



From Executive Director

This annual report is being prepared at a time when the world passes through the social change. Today no. of issues such as corruption, terrorism, climate change, poverty have been affecting adversely the lives of millions of people, and also increase the vulnerabilities of the marginalized sections of the global society. In such circumstances our organization has put efforts, even though at small scale, but has contributed in the lives of vulnerable and marginalized people in the communities. These positive steps have generated hopes in many needy lives. An organization, like any other living organism, cannot be immune to the macro environment and NLRDF has not been an exception. It had to gear up to these challenges and contributes meaningfully.

There are no words to express thanks to the communities with whom we have been working as they showed trust and confidence in us to take up some facilitating role in their journey of development and growth. I also thank all members of the Trustees for keen interest and meaningful inputs in this journey.

In the end, I would like to reiterate that we do not believe in making island of our own but are committed to effective network and with others in this journey. We strongly believe in the value imbibed with our organization NLRDF. Still there is a long way to go. We are committed to continue the journey with increased zeal as we will not rest till the most marginalized achieves food and livelihoods securities, besides they exercising their rights.

I sincerely invite you to be part of this journey of an organization of common people with uncommon determination.

The Annual Report gives an opportunity to thank sincerely different stakeholders, especially all the department of Government of Gujarat connected with NLRDF who have participated actively in our voyage.

B.M.Shah

About Us

Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund (**NLRDF**) is a registered NGO founded in 1978 by **The Arvind Mills Ltd.** The organization stands on the principles and philosophy of a group of professionals with a genuine interest in integrated human progress and firsthand experience in diverse facets of social development, got together and created a platform for action and awareness.

In the last 34 years of its foundation, **NLRDF** has grown as a grassroots organization striving for a holistic development. Our initial direct intervention was intervening in the development process at the village level through specifically designed programmes.

OBJECTIVES:

The broad basic objectives of NLRDF in rural development can be summed up in the following words:

“Stimulating, initiating and setting into motion a process of development which within a specific span of time would become self-sustaining and self-perpetuating, whilst monotonically reducing the relative disparities between various levels of the society”.

STRATEGY:

In order to evolve a strategy for the fulfillment of the objective, it was decided to copy nature as far as possible. Since in nature, the various facets of life are all inter-related and inter-dependent. It was accepted that NLRDF would take an overall integrated, total-view point in development intervention, at the same time, taking care of the various components that together form the whole.

ROLE DIMENSIONS:

In the light of the above strategy for development intervention the trust carried out operations in various sectoral areas, like agriculture, social and farm forestry, horticulture, fodder development, animal husbandry, minor irrigation, rural electrification (street and agriculture related), roads, biogas, medical services, health care, nutrition, sanitation and disease control, non-formal education, Adult education vocational training of handicapped persons, watershed development, AIDS awareness and prevention, women empowerment and women and child development etc.

STAFFING:

The trust has a total strength of more than 25 persons, most of whom are in rural areas. Most of them are post graduates in various disciplines related to rural life.

MANAGEMENT:

NLRDF is structurally working under a Board of Trustees, the Chairman of which is directly responsible for the overall policy direction and guidelines for the trust. **The present Chairman is Mr. Samveg A. Lalbhai.**

Reporting directly to the Chairman and the Board of Trustees is the Executive Director of the trust, who has the responsibility of guiding policy formulation and providing necessary feedback for the same. He is also responsible for the strategic and operational planning of the trust's programme. **The present Executive Director is Mr. B.M.Shah.**

FUNDS:

NLRDF has so far been funded by the Arvind Mills Ltd. Ahmedabad, to the tune of Rs.15 Million. NLRDF has also been mobilizing government funds directly for the beneficiaries of its programme as well as for certain infrastructural activities and other purposes of rural interest.

NLRDF Identity :**Board of Trustees :**

No.	Name	Designation	Age	Qualification	Occupation
1	Shri Samveg A. Lalbhai	Chairman	52	B.Com.	Industrialist
2	Shri Anang A. Lalbhai	Trustee	50	B.Com.-MBA	Industrialist
3	Mrs. Jayshreeben S. Lalbhai	Trustee	56	B.A. M.Ed.	Social Services
4	Mrs. Anamikaben S. Lalbhai	Trustee	52	B.A. (Hons)	Social Services

Management

1	Shri B. M. Shah	Executive Director	61	M.Com., F.C.A., LL.B., CISA (USA)	Service
2	Shri K. P. Patel	Chief Manager	56	B.Com., LLB	Service

- ❖ Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund is a Voluntary Organization registered under the Bombay Public Trust Act 1950 as Charitable Trust (Reg. No. E/3296/29.7.1978.)
- ❖ Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund is registered u/s 12A of the Income Tax Act. 1961 No. N-83/ARV.
- ❖ All individual & Corporate donations are also eligible for exemption u/s 80.G The exemption under section 80 -G is available vide their letter No. DIT(E) /80G(S)/1176/06-07, dated. 20.9.2007
- ❖ Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund is also registered under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act 1976 for accepting any foreign donations & grants vide Registration No: 041910009 dated. 8.1.1985

Name and address of the Banker :

- ❖ State Bank of India , Naroda Road, Ahmedabad - 380025.
- ❖ State Bank of India , Bhadra Main, Ahmedabad. (FCRA Account).

Name and address of Auditors :

Sorab S. Engineers & Co.,
909, ATMA House, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad.

Activities Undertaken

Economic Assistance to Widows for Rehabilitation:

The programme of giving support to widows is being implemented by NLRDF for the last seven years. The basic objective of this programme is to make widows independent, self sufficient and self reliant so that they can respectfully earn their livelihood. They are trained in various vocational skills and given kits to earn their livelihood. As a part of training, lessons in entrepreneurship development are also given in which quality assurance, marketing, management of trades costing are included to enhance their self confidence, so that they can start their own business.



After the completion of the training a kit worth Rs.5000/- is provided to each widow.

NLRDF has so far implemented this programme in 20 districts of Gujarat State and imparted training to 10768 widows. Looking at the achievements till the year 2011-12, the Government of Gujarat has awarded target of imparting training to 300 in 4 districts.

No. of Trainings held during the year:

No	District	Centre	Duration	No. of beneficiaries
1	Ahmedabad	Detroj	2 weeks	25
2	Ahmedabad	Detroj 1 and 2	2 weeks	25
3	Sabarkantha	Khedbrahma 1	2 weeks	25
4	Sabarkantha	Khedbrahma 2	2 weeks	25
5	Kutchha	Bhuj 1	2 weeks	25
6	Kutchha	Bhuj 2	2 weeks	23

Objectives :

The programme is sponsored by Department of Women and Child Development and Social Defense Department, Gandhinagar for rehabilitation of unsupported widows in Gujarat State. Women Entrepreneurship Development Programme is implemented

in order to make the widows self sufficient. The aim of the programme is to provide with economic development along with self respect.



