IN PURSUIT OF TRANSFORMING STREET LIVES TOGETHER

Ensuring Rights for Street Children

CHETNA
Annual Report
2016-17
At a Residential Workshop on building leadership skills, a child doing rock climbing (as part of various outdoor adventurous activities) on artificial climbing wall at Indira Gandhi Holiday Home for Children in Damdama, Haryana.
The report summarises our efforts that we made for the street children in the financial year 2016-17. It provides an overview about the activities we carried out under different projects and the consequent achievements. The bigger and crucial contribution for what we achieved this year came from the generous cooperation of our peers and partners. Also as their feedback gives us impetus to work harder, we have given it a special mention in this Annual Report.
Welcome

Dear friends,

With your generous support, the year 2016-17 for CHETNA was marked with landmark achievements. The efforts that we made were particularly directed at transforming the lives of street children through collaborative approaches.

The past few years have been the years of the sort of transformational change, not just for CHETNA but for the entire embodiment of Non-profit organizations. Foreign funding, on the one hand, has been shrinking with every passing year; on the other, the same through CSR has been showing a positive upward trend. Now the time has come where an organization has to deliver on ground in concrete and measurable terms, which I think is quite a welcoming aspect of the recent transformation. Developing innovative models and sharing the same with others have now become a necessity, for time and again it has been proved that only collaborative effort can lead the way to effective and sustainable social change.

While keeping the focus on our core work for the section of “street and working children,” this year we launched one of the most challenging project “Dreams on Street” for children begging at traffic signals of Delhi. In this way CHETNA became a pioneering organization in Delhi to work for the begging children. Working with them was fraught with challenges of various kinds; still we achieved with it significantly, particularly in developing an in-depth understanding on their lives. Moreover, the endline survey of the project demonstrated that we were able to register encouraging progress in the area of education, making them well-versed with reading and writing skills.

Likewise, our “Street to School” project too has achieved considerably. Through the project, more than 500 out-of-school children have been brought into the fold of school education this year. The project’s proven efficiency even attracted the attention of the Delhi Government, making them endorse the same.

This year we also joined hands with HCL Foundation. With their invaluable support, interventions in Lucknow and NOIDA have already begun under a project named as “My Community.”

Children above 18 years always kept us in bind as we did not have any specific intervention for this age group of children. This year we overcame this perplexing ambiguity and decided to start a programme for them soon, wherein our emphasis would be to expose them with Vocational and Life-skill training programmes, and, in this way, pave a path of their self-employment.

This year Mr. Ved Prakash was elected as our new chairperson of the Board. He had long been associated with CHETNA as one of the Board members. Now with this new responsibility, we hope he would be extending valuable guidance to the team, furthering the culture of learning and professionalism within the organization.

Last year’s report highlighted the strength of collaboration and partnerships of NGO and Corporate. This report takes that exploration further with the theme, “In Pursuit of Transforming Street Lives Together.” What we gained this year could not have been possible if we had not received support from partners, donors, government, and more importantly corporate. I take this opportunity to thank them all. We need to keep the ball rolling, increase our reach and deepen our efforts. We need to share or learning far and wide. We need to stand together.

Sanjay Gupta
Director, CHETNA NGO

“What we have achieved this year gives us hope and strength to do much more in the coming years”
Who We Are

Childhood Enhancement through Training and Action (CHETNA), founded under Public Charitable Trust Registration Act, envisions achieving a child-caring society that respects their rights. Since its establishment in 2002, CHETNA has been engaged in rehabilitation and empowerment of Street and Working Children in Delhi and around, attempting to break the vicious cycle of their poverty and ensure easy access to the basic rights of protection, education, healthcare, participation and opportunities for a livelihood. We have successfully been able to design and implement innovative models, like, Contact Point-based Alternative Education, Peer to Peer Harm Reduction for substance using children, Street Children Federation, Badthe Kidam, Street to School, etc with proven outcomes. We work for all kinds of street children, regardless of gender, origin or religion, inspired by an underlying ethic of compassion for their vulnerability and extreme marginalization. Considering the nature of their vulnerability and challenges of working with this section of population, we build deep partnerships with nonprofits, businesses, governments and local administrations, based on a shared vision of prosperity for street and working children. Working with our partners—ranging from socially responsible corporations, NGOs, governments—we are committed to ensure street children their long due rights and improve their quality of life. We attempt to bring change by pioneering innovative models and committed partnership. In developing innovative models and programmes, we actively involve children, and by doing so, we are successful in harnessing their ingenuous creativity and skills. Participation of children has been of central significance in our entire activities: we involve them both in designing a model as well as their implementation on ground. All these have led CHETNA to evolve as a truly child-centred organization. We work with street children in all their forms: working children, out-of-school children, begging children, child labour in factories, children connected with railway stations, children in difficult situations, children using substances, runaway children, etc. Our approach covers their needs from education, health and livelihood to rescuing and repatriation. Time to time CHETNA also provide consultancy to various government ministries and child rights commissions. In our work, children act as protagonists and staffs mere the catalysts for change.

Vision for Change

“CHETNA aspires to achieve a child-caring society and system.”

To move towards this outstanding vision, we make organized efforts, harnessing strong partnerships with other NGOs, CSR - national as well as international - organizations.

