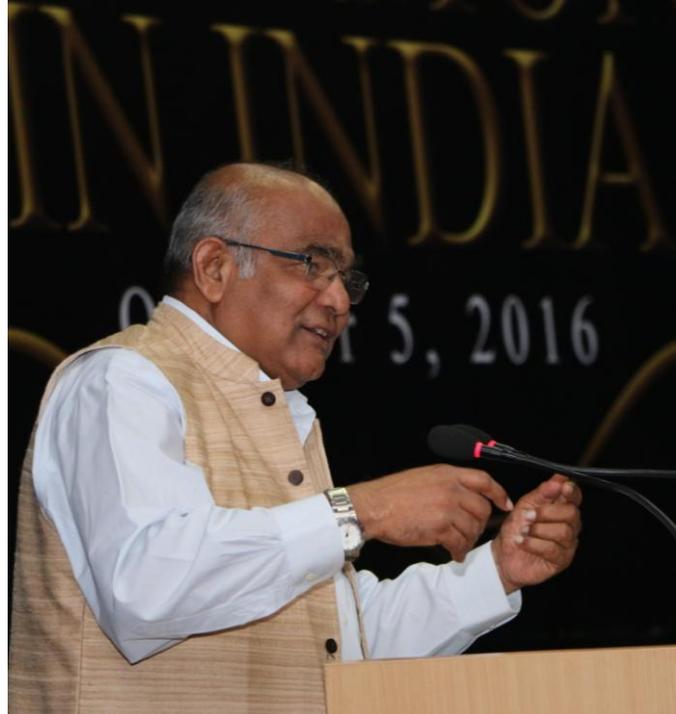


# ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17



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Settlements and Environment**  
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## 1. Introduction

The National Centre for Human Settlements and Environment (NCHSE), a non-government organization, was established by Late Dr M.N. Buch in 1984 with the objective of facilitating sustainable development of human settlements. It promotes participatory sustainable development of the area and its people with special focus on the weaker sections of society in order to promote rapid social mobilization and significant economic development.

NCHSE in its formative years has carried out Research, Planning and Monitoring and Evaluation of projects countrywide to bring about an improvement in the socio-economic and cultural profile of the people, both in urban and rural areas. Later NCHSE expanded its domain of activities giving importance to the implementation projects, IT and GIS application and consumer advocacy, focusing mainly in the State of Madhya Pradesh to achieve its mission of rapid social mobilization and significant economic development through its flagship programme of Watershed development, which enabled it to win the **UNEP International Award** for outstanding achievement. During last few years, NCHSE has expanded its operation beyond Madhya Pradesh with private sector participation for implementation of grass root level development programmes.

NCHSE being a Telecommunication Regulation Authority of India (TRAI) recognized Consumer Advocacy Group (CAG) for the State of Madhya Pradesh since 2011 is constantly helping consumers in resolving their issues with various telecom service providers through its District Consumer Information Centre.

This Annual Report presents a glimpse of the organizations' overall major achievements during 2016-17. The overview of the works presented also reflects the direction NCHSE would move over the forthcoming years.

## 2. Organizational Background

NCHSE is a society, established through registration under the MP Societies Registration Act, 1973 on 19th June, 1984.

Development is an intrinsic feature of the organization and it is committed to achieve its vision and mission for the betterment of the society. NCHSE since its inception has taken research and evaluation studies to put at appropriate levels with an emphasis to bring an improvement in the socio-economic and cultural profile of the people both in urban and rural areas. Implementation of various development programmes is the key strength of the organization since 1991. Simultaneously, NCHSE has addressed the issues related to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in its project areas with active community mobilization and participation. The application of GIS has immensely helped the organization in its implementation projects to get actionable detailed project reports (DPRs).

The organization has received support from International Organisations like Ford Foundation, UNICEF, UN-HABITAT, DANIDA, ICCO, ILO, Telford Challenge, CASA, UNDP, World Bank, DFID, etc. It has also achieved good support from Govt. of India, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Planning Commission, CAPART, NABARD, HUDCO, Corporate Sector such as ITC, GAIL, etc.

On policy matters, NCHSE is guided by the Governing Body comprised of subject matter specialists related to activities of NCHSE. It provides advisory support to the Chairperson who is the chief functionary of the organization. Director General is the

Chief Executive of the organization and is responsible for the overall supervision of the affairs of the centre under the guidance of the Chairperson.

NCHSE is implementing its programmes and a project through its headquarter in Bhopal and field offices located in 7 districts of Madhya Pradesh, viz. Dhar, Hoshangabad, Jabua, Mandasaur, Sehore, Ujjain and Vidisha, and in Kota District of Rajasthan.

### **3. Vision & Mission**

The organization's vision is to view all human settlements and activities holistically instead of compartmentalizing them. Simultaneously, it looks at every aspect of a settlement and its impact on people, their economy, their rights and entitlements together with the social structure and environment in which they live.

NCHSE dedicates itself to its mission of participatory sustainable development of the area and its people with special focus on the weaker sections of society in order to promote rapid social mobilization and significant economic development.

Its mission continues to be to extend the benefits of watershed development, ecology, environment and livelihood promotion throughout India. It aspires for geographical expansion of its activities related to watershed development and livelihood promotion through partnership with organizations having similar vision.

### **4. Organisational Capacity**

#### **4.1 Focused Area**

NCHSE is carrying out its activities, programme and projects in following six focused areas:

- Action research, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation - in areas of socio-economic development.
- Project implementation in areas of watershed development, biodiversity and natural resources management, sustainable agriculture, livelihood promotion etc.
- Training, workshops, capacity building, public awareness and extension activities.
- IT and GIS application in rural and urban development projects.
- Redressing consumer grievance
- Environment helpline.

NCHSE is being guided by its governing body which provides valuable inputs for the success of the projects and assignments of the centre. NCHSE's management ability to put forward the findings of its studies at appropriate levels in the government so that corrective measures with respect to policies and programmes could be taken benefiting the people and the society which were in need of appropriate actions for inclusive growth.

In 2015, after the demise of Dr. M.N.Buch founder Chairman, NCHSE, the organization and Friends of Environment Group felt the need to create the Environment Help line, a platform, where common citizen, especially youth could reach out for advice/help on urban developmental issues in Bhopal as well as in entire Madhya Pradesh and to enable them to raise the issues of public interest with the concerned authorities.

#### **4.2 Quality Assurance**

NCHSE takes special care of quality assurance in respect of all its projects. For doing so, experienced and subject matter specialists are appointed. In

implementation projects, technically suitable need based measures are taken at the planning stage with active community participation which is followed by technical support in the form of GIS applications and subsequent field level validation by project teams in preparing Detailed Project Reports (DPRs). At the time of implementing projects, various stakeholders are associated to see the progress of activities and valuable suggestions are given prominence to get quality of executed works. Whereas in case of research, planning, monitoring and evaluation projects, collection of data, its analysis and interpretation are based on the realities of the field so that the correct picture emerges.

### **4.3 Audit**

NCHSE regularly carries out its annual consolidated audit which is inclusive of all the projects. This audit report is submitted to Registrar Firms and Societies, Madhya Pradesh and income tax department.

For each project, audited statements are furnished by the organisation with the support of Chartered Accountant (CA). This procedure is adopted on quarterly/half yearly/ annually basis as per the requirement of the project sponsors. It would be pertinent to mention that auditors in respect of implementation/research projects are appointed by sponsors in most of the cases.

### **4.4 Monitoring and Evaluation**

NCHSE carries out regular monitoring of its implementation projects by deputing a suitable team of subject matter specialists to overcome the inadequacies of the projects and to bring them to acceptable levels as desired under the projects. To achieve effective monitoring results, NCHSE headquarter invites monthly physical and financial reports from its field offices for the purpose of comparing the achievements against the target and to find out slippages, if any. In case of latter, the field office is advised on the way the slippages could be removed and to attain the desired progress. In addition to the in house monitoring of projects from the headquarter, district level government officials do perform monitoring of their projects. Such kind of monitoring by district officials is carried out by SDO (RES), District Project Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Chief Executive Officer and District Collector. Teams from State Govt. and Govt. of India, as the case may be, also visit to see the progress and quality of projects. The projects which are funded by agencies other than the govt. are monitored by a designated team from the sponsor.