Subjects incorporated in the training:

- Business Opportunity Guidance
- Selection of Trade/Occupation and its criteria
- Market Survey/study through practical self experience of “Mini Market ”
- Experience sharing with successful entrepreneurs
- Market management
- Technical Training in their selected Trade
- Preparing Project Report

The training is imparted through innovative and practical methods like games, group discussion, group activities, field work, field visit, mini market, lectures of successful women entrepreneurs etc. As a part of technical training raw materials of relevant occupations are provided to the participants.



Kit distribution to widows :

NLRDF runs the project since 2006. The organization provides trainings to the widows with the help of Social Defense Department and make them to get necessary equipments/kits for their business. As help they receive kit through which they start their business initially. During this year networking and linkages were done with Social Defense Department, Gandhinagar and at the District level. This coordination at the State and District level helped to receive kit for widows. The widows who participated in the trainings from the year 2010 to 2012 receive the kits for their business. The kits were distributed to 5694 widows in 13 districts through respective Social Defense Officer of the district.



Survey of Widows:

In the last 6 years NLRDF has imparted vocational skills to around 10,000 widows from across the state and helped them set up a small enterprise to sustain their livelihood. Now NLRDF wants to measure the success of its rehabilitation programme and understand the needs of the women so that an action plan can be drawn to better their lives.



With the help of 15 students of HL-BCA of Ahmedabad University and under direct guidance of Mr. B.M. Shah Executive Director of NLRDF and Registrar of Ahmedabad University, and Ms. Hina Timani, Sr. Faculty of the Deptt. the survey work was carried out.. The student were assigned project of survey of widow in summer vacation towards part of their course to sensitize students towards social services. The students readily agreed to volunteer for this unique project

Findings of survey:

Findings of the survey are very positive and encouraging.

- Out of 525, around 75% women are getting monthly income of Rs. 3000 to 5000 and 25% are getting monthly income above Rs. 5000.
- Due to increase in their income they got good status and respect in the society.
- Few of them were excepting loan for expanding their business.

Financial help for entrepreneur development to widows :

A survey was undertaken on widows during the year of 2012-2013. During the survey series of visits were planned with those widows who were trained for entrepreneurship but due to lack of financial resources unable to expand their business. After the survey the organization analyzed the needs of widows and made a list of widows those who needed help to run their entrepreneur. The NLRDF provided financial help of Rs. 4000 to Rs. 7500 to the widows based on their needs for expansion of their entrepreneur. This help made a great difference in their lives. The widows who used to earn Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4000 monthly now they started to earn around Rs. 7000. Thus 14 widows have been benefited. Widows run entrepreneurs like garment making, cutlery store, provision store, beauty parlor, soda making etc. NLRDF intends to expand this service to higher number of beneficiaries based on the

need and merit. On the basis of this survey compilation of 80 success stories (entrepreneurs) has been prepared with full details and photos.



Outcomes

Trainings to widows helped them to sustain and later improve upon their economic condition, and to shape their social image in the society. It also helped to access to other Government schemes which made them more strengthened in their business.

Photo of Beneficiaries



Success Story

Surajba Ranjitsingh Rathod is 30 years old widow, lives in Moyad village of Prantij Taluka of Sabarkantha District. Presently she does tailoring work, and earns Rs. 8000 to 10000 monthly. She has 8 years old son who studies in school.

At the age of 22 years, she got married with Ranjitsingh, her husband was doing tailoring work. Due to HIV & AIDS her husband died at the age of 25 years. It was very difficult for her to sustain family after her husband's death.



But the entrepreneurship training she received by the NLRDF helped her to develop new business skills, knowledge and learning. After the training she had to invest for getting raw materials and machines for business. She did hard work for that. At least now she earns Rs. 250 per day. Now she herself trains other women for tailoring, she takes Rs. 400 for teaching.

The business gave her good status, reputation and respect in the society. She also learnt to keep accounts. She has a dream for her son to get good education.



Niruben Rameshbhai Jitiya is 30 years old widow, lives in Surat. Presently she has a shop of anaj kariyana and tiffin service, and earns Rs. 8000 to 10000 monthly. She has 8 years old son who studies in school.

When she got married, she was 18 years old. She got married with Rameshbhai, her husband was doing nothing. She was doing labor work. Her husband died during stone operation at the age of 21 years. Her husband had AIDS. Because of her husband she also now has AIDS. After her husband's death, she did not have any support from anyone. But with hope she joined the Entrepreneurship Development Program with the help of NLRDF. Thus training helped her to develop new business skills, knowledge and learning. After the training, she started the small provision store. In the beginning she was getting much difficulties in maintaining her business. She was earning Rs. 2000 monthly. Now she earns Rs. 8000 to Rs. 10000 per month. She can do her work very well.

CHANGE Programme

The NLRDF with the support of Health Department Personnel actively implements the Change Programme since 2008 in Khedbrahma taluka of Sabarkantha District. The programme was initiated by CHETNA, Ahmedabad. During the project period the emphasis was given on enhancing the capacities of the community to access to quality public health services under the National Rural Health Mission in 133 villages of all the 7 Public Health Centre (PHCs).

The main objectives of the programme are:

- To advocate for health entitlements of rural communities through participatory communication strategy
- To enhance capacity of the service providers, civil society organizations, media and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) on communicating and advocating for NRHM commitments
- To promote community awareness Mother Child Health (MCH)entitlements
- To promote exchange of experiences, innovations, learning and challenges, to document and disseminate key processes and learning

Under this programme, a series of training programmes were conducted for Self Help Group (SHG) leaders, Asha workers, Anganwadi workers, Anti-Neutral Midwife (ANMs) and ICDS Supervisors, Village Health Sanitation Committee (VHSC) and Panchayat members in 133 villages. The focus of the training programmes was on Child care, nutrition and services of AWCs. Besides this, community based programmes like awareness meetings, exhibitions, Bhavai, street meetings, Mamta divas etc were organized. Different issues such as health, NRHM schemes and other health related problems were discussed in the meetings.

The project ensured poor people of the community to avail the benefits of the following services provided by NRHM.

- Cheeranjivi Yojana
- Janani Suraksha Yojana
- Balsakha Yojana
- Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana
- Mamta Divas

Activates:

No	Details	No. of Activities
1	Block meetings	9
2	Visits of Asha workers	216
3	Visits of Nurses	78
4	Visits to Anganwadis	167
5	Visits to Medical Officer (MO)	58
6	Visits to Block Health Officer (BHO)	17
7	Visits of Block Intimation Education and Communication Officer	16
8	District level meetings	2
9	Community visits	457
10	GSB meetings	60

Outcomes

Through this programme women could access to health services and facilities offered by the Government schemes. Trainings also helped women to discover proper knowledge regarding health issues, to change their attitude towards importance of health and to inspire them to disseminate their learning to others.



