

# KNOWLEDGE FROM BELOW



AJMER SIC FORUM MEMBERS WITH WARD NO 18 COUNCILLOR AT THE STATE CONSULTATION IN AJMER

## LEARNING TO BUILD A RESILIENT FUTURE



BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE AMONG ADOLESCENTS

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FELLOWS MILAN/ TEAM@PRIA/  
PROJECTS@PRIA

# LOCAL KNOWLEDGE, LOCAL LEADERS AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

This Annual Report for the 2019-20 financial year reaches you after more than four months of the COVID-19 pandemic in India and around the world. Therefore, while it was tempting to present our work of the past year, coloured by the 'new normal' of the current situation, we have highlighted our holistic methodology that creates capacity for self-action and self-renewal. This approach is circular, not linear; it is the essence of resilience...pandemic or not!

As you read this Annual Report, you will notice that PRIA's interventions have consistently and systematically focused on strengthening capacity of local leaders and institutions to take local responsibility for their own well-being. Such an approach has been founded on the core values of participatory research – those of valuing multiple sites of knowledge, capacity for agency and action, and recognising that everyone has the ability to learn and change.

In the past year, PRIA has harvested and disseminated local knowledge from urban informal settlements, to support their organisation and take informed

actions for sanitation and public hygiene at the city level. By most accounts, informal settlements provide shelter for informal sector workers; they generally remain invisible in municipal planning as local data (small, not big) is rarely available. The impact of this type of intervention has resulted in the urban poor community's capacity to act in a resilient, inclusive manner, when faced with a pandemic.

In many rural areas, investing in local panchayats' capacity to undertake inclusive planning of basic services, including health, has been a continued focus of PRIA's interventions over the past two decades. When maternal and child health services are planned with active leadership of women in the Gram Sabha, health service providers feel both motivated and accountable. As news about the virus came, spontaneous local actions in these panchayats demonstrated community resilience in face of uncertainty.

It is with similar perspectives that investing in capacities, orientations and leadership of adolescents and youth today

creates networks of future change agents. Personal and social constraints inhibit youth agency; overcoming these constraints and learning to engage with complexities of self and identity unleashes personal creativity and flexibility to deal with uncertain futures. Resilience is premised on capacity to learn, adapt and change.

PRIA's pedagogy of life-long learning is integrated in every programmatic intervention externally, and institutional mainstreaming internally. Learning new ways of working together entails unlearning some of the old ways. Real sustainable change is possible only then. Knowing about and investigating local realities provides impetus for such a change. Such a holistic perspective is supported by a methodology that organically integrates head, heart and hands – in learning, being and acting. Therefore, sports, arts, music, poetry, measurement and reflection are all methods of learning, being and acting in our approach to build resilience.

We remain mindful of the effects of the pandemic – on the communities we work with, on institutions (governance, educational, etc) and on our organisation. It has underscored how crucial, indispensable, and obligatory our mission and vision is – to build a safer, sustainable, more gender-equitable world.

In solidarity

Rajesh Tandon  
July 2020

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

# BUILDING COMMUNITY-LED PARTNERSHIPS



## MUZAFFARPUR: BEFORE AND AFTER THE RAINS

Made by Ananya  
Student of Class 9



## ENGAGED CITIZENS RESPONSIVE CITY

The Engaged Citizens Responsive City (ECRC) program has been implemented in Ajmer, Jhansi and Muzaffarpur since 2016. In the past year, investments were made in sustaining community based associations, city and state level partnerships, and advocacy for support to local resilience. Multi-stakeholder workshops, dialogues, and conferences were crucial mechanisms through which partnerships were fostered.

### **Strengthened and Active Community-Based Associations**

In the past couple of years, organisations of the urban poor (Settlement Improvement Committees, or SICs) were built and fostered in all three cities. In order to raise their voice in city-level planning processes and decision-making, SICs were federated into SIC Forums and SIC Forum leaders were included in city-wide Citizen Forums. The Citizen Forum is a multi-stakeholder platform, drawn

from residents across the city, from different professions and socio-economic backgrounds. Citizen Forum members includes RWAs, market associations, independent professionals like lawyers and doctors, educational institutions, retired bureaucrats and government officials.

Strengthening these Forums of urban poor and middle class brought visible energy, vigour and cohesion among citizens in Ajmer, Jhansi and Muzaffarpur. It also helped scale up their community-based actions and campaigns, and built better understanding between the municipal corporations and residents of the city. The Forum members built relationships with other local institutions such as schools, colleges, professional associations and market bodies, which will be useful in sustaining their activities in the future.

As in previous years, the SIC and Citizen Forums took the lead in celebrating various international days such as World Environment Day, World Cities Day and World Toilet Day. They managed partnerships with Lions Club, Inner Wheel Club, Rotary Club, mahila mandals and other community organisations to carry out the planned events. The focus of the events this year was on sapling plantation, cleanliness drives, and rallies and public campaigns for raising awareness. Women SIC members and children participated in a rally in Ajmer with the message of banning single use plastic in the city. A "toilet talk" was organised at a community toilet in Gulabbari area, with community members cleaning and decorating the community toilet premises. They thanked and honoured the sanitation workers in charge of cleaning and maintaining this community toilet, recognising the frontline services provided by

sanitation workers long before the pandemic that would grip their city a year later.

In Muzaffarpur, the SIC and Citizen Forum organised a Green Walk, to raise awareness on making Muzaffarpur a clean and green city. In Jhansi, the SIC members organised a Environment Protection and Waste Management Campaign from 4 June to 30 June 2019. The campaign was launched by Additional Municipal Commissioner, Jhansi Municipal Corporation, from the Corporation premises on the eve of World Environment Day. The campaign promoted the message of environmental conservation, segregation of waste, cleanliness and promoted use of individual toilets.

When the Ajmer SIC and Citizen Forums decided to hold a month-long Swachhta Hi Sewa (SHS) Pakhwara (Cleanliness is Service Campaign) in September 2019, they reached out to the municipality and other government departments for support. A joint rally with Ajmer Municipal Corporation, inaugurated by the city Mayor, was organised with the message of banning single use plastic and waste segregation. The SIC and Citizen Forums organised a bag making competition, in partnership with My Clean School Ajmer (MCSA). Students in 27 schools made about 1500 cotton bags with messages on them. On 2 October 2019, the students and schools who had made the best bags were felicitated in a prize distribution event organised on the lawns of Ajmer Club.



#SICForum City level forum of #InformalSettlements in @Muzaffarpur\_SCM creating awareness on various govt schemes & programs among #urbanpoor Community art is important medium of engagement and empowerment @PRIA\_India @PMOIndia @NITIAayog @NIUA\_India @MoHUA\_India @UNESCOchairCBR





Anasagar Lake is close to the hearts of the citizens of Ajmer. On summer evenings and winter afternoons, families spend time on the shores of the lake. The Ajmer Citizen Forum took initiative to promote awareness about cleaning and maintaining Anasagar Lake, motivating youth to clean up solid waste like plastic from the lake. Citizen Forum members from the Naka Madar area of the city, facilitated a training program on home composting with students and teachers from government schools in the area.

## Local Action For a Sustainable City

### Promoting decentralized waste management in Ajmer

Municipal Corporation of Ajmer has successfully implemented the collection of mixed waste from households in the city. In the absence of any processing, presently this mixed waste is being dumped at the Sendriya dumping ground outside the city.

