

Quarterly

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**GIDF**

AUROBINDO CHAUDHURI MEMORIAL  
**GREAT INDIAN DREAM FOUNDATION**

**Education**



**Health**

**Employment**



**Environment**

**Newsletter April-June 2010**

**In This Issue...**

New moon over Kakoti

**4**

Rashi wants to become a doctor

**6**

# Health

## I. Combating HIV/AIDS

GIDF and UNICEF has partnered in Madhya Pradesh for the past 2 years to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS. In April, through “Project MITR”, our joint initiative, we held **6 health camps in district Guna to sensitize the high risk groups of truckers, sex workers etc.** They were encouraged to visit the Integrated Counselling and Testing Centre (ICTC)



*Truckers being tested for HIV/AIDS*

and Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) clinics to undergo HIV tests. The target was not just to create an awareness, but to take immediate in-situ action if necessary.

GIDF also reached out to the remote locations of the district through the **Mobile Health Vans** – another unique



*Street play conducted by 'Prayas Mandal' to create awareness on HIV/AIDS*

initiative that equips specially designed vehicles with medicines and a team of healthcare professionals and social workers.

**We organized 11 street plays** and a number of film shows in various locations of the district, and informed the viewers about local STI clinics and our unique facility of home-testing HIV. **This quarter, through these initiatives, GIDF has managed to connect to 11,512 truckers.**

We also have a similar project running in Delhi which is in collaboration with Delhi State AIDS Control Society. In Delhi, we specialize in working with the MSM (men having sex with men). In this quarter 114 people visited our STI clinic. **Till now we have being able to contact 1300 MSM by peer educators using various counselling material.**



*Truckers being counseled to take the HIV/AIDS test*

## **II. Helping fight child mortality**

Real growth happens only when it takes all stakeholders into account. Without the participation of women in the process of well-being, a society can't expect to reach its full potential. With this in mind, GIDF also implements a **Reproductive Child Health (RCH) Programme at Guna in Madhya Pradesh.**



*Adolescent girls being counseled on personal hygiene*

The programme counsels women on pre and post natal care – which includes inculcating awareness about the importance of nutrition, hygiene and regular checkups

to have healthy babies and reduce child mortality rates.

**This quarter, we reached out to 2,470 women from 36 villages.**

It's crucial that not just expectant mothers, but young adolescent girls are taught about the importance of nutrition and hygiene. In our RCH initiative, this target group is made aware of problems associated with puberty, how to handle unwanted pregnancies, and how to treat & prevent various gynaecological problems.

**In this quarter, besides counselling 1,735 adolescent girls from 36 villages, GIDF also identified 15 villages, where 57 women were trained to counsel other women of their neighbourhood.**

# Employment



## A Woman's Path to Self Mastery

GIDF believes a self-sustainable model is the best way to improve the lives of people belonging to the economically weaker sections of the society. In this model, people come together through “Self-Help-Groups (SHG)” to pool resources and start income generation activities that benefits everyone in the group.

This quarter, 5 SHGs like Anamika of Changmai Garia village and Pratidin of Lapatkata Kachari village were formed in Dibrugarh district of Assam & 13 SHGs like Mahima of Ladpura village & Arti of Raghupur village were formed in Guna District of Madhya Pradesh.

Till date we have been able to successfully form 272 such SHGs who have been trained in various skills like vermicompost making, piggery, food processing, horticulture, weaving & accounts training. GIDF also helps them link up with funding agencies like banks to get loans and also makes sure that they repay the amount on time.

SHGs like Nojon & Ankur in Assam & Babdikheda, Fattukhedi & Naroni in Madhya Pradesh are running independently for almost two years now. Not only that,



their sheer hard work and dedication has helped them clear the grading system and procure institutionalized financial support.

You must learn to be still in the midst of activity and be vibrantly alive in repose. - Indira Gandhi



### **New moon over Kakoti**

The villagers of Kakoti near Dibrugarh in Assam belong to the Sonowal Kachar tribe. Women here are generally housewives, who also help their husbands in farming. In 2008, GIDF organized the first Self Help Group awareness meeting, here where many of these women showed interest in the concept. Sensing their enthusiasm, GIDF organized another gathering, where these women were asked to come in groups. Soon afterwards, **'Najon' (meaning New Moon in Assamese) kicked off as an SHG, after GIDF helped them to open a bank account in the Assam Gramin Vikash Bank.**

'Najon' members mutually decided on a minimum monthly fee of Rs 30 and started working as daily wage earners in paddy fields as an income generating activity. **After the savings of the group reached Rs 800, they started other activities like rearing piglets and ducks.** Two members of Najon bettered

their skills at a GIDF workshop on scientific rearing of piggery farming.

