन और कृषि आधारित दृष्टिकोण के रूप में देखता है। खेती की पारंपरिक विधियों में पौष्टिकता का अंक शामिल कर लेने से आम जनता को पौष्टिकता से समृद्ध,

विविध और पारंपरिक आहार सुलभ हो जाते हैं। हमारे देश पर कुपोषण का दोहरा बोझ है क्योंकि आबादी में अत्यधिक एवं अल्प पोषण दोनों मौजूद हैं। इन समस्याओं से समग्र रूप से निपटने के लिए विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में एक साथ प्रयास करने होंगे और पोषण स्तर के प्रति जागरूक और उसमें सुधार के लिए विशिष्ट प्रयास भी आवश्यक हैं।

इस दिशा में प्राथमिकताओं को दोहराना जरूरी है। इनमें खाद्य सुरक्षा बढ़ाने के लिए खाद्य उत्पादन सुधारना; अधिक पौष्टिक खाद्य सामग्री का उत्पादन; कटाई के बाद फसल के नुकसान में कमी लाना; पोषक तत्वों को संरक्षित रखने के लिए बेहतर टैक्नॉलॉजी से फूड वैल्यू श्रृंखलाओं को पुष्ट करना और सुरक्षित आहार उपलब्ध करना; आहार और पोषक तत्वों का क्षय रोकने के लिए कृषि प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्र को पुष्ट करना; तथा व्यवहार में टिकाऊ बदलाव के लिए पोषण से जुड़े संदेशों के प्रसार में आधुनिक आईसीटी टैक्नॉलॉजी का उपयोग करना शामिल है। ■



भारत में सुरक्षित पेयजल और स्वच्छता सुविधा सबको बराबर सुलभ कराने की क्रिमताएं बढ़ाना

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वन की रक्षा में जल, स्वच्छता और साफ-सफाई (वाश) की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। शैशव से लेकर बड़े होने तक पूरे जीवन में स्वास्थ्य और समृद्धि में इनका बड़ा योगदान है।

देश में हर पांच में से एक बच्चे की मौत निमोनिया और दस्त रोग से होती है, जो भारत में बाल मौतों के प्रमुख कारणों में शामिल है। 5 वर्ष से कम आयु के करीब 49 प्रतिशत बच्चों की बढ़वार अवरुद्ध है। इसके अलावा मलेरिया और काला-अजार जैसे उपेक्षित ट्रॉपिकल रोग, मिट्टी से फैलने वाले कीट संक्रमण, कुष्ठ, जापानी एनसेफलाइटिस और डेंगो हर वर्ष देश की बड़ी आबादी को अपना शिकार बनाते हैं। इनमें से अधिकतर रोगों को सुरक्षित जल, स्वच्छता और साफ-सफाई की आदतों को अपनाकर रोका जा सकता है।

सतत विकास लक्ष्य 6 का उद्देश्य 2030 तक सबको सुरक्षित जल और स्वच्छता सुलभ कराना है। स्वच्छता के प्रसार में सुधार की दिशा में भारत की उल्लेखनीय प्रगति (आरेख 2) के बावजूद ऐसा अनुमान है कि 2030 तक सबके लिए जल और स्वच्छता उपलब्ध एवं सुलभ कराने के लिए 13 लाख करोड़ रुपए की जरूरत होगी।

ऐसी स्थिति में किफायती दाम पर सुरक्षित पेयजल के साथ-साथ पर्याप्त स्वच्छता सुविधा और साफ-सफाई सबको बराबर सुलभ कराने के लिए विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में मिलकर कुशलता से कार्रवाई करना तत्काल आवश्यक है।

1 ek/ku nuk%

t y l j{lk ; k u k a M Y; wl i h%
विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन ने युनिसेफ और वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद-राष्ट्रीय पर्यावरण इंजीनियरिंग संस्थान (सीएसआईआर-एनईईआरआई) के साथ मिलकर ग्रामीण जल व्यवस्था में जल सुरक्षा योजनाएं अपनाने और लागू करने के