This ever growing dumping is a pressing issue for the city as it causes pollution and is a threat to the underground water sources. While the Corporation awaits responses to its tender for a company to operate the city's centralised waste processing plant, Ajmer Citizen Forum decided to showcase decentralised management of waste in ward 38. They sought support from PRIA to orient sanitation workers and volunteers from the ward on various aspects of segregation of waste. The Citizen Forum undertook a house to house citizen education campaign. The ward's sanitation workers, Citizen Forum members and PRIA participated in distributing pamphlets to each household, knocking on doors to explain the need for localised waste management and seeking support from all citizens in the ward to segregate waste at source.

In ward 43 of Ajmer, the SIC members have created three compost pits on a pilot basis where wet waste from 5-10 households is taken for composting. These families have been provided two dustbins to segregate the waste at the household level. The organic waste goes to the compost pit, and the remaining non-organic waste is collected by municipal garbage trucks. The construction of the compost pits was completed on 27 December 2019, and the pits have been in use since 1 January 2020. There is an enthusiastic response in the informal settlements in the ward, with an increasing number of families interested in composting.

## Plastic Free Muzaffarpur

Under the leadership of Dr Vandana Vijayalakshmi, a university lecturer, the Citizen Forum of Muzaffarpur has set a goal to make Muzaffarpur plastic-free. The Forum raises awareness on the ill effects of single-use plastic in schools and colleges, and among community children, because the members believe that the biggest change makers are our children and youth. Students are asked to take a pledge that they will decrease the use of single-use plastic as much as possible and motivate their family members to also do so. The Citizen Forum has set up a stall where they sell cloth bags made by the women of informal settlements and motivate people to replace their plastic bags with the cloth bags. The bags are sold at a nominal price of Rs. 10.

## Reviving traditional wells in Muzaffarpur

When the Prime Minister of India announced his government's Jal Shakti Abhiyan on 15 August 2019, he stressed the need to rejuvenate traditional water bodies in our cities. The Citizen and SIC Forums in all the three ECRC cities were made aware of the guidelines of the Mission, and the Citizen Forums in all three cities undertook a survey of traditional water bodies. The findings were shared with the respective municipal corporations.

Muzaffarpur Citizen Forum counts the revival of a 100-year old well as one of its best achievements. The well had been filled with garbage for close to 20 years, neglected by the municipality. When they were unsuccessful in persuading municipal officials to include cleaning of the well in their annual budget, the Citizen Forum members took matters into their own hand. They 'crowdsourced' from the community nearly Rs 75,000. More importantly, they motivated community members to clear the garbage and plastic waste, and hired sanitation workers to clear the carcasses and silt that filled the 50-foot well. They rented tractors to remove all the garbage. The community plastered the floor and the walls around the well and put an iron net to cover the well opening. They also planted a Mahua tree and some other trees that are considered holy around the well. This was done in order to make the well a place of religious and cultural significance, so that people continue to take good care of it and keep it clean. Just after a week of cleaning the well, the water level rose significantly. While the water in the well is not potable, it can certainly be used for purposes like gardening, washing, etc.





After the successful revival of the well, the Muzaffarpur Citizen Forum has come up with ‘Mission 5000’, with the endeavour to maintain the green cover of Muzaffarpur by planting 5000 trees. Till early 2020, they had planted and were maintaining nearly 350 trees across the city.

For Anil Kumar, a jeweller by profession, who is an active member of the Muzaffarpur Citizen Forum, this mission is special because “we are motivating community members to join us in planting the trees and to take care of those trees like their own”.





Settlement improvement committees help those in need in times of corona crisis



By crowdfunding for food and groceries...



...and stitching and distributing masks.



Coming together to ensure that no one is left behind.



## Advocacy and Training for Inclusive Sanitation

A primary goal of the ECRC program is to generate evidence and advocate for inclusive sanitation in the cities of India, especially through building capacities of municipal staff.

In Ajmer, at the request of the Ajmer Municipal Corporation, PRIA organised a training of all staff members of the sanitation department. The Citizen and SIC Forums were instrumental in organising the circle wise trainings of jamadars, sanitation inspectors and Survekshan volunteers. The training program covered the process of home composting using earthen pot and pit composting and demonstration of composting. A total of 200 sanitation staff were trained in 10 rounds. A first-of-a-kind training for sanitation workers in the city, it was also an opportunity for sanitation workers from different wards to get to know each other. The workers, especially the women sanitation workers, raised their issues like timely payment of their salaries, lack of safety equipment, and the temporary nature of their employment.

A training program was also organised for the Ajmer division of Dainik Bhaskar newspaper staff, My FM team, AMC staff and My Clean School Ajmer volunteers. This event was facilitated on the premises of the municipal corporation. The complete process of home composting using a pot was explained and demonstrated using wet and dry waste.

Ajmer Municipal Corporation requested the city's SIC Forum to conduct a survey of waste pickers in the city. With PRIA's help, the SIC members carried out the survey, collecting information on the amount of waste the waste pickers are recycling and if they have access to various government welfare schemes.

PRIA collaborated actively with the municipalities, Citizen Forums and SIC Forums of the three cities during the Swachh Survekshan 2020. PRIA facilitated an interaction between the Deputy Commissioner of Ajmer Municipal Corporation, some engineers and ward councillors with Citizen and SIC Forum members. The Deputy Commissioner requested the Forums to help seek cooperation of the city's residents to take up segregation and composting of waste at home. The meeting also provided Forum members the space to raise various issues like irregularity in waste collection, and status of drains and parks. The AMC commissioner promised to resolve these issues and provided contact numbers of concerned officials whom Forum members could be in touch with to monitor progress. In Jhansi, PRIA supported an awareness campaign to increase citizen participation in which camps were held in collaboration with schools, colleges, informal settlements and other stakeholders.

City-level advocacy built the momentum to have conversations at the state and national levels. In the past year, three state level consultations "Putting Citizens at the Centre: Sustaining Improved Urban Sanitation Services" were organised in Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), Ajmer (Rajasthan) and Muzaffarpur (Bihar). The objective of these consultations was to explore solutions for the prevailing issues faced by the urban sanitation sector of the respective states, and how they can utilise innovative methods centred on citizen engagement and multi-stakeholder partnerships to solve these challenges.

A two-day National Conference on "Future of Urban Sanitation In India: Localising Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Secondary Cities" was organised on 27-28 February 2020 in New Delhi, in partnership with National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and Research and Information System (RIS) for Developing Countries. The conference was inaugurated by Shri. Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India. Bringing together nearly 100 policy makers, researchers and practitioners across governments, ULBs, parastatals, civil society organisations (CSOs), academia, media, corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes, resource providers and representatives from the communities, participants gained insights on how the future of urban sanitation in India can become inclusive, participatory, and sustainable.

The conference showcased scalable innovative solutions to address the challenges of inclusive and sustainable urban sanitation services; created a learning and knowledge platform by bringing together policy makers, researchers, experts, and practitioners on inclusive and sustainable urban sanitation services; and influenced policies and institutions to enhance the impact of urban sanitation programs. A special session on the last day of the conference provided valuable inputs and consensus in developing a framework, methodology, and mechanism for localising Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Indian cities, with a particular focus on SDG 11.



**MINISTER HARDEEP SINGH PURI INAUGURATING THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE**



**RAVI SHANKAR, CITIZEN FORUM MEMBER, MUZAFFARPUR EXPRESSING HIS VIEWS AT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

# STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS

In April 2017, PRIA began a three year intervention to improve maternal health in three blocks covering 104 gram panchayats in Rajasthan, India. The project strategy was based on PRIA's theory of change, of bridging the gap between a community's demand for services and the provisioning of quality, equitable services by institutions mandated to provide these services. The strategy, focused on making public health programs reach the last mile in an effective and accountable manner, was premised on the belief that the existing health services offered under India's National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and other supportive government schemes, if effectively delivered by public governance and health functionaries, are sufficient to meet the needs and requirements of pregnant and lactating women. No additional private health services were provided to the communities under the project.

