



BHOOMIKA VIHAR



# Womanish

2021

*Being Woman is a Pride*

क्योंकि रंग और रूप मेरी पहचान नहीं

**Annual Report 20-21**



**Bhoomika Vihar**  
**Annual Report**  
**2020-2021**

A BHOOMIKA VIHAR FILM



A DOCUMENTARY FILM

# I EXIST

*Directed by Trisha Singh*

D.O.P. AKSHEY KAKKAR    ASST DIRECTOR ALOK CHATURVEDI    WRITER SHILPI SINGH    EDITOR AMARJEET RAJ    SOUND ADITYA PRAKASH

JOIN US FOR FILM STREAMING THROUGH  
BHOOMIKA VIHAR

STREAMING STARTS  
11 AM ONWARDS

**SATURDAY**

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*Bhoomika Vihar has unique approach using Digital Platforms for amplification of Voice of Unheard for the purpose of advocating their rights.*



*A still from documentary movie: "I Exist" by Bhoomika Vihar. The movie is entirely filmed on the illustrious struggles and success of survivors and vulnerable to fake/forced/early/ child marriages, and gender discrimination.*

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Bhoomika Vihar is a community based grass root level women's organizations that envisions to promoting a multi-faceted approach to gender equality and women's empowerment including marginalized women and girls, as direct beneficiaries, agents of change, duty bearers, rights holders or project participants or recipients of outreach activities. It intends to nurture Community Led Approach through meaningful partnerships with girl/women and local people to yield lasting value. Our delivery Model is based on the "CPEAI Approach" of Conceptualization, planning, engagement, Action, Internalizing together.

Bhoomika Vihar is community based women's rights organizations. It has been engaged for the past 20 years in Bihar State with various projects and programmes under the strategy of Prevention-Protection-Prosecution directly assisting vulnerable and victims of trafficking in persons.

'Bhoomika Vihar' co-journeys with girls and women faced with multiple vulnerabilities throughout a long process of 'internal transformation', 'empowerment' and 'establishment' of the once

Bhoomika Vihar adopts two models of interventions prioritizing intersectional approach to work with the most marginalized girls/women and survivals of violence-

- 1) Community Based direct Intervention for the beneficiaries
- 2) Intervention through multi stakeholder partnership including CSOs network

victim/vulnerable/marginalized as ‘Change Agents of Social Transformation’. Paradigm Shift and Perspective Changes take place when the priority of the marginalized journeys through ‘Participation and Inclusion’ to become ‘Stakeholders’ and Voice of their Community.

Bhoomika Vihar has not only been the pioneer leader but also enabling large number of CSOs, under multi stakeholder partnership, to address multiple vulnerabilities of girls/women such as fake/forced/child marriage and gender-based violence, by focusing on 3Ps (Prevention, Prosecution, Protection (Victim)) and 4Rs (Rescue, Restoration, Repatriation and Rehabilitation). In the past 2 decades, NGOs in coordination with the UN agencies have conducted training and orientation of over 10,000 police and law enforcement personnel on trafficking and VAW/G related issues.

**Through effective Peer learning  
Approach, leadership development and  
preventive skills: we have been able to  
capacitate 1,50,000 marginalized girls  
as effective Advocates and Change  
Agents for substantive Change and  
equality over the last 20 years.**

World is witnessing the rapidly changing scenario due to current pandemic and technological innovations.. At present, we are working to develop resilience on demand side and supply side for sustainable outcomes.

## **Demand Side Resilience**

- i) Economic parameters
- ii) We are partnering with organization of repute. In the current crisis of COVID-19 pandemic, we need support for meeting the goals of SDGs.
- iii) Compliances with Government norms and policies
- iv) As there are changes in policies related to tertiary sector in India, we are following all the compliances required and policies notified to meet our objective of benefitting people at the bottom of pyramid.
- v) Adherence with directives and process of supporters
- vi) As partner organization, we also put the ethics on top priority and follow all the directives and processes suggested by our supporting organization.

## **Supply Side Resilience**

- vii) Technology intervention  
The organization is integrating technology-based systems and shifting to digital platforms in all possible avenues of

operational parts in order to ensure sustained transformational change and facilitate quick adaptation and recovery from challenging situations.

viii) Digital Media/IEC Usage

We use new age digital media platforms/IEC for spreading awareness on our activities.

ix) Compendium

Evidence based intervention for generation to learn from change makers of their surroundings.

x) Stakeholder partnership

We have been engaged more in partnerships with other CSOs to maintain community reach even through crises.



**Bhoomika Varta Newsletter Prepared by the Girls in order to sharing Girl Led Interventions**

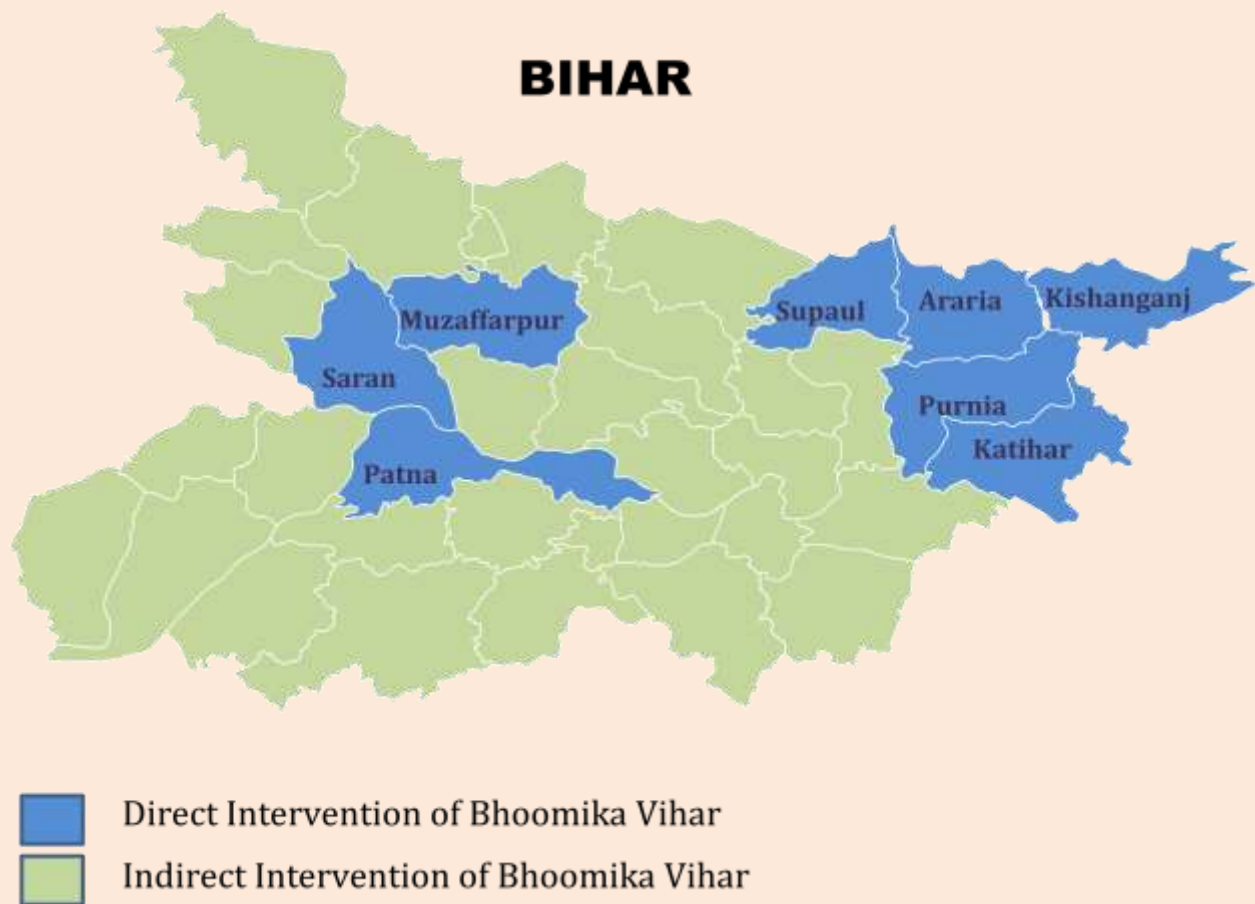


# Vision And Mission

*Vision: - “*

*Sustainable development based on the harmony of livelihood for marginalized population particularly girls, women and children through social and economical empowerment, with attention to the true sense on people's participation.”*

*Mission: - “To facilitate to insure the process of formation of society excluding exploitation and violence and promote empowerment of oppressed sections of the society particularly among marginalized section girls, women and children, based upon the participation to bring effective and positive socio economic changes through leadership.”*



Through Supporting Our Girl/Women Led Approach and Community Driven Interventions, Bhoomika Vihar work together towards direct outcomes in three major domains in order to amplifying voices of girls and women, strengthening social and economical resilience, bringing progressive change and developing situational sensitivity

## **Power and Agency**

- Improved self confidence and self reliance
- Improved awareness of rights and preventive measures
- Changes in behavior of adolescent girls
- Peer learning
- Increased leadership and life skills

## **Economic Advancement**

- Improved knowledge and employable value added skills
- Improved business practice
- Increased financial management skills- budgeting and saving
- Increase in women owned business
- Increased participation in economic activities
- Exposure to Digital Literacy

## **Enabling Environment**

- Change in Gender norms and expectations
- Implementation and promotion of laws and policies related to girl/women rights and protection
- Gender Equality education for both girls and boys
- Creating Platforms for girl's voice.
- Creating Gender Responsive Communities



15 girls of Durga Jatha were awarded their heroic performance by the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar

Youths from 38 districts got honored for their activist level effort of igniting youth force in Bihar

State level Art Gallery with the title 'Color and Complexion are Not My Identity'

Releasing of Documentary Movie "I Exist" on the transformative Course travelled by the victim and vulnerable

Releasing of a Study Report and facts about how COVID 19 is affecting individual lives especially of women, girls and children in context of fake/ forced/ early marriage and violence

Overall than 1000 daughters held the Great 'Swaha' event to trumpet the voice of marginalized section girls yelling out to the society the rights of girl children

60 Balika Panchyats are nurtured with situational sensitivity, redressal mechanism, preventive knowledge, life skill and leadership qualities to voice out against multiple forms of violence against girls/women

2400 girls are prevented from fake/forced/ early marriage and other forms of gender based violence

540 marginalized section vulnerable girls/children are educationally strengthened & socially mainstreamed through continuing & promoting their respective area of study

500 Mother & Baby care kits given to pregnant and lactating mothers  
2400 sanitary napkins distributed to the girls  
30660 masks distributed to the villagers

10 Joyful learning Centers performed actively in order to connecting the children even during COVID 19

30660 households were given survival kit to fight COVID 19.

