

36th Annual Report 2017-18

Participatory Democracy and Inclusive Governance



Knowledge. Voice. Democracy.

PRIA



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Interventions in

3 cities

9 districts

198 gram panchayats

Reaching out

Directly building capacities of 651,168 persons

Sensitizing 1.5 million population (community members, staff in public agencies and private organisations, political leaders and elected representatives)

555 training-learning workshops

with 16,086 learners (7374 men and 8712 women)

Outreach extended by engagement with 87 media professionals and 76 academics across 54 universities

Facilitating

160 gram sabha meetings

132 SHG meetings

2298 youth group meetings (no. of meetings with youth up 100%)

35 workshops and conferences with 1460 participants

2 city-wide surveys covering 12,800 households, with 20% urban poor households

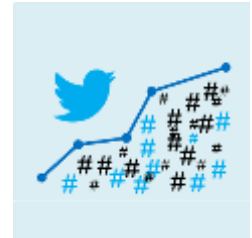
Visibility

12% ↑ increase in print visibility, with 277 media stories



followers ↑ 11.5%
reaching out to
163,283 people

311,103
impressions
on Twitter



Top 3 tweets

PRIA India @PRIA_India
Democracy in everyday life means citizen participation #diel
#Internationaldayofdemocracy
pic.twitter.com/xjeWxyTaP6

September 2017

Impressions	3,299
Total engagements	105
Media engagements	46
Likes	32
Retweets	15
Detail expands	5
Link clicks	3
Replies	2
Profile clicks	2

PRIA India @PRIA_India
Along with @UNESCOChairCBR, we have partnered with @uvic to build research capacity to address local societal challenges, including #SDGs in the form of the 'Knowledge for Change' initiative. #K4C

February 2018

Impressions	3,286
Total engagements	28
Likes	15
Retweets	6
Detail expands	5

PRIA India @PRIA_India
Under @swachhbharat, India will need a staggering 5.2 mn sanitation workers in the immediate future. But, are we ready to ensure that these workers will get 'green jobs', in the drive to Skill India? @YASMinistry @NSDCINDIA
Read more - <http://bit.ly/2iaTBNO>

March 2018

Impressions	2,699
Total engagements	32
Likes	6
Detail expands	8
Link clicks	6
Retweets	5
Profile clicks	5

Preface

Societies are undergoing deep transformations around the world. In countries like India, half the population is less than 25 years of age. Growing access to education and affordable mobile phones are making huge impacts on traditional modes of relationships in the family and neighbourhood. Migration of youth to small towns and cities is creating its own dynamics.

For an independent research and training organisation like PRIA, these shifts bring enormous challenges. As an institution built on the premise of 'knowledge is power', PRIA has anticipated such societal shifts in designing and implementing its interventions towards equitable, just and inclusive development over the past 36 years. This challenge is further aggravated in a world of decreasing space for civic dialogue, citizenship and inclusion. When civil society is in seize, grassroots democracy is undermined. This 36th Annual Report presents the work of PRIA over the past year in this changing milieu.

The trajectory of our work has to be viewed beyond the confines of one annual report. Inclusive development demands attention to vulnerable rural and urban households. Accessing basic services and claiming their rights entails awareness, mobilisation and organisation of such households.

But, mere mobilisation of demand is not enough, as PRIA has learnt over decades. Sensitisation and accountability of the supply side—panchayats, municipalities, line departments and delivery agencies—is critical to secure such inclusion. Rural maternal health, urban sanitation services and access to safe spaces for girls' education are all illustrations of the impacts of PRIA's work during the year.

This report also captures ways in which PRIA is 're-tooling' itself to engage youth, in ways that youth would like to. Democracy In Everyday Life (#DIEL) conversations amongst youth are a further step towards respecting diversity.

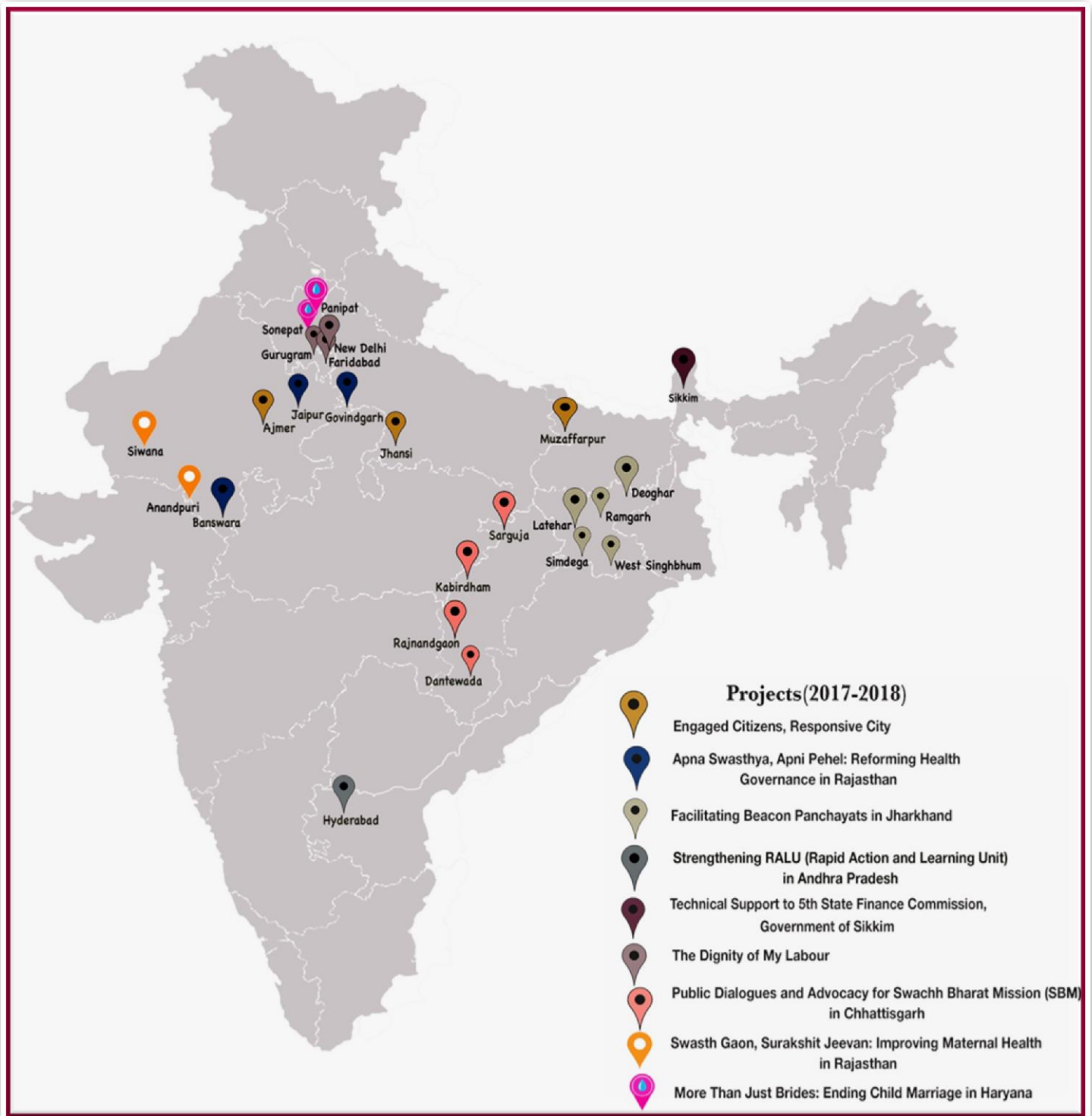
Institutions need continuous renewal to remain vibrant and relevant. This past year, new ways of working—composite, environment friendly, and collegial—were designed and implemented at PRIA. Renewal of knowledge resources and the library, along with physical renovation, was extensively carried out.

Most importantly, we had renewal of the Governing Board in motion as well. Rita Sarin, Global Vice President & Country Director of the Hunger Project, has become active as Chair in this year. Her enormous experience and wide networks are valuable assets to PRIA and its leadership.

We invite you to peruse this Annual Report, and share your comments with us.

Rajesh Tandon
Founder-President, PRIA
New Delhi
July 2018

PRIA's Interventions Across India in 2017-18





Effective Panchayats

After 25 years of implementation of the historic 73rd Constitutional amendment, Panchayati Raj Institutions have developed unevenly across India. While devolution has been effective in some states and in some domains of development, there is no systematic understanding of what enables and/or disables their effectiveness. Political will to make panchayats effective has been fluctuating at state and national levels.

PRIA began engaging with PRIs, amidst much internal and external scepticism, in 1994. Despite challenges, obstacles and constraints faced during these 24 years, PRIA has steadfastly continued to contribute towards making panchayats effective through systematic capacity building, sustained advocacy, and sharing, dialogue and mutual learning amongst practitioners, researchers and policy-makers.

Learning from the past, PRIA's approach towards making panchayats effective operates at several levels simultaneously.

1. Direct field interventions demonstrate innovations through citizen engagement in Gram Sabha. These field locations become sites for innovation in mobilising demand and sensitising supply towards securing delivery of basic services such as girls' education, maternal health, water and sanitation to the excluded.
2. Systematising local practical knowledge is then utilised to undertake problem-solving advocacy with higher level government agencies and officials at state and national levels. Couple of years ago, PRIA was instrumental in setting up Rapid Action Learning Unit (RALU) under Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) for the Government of Andhra Pradesh. PRIA-RALU documented over 70 case studies of the role of panchayat representatives in stimulating demand for toilets under SBM. These learnings were shared with the advisory committee set up by the Andhra Pradesh government, which helped them in understanding the voices of the people and the challenges marginalised citizens face in accessing government programs.
3. Producing educational materials for use by government, civil society and academia is undertaken as knowledge mobilisation is key to sustainability at scale. Where required, hand-holding support and training is provided to such agencies to make impacts in their locations. PRIA has researched and published many "firsts", including the first ever study on finances of panchayats in the country and the first ever study on status of District Planning Committees (DPCs). In 2017, a study on Own Sources of Revenue (OSR) of Panchayats was published, focusing on revenue

generation among panchayats in Jharkhand and suggesting ways in which panchayats could raise their own resources to reduce dependency on state and national grants.

4. PRIA's expertise is also applied to promote institutional reforms to make institutions of governance effective and accountable. Such state level institutional change interventions are critical for long-term sustainability of micro level changes. Between 2000 and 2017, PRIA has closely worked with State Finance Commissions (SFCs) in Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Sikkim. Advocacy and advice to the Fifteenth Finance Commission is underway. In 2017, PRIA acted as sole technical advisor to 5th SFC in Sikkim to generate relevant data on state finances, and facilitate field interactions between members of the SFC and panchayats. PRIA prepared the draft SFC report for 2020-25. The report has been submitted to Government of Sikkim.

Over the past five years, PRIA's specific focus has been on enabling panchayats to secure basic services for its most excluded households. Continuing in that vein, such enabling interventions were carried out in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Sikkim during the year.

- **Capacity Building of Beacon Panchayats in Jharkhand**

The Government of Jharkhand believes that participation of panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) is paramount for success of any scheme. Meaningful participation of elected representatives at the grassroots level means they must be aware of their roles and responsibilities in the implementation of government programs. To Government of Jharkhand started initiative the 'Beacon Panchayats' initiative across the state to enable PRIs and their elected representatives. In 2016, PRIA supported by UNICEF built capacities of women elected representatives, especially mukhiyas, of gram panchayats in Jharkhand. On the basis of this experience, UNICEF continued to support PRIA to facilitate the promotion of Beacon Panchayats. PRIA provided technical support and policy inputs to Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj and State Institute of Rural Development as part of this initiative.