Evaluation is being carried out by the sponsors to know the status and progress of the project. In govt. sponsored implementation projects, State level teams are assigned the task of evaluation of the projects. The evaluation of projects supported by corporate is undertaken by their designated teams. In some of the implementation projects, evaluation is carried out by outside agencies such as NGOs, etc. NCHSE has also carried out quite a sizeable number of evaluations of Govt. programmes which are being implemented by Govt. /NGOs.

## **5. Registration Details**

Registration under: M. P. Societies Registration Act, 1973

Registration No.13784, dated 19th June, 1984.

**PAN** : AAATN2922N

**TAN** : BPLN00396E

**FCRA Registration Number** – 063160035

**80 G & 12 A** – NCHSE is registered with the Income Tax Department as a Trust/ Society under Section 12 A (a) and exempted under Section 80-G (5)(vi) regarding donations made to the Centre.

## 6. Major Activities of the organization

### 6.1 Watershed Development

Watershed development programme, throughout the country, particularly in Madhya Pradesh, has been considered to provide solution to the increasing environmental crisis arising out of depletion of forest cover, inadequacy of fuel and fodder, reduction of underground water level, loss of moisture and nutrients as a result of rainwater runoff, soil erosion, non-suitability of vast stretch of land for agriculture, especially in the areas bereft of irrigation or experiencing scanty or irregular rainfall, breaking of rural communities etc.

In order to meet the above challenges, NCHSE has developed special expertise in implementing holistically designed watershed development and management projects at Mili and Micro levels that have transformed water regimes of whole villages which chronically suffered due to acute water shortage. Implementation of these projects in such areas have raised ground water levels leading to increased irrigation to the fields and enhanced crop production, higher fuel and fodder availability, promoted animal husbandry, and virtually stopped seasonal migration from the distressed villages.

#### Measurable outcomes Expected at the close of the Project

- i. Increased availability of surface water during post monsoon enabling rabi crop cultivation;
- ii. Improving ground water scenario in the project area through ground water recharge practices;
- iii. Adoption of improved agricultural practices and increased crop production;
- iv. Increased income through agricultural practices;
- v. Improvement in standard of living of farmers.
- vi. Improved livelihood opportunities for women.



Construction of stop dam at Govindpura village of Sardarpur block (Dhar dist.) under RGM (DPAP VI<sup>th</sup> batch)

NCHSE initiated implementation of watershed management programme in the year 1994 in Ranapur block of Jhabua district with United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) supported project on "Environmental Soil Degradation Control". NCHSE received **UNEP International award** in

the year 1995 for its outstanding work under the project. Such recognition enabled NCHSE to take up more projects sponsored by the Government of India and other international agencies. Since 1997, NCHSE has expanded its activities related to implementation of watershed development/management projects with financial support from Rajiv Gandhi Watershed Mission (RGM), CASA, CAPART and WFP in the districts of Dhar, Jhabua, Hoshangabad, Sehore, Ujjain and Vidisha,.

So far, NCHSE has covered more than one lakh ha. area under watershed programmes spread over 11 districts of Madhya Pradesh.

### 6.1.1 Watershed Development Projects (2016-17)

During 2016-17, watershed development projects were under implementation in the six districts of Madhya Pradesh, viz. Dhar, Jhabua, Mandasaur, Sehore, and Vidisha, and Kota district of Rajasthan.

The Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) in Jhabua and Dhar Districts are being implemented with support from Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, whereas the IWMP projects in Sehore and Mandasaur are being implemented in partnership with ITC and Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The projects in the districts of Vidisha and Kota are being supported by ITC alone having main focus on sustainable agriculture.

While the main objectives of IWMP being supported by Government are to augment irrigation water through rain water harvesting, control soil erosion and promote livelihood activities for the poor, ITC supported projects have a wider approach. The Objectives of ITC projects are:

- Assist farmers to adopt sustainable agricultural practices through Farm School Model and establishment of Custom Hiring Centers (CHC);
- Assist in formation of Farmer Interest Group and build their capacities for sustainable agriculture;
- Assist individual farmers through appropriate soil and water conservation measures to augment water availability for agriculture and thereby improving agricultural productivity and income of farmers;
- Encourage female members of the family to save money collectively and take up income generating activities;
- Improve economical and social status of women SHGs through establishment of CHC centre;
- Provide support to landless/poor families to establish Nutrition Gardens to ensure availability of balanced diet for them; and
- Facilitate conservation of biodiversity and development of climate smart villages.

The Project wise achievements for the year 2016-17 are detailed in the following sections:

#### (a) IWMP , Dhar

The Project is being implemented in Tirla Block of Dhar District with support from state Government through Zila Panchayat since 2012-13. The project is being implemented in 25 villages under 11 micro watersheds. Major works under the project include watershed development works (56%). Remaining include production system micro-enterprises (10%), livelihood activities (9%) and capacity building (5%).

During 2016-17, following works were undertaken:

1. **Catchment area treatment:** 97 ha area was treated through Boulder check dam in 2 villages and Boulder farm bunding works in 3 villages benefitting 64 farmers.
2. **Rain water harvesting:** 5 stop dams, one each in 5 villages were constructed creating water storage capacity of 26,830 M<sup>3</sup> and irrigation potential of 17.89 ha, which benefitted 28 farmers.

3. **Livelihood and capacity building activities:** Several activities were organized to help the SHGs become self reliant and farmers to adopt new techniques to make the agriculture a sustainable proposition.

The project is expected to continue until March 2019.

**(b) IWMP, Jhabua**

IWMP activities were initiated in 14 villages covering 6 micro watersheds having an area of 5,394 ha in Rama Block during the financial year 2009-10 and works worth 491.29 Lakhs were completed until the closure of the project in March 2017. Various activities like watershed development works (construction of pond, stop dam, gabion, LBS, contour trench, embankments across the drainage and along crop fields and water channel with soil/boulder, plantation, etc.), agricultural improvement and livelihood initiatives were taken up, which resulted in soil and water conservation, increase in irrigation potential for 184 ha, conversion of 220 ha waste land into productive agriculture land and economic improvements of 460 farmers.



**Construction of tank  
(Before & after Rains)**



**Catchment Area Treatment Activity in a Jhabua village**

During the final year (2016-17), catchment area treatment and water conservation activities (construction of 15 stop dams and 6 pond/tanks) led to creation of irrigation potential for 61 ha benefitting 116 farmers. Besides development of cremation grounds in two villages were undertaken. Completion reports for the works were submitted to the state government as a mark for closure of IWMP in Jhabua.

**(c) IWMP(II), Mandsaur**

IWMP-II in Malhargarh block of Mandsaur district is being implemented in partnership with State Government and ITC under PPP mode as per the agreement entered into by ITC with the Rajiv Gandhi Mission, Panchayat and Rural Development Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh since 2011-12.

Malhargarh Block being one of the water deficit areas with subsistence agricultural practices has been selected for improving the livelihood of the people through introduction of water conservation measures through watershed development approach and improved agricultural practices.

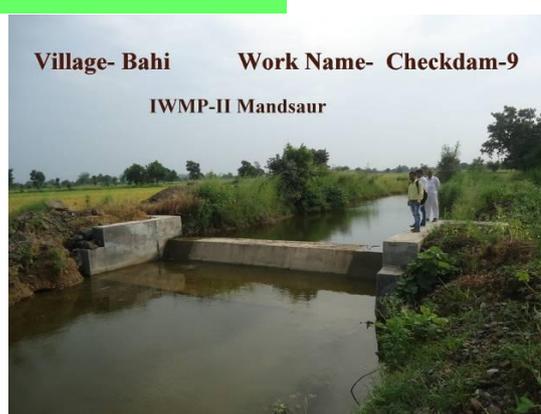
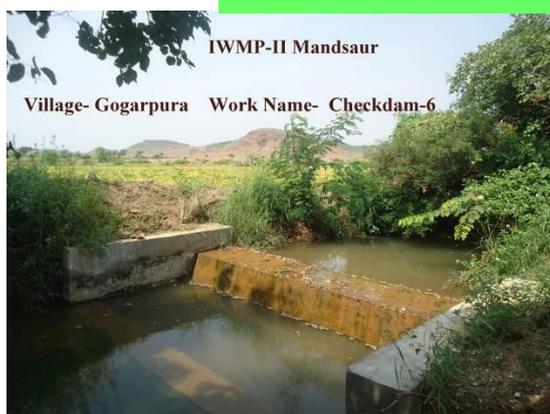
The project area spreads over 4,700 ha. covering 6 micro watersheds across 12 villages of Malhargarh block of Mandsaur district. These villages come under 8 gram panchayats namely Botalganj, Thadod, Gogarpura, Balagunda, Ninora, Khedakhadan, Soni and Bahi. Major activities undertaken in the project area during 2016-17 are as follows:

**i. Catchment Area Treatment:**

An area of 326 hector has been protected again soil erosion through construction of embankment across farm land benefitting 338 farmers, mostly being socially backward community.