86 survivals/ vulnerable of fake/ forced/ early marriage and gender based violence are strengthen economically through local market-based livelihood options

Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Campaign/ Red Dot initiated by Balika Panchayats

60 Children who are vulnerable and do not receive adequate care and protection, are living in a stable family situation, are securely attached, protected from child marriage and are developing well

Bhoomika Varta Newsletter Prepared by the Girls in order to sharing Girl Led Interventions and Community Driven Approach

SBCC Tools: 500 Swaragini folk booklet, 500 life skill guideline training manual, 500 pamphlets, 1000 Naya Savera educative book designed and printed and disseminated among girls and children

15 CACT Collaborating partners are capacitated on child rights and convergence mechanism for taking crisis intervention Convergence and coordination with collaborating partners of 20 districts of Bihar established for making them accountable and responsible for girl's protection

20 Gender Responsive Youth Committees started breaking through constructive discussions promoted among girls and boys through Gender Talks

Strengthening and nurturing of 20 community-based support structures There is increased commitment and village level determination emerging among the village communities on preventing girls from fake/forced early marriage/violence

**Landmarks of Bhoomika Vihar in 2021**



# Highlights of

# 20-21



बिहार के माननीय उप मुख्यमंत्री श्री तारकेश्वर प्रसाद जी के द्वारा सम्मनित होते हुए।  
Zee-Bihar Jharkhand के द्वारा आयोजित कार्यक्रम "आत्मनिर्भर बिहार" के दौरान

Recognition by the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar State handing an award from Zee Bihar Jharkhand as part of their programme 'Atma Nirbhar Bihar' (Self-Reliant Bihar)



*Bhoomika  
Varta  
Newsletter  
shared with  
Police Station  
to make them  
informed on  
Girl Led  
Approach*





**Bhoomika Vihar was  
accorded as finalist  
by Thomson Reuters  
Foundation, London  
for Stop Slavery Hero  
Award**



**With CEO, Mr. Antonio Zappulla,  
Thomson Reuters Foundation,  
London**



**Declaration of Oath' by the Candidates to the Bihar Panchayat  
Election for acting upon stopping fake/ forced/early marriage  
and gender based violence.**



# 'Lockdown harmed emotional wellbeing of Bihar children'

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @Patna

COVID-19 induced lockdown had a negative impact on the emotional wellbeing of children as they were confined to their homes, found a survey of 1,000 children across 15 districts of Bihar. According to the survey, facilitated by Campaign Against Child Trafficking (CACT) and Bhoomika-Vi-

har, a civil society organization, girls in the state's hinterland showed more willingness to attend schools than boys at the end of the first lockdown, last year. At least 90% of girls from 15 districts of Bihar expressed interest in returning to schools as soon as they opened, the survey found.

Of a total of 1,000 children surveyed, 68% sounded hopeful

that their schools would reopen soon. The survey found that a substantial number of children, especially boys, were irritated about being confined to their homes during the lockdown.

The regional convenor of

CACT and chief of Bhoomika-Vihar, Shilpi Singh said, the survey took inputs from about 3,400 respondents, including 1,000 children. This includes members of families belonging to SC, ST OBC, minority groups,

and upper caste. "We found that of all the children interviewed, 69% were school-going. Twenty-four per cent of them were unable to learn at their homes as their parents are unschooled and unable to help them," she said. "During the first lockdown, 51% girls spent time helping their parents in household chores instead of studying". About 45% of children ex-

pressed uneasiness at being confined to their homes.

"Around 44% of children said they were being scolded by elders in their family. Among those who said they were scolded, 78% wanted to run away from their homes," she said. "We found that Covid-19 had a strong effect on the emotional well-being of children as their movements were restricted."



Around 44% of children said they were being scolded by elders in their family. Among them, 78% wanted to run away from their homes

Shilpi Singh, chief of Bhoomika-Vihar

**Bhoomika Vihar brought out an extensive study report on Impacts of COVID 19 on Lives of Women/Girls with respondents spread in 15 districts of Bihar State. Excerpts from this report were nationally published in leading news papers of five states**

Morning Standard, New Delhi, 19.07.21, p-1

## SURVEY FINDINGS

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About 45% of children expressed uneasiness at being confined to homes. "We found that Covid had a strong effect on the emotional well-being of children," Shilpi said.







**Declaration of Oath' by the Candidates to the General Elections to the Bihar State Legislative Assembly for acting upon stopping fake/forced/early and child marriage**



**भूमिका बिहार**  
www.bhoomikavihar.in



**CACT**

**“झूठी शादियाँ रुकेंगी  
कम उम्र में बेटियाँ डोली नहीं चढ़ेंगी”**

**Stakeholder Convergence on Child Brides**  
[Towards Curbing Fake, Forced and Child Marriage]

**Reaching 15 Districts of Bihar**

Katihar  
Saharsa  
Purnia  
Bhagalpur

Muzaffarpur  
Darbhanga  
Supaul  
Munger

Araria  
Khagaria  
Gaya  
Kishanganj

Bettiah  
Begusarai  
Samastipur





*State planning Meet of CBOs and NGOs from 15 districts of Bihar and capacity building on strategic intervention*



**Strengthening of 'Campaign Against Child Trafficking' (CACT) to emerge as a large CBO advocating for stopping 'Fake Marriages and gender based violence' in Bihar State and Equipping the member with issue specific, thematic and technical competencies**





**Stakeholder Convergence on Stopping Child Brides  
District Outreach Across the Bihar with CACT Partner organizations**



**Advocacy Outreach Intervention initiating by The Balika Panchayat Girls**





# **Womanish 2021**

**Releasing of Documentary Movie  
" I Exist"**

**Releasing of Study Report on how  
COVID 19 Impacting the lives of  
women and girls/children**

The State Level Advocacy Platform ‘WOMANISH 2021’ was held in the form of a State Level Conference which would not only commemorate the long years of efforts by ‘Bhoomika Vihar’ in containing trafficking of girls and women but also throw light upon grave facts about how COVID 19 was affecting individual lives especially of women, girls and children.

The ‘WOMANISH 2021’ also became the platform for releasing a short movie titled “I Exist” on the transformative course travelled by ‘Bhoomika Vihar Change Bearer Girls’ along with their peers and supportive community structure.

Many eminent personalities from all walks of life including the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar State and a number of senior media house persons participated in ‘WOMANISH 2021’ as a strong gesture of solidarity

**This auspicious occasion was also found apt to hold a vivid Art Gallery on ‘Bhoomika Vihar’ with the title ‘*Color and Complexion are not my IDENTITY*’.**

**This strong positive message was disseminated from the platform with all eminent participants committing to carry the message as far as they can.**

with all the daughters of Bihar. They also provided guidance, solidarity support and direction in taking ahead our proclaimed commitments and realization of higher dreams.

### **The Immediate Impact of 'WOMANISH 2021'**

'WOMANISH 2021' Advocacy Platform has shown an effective way in shaking the attitudinal stubbornness of the society towards change. Encouraged from the positive results in this regard from holding the state level advocacy platform of 'Womanish 2021' last year; we are planning to work towards holding 'WOMANISH' in the coming years as well.

The project response to the unexpected situation of COVID 19 Pandemic by conducting an

intensive survey in to the situation of women and girls in 15 bordering/near to border districts of Bihar state with the collaboration of Civil Society Partnerships had brought out grave concerns in the light of new as well as aggravated vulnerabilities faced

**It is vital for  
encouraging attitudinal  
shift in the society that  
the girls have enough  
platforms for gaining  
visibility for their issues.  
recognition of their  
achievements and  
encouragement from  
higher levels of  
stakeholders.**

by the women and girls as a result of the COVID 19 Pandemic Situation. The facts and finding of this survey report was published by the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar state during the state level advocacy platform ‘Womanish 2021’.The launching of the film ‘I EXIST’ from this state level platform of multi-level stakeholder participation was highly effective and calling for firm action from the society.

A number of Change Maker Girls, Support/Solidarity Persons and Eminent Participants to the Platform were honored on this platform for their positive role and contribution to bringing forth change in the situation of women and girls.