- ✓ Enhanced capacities of 1725 gram panchayat members
- ✓ 65 training and capacity building programmes
- ✓ 120 Local Resource Group/Panchayat Resource Group members and local volunteers capacitated on participatory planning
- ✓ 650 gram sabha members and officials oriented on Gram Panchayat Development Plans
- ✓ Technical support for review of 22 Gram Panchayat Development Plans
- ✓ Creation and facilitation of Panchayat Level Coordination Committees (PLCC), which now meet regularly to discuss the developmental issues in their respective panchayats
- ✓ Widespread publicity in local print and electronic media

In 10 months, citizens in 25 gram panchayats in Simdega, Latehar, West Singhbhum, Deoghar and Ramgarh districts began participating in planning, implementation and monitoring of development programmes. Convergence, implementation review and Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) preparation was institutionalised. A study on Own Sources of Revenue was published and disseminated at the state level.

Elected representatives and officials lack proper information and knowledge about their own panchayats. Hence, one of the key outputs of the project was the creation and detailed profiling of every gram panchayat. Field data collection and profiling activities were utilised for rapport building with mukhiya and panchayat sewaks. Meetings were also organised with block development officers. These meetings were the vehicle to build integration of local systems.



Detailed profiles of the gram panchayats and the list of members of Panchayat Resource Groups, and Block Resource Groups were shared in these meetings. This ensured coalescing of a common understanding between block and panchayat officials on the concept of 'Beacon Panchayat' and the socio-economic issues of their gram panchayats.

Several rounds of training programmes were organised for all the elected representatives from the 25 gram panchayats. They became aware of their role under Jharkhand Panchayati Raj Act, 2001 and their responsibilities as well as those of Standing Committees, Panchayat Resource Groups and Block Resource Groups in planning and implementation of GPDP. Copies of GPDPs were shared with them, and group discussions were held on the activities listed in these plans.

At the start of the intervention, Standing Committees were found to be non-functional. Mukhiyas were supported to revive Standing Committees in their respective panchayats. They issued letters to all panchayat members and informed the block development officers

about reconstituting the Standing Committees in their panchayats. Subsequently, training of 395 Standing Committee members were undertaken. As a result, these Standing Committees have started taking ownership and making plans to implement various activities.

Notice Boards and Complaints Boxes were put up by the panchayats conforming to the letter issued by the state government in August 2017.

PRIA facilitated two rounds of meetings of Panchayat Resource Group members with block officials. An important purpose of these meetings was to share the progress made by the panchayats on local planning and activities related to national flagship programmes – Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Mid-Day Meal (MDM) and Sarva Shikha Abhiyan (SSA).

The [study on own sources of revenue \(OSR\) of panchayats](#) in Jharkhand is one of the key outputs of the project. The study included a comparative analysis of secondary data from Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Chhattisgarh. The key findings and recommendation were shared in a state level event in Ranchi in January 2018. A [policy brief in Hindi](#) from the study was also prepared for wider dissemination among policy makers at national level and in other states.

- **Rapid Action Learning Unit in Andhra Pradesh**

In its third phase, the Rapid Action Learning Unit (RALU) of the Andhra Pradesh government was supported by PRIA to undertake participatory research with citizens around issues related to sanitation. Guidance and support was provided to three research teams from local universities for participatory data collection and analysis. A comprehensive analytical document titled “Sanitation Innovation- Learnings” was prepared, which highlights innovations in SBM implementation in all three regions of Andhra Pradesh. Technical support was also provided to training conducted by The Society for Social Audit, Accountability and Transparency (SSAAT) Hyderabad on social audit in water and sanitation sector.

- **Apna Swasthya, Apni Pehel: Reforming Local Health Governance in Rajasthan**

PRIA’s intervention in Rajasthan focuses on improving public delivery for maternal health by strengthening panchayats to plan for and monitor maternal health services in their villages. This intervention over 36 months in Govindgarh block, Jaipur district and Banswara Rural block, Banswara district is supported by Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives (APPI) in collaboration with Dasra. In 12 months, the project has covered 16,000 population, conducted 211 meetings of Village Health, Nutrition and Sanitation Committees (VHNSC), and facilitated 104 gram panchayat meetings.

[A baseline sample survey and assessment conducted among 1800 women in Banswara and Govindgarh blocks shows that most women have low levels of awareness of maternal health issues and have poor access to health services.](#) Among other findings, 32.1% of women in Banswara were not aware of the importance of pre-delivery check-ups. This localized primary health data has provided valuable insights on registration of pregnancies, status of

ANCs, role of families, institutional deliveries and relationship of women with the panchayat system.

The baseline survey has recorded very poor menstrual hygiene management (MHM) and awareness in Banswara. A mere 10% of women in Banswara use sanitary pads during menstruation. The remaining 90% use discarded household clothes. This data when shared with the district administration, local NGOs and local media has brought a collective realisation for the first time that the issue of MHM is an integral component of MCH services. In the second year, a campaign to raise awareness on MHM, among both women and men, is planned.



In the past year, a campaign in 89 gram panchayats in Banswara raised awareness on the importance of maternal health. Workshops in classes 5 to 8 through mediums like videos and interactive talks raised awareness among school children on the importance of health and hygiene.

When PRIA started its work in Govindgarh and Banswara, less than 1% of VHSNCs were constituted as per the new guideline of Rajasthan government. These committees though were non-functional. In the past year, VHSNCs have been reconstituted in all the gram panchayats. Similarly, Social Justice Committees (SJC), the subcommittee responsible for all types of health care activities in panchayats, existed on paper and did not meet regularly. Cluster level training of sarpanchs and panchayat secretary, gram panchayat health sub-committee, VHSNC members, anganwadi workers and select members of, was undertaken to orient them on their roles and responsibilities, especially related to MCH. 206 VHSNCs and 53 SJs have begun to meet regularly (at least once a month) and are taking decisions related to improving infrastructure (water supply, electricity, weighing machines, cleanliness, etc.) in anganwadi centres, primary health centres and sub-centres. These decisions have been communicated to sarpanches for action.

Sarpanches have become more proactive and accountable. For the first time, 104 sarpanches attended MCHN day in their respective panchayats. 36 sarpanches in Govindgarh and 28 sarpanches in Banswara continue to attend every MCHN day and monitor activities. Even ward members have started attending the special service events on MCHN days, and visit anganwadi centres to monitor anganwadi workers. They check infrastructure facilities and attendance of children, taking feedback from parents on how to improve quality of service. This has strengthened accountable partnership between panchayats and frontline health workers.



VHSNCs along with SJs in some of GPs have also discussed inclusion of health components in Gram Panchayat Development Plans. None of the ward members were aware of the GPDP process in the preceding year. Gram sabhas were also not held to discuss the plans before preparation. With facilitation from PRIA, this year panchayat meetings were held to discuss the GPDP and sarpanches and panchayat secretaries across 75 gram panchayats carried out their responsibility of explaining the process in gram sabhas. 90 volunteers were also present in these gram sabhas to encourage informed discussions. The GPDP process was participatory in all the intervened gram panchayats, strengthening decentralised planning in Rajasthan.

Of the 104 gram panchayats in the project area, 45 gram panchayats in Govindgarh block in Jaipur district have made health plans oriented towards MCH as part of their GPDP for 2018-19. It is expected that inclusion of health as a priority in GPDP preparation will be stronger in the second year of the project, as capacitated VHSNC members will be involved in planning from the beginning of the planning process.

Discussions with women's groups (mahila mandals, self-help-groups) have also helped to raise awareness. Mahila Sabha meetings have started taking place in many GPs of intervened blocks. It was not surprising that none of the gram panchayat officials in the

intervention area were aware of the importance of Mahila Sabha. After showing records of the state government's public commitment (resolutions of Roundtable of Ministers of Panchayati Raj, 2004; Letter from ACS-Govt. of Rajasthan in 2012 and the state government's written assurance to Government of India for institutionalizing Mahila Sabhas), district level government officials agreed to support the organising of Mahila Sabhas in 23 gram panchayats of Govindgarh and 16 gram panchayats of Banswara. The sarpanches were also very supportive. A Mahila Sabha is a special gram sabha in which all participants are women. This provides a safe space for women to speak up about issues that concern them the most. In the Mahila Sabhas organised under the project, discussions and decisions centred on maternal health issues ranging from nutrition, registration of pregnancies, availability of Mamta Cards, medical and family cares during pregnancy, ANCs and challenges in institutional deliveries. Women also discussed patriarchal and gender discriminatory practices such as eating leftover food after the entire family has eaten, not educating the girl child, lack of family care during pregnancy, etc, which resulted in poor maternal and child health. They passed resolutions demanding MCH issues be included in gram sabha meetings, which were handed over to the sarpanch.

Holding a Mahila Sabha is currently not legally mandatory in Rajasthan, though the government has made repeated public commitments. PRIA is advocating with district and state level officials to mandate Mahila Sabhas in every gram panchayat in Rajasthan.

Where Mahila Sabhas have been organised, women's participation in the general gram sabhas has increased, admitted sarpanches when interviewed by PRIA animators. For example, Guduliya Gram Panchayat organised 7 gram sabhas (2 mandatory and 5 special gram sabhas) between April and November 2017. The quorum was not achieved in 6 gram sabhas. PRIA facilitated a Mahila Sabha in Guduliya on 6 November 2017. The seventh gram sabha organized in Guduliya on 21st November achieved full quorum as a result of increased participation by women.

Meetings were held with other community based organisation to build coalition for joint advocacy at local level to highlight MCH issues in gram sabha meetings and to make it a priority with health department officials. This is leading to the emergence of strategic partnerships at the block level.

Cooperation on MCH between district and block administrators has increased through PRIA's participation in the district MCH Pukar program, focused on group counselling of women from an MCH perspective. PRIA's role has been to advocate with communities in the intervened gram panchayat to participate in the program. This has led to increased participation and has helped build strong linkages for district and block administration to work together to improve health service delivery in panchayats. Such programs also provide opportunities for citizens to discuss MCH and other issues directly with government officials.

The strong linkages built with district and block administration has helped influence supply side responses. For example, the CEO of Banswara district has asked all frontline workers to attend PRIA's community meetings, and support the discussions by providing useful health-related information. The State Director-RCH and Director-Panchayat invited PRIA to discuss convergence of health and panchayats at the local level in a meeting on 5 March 2018 in Jaipur.

In Banswara and Govindgarh, the project has also built capacities of field animators play an important part in identifying local cultural trends to support raising awareness on MCH

among the general public. Through their active role in panchayats, these young animators have become role models for other community youth, who are developing an interest in contributing to local development processes. These youth have joined the project as volunteers. Emphasis has been on bringing in students from local colleges and building their awareness on panchayats, participatory planning, need for improved MCH and various government schemes. In the first year, 434 volunteers have joined the project, and nearly 80% of them are active in raising awareness in their communities on MCH and the importance of participating in gram sabhas. Refresher trainings will be held in the second year of the project to build sustainability of community volunteering. In the second year, the project expects to engage more youth as volunteers in project activities. Capacitated local community volunteers will ensure sustainability and continued engagement of panchayats and citizens on MCH issues.

PRIA animators are the hands and feet of our work in the field. They have been recruited from the local areas where the work is being implemented. Their local knowledge is their greatest asset, which they use to build an environment of trust with the communities. Capacity building of animators is an important part of our work, to enable them to sustain the change beyond the project implementation period.



Prem Kumari, field animator in Siwana block, Rajasthan, has had a short but eventful journey from shy village resident to that of a confident professional

Read her story: <https://www.pria.org/featuredstory-70-44-107>

Lalit Sharma, working in Kathadi gram panchayat, Siwana, Rajasthan, has gained confidence in his work learning from different stakeholders as he engages with them

Read his story: <https://www.pria.org/featuredstory-70-44-106>



- **Swasth Gaon, Surakshit Jeevan: Improved Health and Nutrition Through Institutionalizing the Ownership, Accountability and Transparency of Local Governance in Rajasthan**

In Rajasthan, a state in northern India with patriarchal norms and preference for male child, maternal and infant health indicators have declined between 2001 and 2011. UNICEF has supported the state government in improving the supply chain of public health services, and in developing a mobile app (e-Janswasthya) for collecting and monitoring health data, but use of public health services by communities continues to remain poor in rural Rajasthan.