**Farm Bunding and Farm Pond in village Bahi**



## **ii. Rain Water Harvesting**

During the year, 9 Farm ponds, one Stop Dam and 8 Check Dams were constructed with support from the government. ITC also supported construction of one Stop Dam and 5 Irrigation/Percolation tanks. These structures enabled conservation of 82,672 M<sup>3</sup> of rain water, which increased the irrigation potential for 93.0 ha area in the Rabi season benefitting 79 families. There were dual benefits, economic (higher income for the farmers) and environmental (improvement in ground water levels in the area).

## **iii. Improved Agricultural Practices**

Project has given emphasis on improving agricultural production through creating irrigation potential, introduction of new techniques, new varieties and new farm machinery through establishment of Farmer Field Schools, which is managed by the farmers and supplies farm equipments to the small and marginal farmers on a very nominal rent. Special measures included crop demonstration in rabi and kharif, introduction of advanced equipments such as sprinkler, drip irrigation, rotavator, BBF modified seed drill machine, etc. and capacity building of farmers through farmer field schools.

One of the interesting features of the agricultural activities promoted in the area is that the farmers have shown more interest in developing rabi crop demonstration even if they are not the member of farmer field schools. In fact, this shows that the area is indicating glimpses of replication in the field of agricultural productivity.

## **iv. Training and Capacity Building**

Various capacity building programmes (trainings, workshops and Awareness programme) for the village level intuitions, WUGs, and SHGs were organized with Govt. funds for 115 participants. Mr. Sudhir Gupta, Member of Parliament also attended one of such programmes (Lok Kalyan Camp) organized in Balaguda village. The purpose of these activities is to improve the capacities of farmers and make the village level institutions, user groups, self-help groups self reliant so that they can use their knowledge in maintaining the infrastructures created under the project, and agriculture and their livelihood sustainable.



**District Level Lok Kalyan Camp Vill- Balaguda (Adarsh Gram)**

**(d) Integrated Development of Natural Resources through Watershed Management and Improved Sustainable Agricultural Practices in Sehore Block of Sehore District (IWMP-VIII)**

The project area covers an area of 4328 ha. covering 11 villages, Dhabla, Kishanpura, Kulanskhurd, Kulanskalan, Sikandarganj, Barbakhedi, Khedli, Chainpura, Napli, Hirapur and Alampura in Sehore block within 4 to 16 km of Bilkisganj. Only 45% of the area is irrigated, 40% of the agricultural land lacks irrigation facility, and the remaining area falls under rainfed land.

**i. Catchment Area Treatment:**

During 2016-17, 203.704 ha area has been treated through resectioning of 11.6 km of drainage channel covering all but one village (Barbakhedi) and construction of 3 gabion across the channel to reduce soil erosion as well as facilitating smooth flow of rain water. While the channel sectioning work was supported both by state government and ITC, cost of construction of Gabions was met from Government fund. The action facilitated flow of rain water and thus reduced the possibility of submergence of cropped area, especially soybean.

**ii. Rain Water Harvesting:**

To overcome the deficiency of water for irrigation of rabi crops, 15 farm ponds, 2 stop dams, and 1 check dam were constructed with state government support and recharging of 25 bore wells were undertaken with ITC Funds to facilitate conservation of rain water as well as recharging of ground water. These facilities would reduce pressure on underground water and will enable farmers to obtain higher yield of wheat and gram grown in the Rabi season. A total of 63 farmers were benefitted.



**iii. Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture Practices:**

A systematic approach was adopted to promote sustainable agriculture, through adoption of new technologies, provision of suitable farm machinery and suitable varieties of crops. The programme is being implemented with participation of farmers as members of Farmer Field Schools (FFS) constituted in each project village. During the year 150 farmers were enrolled as new members of FFS with total number of members rising to 338. At present there are 48 women members.

Activities undertaken includes soil testing of crop fields of 1700 grid cover all farmers through Agriculture department, provision of new equipments/accessories like 9 BBF machine with the support of IWMP and construction of 45 vermi compost units, provision of sprinklers at subsidized

rates to 71 farmers, Seed replacement for Kharif, Rabi and summer seasons crops in 8, 25 (4 ha ITC and 21 ha IWMP) and 5 hectare respectively. These activities benefitted 230 farmers.

Three Garlic splitter and sowing machines one each to Dhabla, Kolanskhurd and Hirapur CHCs , 1 Mini dall mill to Kolanskhurd CHC, 2 wheat grader cum cleaner to Kolanskhurd and Hirapur CHCs and 10 fertilizer broad caster ( 4 each to Kolanskhurd and Kolanskalan and 2 to Hirapur CHCs were provided. This initiative helped 28 farmers to adopt improved agricultural practices.

**iv. Conservation of Biodiversity**

Seventeen thousand saplings of 10 varieties of local species obtained from the nurseries of the Forest Department of Madhya Pradesh in which 1,800 were distributed to farmers to plant them on farm land to promote agro forestry, 2,000 saplings were planted on common lands and 13,200 saplings were planted over the embankments of rejuvenated drainage channels and embankments of farm ponds. Farmers were motivated to irrigate and protect them against grazing.

**v. Overcoming Malnutrition:**

Women and children especially in poor families suffer from malnutrition. In order to overcome this problem, poor households having some land adjacent to their house were selected, head of the family was educated how to grow vegetable and fruit crops and essential support such as seeds and drip irrigation facilities were provided. Altogether 180 families were benefitted.

**vi. Awareness, Training and Capacity Building**

The activity is aimed at creating awareness regarding agricultural practices, environmental and general health & hygiene, empowering the farmers to adopt improved agricultural practices through demonstration plots, facilitating availability of farm equipments, ensuring availability of water for irrigation during the dry season as well as providing technology and equipments for efficient use of water for increasing agricultural productivity. During the year following activities were organised:

- (a) **Celebration of World Environment Day (5th June) in the project area:** Men, women and children participated in this program with great enthusiasm. Information regarding possible impact of climate change, irregular rainfall, and how to cope with the situation were discussed.
- (b) Exposure visit of farmers to Agriculture Institution in Bhopal to promote BBF technology.
- (c) Technical training on Watershed and Ground water management at ACWADAM, Pune The technical member of IWMP-II NCHSE Project team attended this 15 days programme and enriched their knowledge which helped in improving the quality of Watershed management in the project area.

**(e) Integrated Development of Natural Resources and Improved Sustainable Agricultural Practices in Gyaraspur Block in Vidisha District**

NCHSE with the support of ITC started implementation of this project in 14 villages of Gyaraspur block of Vidisha district since 1st October, 2015 on transfer of ongoing project from another ITC partner (Haritika). Activities completed during 2016-17 are as follows:

**1. Catchment Area Treatment:**

An area of 672 ha has been treated through soil conservation measures i.e. creating bunds across the crop fields, enabling reduction of runoff and percolation of water. Four Gabion structures and 11 loose boulder structures were also completed benefitting 158 farmers including economically weak farmers.

**2. Rain Water Harvesting**

Forty Farm Ponds and 5 Stop Dams were constructed and more than 60,000 cubic meters of water was conserved. As a result, 184.610 ha area has been converted into irrigated area (approximately 60.610 ha through farm ponds and 124 ha area from stop dams). Since there is a shortage of water for Rabi irrigation in the project area, the collected water was mostly used for irrigation of Sharbati wheat in the Rabi season which resulted in increased production. To ensure availability of water throughout the year, recharge units for 10 wells were installed and 2 new wells were constructed. All water conservation measures resulted in improving underground water level in the area. 121 families have been benefited out of which one fourth belongs to SC and ST Categories.



