


# ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



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Disha works at the field level in two districts of two States of India – Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Its field work covers almost 200 villages, spread over eight development blocks in Saharanpur and Haridwar districts. Many of these villages are situated in very challenging locations. It is known for its work in the domain of women empowerment.

# राष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस कार्यक्रम

## 8 मार्च 2022

योजक : दिशा सामाजिक संगठन  
नपुर - चिलका, जिला सहरनपुर (उ०प्र०)

### Vision

To establish an equitable society where there is no discrimination on the basis of gender, race, religion and caste and which provides equal social, economic and political opportunities.

### Mission

To mobilise women, poor, marginalised and weaker sections into sustainable groups so as to achieve their social, economic and political empowerment.

### Values

- Dedication and Professionalism
- Innovation and respect for the needs of our partners in change
- Social responsibility
- Honesty and transparency
- Accountability

इसे कमजोर  
बढ़ी ही ये  
सक धरती स  
हर इक फा  
पहाड़ का भी  
मरज है शेर की  
मौहबत से जो  
गर नाफ  
वो दिन अ  
तलनी को  
पिलाकर दु  
वो ही फरारे

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SOCIAL C

# Chairperson's Message

**L**AST year I had written in my introductory remarks how COVID pandemic wreaked havoc on citizens. As this reporting year began, we had before us second wave of the pandemic that was many times deadlier than the first wave. Apart from taking a huge toll of people, this wave impacted the people in many ways: loss of livelihoods, digital divide in education, family stress, violation of human rights and a host of psychological problems for the people.

According to estimates, about 15 crore people lost their livelihood. Of these nearly 75 per cent were small traders, nearly 15 per cent were salaried people, and about 10 per cent were self-employed. The unemployment rate reached at a record high of 27 per cent. The two lockdowns led to a widespread feeling of job insecurity. Most of the people in the low-income groups were most affected and women were more concerned than men about losing their jobs. People were forced to take low paying jobs.

The two lockdowns adversely impacted the education system. The educational authorities were forced to think of innovative measures to keep the system functioning. This meant a sudden transition to online learning. Apart from its inherent weaknesses, online learning was severely limited by digital divide, posing problems for many students and teachers. Those living in rural areas found it very difficult to attend online classes due to lack of smart phones, what to say of tablets and laptops and poor Internet connectivity.

COVID pandemic impacted family life positively and negatively both. On the positive side there was an increase in family time, stronger bonds between couples and simple marriages. On the flip side, increase in family violence and stress between separated family members were seen. Human rights of people were violated in the name of enforcing lockdown.

People faced so many psychological problems that their behaviour towards each other changed completely. People attacked many medical and paramedical personnel. They refused to help victims of the COVID pandemic. Many people showed signs of anxiety, depression and stress. Spatial isolation, social and economic discord and quarantine contributed to depression. Suicidal thoughts and tendencies could be seen.

Though the second wave of the pandemic was very severe, the worst was over in about two months. Gradually, the country and the people started limping back to normal. Let's pray that there is no third wave of the pandemic!



**Poornima Jain**  
*Chairperson*

# Director's Message

The year 2021-22 began with a complete lockdown since 5 April due to second wave of COVID-19. This time the wave was many times deadlier as compared to the first wave. There was a mayhem. People in large numbers were infected with the deadly virus. The severity of infection was tremendous. Hospitals, medicines and facilities fell acutely short. The much-needed oxygen for administering to the needy patients was nowhere to be found. People in large numbers died. There were long queues for cremation and burial of the dead. The environment was deadly. We lost our Governing Board member Rehtu Lal during this period. He might have been snatched from us by the deadly disease because he could not be taken to the hospital.



Like previous year this year too all the economic activities came down to a halt. Already reeling under the burden of deprivation of last year, this year's lockdown came as a hard blow to the people. And this time they were left to fend off themselves. There were no waivers or temporary reliefs from the government. The only relief available to the masses was free ration from the government's public distribution system, and philanthropic measures by the good Samaritans. We also distributed a few hundred food kits.

When the deaths started declining, the lockdown was lifted in phases beginning 15 June as the people reeled under economic hardships. Gradually, economic activities came back on rail. But activities in educational institutions took a long time to restart. Government had started vaccination of people against coronavirus from 1 January 2021 and even before people below 60 years could be covered there was deadly wave of COVID-19. There was an atmosphere of gloom everywhere.