MAMTA Taruni Programme :

The Mamta Taruni programme has been implemented with special focus on improving the level of health and nutrition among non school going girls in the age group of 10 to 19 years. NLRDF has initiated the Mamta Taruni Programme in coordination with CHETNA since January 2011, and is being implemented in 23 villages of Matoda PHC in Khedbrahma Taluka of Sabarkantha District and 18 villages of Unchi dhanal PHC.

A survey was undertaken in 23 villages of Matoda PHC in which 10 to 19 years of age group of adolescent 708 non school going girls and 20 to 24 years of age group of 772 girls were covered Mamta Taruni Divas was celebrated in all 23 villages under the purview of Matoda PHC. No. of meetings with mothers of adolescent girls, sarpanchs and PHC were held.



Meetings also were conducted with non school going girls and their mothers. Celebration of Mamta Divas and meetings helped to disseminate awareness and understanding on Mamta Taruni Divas and avail of the services.

Under this programme, the NLRDF planned training programmes for non school going adolescent girls. The focus of the training programme was on nutrition awareness, personal hygiene and health care. All these girls were covered by supplementary nutrition and micronutrient benefits and also provided nutritious food. The NLRDF also took care for 10 to 19 years of girls to provide services of vaccine, tablets of Iron Folic Acid and other health related assistance timely.



Activities in 23 villages of Matoda PHC

No	Activities	No. of Activities
1	Mamta Taruni Divas (Adolescent Day)(23 villagae)	532(Bene)
2	Meetings with Primary Health Centre	15
3	Meetings with Community Health Centre (CHC)	11
4	Survey of adolescent girls	2
5	Visits of Sarpanch (NLRDF Staff & link worker)	367
6	Staff meetings	28 day
7	Services to the girls of 10 to 19 years of age on Mamta Divas	335
8	Meetings with the mothers of adolescent girls of 10 to 19 years in each village	23(414 participant)
9	Services to the girls of 20 to 24 years of age on Mamta Divas	528
10	FGDs with the girls of 10 to 19 years of age	28(868 participant)
11	Visits to Anganwadis	188
12	Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with mothers of girls	29(468 participant)

Activities in 18 villages of Unchi Dhanal PHC

No	Activities	No. of Activities / villages	No. of participants
1	Mamta Divas	52	565
2	PHC meeting	3	92
3	CHC meeting	2	210
4	Sarpanch visit	20 villages	20
5	Youth meeting	35 villages	325
6	Meetings with Adolescent girls	17 villages	1435

All these activities were followed by continuous field visits, faliya meetings and home visits.

Outcomes

The major difference the programme could bring in the adolescent girls is about discarding disbelief among the girls and cultivating right understanding about health related issues.

Self Help Group Programme

The SHG formation and bank linkages programme has made major difference in the lives of women. The organization implements the project with the support of NABARD since September 2011 in the villages of Khedbhrahma Taluka of Sabarkantha District. The project has covered 512 tribal women by forming 50 SHGs. Under this project SHGs members meet every month for the meetings and also have regular savings. The total savings of all SHGs are Rs. 243130. Internal loaning in the group members, grading of the group by banks and linkages with bank has been started in the groups.



As a part of capacity building, 134 SHG leaders from 50 SHGs have been delivered trainings in two batches on Leadership and Record Keeping. In the trainings District Development Manager NABARD and Lead Bank Manager from DENA BANK were present as Resource Persons.



Mason Training Programme

NLRDF through District Rural Development Agency (DRDA), Himmatnagar has been given Mason Training Programme under Mission Mangalam Programme. Beneficiaries who worked in National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) and come under 0-16 score in BPL category were given training. For the purpose of skill up gradation the training programme was conducted. The organization did a survey and planned trainings in different areas



Details of training

No	Villages	Taluka	No. of Participants	Duration
1	Sabalvad	Idar	25	15.3.13 to 25.3.13
2	Raigadh	Himmatnagar	25	15.3.13 to 25.3.13
3	Karol	Prantij	25	15.3.13 to 25.3.13



During this 10 days the training was held in two sections first two days was on theoretical aspect of construction and another 8 days was practical. In the training participations learnt about like proper mortar preparation, use of different tools for masonry work, optimum use of raw materials etc. After the trainings, the participants were given certificates and kits.

The purpose of the training was to train and develop construction fraternity, and to strengthen the construction skills. Overall during the training the participants

strengthened their skills , knowledge and learning on Foundation, Walling and Pillars, Openings, Roofing and Materials and methods of construction.

After the training, participants from Karol-Prantij were given work of construction by Taluka Panchayat under the programme of Sardar Avas Yojana. Because of skill up gradation, they now started to get daily Rs. 250 to Rs. 400. Linkages were made with L & T, now they get Rs. 7000 per month. 14 trained masons from Raighadh, 13 trained masons from Karol and 10 trained masons from Sabalvad got work, after completion of this training.

Outcomes

Many people used do labor work including mason works. Trainings under this programme raised a level of knowledge and skills and helped to be more result oriented in their works. Post training works of masonry were very useful and very successful because what they learnt in the trainings helped them to get new contracts and higher earning.

Success Story

Kalaji Bhikhabhai is a laborer and belongs to Sabalvad village. Due to lack of education, he was doing labor work. Kalaji was given work under MGNREGA in his village. He was getting Rs. 15000 for 100 days in MGNREGA and besides he was earning Rs. 3000 by mason work. So average he was earning Rs. 18000 to 20000 in a year.



During this MGNREGA programme, Kalaji participated in the mason training that was conducted by NLRDF with the support of DRDA, Sabarkantha. During the training he learnt both theoretical aspect and practical approach on construction work. This made him more skilled and systematic in his work. After the training he received a certificate and a kit. After the training Kalaji started mason work in his village and applied all the skills he learnt in the training. He worked with master mason in panel which made him more experienced. After this he was encouraged and confident, so he took his own contract and completed his work. Now he takes his own work and earns Rs. 350 to 400 per day. He gets work at least for 15 to 20 days in a month. He earns Rs. 7000 to 8000 per month.

National AIDS Control Programme

NLRDF with the support of Gujarat State Aids Control Society, Ahmedabad implements AIDS Control Project since 2003 in urban areas of Idar, Khedbhrahma, Vadali and Himmatnagar of Sabarkhantha District. Under this project, no. of awareness programmes and trainings were conducted such as peer training, refresher training, livelihood training, SHGs meetings, Sneh Sammelan.



The programme has designated 20 high risk areas-“Spots”-where **Vulnerable Women and MSMs** were generally found. Under the intervention 610 **Vulnerable Women** and 470 **MSMs** were covered. They are considered Key Population for the project.