**Construction of New Well  
At Manora**



**Gabion at Dighora**

**3. Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture Practices:**

A combination of activities are being undertaken to promote sustainable agricultural practices that include demonstration of new techniques, use of appropriate machinery, interaction of farmers with experts on farmers fields as well as during exposure visit, use of organic manure and pesticides to discourage use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

In order to promote organic farming practices, 135 compost units and 10 biogas

plants were constructed. Manure from the compost pits and the spent slurry from the biogas units provided the much need carbon for the soil. 325 farmers were also enrolled as members of Farmer Field Schools to enable them to learn and adopt new agri-techniques. Interactions of scientists from Agricultural institutions/Universities with farmers were arranged to facilitate adoption of new technology for the development of Sharbati wheat, which is extensively grown in Vidisha district. With the improvement in water availability and advice from the experts, farmers started sowing cross breed Sharbati wheat, which resulted in increase in production by 20 to 25% per ha. Similarly production of Sharbati wheat variety 306 also increased by 10 to 15% per ha. A total of 1018 families have been benefitted from these initiatives.

#### **4. Introduction of new technique and equipments:**

BBF technology in farming practices is being promoted. Accordingly, 100 seed drill machines were modified through BBF attachment for the sowing of soya bean and other crops. One thresher machine, 5 no's of Seed Grain machine, 12 no's of Electronic Spray pump and 55 no's of Sprinkler Units have been provided to Farmers, Women SHG and CHC centres in the project area. Use of sprinkler has resulted in 40 to 50 percent saving of water, thus improving the water use efficiency. 189 farmers, mostly of marginalized community have benefitted through these initiatives

#### **5. Biodiversity Conservation & Biomass Promotion**

During the monsoon 9,500 saplings of local species like Bamboo, Teak, Karanj (Pongamia), Acacia, Custard apple and Arjuna were planted in the project area. The survival rate of plants on community and private land ranged between 40 to 55 %, survival of Bamboo, Teak, Karanj, and Babul was the highest at 60 to 70%. The purpose of plantation is to conserve biodiversity, increase biomass and reduce soil erosion in the project area.

#### **6. Nutrition Garden**

Women and children especially in poor families suffer from malnutrition. Their daily diets are usually deficient in macro and micro nutrients. Consequently growth of children in the family is not satisfactory. In order to overcome this problem, poor households having some land adjacent to their house were selected, head of the family was educated how to grow vegetable and fruit crops and essential support such as seeds and drip irrigation facilities were provided. During the year, 200 nutrition gardens having seasonal vegetables and fruit plants, have been developed, which are being maintained by the households.

#### **7. Empowerment of Women:**

In order to enable the poor families to save and increase their income, women members of the family were encouraged to form SHGs and start saving and invest the savings in productive enterprises. Further each of the 5 SHGs who have adopted the habit of regular saving were provided Rs 1 Lakh as seed money to start income generating activities like vegetable cultivation, Toy making, Goat rearing, etc. Another SHG was provided assistance of Rs.0.287 Lakh for nursery development. At present SHG making toys have generating income and returned Rs 5000 in their account.

#### **8. Training and Capacity Building:**

In order to improve knowledge and capacities of farmers and village level intuitions, such as WUGs, and SHGs for sustainable development of the villages, 32 training and exposure visit programmes were organized in which 251 farmers participated.

**(f) Sustainable Agriculture Practices through Farmer Field School Model in Digod, Ladpura and Sangod blocks of Kota district of Rajasthan**

With a view to bring about a catalytic change in the agricultural practices to attain agricultural sustainability and to promote livelihood activities in the countryside, the project is being implemented through Farmer Field School Model in Digod, Ladpura and Sangod blocks of Kota district since 1st October, 2014.

The project is aimed at empowering the farmers through their capacity building regarding adoption of improved agricultural practices, facilitating availability of farm equipments, ensuring availability of water for irrigation during the dry season as well as providing technology and equipments for efficient use of water for increasing agricultural production.

The project covers a total area of 9455 ha. in 21 villages ( viz. Bandha, Brijliya, Brij nagar, Khushalipura, Khati Kheda, Kurad and Thumda under Kurad Gram Panchayat; Jhopadiya under Arand Kheda Gram Panchayat; Dungarjya, Fatehpur, Kacholiya, Kanwarpura, Ummdepura under Dungarjya Gram Panchayat; Mehandi under Toran Gram Panchayat and Dhoti, Ramnagar, Islamnagar, Kandafal, Kathoon, Chadawat, Haripura under Dhoti Gram Panchayat). The total cost of the project is Rs. 3.13 crores upto 31st March, 2017.

The activities undertaken during 2016-17 and the outcomes are as follows:

**1. Water conservation measures:**

S. No.	Rain water Structure type	Number	Storage capacity (m3)	Area irrigated (ha)	No. of beneficiary
1	Percolation Tanks	4	15,935	32.25	30
2	Masonry Check Dams	3	27,558	51.13	36
3	Farm ponds	12 (new)	13,980	27.79	12
		5 (renovated)	1,500	2.79	5

**2. Catchment area treatment:**

Type of activity	Number of villages	Area Treated (ha)	No. of beneficiary
Earthen Farm Bunding	20	1,129	129

**3. Improved Agricultural Practices:**

- Wheat Development Programme (WDP): seeds of HI 1544 variety was distributed among 279 farmers, which was sown in 1022 ha area, and the yield was good (45 quintal/ha).
- Custom Hiring Centre (CHC): Six CHCs established to provide new technology compliant equipments on rental basis to poor farmer in all 21 project villages. These machines would help the farmers prepare their land in time for showing. Garlic is a major cash crop for the area. The garlic cutter, splitter and showing machines will help the farmers grow this crop in time and harvest them.

During 2016-17, these CHCs were strengthen through procurement of equipments, as per details below:

S. No.	CHC at	Name of Machinery										Catchment Villages	Beneficiary (Family)		
		Rotavator	Garlic Showing Machine	Grain Cleaner Machine	Fertilizer Broadcaster	Spray Machine	Garlic Cutter	Garlic Separator	Seed Drill	BBF Attachment	Total Plough			Soybean grader	Bund farmer
1	Kacholiya													Kacholiya, Mehandi, Kanwarpura	422
2	Fatehpur													Fatehpur, Dungarjya, Ummedpura	438
3	Dhoti													Dhoti, Chadawat, Haripura	633
4	Brijnagar													Brijnagar, Thumda, Jhopadiya	435
5	Kurad													Kurad, Brijliya, Bandha	557
6	Khushalipura													Khushalipura Khatikheda, Ramnagar	280

CHC in Brijnagar was also equipped with Seed treatment drum, BBF seed drill and zero tillage seed drill, reaper, kalpani, and chaff cutter.

- **Sprinklers:** 50 farmers were provided sprinklers on subsidised rates for irrigating Rabi crops. Details given below:

S. No	Name of Village	Beneficiaries			Area Irrigated	Source of water for Irrigation
		ST	SC	Others		
1	Kurad	2	2	24	165	Tubewell
2	Brijnagar	9	1	1	76	Tubewell
3	Thumda	4	-	-	30	Tubewell
4	Khushalipura	-	3	4	42	Tubewell

Sprinkler system provided at 50 % cost helped farmers both economically and technically. Water use efficiency has also increased.

- **Organic Farming:** Farmers are being encouraged to adopt organic farming in at least one acre of land. 50 farmers were provided vermicompost unit to make organic manure

using cow dung and farm waste. The initiative has helped increase in organic carbon content in soil up to 8%.

- **Nutrition Garden:**

Women and children especially in poor families suffer from malnutrition. Their daily diets are usually deficient in macro and micro nutrients. Consequently growth of children in the family is not satisfactory. In order to overcome this problem, poor households having some land adjacent to their house were selected, head of the family was educated how to grow vegetable and fruit crops and essential support such as seeds and drip irrigation facilities were provided. During the year, 250 nutrition gardens for growing seasonal vegetables and fruit plants were developed, which are being maintained by the households. Families are benefitted in two ways, one getting vegetables and fruits of different varieties for their own consumption and two additional incomes through sale of surplus vegetable and fruits.