**Special Feature of the Event:**

- Fifteen girls of *Durga Jatha* were awarded their heroic performance by the Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar
- Youths from 38 districts got honored for their activist level effort of igniting youth force
- Releasing of Documentary Movie “I Exist” on the transformative Course travelled by the victim and vulnerable of Bridal trafficking
- Art Gallery with the title ‘ Color and Complexion are Not My Identity’
- Releasing of a Study Report and facts about how COVID 19 is affecting individual lives especially of women, girls and children in context of fake, forced and early marriage

**Background of the Participants:**

NGOs and CBOs from 38 districts of Bihar

Academicians

Youths

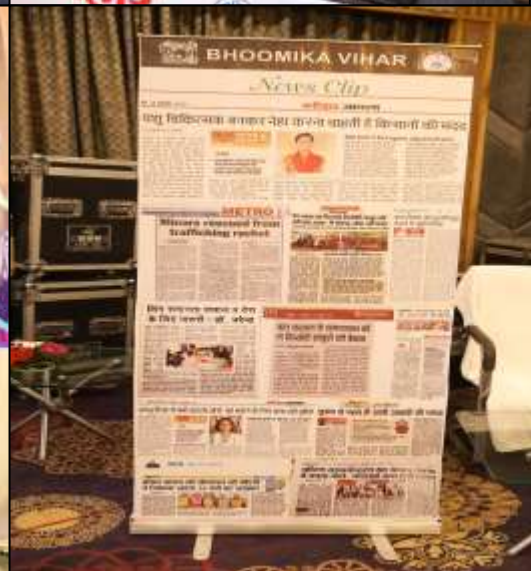


**List of Eminent Participants:**

- Hon'ble Deputy CM, Bihar, Shri Tarkishore Prasad ji
- Hon'ble Minister of Art & Culture, Shree Aalok Ranjan Jha ji
- Shri Mithilesh Mishra (IAS), IG, Jail
- Smt. Nisha Jha, (Advisor to Minister on Child and Woman Development),
- Miss Nafisa Binte Safique (CFO- UNICEF, Bihar)
- Prof. V. Mukunda Das (Director-Chandragupt Institute of Management Patna)
- Shri Ravi Chandra (Regional Manager- State Bank of India)
- Mr. Saurabh Kumar (Advocate- Supreme Court of India)
- Shri Swaym Prakash Ji (Editor- ZEE Bihar/Jharkhand)
- Shri Amarnath Tewary (Sr. Correspondent, The Hindu)
- Shri Kanhaiya Bhelari, Senior Journalist (News Hat)
- Shri Rajnish Kumar, Senior Journalist (News 18)
- Ms Sumita Jaiswal, Senior Journalist (Dainik Jagran)
- Ms. Savita, Reporter (Hindustan)
- Ms. Juhi, Reporter (Prabhat Khabar )





























**Releasing of a Study Report and facts about how COVID 19 is affecting individual lives especially of women, girls and children in context of fake, forced and early marriage in Bihar State.**

Swaha...



## **Daughters of Seemanchal submitted Patriarchal Mindset to the Sacramental Fire in a Grand Yagna**

‘Fire’ occupies the holiest space in all the Sacraments in the Vedic Culture. Fire is equally held holy by various other cultures across the world as well. Culturally Indian tradition assigns ‘Fire’ the status of the greatest purifier, the terminator of the evil, the inhalator of new life, the infallible witness, the kindler of life and so on. Inspired by the high space that ‘Fire’ occupies in our culture; ‘Bhoomika Vihar’ chose to engage the medium of the Holi Sacramental Fire to give out the call for ending the patriarchal mindsets and

for kindling lives of into the suppressed daughters of *Seemanchal*. From 2014 onwards the NGO is commemorating the achievements of the girl children and is shedding the negative energies by performing

**A Grand fair of  
the Rights of  
Daughters! A  
Celebration of  
the Being of  
Girls!**

***“The deaf society shall keep  
resisting to hear us till our  
voices reverberate in their  
ears”***

a celebration Sacrifice of such negative forces symbolically submitting them to the Holy Fire.

Who knows, how many daughters have been burnt to ashes in the fire of patriarchy! Having taken birth as a daughter; she is destined to a life of struggles from womb to tomb. Blockades in the journey of her life have been set in the forms of traditions, customs, creeds and rituals.

The member girls of the 'Durga Jatha' associated with an NGO 'Bhoomika Vihar' organized the 'SWAHA' programme today. Overall than 1000 daughters held the Great 'Yagna' to trumpet the Holi 'Shankh' yelling out to the society the rights of girl children. During the 'Yagna' they submitted 'Patriarchal Mindset' symbolically to the Holy Fire.

First of all the girls assigned 'Tika' marks on the foreheads of each other with powder colors and Red 'Abir' in a gesture of congratulating each other to have been born as a girl. Next they gave wings to their dreams by airing 300 'Paper Planes' they had prepared symbolizing their wishes and dreams. Next, they lightened 300 earthen lamps in a gesture of bringing to light the greatness of their being as a girl child and celebrated 'Deewali' of rights. In another

**This is also part of  
their collective efforts  
of marginalized  
section vulnerable  
girls to come out of  
the darkness of  
invisibility to the light  
of life and to  
establish their  
identity in the  
society.**

symbolic expression; the girls demonstrated large red marks with henna on their palms in protest to all kinds of discrimination they undergo during the period of menstruation. The participants praised each other for taking birth as a girl and adding greatness to womanhood.

The ceremony is becoming a great voice which echoed while the participant girls shared a cake with each other and celebrated their birth as a girl. They directly challenged the connotations assigned with traditional colors used in such celebrations by flying 300 blue balloons in this occasion.

The daughters not only submitted their inherent fear to the Sacramental Fire but also sacrificed the discriminations and violence they have been facing in the name of tradition,

**Along with empowerment of women: the men in the society also need to grow in sensitivity.**

**As part of the efforts of male sensitization the boys who participated in the event were administered an oath towards “considering not the girls as competitors but as equal collaborators with boys”.**



culture and rituals. They declared to the world around them that they are shall no more with to be burnt being restricted between the walls of traditions and customs. As a revelation of this determination these daughters literally cremated the patriarchal mindset on the ‘Crematorium of Patriarchy’ put to fire by them.

### **The Exhortation from the ‘SWAHA’ Platform:**

Usually we are forced to sacrifice our existence in the fire of patriarchy. No girl or daughter is weak by herself. If she weak; it is the result of her upbringing which forced her to learn to suffer, tolerate and remain silent. If the parents decide to up bring the girl child like with the confidence of a soldier; she would not only able to understand the various forms of violence she might have to face in her life but also gain the strength and brevity to fight against such situations. This event became a grand success due to the tireless and committed efforts put towards it by the participants like Suman, Arti, Ansu, Chandni, Gunja, Neha, Komal, Riya, Rajnandini, Priansu, Dimple, Beauty, Sunny, Ravish, Ashuthosh, Hemant, Dinesh, Nirmal, Pawan, Sanjay and others.





**Sexual And Reproductive Health Rights Campaign**

# **Key Strategic Areas of Bhoomika Vihar**

**Enabling Girl/Child Friendly Community,  
Awareness Building and Convergence**

**Enriching Preventive Measures and Life  
Skills Education for girls/ adolescent**

**Placing Livelihood Alternatives for Young  
Girls and Women**

**Community Based Alternative Care Model  
for Children**

**Emergency Relief & Crisis Intervention  
during Covid 10 Pandemic**



**Goal: “60 Villages of Katihar and Araria district is developed as protective & positive zone for girls and where they are influenced knowing about their rights and be empowered to become decision makers with confidence and consistency.”**

**Objectives: -**

- To improve Preventive Knowledge and Capacity of 3000 marginalized section vulnerable girls on fake/forced marriage.
- To enable 540 marginalized section vulnerable girls educationally strengthened & socially mainstreamed through continuing & promoting their respective area of study and empowering them through life skill knowledge
- To strengthen economical independency of 86 survivals or vulnerable of fake/forced marriage through local market-based livelihood options.
- To strengthen convergence and coordination with multi stake holders for making them accountable and responsible for girl’s protection

### ***Strategy 1: Strengthening and Mainstreaming of Vulnerable Groups***

<b>Activities on strategy 1</b>	<b>Result achieved at output level (short term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>	<b>Results achieved at outcome level (long term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>
<b>1.1 Nurturing of Balika Panchayats [ Girl’s Groups]</b>	60 Balika Panchayats formed	Listing of 1200 marginalized section vulnerable girls as active members of Balika Panchayats having 60 girls in each group	Balika Panchayats have become a village level empowerment and protection mechanism for vulnerable girls. 1200 vulnerable girls are aware of taking preventive measures against child marriage and Bridal trafficking	720 monthly reviews and reflections on the situation of child marriages and vulnerability to bride-trafficking is assessed. 1200 minor girls were protected from becoming the victim of child marriage after developing

## ***Annual Report April 2020 to March 2021***

			There are self-initiative vigilant activities taken up by the girl children involved with the Balika Panchayats. 200 girls are raising voice against fake/forced and early marriage	redressal mechanism and getting linked up to Balika Panchayats  The Balika Panchayat Members have developed their own 'Kishori Calendar'.
Follow up meetings with Balika Panchayats	60 Balika Panchayats held monthly meetings  Assessment of child marriage and bride-trafficking situation in the villages is regularly done by the Balika Panchayats.	Monthly meetings held with the members of Balika Panchayats  During each meeting, participation goes up to 18-19 members  During each meeting, 10-12 members ask questions or queries \	Each monthly meeting of the Balika Panchayats had at least five follow up meetings in the form of informal consultations by the Balika Panchayat Members.  1200 girls are raising voice against fake/forced and early marriage	Girls were involved in taking action in stopping 24 cases of child marriage  The Balika Panchayat Members have been active in the area as 'Corona Warriors'
Balika Panchayats interact directly with functional systems and the	25 Exposure Visit done with interactions with the officers in charge of welfare schemes	750 girls made aware of taking Panchayat level welfare benefits during COVID 19	Community level awareness and information generated about supports and benefits entitled to village	450 girls benefited directly from local schemes in terms of getting Ration and dry items.