PRIA's vast experience shows that availing public services is limited if communities are not aware, informed and take responsibility, along with the local governance system, for improvements in their own development indicators. The rural local governance system (panchayati raj institutions, frontline workers and elected representatives) has a critical role in ensuring quality and monitoring of services. In Rajasthan, the state government emphasizes devolution of women, child development and health to panchayati raj institutions, on the basis of which panchayat officials need to take responsibility for maternal and child health (MCH) in their villages. UNICEF approached PRIA to collaborate in raising the capabilities of panchayat elected officials and frontline health workers to prioritise MCH on the planning agenda, and to become partners in motivating women in the reproductive age group to access public health services and programs (thereby improving maternal and infant health in the long term). In the past year, PRIA implemented a model in Siwana block, Barmer district and Anandpuri block, Banswara district in which communities and officials have come together to develop annual village health plans, rejuvenate village health committees to monitor services and ensure widespread use of e-Janswasthya app to collect and report localised health data.



PRIA's capacity building and advocacy support over 15 months has resulted in:

- ✓ Panchayat officials learnt to prepare participatory village health development plans. Training programmes were held for sarpanches, panches, VHNSC members including ANMs, anganwadi workers and ASHAs, and gram sabha members, covering 69 sarpanches, 552 up-sarpanches and ward panches, 104 ANMs, 254 ASHAs, and 349 anganwadi workers in the two intervened blocks.
- ✓ Village health committees have been revitalised and integrating MCH into local developmental plans. Communities supporting preparation of health plans through participation in the planning process and demanding accountability from panchayats in monitoring frontline health workers. Draft health plans have been prepared for 69 gram panchayats of the intervention sites in the two blocks. All draft GPDPs are with the state government for uploading of these plans in their planning software system, after which the GPDPs will be approved for implementation.
- ✓ About 1500 women of reproductive age group became aware of their rights and entitlements regarding MCH services, were able to access these services, and raise demand for quality services.
- ✓ Mobilising community volunteers to help frontline health workers. A total of 90 youth volunteers (23 males, 7 females from Siwana and 30 females, 30 males from Anandpuri) were identified and learning sessions were held in which they were sensitised to the importance of MCH, and trained on mobilising community members for participation in VHNSC and gram sabha meetings. Capacity building exercises included understanding the e-Janswasthaya system so that these volunteers could support frontline government health workers update the App and triangulate the updated data. In addition, they were also a part of a block level meetings with ANMs, data entry operators, community health centre and primary health centre in-charges
- ✓ Traditional mobilisers, such as religious leaders, private doctors and healers, local elected representatives and male heads of households are becoming active in spreading the message of MCH.

- **Public Dialogues and Advocacy for SBM in Chhattisgarh**

UNICEF (Chhattisgarh) approached PRIA to organise public dialogues in Rajnandgaon, Sarguja, Kabeerdham and Dantewada districts to elicit citizen-centric solutions to make programme delivery of SBM-G effective and equitable. Over 10 months, PRIA organised 19 block level public dialogues and 9 district level public dialogues, in which 7,900 persons participated (3503 males and 4323 females). Citizens from all walks of life and professions – elected representatives, National Service Scheme volunteers, youth from Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangthan, faith leaders, sports associations, local traders' associations, media, and academia – participated. Two state level advocacy events were also held.

Block and district wise details of public dialogues in Chhattisgarh

District	No. of Block Dialogues	No. of District Dialogues	No. of Participants		
			Male	Female	Total
Rajnandgaon	7	3	2410	3133	5543
Sarguja	4	2	473	817	1290
Kabeerdham	4	2	239	95	334
Dantewada	4	2	381	278	659
TOTAL	19	9	3503	4323	7826

More than 50 'change agents' shared their success stories in these dialogues. These dialogues catalysed demand from individual households to construct toilets and prompted them to end open defecation. Widespread print and electronic media publicity helped spread the message. Ambikapur centre of All India Radio broadcast an exclusive programme based on one of the dialogues. As per the MIS of Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India, Rajnandgaon and Sarguja have been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF).

- **Decentralised District Planning in Sikkim**

Research and studies are important if local self-governance in India is to reduce dependence on Centrally Sponsored Schemes, strongly integrate participatory decentralised planning, and make more effective use of the enhanced devolution of financial resources under the 14th Central Finance Commission.

The planning process in Sikkim, as in most other states of India, is not integrated from bottom-up. Plan preparation in Gram Panchayat Units (GPUs) is delinked from the planning process at zila panchayat level. To understand the challenges at the grassroots level, PRIA used a participatory action-research framework to conduct a study on Decentralised District Planning in Sikkim. Supported by Niti Aayog, the participatory research focused on the district plan preparation process in two districts: East Sikkim and South Sikkim. The study analysed the new environment created for decentralised planning through reduction and streamlining of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and increased devolution of resources to States from the Central divisible pool; stronger emphasis on cooperative federalism and participatory development action from the local level upwards; enhanced devolution of financial resources to local bodies under the 14th Finance Commission; and lack of capacities and experiences at State and sub-State level to facilitate bottom-up planning exercises and processes.

Action-research methodology supported and qualitatively improved the ongoing planning process. The methodology focussed on multi-stakeholder engagement to orient, build understanding and capacities of local level officials to facilitate bottom-up planning. Learnings from each consultation were used by the local officials in the ongoing planning process. In subsequent meetings, challenges experienced in facilitating truly participatory planning at the grassroots were discussed and reflected upon, which helped strengthen the planning process. Two district plans with local priorities for 2016-17 were generated, one for South Sikkim and the other for East Sikkim.

In consultation with NITI Aayog and Rural Management and Development Department (RMDD), Government of Sikkim, a series of orientation meetings and capacity building workshops were held between October 2016 and October 2017. State level consultation built common understanding and oriented RMDD officials, panchayat members and PRI functionaries. District level orientation workshops were held on planning formats and data collection. Block/gram panchayat level meetings helped facilitate the planning process in Rakdong Tintek and Pakyong in East Sikkim, and Namchi and Sumbuk in South Sikkim.

A district level (re)visioning and consolidation workshop was held on 15 July 2017 for South Sikkim and on 19 August 2017 for East Sikkim. A state consultation in Gangtok on 25 September 2017 shared the experience and challenges of conducting a truly participatory

planning exercise in which different stakeholders shared their experiences and suggested ways forward to improve decentralised planning process in Sikkim.

Along with this multi-stakeholder engagement process for effective decentralised planning, PRIA also provided support to line department officials in plan preparation, attended district wide meetings (along with State Finance Commission members) to further understand issues at GPU and zila panchayat levels, and supported the consolidation of GPU plans as a first step at Block Administrative Council (BAC) level to prepare BAC plan, and then consolidating all BAC plans to prepare the draft District Development Plan.

- **Advisory to Ministry of Panchayati Raj**

PRIA is a member of the Steering Committee of the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA). During the year, our learnings and knowledge on GPDP, planning capacities at the local level, annual plans of panchayats, and E-panchayats was shared in meetings of the Steering Committee, thereby supporting states in strengthening panchayati raj institutions.

Over the next few years, PRIA is moving towards developing a knowledge and advocacy platform for panchayat effectiveness through systematising lessons of good practices of civil society working with panchayats at village and block levels; facilitating the co-creation of knowledge with practitioners to identify systemic changes necessary for scaling up local successes; and co-convening dialogues with political policy makers, state governments, State Finance Commissions, State Planning Commissions, and State Institute for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj to share the systematised knowledge and lessons.



Inclusive Urbanisation

It has been 25 years since Presidential assent was granted to the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act. It gave constitutional status to democratically elected urban local bodies and over 4,000 constitutional institutions of urban local self-governance with democratically elected people's representatives exist in the country today. With already around 40% plus Indians living in urban areas, policy analysts in Niti Aayog, private investors and academics all repeatedly pronounce the urgent need to make our cities efficient, 'liveable', safe, vibrant and 'smart'.

Yet, Indian cities continue to deteriorate despite the recognition of rapid urbanisation and the economic importance of cities (nearly 2/3rd of India's GDP and 3/4th of jobs are provided by urban India). The crux of the challenge is located in the 'administering and governing' of our cities with active citizen engagement.

PRIA's efforts at making urban governance transparent, accountable and responsive began more than a decade ago. Our endeavours have been to create mechanisms for engaging citizens to participate in the planning and implementation of city improvement programmes, and to embed these processes in the city's governance mechanism. Our work has focused on practice of social accountability that enables citizens to monitor service delivery performance of Urban Local Bodies and provide feedback about impact and outcome of policies and programmes. Participatory urban planning has been strengthened through us of participatory data gathering tools like Participatory Urban Appraisal and Participatory Enumeration to provide insights and capacities to communities in engaging with the planners, decision makers, and policy makers. In recent years, we have worked intensively on organising the poor and marginalised in cities to claim spaces for participation and on inclusion of civil society (schools, colleges, businesses, media, professionals) in the development and spatial planning of neighbourhoods and wards. Research on devolution of functions, funds, and functionaries to democratically elected municipalities and on participatory sanitation monitoring and planning have helped Indian cities become inclusive, transparent and accountable. PRIA is a member on the Task Force constituted for AMRUT in Muzaffarpur, and Member of "Affordable Housing for all 2022", of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India. PRIA's work on community participation fund and citizen centric reforms was felicitated by the National Technical Advisory Group, Ministry of Urban Development, in 2009.

- **Inclusion of Urban Poor in Planning and Monitoring Sanitation Services in Ajmer, Jhansi and Muzaffarpur**

Over the past 3 years, Engaged Citizens, Responsive City project supported by the European Union (EU) has built 250 Settlement Improvement Committees (SICs) as organisations of the urban poor in Ajmer, Jhansi and Muzaffarpur, and empowering them to demand basic sanitation services in their settlements. 93% SIC members are from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Castes (Ajmer – 91%, Jhansi – 98% and Muzaffarpur – 95%). With 48% of SIC women members in Ajmer; 61% women members in Jhansi and 57% women members in Muzaffarpur, women have become the primary mobilisers to demand sanitation services in the informal settlements in these three cities.

In the past year, the project focused on organising SICs into city level SIC forums in all the three cities. These forums were launched in Jhansi, Ajmer and Muzaffarpur in October and November 2017. Steering groups with men, women and youth members (38 members in Ajmer, 20 members in Jhansi and 24 members in Muzaffarpur) provide leadership to these forums. They facilitate exchange of experiences amongst members from various SICs, and help initiate dialogues and negotiations with city authorities and other stakeholders. These forums are expected to help communities articulate their needs and facilitate their participation in city level sanitation planning, implementation and monitoring.

Municipal corporations grapple to achieve various targets under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U). One of the main targets is to achieve ODF (Open Defecation Free) status in the city. In order to make cities ODF, a significant challenge is availability of authentic information about households which do not have individual toilet facilities. Comprehensive household enumerations in informal settlements on sanitation services were instrumental in identification of households without individual toilets. The enumeration also collected information about the possession of legal documents such as ration card, Voter ID Card, Aadhar Card, and bank accounts in each household. These documents are critical for all Indian citizens, but are of immense significance for the urban poor in order to access many entitlements.



PRIA facilitated camps organised by city authorities for applications to build toilets. 2525 households were able to file applications for IHHLs with PRIA's support. Of these, 1275 applications were approved and toilet construction had begun. PRIA will continue to assist the remaining households in accessing these benefits.

Certain households did not have space for construction of IHHLs or faced disqualification due to illegality of land tenure and thus opted for community toilets. This demand resulted in construction of 23 community toilets.