लिए समुदायों और जल प्रदान करने वालों की क्षमताओं का निर्माण किया है। जल सुरक्षा योजना से उपभोक्ताओं को सुरक्षित जल उपलब्ध कराने में मदद मिलती है। इसमें स्रोत से लेकर उपयोग के स्थल तक जलार्पीत व्यवस्था में संभावित खतरों की पहचान की जाती है। अनेक देशों में पेयजल की सुरक्षा बढ़ाने और जन स्वास्थ्य के संरक्षण के लिए इसे अपनाया गया है। राष्ट्रीय पर्यावरण इंजीनियरिंग संस्थान जल और स्वच्छता के लिए विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन के सहयोग से संचालित केन्द्र है। संस्थान महाराष्ट्र के 4 अस्पतालों में जल सुरक्षा योजनाएं चला रहा है। महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात में शहरी जल प्रदाय संस्थानों में इस बारे में क्षमता निर्माण किया गया है। फरवरी 2017 में विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन ने हरियाणा में राज्य और जिला स्तर के लगभग 200 अधिकारियों को प्रशिक्षण दिया।

LoPNrk l j{lk fu; k u ¼l , l i h%
गंदे पानी के सुरक्षित निपटान या उसे दोबारा उपयोग लायक बनाने की व्यवस्था में सुधार के लिए विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन ने 2015 में एसएसपी के लिए एक मानक बनाया। इसमें गंदे पानी और मल के सुरक्षित उपयोग के लिए 2006 में जारी

विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन दिशा-निर्देशों को अपनाया गया है। इसके तहत स्वच्छता तंत्र में स्वास्थ्य के लिए जोखिमों की पहचान करना, सुधार योजना लागू करना और नियमित निगरानी करना जरूरी है। नई योजना बनाते समय और मौजूदा तंत्रों का प्रदर्शन सुधारने के बारे में सोचते हुए एसएसपी का उपयोग किया जा सकता है। विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन ने अगस्त 2016 में ऐसे चैम्पियन तैयार करने में कोलकाता में एसएसपी प्रशिक्षण को समर्थन दिया जो विभिन्न देशों को सुरक्षित स्वच्छता प्रदान करने के एसडीजी उद्देश्यों को हासिल करने में मदद दे सकते हैं।

LoPNrk vls is t y dk os' od fo' ysk k , oavkdyu ¼ h y , , l ¼ vls foÙk Q oLFk dh fuxjkuh WslfQu% वाश सेक्टर के लिए निवेश तथा सहायक माहौल की निगरानी के लिए विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन ने भारत को तकनीकी और वित्तीय समर्थन दिया जिससे वह संयुक्त राष्ट्र के ग्लोबल एनालेसिस एंड एसैसमेंट ऑफ सेनीटेशन एंड ड्रिंकिंग वाटर (जीएलएएस) 2016 में हिस्सा ले सके। इस आकलन से नीति बनाने वालों और निर्णय लेने वालों को विश्व स्तर पर वाश के मामले में समग्र विश्लेषण मिल

जाता है। एक कदम और आगे बढ़ाते हुए इन परिणामों को वित्तीय व्यवस्था के नजरिए से देखा जाता है। इस ट्रैकफिन पहल में भारत भी शामिल है। इसके जरिए राज्य स्तर पर पेयजल, स्वच्छता और साफ-सफाई के लिए उपलब्ध धन पर निगरानी रखी जाती है।

Hfo"; dh j kg

भारत के पास अपने नागरिकों को बेहतर स्वास्थ्य प्रदान करने के लिए आवश्यक जानकारी और साधन उपलब्ध हैं। स्वच्छ भारत अभियान जैसे प्रमुख कार्यक्रमों से इसके संकल्प की झलक मिलती है। जल सुरक्षा योजना, स्वच्छता सुरक्षा

नियोजन, जीएलएएस तथा ट्रैकफिन जैसे समाधान स्वच्छ भारत अभियान की सफलता में योगदान कर रहे हैं। अधिक तालमेल और बेहतर समन्वय से भारत सबके लिए सुरक्षित जल और स्वच्छता उपलब्ध कराने के 2030 के लक्ष्य को हासिल करने की दिशा में आगे बढ़ सकता है। ■



