

NCDHR-ALL INDIA DALIT MAHILA ADHIKAR MANCH (AIDMAM)



Capacitation programme for Dalit women elected representative (DWER), February 16-17, Uttar Pradesh

As a part of AIDMAM's ongoing initiative on Access to justice, a two day training programme was organized in Uttar Pradesh. The meeting witnessed participation of DWERs and Dalit women activists from three district of UP and two districts of Bihar. The participants comprised a fresh batch of DWER from UP. The participants were given detailed inputs on Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and SCs & STs (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, familiarizing them with the concept of gender and the dynamics of patriarchy. The training also threw light on Sexual harassment at workplace, the different forms of harassment, and the importance of constitution of a Sexual harassment committee. The training was facilitated by a resource person from Jagori.



AIDMAM initiated a network of Civil society members to address the issue of violence against Dalit women in Panipat, Haryana, on February 10, with an aim to create a strong network of Dalits' rights activists, Dalit advocates and community based organizations. The participants shared the Dalit rights situation in Haryana, dominance and role of caste panchayats and Dalit women situation in Haryana. All participants stressed on the need for a stronger solidarity network of individuals and organizations working towards equal and just society. The meeting concluded with the resolution to schedule more follow up meetings for further strengthening the network to protect Dalit women from all kinds of caste induced violence.



NCDHR- DALIT ARTHIK ADHIKAR ANDOLAN (DAAA)

Press Release on SCP & TSP of Union Budget 2011-12, February 28

NCDHR did an initial analysis of the allocations announced and funds earmarked for SCP and TSP in the union budget 2011-12, which was placed in the Parliament on Feb 28. This was done for an advance release to the print and electronic media. As reported by the media, in this union budget, fund allocations for SCs and STs were to be put under separate head of accounts (Minor head 789 and 796) for the first time. The FM also had said that the government may be allocating in the range of Rs. Cr. 45,000-50,000. However, the analysis revealed that the UPA has **denied** SCs Rs. Cr. 24,570 in SCSP and STs Rs. Cr. 10530 in TSP.

Bihar Success Story and Analysis of 2011-12

Bihar Government has opened the vehemently demanded minor code 789 for the SCP in the budget for 2011-12, presented on February 25. DAAA-NCDHR had been advocating for it for the last 3 years. Several rounds of meetings were held in 2010 and last in January 2011, with the Minister of Social Welfare and the Joint Secretary before the budget session. Out of 62 Departments, 25 have made allocations, which marks an increase of over 20 departments compared to the previous year.

Consultation with the MLAs, February 21, Jaipur, Rajasthan

A consultation with the Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) was organised by the DAAA team of Jaipur, together with BARC. Fruitful discussions took place with 12 MLAs on the Sambhal Gram Yojana on SCP.



Pre-budget consultation with the Chief Minister of Rajasthan

DAAA participated in the Pre-budget Consultation with the Chief Minister of Rajasthan and Ministers and Secretaries from all the departments. It presented the case on SCP and the concerns articulated were admitted by the Chief Minister of state, with an assurance that the state budget for 2011-2012 would endorse all demands raised. Demands raised were- opening of SCP minor code 789 in all departments for enabling clear allocations and making the funds trackable; allocations according to population percentage; appointment of Nodal Officers; and improvement in Hostel for SCs students.

Press Conference and Consultation with the MLAs, February 21, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh



A press conference and a state level consultation on the Status of the Special Component Plan was organized in partnership with Dalit organizations in UP. A state

Planning Commission Director were present in the consultation, besides approx. 40 NGOs being a part of it. A state level SCP Andolan (campaign) was resolved to be initiated.