In a clear departure from the conventional clinical approach to addressing reproductive health of women, the project addressed maternal health as a public health issue, by improving the engagement of local decentralised governance institutions, or gram panchayats, and enabling them to integrate local actions into annual village plans (known as Gram Panchayat Development Plans, or GDPDs).\*



## APNA SWASTHYA APNI PEHEL

**Creating a favourable eco-system for improved maternal health delivery at the local (village) level by panchayats**

\*Preparation of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GDPD) is a mandatory exercise as per the 14th Finance Commission recommendations adopted by the national government.

Several actions contributed to creating an environment in which the community began to demand effective health service delivery, particularly ANC services. These included behaviour change discussions with women on personal gynecological hygiene; community awareness through IEC, materials and public meetings; community participation in gram sabhas (village meetings), especially focused on increasing participation of women and marginalised sections; and engagement of frontline health workers, local youth, civil society organisations and media to jointly raise maternal health issues with panchayat representatives.

Orientation and training of public officials on service delivery related to ANC, institutional deliveries of births and GPDP preparation process resulted in improved quality of plans and inclusion of maternal health activities with clear budget allocations in the plans.\*

High quality linkages between panchayat representatives and frontline health workers, revival of Social Justice Committees (SJs), standing committees of gram panchayats and developmental committees like the Village Health Sanitation Water and Nutrition Committee (VHSWNC) strengthened local institutional capacities to prepare and implement plans and the sustainability of continued inclusion of reproductive health activities in the GPDPs.

Planned advocacy at state level resulted in the issuing of several Office Orders for robust participatory planning of GPDPs, allocation of budget for women and child development, and ensuring participation of women through mandatory Mahila Sabhas.\*\*

PRIA's efforts of intensive community mobilisation process over three years of the project helped in motivating women, to understand and take action to secure their health during pregnancy and after giving birth, and mobilising them to attend gram sabhas and make their voices heard. Participation of women in gram sabhas increased, on average, by 4% to 25% across the intervention panchayats.

**Between the gram sabhas held on 15 August 2018 and 2 October 2018, women's participation increased from 36% to 41% in Govindgarh, and in Banswara from 21% to 49%.**

Mahila Sabhas, held prior to the main gram sabha, were instrumental in giving women the freedom to speak and express their concerns without any cultural barriers and fear in their minds. Seeing the success of Mahila Sabhas in the intervention panchayats, sarpanches of non-intervention blocks in Banswara approached PRIA to support them in facilitating Mahila Sabhas in their gram panchayats.

The project recognised and has built the capacities of frontline health workers (ASHAs, anganwadi workers, and ANMs) as effective convergence points. With gram panchayat elected representatives spending a disproportionate amount of time towards infrastructure development and construction work, it is these frontline health workers who maintain constant pressure on the local machinery to listen to the issues raised by pregnant and lactating women. They are collectively and individually mobilising pregnant and lactating mothers who do not come for regular check-ups on immunisation day. These workers, being trained, capacitated, as well as connected to the state level administration, are acting as catalysts in the process of communities demanding their rights.

When the project started, the panchayats considered health to be an issue of the health department. They were not aware that issues related to the functioning of the sub-centres and primary health centres (PHCs) came under their jurisdiction. At the end of the project, they have become aware and recognise health as a panchayat issue. Fourteen cluster-wise trainings of panchayat functionaries (sarpanch, panchayat secretary, health sub-committee members, SJC and VHSWNC members) and frontline health workers (anganwadi and ASHA workers) undertaken in the first year, supported by intensive hand-

\* Some of the activities related to reproductive and maternal health that featured in the GPDPs prepared under the project included awareness programs on nutrition and safe motherhood, sanitation facilities in secondary and senior secondary schools, health camps, and installation of incinerators for disposal of used sanitary pads in schools.

\*\*Mahila Sabha is a village level meeting of only women, held prior to conducting a gram sabha.

# PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

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WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE GROUP BECAME AWARE OF THEIR RIGHTS AND ENTITLEMENTS REGARDING MATERNAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND WERE ABLE TO ACCESS THESE SERVICES

MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING MARGINALISED, SCHEDULED CASTES (SCS), SCHEDULED TRIBES (STS) PARTICIPATED IN GRAM SABHAS TO PLAN FOR MATERNAL HEALTH SERVICES, AND SUPPORTED THE HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE GRAM PANCHAYATS IN MONITORING THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH SERVICES IN BANSWARA AND GOVINDGARH BLOCKS

GRAM PANCHAYATS (PARTICULARLY THE HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE) IN BANSWARA AND GOVINDGARH BLOCKS WERE CAPACITATED AND STRENGTHENED TO PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT GRAM PANCHAYAT MATERNAL HEALTH SERVICE PLANS FOR IMPROVED MATERNAL HEALTH CARE (MHC) SERVICES

THE STATE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH ADVOCACY EFFORTS, CREATED AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR THE PANCHAYATS TO EXECUTE AND IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH SERVICES



Order issued on 03.06.2019 for inclusion of activities in GPDP. (This was issued after the release of GPDP guidelines by Ministry of Panchayati Raj.) The order mentions panchayats must provision for achieving 100% institutional delivery, and ensure effective implementation of all health care facilities at the health sub-centre.

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Order issued on 08.08.2019 on formation of Mahila Shakti Samuha comprising of women front line workers and women leaders from the community to meet in the gram panchayat after every meeting held on the 5th of every month. It also mentioned that 40% of resources under GPDP be used for women and child development.

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Order issued on 09.08.2019 for convening of separate Mahila Sabhas before the mandatory Gram Sabha on 26 January, 01 May, 15 August, and 02 October.

holding in the subsequent years of the project, was successful in making health a panchayat agenda. The project provided a list of 21 maternal health activities (including estimated cost and source of funding) that the gram panchayats can pick and choose from.

Advocacy at state level resulted in new government orders that created an enabling environment for panchayats to execute their plans. This enabling environment created is a result of 249 meetings over three years with state officials in Panchayati Raj and Rural Health Department, Health and Family Welfare, and Women and Child Development Department, by project staff seeking government support. The professional relationships developed through these meetings enabled the project

team to collect all relevant government orders at the state level, and share them quickly with district, block and panchayat level officials.

Three block level consultations and one district level consultation were the platforms to share project experiences with multiple stakeholders, especially other civil society organisations and the media. Active engagement with local reporters resulted in 254 project-related stories and social media posts.

Nearly 100 media stories were published in local language (Hindi) newspapers at the district level.

Informative booklets written in the local language (Hindi) are now available as a knowledge resource for panchayat representatives, volunteers and other civil society organisations to use in the field to carry on the work started by the project.

These resources are available online on PRIA's website for free download and printed copies have been left at the district and block panchayat offices for distribution.







# KEY LEVERS TO STRENGTHEN PANCHAYAT FUNCTIONING

## **Focus on mobilisation of women's participation and voice**

Increased participation of women at local level helps in strengthening local governance by promoting equal citizen engagement in planning and implementation of development plans. The process of engagement, mobilisation and organising of women must be conducted regularly, involving community members from all walks of life to support women's participation.

## **Motivating and enabling local volunteers**

When adequately supported, local volunteers can play an important part in identifying local cultural trends and issues that constrain participation. Through their active role in panchayats, young volunteers become role models for other community youth, who develop an interest in contributing to local development processes.