एसडीजी ६ के तहत जल, स्वच्छता और साफ-सफाई की दिशा में कार्रवाई के लिए मंच का सहारा

Jलोबल सिटिजन फैस्टिवल, मुम्बई सिर्फ एक संगीत आयोजन नहीं था। इस दौरान सरकारी प्रतिनिधियों, कंपनी प्रमुखों और समाज को प्रभावित करने वाली मशहूर हस्तियों ने एसडीजी 4, 5 और 6 की दिशा में करीब 21,000 उपाय अपनाने की शपथ ली। उत्सव से पहले युवाओं ने भी अनेक उपाय अपनाने का बीड़ा उठाया। इनमें संदेशों का ऑनलाइन प्रसार, सामुदायिक गतिविधियों में भागीदारी और अपने स्थानीय नेताओं पर दबाव जैसे उपाय शामिल हैं। अधिकतर लोगों ने एसडीजी 6 और वाश की दिशा में कदम उठाए। कुल मिलाकर 651,712 कदम उठाए गए।

ग्लोबल सिटिजन ने टीजीईएलएफ के माध्यम से एसडीजी से जुड़े स्थानीय समन्वयक कार्यालय के साथ 15 वर्ष का सहमति ज्ञापन कर रखा है। युनिसेफ, यूएन विमैन और यूनेस्को एमजीआईईपी, वाश, जैंडर बराबरी और शिक्षा के बारे में संदेशों को तकनीकी समर्थन देते हैं। एसडीजी के बारे में युवाओं के बीच ऑनलाइन और मोबाइल फोन सर्वेक्षण भी शुरू किया गया है।

फैस्टिवल की तैयारी के दौरान मुम्बई में वाश के बारे में एक गोलमेज बैठक हुई। भारत में 5 प्रमुख धर्मों, हिन्दू, जैन, शिया और सुन्नी मुसलमान, बौद्ध और सिख, के ग्लोबल इंटरफेथ वाश अलायंस के नेताओं ने संकल्प लिया कि वे 400 से अधिक धार्मिक नेताओं से संपर्क करेंगे और दिसम्बर 2019 तक इस बारे में 20,00,000 से अधिक लोगों तक संदेश पहुंचाएंगे। ग्लोबल सिटिजन कंसर्ट के



फैस्टिवल

और आईआईसीए, टाटा पावर, यस बैंक, एस्सार तथा एचडीएफसी बैंक जैसी कंपनियों के 15 वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों ने खुले में शौच की समस्या से निपटने और स्वच्छ जल तथा स्वच्छता सुविधा उपलब्ध कराने के लिए अपनाए गए उपायों पर बहस की और उनसे मिले सबक एक-दूसरे को बताए।

इस चर्चा के बाद ग्लोबल इंटरफेथ वाश अलायंस के नेताओं ने संकल्प लिया कि वे 400 से अधिक धार्मिक नेताओं से संपर्क करेंगे और दिसम्बर 2019 तक इस बारे में 20,00,000 से अधिक लोगों तक संदेश पहुंचाएंगे। ग्लोबल सिटिजन कंसर्ट के

दौरान 80,000 लोगों के सामने यह संकल्प दोहराया गया।

टाटा पावर जैसी कंपनियों के प्रतिनिधियों ने फैसला किया कि वाश से जुड़े मुद्दों के समाधान के लिए अपनी गतिविधि के क्षेत्र में वे स्थानीय धार्मिक नेताओं के साथ मिलकर काम करेंगे। मीडिया ने भी संकल्प लिया कि वे वाश से जुड़े संदेशों और सफलता की कहानियों का अधिक प्रचार-प्रसार करेंगे। इस वर्ष टीजीईएलएफ 2016 के फैस्टिवल के दौरान किए गए सभी संकल्पों की तीसरे पक्ष से निगरानी कराएगा। हम आपको ताजा जानकारी देते रहेंगे। ■