State level Consultation on SCP with MLAs, February 20, Bhubaneswar, Orissa

The research and findings of SCP and TSP budget tracking done by DAAA and CYSD were shared with the MLAs. The key challenges before the SCP & TSP were highlighted in conjunction with key recommendations. Subsequently, there was planning and discussion among the MLAs, where they voiced out their respective problems and how the budget is being implemented for the SCs & STs. The Former Finance Minister of state, Mr. Panchanana Kanungo, stated the need for such continuous engagements with the MLAs on the subject. There were also discussions on raising SCP and TSP related critical questions in the assembly session by the MLAs for the just allocation and implementation of the SCP and TSP. The consultation was held with support from the UNDP, CYSD, CBGA, & OMASA.

Rally in Rajasthan, February 18

A rally was organised for the Implementation of SCP, by the networks from across Rajasthan in Jaipur, including DAAA. Hundreds of people from different organization attended the Rally and submitted Demands for the Dalits to Chief Minister for 2011-12 state budget.

National Seminar on SCP, February 6, Patna, Bihar

A National Seminar on the SCP was conducted jointly by Vanchit Prathisthan and DAAA-NCDHR. The occasion had among its distinguished members, the Governor, Shri. Devanand Konwar, Mr. Harkishore Singh, the Deputy Chairman of the Bihar Planning Board Commission, and Mr. Sanjay Paswan, the Former Union Minister

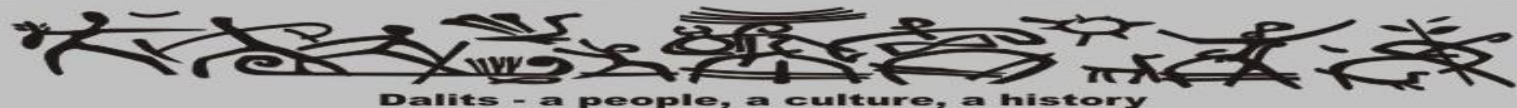
The members of the civil society, academicians, youth and students from the state also joined for the meeting. The share of SCs in the SCP in the national and Bihar state context were presented.

This one day programme aimed to bring together the CSOs and likeminded people and groups to launch a campaign in the state, to educate Dalits on their rights and entitlements. The efforts were also made to influence the union budget of 2011-12 and 2012-13.



Review & Discussion on SCP & TSP Study, February 2-3

A workshop was organized on the "Priority for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Union and State Budgets", jointly with CBGA at NCDHR Office, New Delhi. The purpose was to review and deliberate on the study conducted on SCP & TSP in the Union budget, in 08 states, namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The final draft was made for the study for each States Budget and Union Budget in the workshop.



Pre Budget Intervention on SCP & TSP in Gujarat

The Director of Scheduled Castes Welfare Department of Gandhinagar had organized a Pre-Budget 2011-12 meeting for a discussion on SCP, under the leadership of Hon. and Empowerment Department (SJ&ED), Mr. Fakirbhai Vaghela and the MPs, Ex-MPs, MLAs, Ex-MLAs, bureaucrats of the SC Welfare of Gujarat State Department.

Advocacy note prepared in the regional language was presented to them and followed by placing of demands before them.



DAAA-NATIONAL DALIT WATCH (NDW)
www.nationaldalitwatch-ncdhr.blogspot.org

Views from the frontline - Global survey

Dalit Watch-Andhra Pradesh participated in the Global Survey announced for 2011 by the 'Views from the Frontline'. It is an international process where views of the people from the grassroots are collated in order to influence the national DRR policies and their implementation.

Survey was conducted in two villages of Mahaboobnagar district on the role of Panchayat (local governance) in Disaster Risk Reduction preparedness.

The 8th Sphere India Foundation Day, February 21-23
 NDW participated in the event and while the operations of the Sphere Inter Agency Groups (IAGs) in disasters were being reviewed and discussed, NDW raised the issues pertaining to caste based discrimination in disasters and how linkages could be formed between NDW state entities and Sphere India's IAGs to work together for inclusion in DRR.

Compensation to the victims of Yamuna flood of 2010
 The process of collecting application from the victims of the Yamuna flood of 2010, to be submitted to the concerned government authorities was initiated and completed in two locations of the three surveyed ones, namely, Mayur Vihar and Shastri Park. The process is on in Vijay Ghat now.