As the year inched towards end, we had good news. Edelgive Foundation extended support to us under GROW Fund for organisation development so the organisation became future ready. We are among 100 organisations all over India to get this support.

In the end, I thank our donors – Misereor, Youthreach, IIMPACT and Edelgive Foundation – which continued to have faith in us and funded different projects. Next, I thank stakeholders like government officials and employees, bank officials and employees, local leadership, medical staff, etc., for their continued support. I also thank our staff members who have worked very hard in sun, rain and cold towards fulfilment of our vision. Lastly, I express my gratitude to the community members, who listen to us for their betterment.

**KN Tiwari**  
*Director*

## Programmes at Saharanpur



### Tackling Violence against Women

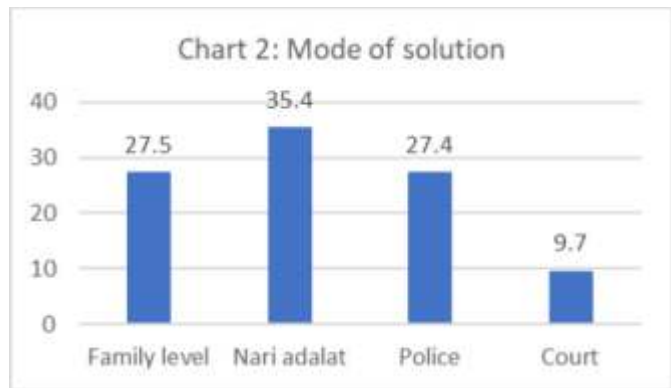
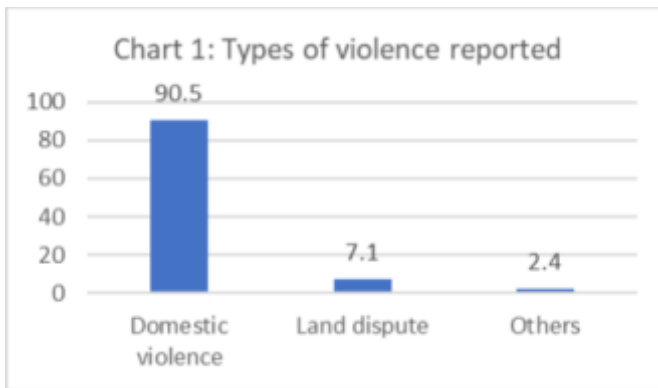
**V**IOLENCE against women occurs in many forms – domestic violence, mental abuse, physical abuse, rape, property dispute, etc. Most of the time, the victims do not know whom to reach out for getting relief, do not have courage to do so, and do not have a helping hand. Disha is providing relief to the victims of violence in its area of operation.

Of all the women approaching the organisation for seeking relief from violence during the year under reporting, 90.5 per cent suffered from domestic violence, 7.1 per cent from violence related to land dispute and the rest from other forms of violence (chart 1).

The women cell provided a helping hand to the victims. Over a quarter of the cases, that is, 27.4 per cent cases were resolved with its intermediation at the family level itself. Another 35.5 per cent cases were resolved with the intermediation of the nari adalat (women’s court). The women cell helped 27.4 per cent victims to seek the help of the police and 9.7 per cent victims to seek help of the court to resolve their grievances (chart 2).

In the beginning of the year 34 cases were carried forward from the previous year.

Nari adalat (women’s court) is a robust mechanism to address violence against women. It is held on 10th of every month at the Training Centre and is a supportive platform for women suffering from violence.



## Stories from Women Cell

### Dispute on Dowry

Twenty-one-year-old Rahmani, resident of Sultanpur-Chilkana, was married to Saddam, resident of Badgaon village during COVID lockdown. Soon after the marriage, her in-laws started taunting her for not bringing enough dowry. This too even though Rahmani's mother had very clearly told her daughter's in-laws before the marriage that she did not have anything to give as dowry as her father was not keeping well. Yet Rahmani's mother gifted enough household items during the marriage. The verbal taunts and abuse turned into physical violence, and they started thrashing her badly. One day, they sent Rahmani back to her home.