Participatory research methodologies have been effectively utilised to generate community data and knowledge, which has been used effectively in ensuring inclusion of urban poor in planning and monitoring of sanitation services. Continuing from last year, comprehensive household enumerations were completed in an additional 155 informal settlements (66 in Ajmer, 19 in Jhansi and 70 in Muzaffarpur). A total of 238 informal settlements comprising 22,938 households have been covered. A team of enumerators, drawn from students in local academic institutions and the community, was trained in each city to undertake the participatory enumeration in each informal settlement. SIC members gave full support to the enumeration exercise, raising awareness in the community about the purpose and importance of generating such data. This helped in overcoming community resistance in sharing information with the enumerators and contributed to collection of authentic information.



Participatory Settlement Enumeration (PSE) reports have been prepared for all three cities. These were shared with SIC members and the community for validation. Other stakeholders,

notably municipal councillors, were present in these meetings. The reports have helped residents in prioritising their sanitation needs. The validation and sharing meetings were also an opportunity to collectively plan for community action. Each settlement came up with a list of households which would require individual toilets. Households which did not have enough space for constructing individual toilets prioritised the need for community toilets.

The PSE also revealed major gaps in other sanitation services, such as solid waste management, drainage, sewerage, etc. After the completion of enumeration in 253 settlements, 168 SICs (75 in Ajmer, 30 in Jhansi, and 63 in Muzaffarpur) have prepared settlement level sanitation service improvement proposals and presented them to the municipal authorities for action. Out of these, 133 proposals (40 in Ajmer, 30 in Jhansi, and 63 in Muzaffarpur) received attention from municipal corporations. The municipal corporations provided 1275 IHHLs, constructed 31 new drainage lines and repaired 12 drainage lines. Collection of waste in 40 settlements and provisioning of water supply to the households have begun in 22 informal settlements.

- **Knowledge-based support for inclusive urban planning**

64 enumerators and field supervisors recruited from local academic institutions had been trained to undertake household sample surveys in 2016. These trained surveyors completed survey of city-wide sanitation services in Ajmer and Jhansi covering all the 60 wards in each city. The survey findings have guided the preparation and implementation of sanitation service improvement proposals at the settlement and ward levels.

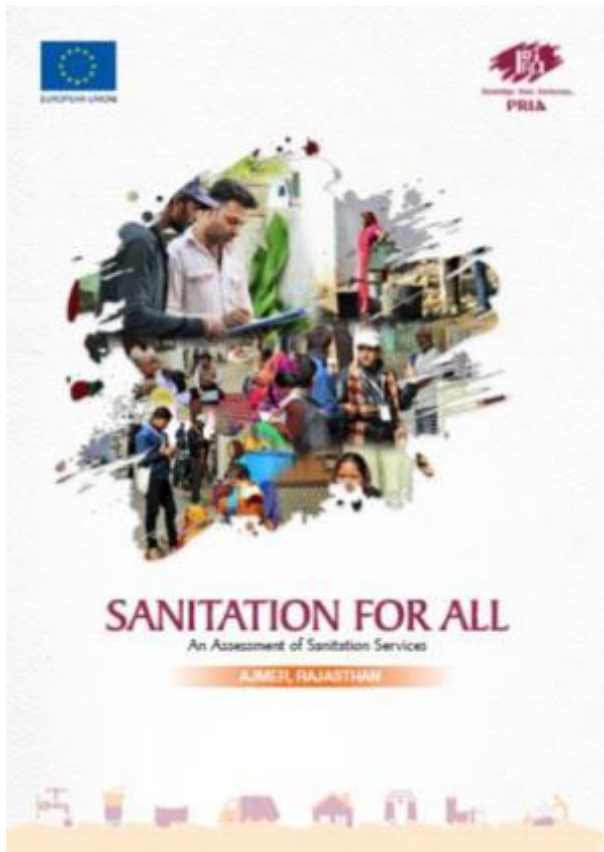
The city-wide sanitation surveys have generated reliable and critical data to municipal corporations for ongoing and future sanitation planning in Ajmer and Jhansi. The survey reports – [Sanitation for All: An Assessment of Sanitation Services in Ajmer](#) and [Sanitation for All: An Assessment of Sanitation Services in Jhansi](#) were shared for validation of the data with officials from various departments of Jhansi and Ajmer Municipal Corporations, including Municipal Commissioners. They have realised that this data can serve as important baselines in dealing with sanitation problems across all wards and informal settlements in the cities. The survey's major findings were published by Ajmer Municipal Corporation (AMC) on its website.

A study on the Status of Women Sanitation Workers and An Assessment of the Status of Public and Community Toilets was undertaken in Ajmer in collaboration with Central University, Rajasthan. A team of 13 researchers and students were trained on participatory research methodologies before undertaking the research.

Linkages with local colleges and universities have been developed and nurtured during the year. Five students from Masters of Social Work Department of Central University, Rajasthan and five students from Bundelkhand University, Jhansi interned with PRIA in Ajmer and Jhansi. The students learned the use of participatory methods and tools for community mobilisation, helping them build their perspectives on urbanisation and urban poverty, inclusion and equity.

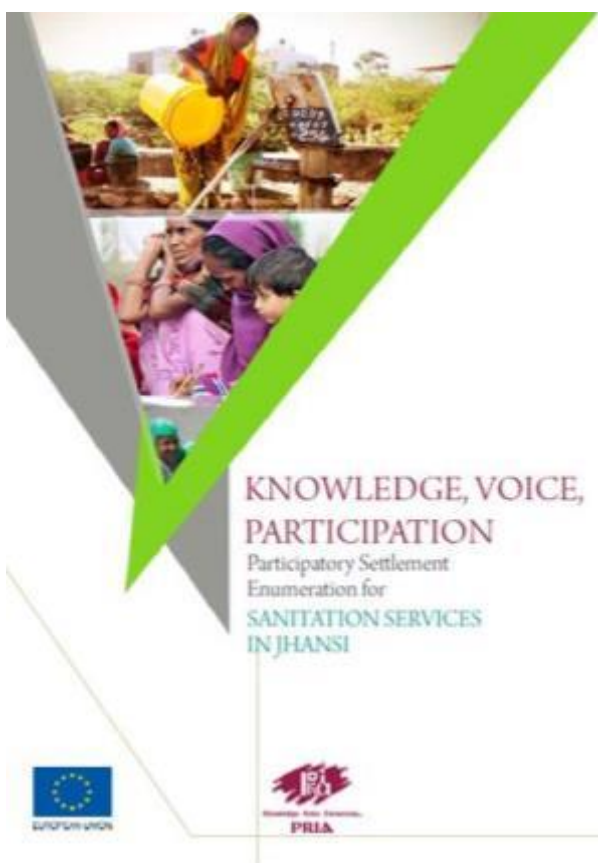
- **Co-convening platforms for knowledge sharing and mobilisation**

In order to sensitise the middle class residents in various colonies of the city on the issues related to urban poor, several rounds of meetings have been organised with Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs)/Flat Owners Associations/Housing Societies and Traders, Markets and Professional Associations (TMPAs).



163 RWAs (70 in Ajmer, 23 in Jhansi and 70 in Muzaffarpur) and 48 TMPAs (23 in Ajmer, 20 in Jhansi and 5 in Muzaffarpur) were sensitised to engage with urban poor and city authorities on the issue of sanitation facilities and services. Of these, 113 RWAs and 37 TMPAs have joined multi-stakeholder forums and contribute to joint planning and monitoring of sanitation services in their wards.

Stake-holder dialogues at city level sensitised 191 staff from city authorities and 263 councillors across the three cities. In Ajmer, ward level forums have been organised to facilitate dialogues between AMC and citizens in different wards. On request from AMC, a survey undertaken in 1402 households in ward number 42 of Ajmer helped AMC officials understand the reasons for low uptake of sewerage lines provided by the municipal corporation to households. The survey allowed citizens to provide real time feedback to the municipality, has improved relations between citizens and municipal officials, and is resulting in increased uptake of new sewerage connections.



Ward level data from the sanitation survey reports were also shared in these ward level forums. In the past year, sharing meetings have been completed in 21 wards of Ajmer, in which ward councillors of 7 wards, members from 40 RWAs and 13 TMPAs participated. In Jhansi, 13 sharing meetings at the ward level have been organised in which 10 ward councillors, 7 RWAs/housing societies and 19 TMPAs have participated.

PRIA field facilitators and SIC members in Jhansi have been invited to join 23 ward level “Swachhta Protsahan Simitis” constituted by Jhansi Municipal Corporation (JMC). Presence in these committees has improved the level of community participation and quality of

discussions. In Ajmer, all the women field facilitators have been invited by AMC as 'Swachhta Doots' for monitoring sanitation services in market places. In Muzaffarpur, SIC steering group members have been designated as 'Swachhagrahis' by Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation (MMC) and they were actively involved in creating awareness around 'Swachh Survekshan 2018' among citizens living in informal settlements.

- **Awareness Raising on Health and Environment**

On World Environment Day, 5th June, PRIA took the opportunity to spread the message of waste segregation at source in Ajmer, Jhansi and Muzaffarpur with the support of respective municipal corporations, SICs and other stakeholders in support of the Government of India's call under the Swachh Bharat Mission to promote waste segregation. Pledges and signature campaigns among the citizens of the three cities helped raise awareness.

As a part of its awareness generation campaign, PRIA undertook evaluation of waste segregation in Wards 1-5 in Muzaffarpur. The survey was undertaken on request of Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation. Post the survey, the municipality distributed blue and green dustbins to the informal settlement households in these wards got and also started waste collection services in these settlements.

A week-long campaign was launched on 31st October in all three cities to commemorate World Cities Day. The objective of organising this campaign was to encourage urban middle classes to come forward and discuss the development issues faced by the urban poor living in informal settlements. Through the concept of 'neighbourhood slums', citizens were encouraged to participate in various activities like slum walks and talks, discussions in academic institutions, commercial and public places. More than 25,000 citizens across the three cities were sensitised.

World Toilet Day was observed on 19 November 2017 in all three cities in collaboration with respective municipal corporations, academic institutions, SICs and citizen groups to make citizens aware of the need for hygiene and sanitation. On this occasion, JMC honoured households that have constructed toilets with budgetary support from SBM-U.

Inclusive citizens build a better city

31 October was just another day for the middle class residents of **Ajmer** (in Rajasthan), **Jhansi** (in Uttar Pradesh) and **Muzaffarpur** (in Bihar). Until they woke up to learn from PRIA that it was **World Cities Day**. They were asked to **#JustThink – How important are slum dwellers in your lives?** Their domestic workers, the sanitation worker who collects the garbage from their homes, the vendor from whom they buy their vegetables, the guards who man the office buildings where they work... what would we do without them? **#JustThink**



Early morning walkers in parks, professors from nearby universities and colleges, students of journalism and mass communication, children from middle class colonies – they became more aware of the contribution and lives of the urban poor, interacting with them, learning about their lives, trying to understand a poor family's dreams...





Engaging Youth

PRIA's long term goals are focused on integrating greater participation of youth in each of its programmatic efforts, working with men and boys in reforming gender relations, and scaling up its innovative participatory methods to ensure local solutions to local challenges. This was particularly relevant as PRIA completed 35 years of its work in 2017.

PRIA@35 became more meaningfully engaged with youth in India, since India's tremendous growth rests on the back of the diversity of its youth, in the workforce and as students entering universities and colleges. Youth must continue to believe in and support democratic forms of governance and live democracy every day to ensure transparent and accountable democratic governance in India. Mainstreaming youth engagement added value to PRIA's ongoing commitment to make democracy work for all.