Our Mission

“Our mission is to provide childhood empowerment through training and action, with a special focus on street and working children and especially girls, to ensure their rights.”
Our Presence

- Delhi
  - Dreams on Street
  - Street to School
  - Harm Reduction Centre, Nizamuddin
  - Udaan
  - Sapnon Ka Angan

- NOIDA
  - My Community (Supported by HCL Foundation)

- Mathura
  - Harm Reduction Centre

- Lucknow
  - My Community
  - One World Foundation
  - Human Liberty Network

- Agra
  - Childline
Education over the years has turned out to be the single most striking theme that runs across almost all the projects executed by CHETNA for different groups of children. This is because of its belief in education as the most potent tool for breaking the vicious cycle of poverty and deprivation.

Empowerment of beneficiary group (children) as well as the stakeholders goes a long way in ensuring sustainability to a project. At CHETNA empowerment is achieved through a number of activities: Life-skill workshop, Training programme, Consultation, Parent and Stakeholder meeting, etc.

SWC live and work in extremely health-hazardous condition, often causing them suffer from serious health issues. Moreover, as a way to deflect the vileness of their day-to-day pains and defend themselves from the stinking foul of the environment they work in, they are found prone to pick the practice of consuming harmful substances.

Advocacy at CHETNA is a means to influence government policies and programmes through sharing of learning and making expert recommendations. Administrative bodies, particularly Police Department, Labour Department, SCPCR, etc. are engaged in the activities of workshops and meetings.
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Highlights of the year
Projects
PROJECTS:
ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

SWC in jubilation on the concluding day of their stay at Indira Gandhi Holiday Home, Gurugram (Haryana) for the 4-day long residential workshop on building leadership skills (organized from 14th to 18th of October, 2016). The workshop was designed to bring out the best of leadership skills from the state of dormancy in their invisible selves.
CHETNA’s long-term approach to breaking the cycle of Street and Working Children’s (SWC) poverty includes the strategy of bringing them into the fold of school education. Before enrolling them in formal school they are provided with informal education assistance, a kind of preparatory course en-route to formalisation. With a special focus on education, Street to School, a project supported by Toybox, aims at bringing the out-of-school working children in the fold of formal system of education, which in turn provide them opportunities to unlock their potential. By extending support to this project, Toybox has deepened its commitment to ensuring education for out-of-school working and marginalized children.

In keeping with the project strategy, a comprehensive outreach activity was carried out to find the children who were out of school, busy working and doing all kinds of work but studying. The above was followed by an intensive drive for their admission. The effort resulted into getting 505 drop-out and out-of-school children enrolled in their nearby government schools.

For a large number of parents the simple process of getting admission in school was found to be not that simple. Such parents were given hands-on support by CHETNA’s Street Educators. Soon after their admission, Education Clubs at all the 13 locations started giving them remedial teaching support in a nurturing environment. The idea underpinning the above strategy derived from the fact that a large number of
children drop out from school because of their poor academic experience at school. This gets further compounded in the case of children belonging to poor socio-economic strata.

‘Street to School’ combines the energy of Street Educators, parents and school teachers. Parents meeting, which were organized on quarterly basis, helped in enlisting their needed support to the project. This year in all, 52 parents meetings were conducted in which, on an average, about 380 parents participated. This helped in building their capacity and, consequently, helped in connecting them with school. 14 parents became the part of the school’s important decision making body, School Management Committees (SMC). Some other activities and achievements of the project worth noting were:

- 14 training programmes on POSCO and Child Rights were conducted with 124 teachers, whereas 12 training programmes with parents on Child Rights, which were participated by 271 Parents.
- The 14 awareness rallies that were conducted this year found the participation of 428 children.
- A consultation programme was organized in West Delhi with 45 stakeholders (Juvenile welfare officer, school teachers & principals, parents and officials representing DCPU).

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<tr>
<th>‘Street to School’ Achievements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 Education Clubs</td>
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<tr>
<td>505 Out-of-school children were enrolled in govt. schools and taught at the clubs</td>
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<tr>
<td>462 Children successfully promoted to the next grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Children topped in their respective grades in the annual examination</td>
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Chandni, aged 9, though hails from Saharsa district of Bihar, but has been living in Shakur Basti (Delhi), with her parents for the past 5 years. Her father Sahebaan works as a daily wage-labourer and earns just enough to feed his family of 6 members. Chandni’s mother Shabina Khatoo is a home-maker. Besides supporting the mother in her daily chores, Chandni also serves the role of a surrogate mother as she takes care of her 3 younger siblings. In her spare time, Chandni goes out to collect firewood and coal strewn around the nearby railway tracks, to fuel their kitchen.

On one such day when Chandni was walking down towards her home with firewood on her head, a Street to School staff got in touch with her. In a short conversation with her it became clear that Chandni was out-of-school but willing to be in. To get her enrolled, the team initiated a formal conversation with Chandni’s parents. They were found to be reluctant in sending her to school, for it amounted to the loss of a household helping hand, particularly in taking care of the younger siblings. Continuous counselling, though, made them agreed.