## ***Annual Report April 2020 to March 2021***

representatives of welfare schemes	and programmes 750 girls took part in active interactions, discussions and question session with officials in charge various government schemes 55 girls raised questions to the Panchayat Representatives and sought information on what the Local Self Governance Institutions were doing for stopping early marriages and bride-trafficking.	Sharing and dissemination of information on benefits and supports due to various target groups in the wake of COVID 19 Pandemic	communities in times emergencies like the COVID 19 Pandemic. Well informed and empowered 450 girls shared the process of taking benefits from welfare schemes, during the respective meetings of Balika Panchayats	Team members helped in filing and processing up forms and formalities to go ahead for getting welfare support from various government schemes.
Distribution of mask and sanitary napkins in the village during COVID 19	13660 masks distributed to the local villagers 1200 Sanitary napkins given to the girl	Practical solutions discussed and community level facilitation done for ensuring sanitation and hygiene of girls and women	1200 girls of Balika Panchayts are taking ownership and leadership of social and mutual support interventions during COVID 19 Pandemic	1200 Girls are being involved actively with program implementation and strategy planning at the project level  1200 girls of the Balika

			during the crowded family and village situations emerging out of the COVID 19 Pandemic.		Panchayat are contributing as active participants providing valuable inputs to community level interventions by the Local Self Governance Institutions during the COVID 19 Pandemic.
1.2	Back Up Education to <i>Balika Panchayats</i> Members	140 marginalized vulnerable girls are continuing their respective education  The 140 girls who have been continuing their education have also supported other girls in the villages through home tuitions to	Profiling of 140 vulnerable girls have been completed for linking them to educational support 24 times Review and reflection exercise done with the girls in order to boosting their confidence and inclination towards continuing	The confidence levels and commitment levels of 40 girls have gone up and are determined to continue their education. They are also playing a role as educational role models among their peer groups in the villages.  Out of 140, 38 girls are continuing Graduation, 35	There wider awareness on the rights of the girl child with practical examples of empowerment tangible for the villagers in the form of 140 empowered girl children continuing their education against all adversities they have faced.



	continue their education.	higher studies	are in Intermediate and 38 of them are preparing for 9TH and 10th examination and 9 are continuing 8th standard and rest 20 are in primary education	140 marginalized section vulnerable girls are performing as local voice for girl child rights and education
<b>1.3 Livelihood Opportunity to Survivals of fake/ forced/ early marriages</b>	86 women are identified as Survivals of fake/ forced/ early marriages who are internally strong and empowered to become champions of self-supporting livelihood initiatives managed by them.  Emergence of economic sustainability models at the village level among survivors	Profiling of 86 women completed for mustering adequate support for them to initiate take ahead livelihood initiatives.  One time follow up meeting held out with the beneficiaries	Project support is resulting in economic empowerment, self-sufficiency and emergence of role models in rising above the situation of being a victim.  Out of 86, 55 of them are involved with business of seasonal vegetables, 21 are involved as selling of cosmetic items and 10 of them are running small departmental stores  Replicable models of economic sustainability of	Women who are part of the economic support from the project are earning income of 50- 100 Rupees on daily basis.  The economic empowerment support has resulted in the wider outcome of education of children as women have started to re-engage their children in education

			Survivals of fake/ forced/ early marriages is emerging at the village level through the business initiatives supported by the project.	
Economic support for income generation activities	86 women have received economical support for income generating activities  Business enterprises set up and managed by the 86 identified and supported women have gained wider acceptability and recognition for their enterprises among the villagers.	86 women are doing small scale business enterprises  Individual case studies which could inspire other survivors developed  4 times support supervision support has been provided to the entrepreneurs through field visit done by the project team members	86 survivors of bride-trafficking who have otherwise been seen as a curse to the village; have found recognition, respect and acceptance in their own villages and are in a position to champion the cause of vulnerability or falling victims to bride-trafficking.  86 women are running business and are economically empowered enough to lead dignified life.  The family members	86 women and their children otherwise having negative reputation in the villages as ‘run away’ from marital homes have attained recognition and respect from the villagers  Other women of similar background are coming forward and contacting the project for initiating their own economic enterprises.



			especially girl children of 6 women are saved from vulnerability to trafficking	
<b>1.4 Girl Friendly Space Centers</b>	10 Girl Friendly Space Center has been running smoothly	450 out of school/ drop out children involved with the centres for regular education	There is a reliable and safe space for girl children to recreate, enjoy among themselves, share, chat and play with their friends in the village; which has been helping them to ease the stress, tensions and anxiety during the COVID 19 Pandemic.	150 out of school children got enrolled in the formal education systems
	Centre performed actively in order to connecting the children even during COVID 19 with recreational activities	16300 times door to door level counseling done in order to making the parents aware of the threat of child marriage and unsafe migration	450 children have been educationally mainstreamed and are now regular students.	120 children were protected from falling in to the trap of working as child labor
		280 times assessment done with the children in order to reviewing their individual developments	450 Children are in process of changing individual behavior, concerning to way of talking, daily hygiene, and interaction to each other, etc. These	Regular follow up with the school enrolled children is being done by the project staffs.
		70 painting competition held with the children		Regular follow up with the parents of the children saved from child labor is being done by the project staffs.

among whom children as of now  
210 winners have reliable  
were awarded guidance and  
resource persons  
Children within the project  
conducted 260 whom they could  
times *Baal* approach at any  
*Panchayats* in time they would  
order to need support.  
solving their  
personal  
problems

**Recreation and  
Celebrative  
Opportunities  
to girl children**

Children jointly  
celebrated 15<sup>TH</sup>  
August as  
Independence  
Day; world  
environment  
day to protect  
greenery and  
Child Labor  
Day in order to  
promoting child  
education  
instead of  
working in  
fields; World  
Environment  
Day, Gandhi  
Jyanti,  
Children's Day,  
National Girl  
Child Day,  
Republic Day,  
Red Hand Day  
to stop violence  
against children

250 children  
took part in  
celebration  
and  
participated in  
songs on girl  
child rights on  
15<sup>th</sup> August  
180 children  
participated in  
painting on  
protection  
environment  
and exhibiting  
local crops  
benefited for  
health  
190 children  
sketched on  
importance of  
child education  
and threat of  
child labor

Children have  
become aware of  
their rights and  
available  
protective  
measures as well  
as mechanisms for  
ensuring their  
rights.  
Organization  
capacity has  
increased and  
ownership of  
recreational and  
celebrative  
programmes in the  
villages by the girl  
children has  
increased  
acceptability of  
girl child  
leadership in the  
villages.

390 girls coming  
up to shoulder  
the  
responsibilities  
of conducting  
celebrations  
around various  
occasions in the  
villages.  
390 girl children  
registering and  
maintaining  
participation  
during  
recreational  
activities

and 180 children International Women's Day, sketched on Global Action Month seasonal crops, 320 children took part in celebrating Gandhi Jyanti and 370 in Girl children National girl who usually child day, 410 have no in Republic recreation and Day , 450 in celebrative Red Hand Day opportunities and 350 got the children opportunity to participated organize during celebrations International under their own Women's Day. leadership.

**Promoting children to express themselves and take their own initiatives**

Opportunities for expressions of feelings, opinions and demands of the girl children have been established and sustained in the project villages.

Adverse situations like the COVID 19 Pandemic have been turned to

650 children involved in painting and slogan making on COVID 19 protecting steps

Children jointly made slogans and painting on preventive steps on the spread of COVID 19

Children are well aware of COVID 19 Protective steps

There are around 100 girl children who have the confidence to propagandize and popularize health behavior and practices which are necessary to prevent the spread of COVID 19

40% Children are using masks, washing hands regularly and maintaining social distance.

60% children have risen out of the initial anxieties, stress and tensions in the wake of the COVID 19 Pandemic.



	opportunities for girl child leadership by the participating girl children in the project interventions.			Pandemic.	
<b>1.5</b>	Formation and strengthening of community-based structures	20 Community based Support Structures formed in the form of vigilance committee and mahilla mandali having 20 members in each group	20 times interaction meeting held with Vigilance committees	There is increased commitment and village level determination emerging among the village communities on preventing early marriages and instances of bride-trafficking.	6 girls protected and saved from fake marriage.
	Strengthening and nurturing of 20 community-based support structures in the form of reliable social assets in dealing with the issues like early marriages and bride-trafficking.	Regular follow up consultations and meetings are taking place with the committee members and Mahila Mandali members.	400 local villagers are aware of preventive skills of child marriage and trafficking	Out of 40 members, 25 were involved in protesting fake marriage taking place in the respective village	All the 400 members are maintaining regular contacts and consultations with the families in their respective villages.