## **Re-activating existing statutory and departmental mechanisms to converge**

The project revived the Social Justice Committee, the standing committee of gram panchayats, and developmental committees like VHSWNC, to converge related actions and budgets through discussions and dialogue.



# KEY LEVERS TO STRENGTHEN PANCHAYAT FUNCTIONING

## **Technical support to panchayats for preparing GPDP**

Participating in Technical Support Group (TSG) at the cluster level and State Resource Group (SRG) at the state level to provide technical guidance and support in the preparation of GPDP. With support from TSG, Sustainable Development Goals can be localised in planning processes. In SRG meetings, PRIA shared its field experiences and raised the challenges of preparing GPDPs.

## **Accountability of service providers and elected representatives**

Gram panchayats have proximity to the community and have legitimate authority to hold village level public officials accountable for the effective delivery of services. Gram panchayats along with standing committees, committees like VHSWNC, and newly formed women's groups can track the outreach and quality of services offered and subsequently demand improvement.

## **Regular information sharing and consultation with district and state government officials**

Fostering exchanges between block, district and state administration, panchayat and line department functionaries, and sharing knowledge at events and workshops organised by the state Department of Panchayati Raj helped build an environment for partnerships and collaborative functioning.

# BRIDGING DIVIDES



## BEYOND RUNNING AND CHASING

India's National Digital Literacy Mission aims "to empower at least one person per household with crucial digital literacy skills by 2020". Fulfilling this aim will mean improving the ability of young people to use digital technologies, including practical knowledge of government portals to access basic public services online (employment, education, and banking), how to deal with cyberbullying,

**Improving the ability of young people to use digital technologies and learn digital literacy skills for meaningful actions in their lives**

recognising cyber theft, as well as dealing with issues of privacy, consent, illegal and prohibited content.

PRIA's **Beyond Running and Chasing** program develops contextually relevant, creative and engaging learning curriculum, delivered via smartphones and the indigenous sport of Kho-Kho, to teach functional digital literacy to marginalised youth in India.

Three pillars – of sport, technology and participatory learning – are combined to drive this innovative learning experience. These three pillars are used to create a specially designed curriculum which will build the skills of youth to find, consume, create and share digital content safely. Content and curriculum is being developed in partnership with Pro Sport Development (PSD).

In the first phase of the program, a four-hour digital literacy curriculum has been developed. The curriculum consists of sessions on digital footprinting, search engines, cyberbullying, online application forms, and safe internet practices. The sessions were piloted with a youth group from the NGO Manzil in Delhi. During the session, the youth group shared their experiences of utilizing smartphones, and also suggested some changes to the curriculum.

This has led to the second phase of the project cycle (January 2020 to December 2020), supported by Laureus Sport for Good Innovation Fund, to develop a full 30-week curriculum for learning digital literacy, to be delivered via smartphones and Kho-Kho. Once the curriculum is complete, it will be tested in-house along with the training of facilitators, after which we aim to pilot the program with youth groups across Delhi-NCR.

The intervention will utilise this curriculum to empower youth (14-18 years of age) to access public services for themselves and their families, ensure safety during online experiences and have self-affirming online social relations, especially gender relations. It will also help the youth to benefit from the digital economy by accessing new opportunities for career, education and economic inclusion.

**In the past year, PRIA has developed a Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and staff have been trained on child protection and child abuse.**



TESTING THE CURRICULUM WITH ADOLESCENTS

# INVESTING IN NEXT GEN CITIZEN LEADERSHIP

Adolescent girls (15-18 years) in India are experiencing huge transitions. Their aspirations for and imagination of a better future have grown exponentially. But they face cultural, social and institutional constraints in fulfilling their aspirations. These constraints operate together, resulting in continued exclusion of young girls from actively exercising leadership and making use of opportunities to fulfil their aspiration.

PRIA's **Go Girls Go** program focuses on aspiring young girls to strengthen their agency to change their lives. It also prepares boys to support these adolescent girls in realising their aspirations in an enabling, violence-free environment. The program is undertaken in collaboration with Martha Farrell Foundation, supported by the Embassy of The Netherlands in India.

In the past year, Go Girls Go has been piloted in 3 government schools of Delhi (RSVP School Nand Nagri, CGSS School Kakrola-Dwarka and SKV Kakrola-Dwarka), strengthening the agency of 200 adolescent girls in these schools so that they can complete their education, join vocational education, and make a choice of career and livelihood. They have learnt to take leadership and build support from their teachers, principals, parents and peers.



## GO-GIRLS-GO AND YOUTH-N-DEMOCRACY

**Skills to question the status quo and  
practice democracy in everyday life**

Girls are exhibiting an increase in self-confidence and are aspiring to complete education. This change is built through the participatory workshops undertaken, using an approach which begins with the girls understanding the circumstances of their own lives, learning to commit to individual and social change, and being capacitated to take action.

It all began with building rapport with parents and principals, for without their support young girls could not undertake this journey of change. Principals nominated 100 youth (boys and girls) who would take part in the project. These students formed the Go Girls Go Youth Club in the schools. A baseline survey was conducted to determine the underlying attitudes and mind sets of these youth around the issues of gender and violence against women.

With the objective of promoting and building a comfortable relationship among the participants as well as among the participants and trainer, sports-based activities on communication were designed to break the ice. It helped the youth get to know each other better. Sessions were conducted separately with boys and girls so that they can openly participate without any hesitation.

# LEARNING METHODS

ONE OF THE BIGGEST LEARNINGS FOR THE PROJECT IS TO FIND WAYS OF FACILITATING, COMMUNICATING WITH AND ENGAGING STUDENTS IN LIMITED TIME. A VARIETY OF METHODS WERE EXPERIMENTED WITH.

SPORTS-BASED  
ACTIVITIES

ARTS  
BASED METHODS OF STORY-TELLING

ANIMATED  
GRAPHICS OF YOUNG ADULTS DEPICTING  
DIFFERENT BODILY CHANGES

GENDER  
RELAY

PICTURE  
PERCEPTION TEST

CURRENTLY WITH SCHOOLS CLOSED, THE PROJECT IS TRYING TO CONNECT WITH MEMBERS OF THE GO GIRLS GO YOUTH CLUBS THROUGH DIGITAL LEARNING PLATFORMS.



How to deal with psychological changes  
(feelings and emotions)

-

Internal and external body changes

-

Menstruation and menstrual hygiene

-

Meaning of consent and how to apply it in  
everyday practice

-

Dismantling gender (gender stereotyping, gender  
inequality, gender discrimination)

-

Knowing yourself

-

Enabling positive mindset

-

Leadership skills

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WHAT HAVE THE GO GIRLS GO  
YOUTH CLUB MEMBERS LEARNT?



# A ROYAL VISIT

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On 15 October 2019, their Royal Highnesses King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima of The Netherlands took a guided tour of a government school in Nandnagri, Delhi to understand the Go Girls Go project.

During the visit, the Royal couple had interactions with students in order to understand the project from their perspective and how it is benefiting them. Members of the youth group interacted independently with the Royal couple and shared learning experiences from their sessions with them. The experience gave the students immense confidence.

The visit was covered by the media including Outlook Magazine, News 18, India Today, Times of India, and Indian Express



Since 2017, in line with the organisation's long-term strategy, PRIA Youth has engaged deliberately, actively and inclusively with young people across India as part of its **Youth-n-Democracy (YnD)** program. The PRIA Youth team of energetic young professionals was specifically created in-house to lead and design the program. The vision was to support and foster our democracy and its democratic institutions, in which aware, active and engaged young citizens make democracy function in their lives, every day.