Chandni was helped by the team to get admission in class 3. Although she began to go to school regularly, she needed to be assisted by extra tuition classes, for she had never been to school before. The Education Club of the project came as a big help for her in this regard. Her interest and educators’ hard work paid and she began to pick academic skills fast. In a residential workshop organized at Damdama in Gurugram, she participated and even won the oratory competition.
The project “Dreams on Streets” (DOS) is a joint initiative of Plan India and CHETNA. The idea to run a project of the kind was conceived from a visit made by CHETNA-Plan members to a flyover near IIT gate, New Delhi. They found that at the traffic signal under the flyover many children, aged between 7 and 14 years, were begging and selling goods to the people clogged in traffic waiting for the lights to turn green. The project was started at 4 traffic signals of Delhi (IIT Flyover, Moolchand Flyover, BRT Flyover, Defense Colony Flyover).

CHETNA through its project Dream on Street (DOS) reaches out to such children. They, in the first stage, are given education in informal setup and then mainstreamed in government-run schools. Grownup children are also connected with vocational training programmes so that they begin to earn a decent living.

“We bring flowers from Ghazipur Mandi. We all work together in converting them into beautiful bouquets, but it is our children go out in the traffic to find the customers,” - Ramchander (from Bhilwada, Rajasthan), who live at IIT flyover and sell flower bouquets.

DOS street is a unique and one of the most challenging projects, a first of its kind in Delhi for any organization.
At the outset, the field execution revealed that connecting these children with education – either through school or CHETNA’s alternative education centre – was not going to be an easy task. Consequently, the project team carried out daily outreach activity, mobilizing children to the centre and having to interact with their parents. This year, 137 parents were interacted in this way on a regular basis.

Explaining them the benefits of education and making their relationship with the project stronger was other aims of the outreach activity.

At the traffic signals the situation of street children, involved in begging and working, was hazardous and precarious. They lived in open space, always exposed to the harshness of nature. Their lives become difficult particularly during the winter season. Taking this into account, this winter, the project helped some 250 children with winter clothes.

Not after a long into the execution of the project, CHETNA got convinced that the project of this nature, where the beneficiary group was begging and working children of traffic signal, could not be tackled alone. Therefore, CHETNA, in association with District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), initiated a collaborative body, “Disha,” combining the scattered energies of a number of NGOs working in similar fields to address the issues of traffic signal children.

CHETNA, this year, supported and facilitated 4 stakeholder meetings (in collaboration with DCPU), which were chaired by the District Magistrate. This year,
voices of children begging at traffic-signal were helped to reach far and wide to a large number of people through 8 media coverage in the prestigious newspapers, such as: The Time of India, Hindustan Times, The Hindu, and the Statesman etc.

Health services to children: various ways and their contribution

- Health Camp: 59%
- First-aid box: 14%
- Hospital/Health centre: 14%
- Emergency assistance: 13%

Vijay

Vocational Training Opened the Gate of Opportunities for Vijay

Urban poverty is seldom as dastardly manifested as it is done by the children connected with traffic signals, begging or selling knick knacks. The winds of extreme rural poverty, broken homes, persecutions, etc. pull them off from their roots in villages and drop them at the traffic signals of big cities like Delhi, only to undergo yet another cycle of deprivation, if not poverty. The first casualty that such children meet is their abrupt severing of ties with school and education. The story of Vijay is one such example.

Vijay, now an 18-year-old confident boy, lost his parents when he was too young to even remember how old he was at that time. When he was 12, his uncle told him that his father took debts from a few villagers and that needed to be paid back. With this heavy responsibility on his tender shoulder, Vijay began to work harder. Finding the income not being sufficient, one day he left his home and arrived in Delhi to work at the traffic signal of Moolchand. The DOS helped him connected with a centre of vocational training run by GMR in Dwaraka. There he took 45 days’ training in housekeeping skill. Fortunately, no sooner had he finished training than he got a rather decent job in a company.
A common story that is often heard about street and working children is that most of them, since engaged in work, are out of school. Their parents, pressed under extreme poverty, are never found extending support to help them receive education. Instead, unless they are systematically sensitized, they see it as an impediment to their easy earning derived exclusively from their children.

And since pulling them out from work abruptly is not practicable, efforts are generally made to link them with education even when they continue along with their work engagement. But lack of flexibility in timings in the formal system of education soon sends them out of school again, and, thus, falling from the category of ‘out-of-school’ children they form a new category for themselves as ‘dropped-out’ children.

In OBE and NIOS, the two distance education systems for school children, CHETNA saw an important education opportunity for these children. The project, initiated in June 2008 with help of Charity Aid Foundation and Microsoft India, aims to reach the school drop-outs, out-of-school SWC, poor urban youths, and all those who have been left out of the mainstream formal education system on account of poverty and lack of opportunity.

This year, the project ran at 21 locations (South Delhi: 7 locations; West Delhi: 9 locations; NOIDA: 5 locations), serving a total of 197 street and working children. In February 2017, 90 children appeared in the annual examination. Out of them, 68 successfully passed and got promoted. Also, 15 children who had passed class 8th under OBE were enrolled in class 10th under NIOS.

Children excitedly gearing up for the upcoming OBE and NIOS annual examinations. They celebrate the appearance in examinations as much as the success.
OBE and NIOS

OBE and NIOS are two distance systems of school education. They are flexible and designed particularly to meet the needs of children who cannot afford the mainstream formal education. Children under OBE are given admission in class 3 and then, after passing successfully, promoted directly to class 5 and then to class 8, whereas under NIOS they can take admission in class 10 and 12.