At this stage Rahmani and her mother approached the women cell and gave a handwritten application narrating her tale of woes. The woman cell conducted a fact finding at Badgaon village and found the incident to be true. The cell functionaries asked the Rahmani's parents, her husband and in-laws to come down to the nari adalat. During the nari adalat, the functionaries heard both the parties carefully and did their counselling. Rahmani's husband and in-laws were told that seeking dowry was an offence punishable with prison and fine. After a few rounds of counselling and warnings, the husband and in-laws reached an agreement and promised not to harass her. Rahmani returned to her marital home and lived happily since then.

### Dud Usurps Wife's Hard-Earned Money

Mother of three children, one of whom is disabled, 30 years old Sangeeta was married to Shivlal of Kutubpur village nearly 10 years ago. At the time of marriage Shivlal was not doing anything. When Sangeeta started pestering Shivlal to work, he started abusing and thrashing her. Fed up with this, she started working herself as she was Intermediate pass. Over a period, she managed to save ₹ 1 lakh in her bank account. Somehow, Shivlal got a wink of the savings and usurped that money. After this, he expelled Sangeeta and children from the home.





Accompanied with her brother and sister-in-law, Sangeeta contacted the women cell and told her story. After taking a written application, the women cell team visited Kutubpur village and enquired the case. Parents and in-laws of Sangeeta were asked to come down to nari adalat for a solution. Both the parties were heard, and husband and in-laws were told not to harass Sangeeta further. It was decided that a joint account would be opened in the name of Sangeeta and her husband, and the latter would deposit the money in this account. Shivlal was asked to work and earn money for running the family. After a few rounds of counselling, both the feuding parties arrived at an agreement, promising their differences. Follow-up revealed that Sangeeta was happily living in her in-laws' home.

### **Husband Denies Household Expenses**

Pooja, a resident of Sultanpur-Chilkana, was married to Pawan Kumar of Bilaspur. All was well till a few months after the marriage. But then issues started cropping up between Pooja and Pawan over household expenses. Pawan, a daily wage labourer, was spending all his earnings on him and did not give a penny to his wife. The flashpoint came when Pooja fell ill, and she was denied treatment. She brought this into the notice of her parents, who talked to Pawan's parents, but the things did not improve. Fed-up with daily fights, Pooja returned to her parental home.

Now Pooja contacted the women cell. After taking the written application, fact-finding was done. Both the parties were asked to come down to the nari adalat to resolve the case. Family members of both Pooja and Pawan were heard and counselled. During the counselling Pawan agreed to give some amount every month to Pooja for household expenses. Both the families promised to bury their differences and entered into a written agreement. Now Pooja is living happily in her marital home and Pawan is regularly giving her money for household expenses.



## Advocacy for the Rights of Women

**D**ISHA regularly sensitises different stakeholders like government officials, health department, education department, police, print and electronic media to support the organisation's endeavour for promoting rights of women in its area of operation.

Two one-day workshops on prevention of violence against women and advocacy for women's rights were organised for the members of School Management Committees. The first was held at the Training Centre on 19 November 2021 and the second at the office of Sadholi Qadeem block on 27 November 2021. In both the workshops 36 members each participated.

Detailed information about various laws challenging violence against women (like Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, Female Infanticide Prevention Act, 1994, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, and Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 2017) and various helpline number (Woman Helpline No. 181, Women's Emergency Service No. 1090, Police Emergency Service No. 100, National Emergency Service No. 112, Ambulance Service No. 102, Accident Health Services No. 108, Fire Emergency Service No. 101, and Chief Minister's Portal No. 1076) was also given. Open session brought out some interesting dimensions, and the participants vowed to challenge violence against women wherever they saw.

A one-day workshop on violence against women was organised for media persons and members of voluntary organisations. Around 50 media personalities and members of voluntary organisations participated in the workshop. The speakers at the workshop highlighted various aspects of violence against women and laid emphasis on the need of educating girls to combat violence against women.



## Promotion of Gender Equity and Equality

**D**ISHA promotes gender equity and equality through several activities - street plays, puppet shows, rallies of youths, sensitisation workshops, exposure visits, interaction meeting with government and non-governmental agencies, etc. Three art and speech competitions were organised in as many educational institutions (high school and intermediate standards) of the area:

- The first competition was organised at the BSM Inter College, Patna. Fifty students participated. In art competition, Tanisha came first, Siddharth K second and Khushi third. In speech competition, Monish was first, Mantasha second and Anshul third.
- The second competition was organised at Himalayan International School, Sultanpur-Chilkana. Sixty students participated. In art competition, Kashish Ali came first, Sheen second and Payal Saini third. In speech competition, Samayara was first, Shaili second and Amika third.
- The third competition was organised at Himalayan International School, Sultanpur-Chilkana. Forty students participated. In art competition Saniya came first, Naina second and Hazra third. In speech competition, Shaili was first, Naziya second and Suhana third.