प्राचीन धारणाओं और बाधाओं को तोड़ना-स्वच्छ भारत मिशन में स्वच्छता के प्रयास

वह गड्ढे में कूदे, मुट्ठी भर कम्पोस्ट उठाई और अपने हाथों के बीच महसूस की। भारत सरकार के पेयजल और स्वच्छता विभाग के सचिव परमेश्वरन अच्यर को अपने हाथ गंदे होने का भय नहीं है। असल में टॉयलेट के गड्ढे में कूदकर वे न सिर्फ स्वच्छता बल्कि पुरानी धारणाओं से भी निपट रहे हैं।

18 फरवरी, 2017 को श्री अच्यर के नेतृत्व में पूरे भारत से आए सरकारी अधिकारियों ने टॉयलेट के उन गड्ढों को खोला जिन्हें 18 महीने से भी पहले से कम्पोस्ट के लिए बंद कर दिया गया था। उन्होंने अपने हाथों से मानव मल की कम्पोस्ट निकाली।

श्री अच्यर ने हैदराबाद से 150 किलोमीटर दूर एक गांव से टीवीट किया, “दो गड्ढे वाले टॉयलेट के एक गड्ढे को खाली करना पूरी तरह सुरक्षित और स्वच्छ है। स्वच्छ भारत टीम आज गंगादेवीपल्ली गांव में एकत्र हुए। गंगादेवीपल्ली, वारंगल में टॉयलेट गड्ढे को खाली करने का काम बहुत अच्छा रहा।”

इस प्रयास के पीछे उद्देश्य यह दिखाना था कि गड्ढे में जमा मानव मल सड़कर ऑर्गेनिक खाद बन जाता है जिसे दूषण या बीमारी के डर के बिना हाथ से निकाला जा सकता है। भारत सरकार दो गड्ढे वाली टॉयलेट टैक्नॉलॉजी को बढ़ावा दे रही है जिनमें से एक गड्ढा भर जाने पर बंद कर दिया जाता है ताकि मल से खाद बन सके और दूसरा गड्ढा इस्तेमाल में रहता है।



भारत में सदियों पुरानी वर्ण व्यवस्था के अंतर्गत शौचालय की सफाई और मल का निपटारा करना समाज के सबसे निचले तबके की जिम्मेदारी माना गया है। ऐसी व्यवस्था में बड़े सरकारी अधिकारियों का अपने हाथों से टॉयलेट गड्ढे को खाली करना प्राचीन धारणाओं को तोड़ने की दिशा में एक बड़ा कदम है।

सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास और शिक्षा का जाति व्यवस्था पर अनुकूल असर तो पड़ा है लेकिन खासकर गांवों में परिवर्तन की चाल धीमी और कठिन रही। कभी-कभी नीतिगत फैसले लेने वाले भी इन पारंपरिक मान्यताओं से प्रभावित हो जाते हैं जिससे भारत के

ग्रामीण परिवारों में शौचालय के उपयोग और स्वच्छता के सुरक्षित तरीके अपनाए जाने की रफ्तार पर असर पड़ता है।

युनिसेफ, स्वच्छ भारत अभियान में सरकार को यह सुनिश्चित करने में समर्थन दे रहा है कि न सिर्फ लोगों को शौचालय सुलभ हों, बल्कि वे टिकाऊ तरीके से उनका उपयोग भी करें।

युनिसेफ भारत में जल, स्वच्छता, साफ-सफाई यानी वाश विशेषज्ञ सुजाय मजूमदार का कहना है, ‘खुले में शौच न करना और शौचालयों के उपयोग को बढ़ावा देना असल में व्यवहार में बदलाव का मुद्दा है। हम स्वच्छता के इस मुद्दे से सीधे निपटने और सामाजिक बाधाओं को हटाने के सरकार के इस उल्लेखनीय प्रयास में समर्थन देकर बहुत खुश हैं। इनसे साबित हो गया है कि मल को छूने में नहीं, बल्कि अशुद्धता हमारी दिमाग में है।’