The YnD program focuses on building leadership and capacities of young people to promote democratic practices in their everyday lives. The program was launched on the occasion of PRIA's 35th anniversary (6th February 2017) with a street theatre competition called Youthra, held among college teams from Delhi University. Youthra has evolved into an annual competition, eagerly awaited by college teams from the Delhi-NCR region. Organized in open, public spaces, Youthra gives young people a platform to express themselves artistically, openly, and without fear of being judged on issues of Democracy In Everyday Life as experienced by them. Youthra launched the idea of Democracy In Everyday Life to college youth and created an opportunity for more structured discussions in educational institutions.

Between 2017 and 2019, PRIA Youth implemented the YnD Campaign in 50 cities and 75 colleges across India. The YnD Campaign took forward the need for creating safe spaces for young people to engage in open, non-judgemental conversations. The campaign chose to create these spaces in colleges and universities across India, strengthening peer to peer relationships in college spaces and creating a pan-India presence of youth with deepened understanding of Democracy In Everyday Life.

Drawing lessons from the YnD campaign and the need to build active citizenship among young people, PRIA Youth launched the first edition of the **YnD Fellowship** in Delhi in April 2019. Twenty youth from various colleges in the Delhi-NCR region, found an opportunity to understand themselves and society better, and then commit to working in their communities/workplaces/ neighbourhoods, and even their own families, to bring democracy into everyday lives.

**This year's YnD Fellows have chosen a range of topical and social issues for their Social Action Research Projects, such as education, environment sustainability, animal rights and abuse, child sexual protection, fake news, financial literacy, employment generation and livelihoods, gender awareness, drug abuse, asexuality, and family planning.**

To celebrate International Youth Day 2019, PRIA Youth organized a [panel discussion](#) and a [slam poetry event](#) at the Oxford Bookstore, New Delhi on 9 August 2019. The theme of the panel discussion was 'Youth Identity and Education' and was in consonance with the 2019's International Youth Day theme of 'Transformative Education'.





youth 4.0

Held on 1st February 2020  
at Dilli Haat

This year the event was opened to teams pan India, and invited participation from colleges across the country.

- Winner: Janaki Devi Memorial College (O Baith Kaga)
- First runner up: Hindu College (Mental Health & Anxiety)
- Best theme: Jesus and Mary College (Hunger)
- Anonymous award for the boldest theme: Motilal College (current socio-political situation in India)

In 2019-20, PRIA Youth partnered with more than 30 organisations and was able to directly reach out to 1,800 individuals. Knowledge of working with youth, addressing their concerns and building their leadership has been shared with youth from colleges across the country, and even globally.

At a workshop on 10 February 2020 at the OP Jindal Global University in Haryana, 28 student leaders representing 14 Commonwealth countries explored the theme of Gandhi and Participatory Democracy. These students were part of the Commonwealth Futures program driven by The Association of Commonwealth Universities in partnership with the British Council.

On 28 February 2020, the PRIA Youth team organised a discussion with 20 college students from three universities – James Madison College (JMC), Michigan State University, USA, TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi, India and Delhi University, India – around the issues of hate speech, social media and polarisation, campus diversity and affirmative action, and populism. The students represented several countries including the United States, Belize, Kenya, Zambia, Cameroon, and India.

In association with Blue Quill, the creative writing society of Miranda House, New Delhi, PRIA Youth organized a Slam Poetry Competition on 28 February 2020. The theme for the competition was 'Social Cohesion'. The competition saw participants from various colleges like Miranda House, TERI School of Advanced Studies, Jesus and Mary College, and Maharaja Surajmal Institute.

PRIA Youth got an opportunity to share its work with an international audience through workshops and consultations, in India, South Korea, and Thailand. It presented its Youth-n-Democracy Fellowship initiative in the form of a video at the SciShops Pitch Challenge competition.

**PRIA Youth hopes to build the PRIA brand around young people, in order to ensure that youth voices and knowledge is nurtured and provided avenues to effect social change.**



# YND FELLOWSHIP

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A CAREFULLY CRAFTED 9-MONTH PROGRAM, PROVIDING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO GROW, LEARN AND PARTICIPATE

CREATES SAFE SPACES FOR CONVERSATIONS TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES THAT MATTER TO YOUTH

BUILDS THE SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES OF YOUTH TO UNDERSTAND HOW DEMOCRACY FUNCTIONS IN EVERYDAY LIFE, INCLUDING ASPECTS OF CO-OPERATION, PLURALITY, TOLERANCE, EMPATHY, EQUALITY AND RESPECT

ENABLES THE CAPACITY OF YOUTH IN THE AREAS OF COMMUNICATION, TEAM BUILDING, INTERSECTIONALITY, POWER, PRIVILEGES AND COMMUNITY-BASED PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH

FELLOWS IMPLEMENT THEIR OWN SOCIAL ACTION RESEARCH PROJECTS TO ADVOCATE FOR CHANGE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

# INVESTING IN NEXT-GEN PARTICIPATORY RESEARCHERS

Five years ago, the UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education had carried out an international state-of-the-art study on how, where and with which methods and content were young people learning to do community based research.\* An earlier study on Strengthening Community University Research Partnerships had found that the opportunity for young people in both universities and community organisations to learn Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) were difficult to find. The global survey indicated that young people generally had positive learning experiences, and were eager, willing and looking for opportunities to learn CBPR. The study evolved a set of principles for teaching and learning CBPR.

The UNESCO Chair responded to the question of how to create economical and sustainable structures in the global South and the 'excluded' North for building research capacity in CBPR by creating the **Knowledge for Change Global Consortium for Training** in CBPR, commonly known as the K4C Consortium.

## KNOWLEDGE FOR CHANGE

The K4C Consortium was formally launched in late 2017. The K4C strategy supports the creation of K4C hubs as formal partnerships between universities and community or practitioner organisations which emphasise training by doing CBR linked to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The K4C model builds capacities through a carefully crafted 21 week Mentor Training Program (MTP). Academics from higher education institutions and practitioners from civil society organisations are trained as Mentors, who go on to become champions and carry the socially responsible research agenda forward at the level of the university. On completing the MTP, the mentors are expected to design and launch a locally contextualised course in CBPR.

Since 2017, this low-cost, high impact model has trained 72 mentors (in 4 batches), who have gone on to create 13 K4C Hubs in

Canada, Cuba, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. Two mentor training programmes were held in the year – in Arusha, Tanzania between 31 March and 10 April 2019, and in Bogota, Colombia between 29 October and 14 November 2019.

In September 2019, K4C mentors from around the world gathered in Delhi to share their experiences and the progress of the work they were undertaking. As a K4C Hub, PRIA has mentored two other Hubs in India – at Manipal University, Jaipur (MUJ) in Rajasthan and at the Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla University in Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The Raipur Hub has begun teaching CBPR to its students in the Gender Department, and is seeking support from the Chair and PRIA International Academy to design and develop a full 2-credit course of Gender and CBPR to be offered to all students at the University.

\*The findings and 21 case studies documented in the study were published as a book, "Knowledge and Engagement: Building Capacity for the Next Generation of Community Based Researchers", edited by Rajesh Tandon, Budd Hall, Walter Lepore and Wafa Singh, 2016, UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education: New Delhi and Victoria.

# PRIA INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

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**As part of its consultancy service, PIA documented the work of a group of civil society organisations (CSOs) who implemented 14 projects, supported by the European Union.**

**The analysis was presented in the document titled, Making Public Services Reach the Last Mile,**

Building capacities of the next generation on knowledge and skills related to participatory methods and participatory research in a variety of contexts ranging from working with panchayati raj institutions, urban sanitation, engaging with urban poor communities, monitoring and evaluation, and working with youth is undertaken by PRIA International Academy (PIA). Established in 2005, PIA is the educational wing of PRIA. It offers a variety of online, self-paced courses to university students and development professionals. In the past year, 9 new online courses have been developed and offered.