Principal of BSM Inter College Shyam Singh Saini lauded efforts of Disha and exhorted all the people to end violence against women. Principal of Himalayan International School Sarita Gard said that Disha helped several victimised women in getting justice and underlined the fact that the society needed to bring a change in its attitude towards women. Principal of Saraswati Devi School praised efforts of Disha and said that such programmes should be organised from time to time in



## Education for Adolescent Muslims Girls

**E** DUCATION centres for adolescent Muslim girls continued in the 15 villages till December 2021. The centres remained closed from January 2022 onwards. During the year under reporting, 296 girls passed 5th standard. In all 129 girls took admission in 6th standard and continued with their studies.

Their report cards were given during the kishori mela (adolescent girls' fair) organised on 30 December 2021. Girls, their parents, teachers and Disha staff participated in the fair. A cultural programme was organised by the adolescent girls of all the centres on the occasion. They presented patriotic songs, role play, najam and group dance.

One-day refresher training was organised for the teachers of education centres at the Training Centre on 21 August 2021. Fifteen teachers, coordinator of education programme and three resource persons participated in the programme. During the training the teachers were exhorted to work harder to make up for the loss of education during 2020 and 2021 due to COVID.

Throughout the year, parents' meetings were organised every month in all the education centres to discuss students' attendance, progress and management of centre, girls' health, gender, violence against women and women rights. Extra-curricular activities like mehndi, showpieces, toys, flowers, flowerpots, tailoring, knitting and games were organised in all the 15 education centres.



## Health Interventions among Young Women and Girls

**H**EALTH interventions are being carried out among young women and girls in 10 selected villages on a pilot basis. A group of adolescent girls and another group of young women have been formed in each village and each group has 15 to 20 members. These group members meet once in a month to discuss their health problems and get valuable knowledge about personal health and hygiene.

Health camps for haemoglobin test of young women and adolescent girls were organised from 16 December to 25 December 2021. Dr Meha Singh, Dr Sanjay Kumar of Star City Diagnostic Centre and field staff conducted the haemoglobin tests and gave important information to women and girls about their health. Average haemoglobin amount (g/dL) in case of women was found to 10.12 as against normal range of 12 to 16 and in case of adolescent girls 9.97 as against normal range of 10 to 15.5. Health interventions benefitted 1,216 women and adolescent girls in the project villages.

Two refresher training for health volunteers were organised at the Training Centre on 26 August 2021 and 29 November 2021. During the training the volunteers presented the work they had done. They were given information on various health schemes, distribution of iron, calcium and albendazole pills, vaccination, etc. Discussion on menstrual hygiene, use of sanitary pads in place of cloth, taking care of proper diet during adolescence was held. Information on ante- and post-

## Interventions with SHGs

**D**URING the year under reporting seven self-help groups were formed in the project area for economic and social empowerment of women. SHGs play an important role in inculcating habit of savings and providing easy loan to the needy rural women at the village level.

These SHGs and three others formed earlier were provided one-day training for their strengthening at their doorsteps. Role of SHG office-bearers and members for successful operation and strengthening of groups was discussed in these training. These training also discussed proper maintenance of savings record, updating of documents, writing minutes of meetings, regular recovery of loans and income generation.



## Producers' Organisation Development and Training

**T**O FURTHER strengthen the women farmers' producer organisation, registered as Progressive Women Farmers' Producer Co. Ltd., several training and exposure visits were organised. A training for the staff and office-bearers of the FPO was organised on 15 July 2021. Twenty-seven people participated in the training. External and internal resource persons conducted the training.

FPOs enable farmers get seeds, fertilisers and pesticides in appropriate rates. For this, an input shop will be opened in the area for FPO members. This shop will provide agricultural inputs on fair prices, so the farmers do not fall in the clutches of middlemen. An agriculture expert will be appointed in the input shop to solve problems of the farmers. Services of Krishi Vigyan Kendra will also be taken.