## ***Strategy 2: Developing Preventive Measures***

<b>Activities on strategy 2</b>	<b>Result achieved at output level (short term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>	<b>Results achieved at outcome level (long term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>
<b>2.1 Gender Talk with Youth Adolescent</b>	<p>The traditional taboos on girls and boys discussing together on any issue concerning themselves or the village started breaking through constructive discussions promoted among girls and boys through Gender Talks promoted by the project.</p> <p>4 Gender Talk Initiated 218 students are aware of the issue of Gender Based discrimination and its protective measures</p>	<p>218 Youths both girls and boys took part in Gender Talk Initiative</p> <p>Out of 218 participants, 35 girls shared their personal experiences on gender-based discriminations they have experienced.</p>	<p>Girls and boys come together for the first time in these villages to discuss on gender and concerns of women</p> <p>Supportive environment for addressing gender-based discriminations is gradually getting developed in the villages.</p>	<p>Solidarity feeling and fraternity feeling have emerged among the boys and girls in the project villages which was evident through the supportive behavior of boys towards girls during the gender talks.</p> <p>6 Girls were saved from domestic violence where one of them was even threatened by her step-mother of dire consequences if she approached for help from anyone.</p>

<p><b>2.2 Panchayat level oath Ceremony</b></p>	<p>2 Panchayat level Oath Ceremony was held with parents and primary stakeholders pledging their commitment towards girls' education and protection of the rights of the girl children.</p> <p>192 participants including panchayat representatives, school teachers, welfare representatives and local people took part in Panchayat Level Oath Ceremony</p>	<p>12 girls reflected on girl child rights and protection through presenting meaningful songs composed on this theme.</p> <p>12 local guardians shared on their decision of resuming their daughter's studies after getting involved with the organization</p>	<p>192 people from different sections of the communities were made aware of and sensitized on girl child rights and need of protection to their girl children.</p> <p>Supportive environment for addressing early marriages, school dropouts and bride-trafficking is gradually getting developed in the project villages.</p>	<p>15 local villagers contributed and supported the <i>Balika Panchayat</i> in protecting 12 girls from child marriage and 6 girls from fake marriage</p>
<p><b>2.3 Folk Festivals</b></p>	<p>4 Folk festival organized locally</p> <p>More than 2000 local villagers including children took part in the folk</p>	<p>35 children in collaboration with professional artists hired for the purpose, presented various</p>	<p>• 2000 Viewers oriented on preventive measures of fake/ forced and early marriage/ child marriage and SRHR.</p>	<p>The cultural presentations mostly focused on situation, need to curb and strategies to address the issue of fake/forced/early</p>



	festivals	cultural programmes sending out inspirational messages and motivational exhortations to the viewers and participants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Folk festivals have been working for community involvement</li> </ul>	marriages and other severe forms of gender-based discriminations.
<b>2.4 SBCC Materials</b>	3000 Girls and children are becoming aware to the preventives measure and situational sensitive to identity and deal violence, within the four walls, or outsides.	500 Swaragini folk booklet designed and printed 500 life skill guideline training and manual printed 500 Naya Savera educative book let printed	Above 18000 people are sensitized and motivated towards girl child rights and protection	Behaviour change communication tools are very effective in bringing about the desired change effectively. The issue of rights of a girl child and girl child education have been brought to the community through several SBCC tools.
<b>2.5 Betiya janm Mahautsav</b>	4 Betiya Janm-Mahautsav organized locally with girls/children and parents	2500 girls and 150 parents took part in the celebration	There are number of daughters whose birth dates are not been remembered or celebrated by their parents due to traditional gender biased attitude.	2500 girls assembled together to celebrate their existence.  150 Parents collaborated in order to

Girls in groups supporting girl come together for led events organizing event for them. They decorated cards, invite their own parents and villagers and cut the cakes.

### **Strategy 3: Creating and Enabling positive and supporting environment for girl child rights and protection**

<b>Activities on strategy 3</b>	<b>Result achieved at output level (short term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>	<b>Results achieved at outcome level (long term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>
3.1 Back to School Drive	<p>20 Attendance Award Ceremonies celebrated locally</p> <p>3110 children took part in attendance award ceremonies</p> <p>60 children were honored on maintaining their attendance at girl friendly space center</p>	<p>25 local teachers attended the events</p> <p>Out of the total participants of 900, 250 were boys, 650 were girls and 4 were teachers involved</p>	<p>3110 children are motivated towards maintaining education and pursuing further higher education</p> <p>25 local teachers were sensitized towards giving preferences to children hailing from poor economic background</p>	<p>390 children are maintaining their regular attendance at the Girl Friendly Space Centre</p> <p>39 parents are involved in running the Girl Friendly Space Centre, successfully and maintaining child attendance in the Centre.</p>

20 guardians were appreciated on giving preference to their child's education rather than sending them to work

**3.2 Behavioral Change Communication**

6 Cultural events organized

During the cultural events, 6 children performed on importance of education and threat of doing child labor

Levels of awareness on preventive measures on fake/ forced and early marriage of girls have increased in the project villages.

267 local villagers were made aware of preventive measures on fake/ forced and early marriage of girls

4 local artists were involved in effective BCC programmes conducted in the project villages

There is more self-motivated and self-owned initiatives taking place among the village community in support of the interventions by the Balika Panchayat and the project staffs.

45 local villagers contributed and supported Balika Panchayat in protecting 12 girls from child marriage and 6 girls from fake marriage and 6 girls from domestic violence

267 local villagers were reached through the cultural events conducted



3.3 Convergence and Coordination with Multi-Stakeholders and Networking Platforms	Effective coordination and strategic tandem is getting developed among various primary level stakeholders in the project villages for addressing early marriages, bride-trafficking and child labour.	89 multi stakeholder's participation in the campaign to protect the children from the clutches of local pimps especially during COVID 19	Strong coordination seen among the people and local stakeholders in order to taking preventive measures during COVID 19	39 children involved with Girl Child Friendly Centre were protected from trafficking
	4 Convergence Meetings held at local level with different sections of stakeholders including panchayat representatives, school teachers, public representatives, media, CBOs which have widened the participation of all possible stakeholders	100 families changed their decision of migrating to other cities during COVID 19 Pandemic	Panchayat representatives, school teachers, public representatives, media, CBOs, guardians and other committed individuals have started coming into to the forefront for supporting the efforts of the Balika Panchayat and project staff in addressing early marriages, bride-trafficking and child labour.	200 girls are saved from being targeted by the traffickers especially during COVID 19 Pandemic  8 local stakeholders such as panchayat representatives and local teachers supported in protecting 12 girls from child marriage, 6 girls from fake marriage and 6 girls from domestic violence

around the issues of early marriages, bride-trafficking and child labour

“Womanish 2021- Being woman is a proud” event was held out at State Patna.	80 different section people involving critical stakeholders, policy makers, youths, academia, senior Journalist, representatives from Development sectors, and girls from Balika Panchayats had taken part in the state event.	As a Honorable Guests and Media Friends: Hon'ble Deputy CM, Bihar, Shri Tarkishore Prasad ji; Hon'ble Minister of Art & Culture, Shree Aalok Ranjan Jha ji; Shri Mithilesh Mishra (IAS), IG, Jail; Smt. Nisha Jha, (Advisor to Minister on Child and Woman Development); Miss Nafisa Binte Safique (CFO- UNICEF, Bihar); Prof. V. Mukunda Das (Director- Chandragupt Institute of Management Patna) ; Shri Ravi Chandra (Regional Manager- State Bank of India); Mr. Saurabh Kumar	Documentary Movie “I Exist” on the transformative Course travelled by the victim and vulnerable of Bridal trafficking, released  Art Gallery with the title ‘Color and Complexion are Not My Identity’ was exhibited.  A Study Report and facts about how COVID 19 is affecting individual lives especially of women, girls and children in context of fake, forced and early marriage was launched
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(Advocate- 38 Youth Supreme Court of Leaders from 38 India); Shri districts of Swaym Prakash Ji Bihar were (Editor- ZEE awarded in Bihar/Jharkhand); order to Shri Amarnath mobilizing Tewary (Sr. youths for social Correspondent, change and to The Hindu); Shri contribute SGDs Kanhaiya Bhelari, through igniting Senior Journalist youth power. (News Hat); Shri Rajnish Kumar, Senior Journalist (News 18); Ms Sumita Jaiswal, Senior Journalist (Dainik Jagran); Ms. Savita, Reporter (Hindustan); Ms. Juhi, Reporter (Prabhat Khabar); were involved in order to promoting girl child rights and protection issues in the context of Bihar.





## **Community Based Alternative Care Model for Children**

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**Goal:**

**Children who are vulnerable and do not receive adequate care and protection, will live in a stable family situation, are securely attached, protected from child marriage and are developing well.**

**Objectives:**

- 1. There are enough care givers who are equipped to offer **Kinship care children** security, who let them grow up as normal as possible and who are able to provide appropriate care.**
- 2. **Kinship care children** have a voice in the shaping of their lives and taking stand against child marriage**
- 3. The child has a good relationship with the parents/ guardians and the network surrounding the child is strengthened and committed to provide a safe and protective environment**

**Strategy 1: Foster/kinship families and vulnerable families in the programme receive support in obtaining an alternative support for the whole family and for taking care of the kinship care children**

<b>Activities on strategy 1</b>	<b>Result achieved at output level (short term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>	<b>Results achieved at outcome level (long term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>
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## ***Annual Report April 2020 to March 2021***