भारत के प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने भी इस प्रयास की सराहना की। उन्होंने इसे स्वच्छता का महत्व बताने और उससे भी अधिक स्वच्छता के प्रति लोगों की सोच में बदलाव का व्यावहारिक उदाहरण माना। प्रधानमंत्री ने टीवीट किया, “पेयजल और स्वच्छता मंत्रालय ने टॉयलेट के गड्ढे को खाली करने का जो प्रयास किया है वह उल्लेखनीय है।” ■





बिहार में एसडीजी ६ के लिए विभिन्न धर्मों के नेता एकजुट

गुरु गोबिन्द सिंह के 350वें प्रकाश उत्सव के अवसर पर ग्लोबल इंटरफेथ वाश अलायंस (जीआईडब्ल्यूए) के तहत विभिन्न धर्मों के 20 से अधिक नेताओं ने वाश के लिए हाथ मिलाया।

युनिसेफ इस अलायंस का तकनीकी सहयोगी है और प्रमुख आयोजनों तथा धार्मिक उत्सवों के दौरान एसडीजी 6 से जुड़े प्रमुखों संदेशों के प्रसार में सहयोग देता है।

पिछले 3 वर्ष में जीआईडब्ल्यूए ने 400 से अधिक धार्मिक नेताओं और हजारों लोगों से संपर्क किया और धार्मिक आस्था के नजरिए से वाश के मुद्दे को लोगों तक पहुंचाया। उसने नीति बनाने वालों, सांसदों और विधायकों तथा सरकारी अधिकारियों के साथ भी वाश के बारे में हिमायत की और समुदायों में इस आशय के कार्यक्रम चलाए।

जीआईडब्ल्यूए ने 4 जनवरी को बिहार में वाश शिखर बैठक आयोजित की जिसमें पटनासाहिब के प्रमुख जत्थेदार जी के साथ 5 विभिन्न धर्मों के 12 धर्माधिकारियों के साथ—साथ बिहार के राज्यपाल, जन स्वास्थ्य मंत्री, ग्रामीण विकास सचिव और युनिसेफ बिहार फील्ड कार्यालय के प्रमुख शामिल हुए। इस आयोजन के लिए तकनीकी समर्थन युनिसेफ ने दिया।

जीआईडब्ल्यूए शिखर बैठक में वाश के महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों पर खासकर महिलाओं और बच्चों के नजरिए से चर्चा हुई। इस दौरान बिहार में वाश के संदर्भ में विंताजनक स्थिति को उजागर किया गया। खुले में शौच और साफ—सफाई की आदतों के बारे में विस्तार से चर्चा हुई।

इस दौरान बिहार में इंटरफेथ शाखा के गठन की घोषणा की गई। जिसे युनिसेफ तकनीकी समर्थन देगा। इस शाखा के गठन से बिहार में स्थानीय धार्मिक नेताओं का नेटवर्क बनाकर युनिसेफ के प्राथमिक क्षेत्रों से जुड़े संदेश समुदायों तक पहुंचाने में मदद मिलेगी। इस बारे में 19 नवम्बर, 2016

को मुम्बई में ग्लोबल सिटिजन फैस्टिवल के दौरान जीआईडब्ल्यूए ने संकल्प लिया था।

शिखर बैठक से पहले जीआईडब्ल्यूए ने युनिसेफ और हजारों लोगों के साथ मिलकर गुरु गोबिन्द सिंह जी के जन्म स्थान तख्त श्री पटनासाहिब में माथा टेका। इस दौरान धार्मिक नेताओं को मंच पर बुलाया गया और प्रमुख सिख नेताओं की उपस्थिति में 2000 से ज्यादा की सिख संगत को स्वच्छ जल और स्वच्छता के महत्व के बारे में बताया गया।

बिहार के मुख्यमंत्री और ग्रामीण विकास विभाग के सचिव के साथ अलग—अलग बैठकें भी हुईं। इनमें युनिसेफ और जीआईडब्ल्यूए ने जीआईडब्ल्यूए की बिहार शाखा के लिए भविष्य की राह के साथ—साथ राज्य को खुले में शौच से मुक्त कराने में धार्मिक नेताओं की भूमिका पर चर्चा की।