One day exposure visit for the producers associated with Progressive Women Farmers' Producers Co. Ltd. on 23 September 2021. The 15 producers visited two progressive FPOs, one at Nayagaon village and another at Bandukhedi village.

The FPO at Nayagaon village had 1,010 members and was engaged in purchasing wheat and rice from farmers and selling it to big companies for good price, enabling farmers get good value for their produce. It supplies farm machinery to the farmers for very less rent. It has set up a food



processing unit which produces pulses, mustard oil and groats and sells them under the FPO brand name. Its members also cultivate organic vegetables.

On the other hand, the FPO at Bandukheri village had 1,000 members. It was engaged in production of organic manure and pesticides, so the farmers got maximum benefit. Organic crop was also being cultivated in the FPO's campus.

One day conference of the FPO members was organised on 24 September 2021 at the Training Centre to inform the members about the latest development and to make future strategies. One

## Strengthening of CBOs and Good Governance

**M**AHILA Mazdoor Evam Laghu Kisan Sangathan (Women Labourers and Small Farmers Organisation) is an overarching organisation of the people in Disha's operational area. Under it there are Area Level Morcha Committees (ALMCs) and Steering Committees (SCs).

These community-based organisations are active all the time to serve the rural people by providing them timely and updated information regarding government schemes and policies like MNREGA, ration cards, right to information (RTI), right to education (RTE), widow and old age pensions, financial aid for daughter's marriage, financial aid for constructing house, farmers' registration for agriculture support, solar light, construction labour welfare scheme, etc. They are playing crucial role in ensuring access of people to their entitlements and keeping an eye over the selection of the beneficiaries for different government schemes and programmes.

During the year under reporting, they ensured entitlements to 1,827 villagers and ensured



infrastructural development in the villages. Morcha village level meetings are held every month in each village and Morcha central meeting is held on 24th of every month at the Training Centre. Issues and concerns of their villages are discussed, and strategies developed to deal with it in a reasonable time frame.

One-day training of Area Level Committee and Steering Committee was organised on 18 September 2021. Another one-day training for the representatives of CBOs on violence against women and women's equality was organised on 26 October 2021. Village level training for village level steering committee of the organisation were held from 14 December to 31 December 2021. These meetings had a participation of 1,144 people.

## Folk Media Communication

**U**NDER this, the theatre group performs several theme-based plays in rural/urban areas of Saharanpur district for making people aware of different social issues, government policies and schemes, such as MNREGS, PDS, RTI, panchayati raj, communal harmony, women's land and property rights, self-help groups, gender and women violence, dowry, liquor and drug addiction, mother and child healthcare and adolescent Muslim girl's education. The team has 20 artistes.

During the reporting period, the theatre group performed very rarely. In the beginning of the reporting year, deadly wave of COVID pandemic and accompanying lockdown meant no activity for at least three months. Even when the situation improved, gatherings had to be avoided for at least three more months. Thereafter, the team performed mainly during events related to promotion of gender equity and equality. During the last three months of the reporting period, performance of the team could not be held due Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly elections..





## Social Harmony

**D**ISHA's operational area has a mixed population of Hindus and Muslims who have lived peacefully for most of the time. As an organisation working with every section of the society, it's our duty to maintain peace, communal and social harmony in the area. We organise many programmes, seminars and celebrate various festivals every year to build communal harmony in the area.

Due to raging coronavirus pandemic many events like Roza Iftari and Eid Milan could not be organised as they fell during the lockdown. Holi Milan was organised on 17 March 2022. This programme provided a cheerful environment to the participants in a rather grim year due to large

## Advocacy for the Rights of Women Farmers (Aaroh Campaign)

**A**ROH campaign is a programme designed for providing the status of 'Women Farmer' to the women doing agriculture, their equal right in land and property, and joint name in land records and bank accounts to enable them to avail all the facilities available for farmers. Neither the society nor government recognise the women as farmers, though 80 per cent of agricultural activities are carried out by women farmers, but they are not recognised as farmer.

This campaign is being run in 20 villages of Sarsawa and Sadholi Qadeem blocks of Saharanpur district. Meetings are organised in the villages with women farmers on the issues of land rights and are given information on productive seeds, organic farming, equipment, soil test, vermi-compost,



fertilisers, and insecticides. For supporting women farmers, a women farmers' resource centre has been established at Disha.