<b>1.1</b>	Coordination Cum Interaction With concern Multiple Stakeholders	2 Interaction done with the Representatives of child protection systems such as JJB Members and Child Welfare Committee	69 children are oriented on basic child rights and available welfare facilities and programs	Children are voicing out against domestic violence with Alternative Care Children	21 Children had initiated in protecting their friends from becoming the victim of daily voice from their guardians
		2 Meetings held with PRI Members regarding the listing of beneficiaries for welfare schemes	Listing and profiling of 120 vulnerable families done regarding welfare support	51 vulnerable families are linked up with welfare schemes	5 Children took stand against early marriage 15 children raised voice against domestic violence 51 vulnerable families are getting benefit of welfare schemes
<b>1.2</b>	Monthly Stipend as Back Up Education to Kinship care children	60 Alternative Care children are getting monthly stipend	60 Alternative Care children participation at regular basis	60 Alternative care children are maintaining regularity in school	Feedback from teachers
		15 Times review done with the children receiving stipend		Reduced Dropout rate of 60 Alternative Care children	Feedback from friends and families Success Stories Home visit and monitoring
				60 Alternative care Children are protected from child marriage	



<b>1.3</b>	Food Basket to the Kinship care families	60 Alternative Care children receives Food Basket at monthly basis	Basic Need, Nutrition and personal hygiene of 60 Alternative Care children is maintained	60 Alternative Care Children are protected from Extreme Hunger and helplessness	Individual tracking Home visit Feedback from children
		Young girls receives sanitary napkin to maintain personal hygiene		60 Alternative Care children are protected from doing labor work	Stories of improvement
		60 Alternative Care Families receives extra support in taking care of concern children As especial intervention Mask and other hygiene material, soap were distributed to the children and care giver families		60 Alternative care children are not treated as Extra Burden from their relatives	

**Strategy 2:** Families oriented on parenting skill and preventive measures of child marriage to be able to create a safe and protective environment for the children living without parental care

Activities on strategy 2	Result achieved at	Key indicators	Results achieved at	Key indicators
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		<i>output level (short term)</i>		<i>outcome level (long term)</i>	
<b>2.1</b>	Orientation of Caregivers Association at village level	6 Orientation of Care Giver Association done  212 Care givers are oriented on parental care, welcoming environment for children and keeping extra attention to Alternative care children	6 Care Giver Association strengthened locally having 20 members in each group  Participation of Care Givers maintained during meeting and orientation	6 Care Giver Association are functioning as watch dog for Alternative care children  60 Alternative Care children are protected from child marriage, violence and neglect	Home visit  Individual feed-back from children
<b>2.2</b>	Meeting with Care Giver Association [ Abhibhawak Sangh] on Parenting Skill and Preventive measures of child marriage	120 Care givers are briefed on threat of child marriage and maintain extra care to alternative care children  120 Care Givers are coordinating each other in developing positive and	45 Follow Up meeting done with Care givers	Coordination and understanding maintain among the care givers  60 children are getting welcoming and positive environment at home and in village	Home visit  Feed-back from children  Attendance register  Participation list of children at Baal Manch  Success Stories

		protective environment for children at village level	120 Care Givers are been the active supporters of No Child Marriage Campaign	60 Children are maintaining attendance in school	
				60 Children are participating regularly during the activities of <i>Baal Manch</i>	
				60 Children are saved from becoming the easy victim of child marriage or any other threats	
<b>2.3</b>	Child Advisors follow the development of the children and their families according to the home visit plan.	Individual visits and interaction done with children and care givers	Home visits of 60 Alternative Care Children done	60 Alternative Care Children received special attention and care by care givers	Updated reports of children
		Updated profile, individual care plan and report of the 60		60 Alternative care children are benefited from	Home visit report of 60 children  Care plan of 60 children



Alternative care children compiled and followed up, case to case basis

individual care plan and updated report and suggestion

60 Alternative care children are prevented from sudden elopement and neglect

**Strategy 3:** Platform in communities, GP and district level (child clubs, vigilance committee) with special attention for children in alternative care are established and supervised

<b>Activities on strategy 3</b>		<b>Result achieved at output level (short term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>	<b>Results achieved at outcome level (long term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>
<b>3.1</b>	Functioning of Child clubs for mental and physical growth of the children	2 Child Clubs are functioning effectively	2 Child Clubs	77 Children are becoming vocal and vibrant	Attendance Register Activity Register Minutes
		77 children are participating regularly at the centres	Attendance of 82 Children	Presentation skill of the children increased	Photos
		46 Weekly Assessment Activities held with the children in order to review and update their	Report and activity register of the centres	77 Children are registering their regular participation during multi-dimensional	

development  
status

activities

138 Children  
won prize and  
appreciation  
during  
Recreational  
activities in the  
form of  
different  
competitions  
held at centre

Children  
skilled of  
sharing and  
solving daily  
life problems

27 Alternative  
Care Children  
jointly  
celebrated their  
birthday by  
cutting cake  
and decorating  
balloons' and  
ribbons

49 times  
children  
mutually  
initiated Baal  
Panchayat to  
identify and  
resolving daily  
life problems

14 Recreational  
Activities in the  
form of

		<p>painting, slogan, song, story, joke</p> <p>3 times children interacted directly with PRI and School Teachers</p>			
<b>3.2</b>	Folk Art Performing Anti Child Marriage Show	<p>344 People are briefed on threat and preventive measures of child marriage</p> <p>9 Local folk Artist involved in presenting the theme using local vocabulary and dialects</p>	<p>10 Events held in project area on threat and preventive measures of child marriage and importance of child education</p>	<p>344 People sensitized and took oath for not marrying their daughters in teen age</p> <p>Building of Supporting environment for children</p>	<p>Taken action by the care givers and local villagers</p> <p>Success Stories</p>
<b>3.3</b>	Vigilance Structure for children	Vigilance committees are keeping track on the functioning of Child Club and for maintaining participation of the children	2 Vigilance committee	2 Vigilance Committees are strengthened as Support Structures for Alternative Care Children and other village children	Participation and involvement of vigilance committee members in execution of project

<b>3.4</b>	Monthly follow up with Vigilance structure and the child clubs	8 Times Interaction meeting held with Vigilance Committee  Vigilance committee members are reviewing their individual role and responsibility in promoting Gate Keeping for Alternative care children	40 Members	Coordination established with Alternative care children and concern families  60 Alternative care children and care givers received positive support from vigilance committees	Participation and involvement of vigilance committee members in execution of project
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**Strategy 4:** Cooperation with multiple stakeholders and schools, teachers giving special attention to the children and adolescent on maintaining regularity and taking stand against child marriage

	<b>Activities on strategy 4</b>	<b>Result achieved at output level (short term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>	<b>Results achieved at outcome level (long term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>
<b>4.1</b>	Attendance award in local school and Recognition and honour to parents who do not fall into the trap of child	70 Children received Honour and Appreciation on maintaining attendance in school  6 Parents	18 Attendance Award Held	Confidence Building of the children after getting awards and recognition  Child Participation	Attendance Register



	marriage	appreciated by School Principal for sending their children school , regularly, and taking Anti Child Marriage Stand			increased especially regarding girl children	
		Coordination developed with 6 local schools for creating welcoming environment for children especially regarding Alternative Care Children				
4.2	No Child Marriage Campaign in local School	323 School Children are oriented on dimensions of child marriage  29 children involved in Anti child marriage campaign  12 Children receives Award on giving	4 Events Organized  323 School children participation	Building of positive environment in local school for taking stand against child marriage	Events register Minutes	

presentation on preventive steps of child marriage at individual and family level

**Strategy 5:** Aftercare projects are set up; information and guidance for Kinship adolescent and youth on their path to adulthood are realized.

	<b>Activities on strategy 5</b>	<b>Result achieved at output level (short term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>	<b>Results achieved at outcome level (long term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>
5.1	Peer Learning / Mitra	51 Interaction held with Peer Groups	6 Peer Groups	Peer Groups strengthened and united	Member list Presentation skill of
5.2	Training of Adolescent and children on Preventive Skills of Child Marriage	91 Children are aware of threat and challenges of child marriage  Members of Mitra Mandali starts talking on the negative aspects of child marriage  Team Members are visiting the children's parents to keep a close look	2 Training held	91 Children are enriched with preventive measures of child marriage  Children are raising voice and supporting each other in taking decision, with in the four walls or outsides	Success Stories

**Strategy 6:** Convergence is being strengthen for the promotion of cooperation between caregivers families, Local bodies, local systems and organizations and for initiating No Child Marriage Campaign

		<b>Alternative Care for Children</b>				
<b>Activities on strategy 6</b>		<b>Result achieved at output level (short term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>	<b>Results achieved at outcome level (long term)</b>	<b>Key indicators</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	Advocacy for children and Creating Platforms, Panchayat to State level, to raise awareness on the situation of orphans and vulnerable children in the region the program works in.	74 People including PRI members, representatives of welfare programs, school teachers, care givers, children, and local villagers discussed jointly on the importance of Alternative Care for children living with paternal and maternal relatives	1 Awareness Event on Alternative Care and Protection conducted	60 Alternative care children are receiving positive, protective and welcoming environment by the villagers, parents and school	Stories from Care Givers and the Children	
		3 Parents receives especial Awards and Appreciation for taking better care to Alternative care children				



**Emergency Relief & Crisis Intervention  
during Covid 19 Pandemic**



<b>Context</b>	<p>COVID 19 Lockdown most affected the lives and livelihood of marginalized section communities. Old age women, girls and children are been the most suffers. They completely depend on daily wages to manage food and other necessary expenses. Situation is more pathetic in remote and rural villages, close to International Border. Numbers of families are bounded to face extreme hunger and helplessness. Circumstance is becoming more pitiable especially for Mahadalits, Aaadiwasi and minority population.</p> <p>Looking to the demur situation, Bhoomika Vihar getting the support from multiple donor agencies had helped out through giving Grocery Kits including raw food items and hygiene materials in order to enable them in fighting COVID 19 .</p>
<b>Intervention Area</b>	Araria, Katihar and Suppaul
<b>Target Population Background</b>	They basically are daily wages laborer. Most male members prefer to migrate during rainy season and during and after flood for livelihood.
<b>Reach out</b>	Number of Households- 35770 Number of direct beneficiaries – 5110
<b>Selection Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Disabled Persons</li><li>• Big families having more female members especially younger and teenage girls</li><li>• Women headed families</li><li>• Semi- Orphan children living with their paternal and maternal relatives</li><li>• Old age women households</li><li>• Families having more children</li><li>• Families especially the children that have not eaten</li></ul>

foods for many days

- Survivals of Bride Trafficking and forced marriage

### **Challenges**

Present situation has been getting more worsen. Lakhs of migrant workers are coming back to their villages or their homes. We are also facing scarcity and problems while purchasing due to lacking and unavailability of Ration at one stop and increasing & fluctuation of the price in local market, especially the condition is more pathetic in remote areas.

- Flood and Water Logging
- Scarcity of food stock at one shop
- Lack of transportation
- Less mobility and challenges in making pass from local authority
- Rumor and superstition / caste wise discrimination
- Instead of having physical distancing, people prefer to avoid each other and keen to keeping social distancing
- Manipulation by some rich people
- Fear of COVID 19
- Withdraw by some volunteers not to go out of their homes due to fear of mind and confusion
- Villagers do not prefer to use Mask or Sanitizer while moving out or taking Relief Materials

### **Strategy Adopted to encounter the challenges**

- Training, sensitization and briefing to the team members through using technology
  - Formation of Purchasing Committee involving local villagers and stakeholders
  - Identification and listing of vulnerable families in need of
  - Maintaining physical distancing during distribution
  - Involving local volunteers in dealing with the families
  - Maintaining distribution register under the supervision of the purchasing committee
-

- Maintain small groups while distribution
- Support Kits will be delivered directly to some houses who were not able to move out [ surviving with illness, handicapped, pregnancy]
- Team members had also tried to counsel the villagers to remove fear of mind and confusions of COVID 19 as per the guidelines of Government and Unicef. They, using mask and maintaining distancing, were moving door to door to convince the people and to maintain harmony and humanity.

**Uniqueness  
of the  
current  
Intervention**

In any emergency, concern related to girls' personal hygiene is often ignored. So in the present situation, we distributed sanitary napkins to the girls. Women and girls are the most vulnerable during disaster. S we included Mother and Baby Care Kit for pregnant and lactating mothers.

**Delivery  
Model**

The purpose of the intervention has been to support 35770 families of the migrant labors, daily farm/non-farm labors and other poorest families highly vulnerable to bride-trafficking, child marriages, child labor and other such social evils by helping them to tide over the pandemic without aggravating the vulnerabilities they already are facing.

With this proposed COVID-19 response project; the organization planned to integrate the components of *Ensuring Dry Ration; Hygiene Kit including sanitation materials and sanitary napkins and Mother and Baby Care Kit* for girls and women; and Preventive measures in order to address the increased vulnerabilities in these areas along with addressing the pandemic situation in the wake of COVID-19. We adopted Community Based Approach while selecting the vulnerable families and reaching out to them.

**Findings**

Poor family children had food after several days. These Children were bounded to only have boiled corn grains for eating.

There are many villages where no one wants to go or intervene, we have reached those families.

Due to hunger, women and children were becoming victims of violence in many families. We especially had targeted those families and tried to overcome the situation.

**Learning**

There were many small villages which were surrounded by water from all sides. They had nothing to eat. Men of their homes who went out to earn. They could not return. Bhoomika team members themselves built the boat with their own hands and somehow delivered ration to the villages. It was a very sensitive moment when those especially young children started crying after seeing rice. Many pregnant women were very scared about their child inside the womb. Because she was also unable to eat properly. They thought that if they talk to anyone, then their child will also have to suffer due to Covid 19. Not only did we give ration and nutritious diet to pregnant women, but they also tried to clear confusion in their mind.

There have also been many experiences where the old widow mother was thrown out of the house by her own children. They were not helping the old age widow mothers in any way. They were managing food, somehow, by demanding in the village. But in the present time, people scared to help out due to the infection and fear of mind. We especially helped the older women who were neglected by their own families.

Many such families were also chosen where due to lack of food, violence was happening with women and children. We had not only given them dry ration but also



saved number of women and children from being victims of violence, with the help of local Panchayat members.

We made our especial reach out to physically disabled people and families of migrant workers. Physically weak people especially the women were neither able to get out of their homes nor could they get any help.

Migrant Worker's family suddenly stopped receiving money. Because number of migrant workers were stranded in other cities. Even if someone returns, they did not get work, locally. Lack of work had increased their troubles. Such families were identified and helped out, thoroughly.

Especially we helped young women who were victims of Bride Trafficking and forced marriage. Local brokers were following them so that they could be implicated again by giving false promises. Our team saved them all from victimization and unsafe migration, with the help of local people.

#### **Some Concern**

Hunger and helplessness have often made children and women their easy prey. This is the time when brokers roam in the villages to take advantage of their helplessness. The area already is witnessed to heavy migration, child marriage and Bride trafficking. Current situation will create more vulnerability and welcoming ground for girl, women and children

This is actually a challenging situation, both at mental level and society level, for the grass root level workers who actively are working in those affected areas.

Thousands of people are facing hunger. In this situation, it is challenging in itself to reach selected people.

Migrant workers are coming back to their villages but there is no appropriate facility of future livelihood option for them.







# Success Stories

*During the most acute economic crisis and loss of livelihoods the situation of the already vulnerable families in the project areas has become highly vulnerable and many times the brokers became successful in getting mal-intentions worked out. With the support of the project a number of such victims have been able to restart their lives and rekindle their dreams. The project has established effective community contact and one-to-one relationship with the identified vulnerable families as well as other families in the project area. The changed situation in the wake of COVID 19 Pandemic vulnerability to fake marriages and bride-trafficking has expanded itself and has found new inroads into a number of families that have been impoverished by the pandemic situation. During this period the rapport and trust of the community gained by the project has been behind saving a number of victims and protecting a number of vulnerable girls. A number of victims have returned to their home villages during this period of lockdown whom the project has been a great support for re-beginning their lives. It is also become a unique feature of the project that the small business enterprises the survivors of trafficking have started to run in their villages from economic sustainability carry the names of their daughters in wall-boards and sign boards.*

## *Muniya Devi*, daughter of Dhuran Paswan

*hailing from the Paswan Tola village of Rampur Kodarkahi Panchayat in Araria district went through extreme miseries as the result of the fake marriage to which she was subjected to. The broker for her marriage was a man from her own village who had connections with the trafficking racket. Her parents were approached with the lucrative offer that the groom had his own house and was earning Rs. 15000/- per month from an established job. Her parents believed this and hoped that their daughter would have a prosperous life though out of state. The groom's side bore all the expenses related to the marriage and her marriage was conducted hastily and in secrecy. She was taken to Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh after her*

marriage. Once in the marital home she was subjected to physical and sexual violence. She found that her so called husband had no house of his own. After some months of exploitation in Kanpur, she was forcibly taken to Banaras. She was threatened to be killed if she resisted. Somehow she found an opportunity to run away from that house. She took train to her home district. When she came back to her village, she was no more welcome by her family and her villagers. She had no means to survive and feared she would have to go back to the same misery as she had no support at all. It was the timely support she received from the project that helped her to rekindle her dreams. She has a small girl child also to take care of. Once she was made part of the Bhoomika Vihar support system through this project; she was first of all provided traumatic counseling to overcome the trauma she had undergone. She was provided multiple rounds of confidence building exercises by the project team members. She was supported to gain respect and support from the family and villagers as a woman who would want to rebuild her life. She was supported by the project to establish a vegetable vending shop for the management of which she was provided managerial and operational support on a day-to-day basis by the project team till the time she found confidence to run the business by herself. Today as a result of the social, moral and economic support of Bhoomika Vihar and the project; she is a successful small business woman in the village with a vegetable vending business that is generating a reliable income for her dreams to take off. She is a constant participant in all the empowerment and support interventions by Bhoomika Vihar. Now she is feeling safe and hopes that she would be able to lead her life with dignity.

***Renu Devi*** is a daughter of Rajkishor Malakar

hailing from Rampur Malitola village of Rampur Kodarkati Panchayat in Araria district. She was married off at her early ages to another state. The marriage offer was brought by one of her distant relatives who had connections with the trafficking racket. Since the talk was initiated by a person known and trusted by the family her parents had no rethinking about the offer. They fell into the lucrative offer which also fetched them a monetary gain as well in return to marrying her off to a man from Uttar Pradesh. The parents received Rs. 7000/- as well as the expenses on the marriage was born by the groom's side. Once she reached the



*marital home she was to put to starvation and was beaten up badly. She was made to serve as a domestic worker and was subjected to sexual exploitation by the family members and by other persons. When she resisted, she was again put to starvation till she consents. Somehow she was able to run away from the house and take the train to Araria. She had remained in her marital place for more than ten years suffering all kinds of physical and sexual violence inflicted upon her. Now that she had four girl children and one boy child to be taken care of she found herself in a highly compromising situation. Once her daughters are growing up the traffickers are targeting her daughters. In order to save her daughters from the kind of exploitations and miseries she had to undergo in her life; she approached Bhoomika Vihar. The organization interacted with her family and the community around who had been holding the view that since she was once married off; she should have remained in her marital home suffering whatever she may have to. She was in a state of helplessness and trauma when she was found by Bhoomika Vihar. With the support of Bhoomika Vihar and the project her creativity in the field of craft work found a new realm of income generation to support her live. She was given support for economically producing craft and other useful articles from materials like hardboards, paper, thermocol materials etc. which she sells off from the shop she has established. Today with the efforts of the project and Bhoomika Vihar she has found supporting persons within the village. Her daughters are now getting educated. She has started dreaming of the future of her daughters.*

***Nisha Kumari*** is 16 years old. Her family

*consists of four sisters and one brother. They do not have their father and have only a small house to live in. after the demise of her father; the entire family became a soft and lucrative target for the many persons in the village. Some of them tried to sexually exploit her mother. Taking advantage of the family's poverty; a broker won the confidence of her mother and her marriage was fixed. As part of COVID 19 related social survey the team members of Bhoomika Vihar reached her house. One of her sisters shared the story of fixing Nisha's marriage. When Nisha was approached by the team members; she confessed that she is not willing to get married at this early age and she wanted to continue her studies. Her mother was counseled many times by the project team members and finally she*

*realized the trap she was getting in to. In the Panchayat Meeting; Nisha's mother took the pledge that she would not marry off Nisha. Not only that she would ensure the education of her daughters and would not fall in to the trap of early marriages for any of her daughters. Nisha started attending the school. For sustaining the change, she and her family has undergone; Bhoomika Vihar has linked her family with relevant government schemes to which they were entitled to. Nisha also receives a stipend from the project which enables her to continue her studies.*

*There are a number of girls like Nisha who become highly vulnerable with the demise of their father who usually is the bread-winner. There are a number of helpless mothers like Nisha's mother who haplessly has become the head of the family. Bhoomika Vihar is giving shape to the dreams of such daughters and mothers. The kind of change in the situation of these daughters and mothers would not have been possible without ground level commitment and dedication of the Bhoomika Vihar team.*

## ***B. Tasleema*** *When she was 15 years old; a*

*marriage proposal was brought from West Bengal by her aunt. The groom was twice her age. At the time of marriage, both her guardian and the mediator were given money by the local broker. It was also promised to send the money even further. She was taken to West Bengal after the marriage. After some months; the man took her to another house where she was subjected to sexual abuse by the men in the new house. Information regarding the groom was completely wrong. The boy lived in another's house. They used to physically harass her.*

*She lived there for 8 months. She managed to flee from the house and somehow took train to her home village. At the village she was not welcome by her family and the community. She gave birth to a girl child who is two years old now. She was supported by the project and now she is engaged in a small business of rice extraction from paddy and selling it in the nearby villages. As she is without any family or community support; she is among the most vulnerable category of survivors. With the support of the project she now feels herself safe.*

*There are many cases where a poor family is implicated in the guise of a false marriage by giving a lure. Many girls return back and many never return. Families also get caught in the trap of such marriage due to being free from burden.*

*Some victims of fake marriage who come back do not get the support of the family at all. In the end, she goes back due to no choice.*

**Fulmuni** *Fulmuni was 6 years old when her father died.*

*Phulmuni comes from a tribal Santhali caste. Even today, in tribal society, children, especially girls, are sent for wages. After the father's sudden demise, Fulmuni's only support was her mother, who had never been to school herself. Phulmuni also used to work with her mother in another farm.*

*Phoolmuni was identified during the survey conducted by the organization Phoolmuni was been linked up with Bal Manch to be involved with other children and later on was also enrolled in a local school for education. Phulmuni was very attentive in reading. She became the leader of the Mitra Mandali and been involved as a winner in all activities.*

*Fulmani has been associated with the organization since 2013.*

*Phulmuni's brother-in-law did not like her to be read further. The brother-in-law allured her mother under the pretext of marriage and offer and took Phulmuni to his house. Fhulmani marriage was fixed up forcefully. Meanwhile, during the home visit by the team members, it was found that Fulmani was taken away, forcefully, by her brother-in-laws.*

*Team members had to seek support from local Panchayat. After the rampant intervention, Fulmuni was back to her mother's house. She was not ready for the marriage.*

*Her mother was also told that if Phulmuni is forcibly married, the case will be lodged in the police station.*

*Fulmuni is saved now from forced marriage.*

*She wants to become a teacher after getting higher education so that she can bring positive changes in the tribal area.*

*The result of continuous effort is that Phulmuni is the first in her family who has passed her tenth examination and is studying at 11th. She also connects other*

*children in the tribal area with the BAL Manch and Mitra Mandali to avoid any misfortune with children.*

**Roopa** *When Roopa was 7, her mother died due to a long illness.*

*Not even a year was spent properly and the father remarried. The father was not agreed to take the responsibility of Rupa after marriage and left her at her paternal grandmother's house. The financial condition of the old grandmother was also not good. So Rupa started working in the farm of others with her grandmother.*

*When the situation became more serious, Rupa's maternal grandmother requested Bhoomika Vihar for support.. Rupa was very ill at that time. Rupa's condition became miserable by working in the fields of others. She did not go to school. If she did not get work, she had to stay hungry, as she stated.*

*Team members tried to talk to Rupa's father but her father refused to accept Rupa's responsibility. Rupa's stepmother did not want Rupa to be with her. Rupa was first counseled. She was then attached to the Child Club to boost her mentally. When she started spending time with the other child, slowly forgetting her past, she started a new life. She was able to feel her childhood. When Rupa started feeling like other child, she was enrolled in a local school so that she could complete her further studies.*

*Often times, Her Grandmother was lured to get Rupa Marriage. Team members had to frequently visit her to save them from these kinds untoward.*

*Rupa gets a dry ration along with her education expenses so that her hunger does not come in the way of her dreams.*

*Rupa currently studies in class 4. She participates in all activities of Child Club. She has also joined coaching separately so that she can complete her studies better.*



*Rupa wants to become a teacher so that she can teach other poor children. During home visit, team members frequently discussed with her grand- mother for not taking any hasty decision regarding her marriage*

**Ehsaan** *Both his parents died when Ehsan was 4 years old.*

*The father died due to an accident while working. After the father left, the mother died prematurely due to shock. Mother had asthma. After the father's departure, treatment could not be done properly, so the mother also died.*

*After the death of the parents, the Ehsaan became lonely, and then he resided with his cousin. His cousin started caring for him. But due to poor economic condition of the house, they also had a lot of difficulty in upbringing. Ehsaan's cousin and uncle - aunt were also doing some kind of labourer work. He also had to contribute. Ehsaan also used to work in the fields with him occasionally. But there was a lot of difficulty in running the house due to not getting daily work, after which Ehsaan's cousin went to Delhi to earn, since then Ehsaan now lives with his uncle and aunt.*

*Team members contacted Ehsaan during visiting his village. The situation of Ehsaan was quite bad. He was quite weak it seemed as if he had not eaten properly for several days. As long as the cousin was there, he had no problem but after that he became a burden on his uncle and aunt..*

*His uncle Aunty was not happy when Ehsan was attached to Child Club, as he was used to do house chores. Initially the family protested a lot. Then with the help of the local Panchayat, they were explained and counseled for having positive response to Ehsaan.*

*He was enrolled in the school so that he could complete his studies. Ehsaan was also given food stuff along with the expenses of studies so that he would not go hungry and devote his mind to reading. He is a talented child of Child Club. He loves doing painting. But still weeps when he misses his mother.*

*Ehsaan currently read in class 2. He has many dreams in his eyes which he wants to fulfill. Hopefully, we will be able to give him a suitable path.*

## **Surajmuni** *12 year old Surajmuni has 1 brother*

*and 2 sisters. Surajmuni belongs to the Santhal community and the main occupation of her household is a laborer. They live by making small house on government land. Surajmuni was somehow able to study till class five, which later she had to stop further studies at the behest of her father.*

*Local volunteers and youths reached Surajmuni's house during counseling sessions in the villages. They saw that Surjamuni's parents were beating her up. On enquiry, it was found that Surajmuni wanted to study further but her parents did not like it. Girls are not allowed to get higher study, as they replied. But Surajmuni wants to break this tradition of her family so whenever she talks about studying she is treated unfairly.*

*An attempt was made by the volunteers and youths of Bhoomika Vihar to sensitize Surjamuni's guardian towards the education of daughters. Neighbourers were also briefed on the importance of girl education in order to developing a supporting environment for girls. Constant visit and counseling to the parents finally had impacted on. Surajmuni parents become ready to support her daughter's dream.*

*Surajmuni wants to become a teacher. So that she can give free education to the children of tribal society. Surajmuni also participates in the youth meetings and also motivates other girls of her community so that they too can become active members of the youth committee and take forward the social cause of the village.*

*There is a lot of confusion among the people about the COVID 19 vaccination in the village. People think that if they get vaccinated, they will either become weak or they can die.*

## **Aarti** *12 year old Aarti is an active member of Yuva Samiti and is*

*very sensitive towards the issues of her village. Both parents work as agricultural laborer to feed their children. They don't have their own land as they reside on*

govt. land. She has 1 brother and 2 sisters. As there is no supporting environment for girl education, she had to struggle a lot so that her studies could continue. Parents still want to educate sons but the thinking towards daughters remains negative. She as an active leader had awakened villagers on many issues. Along with this, she also started talking to people about vaccination.

Aarti went door-to-door with her young friends, not only advising them to take preventive measures of COVID 19, but also inspired many people to get connected with local PHC. Number of people got vaccinated. She also played an active role while making and distributing masks, on the basis of which she was, rewarded the Hero Award.

Aarti wants to become a social worker so that she can sensitize people towards daughters. Currently Aarti is working as a corona warrior and motivating people for vaccination.

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