सिख धर्म में वाश के महत्व के बारे में एक पुस्तिका भी बांटी गई। इसे युनिसेफ ने जीआईडब्ल्यूए के सहयोग से तैयार किया है। इसके तहत युनिसेफ 5 प्रमुख धर्मों के लिए पुस्तकें तैयार करने में तकनीकी मदद देता है।

जीआईडब्ल्यूए और युनिसेफ के प्रतिनिधियों के एक शिष्टमंडल ने बिहार में बौद्धगया में महाबोधि मंदिर में 40वीं कालचक्र पूजा के दौरान महामहिम दलाई लामा से भेंट की। महामहिम दलाई लामा ने उनका स्वागत किया और आशीर्वाद देते हुए जीआईडब्ल्यूए के प्रयासों की सराहना की। उनका कहना था कि सभी धर्म एक हैं।

करीब 3,00000 लोगों की उपस्थिति में 4 अलग—अलग धर्मों के नेता महामहिम दलाई लामा के साथ मंच पर बैठे थे। उन्होंने व्यवहार में बदलाव लाने में धर्मों की शक्ति और महत्व के बारे में चर्चा की। उन्होंने हर व्यक्ति के मन और मस्तिष्क के साथ—साथ समुदायों और गांवों में स्वच्छता की आवश्यकता को महत्वपूर्ण बताया। इन सभी धार्मिक नेताओं ने कहा कि पर्यावरण के संरक्षण के साथ—साथ सबके लिए वाश सुविधाओं में सुधार की आवश्यकता को पूरा करने के लिए तत्काल मिलकर काम करना होगा। उन्होंने जल आशीर्वाद की रस्म भी निभाई। बौद्ध मत में वाश संबंधी एक पुस्तिका की पहली प्रति भी महामहिम दलाई लामा को भेंट की गई। ■

धार्मिक नेताओं के साथ काम क्यों?

जीआईडब्ल्यूए इंडिया ने पहली बार विश्व के विभिन्न धर्मों और मतों को ऐसे विश्व की रचना के प्रयासों में जोड़ा है जिसमें हर इंसान को सुरक्षित पेयजल, बेहतर स्वच्छता और साफ—सफाई की सही आदतें सुलभ हों। दुनिया भर में वाश को बढ़ावा देने में धार्मिक समुदायों की सफलता सिद्ध हो चुकी है और भारत में करीब 99 प्रतिशत आबादी किसी—न—किसी धर्म की अनुयायी है।

इससे पता चलता है कि इस संकट के समाधान में धार्मिक आस्था कितनी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकती है। जीआईडब्ल्यूए विभिन्न मतों और धर्मों के नेताओं को एकजुट करती है, अन्य संबद्ध पक्षों को जागरूक करती है, व्यवहार में बदलाव के संदेश फैलाती है और लोगों से संपर्क करती है। इसके साथ—साथ फील्ड में वाश से संबंधित उपाय अपनाती है तथा सरकार के साथ नीतिगत हिमायत करती है।

¹भारत की जनगणना 2011 <http://www.census2011.co.in/religion.php>

International Women's Day Seminar organized at Aligarh Muslim University

U N-AMU-UN WOMEN Seminar expands knowledge frontier on SDGs

8 March is International Women's Day, a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.

In India, celebrations of IWD stretched throughout the whole month of March.

On 7 March, United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan (UNIC) collaborated with the Maulana Azad Library of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), UN-WOMEN & AMU's Advanced Centre for Women's Studies, to celebrate International Women's Day by organizing a Seminar on "Agenda 2030 – Expanding the Knowledge Frontier" on 7th March 2017, at the Cultural Hall, Maulana Azad Library, AMU, Aligarh.

Built around the theme for International Women's Day 2017 'Women in the Changing World of Work', the Seminar highlighted that all the 17 SDGs were inextricably linked with the progress of women; gender is a major cross-cutting issue in AGENDA 2030. The Seminar at AMU aimed at informing the students about the Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs) and emphasising the importance of true gender equality, promoting women's rights and increasing their participation in issues of peace and development.