Working with youth has been challenging and rewarding. They are "[Young, Wild But Not Free](#)". Reflecting on engaging with youth as part of the Youth-n-Democracy campaign, Pooja Pandey, a young program officer in India says: "Indian youth engaged in open, fearless and non-judgemental inter-personal conversations. This gives us hope for 2018, for the youth of India to generate a "youthquake", and bring significant cultural, political, or social change through their democratic actions in their everyday lives."

Spaces for youth engagement through government programmes has been an interesting experiment. Haryana government's Bag Free Saturdays programme was an opportunity to conduct activities with high school boys and girls on gender issues. Connections have been established with the Chief Minister's Good Governance Associates and the state government's education department. This will help PRIA scale up its engagements with high school youth on issues of gender, adolescent health/sexuality and menstrual hygiene management.

Both young boys/men and girls/women need to learn to work together at home, in schools/colleges and workplaces to promote gender equality. In order to do this, PRIA has conducted activities to increase the understanding of high school boys and girls on gender discrimination, patriarchy and violence against women. Seeing the positive change among peers supports the change process among adolescent girls and boys. Youth leaders from earlier sites where the Kadam Badhate Chalo program was implemented have become important stakeholders as role models for young girls and boys. In the past year, PRIA along with partners invested in handholding 185 youth leaders in Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal

In all our projects, youth developed knowledge, skills and confidence as members of community groups addressing community issues such as sanitation, and women and girls' safety. Special attention has been given to nurture leadership of youth in meetings, and in negotiations with administrators and elected representatives.

Engaging with youth means connecting on the issues that affect their daily lives – employment is one such issue among urban poor youth. It required us to expand our networks and make connections with different stakeholders (such as CSR activities of private organisations, providing information on skill and training opportunities in their locations to youth). In Ajmer, Jhansi and Muzaffarpur, 1,310 youth from informal settlements gained information about various skill building programmes under National Urban Livelihoods Mission. Nearly 50% of them have subsequently been linked to various skill building programmes. Working with different others is a key strategic, long-term goal of the organisation, and in the past year we have learnt how to build such connections, albeit in a nascent way.

- **Youth and Democracy Campaign**

PRIA's flagship program to engage with youth is its Youth and Democracy (YnD) campaign. YnD seeks to build active citizenship of youth by making them aware of their rights and obligations, enabling them to raise voice in their families and colleges and in spaces provided by local governments for citizen engagement. YnD campaign provides a platform for college students to engage in deep and thoughtful conversations around the powerful idea of 'Democracy in Everyday Life' (#DIEL). In the last year, the YnD campaign has successfully reached over 30,000 youth – 15,000 youth directly across 40 locations in India and over 15,000 individuals through social media.



The YnD campaign had kicked off in February 2017 with Youthra, a street theatre competition among colleges in Delhi University on what DIEL means to young college students in India. Street theatre is a particularly appropriate medium to reach out to the

general public because it is an art form that has always focused on propagating socio-political messages in entertaining ways to spread awareness and sensitivity among masses. February 1st and 2nd 2018 saw the second edition of Youthra in New Delhi. Youthra 2 brought together 15 dramatic societies from Delhi University to perform plays on the theme of DIEL at Delhi School of Social Work campus and Dilli Haat. This year, PRIA partnered with the Khanabadosh theatre group to support the competition. The youth interpreted DIEL as lack of freedom, lack of spaces for conversation, identity, beliefs, volunteerism (NCC/NSS), youth leadership, discrimination and gender inequality. Youthra is becoming a much-valued space by college students to give voice to their concerns about the erosion of democratic values and the emergent need for everyone to live democratically, every day. [Videos of all the plays are available on PRIA's YouTube channel.](#)

Following the success of Youthra 2 in Delhi, similar city level competitive events were organised in Jhansi (in collaboration with the NSS Unit of Bundelkhand University), Ranchi (in collaboration with XISS), Ambikapur (in collaboration with NSS and Sarguja University), and in Bangalore at Vega City mall. The campaign collaborated with TISS Gauhati during their annual fest.

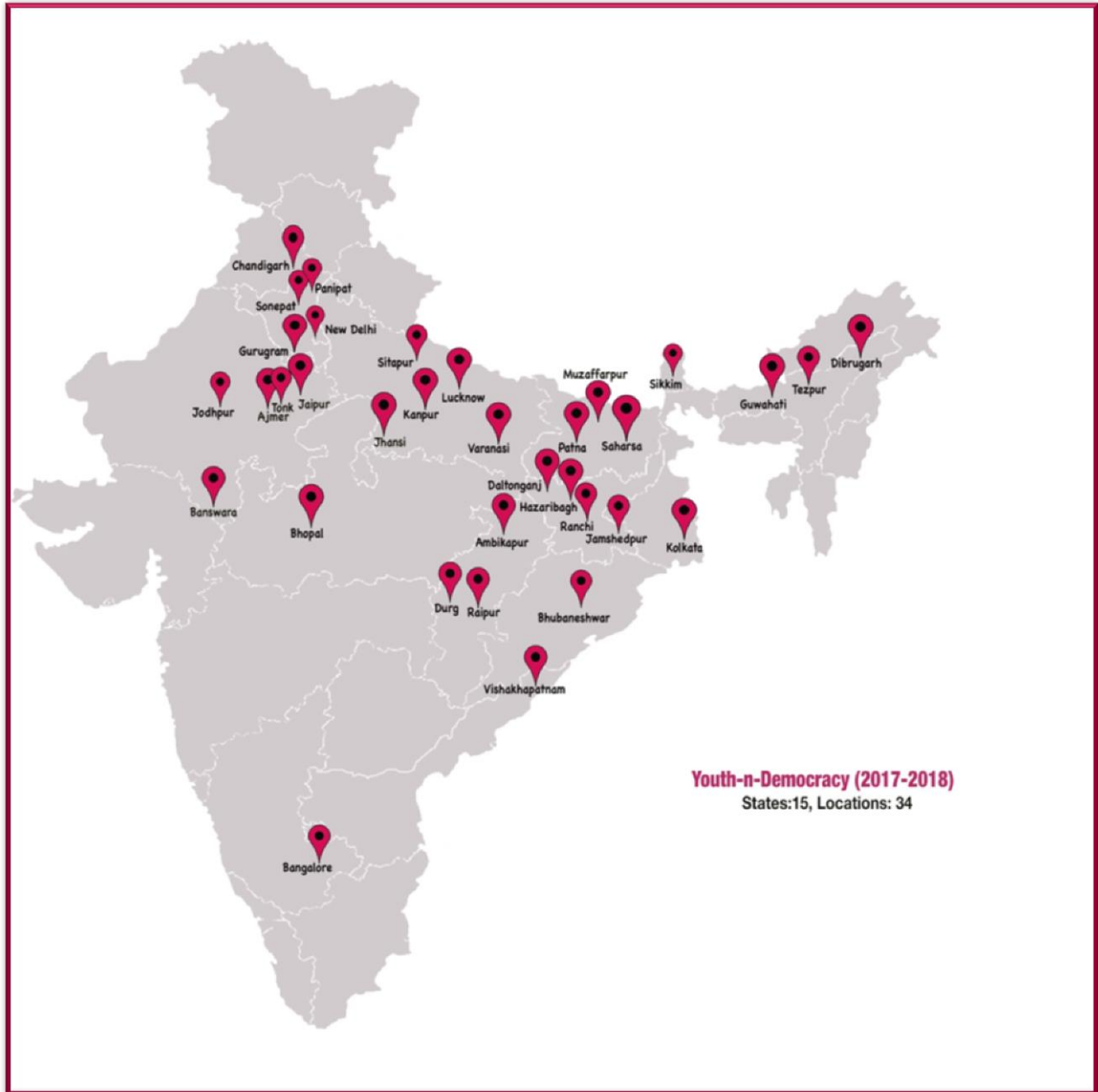
Another significant event was the Signature Campaign conducted across 13 locations on the occasion of International Democracy Day in September 2017. The students signed off their views on 'Democracy in Everyday Day for me is...' A social media campaign by PRIA and its partners on that day received 7500 impressions in 24 hours.

The [Youth N Democracy Facebook Group](#) with 1950 members is slowly becoming a platform for youth to engage in sustained conversations around DIEL. Student volunteers have begun to participate and help in promoting the YnD campaign, connecting with PRIA on Facebook.



youth participating in signature campaign in Delhi

Youth-n-Democracy Campaign Across India



- **Volunteers in Rajasthan**

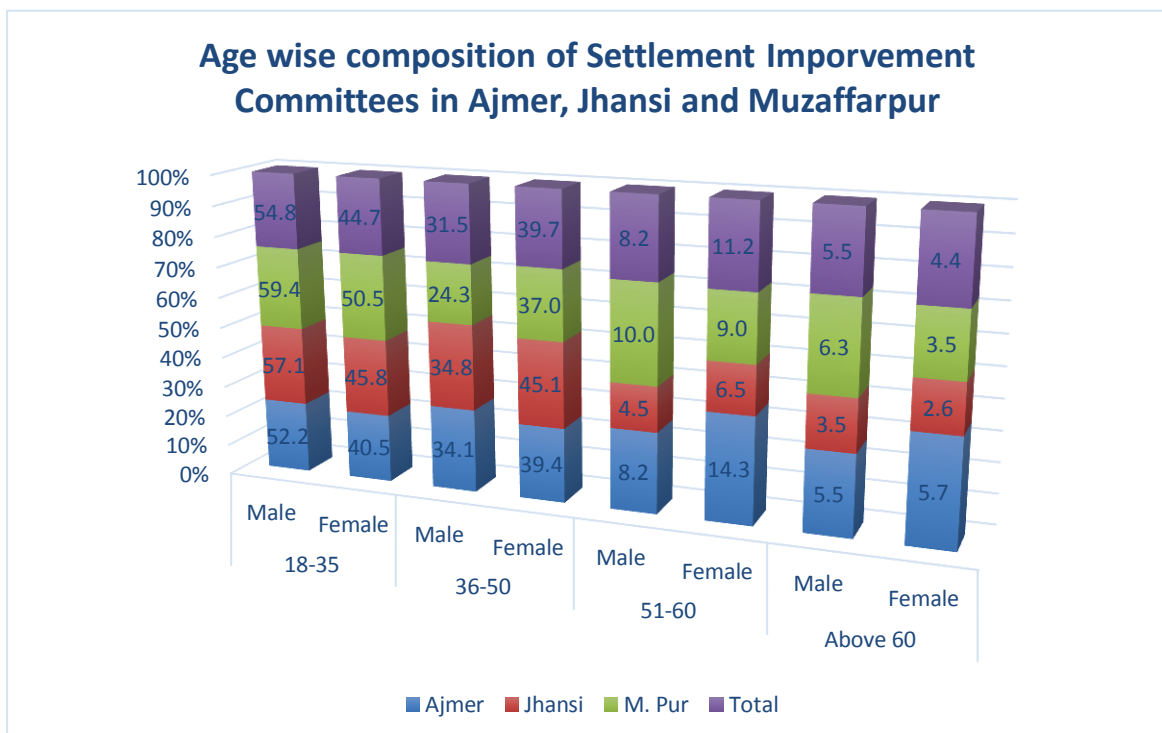
Maternal and child health is a right and an issue that affects both men and women in the family. This is the message our 486 volunteers who were developed as change agents in Rajasthan spread. By engaging men and boys in the conversation around maternal health, 80% of the volunteers are male. Nearly 75% of our volunteers are young men and women (between 18 and 25 years of age). They are beginning to emerge as local heroes and role models within their communities and are a long-term resource in their villages to support the participatory monitoring of government services.

- **Youth for sanitation**

The public dialogues initiative in Chhattisgarh provided an excellent opportunity to engage with youth from local colleges to organise dialogues in schools on health and hygiene, hand-washing and the health benefits of using toilets and ending open defecation. Public dialogues in Dantewada and Sarguja were organised in collaboration with Cluster Resource Centres (CRC) formed under education department. Songs, music and plays performed by local artists during religious festivals such as Pola, Teej, Raksha Bandhan, Ganesh Chaturthi, Christmas, Eid-ul-Azha, etc, motivated and mobilise young community members to construct and use toilets.