National women farmers' day was celebrated on 16 and 17 October 2021 in four villages Mandora, Dashamajra, Chako and Patni villages. In all 219 women farmers participated in the celebration. Awareness was created among the women farmers about their rights.

## Human Resource Capacity Building Training

**O**NE day refresher training programme on the issue of violence against women and gender equality was organised at the Training Centre on 27 August 2021. A total of 24 participants including para legal workers, coordinators and resource persons/coordinators participated in the training.

## COVID Relief

**I**NDIA was under complete lockdown from 5 April to 15 June due to the deadly wave of COVID-19. This wave of COVID caused havoc on an unprecedented scale and several hundred thousand people died in its wake.

Six hundred very poor families were provided dry ration packed in bags. Each ration bag included wheat 5 kg flour, 2 kg rice, 1 kg gram flour, 2 kg sugar, 250 g tea leaves, 1 kg salt, 1 kg pulses, 1 kg white gram, 100 g red chilli powder, 100 g turmeric powder, 100 g coriander powder, 1 kg mustard oil and two bars of soap.



The beneficiaries were from 57 villages. They included 357 extremely poor families, 164 widows and 58 disabled. These beneficiaries were happy to get the relief bags because they were facing lot of problems in feeding their families. There was no employment as people had lost jobs in the lockdown and they were facing financial problems.

Additionally, masks, soaps and handwashes were distributed among 1,045 families in 44 villages. A total of 2,090 masks were distributed at the rate of two masks per family. We also distributed 410 masks among adolescent girls during adolescent girls' fair organised at the training Centre. In all 1,728 soaps were also distributed among 864 extremely poor families for maintaining hygiene so that they could fight corona virus.

## Disha Networking

**D**ISHA organised the following meetings and workshops in collaboration with other organisations or its staff attended the events held by other organisations during the reporting period:

- Aali and Disha staff jointly visited Disha's operational area to study women violence related cases on 30 July 2021
- National Alliance for People's Movements and Disha jointly organised a campaign to create awareness on freedom struggle and Indian Constitution in five villages – Alipura, Pather, Mandora, Badgaon and Bhojpur – on 9 August 2021
- Oxfam (India) Trust organised a meeting at the Training Centre to discuss problems of sugarcane farmers on 18 August 2021
- Disha staff attended three days' online workshop on violence against women organised by Aman Network from 14 to 16 September 2021



- Disha staff attended national integration conference in Parcham organisation's office in Saharanpur organised by Bebak Collective on 21 September 2021
- Oxfam and Disha carried out a survey of dropout students in Katla Kala, Khushalpur and Badkalli villages from 10 to 20 October 2021
- Nehru Yuva Kendra organised a meeting at the Training Centre on 29 November 2021 to make the people aware of cleanliness and conservation of nature
- Disha staff participated in a conference organised by Oxfam on 10 December 2021 on the eve of Human Rights Day and discussed the problems of women farmers and their solutions
- Nehru Yuva Kendra organised a district level youth parliament on 24 December 2021 to make the youth aware of the government schemes

## Occasional and Regular Events

The following events are organised:

- Celebration of birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri on 2 October 2021
- Celebration of New Year on 1 January 2022
- Republic Day celebration on 26 January 2022
- International Women's Day celebration on 8 March 2022
- Holi Milan on 17 March 2022
- Girl icon programme launch on 22 March 2022

# Programmes at Haridwar



## Project Aarohan

**T**HE activities were badly affected during the first three months of year under reporting due to COVID-19 pandemic. But they picked up since July and the pace normalised in two-three months' time.

As against the target of formation of 25 SHGs, 26 new SHGs were formed with a membership 283 members. The cumulative number of SHGs reached up to 456 with a total strength of 5,036 women. Opening of bank accounts of SHGs proved to be tedious task because of change in banking procedures. Yet accounts of 24 SHGs were opened.

During the year under reporting, 5,036 women saved ₹ 59,60,720 and cumulative savings reached up to ₹ 3,32,61,000. SHG members borrowed ₹ 84,05,500 for various purposes like purchasing buffalos and cows for milk production, purchasing inputs for their petty enterprises, home construction and renovation, paying bills, paying school fees of children, medical expenses, spending in marriages and other occasions, etc. The borrowed money is repaid on monthly basis with an interest rate of 2 per cent per month.