The system is quite suitable for street and working children, as it opens up opportunity to make up for the days lost in begging and working. However, as far as learning is concerned, the system becomes effective only when the children are guided and coached well. The CHETNA’s NIOS and OBE centres are run by trained teachers who do the needful by covering their class curriculums in a stimulating environment.

Child marriage is still prevalent in many parts of the country, particularly among the socially and economically backward communities. The practice is found to be closely linked with the practice of complete delinking of their daughters from education. Neha belongs to one such community from Rajasthan. When she was just 12 her parents tried to tie her with a nuptial knot, for which she was not at all ready. She raised a protest against this so strong that her parents had to renge on their plan.

Neha came in contact with CHETNA in one of the latter’s outreach activity. She was selling artificial jewellery that day. In the interaction she revealed that though she wanted to go to school but her father was against the idea of girls receiving education. Then CHETNA approached her parents who saw education as a loss of earning. However, after the persistent effort by the team, her parents agree to send her to the CHETNA’s centre of Alternative Education but not school. Admittedly, even that was a matter of great relief for Neha. At the Centre she learnt basic reading and writing, drawing, art & craft, painting, etc. Since her father was adamant on not sending her to school, she was enrolled under OBE (Open Basic Education) in class 3. After clearing class 3 successfully, she has been promoted to class 5. Neha is now an 18-years-old girl and is studying in class 8.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Classwise OBE result</th>
<th>Appeared</th>
<th>Passed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class 3</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class 5</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class 8</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
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</table>
CHETNA established a CHILDLINE centre in Agra with support from Childline India Foundation, which works under the aegis of Ministry of Women and Child Development to provide assistance to all the children who are in need of care and protection in the city. The service is provided through a toll-free 24-hour emergency phone service (1098). Apart from responding to emergency needs, it also helps in linking children in difficult circumstances with various services meant for their long-term care and rehabilitation. This one-point contact is meant to facilitate instant access to support, guidance, and active intervention.

This year, Childline (Agra) handled 1821 calls in all. Awareness programmes in schools and colleges were conducted to make students aware on child rights, child marriage, child protection, etc. With an aim of giving exposure, street and working children were made to visit Vocational Training Centres. Under Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan, cleanliness among children was encouraged through a number of activities: poster making, slogan making, street plays. They were encouraged to maintain their living places and surroundings clean.

This year, Childline (Agra) was successful in rescuing 101 children from the abuse of child labour, child marriage, corporal punishment, bonded labour and prostitution. Wherever it was possible, the option of repatriation was also exercised. This year, the project team were able to restore 154 children back to their families. Besides

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Childline Services</th>
<th>In the year 2016-2017, Childline (Agra) provided services to some 575 children (Male – 386, Female - 189).</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td>Children were placed in shelter homes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>154</td>
<td>Children were restored back to their families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Children rescued from abuse (Child labour/Child marriage/ Corporal abuse)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
restoration, abandoned and lost children were provided with shelters. This year, the childline team also made effort in developing a network with other NGOs, so that the needy children are connected with appropriate service providers.

### Radha Gets a New Lease of Life

Childline works through a 24X7 free helpline service. The helpline is open for the children in difficult circumstances as well as for all other stakeholders and concerned citizen. Most often, the Childline, Agra receives calls from adult members informing the former about the children in difficult situations. On November 27, the Childline coordinator of Agra received one such call about a girl, Radha (name changed) by a man named, Saurabh Gupta. The girl, who was found near Vijay Nagar, was first taken to the police station of Hariparvat to lodge an FIR. Counselling with the rescued child is one of the import rescuing processes of Childline. In the counselling Radha revealed that she belonged to a poor family in Almaiguddi, Assam. Six months back she was lured by a man and his wife into a promising job in Agra. She agreed to the proposal, and the neighbour brought her from Assam to Agra and placed her at Aparna Apartment as a domestic help. She said that the owner of the house used to ill-treat her and gave food just enough to survive. They also often hit her for no reason. When she expressed to return back to her home, she was not allowed. In actual fact, she had become a bounded domestic labour. The day the coordinator received the call, she ran away from their stranglehold in the guise of visiting a nearby temple, but did not know where to go from there. The call by the gentleman on the Childline number and the staffs’ swift action on the same came as a big respite for the girl. The Childline staffs constantly followed the case with the police, investigating officer, DLSA and CWC. The effort finally fructified and she was successfully restored back to her parents.

> On the occasion of World Day against Child Labour, children organized rallies to spread message and sensitize people against the evils of child labour.
In November 2015, CHETNA joined hands with Geneva Global & Freedom Fund for a very ambitious initiative of combating human trafficking in Uttar Pradesh. The strategy that was adopted and continued with to address the issue is networking with other NGOs and advocacy with government machineries at the state level.

Mass awareness on the issue of child trafficking is also an important component of this initiative. This has been done under the banner of Human Liberty Network, which is a group of NGOs in U.P. and Bihar working for the welfare of trafficking survivals and to minimise the prevalence of trafficking.

The advocacy activities that CHETNA carried out this year involved various state level government departments and bodies: Police department, Labour Department, Uttar Pradesh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Universities, NIPCCD, State legal Service authority and Women and Child Development Ministry.