- **Youth leadership in Settlement Improvement Committees**

The composition of Settlement Improvement Committees (SICs) in Ajmer, Jhansi and Muzaffarpur now fairly represents youth leadership. Nearly 50% of SIC members are in the age group of 18-35 years (Ajmer – 47%, Jhansi – 50% and Muzaffarpur – 54%). These youth were trained in leadership development and participatory methodologies. In order to understand their background and to assess their leadership capacity requirements, detailed profiles of each SIC member was prepared. The capacity needs assessment suggested awareness and information about the working procedures and methods of municipalities was required. This understanding helped in preparing the training design for leadership development. A total of 2044 meetings, orientations, structured capacity building and training sessions were organised for 222 SICs..



With new confidence and skills, youth from rural communities across KBC locations are organising meetings with elected representatives, school authorities and panchayats, in which they speak up to demand delivery of basic services and ensure safety of women and girls.

As some universities and colleges begin to realise the value of field-based and community-engaged teaching and research, youth are beginning to take advantage of such emerging opportunities. By engaging with the real world for their learning, research and service, youth are able to better create innovative solutions for challenges facing marginalized sections of society. Social media was used to revive our connections with students in Chhattisgarh, who were trained on community based research by us in 2016 and at other places such as Haryana and Bangalore.

PRIA's contributions to developing capacities of other civil society actors, local governments and post-secondary educational institutions was supported through a workshop in January 2017 in which partners of PRIA shared their experiences of working with youth. Long-time partners of PRIA have also begun to strategically focus on young boys and girls as community members who have a voice, and will be decision makers in the future.

- **What are we learning?**

- ✓ The need for space for young adults to have conversations is ubiquitous and everyday life experiences is the starting point for conversations. Yet, conversations on socially "taboo"/sensitive issues, which restrict the freedoms of youth, especially girls, are difficult. Most youth, worried about getting a job, are focused on exams, and this restricts their ability to participate in conversations around active citizenship and engaged learning. The youth champions that have been recognised through the YnD campaign will hopefully take forward the conversations on Democracy In Everyday Life forward, but sustaining their engagement will require more time and resource investment by PRIA.
- ✓ Engagement with college and university students had one surprise – the enthusiasm and eagerness among students in colleges located in smaller towns and peri-urban areas to engage with and give back to their local communities. Youth in India's small towns are keen and ready to learn how they can contribute to finding solutions to local challenges and issues which affect their daily lives. This is significant for PRIA in determining the locations of its interventions over the next 2-5 years to build capacities of youth to become engaged researchers and active citizens.
- ✓ Most urban poor live in caste and/or religious ghettos, with little interaction with others. Insecure livelihoods, self-interest vis-à-vis community interests, and multiple migrations back and forth, make engaging with youth from urban poor communities an ongoing challenge. Building on their aspirations, not focusing on deficits, will be beneficial in enabling such engagement.
- ✓ New methods of engagement – sports, arts, music, digital – are constantly required in the reality of short bytes of attention and action by youth.



PRIA International Academy – At the Centre of Teaching Participatory Research

Education, training and learning has been at the heart of PRIA's work over 36 years. Started in 2005 (then known as PRIA Continuing Education), PRIA International Academy (PIA) has grown substantially since its establishment – from offering one course on International Perspectives in Participatory Research (taught in collaboration with University of Victoria, Canada) to offering nearly 30 short term courses. The number of learners that first year was 31. Today, the Academy has an alumni of more than 2500 adult learners (students, practitioners and academics).

PIA offers online distance education courses, seminars, workshops, conferences, exchange visits, study tours, etc., on participatory research and people's education in different sectors of development. In recent years it has begun to offer tailor-made courses and blended mode courses (with online and face-to-face modules) to groups of learners from civil society organizations across India and the Asian region. Its courses promote the concept and practice of participatory research as a contribution to people's empowerment; participatory planning, monitoring, evaluation; accountable governance; participatory democracy; and gender mainstreaming.

In the past year, 156 students registered and completed courses on international perspectives in citizenship, democracy and accountability; international perspectives in participatory monitoring and evaluation; international perspectives in participatory research; monitoring of adult education programmes and the short capsule course on prevention of sexual harassment at workplace.

Aga Khan Foundation (Bangladesh) is exploring a possible collaboration with BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) to jointly develop courses on good governance in both face-to-face and e-formats for various categories of participants. Towards this end, PIA provided support on e-learning courses and managing Moodle platform. Two experienced IT personnel from PRIA headquarters visited Dhaka, Bangladesh between 28 and 31 January 2018 to undertake an assessment of IT infrastructure in BIGD, and possible suppliers of Moodle platform as well as cloud services on which the future e-learning courses could be hosted.

A customised course on International Perspectives in Participatory Research (IPPR) was delivered for OXFAM Bangladesh in a blended mode, which included online course teaching and face to face interactions during May-June 2017. The practitioners belonged to various civil society organisations such as OXFAM, Pollisree, Sushilan and Centre for Natural

Resource Studies (CNRS). The week-long face to face training was held from 17- 21 July 2017 at PRIA Head Office in New Delhi. The first three days of the five day program were dedicated to building conceptual and theoretical understanding of various aspects of participatory research; the fourth day constituted field visit to PRIA's intervention areas in Sonapat, Haryana; and the fifth day witnessed de-briefings from the field visit and consolidation of the trainee's research plans.

A week-long training program on 'Participatory Research Methodologies' was conducted for civil society practitioners in Myanmar during 18-22 September 2017. The training program was organised by the East India Institute (EAI), based in Seoul, and was held for practitioners from various civil society organisations. The training program aimed to build their capacities in participatory research methodologies, with the objective of enhancing their understanding and skills in social and participatory research methods, and how to apply these social and participatory research skills in rural and urban settings in Myanmar.





Unboxing Gender and Sexual Harassment

In the past year, PRIA has continued its capacity building and advocacy to end gender discrimination, patriarchy and violence against women and girls, with strong support from Martha Farrell Foundation (MFF).

- **#MoreThanJustBrides**

In 2016-17, #MoreThanJustBrides project had undertaken activity-based learning to sensitise adolescent girls and boys in three villages of Sonipat district and two villages of Panipat district in Haryana on stereotypical division of gender roles, adolescent health and hygiene, and need for equal partnership between boys and girls, to help bring about attitudinal change and take personal responsibility. At the end of Phase I of #MoreThanJustBrides, an end line survey reviewed the impact of the project in both the intervened districts. The target groups of this survey were married women and unmarried girls in the age group 14 to 30 years. 100 women and girls were randomly selected from each district. The end line survey has shown evidence of a positive change in attitudes and behaviour among young married women and unmarried girls.

The education department of the Haryana government had launched a new initiative on 19 November 2016 to enable all-round development of students. Saturdays were marked as 'no bag' days in government schools. PRIA and MFF collaborated with Haryana Education department to sensitise and bring positive behavioural change among adolescent boys and girls (in Classes 8 to 12) on health and hygiene; safety and security of girls in schools and in the community and raise gender awareness.

PRIA and MFF registered as members of the National Coalition to End Child Marriage in India along with 62 CSOs working on the issue and professionals from medicine, academia and media. The role of the coalition is to take the forward the agenda of ending child marriage with various other stakeholders and feed information back into the coalition.

- **Kadam Badhate Chalo**

Kadam Badhate Chalo (KBC) builds youth leadership to end violence against women and girls. Activities in the past year were carried out in collaboration with MFF across 29 locations and 17 states of the country. As a result, more than 20,000 boys and girls work together to end VAWG.

Where there was silence earlier, there is voice now. 13 year old Arti Kumar from Japla, Jharkhand feels that “the system” of her village “is problematic ... the rules for boys and girls are too discriminatory”; 18 year old Pooja Parmar from Sehore, Madhya Pradesh asks why she was engaged to be married to someone with a criminal record at the age of 12, and was pulled out of school when she protested. 15 year old Ashutosh from Raipur, Chhattisgarh wants to know why only girls are discriminated against. 16 year old Mohit wants to know “What is the big deal about the taboos around menstruation? It’s natural and biological”.



Mohit, Arti, Pooja, Ashutosh, Kavita and Smita along with others have managed to bring the discourse on gender discrimination and violence against women and girls into the public forum. Their advocacy has begun influencing institutions to take action. The sarpanchs of some villages in Haryana and Maharashtra have taken pledges to make their villages, private and public institutions (including government schools) safe for women and girls.

- **Enabling gender-just and safe workplaces**

The protection, prohibition and redressal of sexual harassment of women at workplace as per the law of 2013 remains unfulfilled. A large majority of women at the workplace in India are still regularly subjected to sexual harassment in all its forms. Mechanisms to address the issue have still not been put into place. 76% of civil society organisation leaders who were participated in a Third Party Facilitator training in Lucknow early reported that sexual harassment exists at their workplaces and that more than 50% of them had not met any compliance standards.

In the past year conducive workplaces trainings were conducted with employees of 15 institutions such as SOIR-IM, Supergroup Plc, America India Foundation (AIF) and Glocal Thinkers. A gender audit was completed for a civil society organisation based in Odisha.

In continuation of our efforts in Sikkim, Local Committees in all the four districts and Internal Committees in all the government departments of Sikkim were properly constituted and trained by June 2017. This included the capacity building of 200 members of Local Committees and Internal Committees, 70 master trainers and 1,500 government employees.

Two open forums held in Bengaluru and Anantpur convened dialogue across sectors on prevention of sexual harassment at workplace. The open forums were attended by more than 200 employees.

PRIA continues to be third party representative on the Internal Committees of 5 organisations.



THE DIGNITY OF MY LABOUR



1991 - 7.4 LAKH
2001 - 16.2 LAKH
2017 - 50 LAKH

**3 OUT OF 5 DOMESTIC WORKERS
IN INDIA ARE WOMEN**

- Domestic work is not a trade as per India's labour laws
- Most workers receive half or less than the minimum wage as mandated by state labour departments
- When asked to do work extra, employers do not compensate domestic workers with extra pay
- Wages are deducted for taking leave
- Physical, verbal and sexual harassment is common
- Employers still practice "untouchability", in the form of separate utensils and not allowing maids to use toilets in the house where they work

- **Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Women Domestic Workers**

There are 4 to 10 million domestic workers in India. They are the invisible workforce of Indian households. As compared to other informal sector workers, domestic workers experience more difficult work conditions and are more vulnerable.

For the past 18 months, supported by the Embassy of the Netherlands in India, PRIA in collaboration with MFF has been working and conducting participatory research with women domestic workers in Gurugram, Faridabad and South Delhi. The preliminary findings from stories, discussions and dialogues with over 1,000 women domestic workers reveal the many challenges they face. They are more often than not abused, disrespected, underpaid, subject to verbal and physical abuse. Domestic workers are paid less than the minimum wage of an unskilled worker in India.

In the first year of the project the focus was on raising awareness and organising the domestic workers in the three districts. Outreach to **1260 domestic workers** from the three districts through focus group discussions and meetings to discuss the challenges they face in everyday work life has helped form workers' collectives in two locations. Stories of **80 domestic workers** were documented.

Women domestic workers in two locations in Gurugram and Faridabad conducted participatory safety assessments of their neighbourhoods and their walk to work, documenting the various kinds of harassment they face, every day. They prepared a map detailing how safe/unsafe they feel on their journey to work. According to the narrative of the workers, they fear going to work because they are harassed – by guards, housekeeping staff, taxi drivers, men loitering on the roads, and unfortunately even their own employers. On the occasion of International Women's Day, these domestic workers shared their experiences with the Chairperson of the Local Committee, Gurgaon district, Mrs Anuradha Sharma.