In all 231 SHG members set up their small income generation activities by availing credit from different sources. They also invested their own money for their businesses. The total amount invested was ₹ 92,63,000, the average investment being ₹ 40,099 per member.

The concept of kitchen garden was introduced in Aarohan project last year to improve the health



of the SHG members by growing nutritional vegetables in the backyard of their homes. After getting success in kitchen garden programme last year, 54 more women were selected for the programme this year. The SHG members were made aware of the nutritional diet during the small sessions in monthly meetings of SHGs and village organisations. Seeds, saplings and plants of fenugreek, spinach, coriander, beat root, green chilli, tomato and carrot were distributed among the women.

During the year under reporting, two new village organisations were formed in the project area: Himmatwala Gram Sangathan and Nari Gram Sangathan.

Like previous years, the International Women's Day was celebrated by SHG women with great enthusiasm on 8 March 2022. On this occasion celebrations were organised at village organisation level. Women shared their success stories. They exchanged their experiences that how they developed their confidence and how they could speak to outside world.

During the year under reporting, three institutions supported Aroan project through their expertise:

- Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Dhanauri
- Food Processing Department, Roorkee
- Uttarakhand Gramin Bank, Manglaur

Krishi Vigyan Kendra imparted training promoting beekeeping among the rural youth and mushroom cultivation. Food Processing Department provided training on making various types of pickles like mango pickle, lemon pickle and green-chilli pickle and different kinds of pickles, jam, jelly and squashes. Bank officials from Uttarakhand Gramin Bank, Manglaur, organised an awareness session on insurance and saving schemes run by the government.



This year, a new activity was initiated in the project area to provide the benefits of various welfare schemes of the government to SHG members. The schemes included Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Sukanya Samraddhi Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana (Ayushman Card Yojna), Mudra Yojana and Livestock Insurance Scheme

Three project workers participated in a three-day Bankers' Training Programme held at Hotel Jahnavi Dale, Haridwar, from 21 to 23 December 2021.

SHG members from 12 villages participated in the Chief Minister's programme held at Jhabrera Mandi on 2 January 2022.

The project manager visited the District Development Officer's office at Haridwar on 10 February 2022 to make the officials aware of the problems being faced by SHG women in changing the office-bearers, opening the saving bank accounts of the SHGs, and sanctioning the cash credit limits (CCL) to SHGs.

A six-member team from Youthreach visited the project area on 23 and 24 November 2021 to observe the activities being done under Aarohan project in six villages.

## **IIMPACT Project**

**E** DUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES in all the learning centres continued during the year under reporting. The learning centres could not function during the first three months of the year under reporting due to COVID-19 pandemic. Yet the students studied through the worksheets. The teachers visited homes of the girls and got work done through the worksheets.

When the centres reopened in August, classes of the girls in groups of seven and eight started. The



studies began with teaching of two subjects. One day 15 girls were taught in the group of seven and eight girls and the next day another seven and eight. From January groups of 15 girls were taught and from March classes of all the 30 girls started.

Meetings of centre management committee was held at all the centre management committees in which community members were made aware of corona immunisation campaign.

Training of little scientists was organised in May 2021. This was done for two days through the Google meet. On the first day, the teachers were trained on small scientific project making. The next day discussion was held on how the teachers were to work with the children.

Little scientist project work was done with the children of class 3 to 5. During the little scientist project, the girls learnt how the scientists carried out research.

Child engagement plan was formulated for class 1 and 2. In this educated member of their family was requested to teach her as a volunteer. They taught counting and identification of colours to the girls through leaves, stones and colours.

In February 100-day Read India Campaign was started. In this campaign the girls were divided into three groups. The first group included those girls which could hardly read. The second group included the girls who could read small words only. The third group included the girls who could read fluently. This programme ran till 14 weeks. At the end of the campaign, the level of reading improved.

Cultural programmes on Children's Day on 14 November, International Girls' Day on 11 October, Republic Day on 26 January and International Women's Day on 8 March were organised.



# Resource Providers and Networks

## Our Donors and Resource Providers

- MISEREOR, Germany
- Youth Reach and AIS Glass Ltd.
- IIMPACT
- Edelgive Foundation

## Our Networks

- Voluntary Action Network of India (VANI)
- Uttar Pradesh Voluntary Action Network (UPVAN)
- Women Power Connect (WPC)
- VAMA Network
- Sahyog Network
- Sa-Dhan
- Sustainable Agriculture Network, Uttar Pradesh
- CIVICUS
- CWLR

# Governing Board

## **Poornima Jain, Chairperson**

With a masters' degree from Delhi University, she has been associated with Disha since its inception. She has a wealth of experience in international development and media.