The major focus of the project is on:

- Behavioral Change Communication
- Regular Medical Check up
- Counseling
- Treatment of Sexual Transmitted Infection(STI)and Reproductive Transmitted Infection (RTI)
- Condom Promotion
- Referral and linkages with Integrated Counseling and Testing Centre(ICTC)

Community Based Activities - HIV/ AIDS

Monthly District level meeting is held at Drop In Centre (DIC) Himmatnagar. KPs and PE participate in the meetings.

Hot Spot Meetings are held with **VULNERABLE WOMEN** and **MSM** in area of Project in Sabarkantha district. Such types of meetings are held where **VULNERABLE WOMENs** and **MSMs** are gathered. The organization identified 20 such places.

Regular PE review meetings are held in which status of their works are discussed, and through these meetings gaps are analyzed and efforts are made to minimize the problems.

Yearly two stakeholders' meetings are held in which generally police, hotel owners, advocates, local politicians, social workers are gathered.

Sometimes VULNERABLE WOMENs and MSMs go through the problems, exploitation and other issues. Therefore, to mitigate such circumstances the organization has formed a crisis cell. The crisis cell tries to help such VULNERABLE WOMENs and MSMs and to solve their problems.

The organization recruits an HIV positive person which is called GIPA. He/she helps organization in the programme for counseling and other services related to HIV / AIDS.

The organization also plans community events every year in which different programmes are organized. This year picnic was conducted.

The organization holds advocacy meetings and celebrates world AIDS day on 1st December. The purpose of celebrating the day is to generate and disseminate awareness on HIV / AIDS. The activities like rally, exhibitions are held. The organization also held meetings with 45 students of nursing school.

Every year 2 days PE trainings are held to strengthen their skills and learning. And organization also has prepared a panel of 8 doctors. These doctors are given trainings by STRC-CORT on different issues of HIV / AIDS including treating VULNERABLE WOMENs and MSMs.

Students of MSW College - Bhetali, Girls ITI - Idar and Commerce College - Idar participated in the programmes conducted by the organization.

KPs are identified by the organization and are promoted for HIV testing twice in a year. Out Reach Workers (ORWs) or Counselors help them through counseling to understand about HIV / AIDS. And also regular medical check up for KPs by the doctors are done.

During Refresher Syndromes Case Management Training to the Panel Doctors of the project, Dr. Urvish Joshi provided essential guidance. He explained the following contents:

- Basics of STI/RTI, HIV & AIDS
- Basics of syndromes case management
- Basics of sexuality
- Managing STI/RTI in High Risk Group(HRG) population
- Condom promotion
- Roles and responsibilities

Activities conducted during the year

Sr. No	Activities	No. of Activities
1	Target population	1005
2	Total coverage (Actual)	10382
3	No. of persons consulted (all treated and 5% HRG)	2049
4	No. of HRGs accessed clinical services (TI clinic and PPP)	2251
5	No of KPs availed Regular Medical Checkup (RMC)	1426
6	No. of Key Population provided presumptive treatment	400
7	No. of STI treated	40
8	No. of HRGs screened for syphilis/CRPR tested	1535
9	No. of KPs referred to ICTC and tested at ICTC	1535
10	No. of hot spot meetings	204
11	No. of weekly meetings with PEs	48
12	No. of SHGs formed	01



Appreciation of work - Prize distribution thro' Chairman of NLRDF to Peer Educator for the good performance in the NACP project at Idar, Sabarkantha

Outcomes

These awareness and sensitization related programmes on HIV/AIDS could bring considerable improvements among Key Population to understand the seriousness of life and risk of serious disease like AIDS. Particularly meetings with vulnerable women were very meaningful and effective because vulnerable women could find very valuable learning in their lives.

HIV / AIDS Awareness programme for Industrial Workers :

NLRDF with the support of Gujarat State AIDS Control Society (GSACS), Ahmedabad organized an awareness workshop in two phases for industrial workers. During the workshop Project Administrator of the organization Vinod Desai well come all the guests and Chief Manager Mr K.P Patel emphasized more on the purpose of the programme.



In the beginning Manger of Ashoka Spintex Mr Jigar Shashtri encouraged the workers to learnt from the workshop and to bring more workers to the workshop. Later Kamleshbhai Mesvania Resource Person discussed on HIV/AIDS. Human Immuno deficiency Virus / Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) is a disease of the human immune caused by infection with human immuno deficiency virus (HIV).



People with AIDS frequently have systemic symptoms such as prolonged fevers, sweats (particularly at night), swollen lymph nodes, chills, weakness, and weight loss and diarrhea.

He also explained about HIV. HIV is transmitted primarily via unprotected sexual intercourse (including anal and even oral sex), contaminated blood transfusions, hypodermic needles, and from mother to child during pregnancy, delivery, or breastfeeding. Prevention of HIV infection, primarily through safe sex and needle-exchange programs, is a key strategy to control the spread of the disease. There is no cure or vaccine; however, antiretroviral treatment can slow the course of the disease and may lead to a near-normal life expectancy.

Sanjaybhai Oza Manager IR of Arvind Mill also stated to join in campaign of awareness of HIV and AIDS and to reach as many people to disseminate awareness. Around 650 industrial workers were present in the programme.

Vocational Training Programme for Vulnerable Women :

The organization planned the training programme with the support of Gujarat Women Economic Development Corporation Ltd, Gandhinagar. The objective of the programme is to help VULNERABLE WOMEN to come out from their VULNERABLE WOMEN and help to sustain their lives by providing them trainings of entrepreneurship.

Details of the Training

Place	Type of training	No of participants	Duration
Idar	Tailoring and cutting	19	2 Months
Ghadi	Tailoring and cutting	11	2 Months
Khedbrahma	Mahendi Design	17	1 Month
Vaktapur	Mahendi Design	16	1 Month
Vadali	Mahendi Design	19	1 Month
Idar	Tailoring and cutting	20	2 Months
Vadali	Tailoring and cutting	20	2 Months
Khedbrahma	Tailoring and cutting	20	2 Months

During the training, the participants were given sessions of theory and practical which included concept, types of business, analysis of cost and benefits. At the end of the training women received certificates. After training, with the financial help of NLRDF they were given tailoring machines which helped them to start their own income because of work they get. Now women were economically strengthened and became sustained as women started earning. Participation of women in the training programme and aid of getting tailoring machines raised their confidence and now they are very happy and they will do their own work. This will help them to live with dignity.





Outcomes

Voices of women came from their experiences that because of support they received by the organization, they could develop potentials of entrepreneurship and could bring positive changes in their lives which impacted the society also.

Success Story

Kamlaben comes from very poor family where there are 6 members in the family and her brother is a drunkard and her sister in law is at home only and not helping. Kamlaben's husband was unemployed and was involved in antisocial activities and was drunkard. Finally she took divorced, but she had to pay 50000 to her father and mother in laws. She had to do labor work and she was tired of labor work, so finally she decided to work as commercial sex worker (CSW).