Multiple stakeholders were mapped, including members of Local Committees in Gurgaon, police officials, other civil society organisations working with domestic workers, Residents Welfare Associations, placement agencies and officials from the labour department and women and child development department. The data collected was broadly classified into three thematic areas: roles and responsibilities; assessing priorities with respect to domestic workers; and processes and mechanisms to address sexual harassment at workplace.

Linkages are being built with different government and non-governmental organisations working with domestic workers on the issue of sexual harassment at workplace. Social activists, domestic workers from various organizations and PRIA came together in a participatory training conducted on 26 October 2017 at the PRIA Head Office, New Delhi. The objective of the training was to build common understanding on the Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act. Training on methods and tools of community mobilisation was also imparted through learning based activities and de-brief sessions.

A district level consultation was organised on 24 October 2017 in Gurgaon District at the Community Hall of Carlton 4, DLF Phase 5, Gurgaon. Government officials from the labour

department, Local Committee members, NGOs and informal sector union members were also invited along with the domestic workers. This consultation helped build a platform to bridge the gap between domestic workers, unions and the government.

In Delhi, to strengthen redressal and prevention mechanisms against sexual harassment of women workers in the informal sector, the formation of South-East District Local Committee was facilitated. Support from the District Administration was sought for this. In Gurugram, regular interface between the Local Committee and domestic workers is being facilitated. The Local Committee was unaware of its role in protecting domestic workers and other informal sector women workers from sexual harassment at workplace. After interacting with the domestic workers, the Local Committee members and nodal officers better understand their roles and responsibilities as per the law. To further strengthen this action, a network of civil society organisations, labour unions and resident welfare associations was formed to closely work with the Gurgaon Local Committee to report instances of sexual harassment of domestic workers.

- **What are we learning?**

Youth-centric approach has proved to be an effective mechanism in tackling violence against women and girls. Engaging young boys and girls together on the issue helps them in understanding how gender stereotypes are normalised in everyday lives. It has also boosted their confidence to question existing patriarchal norms.

Engagement with adolescents on reproductive and sexual health, mental health issues and MHM has helped in raising their awareness level on these topics and has helped them in understanding that adolescent is a physical, psychological and emotional journey to adulthood in a world that contains both opportunities and danger. Therefore, it is very important for them to make constructive use of their energy and talent.

Arts, music and sports as ways to engage with youth are a great equalizer. Creative methods helps them boys and girls overcome gender, class and caste related stereotypes, develop critical communication and leadership skills and take their first step towards becoming local champions of gender equality.

Engagement on issues of gender discrimination and inequality through schools has proved to be very effective, especially since schools are seen as important social institutions and they play an important role in influencing attitudes and behaviours. It is important that teachers and school management become an active and a meaningful part such engagement, so that they can facilitate safe spaces for discussions on gender and adolescent health issues.



Promoting Societal Relevance of Higher Education

Nearly 40 million young Indians are enrolled in some course of education after completion of 12 years of schooling. Universities now number nearly 900, and their affiliated colleges a whopping 42,000, in India. Additionally, professional educational institutions number more than a thousand—engineering, computers, management, medicine, nursing, architecture, law, etc. This massive expansion in post-secondary education has paralleled India's economic growth trajectory since 2000. However, a large number of 'graduates' are still found unsuitable for employment. In the past two years, many private professional colleges in engineering and management are closing down due to lack of students. While the larger economic outlook shapes the macro context for employment, quality of higher education is being seen as a major underlying reason for this challenge.

As more and more young students enter post-secondary education, it is critical that they undergo a learning experience that prepares them for real India. In the Indian context, the 'real world' outside the classroom is rural and peri-urban. Statistics suggest that two-thirds of India's population and 70% of its workforce continue to reside in rural areas. Not every Indian graduate will go to Silicon Valley. If students of Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla University (PRSU) are going to be working in and around Chhattisgarh, they need to understand their rural and tribal society, economy and technology first, before they can contribute to its transformation.

- **Knowledge for Change**

Learning in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) needs to connect with larger society today, not only in curriculum but also in ways of teaching. To address this need to link theoretical knowledge of students with practical realities in community settings, PRIA launched the Knowledge for Change (K4C) program, in collaboration with UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility of Higher Education. Dr Rajesh Tandon, Founder-President, PRIA is also Co-Chair of this UNESCO Chair.

K4C is a global partnership with shared goals and joint responsibility for building research capacity to address locally pressing societal challenges, including UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is an international partnered training initiative between HEIs and civil society organisations, to function as Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) hubs for co-creation of knowledge. Collective action and training by academics and practitioners in various training hubs around the world will build the next generation of community based participatory researchers.

K4C is carefully crafted around a Mentor Training Program (MTP), exclusively prepared by the UNESCO Chair. MTP is a 21 week program with three components: online, face to face and supervised field research. Each CBPR hub nominates 3-4 mentors who are trained in CBPR. On completion of the program, academic mentors are expected to design, launch and co-teach a course in CBPR at the host university in collaboration with practitioner civil society organisations. A special planning meeting was held in November 2017. The first MTP cohort began on 22 January 2018 and ended on 17 June 2018. A total of 19 mentors (12 women, 7 men) from 6 country hubs (India, Indonesia, South Africa, Italy, Colombia and Cuba) were trained in the first batch.



Special seminars/sessions on K4C and community based research were held among students and mentors in colleges and universities across India during the year. Students were active participants in the launch of the K4C network at the event held in National University of Educational Planning and Administration on 13 November 2017. K4C was formally launched in Ottawa, Canada, on 14 December 2017.

The K4C initiative was leveraged institutionally through discussions and advocacy with academics and higher education professionals. As a few universities and colleges begin to realise the value of field-based and community-engaged teaching and research, youth are beginning to take advantage of such emerging opportunities. By engaging with the real world for their learning, research and service, youth are able to better create innovative solutions for challenges facing marginalised sections of society. Social media channels, particularly Facebook (which is popular among students), has been widely used to generate interest in community based research as a research methodology. Social media was used to revive our connections with students in Chhattisgarh, Haryana and Bangalore, who were trained on community based research by us in 2016.



Launch of K4C in New Delhi

Dr Rajesh Tandon, as UNESCO Co-Chair, continues to offer professional support for capacity enhancement in civil society organisations and universities on socially responsible higher education and responsible research and innovation.

On 30 May 2017 he delivered a public lecture on 'Universities & Civil Society: Partnerships of Respect' at Durban University of Technology (DUT) in South Africa. In his talk he emphasised the importance of mutually beneficial relationships between universities and civil society as crucial for the development of 'new knowledge' required to address contemporary societal challenges.

40 years ago, Colombian sociologist Orlando Fals Borda introduced the world to Participatory Action Research (PAR). On 10 June 2017 a tribute ceremony was held in Saucio, Choconta, near Bogota, Columbia, where Prof Orlando started his first direct field engagement and helped develop a community association and school in 1958. The Mayor of Choconta, citizens, and leaders of the school prepared the programme, including dialogues with community members, folkloric presentations and a field visit. Dr Rajesh Tandon, participated in this event, during which he spoke on Orlando's legacy to Participatory Research, his connections with PRIA, and contributions to the field of PAR. On 7-8 June 2017, Dr Tandon conducted two half day workshops on higher education, community engagement and knowledge democracy in contexts of (post)conflict, at the UNAL, Bogota campus. On 12 June 2017, he spoke on the 'Systemic challenges of Fals Borda and others' legacies in different contexts and circumstances'. He attended the 5th ARNA Conference & 1st Global Assembly for Knowledge Democracy, in Cartagena, Columbia between 11 and 17 June 2017.

Dr Rajesh Tandon was one of the featured speakers at the Talloires Network Leadership Conference 2017, which was centered around the theme 'Social Responsibility and Human

Dignity in Higher Education Engagement’ to envision the future of engaged universities. This influential gathering of higher education leaders from all regions of the world between 21 and 23 June 2017 at Veracruz, Mexico, charted the next stage of the growing university civic engagement movement.

On 15 September 2017, Dr Rajesh Tandon interacted with the graduate students at the University of Glasgow at seminar, during which he spoke on ‘Knowledge Democracy & Knowledge for Change (K4C): Preparing Next Generation of Engaged Scholars’.

As part of his engagements with the world of academia and the development sector, Dr Tandon has been championing the cause of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the social responsibility of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in helping achieve the SDG goals and targets. He has consistently argued that ‘knowledge deficit is the most critical deficit confronting achievement of SDGs, and higher education and its myriad institutions can address this knowledge, learning and collaboration deficit in achievement of SDGs’. Dr Tandon has also written elaborately about higher education for public good, and its social responsibility functions. Dr Tandon visited the Centre for Research and Development in Adult and Lifelong Learning (CR&DALL) at the University of Glasgow on 15 September 2017 where he gave a talk on ‘Roles & contributions of Higher Education in realizing SDGs’, in which he discussed the political leadership, financial resources and human capital deficits in achieving the ambitious SDG agenda by 2030 and in this context the potential community-engaged role of higher education institutions can play. On 18-19 September 2017, he attended the International Conference on Sustainable Development Goals: Actors and Implementation in Barcelona. In a gathering of multidisciplinary experts and high-level practitioners from around the world, Dr Tandon exchanged knowledge, ideas, experiences and expectations around the challenges involved with the SDGs, and debated possible solutions for sustainable development to transform society at local and global levels. He also engaged in dialogue on policy and practice towards transforming higher education through Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Advocacy during the year also focused on building the next generation of community based researchers to conduct responsible research and innovation. Dr Rajesh Tandon took part in meetings of the Enhancing Responsible Research and Innovation through Curricula in Higher Education (EnRRICH) project of the Living Knowledge Network. The meetings included a session with the European Parliament on 24 January 2018 and a meeting of the EnRRICH advisory board on 25 and 26 January 2018. He delivered a lecture on “Bridging the Gap Between the Researcher and the Community in India” to Master’s students of Global Health and Clinical Epidemiology in Barcelona on 20 September 2017.

Active advocacy by PRIA is helping HEIs realise their social responsibility towards community needs and aspirations and building the next generation of community based researchers. PRIA is becoming instrumental in bringing universities closer to communities, by assuming varied roles of facilitator, supporter, and partner.



Institutional Development

• Governance Structure

The Governing Board is the statutory body for the management of PRIA's affairs. It performs the following functions:

- ✓ Appointing the President/CEO
- ✓ Making institutional policies for programmes, funds, HR/admin, etc.
- ✓ Setting programme directions and strategies
- ✓ Reviewing institutional performance (annual and programme reports)
- ✓ Approving annual budgets
- ✓ Approving annual audits

The membership of the Governing Board for 2017-18 is:

Chairperson: Ms. Sheela Patel, Founder Director, Society for Promotion of Area Resource Centre (SPARC), Mumbai, Maharashtra.*

Treasurer: Shri Ravi Seth, Chief Financial Officer, ReNew Power, Gurgaon.

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

Ms Shobha Mishra Ghosh, Senior Director, FICCI

Shri Ashok Kumar Singh, Founder Director, Sahbhagi Shikshan Kendra, Lucknow

Ms. Anuradha Das Mathur, Founding Dean, Vedica Scholars Programme for Women, New Delhi[#]

Three Governing Board meetings were held between April 2017 and March 2018 -- 103rd Governing Board and Annual General Body meeting on 1st July 2017, 104th Governing Board meeting on 2nd Dec 2017 and 105th Governing Board meeting 27th Feb 2018.

The Governing Board reviews and approves the ongoing and upcoming programmes of PRIA. Between the board meetings, the Chairperson provides guidance to the President

* Ms. Sheela Patel stepped down as Chair in July 2017, and Ms Rita Sarin took over as Chairperson.

[#] Ms. Anuradha Das Mathur joined PRIA Governing Board as a member in February 2018.