In his inaugural address AMU's Vice-Chancellor Lt. General Zameer Uddin Shah highlighted the University's policy of gender equality and the importance of providing equal opportunities for women and girls. Declaring himself to be a feminist, UNIC Director Derk Seghaar set the tone for the seminar; emphasising that gender equality - and the ideas, creativity and brainpower women had to offer - were crucial to achieving the SDGs. Chief Guest Dr. Syeda Saiyidain Hameed, Former Member of the erstwhile Planning Commission delivered the Keynote Address highlighting inspiring examples of the inordinate achievements of women in attaining equality.

The first Panel Discussion on 'Women in the World of Work' was presided by AMU Pro Vice-Chancellor Brig. Syed Ahmad Ali. Expert speakers included in the session were: Dr. Meera Khanna, Vice-President-Guild for Service who highlighted the plight of women in the work force and the need for additional services to be targeted to them to enable them to work and be treated as equals; In

her impassioned presentation Ms. Trisha Shetty, CEO & Founder SHESAYS, spoke of the struggle of women against violence, and gender discrimination. Trisha who is also SDG-5 global youth advocate also spoke of difficult issues such as marital rape and several issues where women's choice was often curbed. Ms. Ajita Tiwari Padhi, National Facilitator, Indian Network on Ethics & Climate Change spoke on how climate change was increasing the vulnerability of women and was directly hurting their economic and social progress.

The second session on 'Women in the Changing World' was chaired by Prof. Nighat Ahmad, Director, Advanced Centre for Women's Studies. This session showcased AMU staff and students as speakers. Prof. A.R. Vijapur spoke extensively on CEDAW. The highlight of this session were the three student speakers who spoke on different aspects of women issues: Ms. Aleena Khan spoke on women in AMU; Ms Aiman Jafri spoke on women and entitlement and Mr. Faizan Anwar on Women in the 21st Century.

Attended by over 200 participants the excitement at AMU on this seminar was palpable. Over 60 media articles in Hindi, Urdu and English highlighted the event. ■



Film Festival shines light on Women facing Disability

Special edition of We Care Film Fest marks IWD 2017

To mark International Women's Day (IWD), UN in India, in collaboration with the We Care Film Festival, screened several films on Women and Disability at the UN Conference Hall on 9 March 2017.

The physically impaired and disabled community is attributed a negative identity by society, and much of their social life is a struggle against this imposed image.

UNIC Director, Derk Segar welcomed the gathering and shared his thoughts about cinema as a powerful medium for educating masses and bringing a behavioral change in their practices and attitudes towards the differently abled. Over the years, the We Care Film Festival has been particularly effective in changing people's perceptions and uprooting societal stereotypes.

Our panelists for the day, Ms. Stuti Kacker, Chairperson, The National Commission for Protection of Child



Photos: UNIC/Manoharan

Rights, Dr. Anita Ghai, Professor, Ambedkar University and Ms. Vidushi Chaturvedi, Joint CCA, Department of Telecommunication, Shillong, Ministry of Communication, Government of India shared their views about the need to change the context in which we look at disabilities. Dr. Ghai's proposal about introducing a Disability Study Programme at the Ambedkar

University as a strategy to generate more awareness and knowledge, found wide encouragement from the audience.

Films can be used as a powerful catalyst for spreading information about issues in the disability community, but more importantly, they illustrate the power of hope and perseverance. As the world endeavours towards progress, the real test will be in how we treat people with disabilities. ■



SURVEY 2017

UNews Survey 2017

UNIC New Delhi's monthly newsletter, UNEWS has been instrumental in disseminating information on the United Nations to a wide variety of audiences.

In our efforts to understand and cater to the needs of our audience better, we have designed this survey to collect your thoughts, opinions, and recommendations with us. Please tick your preferred choices in the questions below.

What type of information in the newsletter do you find the most interesting and useful?

- News about UN activities at the global level
- Messages from the Secretary-General
- Opinion pieces from high-level UN representatives
- UN events in India
- Work of UN agencies in India
- In-depth articles about development challenges and solutions in India

How would you rate the relevance of the written content of the newsletter?