Gang rape case, Hardoi (UP) February 28
 As a result of our direct intervention, a Dharna led by the State Secretary of NDMJ, and a meeting with the Chairperson of National Scheduled Caste Commission, Dr. P. L. Punia and parliamentarians, Mr. Mulayam Singh Yadav (Samajwadi party) and Ms. Rita Bahuguna (Indian National Congress) in a press conference questioned the State Government on the steps being taken in the gang rape case in Hardoi, UP. It compelled the Additional Director General of Police to issue a statement that the case has been forwarded to the CBI for enquiry.



State Consultation and Release of Marathi Report Card, February 15, Maharashtra

On the occasion, the Marathi version of the Report Card was released on 20 years of implementation of SCs & STs (PoA) Act, 1989, by Justice C. L. Thool, Member of State SC & ST Commission. The civil society bodies from across the state discussed the strategy for legal intervention to strengthen the Act in the state. The consultation concluded with a collective decision to file the Public Interest Litigation in different Benches of the Bombay High Court.



Dalits - a people, a culture, a history



Survivors and Witnesses' Deposition, February 15, Patna

The survivors and witnesses of 25 atrocity cases gathered in Patna, where more than 50 survivors and activists met under the presence of Scheduled Caste Commission Vice Chairperson, Mr. Jogender Paswan, State Human Rights Commission Chairperson, Mr. S. N. Jha and the State Cabinet Minister of Social Welfare, Mr. Jitan Ram Manjhi. The survivors presented their case, and the Social Welfare Minister while understanding the cases, gave assurance to monitor the case of burning alive the Dalits in Madhepura district and the gang rape case in Saharsa district.



National Workshop for Handbook on SCs & STs (PoA) Act & Rules, Feb 20-22, ISI, New Delhi

Activists and Dalit Human Rights Defenders from across the country, possessing experience ranging from 5-20 years in monitoring violations of Dalits Human Rights attended the workshop.

More than 50 Human Rights Defenders shared their experiences; successes and failures encountered in the process of using new strategies and suggested possible steps to defend Dalits human rights. Discussions revolved around the processes involved in defending Dalits human rights, viz. the offences, complaints, registration of FIR, the investigation process and filing of charge-sheet, trial proceedings, relief, rehabilitation, compensation, district and state level authorities, district-level and state-level Vigilance and Monitoring Committee and the statutory bodies.

Assessing Prisoners Rights and Discrimination Dalits face in Prison, February 17

A team comprising representatives of NDMJ visited 'VARHAD', and shared its strategies of intervening for the Prisoners Rights with the Founder president Mr. Ravindra Vaidyan. The team also identified various forms of caste discrimination in the prisons with a focus on Amravati Central Jail.

Survivors and Witnesses' Meeting, February 17, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

The survivors and witnesses of 9 major atrocity cases assembled along with some Dalit Human Rights Defenders Mr. M. L. Arya (retired IAS), Ms. Rita Kaushik, (convener of Dalit Action Group) and Adv. Rekha Bharti from Mahila Adhikar Manch. The delegation met the Director General of Police and the Home Secretary. As an instant reaction to this meeting, Baburam (one of the survivors from Hardoi) got his land vacated on the very next day when returned to his village. The land had been illegally occupied by the non-dalits since many years.

NCDHR in news:-

Share of the Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Union Budget 2011-12

<http://www.naidunia.com/Details.aspx?id=224565&boxid=30320338>

Funds for SC/STs to come under separate sub-heads

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/Print/665217.aspx>

CM mute spectator to SC, ST atrocities: MLA – the Pioneer

<http://www.dailypioneer.com/312139/CM-mute-spectator-to-SC-ST-atrocities-MLA.html>

'Govts watch blockades silently'

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Govts-watch-blockades-silently/articleshow/7398798.cms> (PIL filed by NDMJ)

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