The major highlights of the project this year was:

- Organized a training programme for the Investigating Officers of Uttar Pradesh Police on “How to Combat Human Trafficking in Uttar Pradesh.”
- Successfully launched stakeholders’ consultation report and Plan of Action. This was followed by forming of a working group by the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights to finalize the Plan of Action for combating human trafficking.
- Advocacy with the Labour Department resulted into the issuing of a circular to the concerned district officers, directing them to support the Human Liberty Network.
- This year, we became official partner of the Labour Department, for making effort towards creating child labour-free villages in the state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combating Modern Slavery in Uttar Pradesh</th>
<th>We lead the state advocacy network - Human Liberty Network (network of a group of NGOs) - to minimize the prevalence of modern slavery in U.P.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Districts (Project Area)</td>
<td>Partners</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The project Peer-to-Peer Harm Reduction was initiated in 2009 with an aim to work with street and working children (SWC) consuming harmful substances. With its two centres, one in Nizamuddin and another in Mathura, it primarily targeted children who lived and/or worked at the railway stations and consumed substances.

The strategy the project has adopted is to build a trustworthy, reliable and engaging relationship with children is one of the most important strategies of the programme.

At the centre, children are provided with an environment in which they are guided to share their ideas and learning with each other, particularly on how they began consuming substances, what led them get into the trap and how, how it changed their lives and what helped them get out of it. They are often facilitated to have group discussions on ill-effects of substance use and the ways of rehabilitation. Children who have been able to get out of it or, at least, reduce the consumption are encouraged to share their experiences with those who are still deep into it.

Besides giving emphasis on sharing and learning from one another, children, at the centres, are also engaged in activities like Prayer and Yoga, teaching classes (our alternative education), linking with OBE and NIOS, art and craft classes, dance classes, life-skill workshops, group counselling, parents meeting and other recreational activities.

This year, a total of 323 children, aged between 7 to 18 years and consumed substances, were assisted through the project’s various activities and services. 181 children were served from Nizamuddin centre, whereas the figure of beneficiaries at Mathura centre was found to be 142. At both the centres, boys as beneficiaries outnumbered the girls by a huge percentage. Out of the total 323 children, 281 were boys and just 42 girls.

As a part of recreation activities, cricket match was organized between the inmates of Nizamuddin Centre (Hamari Khushiyan) and Old Delhi Railway Station Centre (Udaan).

The day of the children at Harm Reduction Centre starts with meditation and prayers.
Following were some of the highlights of the project this year:

- Harm Reduction team supported the District Child Protection Unit of Mathura to conduct a survey on children using substances at Mathura Railway Station.
- 21 children got themselves enrolled in OBE.
- 8 children successfully finished their housekeeping training provided by GMR Varalakshmi Foundation in Dwaraka.
- 10 children were successfully restored back to their families
- 5 children were connected with computer training programmes.

**Peer-to-Peer Harm Reduction Centre**

| 2 | Centres (Nizamuddin and Mathura) |
| 323 | Beneficiaries (substance using children) |
| 25 | Children showed reduction in substance consuming behaviour |
| 10 | Children completely stopped taking substance |

Dinesh

*Dinesh left addiction, adopted hygienic behaviours*

Dinesh, a 14-years-old boy, hails from Nepal. Poverty and ill-treatment at the hand of his father forced him leave his home in Nepal and get across the border into India. Leaving his parents and home village behind, he began to trace paths from Nepal to Ambala to Meerut. He reached Nizamuddin in 2011. Search for a decent living was at the centre of this long and arduous journey.

Here at the Railway Station of Hazrat Nizamuddin, he began to pick rags and earn some money. Soon, while working and living at the station, he got to meet many others of his own kind, undergoing through the same fate of deprivations. In the process, he also got in touch with the children who used to consume substances. Under their influence he too began to take alcohol, ganja, and other health hazardous substances. Soon he became inseparable with them, deteriorating not just his health condition, but he also began to live grimy, his body always smelt filthy.

At the Harm Reduction centre, Dinesh got exposed to regular Alternative Education classes, nutrition, sports activities, and counselling on how to get out of his life-threatening addiction. Gradually a change began to dawn on him. He began doing well in studies. Now Dinesh has not just given up addiction, a marked improvement in his personal hygiene is also noticed.
The Balaknama is a bi-monthly published newspaper. It has drawn attention of a large number of people both in India and abroad for being unique in the aspect that it is managed and published by the street and working children themselves. It is supported by an England-based organization Erach and Roshan Sadri Foundation (ERSF) and CHETNA.

The first edition of The Balaknama was published in the year 2003 in Hindi. Today it is published bi-monthly in both Hindi and English. This year, fifteen issues of The Balaknama have been released in Hindi and English, reaching out to approximately 90,000 people.

The Balaknama continued to make buzz this year as well. Its team was invited to at least 15 platforms, including the prestigious TEDTalk, to present the journey of The Balaknama and how it is making difference in the lives of children. This year 400 children were rewarded for contributing articles in The Balaknama.

Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), this year, felicitated and invited the advisors of the newspaper for a talk on the occasion of Women’s Day to celebrate the campaign of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (save the girl child, educate the girl child).

Street children reading their stories on The Balaknama

The editorial team and reporters working on the newspaper

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**The Balaknama**

The Balaknama is a newspaper one of its own kind. Under the technical guidance of CHETNA, it is run and managed by the street and working children themselves.

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<tr>
<th>15</th>
<th>400</th>
<th>90,000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issue of Balaknama Published (Hindi and English)</td>
<td>Children contributed with news articles</td>
<td>People The Balaknama reached to</td>
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</table>
Sapnon ka Aangan is a day-care centre for street and working children in Sarai Kalekhan. The centre is run in a Rain Basera (Night Shelter) of the area. The centre is open for all the non-school going children in the age from 7 to 14 years. This year 228 children (boys: 118 girls: 110) were benefited from the services provided by the centre. In terms of services, children, at the centre, children received Non-formal education, healthcare services through Health Camp, thematic Exposure Visit, Life-skill Workshop, Parents Meeting, Residential Workshop, Nutrition Supplement, School and OBE Admission, Indoor/Outdoor Games, Dance, Art and Craft Classes, etc.

This year, the project was successful in enrolling 44 children in formal schools. Out of them 38 are regular to their schools. The project team conducts a regular follow-up about these children with the school staffs and their parents. After the school, the children come to the centre for remedial class. We were able to establish deeper relations with the parents this year. Parents were seen to drop their children by themselves and interact with the staffs to know their children’s performance. Their regular visit to the centre and interaction with the staffs made them well aware about the centre’s activities. Their increased awareness about the activities helped, this year, in getting their cooperation in the same in a much better way.

### Sapnon Ka Aangan

- **Day-care wellbeing centre**
- **228** Total beneficiaries
- **44** Children were enrolled in formal school
- **38** Children were promoted to next grade with good marks

---

**Heena**

Heena, a 12-year-old girl, is originally from Bihar but has been living in Nizamuddin, Delhi for the last one year. Her father works as a parcel. In her village, there was no scope of getting education as there was no school in the village.

Her parents wanted her to study and be able to stand on her own feet. After coming to Delhi, her cousin told her about CHETNA and its work on education. It must be very happy news for her as she soon joined the Nizamuddin centre: Sapnon Ka Aangan. She has been very regular and coming to the centre for the last 9 months.

She has made a remarkable development in reading and writing in both Hindi and English. Her achievements led her get admission in class 3 under OBE. In mathematics, she learnt to count, do addition, subtraction, and carry-over sums.
The centre Udaan, supported by PIPAVAV Railway, is dedicated for the welfare of children who live at Delhi Railway Station and are involved in substance abuse. The centre caters to the needs of these children in the age group of 8 to 22 years. This year the centre extended help to some 250 children.

Children at the centre were engaged in NFE, OBE preparation classes, linking children with Vocational Training programmes, Nutrition Supplement, Health Camp, Exposure Visit and Life-skill Workshop. Healthcare services were provided through First-aid box, Counselling and Health-camp.

This year, the project showed encouraging results on the children’s habit of using substance. 10 children completely stopped taking any kind of harmful substance, whereas 20 other children showed a decline in the practice. During the winter season when the life of these children became difficult, winter clothes were given to them. Moreover, 11 children were linked with GMR Varalakshmi Foundation for vocational training.

Mohammad Shahnawaz, aged 18, belongs to a village in Bijnaur, Uttar Pradesh. His father used to beat him a lot. The only strategy he thought of saving himself from the anger of his father was to run away from home. A year and half ago, he implemented on the idea and left his home for an unknown place. After wandering for several days from one train to another, he found himself settled at Old Delhi Railway Station, as if he finally arrived at his second home. Here too, he had to suffer from corporal punishment, but now by the railway police.

In order to bring him out from the life of a railway station and help him earn a decent living, the project Udaan connected him with GMR Foundation to get a vocational training programme on housekeeping. The day he was leaving the Railway Station, he was brimmed with happiness that from now on he did not have to struggle at the railway station.
The project Meljol was a joint initiative of CHETNA NGO and MELJOL which is also a Non-government organization, registered under Societies Registration Act 1860. The name of the project was kept the same as the name of supporting organization. It aimed at empowering children and youth in financial and social skills and helping the young people to lead responsible lives and be agents of change. The socially and economically empowered youths were expected to exhibit a behavioural change towards savings, collaboration, interpersonal skills, etc. The activities designed under the programme focused on saving and spending, planning, budgeting, rights and responsibilities, etc. As an outcome it was expected that the project activities would result positive change in the beneficiaries’ financial behaviour.

The project divided the children into two groups as according to their age, and worked with them separately. The children with age between 6-14 years were called Aflatoun children and the children with age above 14 years and up to 18 years were named as Aflateen children.

The major activities carried out under the programme this year were:

- Teachers training were conducted to train teachers on the concept, curriculum and the methodologies used in Aflatoun Social and Financial education programme.
- Children clubs (Aflatoun and Aflateen clubs) were formed as a measure to provide the children a platform to express their feelings, discuss the
issues they faced and learn from peers through sharing.

- School-based Children Bank (Aflatoun Bank) was started to inculcate in the children the habit of saving. Children were encouraged to save money in the bank.

- Conducted 53 social entrepreneurship activities with the Aflatoun children and 25 activities with the Aflateen children.

- More than 6,000 children participated in these social entrepreneurship activities.

- 17 financial entrepreneurship activities were also conducted to give children some practical knowledge in the matters pertaining to finances, concept and benefits of savings, financial transactions, etc.

- A total of 1229 Aflatoun children participated in these activities.

This year the project worked with around 35 schools.

This year the beneficiary children were provided with banking transaction and entrepreneurship skills. The children were motivated to open their bank accounts and knowledge about banking transaction, entrepreneurship and employability skills were also provided with.

▲ Aflateen Street Children working in group beside railway tracks, near a railway station.

► Financial education activities with Aflatoon and Aflateen school children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major highlights of the project, MELJOL:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This year, CHETNA joined hands with HCL Foundation and started an ambitious project, My Community in the cities of NOIDA and Lucknow. Both the cities house a large number of slum communities, and, thus, the children who are deprived of the basic needs of education and healthcare services. In keeping with the programme objective, the slum locations that have been chosen as the project area have a large number of migrant labourers and live in deprived conditions, and their children mostly worked and did not go to school. The project aims at providing education, health and recreational services to these working children. Besides teaching, art and craft classes are the important regular activities of the project’s contact point. Nutrition is also provided to these underprivileged children on a regular basis. So far, besides manning the project with skilled volunteers, a healthy rapport with the stakeholders (parents, shopkeepers and police) has been established. It is hoped that this would help a lot in making the project attain goals and sustainable.

One World Education Project for street and working children is implemented by CHETNA at 6 locations in Lucknow: 1. Shram Vihar Nagar - I, 2. Shram Vihar Nagar - II, 3. Vijendra Khand Neem Upvan Park, 4. Kathauta Jheel, 5. BhaluBandarBagiya, 6. Ramswaroop Kheda. These are the pockets where concentration of working children is comparatively higher in the city. The actual implementation of the project through its activities of Alternative Education, Lifeskill Workshop, Exposure Visit, etc. began this year in January. In the first three months of this year, the project team were successful in starting the centres/ Contact Points at each of these locations as per the spirit and guidelines of CHETNA. Another major success that the project achieved in this short period of time was that it was able to link in all 236 children with the centres. Out of them, the direct beneficiaries were 164 children. Apart from regular teaching classes, the two activities it successfully carried out were: lifeskill workshop and exposure visit, which drew participation of 164 and 75 children respectively.

### My Community - At a Glance

| Centres (Lucknow) | 2 |
| Centres (NOIDA) | 5 |
| Total beneficiaries | 549 |

### One World Foundation Project - At a Glance

| Centre (near Old Delhi Railway Station) | 6 |
| Direct beneficiaries | 165 |
| Indirect beneficiaries | 118 |
In one of the exposure visits conducted under One World Foundation Project, children were taken to visit a Zoo in the city of Lucknow. Seeing wild animals for the first time, it was a memorable experience for the children.

Children at the My Community centre in Lucknow, participating in a lifeskill workshop on Child Rights. In the process, they are being facilitated by volunteers from HCL.
CHETNA’s General Body Meeting-cum-Foundation Day is an annual celebration of our collective efforts. Every year, in the last month of a financial year, such Meeting is organized with a touch of celebration, sharing and collaboration.

This year, the same was organized on March 8, 2017. This one-day meeting was participated by CHETNA’s staffs, trustees, partners and representatives from other NGOs working in the field similar to CHETNA’s.

The Day’s activities included sharing of CHETNA’s work, cultural activities and taking feedback from partners. The work done by CHETNA in the year and the experiences gained thereon were shared by different project coordinators. Our partners also shared their experiences of being associated with us.

Since it was organized on March 8, International Women’s Day, it was also an opportunity to celebrate and talk about women’s achievements across India and how CHETNA in its programmes and activities give special attention to girl children.

The Day was concluded with a cultural programme. Both staffs and children took part in it through songs, dance and play.
15 People

Viewpoints from Stakeholders and Children
“My children who did not know anything before have begun to read and write. All credit goes to the efforts made by CHETNA” – Govardhan, Parent, IIT Delhi Flyover.

**Anupam Gupta**  
*Director, Zoological Gardens, Lucknow.*

“CHETNA works for extremely poor and marginalized children, the ones who are deprived even of basic necessities. We should all extend support to them in their exemplary efforts in bringing smile on the face of these children.”

**Kajal**  
*OBE student, Sansi Camp, New Delhi.*

“I feel fortunate to be one of the beneficiaries of OBE. With support from CHETNA, I have been able to successfully clear the 3rd grade and be promoted to 5th class. I never thought this could ever be possible.”

**Suman**  
*GRP Constable, Agra Fort, Agra.*

“Childline has always helped children who are abandoned by their parents or relatives or lost due to some reason. The team have saved many innocent lives from getting ruined forever. I wish them all the success in their future endeavours.”

**Kamruddin**  
*Shopkeeper, Bodla, Agra*

“Childline rescued my child who had been lost. I’m indebted to Childline for their help and I’m very happy that there exists an organisation like this which works for the children and their welfare.”
CHETNA has played an inspiring role as an advocacy partner of Human Liberty Network. We must appreciate and learn from their efforts and dedication – Dr. P.M. Nair, Chair professor of TISS, Mumbai

Praveen Kumar
GRP Thana, Nizamuddin, New Delhi.

“We are working with CHETNA NGO for the last three years, educating street and working children under OBE Programme. I am very positive that their efforts would open gates for their bright future.”

Afzal
OBE student, Nizamuddin, New Delhi

“Once I lived grimy, used to steal things and consume harmful substances. Now I wash myself daily and have stopped consuming harmful substances. All these changes dawned on me after I got associated with Nizamuddin OBE centre, started by CHETNA in cooperation with Delhi Police.”

Suraj
Anchal’s Father, Vinayakpuram

“The centre is very nice, but I am happier to find that there is a lot of learning improvement in my daughter. Thanks to My Community project!”

Pandey Malti
Cultural Secretary, Vijendra Khand, Lucknow.

“I like the work of CHETNA a lot. Whatever support I can manage to extend to their work I do, for I feel it is the responsibility of all of us.”
CHETNA works with street and working children passionately and professionally. I feel happy to be associated with its project – Ms. Sarita, District Child Protection Officer, Lajpat Nagar.

Sanjay  
*School-in-charge, Chuna Bhatti, New Delhi*

“Along with working for children, CHETNA team also provides trainings to teachers and creates awareness on child rights and POCSO among teachers.”

Neetu  
*Parent, Raghubir Nagar, New Delhi*

“CHETNA has helped us immensely in school admissions of our children. They even provide remedial classes after school.”

Rita  
*Julie’s Mother, Vinayakpuram*

“My daughter, Julie, has improved a lot in her awareness about hygiene and cleanliness. The meal that is provided at the centre is also very nice and nutritious.”

Salman  
*Salman, 11 years, Old Delhi Railway Station*

“At CHETNA’s centre, Udaan, I learnt not only to read and write, but have also gained effective control on my addiction of harmful substances.”
AUDIT REPORT

To,
The Board of Trustees,
Childhood Enhancement through Training and Action
40/22, Manohar Kunj, Ground Floor, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi –110049

We have audited the annexed Consolidated Balance Sheet and the Income and Expenditure account of CHILDHOOD ENHANCEMENT through TRAINING and ACTION [A Public Charitable Trust]; as on 31st March 2017 and report that:

1. Accounts are maintained on cash system of accounting.

2. We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.

3. In our opinion, proper books of accounts as required by law have been kept by the Trust, so far as appears from our examination of those books.

4. The management has complied with all the queries & suggestions given by us at the time of audit assessments conducted during the year.

5. The Consolidated Balance Sheet and Income & Expenditure Accounts referred to in the report are in agreement with the books of accounts.

6. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us the said accounts give a true & fair view:
(a) In the case of Consolidated Balance sheet, of the state of affairs of the trust as at 31st March 2017
(b) In so far as it relates to the Income & Expenditure Account, of the Income and Expenditure of the trust, for the year ended on that date.

Place: New Delhi
Dated: 30-05-2017

B. MITTAL & COMPANY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

For B. Mittal & Company
Chartered Accountants

(Rajesh Mittal)
Partner
M. No. 75605

A-13, M.I.G. COLONY, INDORE 452 008 [M.P.] INDIA
T penetrates, 2702657 FAX: 91-731-2564580
Email: rmittal99@hotmail.com
# B. Mittal & Company
**Chaired Accountants**

**Childhood Enhancement Through Training and Action**
40/22, Manohar Kunj, Gautam Nagar, New Delhi-49

**Consolidated Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th>ASSETS</th>
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<td>Add: Purchased during the year</td>
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<td><strong>Accumulated Fund</strong></td>
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<td>As per last accounts 4671159.49</td>
<td>On Childline Assets 27962.00</td>
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Total Rs. 7401471.15

Total Rs. 7401471.15

Place: New Delhi
Dated: 30-05-2017

For B. Mittal & Company
Chartered Accountants

For B. Mittal & Company
Chartered Accountants

(Revised Mittal)
Managing Trustee

A-13, M.I.G. Colony, Indore 452 008 (M.P.) India
Tel: 2566403, 2702657 Fax: 91-731-2566480
Email: rmittal99@hotmail.com
## CHILFDHOOD ENHANCEMENT THROUGH TRAINING AND ACTION

40/22, MANOHAR KUNJ, GAUTAM NAGAR, NEW DELHI-49

### CONSOLIDATED INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2017

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Excess of income over expenditure transferred to Balance sheet: 1533073.19

Total Rs. 22118890.19

For CHILFDHOOD ENHANCEMENT THROUGH TRAINING AND ACTION

[Signature]

Place: New Delhi
Dated: 30-05-2017
# B. Mittal & Company
## Chartered Accountants

**CHILDHOOD ENHANCEMENT THROUGH TRAINING AND ACTION**

40/22, MANOHAR KUNJ, GAUTAM NAGAR, NEW DELHI-49

**CONSOLIDATED RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECEIPTS</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>PAYMENTS</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest from Bank</td>
<td>115974.00</td>
<td>Cash in hand</td>
<td>781.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on Fixed Deposit</td>
<td>90749.90</td>
<td>Cash with IDBI Bank</td>
<td>1312933.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TDS Payable</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cash with Central Bank</td>
<td>15313.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Account</td>
<td>84327</td>
<td>Fixed Deposit</td>
<td>1734728.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FC Account</td>
<td>125891</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL INR.** 26903538.68  **TOTAL INR.** 26903538.68

Place: New Delhi
Dated: 30-05-2017

(Ramesh Mittal)
Partner

[Signature]

For CHILDHOOD ENHANCEMENT THROUGH TRAINING AND ACTION

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CHETNA believes in networking and collaboration. It works closely with many partners, active and operating at international, national and local levels.

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