- Highly Positive
- Positive
- Neutral
- Negative
- Highly Negative

How would you rate quality of the written content of the newsletter?

- Highly Positive
- Positive
- Neutral
- Negative
- Highly Negative

How would you rate the relevance of the visual content of the newsletter?

- Highly Positive

- Positive
- Neutral
- Negative
- Highly Negative

How would you rate the quality of the visual content of the newsletter?

- Highly Positive
- Positive
- Neutral
- Negative
- Highly Negative

How would you rate the overall design of the newsletter?

- Highly Positive
- Positive
- Neutral
- Negative
- Highly Negative

Have you been receiving your copy of the newsletter regularly?

- Yes
- No

How often would you like to receive our newsletter?

- Monthly
- Once in two months
- Quarterly

How would you like to read our newsletter?

- Print Version
- Online

Are there any suggestions or comments that you would like to share with us?

About You

Age :

- Under 18
- 18-30
- 30-45
- 45-60
- 60 and above

- Business and Corporations
- NGOs and Civil Society
- Media
- Other -----

State of Residence: _____

City of Residence: _____

Field of Occupation:

- Government or government organizations
- Diplomatic Community
- Research organizations and Think-tanks
- Educational institutions and Academia

How long have you been receiving the UNIC newsletter?

- Less than 6 months
- 1 - 2 years
- 2 - 5 years
- 5 - 10 years
- More than 10 years

Please complete this survey online at <https://goo.gl/forms/YcNz79onjHmQBkYV2>

If you do not have access to the Internet, please send the completed survey to us at:

**"UNEWS SURVEY, The Director, United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan,
55, Lodi Estate, New Delhi-110003.**

ROVING REPORTER

Photos: UNIC/S. Dhillon



Amb. Vijay Nambiar launches India and United Nations 70th Anniversary Book



2 4 March 2017 marked the launch of *Seven Decades and Beyond: The UN-India Connect*, a commemorative volume that traces the history of India's association with the United Nations over a span of seventy years. Held at the India International Centre Auditorium, the book launch was attended by representatives of the government, members of the diplomatic community, the media, academia, civil society, corporate partners, and UN staff.

The Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker of the event, Ambassador Vijay Nambiar, held the post of Chef de Cabinet to the former Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, and served as his Special Advisor on Myanmar. Along with Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India, and

Mr. Derk Segar, Director of the United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan, Amb. Nambiar formally launched the book. He addressed the audience with highlights of the history of the United Nations, and illustrated India's continued engagement with the UN by using three examples of young Indian individuals and organisations who were trying to tackle global concerns in inspiring new ways.

The UN-India 70 volume, printed by Niyogi Press, highlights India's role as co-founder of the UN and explores Indian foreign policy at the UN, different UN partnerships and outreach in India, and the histories and highlights of all the UN organizations operating in the country. At the heart of the volume lie eight memoirs by distinguished Indians who have made history at the highest levels



of the United Nations: Dr. Kiran Bedi, Mr. Virendra Dayal, Mr. Nitin Desai, Ambassador Chinmaya Gharekhan, Ambassador Arundhati Ghose, Lt. General Satish Nambiar, Ambassador Hardeep Puri and Dr. Shashi Tharoor. Excluding Ghose, who passed away last year and Amb. Puri who was out of country, the other six contributors participated in a panel discussion, moderated by veteran foreign affairs journalist, Ms. Suhasini Haider.

The panel discussion ranged widely from balancing Indian and global identities and interests, to the current and future role of the UN in multilateral affairs, India's contributions to peacekeeping, and the economic and social aspects of the UN's work. Each eminent individual shared their experiences and insights based on questions by Ms. Haider. For example, Dr. Bedi addressed the evolution of UN peacekeeping and stressed the importance of the CCIT, a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism, that would provide a clear definition of terrorism.

Dr. Tharoor analysed India's role at the UN, concluding by saying, "I frankly believe there is no alternative to the UN, but I definitely believe the UN can be improved... There is no other institution in the world that brings together every single country on the planet in a shared collective enterprise of universal aspiration." ■

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