In this situation, NLRDF gave Kamlaben an opportunity as PE, Khedbrahma and she started to earn Rs. 1500 per month, and also she was getting some extra work. NLRDF with the support of Gujarat Mahila Arthik Vikas, Gandhinagar provided trainings to such women. Kamlaben took a training of tailoring and cutting for two months. She learnt tailoring and designing in the training.



After the training she got Rs. 2000 as stipend and also a certificate. After the training Kamlaben put a thought before NLRDF that it is better if NLRDF help them to utilize Rs. 2000 stipend. So NLRDF accepted that condition and with contribution of Rs. 2000 of women, NLRDF added Rs. 2100 and purchased machine for women. This condition helped women very much in their business. Now she earns more than Rs. 3000 monthly and also she gets Rs. 1500 as PE from the organization.

Celebration of International Women Day :



8 March International Women's Day is celebrated since 100 years globally. This year NLRDF took initiative to celebrate the International Women's Day with the support of GSACS. The organization started this celebration as a campaign from 20th February and conducted no. of awareness programmes like women health camp, public speaking in schools and colleges, child health competition, rallies, dramas on HIV / AIDS and women's health.



A consultation was organized on 8th March 2013 at Khedbrahma. During this consultation different stalls were placed by different organizations like WASMO demonstrated on the issue of drinking water, GSACS and HLL demonstrated on HIV / AIDS, DRDA, Himmatnagar and Health Department also had stalls.

Shri B. M. Shah, Executive Director of NLRDF talked about the programmes implemented by the organization since last 30 years. He also discussed on the programmes such as agriculture, health and SHGs. He said that coordination of Government, organization and community's participation has contributed well in the society and has made difference in the lives of people, and this has created unique identity for the NLRDF in the surrounding districts.

Shri K. K. Shah, Additional Project Director GSACS educated the audience about the misconcepts regarding HIV /AIDS the society has about the women. He further said that 80% HIV / AIDS is spread by men. He shared some meaningful information to prevent HIV /AIDS.



Smt Chhayaben Parekh, Vice Chairman, Nagar Prathamik Sikshan Samiti, Bhavnagar explained about importance of education, health, equal rights and employment. Further she said that in all these four areas if women get opportunity and right place they can do better in the society. She said that today also in the society women are exploited and are treated lower than men, but this situation and mentality should be changed.

Then girls of D. D. Thakar Arts College performed a Dangi Adivasi dance and presented elements of pyramid and development in the society.

Meghaben Chitaliya, Advocate, Gujarat High court, Ahmedabad, she discussed on domestic violence and laws against it. She also discussed about dowry issues, physical and mental abuse, child marriage etc. .

Smt. Nitaben Shah also stated that women are constantly fighting for their human as well as legal rights and equal status in the society since long. . She told that there is a trend that women are merely for household work after the marriage but now there is a time that we should throw out our year-old mentality towards the women and encourage them for education along with equalities.



Smt. Jayshreeben Lalbhai, Trustee, Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund :

She could not attend the function because of her illness. However she greeted the best wishes and conveyed message for this occasion.



Smt. Harshaben in her speech expressed about development of women and to be aware against domestic violence and abuse on women. She also stressed on educating girl child and give them better opportunities in her life so that they can live their life with dignity and upgraded social status in the society. Each woman should come forward and help the other woman that change the present fearful situation and create a woman friendly environment in the society.

International Women's Day is a great way to remember the importance of women in life but celebrating IWD just because other countries are celebrating won't give us anything or solve our problem. Do not merely pursue such trends and days blindly without knowing the importance associated with them. The objective will be clear once the importance is understood. So if we really want to celebrate International Women's Day and have love for our mother, sister, wife and girl child then we have to take a pledge that there will be a total respect for women in our society and sure we will set an example of great respect, admiration and respect towards women.

Total 2900 women from 87 villages, girls from MSW College and other colleges participated in the consultation and visited the stalls. They received very meaningful awareness regarding different health issues. Some of the women were the members of Pani Samiti (Water Committee), they said that information regarding drinking water was very much important. Then a drama was performed on the theme of status of women in the society.

Activities organised on the occasion of International Women Day Celebration

Competitions :

Sr. No.	Name of School / College	Activities	No of Participates
1	Sanskar Vidhyalaya - IDAR	Sport competition	172
2	Sheth N.L. High school, Laxmipura	Drawing, Rangoli, Speech Competition, Best out of west	122
3	D.D. Thakar Arts and Commerce College, Khedbrahma	" I am women and being proud of that " Group Discussion competition	395
4	Arts and Commerce College , Vadali	HIV/AIDS Awareness competition	45 Girls
5	Jyoti Vidhyalaya , Khedbrahma	Rangoli, Best out of west, Importance of women day competition	81 Students
6	Divyachetna M.S.W. College , Bhetali-Idar	HIV/AIDS Awareness Programme	57 students
7	I.T.I. for women, Idar	HIV / AIDS awareness Programme	87 Students

Camps

Sr. No.	Name of Activities	No of Villages	No of Beneficiaries
1	Child Health Competition	9 villages	383 children
2	Women Health check up camp	9 villages	305 women
3	Folk show for awareness	5 villages	5000 people

✚ Prizes were distributed to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winner of all the above competitions.



Total Sanitation Campaign Programme :

Under the total sanitation campaign programme, health and hygiene committees at the village level have been formed. To make more sensitized and generate sympathy towards the issues of the villages, two days training programmes in 12 villages for the health and hygiene committees member were conducted by NLRDF with the support of Taluka Panchayat, Idar.

Details of Training:

Date of Training	Training Place	Villages Covered	No. of Participants
11-6-12 to 12-6-12	Panchayat Hall - Badoli	Badoli, Mundeti, Bhutiya, Goral, Panol	35
13-6-12 to 14-6-12	Panchayat Hall - Looyee	Looyee, Samalapur, Mandava, Barvav, Khaski	35
15-6-12 to 16-6-12	Panchayat Hall - Aroda	Aroda, Santol, Umedgadh, Lalpur, Vadol	35
18-6-12 to 19-6-12	Shivji Temple-Sapteshwar	Eklara, Arsodiya, Chitrodi, Singa	28
20-6-12 to 21-6-12	Panchayat Hall- Chitroda	Chitroda, Dungari, Pratapgadh, Dhruvach	35
22-6-12 to 23-6-12	Shivji Temple-Sapteshwar	Verabar, Jaliya, Golvada, Khoda	28
		28 Villages covered	196

Subjects incorporated in the training :

- 100 percentage covered Latrine in this villages
- Capacity building development of Panchayat member.
- Awareness of disease to drinking water.
- Using of warmi compost .

The major subject like health, hygiene, sanitation were covered during the training and one year planning was done which was presented to Taluka Panchayat.

Outcomes

The programme could generate awareness on health, hygiene and sanitation. This awareness generation developed a platform for the people to understand their behavior and to change their actions.

Block Placement of Students:

Universities and colleges providing education in rural development are depute their students to NLRDF for field exposure and practical experience of developmental programmes and activities conducted by the organization. As a part of its endeavor to build human capital and overall development of youth, NLRDF promotes block fieldwork training. Details of students are as under.

Sr. No	Name of Students	Name and Address of the College	Duration of Placement
1	Patel Manahar Keshavbhai	Shri Z. N. Patel, MSW College, Bhuj	06.06.12 to 05.07.12
2	Sodha Parmar Hitesh P .		
3	Garchar Sailesh Hardasbhai	Lok Seva Maha Vidhyalaya, Lok Bharti, Sanosara	20.08.12 to 09.09.12
4	Dangar Vikram Govindbhai		
5	Prajapati Pradip Dineshbhai	Lok Niketan Maha Vidhyalaya, Ratanpur, Dist: Banaskantha	01.01.13 to 31.01.13
6	Patel Amit Rameshbhai	Sabarseva Maha Vidhyalaya, Sonasan, , District - Sabarkantha	01.01.13 to 31.01.13
7	Patel Pragnesh Jayantibhai		
8	Patel Parth Girishbhai		
9	Nai Bhagyashree Dilipkumar	Growmore Inttitute of MSW - Himmatnagar, District - Sabarkantha	01.02.13 to 08.03.13
10	Parmar Sailesh Devjibhai		
11	Patel Gayatri Vithhalbhai	Shri Z. N. Patel, MSW College, Bhuj	10.03.13 to 31.03.13

Details of visitors :



Dr. Sushil Jain - (CAPT USN - Retd.) President of JAINA - Federation of Jain Association in North America, visited our Khedbrahma field areas and activities on 16.1.2013. A meeting was also organized with the beneficiaries of a training programme at Khedbrahma to understand the activities carried in detail and sharing of his experience in America.

Field staff meeting with Chairman and Executive Director during their trip to Khedbrahma - regarding Activities progress and experience sharing.



Meeting with Executive Director and Guests with field staff- Discursion on current projects and their experience.

ખેડબ્રહ્મા અને ઇડરમાં મહિલા દિવસની ઊજવણી



ખેડબ્રહ્મા/ઇડર | ખેડબ્રહ્મા અને ઇડરના મોહનપુર ખાતે મહિલા દિવસની ઊજવણી નિમિત્તે કાર્યક્રમ યોજાયો હતો. ખેડબ્રહ્મામાં યોજાયેલ સમારંભમાં બી. એમ. શાહે સંસ્થાની કામગીરી વિશે માહિતી આપી હતી. ત્યારબાદ કે. કે. શાહે એઈડસ વિશે જાગૃતિ લાવવાની માહિતી આપી હતી. ત્યારબાદ છાયાબેન પરીખે બહેનોમાં શિક્ષણ અને આરોગ્યની જરૂરિયાત વિશે અને મેઘાબેન ચિતલીયા (ગુજરાત હાઈકોર્ટ બહેનોના હક્કો અને કાયદાઓ વિશે મહિલાઓને માહિતગાર કરી હતી. આ પ્રસંગે સમારંભના મુખ્ય મહેમાન હર્ષાબેન પારેખે જણાવ્યું હતું કે સ્ત્રીઓમાં જે સમજ આજે છે તે ગુજરાત માટે પ્રગતિશીલ છે. તેમ છતાં તેમના જીવનમાં જે મુશ્કેલીઓ આવે છે. જયારે ઇડરના મોહનપુર ખાતે યોજાયેલ કાર્યક્રમમાં મહિલાઓને ઘરેલુ હિંસાનો સામનો કરવો અને મહિલાઓના થતા શોષણ અંગે સવિસ્તાર માર્ગદર્શન આપવામાં આવ્યું હતું. તસ્વીર: અમૃત સુથાર/ પ્રકાશ ગઢવી

Media Print

નરોત્તમ લાલભાઈ રૂરલ ડેવ. ફંડ અને નાબાર્ડ દ્વારા તાલીમ કાર્યક્રમ યોજાયો

બચત મંડળ માટે લીડરશીપ અને હિસાબી જાળવણીનો તાલીમ કાર્યક્રમ તા. ૧૪-૯-૨૦૧૨ના રોજ ગઢડા શામળાજી મંદિર ધર્મશાળા તા. ખેડબ્રહ્મા રાખવામાં આવ્યો. જેમાં નાબાર્ડમાંથી શ્રી ભરતભાઈ ચોધરી સાહેબ, લીડરશીપ મેનેજર શ્રી પ્રશાંત વાઘેલા સાહેબ, એન. એલ. આર. ડી. ના ચીફ મેનેજર શ્રી કે. પી. પટેલ સાહેબ. ખેડબ્રહ્મા તાલુકાના લાઈવલીહુડ મેનેજર શ્રી નરેશભાઈ તથા ભિલોડાથી આવેલા મિશન મંગલામ સ્ટાફ હાજર રહી માર્ગદર્શન આપવામાં આવ્યું. વિનોદભાઈ દેસાઈએ લીડરશીપ અંગે ગણપતીનું ઉદ્દાહરણ આપી સમજાવ્યું. ભરતભાઈ સાહેબે રામસુરનું ઉદ્દાહરણ આપી સમજ આપવામાં આવી. વાઘેલા સાહેબે જીવનના બચતના વિશે મહત્વ વિશે સમજ આપી. મહેશભાઈએ તક જડવી લેવા અંગે દ્રષ્ટાંત દ્વારા સમજાવ્યું. એન. એલ સ્ટાફે સમગ્ર કાર્યક્રમનું આયોજન કર્યું. છેલ્લે મુકેશભાઈએ આભાર વિધિ કરી કાર્યક્રમનું સમાપન કરવામાં આવ્યું.



કાંકરેજ તાલુકાના શિહોરી ખાતે વિધવા મહિલાઓને રોજગાર લક્ષી કીટ વિતરણનો કાર્યક્રમ યોજાયો હતો. (તસ્વીર-રામજીભાઈ રાયગોર, કાંકરેજ)