## 9. Capacity Building Programme :

- **Exposure Visit:** 95 farmers and representatives of all the project villages visited Bhilwara and Jhalawar where good works have been carried out for the pasture land development on government land under MGNREGA.
- **Training of SHGs:** In project villages 38 SHGs are functional. Various training programmes were organized and the members of SHGs were made to learn how to save money, main account books, opening of bank account, transect with the bank, inter-loaning and keeping their records, insurance of family members, crop, animals, pension scheme for the old member of the family etc.

## 10. Pasture land Development:

Under the initiative of conservation of biodiversity, development of pasture land was initiated during 2015-16 in 50 ha. of waste lands out of available 80 ha land in Dhoti village of Dhoti Gram Panchayat. The land was under illegal occupation by some villagers of Khusalipura, Ramnagar and Dhoti. On persuasion by the project team and with support from the Dhoti Gram Panchayat, the land was made available to the project for development. Villagers were informed about the works to be undertaken and the benefit they will get out of this development. Thereafter two percolation tanks on the upper and middle part of the wasteland were constructed, which resulted in improvement of water levels in the dug well and bore wells of the villages located downstream of the waste land. The project also arranged exposure visit of members of the committee to Bhilwara, Bundi and Jhalawar where wasteland development works have been undertaken successfully under MGNREGA with community participation.



During 2016-17 project initiated works of development of the pasture land-Cattle Protection Trench (CPT) demarcating the wasteland was dug, cactus transported from

Jhalawar was planted along the ridge of the CPT and grass seeds were sown for fodder. A group of about 60 persons representing all the villages and all communities

and who have been a member of the exposure team were entrusted the responsibility of maintenance of the pasture land.

## **6.2 GIS and Remote Sensing**

NCHSE has a computer laboratory equipped to undertake GIS and Remote Sensing technique based assignments. The centre is constantly engaged in carrying out GIS mapping for implementation projects especially related to watershed management, agricultural sustainability, etc. GIS techniques have been used in preparation of thematic maps like Base map, Drainage and Contours, Land use/ Land cover, Irrigation, Cropping pattern, Soil type, ownership, Slope classification, and Action plan map. In fact, GIS and Remote Sensing have immensely helped in appropriate planning, monitoring, documentation, impact assessment and analysis.

NCHSE also providing GIS and Remote Sensing Applications support to other organizations (NGOs, Govt. departments, corporate sectors, technical institutions, etc.) in implementation of their projects.

### **6.2.1 GIS Application & capacity Building (2016-17)**

#### ***i. Developing GIS based Village Maps***

Detailed GIS based maps having village level information along with geo-coordinates, drainages and contours etc generated from field and SOI topo sheets were prepared for ITC supported Sustainable Agriculture project in 14 villages in Gyaraspur block of Vidisha District and 7 villages in Sangod Block of Kota District of Rajasthan.

#### ***ii. Mapping of water harvesting structures, their catchment and Command Areas***

Through GPS, coordinates of each water harvesting structures were documented and their catchment and command areas with respect their position were marked on the map. Maps also provided the cost and beneficiary of each structure.

#### ***iii. GIS Based DPR preparation for Watershed Development project in Baran District of Rajasthan:***

DPR for the Watershed Development Project being implemented by Jalkalyan Samiti Dharnai in Baran District of Rajasthan was prepared, for which GIS based maps for 21 villages covering an area of 7628 ha were completed.

#### ***iv. Geo-referencing and AOI creation of SOI topo-sheet***

NCHSE has completed the work of Geo-referencing and AOI creation of SOI topo-sheet of entire Madhya Pradesh for Madhya Pradesh Agency for Promotion Information and Technologies (MAP-IT), a government agency which has been established to propel the growth of Information Technology (IT) in Madhya Pradesh and implement the State IT Policy.

#### ***v. Geo Tagging:***

Geo-tagging involves addition of geographical identification metadata to various media such as a geo-tagged photograph or video with geographical coordinates, and can help users to find a wide variety of location-specific information from a device. For instance, someone can find images taken near a given location by entering latitude and longitude coordinates into a suitable image. This technique was applied for all civil works undertaken under Sustainable Project in Gyaraspur Block in Vidisha District.

### 6.2.2 GIS Training (2016-17)

NCHSE regularly conducted a forty five day long training programme on GIS Application & Operations. The objective of the programme is to enable the participants to apply GIS techniques in many different ways to project planning, implementation, monitoring and impact assessment.

To fulfill the objectives, a structured approach was adopted covering various topics related to GIS & Remote Sensing, starting from basics and covering GIS concepts, components including data collection, computer hardware and various software packages and tools which are very use for GIS and their applications.



Lecture session in progress

Besides lectures, hands on training on GIS applications were imparted. Field exposure included use of GPS and Auto level in the field. All the students visited different NCHSE project site expand in different districts had hand on training of using these equipments and the data so generated for GIS applications. On conclusion of the training programme, certificates were given to all the students. All of them expressed their satisfaction about the wholesomeness of the training programme.

During 2016-17, NCHSE organised 4 training programmes in which 60 persons were trained.



Hands on training on GPS application and Auto Level

### 6.3 Initiatives towards Socio-economic Transformation of Rural Women

NCHSE is continuously promoting Socio-economic transformation of rural women through facilitation of formation of SHGs and their capacity building. This is a common feature of its all implementation projects related to watershed development, Livelihood Promotion, Agricultural Sustainability, specially focused projects for women empowerment, etc.

### 6.3.1 Empowerment of Women in Hoshangabad district with NABARD support

NCHSE has long association with NABARD in implementing projects on economic empowerment of women. In September 2016, one of such project on livelihood promotion of 250 SHGs in Pipariya and Babai blocks of Hoshangabad district was completed.

**Second** grant assistance for promotion and linkages of 250 self help groups in 4 blocks namely Babai, Sohagpur, Piparia and Bankhedhi was sanctioned in the year 2014-15 for a period of 3 years. Under this ongoing project the following progress was made:

- Formation of 250 SHGs completed.
- Bank accounts of all the 250 SHGs were opened.
- All the groups were trained in the areas of group procedures, savings and credits, book keeping and inter loaning.
- Out of the total 250 SHGs, bank CCL limits were sanctioned for 118 SHGs.
- The PIMC meeting held twice during the year for reviewing the progress in the project.

**Third** project to form 500 Joint Liability Groups was sanctioned in March, 2015. The implementation of this project started in the year 2015-16, and so far about 150 JLGs have been formed during the year and the process of opening their accounts is under progress.

**Fourth** project for promotion and linkages of 250 SHGs in same 4 blocks of was sanctioned in March, 2016. During the year 188 SHGs were formed and 141 SHGS were formed and 141 Bank Accounts were opened in National & Regional Rural Banks. All the groups were trained in the areas of group procedures, savings and credits, book keeping and inter loaning.

Due to demonetization in November 2016 and non cooperation of Banks thereafter had affected the progress of the above projects. Therefore, NCHSE

#### • **Type of interventions:**

1. Group formation; 2. Orientation of SHGs; 3. Capacity building of SHGs for Accounting and book keeping; 4. Vocational training of SHGs with the support of govt. programmes; 5. Review of progress in Project implementation monitoring committee meetings at regular intervals.

#### • **Activities undertaken:**

Livelihood promotion with the support of loans from banks and savings of the groups for : dairy, goatry, grocery shop, vegetable cultivation, bamboo works, seeds, pesticides and fertilisers, land on tenancy, vegetable selling, tailoring, Bangle shop, selling of brooms, fishery, brick kiln, selling of by product of Aonla, etc.

#### • **Results:**

1. Developing saving habits amongst self help groups; 2. Association of members of SHGs with banks, thereby, acquainting themselves with banking operations; 3. Credit facilities to SHGs from banks to meet their socio-economic needs; 4. Improvement in income through livelihood promotion.



signed a MOU with NABFINS on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016 to facilitate credit linkage and disbursement of loans to the functional SHGs to start productive economic activities.