## **KN Tiwari, Secretary**

Founder secretary and director of Disha, he has more than four decades of experience in social work. He is nationally and internationally famed for his contribution to the empowerment of small farmers, women, dalits and religious minorities.

## **Mohit Mittal, Treasurer**

He is a postgraduate in commerce and an MIS expert. He is the organisation's treasurer for the last four years.

## **Rajive Jain, Member**

Founder of CENDIT, working on development media and communication, he has wealth of experience in the development sector. He has donated land and building to Disha.

## **Anit Aggarwal**

He is an accounts professional and is associated as a member of the governing board for the last two years.

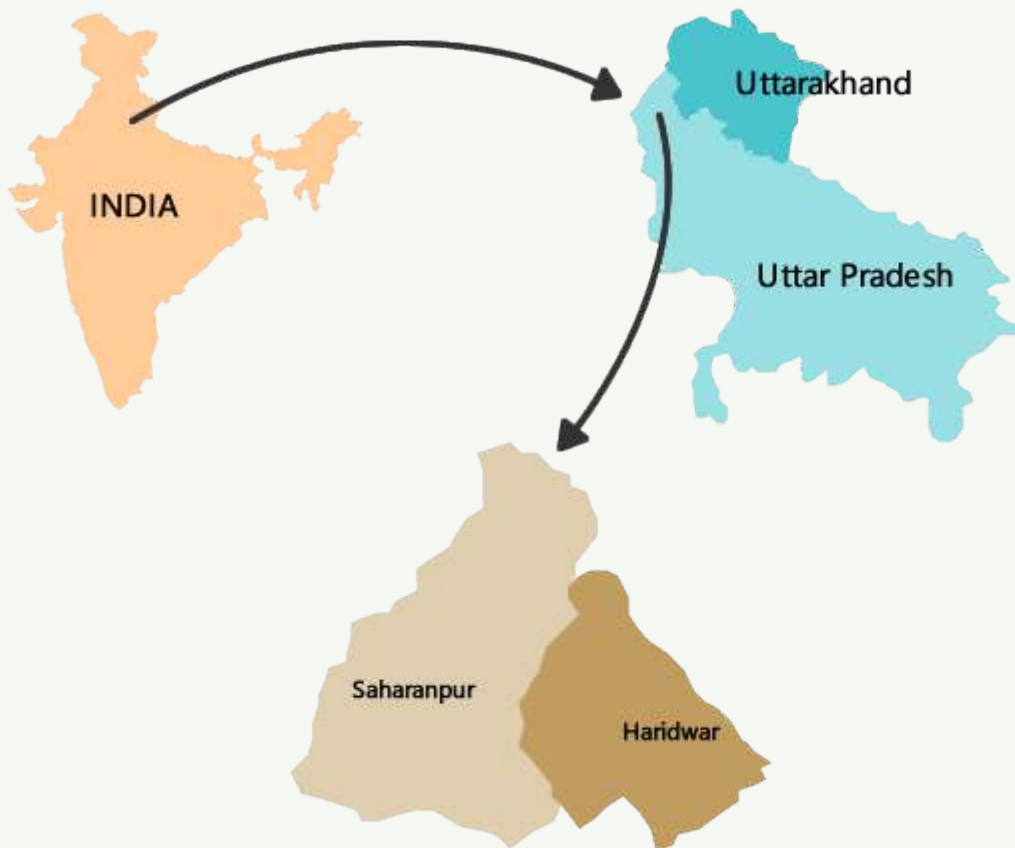
## **Rajjo Devi, Member**

She is a local activist and has served in the local council and is associated with Disha for about three decades.

## **Riyasat Ali, Member**

He is a local farmer and is associated with the organisation since its inception. He is one of the founder members of the organisation.

# Our Operational Area





*"Disha Training Centre is a place of hygienic, natural and healthy atmosphere, with boarding and lodging facilities for 60 people. You are invited to organise your meetings, workshops and training"*

**Disha Social Organisation**

Sultanpur-Chilkana

Saharanpur-247 231

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Website: <https://www.dishain.org>