Under GIDF supervision, these women let loose their natural entrepreneurship skills. **Soon, their performance bagged 1st Grading by the Barbarua Development Block. They were also awarded with ₹ 25,000/- by the Assam Gramin Vikash Bank, Barbarua.**

Once the SHG had saved enough money, they could now think beyond their regular pursuits. They have diversified into weaving as well, which has been their traditional strength. **Najon handloom products like Mekhla Chadar and Gamocho have started generating handsome profits.**

With sheer discipline and the will to perform, Najon is now well on its way to success. The proceedings might be small, but the amount of confidence it generates is, simply speaking, priceless. With active help and guidance from GIDF, and after a series of success stories, they now know how to achieve financial independence, and, in the process, contribute to the well being of their families.

# Education

## I. Fostering Toddlers

We at GIDF have always strongly believed in imparting education to one and all, be it adults through Non Formal Education programmes or even the children through Early Childhood Development programmes (pre-school education) who we consider are the future of our bright nation. **In this quarter we have successfully mainstreamed 147 children into formal schooling.**

Along with various other activities that we organize for the children studying in our Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes learning center, in the month of June we took up the **initiative of distributing nutritious food to their communities like Madanpur Khadar and Mandi village of New Delhi.**



*Children enjoying their nutritious food near our Mandi(New Delhi) computer center*



*E-Shiksha students on a exposure trip to a leading PSU bank*

## II. Computing towards a better tomorrow

GIDF lays special emphasis on **Computer Education** in its various learning centers. Not only is education important, computer education is also equally important considering the part that technology plays in our lives and is likely to play in the coming years. In this programme, our endeavor is to educate the beneficiaries with the basic knowledge of computer; these courses are jointly conducted with Jan Shikshan Sansthan and **in this quarter 67 students have successfully passed the course.**

In Guna, Madhya Pradesh, this year we have planned to take the students of our e-Shiksha (computer education on wheels) programme for **a series of exposure trips which include places like banks, police stations, industries, hospitals etc.** and for the month of June , the students were taken to a **leading PSU bank in Raghogarh block**, where they had a discussion with the Bank Manager and other staff members on **how a bank operates and were also**

given an insight about the other services like cash deposit, withdrawal and even the ATM procedure.

It was indeed a new and enlightening experience for them.

## RASHI WANTS TO BECOME A DOCTOR

Fearsome banging of doors in the middle of the night and the pungent smell of cheap liquor, that was the world of 4 year old Rashi before GIDF came into her life. Her father, a small time property dealer, was closer to alcohol and gambling than to his business or family.

Rashi was born in Mandi, a village in the outskirts of Delhi. For her, education beyond the four walls of her house was almost an impossible dream. While her father withered away, her mother took up the responsibility of keeping the household afloat by selling buffalo milk. None of the parents were literate, and with near-nothing in the name of resources, they never even thought of educating their child.

It was by sheer chance, during a field visit in 2009, that one of GIDF's educator spotted Rashi. Her parents

were apprehensive of sending her to school, she herself was terrified of the concept that was completely alien to her – but after a series of counseling sessions, the family agreed to admit her to the Tara center. Initially, she

was aloof and didn't have the urge to study or participate in the activities held in the classes. Even her teachers observed this and involved her with her peer group through activities. Slowly, she opened up, started partaking in the activities and with time, started learning at par with others.

At home as well, things were changing for the better. Regular counseling brought a remarkable shift of attitude in Rashi's father. He started moving out of his circle of vice and started contributing to the family. Today, when Rashi reaches home, she is greeted by a loving, caring and responsible father.



Rashi can read and write the alphabets now, and differentiate the colors in English. Her parents now have a different outlook towards life. Despite being illiterates, they have realized the urgent need and importance of education. Today, thanks to GIDF's vision to see an educated India, Rashi aspires to become a doctor when she grows up.



ACM GIDF is a developmental organization of national repute; facilitating community development initiatives since 2002. We are working for the cause of human development focusing on the less privileged sections of the society in the rural & urban areas of the country. The spheres of our work are governed by issues related to Health, Education, Employment and Environment.



## AUROBINDO CHAUDHURI MEMORIAL GREAT INDIAN DREAM FOUNDATION

Regd. as a National Level NGO under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860

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*All contribution are 50% tax exempted under section 80G of Income Tax Act 1961*

Let no girl ever dropout of school

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(for donation of Rs. 10,000/- and above)

₹548 for sponsoring a **child's** primary education for **one month**.

₹6,572 for sponsoring a **child's** primary education for **one year**.

₹16,440 for supporting a **Learning Centre (30 children)** for unprivileged children for **one month**.

₹1,97,160 for supporting a **Learning Center (30 children)** for unprivileged children for **one year**.

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