## **6.4 Consumer Awareness / Protection Initiatives**

### **6.4.1 District Consumer Information Centre (DCIC)**

The DCIC is functioning since 2001 which takes care of consumer grievances at large. It finds a special place in NCHSE. The main functions of DCIC are –

- Proper guidance and counselling to aggrieved consumers;
- Protecting interests of the consumers and get them relief through initiating correspondence with the service providers, shops, dealers, etc.
- Registering the cases of consumers in the Consumer Redressal Forum and pursuing it with the competent authorities (apex bodies), if needed.
- Information dissemination and general awareness amongst the consumers about their rights and responsibilities.
- Organising Consumer Awareness programme from time to time.

### **6.4.2 NCHSE as a Consumer Advocacy Group (CAG) of TRAI**

One of the notable achievements of the organisation is that NCHSE is continuing as a Consumer Advocacy Group (CAG) for the State of Madhya Pradesh. NCHSE as a CAG member is registered with TRAI and showing its usefulness in matters related to telecommunication. It is worth-mentioning here that NCHSE as a CAG is the only registered body for a whole of M.P. in reference to Telecommunication with TRAI.

NCHSE's association as a CAG member with Telecom Service Providers like Airtel, Reliance Communications, Tata Teleservices, Vodafone, Idea, Aircel, BSNL etc. has succeeded in getting prominence in resolving the issues of Telecom Consumers at several platforms. In fact, there is increasing awareness amongst consumers towards telecommunication services and about TRAI initiatives in this behalf. These service providers are accelerating their efforts as a result of proactive role of TRAI.

During 2016-17 the District Consumer Information Centre has organized number of workshops for the welfare of the consumers at large. On 24<sup>th</sup> December 2016, National Consumer Protection Day was organized in collaboration with Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (Department of Agriculture Corporation and Farmers Welfare), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, Bhopal. There were large attendance of consumers to listen the speeches of experienced judge from State Consumer Grievances Redressal Forum, Bureau of Indian Standards, speakers and advocates from the consumer field. They explained their past experiences to the audience. Some of the photographs of the programme can be viewed.

### **6.4.3 Collective Consumer Interest Advocacy Initiatives**

#### **6.4.3.1 Initiative for Introduction of a Strong Road Safety Law**

Currently, motorized transport in India is governed by the Motor Vehicles, Act, 1988, but in the 29 year period since then, fatalities due to road accidents have increased 300%. With the changed scenario in road transportation in India, this Act has proved to be inadequate in addressing the issues currently plaguing road safety in India. In order to address the issue, the Lok Sabha passed the Road Safety Bill in 2016, but the bill did not get the consent of Rajya Sabha.

Consequently, on the behest of Voluntary Organisation in Interest of Consumer Education (VOICE), New Delhi, NCHSE along with other 10 Road Safety State partners across the country, joined hands with VOICE to send request letters to the Chairman and the members of the Select Committee of Rajya Sabha urging them to expedite clearance of the bill to make the travel on road safer.

#### 6.4.3.2 Road Walk for Safer Roads

On the occasion of World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims citizens of Bhopal participated in a Road Walk jointly organized by NCHSE and Consumer Voice in Bhopal on 20th November 2016. The World Day of Remembrance is being observed on the 3rd Sunday of November each year to appropriately acknowledge victims and families of road traffic crashes and also to draw attention to the consequences and costs of road crashes and the measures that can be taken to prevent them. It also aims to remind governments and individual members of society of their responsibility to make roads safer.

At the start of the walk all the participants were briefed about the objective of the walk.

They were also informed that India reportedly has the world's most unsafe roads and the situation seems to be getting worse by the year. As per the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 1,46,133 people were killed in road accidents in India in 2015, a 4.6% rise over 2014 when 1,39,671 people were killed. Most number of road accidents and highest number of injuries occurred in the states of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala. Cabinet has passed the Road Transport and Safety Bill, which is yet to be passed by the Rajya Sabha and thus action to prevent accidents remains in limbo.



The participants signed a memorandum demanding comprehensive road safety legislation. Mrs. Nirmala Buch, Chairperson NCHSE called upon the youth to be more careful and to observe the traffic rules to prevent road accidents. She also said that it is also important that post accident response from all concerned should be fast so that fatalities could be averted. Some of the participants also expressed their views on to prevent road accidents and to provide help to the victims. There after the participants holding banner and placards displaying messages on prevention of traffic accidents walked through Rajiv Chawk, Vandemataram square, 1100 quarter square to NCHSE campus in Arera Colony.

#### 6.4.3.3 State Training Workshop on Internet Safety

In order to empower Consumers on Internet Safety, NCHSE in partnership with Consumer VOICE, Delhi and Google organized **State Training workshop on Internet Safety** at Motel Shiraz, Bhopal on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

The objective of the workshop was to provide information on online available safety tools and to share knowledge on various online security aspects. The participants took active interest in the presentation made by Google, Consumer VOICE and NCHSE. The Google IT expert Mr. Piyush Poddar highlighted the importance of online safety and security aspects along with Ms. Rinki Sharma, Consumer VOICE and Mr. Avinash Shrivastava, NCHSE and focused on five best practices to be safe online:

### **Better Passwords, 2-steps verification and security keys, protecting your device, spotting Scams Online and Security & privacy checkup.**

The Chief guest Dr. V.D.Garde, pointed out the importance of internet usage in the coming time besides giving an account of cyber crime and hacking.

Mrs. Nirmala Buch, Chairperson, NCHSE in her concluding remarks suggested the internet users to be updated with the usage of technology and careful while carrying out online shopping, banking, etc.



In this workshop 45 participants took active interest. The participants were from various disciplines such as the Engineering students, Teachers and faculty members from IT profession, web developers, IT experts, Representatives from Sr. Citizen Forum, Members from Civil Society organizations, active members of environment helpline, telecommunication service providers, social activists, Doctors, Consumers, media, etc.

#### **6.4.3.4 State Level Workshop on Car Safety**

As a part of a global campaign by Consumer International to demand for safer cars for consumers, a State Level Workshop on Car Safety was organised jointly by NCHSE and Consumer Voice on 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. Objective of the workshop was to create awareness about the safety features of India make passenger cars so as to enable people to select safe cars and remain safe while driving.

At the beginning Dr. A.K. Gupta informed about the high rate of road accidents in the country resulting deaths and injuries due to lack of safety measures, poor condition of roads, in



appropriate planning, inadequate traffic civic sense, etc. In the workshop Shri Rajiv Saxena, Fellow, NCHSE made a detailed presentation on various aspects of car safety. A video film on unheard voices of accident victims and views on preventive measures was also shown. Dr. V.D.Garde, a victim of car accident emphasised the need for tougher and complete procedure for issuing driving license. Shri Arun Gurtoo, Former DGP, Madhya Pradesh pointed out the need for enforcement of strict rules and regulations of Motor Vehicles Act to ensure safety on roads. He also appreciated the inclination of Govt. of India to make the Motor Vehicle Act much more stringent. Referring the example of Singapore, where it is prerequisite to have car parking space for a car byer, he said that similar stringent rules should be adopted in India. Shri S.C.Agarwal, Former DGP said

that we have a weak system for enforcement. We need an efficient public transport system to reduce the use of personal vehicles. Mr. D.N.Malviya, Service Manager, Tata Motors explained the new safety features in cars being manufactured by Tata Motors. Shri Sanjay Pawar, DSP (Traffic) shared his experience of traffic violations and gave practical tips on safety of vehicles and commuters. Mrs Nirmala Buch, Chairperson, NCHSE in her concluding remarks stressed upon creating awareness on car safety in youth through engagement with the schools and colleges.

The workshop was attended by more than 55 participants including general consumers who drive cars, from CSOs, technical persons from car manufacturers, students, officials from traffic police, media, etc.

#### **6.4.3.5 MOU with CUTS International**

NCHSE signed a MOU with Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS International) for participation in the development of Broad band labels and to organise a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) to obtain feedback from various stakeholders. CUTS is a research based advocacy and capacity building organisation with its headquarters in Jaipur (India), and working on various elements of international trade, regulatory policy and sustainable development across Africa and Asia. CUTS International has overseas presence in five locations (Geneva, Hanoi, Lusaka, Ghana and Nairobi) which act as nodes for coordinating and managing the organisations activities in the respective regions.

CUTS has undertaken a project to design nutrition labels for broadband services in India as a means of safeguarding consumers from misleading advertisements, unfair contractual terms, practice of non-disclosures and most importantly, help them choose between services. The project aims to cover detailed review of existing literature, analyse cross-country experiences and engaging with inclusive set of stakeholder, to develop optimum broadband labels. The research would be followed by capacity building events for consumers/stakeholders, which will enable them to understand the aspects of QoS and thus demand the advertised QoS from the operators. As a part of the project, training workshops and focussed group discussions (FGD) are planned across 10 cities in India. NCHSE has been entrusted with the responsibility of organising the Focus Group discussion in Bhopal.

### **6.5 Targeted Intervention in Urban Areas of Ujjain District for the Prevention of HIV/ AIDS**

NCHSE is facilitating this project (TI) since October, 2008 for prevention of Human Immune Deficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDs) amongst female sex workers. The objective of this project is to ensure safe sexual practice among female sex workers through behavioral change communication by way of condom promotion during sexual intercourse for reduction of vulnerability of HIV infection.

During the year 2016-17, as against the target of 650; 655 Female Sex Workers (FSWs) were brought under targeted intervention by the organization, as detailed below:

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Typology</b>	<b>No. of HRGs</b>	<b>percentage</b>
1.	Home based	475	73
2.	Brothel based	140	21
3.	Street based	37	6
4.	Dhaba based	03	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>655</b>	

Details of the services provided medical facilities to the target groups through Integrated Counseling and Testing Center (ICTC), Ujjain during in the year 2016-17, is as follows:

- Sexual Track Infection (STI) - 45; Regular Medical Checkup -2346; Presumptive test - 61; HIV-1239; Syphilis Screening Test – 1242, VDRL - 1242.
- Besides this 1,76,297 condoms were distributed to 655 High Risk Groups (HRGs) through 2 ORW & 8 Peer Educators.
- Out of 655 HRGs, 6 moved to lead normal life.

On the occasion of World AIDS day, a 7 day awareness programme starting from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 was organized in various locations in Ujjain in participation of Police, Educational Institutions, other NGOs, viz. CARDS, Arunodaya Lok Kalyan Samiti, etc. associated with implementations of similar projects. During the event information on prevention of AIDS were provided.

## 7. Mahesh Buch Remembrance Lecture, 2016

On the occasion of first death anniversary of Late Shri Mahesh Nilkanth Buch, Shri Pradip Krishen,

Environmentalist, Writer and Film Maker delivered a talk on “Bringing in The Jungle” at Samanvaya Bhawan, Bhopal on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016. Chief Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Shri Anthony DeSa chaired the event. About 150 persons attended the event. A photographic exhibition of trees of Bhopal has also been arranged at the venue.



## 8. Second Mahesh Buch Memorial Lecture, 2016

Mahesh Buch Memorial Lecture instituted by NCHSE in 2015 is being organized on 5<sup>th</sup> October, the birth day of Late Dr Mahesh Nilkanth Buch. Prof. Ashoke Chatterjee, an eminent Design expert, former Director, National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad and former President, Crafts Council of India had delivered the first Lecture on ‘Design as tool for economic development in India’ in Bhopal on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

The Second Buch Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. Y.V. Reddy, Former Governor of RBI on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016. In the beginning he paid tributes to late M.N. Buch by saying that he had formidable reputation of intellect, courage of conviction and impeccable honesty. He was prophetic in anticipating the importance of environmental issues. He was special to Bhopal and Bhopal was very special to him. Dr. Pradeep Mehta had chaired the session.

By addressing the gathering Dr. Reddy questioned whether it is possible that generation, circulation and multiplication of black money are a symptom of lawlessness in this system: all pervading lawlessness? He raised question whether lawlessness defined as lack of

respect for contracts, explicit or implicit, prevalent both in dealings by the government and the citizens? Dr. Reddy further told that “is black money a manifestation of broader problem of lack of mechanisms for enforcement of contracts between private parties and between government and private parties or even between agencies within public sector? In brief, and most importantly, it is possible that black money is merely a symptom of a deeper disease, and that disease is very complex”.



He said that allowing people to declare undisclosed income or assets and escape any action after paying 45% tax, giving “one last chance” for people to come clean. It has yielded 0.45% of GDP as against 0.60% in 1997 scheme. In fact voluntary disclosure of black money is not the solution of this broader problem.

He concluded his lecture by saying that black money is not merely an issue of taxation or non declaration or committing crime and imposing punishment. It is manifestation of a bigger problem of governance. In countries that are moving from relation based systems to rule based systems, there are challenges. In dealing with this issue, we cannot take a simplistic view of a benevolent state versus a manovelent market participant. It is interesting that people urge severe actions by government precisely in those countries where governments are reputed to be weak in governance systems. If generation of black money is a consequence of weak governance, how could empowering precisely the same governance systems solve the problem on a firm footing?

Dr. Pradeep Mehta in his presidential address highlighted the adverse effect of black money in national economy. He said that though the recent report of disclosure of black money is a welcome step but the magnitude of disclosure is a small fraction of the black money in the economy. He expressed optimism of more disclosure of black money and said that the move may prove beneficial for the Indian economy.

## **9. Invited Lecture by Shri Anshuman Tiwari, Editor, India Today (Hindi)**

NCHSE played host for the popular lecture on “Changing Paradigm of Governance: Challenges & Opportunities” delivered by Shri Anshuman Tiwari, an economic analyst and journalist and Editor India Today (Hindi) at Swaraj Bhawan, Bhopal on 15th February 2017. Addressing a distinguished gathering, he focused his views on digital India campaign and election systems in India. He said that in future India may adopt cyber

based governance system. He also pointed out that in India a large number of people still rely on primitive technology for fulfilling their needs and suggested that Government has to strike a balance between these two extreme technologies. Regarding election of public representatives, he said that in future India may have to adopt online voting system. He further added that there should be a debate on indirect election of public representatives for institutions like Rajya Sabha and Vidhan Parishad.



### 10. Environment Helpline: Citizen’s Engagement for Sustainable Urban Development

In 2015, NCHSE and Friends of Environment Group has established NCHSE Environment Help line, a platform, where common citizen, especially youth could reach out for advice/help on urban developmental issues in Bhopal as well as in entire Madhya Pradesh and to enable them to raise the issues of public interest with the concerned authorities. In a meeting held on 8th September 2015, concept of Environment Helpline was discussed and its objectives and strategies were finalized.

More than 300 persons ranging from senior bureaucrats, specialists on different discipline, institutions having mandate of environmental protection and conservation and general public of Bhopal are actively associated with the activities of Environment Helpline.

#### Achievements:

Since September 2015, regular meetings of Environment Helpline are being organized at regular intervals and emerging issues are discussed and as per consensus actions are being taken. In January 2015, Helpline initiated its campaign against ill conceived redevelopment plan of Bhopal Municipal Corporation for Shivaji Nagar and Tulsi Nagar under Smart City Project in Bhopal. The campaign continued during 2016-17 and ultimately succeeded in convincing the government to have a relook at the development proposal and shift the site under the smart city project. This was possible through a people’s campaign supported by the media to save trees in the project area with the participation of people from all parts of the city, which included a tree survey in the project area and Tree walks to create awareness about



the uniqueness and importance of trees in our life. On the occasion of World Environment Day, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Environment Helpline in partnership with Friends of Environment organized a Tree walk in Nagar and distributed tree saplings to the participants.

During 2016-17, Helpline continued its efforts to protect the interest of the citizens of Bhopal and time to time wrote to the Government conveying its views to address them. Some of them are mentioned below:

Helpline in its meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016 discussed the impact of large scale felling of trees for the construction of MLA rest house on the Arera Hills. It was decided that felling of trees has to be stopped and the government may be requested to plant more trees rather than cutting them. On 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Hon'ble Speaker, Vidhan Sabha was formally urged to shift the site for construction of MLA Rest House for the protection of fragile slopes of Arera Hills.

Helpline responding to the call from the citizens, also took up the issue of indiscriminate cutting of avenue trees in Rajat Vihar Colony, and urged the government for a policy guidelines for saving fully grown trees unless cutting of trees become absolutely necessary.

On 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016, the Chief Secretary was requested to advice the Smart City Project Implementation Agency to protect the trees in the new redevelopment site in North T T Nagar.

On 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016, the Chief Secretary was requested again to review the environmental issues being faced by Bhopal and to take appropriate action to address them. It was suggested that Bhopal development plan should be demand oriented and carbon neutral.

On being moved by the misery of the people due to excessive rain in Bhopal on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016, Helpline in its letter of 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016 to the Chief Secretary pointed out the lack of preparedness of BMC for such situation. It was informed that had the BMC took initiative before hand in cleaning the drainage system; the catastrophe could have been averted.

In December 2016, Helpline in its meeting reviewed various development issues in Bhopal and on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2016 wrote to the Chief Secretary urging him to look into matter the following issues:

- How to improve urban basic services
- Revision of Bhopal Development Plan 2005 incorporating recommendation of CEPT, Smart City Project, Metro Project, plan for conservation of Heritage.

Helpline prepared a status paper on Pedestrian safety in Bhopal and other cities in Madhya Pradesh with suggestions to improve it. This paper was forwarded to the Chief Secretary and the Principal Secretary, Urban Development on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017 with request to consider the suggestions.

## 11. Development Plan for the Next Year

Over the years, NCHSE has developed expertise in watershed development covering over 1.0 Lakh ha area. Government initiative for watershed development is shrinking, but the private sector support for watershed development along with promotion of sustainable agricultural practices is likely to continue. At present ITC is the only private sector partner supporting these initiatives. NCHSE constantly exploring the possibility to develop partnership with other private sector institutions to expand the activities in these fields to support farmers with technologies to overcome climate change induced impacts. Future initiatives will focus on projects on development of climate smart villages and achieving sustainable development goals.

The planning and implementation of watershed development works of NCHSE is ably supported by its GIS Cell. Besides, it also imparts training on GIS application on regular basis for fresher as well as for in service personnel. This training programme has now been recognized by several institutions of Madhya Pradesh, which send their students for the training. Trainees on successful completion have been able to get employment in the private and govt. sectors – MPCST, MAPIT, Forest Department, etc. Some of the engineer trainees (BEs), after completing the technical course have moved out to South Africa, California, Oxford University, etc. for a better placement. The GIS training programmes will continue in forthcoming years to enable the trainees to seek employment opportunities as professionals in the area of GIS applications. NCHSE will continue to impart such training.

Recognizing the need for empowerment of women, NCHSE has made provision in its projects for providing support to women of poor households in rural areas. It aims to continue with capacity building and skill development of SHG members under livelihood and enterprise development programme of NABARD. Association with NABFINS is likely to make availability of productive credit easier for the SHGs and open up more livelihood opportunities.

Documentation and publication of works is the priority. Some of the case studies developed during the year are as follows:

1. Transforming rocky wasteland into a pastureland through integrated Biodiversity and water conservation plan in Dhoti villages of Rajasthan
2. Improving Socio-economic status of farmers of water scarce Malhargarh Block of Mandsaur District, Madhya Pradesh
3. Improving ground water level and crop productivity through watershed management approach in water scarce Mandsaur District, Madhya Pradesh
4. Transforming lives of small farmers through in situ water conservation measures-a case study of Manora Village, Vidisha District
5. Campaign against drinking by women of Dhabla Village of Sehore District

NCHSE plans to bring out a newsletter to cover activities of NCHSE and news on environmental issues.

NCHSE Environment Helpline has been able to prove its worth by bringing the important development issues of public interest before the government with substantial success. It will continue to review the urban development programmes and take the matter with the government if necessary, to address the same.

## 12. Awards/Recognitions Conferred on NCHSE

1. **UNEP International Award (1995):** Conferred for outstanding contribution towards environmental and soil degradation control in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh.
2. **WES-UNICEF Best Digital Video Documentation Award:** for the work undertaken in Jhabua under UNICEF sponsored fluoride mitigation project.
3. Successful implementation of mili watershed in Kesla block of Hoshangabad district from 1998 to 2003 (CEO, Zilla Panchayat, Hoshangabad).
4. Satisfactory performance of Self Help Groups in Kesla block of Hoshangabad district from the year 2000-2006 (CEO, Zilla Panchayat, Hoshangabad).
5. For its excellent work in village Panchayat of Jhabua block of Jhabua district NCHSE received Nirmal Gram Puraskar under Total Sanitation Campaign, 2007-08 from Office of Commissioner, Indore on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2009.
6. NCHSE received State level Consumer Protection best award for the year 2012-13, from Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2012 on the eve of World Consumer Protection Day.
7. NCHSE got appreciation for its contribution for displaying HIV/AIDS information from 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2012 to 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 from MPSACS, Bhopal.
8. NCHSE received State level award for the Exhibition of Consumer Protection in the year 2012-13 from Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 on the eve of World Consumer Protection Day.
9. The organisation received following recognitions as part of its creditable works in Ujjain district amongst HIV/AIDS Target Groups:
  - Appreciation Letter- Madhya Pradesh State AIDS Control Society, Bhopal;
  - Commendation Letter- R. D. Gardi Medical College, Ujjain.
  - Appreciation for exemplary contribution by Pathfinder – learning site NGO.
  - Certificate- Madhya Pradesh State AIDS Control Society, Bhopal- Training and Pathological Test.
10. NCHSE received First award at the State level of Consumer Protection in the year 2014-15, from Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2015.

### 13. Governing Council of NCHSE

S. No.	Name and Address of the Member	Designation
1.	<b>Mrs. Nirmala Buch</b> , E-4/17, Arera Colony, Bhopal. Email: <a href="mailto:nirmala.buch@gmail.com">nirmala.buch@gmail.com</a> Mob.: 9425014105, Tel: 2464803, 2467105	Chairperson
2.	<b>Shri R.C. Saxena</b> MIG-99, Kotra Sultanabad, Bhopal. Tel: 2766912	Vice-Chairman (E)
3.	<b>Dr. Pradip Nandi</b> 24, Comfort Enclave, Bhopal -462039, Email: <a href="mailto:nandi.pradeep@gmail.com">nandi.pradeep@gmail.com</a> Mob.: 9425008936	Senior Fellow & Director General
4.	<b>Dr. V.D. Garde</b> E-5/11, Arera Colony, Bhopal. Email: <a href="mailto:vgarde@gmail.com">vgarde@gmail.com</a> ; Tel: 2466777.	Member
5.	<b>Shri R.R.S. Chauhan</b> 59, Chatrapati Shivaji Colony, Chunabatti, Bhopal. Tel: 2424093 / 98935 58893 Email: <a href="mailto:rchauhan@gmail.com">rchauhan@gmail.com</a>	Member
6.	<b>Dr. G.S.Kaushal</b> 75 A, Janki Nagar, Chuna Bhatti, Kolar Road, Bhopal. Email: <a href="mailto:kaushalgs43@gmail.com">kaushalgs43@gmail.com</a> Ph. No.: 2428154; Mob.: 9826057424	Member
7.	<b>Shri Ramesh Chandra</b> B-2, Chanakyapuri, Chunabatti, Bhopal. Mob. 94256 24191, Tel: 2424033 Email: <a href="mailto:mani_ramesh2k@hotmail.com">mani_ramesh2k@hotmail.com</a>	Member
8.	<b>Dr. Pratibha Rajgopal</b> E-8/59, Basant Kunj, Arera Colony, Bhopal. Mob. 9425600643 Email: <a href="mailto:pratibharajgopal@gmail.com">pratibharajgopal@gmail.com</a>	Member
9.	<b>Prof. Savita Raje</b> H.No. 3/17, MANIT Campus, Bhopal. Mob.: 9826242266 Email: <a href="mailto:savitaraje@manit.ac.in">savitaraje@manit.ac.in</a>	Member
10.	<b>Prof. Rekha Singhal</b> H.No. 426, Sarvadharm, B Sector, Kolar Road, Bhopal. Mob.: 9425303741, 2763924- ext. 331 Email: <a href="mailto:rekha@iifm.ac.in">rekha@iifm.ac.in</a>	Member
11.	<b>Dr. D. D. Banerjee</b> Shahpura, C Sector, Bhopal-462016 Email: <a href="mailto:devdas.ddbanerjee7@gmail.com">devdas.ddbanerjee7@gmail.com</a> Mob. 9425372276	Special Invitee