Partnerships are being explored with academic institutions and civil society organisations in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Cambodia to offer PIA online courses in the local languages (Bangla, Sinhala, Burmese, Khmer).

PIA also offers a blended mode program for small groups of learners (mostly international students, faculty, academic administrators, etc.) which includes an online component, a face-to-face workshop at PRIA's headquarters in New Delhi and a field visit to selected program intervention sites in India to embed the learnings. The program is also helpful in giving international learners a multi-cultural exposure and learning the skill to work with diversity.

In February 2020, students from James Madison College, University of Michigan, USA were hosted for a 2-week blended program to understand participatory approaches to maternal health and inclusive sanitation.

PRIA had been a leading capacity building organisation in the 1980s and 1990s, and this area of work has been refreshed through the short duration, face-to-face training courses for development professional from CSOs and CSR programmes, and university students. In the past year, PIA has offered three face-to-face training workshops on 'Using Theory of Change for Greater Impact', 'Measuring Development: Participatory Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment' and 'Appreciating Urban India: Development Policies and Practices'. The demand for such participatory trainings has been encouraging, and in the coming year PIA has plans to offer training programs on public policy and advocacy, inclusive urban sanitation, and social accountability and civic engagement.

In addition to offering regular online and face to face training courses, PIA has provided demand based online and face to face training to meet the learning needs of client organisations. Last year, PIA has provided such customised training programs for the Tata Trusts and Swayam Shikshan Prayog. Requests have also come from universities like O P Jindal Global University, Azim Premji University, and Ambedkar University, Delhi.

Based on initial needs assessment workshops conducted the previous year, PIA undertook a six month capacity building program for five state teams of the Tata Trusts to help strengthen their advocacy with government bodies, key stakeholders, and with local community institutions and statutory institutions so as to achieve better targeting and utilisation of existing public funds. The capacity building program was designed to be context/state specific as local realities with respect to local self-governments and priority sectors in each state are different.

# INVESTING IN COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP OF WOMEN



## THE DIGNITY OF MY LABOUR

Over the past three years, PRIA in collaboration with Martha Farrell Foundation, supported by The Netherlands Embassy in India, has organised women domestic workers to increase their capacity for lobbying and advocacy to prevent sexual harassment in their workplace.

**Participatory research done by women domestic workers became the catalyst for change**

In the first two years, The Dignity of My Labour project reached out to 1518 domestic workers in three districts of Faridabad, Gurugram and South-East Delhi, training 90 domestic worker champions to lead the demand for effective grievance redressal from Local Committees (LCs) as per the legal mandate under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

In the final year of the project, PRIA supported these champions to multiply demands from women domestic workers and worked with other intermediary organisations like civil society organisations and trade unions to build advocacy. The [research the women domestic workers had conducted](#) on their everyday experiences of sexual harassment was systematised to catalyse and impact state and national level policy advocacy, led by the domestic worker champions.

The state level consultation held in September 2018, during which the domestic workers presented findings from their study to the Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi and pressed for proper implementation of SHW Act, 2013, resulted in Local Committees being set up in all 11 districts of Delhi. In 2019, Standard Operating Procedures based on the Act were prepared for all these Local Committees, to be rolled out by the Women and Child Department of Delhi Government.

Trainings for Internal Committee of North Delhi Municipality were held. As a member of the South-East Delhi Local Committee, we hand-held the Committee to effectively investigate sexual harassment complaints raised by women informal workers from the district.

A [multi-stakeholder National Consultation](#) for enabling safe and dignified workplaces for women workers in the informal sector was held on 26 and 27 July 2019 at PRIA, New Delhi. The platform brought together more than 80 domestic workers from across the country for the first time on the issue of sexual harassment at the workplace of domestic workers. The domestic workers along with trade unions, civil society organisations working on women's rights, and gender equality activists deliberated upon an effective redressal mechanism for domestic workers to ensure their rights under the SHW Act, 2013.

**The domestic workers issued a National Call for Action asking for drafting of rules that would clearly define the mechanism which would ensure safe and dignified workplaces for them.**

Learnings from the project have resulted in several knowledge products, available in Open Access in both English and Hindi.

- [चलिए, मिलकर रोकेँ कार्यस्थल में यौन उत्पीड़न](#), a booklet on understanding sexual harassment at workplace, in Hindi

- [Together, Let's Counter Sexual Harassment at Workplace: An A-Z Booklet](#), in English

- Set of 5 posters in Hindi and English on Sexual Harassment at Workplace

- Training module for domestic worker champions on sexual harassment at workplace

An online training module on 'Understanding Sexual Harassment at the Workplace, in [English](#) and Hindi, was developed, and is hosted by PRIA International Academy.







# A CALL TO ACTION

**PREPARED BY WOMEN DOMESTIC WORKERS**

**ISSUED ON 27 JULY 2019 AFTER A TWO-DAY NATIONAL CONSULTATION COMPRISING DOMESTIC WORKERS, REPRESENTATIVES OF UNIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS AND LABOUR INSTITUTES FROM 9 STATES OF INDIA**

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We call upon civil society, policy makers, private sector and citizens of India to create safe workplaces for all women domestic workers by demanding from the Government:

**Inclusion of domestic work under the purview of labour laws.**

**Amendment of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013 to include:**

- The definition of workplace has to be extended according to the new ILO convention 190 (world of work)
- Constitution of sub-committees of the Local Committees at block, taluka or tehsil level
- Appoint representatives from the unorganized sector in these committees
- Nodal officers should be the link between sub-committees and Local Committees
- Interim relief options for domestic workers during pendency of enquiry by Local Committee
- Counselors, domestic workers' unions and organisations working for the rights of domestic workers should be associated with the Local Committee to support financial and emotional rehabilitation of the aggrieved domestic worker
- Domestic workers must have the same recourse/access to time bound justice in cases of sexual harassment at workplace through the Local Committee as other workers do



# A CALL TO ACTION

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- Empower Local Committees sufficiently to investigate/carry out a time-bound enquiry when a domestic worker approaches them with an alleged case. This would bring us on par with women in the formal sector who seek redressal from Internal Committees
- Local Committees should have statutory power to support women domestic workers
- On completion of the enquiry/investigation, Local Committees should be able to impose penalties (financially, or otherwise) on the employer of the domestic worker.
- Legal aid should be provided to domestic workers

The law already provides that states make rules for the implementation of the Act. The Central government must ensure that all states have made adequate rules under the Act which suit the individual needs and peculiarities of the female domestic worker in that state

Rules must provide for appropriate relief for the aggrieved woman domestic worker

Domestic workers should be included as a category in the Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault/Other Crimes, 2018

There should be a budget allocated by the Central government to ensure effective implementation of the SHW Act, 2013

Since early 2019, PRIA has been engaged with the **Responsible Research and Innovation Networked Globally (RRING)** project, helmed at Cork University, Ireland. The aim of the project is to promote mutual learning and collaboration in Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), by forming a global RRING community network and by the development and mobilisation of a global Open Access RRI knowledge base, aligning RRI to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a global common denominator.

In the past year, through the project, PRIA has learnt from global best practices and helped increase coherence and convergence via a bottom-up approach in developing and forming the RRING community in India.

By conducting interviews with research personnel working in the four key domains of ICT, bio-economy, waste management and energy, and by analysing the work undertaken by various relevant stakeholders, PRIA has

systematised new perspectives on RRI in India. PRIA provided five India-centric case studies and conducted five interviews of individuals in the four key domains. We also disseminated a survey to organisations within the country to assess the state of play of RRI in India. The survey was to be launched in 15 languages. With Hindi being one of the languages for the survey, PRIA volunteered to provide its services to translate the questions. PRIA circulated the survey among 500 stakeholders from civil society, industry and business, and policy bodies belonging to its many national groups and networks.

As the key belief of RRI remains collaborative efforts with various stakeholders in order to create a responsible future, PRIA facilitated a global workshop on the theme of "Socially Responsible Research & Innovation". The workshop, originally scheduled to be held in end March, was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It was held on 17 June 2020 as a virtual workshop, involving the India-based stakeholders,

including academics and practitioners, policymakers and civil society organisations to play an active role in an important conversation on the social responsibility of science and innovation. It was an opportunity to share the data from the global survey conducted under the RRING Project which involved over 2000 respondents, examining socially responsible research and innovation practices and policies.

**Through its social media platforms PRIA has helped create global knowledge on RRI, communicating the work done around the country to promote RRI in India. PRIA took the responsibility of managing the RRING Project Twitter Handle (@RRING\_PROJECT) every Wednesday since February 2019, curating material on RRI activities in India. Some of the tweets posted by PRIA for the RRING Project have become top tweets for the handle, with the number of interactions of these tweets reaching over 1000+ impressions.**

# PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# BUILDING A KNOWLEDGE DEMOCRACY

The UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education was established in 2012, and was renewed for a second term in 2016. Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Founder-President, PRIA is Co-Chair along with Prof. Budd Hall at the University of Victoria, Canada.

Over the past 8 years, Dr Tandon has raised the visibility of the Chair as a highly sought after advisor to universities, and state and national governments on the implementation of community university engagement and social responsibility in higher education. As member of the Subject Expert Group constituted by University Grants Commission (UGC) under Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan 2.0, the Chair has been instrumental in guiding and developing a policy in the UGC for Social Engagement of Universities.

As part of its advocacy efforts, the Chair is a founding member of the Rethinking Research Collaborative (RRC), an informal international network of academics, civil society organisations and social movements, international NGOs, and research support providers who are committed to working together to explore the politics of evidence and participation in knowledge for international development.



## UNESCO CHAIR IN COMMUNITY BASED RESEARCH AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

In 2019, the Chair marked the sesquicentennial birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi with an international dialogue, organised jointly with UNESCO New Delhi Cluster Office, IDRC Asia and Association of Indian Universities (AIU), from September 18-20, 2019 in New Delhi. 'Educating the Mind, Body & Heart: International Dialogue on Gandhi and Higher Education Today' brought together a diverse range of academicians and practitioners from all over the world to discuss the relevance of Gandhi's teachings in higher education in India and all over the world. Drawing from individual and institutional practices, the event was a unique platform to facilitate cross-country dialogue on what Gandhi offers to the world of higher education.



An article on "[Revisiting Gandhi: What does the life of Gandhi mean for the world today, for higher education, and knowledge democracy?](#)" was published to coincide with the dialogue.

At the GUNi [International Conference on Sustainable Development Goals: Higher Education & Science Take Action](#), held on 5-6 March 2020 in Barcelona, Dr Rajesh Tandon chaired the opening session on 'Transforming Towards Sustainable Development: Integrating Effectiveness and Justice Considerations' and the session on 'Innovative Social Engagement through Service Learning'.

He attended the 2nd meeting of the GUNi Group of Experts on SDGs and Higher Education on 3 and 4 October 2019. The GUNi publication, "[Implementing the 2030 Agenda at Higher Education Institutions: Challenges and Responses](#)" was launched during the meeting.

As Co-Chair, Dr Tandon has contributed to several important international publications to raise the visibility for building a knowledge democracy, including "Disciplines, Professions and SDGs: Challenges in Higher Education in India" in the World Report on Higher Education, published by GUNi (co-author), and co-authored a chapter, "Knowledge Democracy: Pathways to Sustainable Futures, Learning to Become" for the UNESCO Futures of Education Report (forthcoming in 2021).

**DURING THE YEAR, CO-CHAIR RAJESH  
TANDON ATTENDED SEVERAL NATIONAL AND  
INTERNATIONAL EVENTS TO ADVOCATE FOR  
SOCIALY RESPONSIBLE HIGHER EDUCATION**

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PUBLIC LECTURE ON 'TOWARDS A SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE  
CIVIC UNIVERSITY: BALANCING THE GLOBAL AND THE LOCAL' AT BRISTOL UNIVERSITY, UK, ON  
30 MAY 2019

DIALOGUE ON 'INSTITUTIONAL SOCIAL  
RESPONSIBILITIES OF HIGHER EDUCATION', CO-HOSTED BY UNIVERSITY GRANTS  
COMMISSION, INDIA

TALK ON 'INEQUALITY IN GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION AND PRODUCTION OF KNOWLEDGE' AT THE  
ASSOCIATION OF COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITIES, LONDON, ENGLAND

TRAINING ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT MAHATMA  
GANDHI NATIONAL COUNCIL RURAL EDUCATION (MGNCRE), HYDERABAD, INDIA,  
BETWEEN 22 AND 25 APRIL 2019

TEFCE CONSULTATION IN PARIS

'KNOWLEDGE FOR CHANGE: TRANSFORMING UNIVERSITIES AND ADDRESSING THE UN SDGS' AT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA, CANADA

'KNOWLEDGE FOR CHANGE: TRAJECTORY OF  
PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH METHODOLOGY' PRESENTED AT THE CONFERENCE ON ROLE OF  
UNIVERSITIES IN ENVISIONING PARTICIPATORY SMART CITIES IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH, HELD AT  
UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW, SCOTLAND ON 28 AND 29 MAY 2019

COLLOQUIUM LECTURE ON 'DECOLONIZING KNOWLEDGE'  
AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT 'STORIES OF CHANGE: CASE STUDY CHALLENGE' AT AZIM PREMJI  
UNIVERSITY, BENGALURU, INDIA ON 20 APRIL 2019

WORKSHOP ON PARTICIPATORY TRAINING METHODOLOGY  
FOR FACILITATING CHANGE AT MGNCRE, HYDERABAD, INDIA

TALK ON 'SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF HIGHER  
EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS' AT RAMA DEVI UNIVERSITY, BHUBANESHWAR, INDIA

GUEST SPEAKER AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
UNITED NATIONS ACADEMIC IMPACT (UNIA), AT  
CHANDIGARH UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH, INDIA ON 18-19 NOVEMBER 2019

SPEAKER AT SUMMIT ON CANADA'S GLOBAL  
LEADERSHIP, OTTAWA, CANADA, ON 27-28 NOVEMBER 2019

CHIEF GUEST AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT 'ANIKETHANA'-20TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF CHRIST UNIVERSITY'S CENTRE FOR SOCIAL ACTION, BENGALURU, INDIA  
ON 9 DECEMBER 2019



Innovations in Information Communications, Capacity Building and Behaviour Change in Informal Settlements of Jhansi



Workplace Diversity Assessment Of Mid-Sized Urban Local Bodies: Gender Analysis of the Sanitation Department in Three Cities



Monitoring and Action Tools for Citizens and Citizen Groups to Achieve Inclusive Sanitation in Cities



Lived Realities of Women Sanitation Workers in India



Status Paper on Urban Toilets in India



Status Paper on Solid Waste Management in Urban India



Voices of the Urban Poor - Building Organisations to Access Sanitation Services



Shahri Garibon Ki Awaaz: Swachhta Sevaon Tak Pahunch Banane Ke Liye Sanghathan Nirman



Bharat Mein Mahila Safai Kamgaron Ki Rozmarra Ki Haqeeqat



Matrutwa Swasthya Ko Panchyat ke Agenda Mein Lena



Apna Swasthya, Apni Pehel ke Madhyam Se Vyavahar Parivartan



Sahbhagi Gram Panchayat Vikas Yojana, Samuhik Prayas, Satat Abhyas



Mahila Sabhaon ka Sanchalan Kaise Kare



Matri Evam Shishu Swasthya Ki Pehredar Bani Rekha Didi



Panchyaton ki Pustika

Visit  
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for more  
knowledge  
resources

CHECK OUT OUR OPEN ACCESS  
KNOWLEDGE RESOURCES

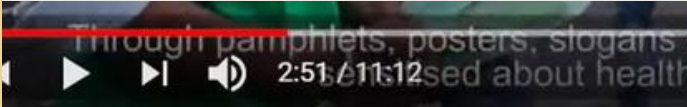
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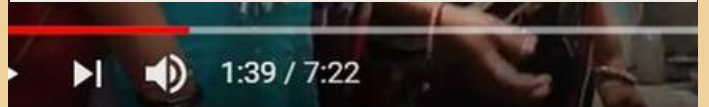
Power With and Power Within: Reinforcing Women's Participation in Local Governance



Redefining Sanitation Campaigns By the People, Of the People



Reclaiming City Voices of the SIC Forum



VIEW OUR AUDIO-VISUALS

Visit

<https://www.youtube.com/user/PRIIndia>

for more audio-visuals





# GOVERNANCE

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Governing Board for 2019-20 is:

**Chairperson:** Ms. Rita Sarin, Country Director, The Hunger Project, New Delhi

**Treasurer:** Shri Ravi Seth, Chartered Accountant from ICAI

**President:** Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Founder of PRIA, New Delhi

**Members:**

- Ms. Lalita Ramdas, Renowned Educator, based in Alibaug, Maharashtra
- Shri. Satinder Singh Sahni, retired IAS Officer, based in Gurgaon
- Ms. Sheela Patel, Founder Director, The Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC), Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Shri Ashok Kumar Singh, Founder Director, Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra (SSK), Lucknow
- Ms. Shobha Mishra Ghosh, Senior Director, The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

Two meetings of Governing Board members were held in the past year: 109th Governing Board and Annual General Body meeting on 9 August 2019, and 110th Governing Board meeting on 2 March 2020. A meeting of office bearers was held on 16 January 2020.

A Senior Management Team at PRIA provides collective leadership, programme strategy, resource mobilisation, annual and bi-annual reviews, project planning, staff allocation, performance review and capacity building programmes for staff.

Last year, PRIA revived its internal Training of Trainers (ToT) program for staff. Ten staff attended the three-day program in April 2019, with Dr Rajesh Tandon as the lead trainer, supported by four young co-facilitators (male and female).



# MIND FELLOWS MILAN

AUGUST 2019



In the 1990s, PRIA focused on innovations in institutional strengthening and learning of organisations. The Management in Development (MiND) incubation program provided systematic opportunity for learning skills to catalyze social entrepreneurship and the emergence of citizen leaders, voluntary enterprises and civil society in regions of India which have traditionally and historically been underdeveloped. On 29 and 30 August 2019, PRIA organised a reunion of about 30 MiND Fellows to share their journeys, both personal and professional, and learn new ways of ensuring inclusive development for the poorest and marginalised sections of our society. The milan was held at Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra (SSK), Lucknow.

# TEAM@PRIA

APRIL 2019 - MARCH 2020

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## Accounts and Finance

Officer-Accounts - Prabhat Arora  
Senior Accounts Officer - Soja Saramma Mathew  
Manager-Finance & Accounts - Praveen PV

## Administration, Facilities and HR

Hostel In-charge - Shanta  
Administrative Officer - Dhan Singh  
Administrative Manager - Chandra Shekhar Joshi  
Assistant General Manager - Bindu Baby  
Executive Assistant - Surjeet Singh  
Senior Executive Secretary - Pooja Saxena  
HR Executive - Jyoti Nagpal

## President's Office

Driver - Pawan  
Executive Assistant to the President - Jyoti Nagpal

## Programs

Assistant Program Officers - Naseema Khatoon, Rajni Verma, Samiksha Jha, Seema Kumari Sharma

Program Officers - Rajasvi Gandhi, Nikita Rakhyani, Merin Alias, Nilanjana Bhattacharjee, Rashmi Ranjan, Tanya Dikshit

Program Officer-UNESCO Chair - Pooja Pandey

Program Officer-Haryana - Sonia

Senior Program Officers - Anjaney Kumar, Debasish Biswas, Deboshree Mohanta, Neharika Mahajan, Praatibh Mishra, Pritisha Borah, Ramesh Yadawar, Shashi Shikha, Sudhir Kumar Singh, Vikash Kumar Singh, Yashvi Sharma

Assistant Program Managers - Pradeepta Kumar Nayak, Aarti Upadhyay

Program Manager - Amit Bhatt

Senior Program Managers - Anshuman Karol, Nandita Bhatt

Directors - Kaustuv Kanti Bandyopadhyay, V.P. Gupta



# TEAM@PRIA

APRIL 2019 - MARCH 2020

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## Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Senior Officer-PCMU - Joseph P.P.

## Research

Research Assistant - Jigme Garwang

Research Associate - S Ram Aravind

## IT, Knowledge Management and Communications

IT Officer - Sonu Kumar

Administrative Assistant-Learning & Engagement -  
Vijay Kumar

Officer-Knowledge Management & Learning - Syed Zakir  
Hussain

Web Developer / Officer-Knowledge Management &  
Learning - Sujit Kumar Sourav

Assistant Program Officer-Communications - Shubhayan  
Sengupta, Nayanika Guha

## Interns

- Akshay Garg, OP Jindal University, Haryana
- Akshay Singh, OP Jindal University, Haryana
- Anish Michael, OP Jindal University, Haryana
- Jonathan, University of St Andrews, Scotland
- Jigme Garwang, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi  
University, New Delhi
- Kamaxi, IIM Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- Mohd Imran, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Nadeem Sultan, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Olvie Le, University of Victoria, Canada
- Prarthana Mitra, Jadavpur University, West Bengal
- Risha Nusrat, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Ruqaiya Takreem, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Saamiksha Tangri, University of Delhi, New Delhi
- Saket Purohat, University of Pittsburgh, USA
- Shubhangi Singh, Delhi University, New Delhi
- Stuti Gopal, Macquarie University, Australia
- Tanushree, Syracuse University, United States
- Tiju Thomas, Lingayas Lalita Devi Institution of  
Management and Sciences, New Delhi



# PROJECTS@PRIA

**APRIL 2019 - MARCH 2020**

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Strengthening Civil Society of the Urban Poor to Participate in Planning and Monitoring of Sanitation Services in Indian Cities (Engaged Citizens Responsive City-ECRC)

Reforming Local Governance for Responsive and Effective Service Deliveries in Selected Blocks of Rajasthan (Apna Swasthya Apni Pehel-ASAP)

Ending Sexual Harassment: Making Institutions Accountable towards Women Workers in the Informal Sector (The Dignity of My Labour)

Go Girls Go: Enhancing Agency of Adolescent Girls to Demand and Advocate for Equality

RRING: Developing a Global Network for collaboration of Responsible Research Institutions

Beyond Running and Chasing

Youth-n-Democracy

UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education

Kadam Badhate Chalo (Martha Farrell Foundation)