શિહોરી ખાતે વિધવા મહિલાઓને રોજગારલક્ષી કીટનું વિતરણ કરાયું

કાંકરેજ તા. ૨૬ કાંકરેજ તાલુકા મથક શિહોરી ખાતે વિધવા બહેનોને રોજગાર લક્ષી કીટોનું વિતરણ કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. બનાસકાંઠા જિલ્લાના શિહોરી ખાતે આજે સવારે રાજ્ય સરકાર દ્વારા કાંકરેજ તાલુકામાં વિધવા બહેનોને રોજગાર માટે ધંધાકીય સાધનો, ચાની કીટ, કરીયાણાની કીટ, શાકભાજી, ધંધા અર્થની કીટ, દૂધ, ઘી માટેની કીટ અને ટીફીન કીટોનું વિતરણ કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. રાજ્ય સરકાર દ્વારા વિધવા બહેનોને છેલ્લા ૧૮ થી ૪૦ વર્ષ વય ધરાવતી બહેનોને નરોત્તમ લાલભાઈ રૂરલ ડેવલોપમેન્ટ ફંડ (અરવિંદમીલ સંસ્થા) માંથી ૪૦ બહેનોને રોજગાર પુરો પાડીને પોતાનું ગુજરાન ચલાવવા માટે જેના ભાગ રૂપે સમાજ સુરક્ષા અધિકારી પરમાર દ્વારા કીટોનું વિતરણ કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. આ પ્રસંગે નરોત્તમ લાલભાઈ સંસ્થાના કાર્યકર જયેશભાઈ પટેલ, તખતસિંહ ચૌહાણ, તાલુકા પંચાયત એન. સી. બી. એ. કો. ઓર્ડીનેટર હિમાંશુભાઈ યાદવ હાજર રહ્યા હતા. આ બાબતે વિધવા મહિલાઓને જણાવ્યું હતું કે, અમોને પગભર કરવાના હેતુથી રોજગાર લક્ષી તાલીમ આપી હતી. અને આજે અમને સાધન સહાય વિતરણ કરવામાં આવી હતી.

એમ.એસ.ડબલ્યુ કોલેજમાં મહિલા દિનની ઉજવણી

ભિલોડા: ભિલોડા આર.જી.બારોટ એમ.એસ.ડબલ્યુ કોલેજમાં સેમેસ્ટર-૨માં અભ્યાસ કરતા તાલીમાર્થીઓ ખેડબ્રહ્મા ખાતે આવેલા નરોત્તમ લલ્લુભાઈ ટ્રસ્ટ સંચાલિત સંસ્થા અંતર્ગત વિશ્વ મહિલા દિનની ઉજવણી યોજાઈ હતી. તાલિમાર્થીઓ, વિદ્યાર્થીઓ સહભાગી થયા.વિશ્વ મહિલા સશક્તિકરણ, મહિલા ઉત્કર્ષ અને વિકાસના સદર્ભે આવેલ જુદી જુદી સંસ્થાના પ્રતિનિધિઓ અને સંસ્થાના વડાઓ દ્વારા માહિતી આપવામાં આવી હતી.વિશ્વ મહિલા દિનની ઉજવણી સમાજ કાર્ય વિષય સાથે પરિપૂર્ણ કરી જેમાં સંસ્થાના પ્રમુખે કોલેજના પ્રધ્યાપકો અને તાલિમાર્થીઓનો આભાર વ્યક્ત કર્યો હતો.

નરોત્તમ લાલભાઈ રૂરલ ડેવલપમેન્ટ ટ્રસ્ટ દ્વારા આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય મહિલા દિનની ઉજવણી કરાઈ

હિંમતનગર સાબરકાંઠા જિલ્લાના ખેડબ્રહ્મા ખાતે આજે ગુજરાત સ્ટેટ એઈડ્ડ્સ કંટ્રોલ સોસાયટી અને નરોત્તમ લાલભાઈ રૂરલ ડેવલપમેન્ટ ટ્રસ્ટના સંયુક્ત ઉપક્રમે આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય મહિલા દિનની ઉજવણી કરવામાં આવી હતી.

આ પ્રસંગે નરોત્તમ લાલભાઈ રૂરલ ડેવલપમેન્ટ ટ્રસ્ટના ટ્રસ્ટી શ્રીમતી ડૉ.હર્ષાબેન પારેખે જણાવ્યું હતું કે રાજ્ય સરકાર દ્વારા મહિલાઓના વિકાસ માટે અનેકવિધ યોજનાઓ અમલમાં મુકી છે. ઉપરાંત ગુજરાતમાં મહિલા સશક્તિકરણ માટે ગુજરાત સરકારે સંખ્યાબધ્ધ કામો કર્યા છે. મહિલાઓના હક્ક માટે રાજ્ય સરકાર દ્વારા વિશેષ ભાર મુકવામાં આવી રહ્યો છે ત્યારે મહિલાઓએ પોતાના હક્ક માટે જાગૃત થવું જોઈએ એમ તેમણે જણાવ્યું હતું.

આ નિમિત્તે ભાવનગર શિક્ષણ સમિતિના ઉપાધ્યક્ષશ્રીમતી છાયાબેને બહેનોને સંબોધતા જણાવ્યું હતું કે



સ્ત્રીઓએ પોતાના હક્ક માટે જાગૃત થવું જોઈએ: ડૉ.હર્ષાબેન પારેખ

દિકરીઓને ઉચ્ચ શિક્ષણ અપાવી વિકાસની નવી દિશાઓ ખોલી છે. તેમને વિકાસના યાર આયામ સમજાવતા જણાવ્યું હતું કે સ્ત્રીના શારિરીક

માનસિક બૌદ્ધિક અને ભાવાનાત્મક વિકાસ થકી જ સાર્વભૌમત્વ વિકાસ શક્ય બનશે

આ પ્રસંગે ગુજરાત હાઈકોર્ટના

આસી.ગર્વમેન્ટ પ્લીડર શ્રીમતી મેઘાબેન પિતલીયાએ જણાવ્યું હતું કે ૨૧મી સદિનું ભારતની જેનુ નેતૃત્વ ભારત કરી રહ્યું છે ત્યારે મહિલાઓ પછાત કઈ રીતે

રહી શકે આજે વિશ્વમાં મહિલાઓ દરેક ક્ષેત્રોમાં ખુબ સારા હોદાઓ રાવતી થઈ છે. કેટલાંય દેશોમાં મહિલાઓ વડાપ્રધાન અને રાષ્ટ્રપતિના પદ સુધી પહોંચી છે. તેમણે કહ્યું કે ગુજરાતમાં સખીમંડળ અને મિશન મંગલમ યોજના દ્વારા મહિલા આર્થિક સશક્તિકરણનું ખુબ સારું કામ થયું છે. તેમણે કહ્યું કે સાબરકાંઠા જિલ્લામાં મહિલા શિક્ષણ વધે અને તેઓ પણ ઉચ્ચ હોદાઓ પ્રાપ્ત કરી રાષ્ટ્રની સેવામાં જોડાય. તેમણે કહ્યું કે મહિલાઓ શિક્ષણ દ્વારા પ્રગતિના સોપાનો જરૂર સર કરી શકશે.

આ પ્રસંગે નરોત્તમ લાલભાઈ રૂરલ ડેવલપમેન્ટ ટ્રસ્ટના એક્ઝુક્યુટીવ ડાયરેક્ટર શ્રી બી.એમ.શાહે સંસ્થાની સેવાકાર્યોનો ઉલ્લેખ કરી જિલ્લામાં શિક્ષણ આરોગ્ય ખેતી પશુપાલન અને સમાજ સુધારણાના અનેકવિધ કાર્યો કરી હોવાની વિગત આપી હતી.

આ પ્રસંગે વિવિધ સંસ્થાઓના સામાજિક કાર્યકર્તાઓ તથા વિશાળ સંખ્યામાં બહેનો ઉપસ્થિત રહી છે.

CITY

LAPTOPS, CELLPHONES WORTH Rs 74,500 STOLEN

In his complaint to Ellisbridge police Dhaval Modi, a resident of Patel building in Madalpur Gam, stated that someone stole a laptop worth Rs 40,000 from his house on Sunday. Dhaval Patel, resident of Alkanand Flat in Nehrunagar, claimed that a laptop worth Rs 20,000 and two cellphones worth more than Rs 14,500 were stolen from his house on Sunday.

AhmedabadMirror 2

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HL BCA students cancel summer vacation trips to do social service

15 students of the college are volunteering for a project initiated by Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund. It requires them to take up field trips to villages around the city, meet beneficiaries of NGO's schemes and submit a review report



The BCA students visit places like Nandoj, Hansol, Hathijan, Bapunagar, Vatva, Vivekanandnagar and Aslali every day. They have decided to conduct a 15-day workshop in English and computers for NLRDF beneficiaries

Yogesh Avasthi
@yogeshgroup.com

While a lot of Amdavadis are busy globetrotting this summer, students of HL BCA have cancelled their trips to exotic destinations for "something more worthwhile". They are revisiting thousands of beneficiaries of Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund (NLRDF) in and around Ahmedabad to plan, monitor and review its activities.

And it has been a giant leap forward for these youngsters — from air-conditioned rooms to field trips; from expensive luncheons to making do with whatever is offered; from social networking to social service; from all-is-well illusion to harsh realities.

In the last six years, NLRDF has imparted vocational skills to 10,000 widows from across the state and helped them set up a small enterprise to sustain their livelihood.

Now, NLRDF wants to measure the success of its rehabilitation programmes. The field trips undertaken by students will help the NGO under-

stand the needs of the women so that an action plan can be drawn to better their lives. Since the beneficiaries are illiterate, only a one-to-one interaction with them would help NLRDF fulfil its objective.

So, the NGO approached Ahmedabad University which in turn informed HL BCA about the project. The students readily agreed to volunteer for this unique project; some of them either postponed or cancelled their travel plans altogether at the eleventh hour.

OUR POCKET MONEY IS EQUAL TO THEIR MONTHLY INCOME

Aagam Jhaveri was to tour Bangkok, Indonesia and Malaysia with his father, a diamond merchant. "We were planning to attend a jewellery exhibition. But when I told my father that I was keen on doing social service, he supported me. We have postponed our tour," he said.

Asked what has been the biggest learning so far from this exercise, he said, "It made me understand the

value of money. The amount I spend on weekend parties is what these women earn in a month. Using that money, they run the house and take care of their children's education."

NINE HRS ON THE FIELD

From 9 am to 6 pm, the students are out in the field, meeting women, understanding their financial difficulties, gathering from them what more needs to be done in terms of skill upgradation and financial help. The job is not easy as students are usually met with resistance from women who are not comfortable answering questions pertaining to their daily income and kids' education.

"It takes a lot of convincing before they open up. All we need to do is fill up the survey form after obtaining feedback. But it is not all that easy. For a five minute job we spend two to three hours. It is not just about gathering information. We understand their problems. We also give them suggestions on how to improve their skills," said Rushang Shah.

Rushang usually spends his sum-

mer holidays with his uncle in Mumbai. "This time, I decided to stay back and do something for the society," he said. The BCA students have decided to conduct a 15-day workshop in English and computers for these women in association with NLRDF.

DROPPED BANGKOK TRIP

Arzoo Shah and her sister had planned an eight-day tour of Bangkok. She dropped her plans and asked her family members to proceed with their plans. "My parents cancelled the trip. They were in fact happy that I had chosen social service over a foreign trip. My mother told me there is no greater happiness than bringing a smile to somebody's face," she said.

Steffi Felix D'Cuinha was to leave for Bhavnagar, but she chose to stay back in city. "I am learning a lot from the project. Life is not always kind. But I really admire these women for the way they are rebuilding their lives. The money I spend on cosmetics and accessories is something they spend on their basic needs," she said.

Vidhi Jhaveri was to visit her rela-

tives in Mumbai. She is observing the Varshitap, a difficult form of fasting in which Jains refrain from eating or drinking every alternate day for 400 days. Vidhi has already completed three months of fasting. Despite strict dietary restrictions, she is most excited about day-long field trips. "Helping those in need is a noble deed. I do not feel tired because the experience is so satisfying," she says.

ACTION PLAN

Every day, the group of 15 students visits places like Nandoj, Hansol, Hathijan, Bapunagar, Vatva, Vivekanandnagar and Aslali.

Programme coordinator Neeta Shah said, "I appreciate the spirit of these students who have willingly cancelled their vacation plans to do something good for the society. These children who usually spend their days in airconditioned rooms are out in the heat for nearly eight hours every day. They are doing a great job. Based on the results of their survey, we will chart an action plan to improve the lives of the women."

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION



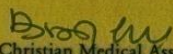
This certificate is awarded to

Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund (NLRDF)

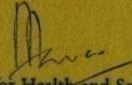
in recognition of valuable contributions towards the project

“Participatory Communication Initiative for Improving Access to Public Healthcare Services for Rural Communities under the National Rural Health Mission”

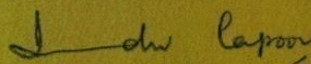
COMMUNICATION FOR HEALTH INDIA NETWORK (CHIN)


Christian Medical Association of India
(CMAI)

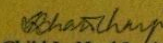



Rural Unit for Health and Social Affairs
(RUHSA)




Centre for Health Education, Training and
Nutrition Awareness (CHETNA)




Child In Need Institute (CINI)



NLRDF has its presence in more than 20 districts of Gujarat with the following common features:

Registered Office

Mr. B. M. Shah
Executive Director
Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund
Arvind Mills Premises
Naroda Road
Ahmedabad - 380025
email : bm.shah@ahduni.edu.in

Administrative Office

Mr. K. P. Patel
Chief Manager
Narottam Lalbhai Rural Development Fund
Ashok Mill Premises
Naroda Road
Ahmedabad - 380025
email: kanti.patel@arvind.com
Tel.: 079 - 22202999/22202504

Field Offices

NLRDF
Behind Gayatri Temple
At : Khedbrahma, Dist. Sabarkantha

NLRDF
F/206 Damodar Complex,
At : Idar, Dist. Sabarkantha

NLRDF
S.K.Dist. Sangh Building
At : Himmat nagar, Dist. Sabarkantha

Team - NLRDF



B.M. Shah
Executive Director



K.P. Patel
Chief Manager

Core Team



Field Team