(who reports to the Chair). The Treasurer oversees the financial management functions (including internal audit) and provides frequent guidance to the head of finance and the President.

- **Management Structures**

The President is the CEO of PRIA. He is responsible for overall management of PRIA within the policy parameters laid down by the Governing Board.

The Senior Management Group (SMG) is the top tier of decision-making in PRIA. It comprises of directors reporting to the President, who is the Chair of SMG. Its convener is appointed by rotation. The SMG is mandated to:

- ✓ Strategic programmatic choices & resource mobilisation.
- ✓ Maintaining & building relationships with key constituencies.
- ✓ Oversight of programmes & projects.
- ✓ Forward planning for human resources.
- ✓ Overview of financial management and statutory compliances.
- ✓ Institutional development and governance matters.
- ✓ Risk management.

SMG members in the previous year included Rajesh Tandon (President), Kaustuv Kanti Bandyopadhyay (Director), Manoj Rai (Director) and V.P. Gupta (Director, Operations).

During the year, SMG focused on issues of collective leadership processes, institutional roles for the next line of leadership, programme strategy, resource mobilisation, annual and bi-annual reviews, project planning, staff allocation, performance review of staff, designation, compensation and nomination of staff to capacity building programmes and other events.

Program Management Group (PMG) is the next tier of leadership responsible for Program Management. It comprises of the President, directors/deputy director(s) and senior managers. Its convener is appointed on rotation. The PMG is mandated to:

- ✓ Review of existing programmes and projects.
- ✓ Capacity and staffing requirements.
- ✓ Opportunities for new resource mobilisation.
- ✓ Scoping for programme expansion and scale-up.
- ✓ Institutional strengthening and system effectiveness.
- ✓ Risk Management.
- ✓ Any other mandate given by SMG from time-to-time

The members of PMG in 2017-18 were Rajesh Tandon, Manoj Rai, Kaustuv Bandyopadhyay, V.P. Gupta, Alok Pandey, Anshuman Karol, Nandita Bhatt and Satheesan T.

The support functions of the organisation are coordinated by the Operations Management Group (OMG). It comprises SMG Convenor, Director (Operations) and Support Unit Heads. The OMG is mandated to support effective and coordinated performance of all support operations as under:

- ✓ Regular and periodic review of various upcoming programme-related support requirements.
- ✓ Anticipating future requirements and planning for the same.
- ✓ Resolving inter-departmental coordination issues.
- ✓ Special attention to field locations and staff in timely and effective support.
- ✓ Identifying issues and possible solutions to bring to the notice of other decision-making structures.
- ✓ Risk management.

• **Staff Development**

PRIA invests in building capacities and skills of its staff. In 2017-18, 35 members of staff were nominated for external trainings and for various study courses. Three staff members were nominated to attend a workshop on financial management, legal compliance for NGOs, FCRA amendments, labour laws, and GST. With increased attention to social media visibility for the organisation and digital ways of working, staff were nominated to attend workshops on political mobilization through social media, ROI on content marketing and emergence of the digital workplace. Programme staff were also trained on two new softwares – ArcGIS and NVivo – purchased to improve qualitative analysis and data interpretation in research. On 10 October 2017, all staff attended a workshop on team building and communication led by an external trainer from Blanchard Research and Training India LLP.

For the past several years, PRIA has been training its staff under the Training of Trainers (ToT) programme. During 24 to 30 August 2017, 9 staff members attended a ToT programme at Sahbhagi Sikshan Kendra (SSK), Lucknow. 23 students from Pune, Delhi, Dublin, Victoria (Canada), Asansol, Kota and Ajmer completed their internship at PRIA. Watch videos of their experiences:

[CAPI Interns from University of Victoria, Canada](#)

[Interns from Law College Durgapur \(Affiliated to Kazi Nazrul University\), Asansol](#)

[Interns from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi](#)

• **New Ways of Working**

In the past year, special attention has been paid to increase the cohort of young employees in PRIA's employee profile. Internally, youth participation and voice in management systems and practices in PRIA was integrated, with focus on "new ways of working". Teams of young (those working in PRIA for less than 2 years) and older colleagues (those working more than 5 years) have taken the lead in finding new softwares and solutions to upgrade systems and processes. Long-time employees engaged in support functions have been guided and encouraged to participate in program planning and reviews. Their experience and knowledge of PRIA-wide systems combined with the energy and understanding of contemporary ways of working of younger colleagues is expected to refresh PRIA. A deliverable based approach to internal project planning and execution has been adopted. Knowledge products are being refreshed in an ongoing process to convey PRIA's experiences over 35 years to contemporary audiences.

Decentralised teams comprising younger and older employees have begun to take decisions related to program planning and program management. Decentralized decision making has seen surprising results of synergies and creativity between younger and older colleagues. The enthusiasm of younger colleagues and the experience of older colleagues has started to bring new ideas and different ways of doing things. These “new ways of working” are expected to refresh PRIA’s programmatic and institutional engagement with a youthful, aspirational India.

Financial Summary

The audited accounts of the Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), together with the report of the Statutory Auditors, has been circulated. A summary of the Income and Expenditure Account is provided below.

The Society continues to follow the guidelines suggested by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India for Not-for-Profit Organizations in preparation of financial statements wherever feasible.

The liability for the grants remaining unutilized at the year-end has been accounted for as Grants in Advance.

A proportion of funds received in the previous year amounting to approximately ₹ 244 lakhs have been utilised in the current financial year.

The Management Audit Report for the year has been discussed with the Governing Board.

Yours sincerely

Ravi Seth

Treasurer, PRIA

Statutory Auditors: Sanjesh Jawarani & Co, Chartered Accountants, New Delhi

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

(Year ended March 31, 2018)

(In INR '000)

Year ended 31.03.2017	Particulars	Year ended 31.03.2018
	Income	
51,458	Research and Training Grants	58,163
21,184	Other Income	19,868
72,642	Total	78,031
	Expenditure	
52,422	Programme	54,249
10,602	Administration	12,378
1,628	Depreciation	1,756
64,652	Total	68,383
7,990	Excess/ (Deficit) of Income Over Expenditure	9,648

Note: Extracted from Audited Statement of Accounts 2017-18

FCRA ACCOUNTS: INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

(Year ended March 31, 2018)

Particulars	Amount (₹)
INCOME	
Research and Training Grants	40,162,061.60
Other Income	1,173,649.99
TOTAL	41,335,711.59
EXPENDITURE	
Programme Expenses	32,703,976.00
Administrative Expenses	7,173,371.87
Depreciation	1,483,376.00
TOTAL	41,360,723.87
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME	(25,012.28)
TOTAL	41,335,711.59



Resource Providers

Resource Provider	Foreign Contribution Account (₹)	Local Fund Account (₹)	TOTAL (₹) (as on 31.03.2018)
RESEARCH AND TRAINING GRANTS			
All We Can	1,284,463.00		1,284,463.00
CIVICUS	273,649.00		273,649.00
David Brown and Jane Covey	1,600,650.00		1,600,650.00
Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands	912,408.00		912,408.00
European Union	23,252,339.40		23,252,339.40
Government of Sikkim		791,111.00	791,111.00
Impact Foundation (India)		5,405,800.00	5,405,800.00
iPartner	328,200.20		328,200.20
Jal Seva Charitable Foundation	301,489.00		301,489.00
Rizwan Adatia Foundation		1,890,509.00	1,890,509.00
Rockefeller Foundation	6,296,050.50		6,296,050.50
Synergos Institute	432,500.50		432,500.50
The Asia Foundation	300,000.00		300,000.00
The Ford Foundation	5,180,312.00		5,180,312.00
United Nations Children's Fund		9,913,784.00	9,913,784.00
Total	40,162,061.60	18,001,204.00	58,163,265.60
CONTRIBUTION FROM CONSULTANCY			
International Co-operative Alliance			27,000.00
Training Fees			2,000.00
Total	-	-	27,000.00

Team @ PRIA

(April 2017 to March 2018)

Accountant: Jose Xavier

Assistant Accountant: Ravi Prakash Tiwari

Senior Accountant: Soja Saramma Mathew

Accounts Officer: Praveen P V

Accounts & Administration Officer: Gajendra Sahu

Administrative Assistant: Dhan Singh

Administrative Officer: Chandra Shekhar Joshi

Administration & Accounts Assistants: Naeem Khan

Assistant (IT): Sonu Kumar

Assistant Manager-IT & Communications: Devi Dutt Pant

Assistant Program Officer: Sonia, Anik Kumar Singh, Avon Kumar Patel, Harsh Budhraja, Kalyani Abhyankar, Philomina Joseph, Pooja Pandey, Pravin Kumar Singh, Rati Ranjan Nanda, Seema Kumari Sharma

Deputy Director: Alok Pandey

Directors: Kaustuv Kanti Bandyopadhyay, Manoj Rai

Director (Operations): (Retd.) Col. V.P. Gupta

Driver: Jagdev Behuria

Executive Secretaries: Jyoti Nagpal, Monika Aggarwal, Pooja Saxena

HR Officer: Joseph P.P.

Hostel In-charge: Shanta

Librarian: Syed Zakir Hussain

Officer (Front Desk): Prabhat Arora

Project Monitoring Assistant: Himanshu Kumar

Senior Program Managers: Anshuman Karol, Nandita Pradhan

Program Officers: Akhila Betsy George, Ankur Singh, Bhavin Taunk, Deboshree Mohanta, Dhruva Basu, Jaleshwar Kaiwartya, Jobin Joseph George, Nilanjana Bhattacharjee, Pallavi Sharma, Praatibh Mishra, Shruti Gupta, Subhalina Das Gupta, Subodh Kumar Gupta, Suruchi Sharma, Suvekcha Tamang, Tulika Acharya, Yashvi Sharma

Manager PCMU: Satheesan T.

Manager-President's Office: Bindu Baby

Senior Program Officers: Aditya Verghese, Anjaney Kumar, Ankita Bhat, Balmukund Sharma, Gautam Majumder, Kaustuv Chakrabarti, Kirti Tak, Lorina Anal, Megha Kashyap, Neharika Mahajan, Nivedita, Pradeepta Kumar Nayak, Ramesh Yadawar, Rashmi Ranjan, Shashi Shikha, Sudhir Kumar Singh, Sukrit Nagpal, VSN Murthy, Vikash Kumar Singh, Vinit Calla, Wafa Singh

IT Officer-Websites & Communication: Sujit Kumar Sourav

Interns @ PRIA

(April 2017 to March 2018)

- Loreen Regnander, CAPI, University of Victoria, Canada
- Sasha Mosky, CAPI, University of Victoria, Canada
- William Howling, CAPI, University of Victoria, Canada
- Rachel Barr, CAPI, University of Victoria, Canada
- Oisin Tucker, Trinity College, University College, Dublin
- Claire Windsor, Trinity College, University College, Dublin
- Jina Sim, Trinity College, University College, Dublin
- Claire Louise Fisher, University of Melbourne, Australia
- Arjun Dubey, Ambedkar University, Delhi
- Mokshita Luthra, Ambedkar University, Delhi
- Parul Satija, Symbiosis School of Economics, Pune
- Yashna Anand Singh, Symbiosis School of Economics, Pune
- Nayantara Vohra, Ashoka University, Sonapat
- Dawa Lhamu Sherma, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
- Puja Chowdhury, Law College Durgapur Affiliated to Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol
- Mili Das , Law College Durgapur Affiliated to Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol
- Sarmi Chakraborty , Law College Durgapur Affiliated to Kazi Nazrul University, Asansol
- Megha Gupta, Vardhaman Mahaveer Open University (VMOU), Kota, Rajasthan
- Roquaiya, TERI University, New Delhi
- Nikhil Yadav, Central University of Rajasthan, Kishangarh, Ajmer, Rajasthan
- Ansum Mishra, Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer
- Fizza Saghir, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Aiman Khalid , Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi