

# JAN VIKAS SANSTHAN

## ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21



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# INTRODUCTION

Jan Vikas Sansthan is proud to present before you the annual report for the year 2020-21. This has been a fruitful year for the organization, being able to serve and extend our help to the vulnerable community members. We reached out to the community in different ways providing them essential services that include the distribution of dry ration to the communities. Year 2020-21 has been a testing year for all of us. With the outbreak of Covid-19, we were all forced to keep ourselves inside the four walls of our homes. The world saw a standstill and the human kind were gasping as if the future looks blurred and severely affected. But we could not afford to stay behind or lose hope, for our community members were impatiently waiting for us to take an action to help them survive these testing times. Hence, our team was out there in the field helping the communities hold on to their beliefs and extend the kind of support that they require.

The year 2020-21, saw our team deliver at the best of their capacity. With conducting help camps, health check-ups, distributing dry ration and sanitation kits, conducting community meetings to create awareness, home visits and sharing essential learning techniques with children, we were all busy during a threatening pandemic year. There was hope, because even the pandemic could not limit us to our homes. The strength and energy that the team has shown was commendable and we are proud as a team.

The pandemic has affected all of us and all over the world. But it was the vulnerable communities who saw the worst effects. With them being considered untouchables, at many a place the health services did not reach them. With considerable amount of discriminating nature, they were not allowed to work in the fields for the fear that it was them who spread the virus. The vulnerable communities were pushed more towards the margins and were sidelined like never before. There were communities, who could not afford to buy the essential health kits. Hence, it is clear that though the pandemic affected everyone it did not affect everyone alike. Some were more at risk than the others.

Apart from the Covid-19 relief activities, there were efforts to empower the frontline functionaries and SHGs in the villages by conducting training programmes, district level meetings with the DEOs and BEOs, theatre play on the adolescent issues, leadership trainings to the community leaders, awareness campaigns, block and district level workshops, leadership trainings to the youth, distribution of seeds and poultry and a number of campaigns intending to raise the awareness of the community on various issues. With all these combined we are convinced that the year went behind was a fruitful one. While presenting this report before you, we are eagerly looking forward and have kept our eyes on making another tremendous working year. With good belief, we are presenting and submitting this report before you all.

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Gone behind was an year that tested and examined our patience. We saw an year that threatened us with its vigorous nature and life taking ability. For many of us has lost our dear ones. We extend our condolences to all the brave hearts that fought but failed to survive. We extend our support to all those who have survived but are still struggling to bring back the life to its normal nature.



As an organization, JVS has been active in the field throughout the pandemic period extending their support and help to the communities affected. I am proud to present this document before you all because it carries all the activities that we have undertaken during one of the most testing period of the century. This is a proof to the commitment that JVS as an organization has towards the community that it works with.

We had seen a lot of challenges. While we drove towards the fields, the roads were frighteningly empty. It was as if nobody existed. The kind of fear that the empty roads put before us was huge. But, I would give all the credits to my whole team, for they decided to walk forward. We, as a team are proud of all those activities we have conducted during the year. Because it was like never before.

This year we worked closely with the adolescents, youth and women from Musahar and other marginalized communities on issues like education, health and livelihood. There were awareness campaigns conducted on education, leadership trainings to the women and youth, poultry distribution for livelihood needs and many meetings and interactions with the educational and health officials.

I am happy and proud that we at JVS, has a committed core team working at their best to improve the social conditions. I am thankful to all the board members without whose support we would not have achieved what we achieved. I am also happy to extend my whole-hearted support to our agencies for believing in our abilities and supporting us. With a new year in front of us, I am happy and hopeful that JVS will achieve more and will be able to touch the lives of more people bringing considerable changes in their living environment.

With Best Regards,

Rajmani

Secretary

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### a. Interaction

“During the COVID-19 times, our livelihood was badly affected. I used to work as a daily wage labourer in Delhi, which was lost due to the pandemic. I came back home with no money in my hand. We were staring at hunger stricken days. That was when Jan Vikas Sansthan came up to support us. With support from JVS, I started a vegetable stall. Today, I am earning enough to keep my family alive from the vegetable stall. I am





When the world before you shrinks, JVS expands it with a supportive hand...

## ADOLESCENT EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMMES

Adolescents form the prime focus of our activities. Development of our adolescents into better human beings with learned life skills and ability to acknowledge the realities of the society they

live in, thereby acquiring the capacity to lead the society in its right way is what we yearn for while working with them.

Adolescent Empowering Programme reached						
District	Total GPs covered		Total Target	Female	Male	Peer Educators
Jaunpur	Baksha	Machhalishahar	18061	12642	5419	312
	41	35				

## THEATRE OF OPPRESSED



The theatre of oppressed is an aesthetic art form that represents the reality that stimulates critical observation on the events in the society. It is an art form that was used to communicate with the viewers the social realities of the time in which it is played and encourages the community to critically view the events in the society. To mobilize the community and compel them to think about the issues that the adolescents face in the community, JVS conducted Theatre of Oppressed in the selected Gram panchayats with support from Breakthrough.

The Programme saw good crowd and response as the adolescents involved in the programme wholeheartedly participated. **1904 women and adolescents and 1458 men participated in the programme.** The community members, adolescents, village and block level officers and JVS team participated in the programme. The Theater played the story which implied the violence against adolescents in the society.

The Programme was organized with support from Breakthrough India and the project covers 18,000 adolescents from 76 different panchayats in Machhalishahahr and Baksha blocks of Jaunpur district. The Theatre of Oppressed play was played in 35 selected panchayats. Child Protection Officer, Mr. Chandan Ray was the chief guest for the programme. The programme was inaugurated at the Baksha block.

## HYPER LOCAL CAMPAIGN



Various campaigns have been carried out by Jan Vikas Santhan as part of its various projects. The campaigns conducted are all intended to bring about changes in the mindset of the communities we work with. Campaigns address the major issues in the society which require urgent attention. Mostly, our campaigns are based on the issues faced by adolescents and women.

Hyper Local Campaign was one of such campaigns conducted by JVS. The campaign aimed to list out the problems faced by adolescents in our society. The identified issues were shared with the stakeholders to address them and figure out solutions to end them. The campaign has been conducting every year since the last three years, identifying the issues of adolescents and efforts have been made to find solutions to the problems collectively. The Hyper local campaign 2020 also addressed the issues the adolescents faced both at school as well as in the community. Major issue identified was related to the lack of toilet facilities for girls in school. The



campaign saw a success as all 33 identified schools later constructed toilets for girls and the adolescent girls have started using them.

## PEER EDUCATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME

Peer Educators are the selected members of the peer group who receives special training on leadership skills and other important aspects of life. They are supposed to function as the leaders of the community helping other adolescents of their age achieve success through the sharing of knowledge they achieve through the trainings as well as conduct trainings for other girls in the community to help them acquire the necessary life skills. Under the adolescent empowerment programme, JVS has selected a group of peer educators who received various trainings as part of the programme. One such peer training was conducted during the months of September and October 2020. The main objective of the programme was to make the peer leaders understand their role-responsibilities, to discuss on the career plans of the adolescents etc. The programme was conducted on 8 days, twice in the Baksha and Machhalishahar blocks of Jaunpur district.

The programme discussed the role of a peer educator in a community and also the various skills required for an adolescent to achieve success in life. The programme was attended by all the selected peer leaders and trained staff of JVS conducted the training programme.

“The training helped me better understand the society and its way of functioning.” –  
Sneha, Peer educator



The peer group forms one of the important and effective link to the community. Developing their abilities and helping them develop their skills is one way in which we can contribute to the society. The peer group can create impactful changes in the community. We have been hearing about the various peer educators creating impacts in the society through their meaningful interventions in the area like prevention of drug use. JVS also aims to create such impactful effects in the community through the peer leaders.

## KISHORI MELA



JVS functions mainly for the welfare of women and children. Adolescents belonging to the age group 10-19 form the major focus of our activities. For the past 10-12 years we have been organizing events and activities targeting the adolescent community, aiming their overall development as a person. Adolescent CBOs have been formed in our working areas where activities intending to help them better their views on the issues in the society, and improve their self-esteem by showcasing their talent are organized. The programme also included the parents' participation in all the programmes which aims to decrease or nullify the gap between adolescents and their parents. The leadership skill development of adolescents are given prime importance.

Kishori Mela is one such activity that JVS organized with the help of Breakthrough India. Kishori Mela is a space where the adolescents enjoyed full freedom to express themselves. It included games and activities for the adolescents. The platform helps the adolescents develop and express their talent. The programme received good community support as well. The adolescents actively participated in the activities organized. The activities conducted include drawing competition, singing competition, poster making competition and the main focus of activities was dowry system. Adolescents came up with a number of good posters and songs on dowry exposing its patriarchal nature.

A number of social issues were addressed or brought to the notice of the adolescents by the team through games as well. Snake and ladder, bucket-ball game, talent showcase, parent-adolescent bond etc were conducted as part of the Mela

## GIRLS ICON PROGRAMME

The Girls Icon Programme was one of a kind of programme initiated by JVS with help from Milan foundation, where the selected adolescents were promoted to take actions on social issues. 20 icons were selected who formed their groups in the society and conducted awareness campaigns and workshops on social issues. The icons were supported financially to continue their studies as well.

Selected Girls were termed icon, as they were supposed to carry out Social actions in the society. Issues like Reproductive health, menstruation and violence against women were all discussed by the icons among their group and were made aware about.

## COMMUNITY BASED SRHR

Community Based Sexual Reproductive and Health Rights programme was organized during the financial year by JVS. The aim of the programme was to develop among the adolescents a common understanding about the sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR). Talks on reproductive health are something that often the parents and the adults hesitate from talking about to the adolescents. It end up in them figuring out secondary methods to understand about them which would end up giving them wrong information and promote among them wrong methods to assimilate information from. Hence talking about them is necessary. Understanding the need, JVS organized the programme for adolescents.

## PROJECT UDAAN LAUNCHED

Jan Vikas Sansthan launched its new project titled "UDAAN: Breaking the Silence about Adolescent Rights to End Child Marriage among Dalit and Musahar communities during the financial year 2020-21. The main goal of the project is to end child marriages in the implementing

## GENDER EQUITY

The society we live in is Patriarchal in nature. Women are discriminated on the grounds of their gender. Women from the marginalized communities face double discrimination, on the grounds of their caste and gender. We, at Jan Vikas Sansthan initiate activities to erase off the discrimination faced by women and bring them forward to take the lead.

### EQUAL WORK, EQUAL PAY – GENDER HIKE

Gender issues are one of the major concerns of JVS. Our main work is with the women from the Musahar and Dalit communities and we focus on bringing down the gender gap. Ensuring girl child's education, extending support to the women facing domestic violence, making them economically self-sufficient are the activities that JVS is engaged in. Women from the vulnerable communities face double discrimination, that of the caste as well as that of gender. Our work concentrates on both of these issues and we aim to make them mentally and economically strong for which we make use of training camps, stakeholder meetings, capacity building programmes etc.

The struggle of women for equality is centuries old and is still valid as our society is yet to be transformed into an equal society. So long as the struggle, is the struggle for equal wages. Women and men doing the same work receive different wages. Men receive much higher wage than that of women. This discriminatory nature of the society was questioned as JVS conducted a gender hike programme with the slogan Equal Work, Equal Pay.

## COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION EVENTS

Jan Vikas Sansthan mobilizes the community to take action by their own to bring in changes in the fields of education, health, livelihood and other issues faced by the marginalized communities. Continuous meetings and programmes are organized in the community to achieve success in the field. Listing below are the activities organized to mobilize the communities in taking actions for their own welfare.



## EDUCATION AND HEALTH MOBILIZATION

Education and Health are two core areas of Jan Vikas Sansthan's works. Particularly with Musahar community there is need to mobilize more people to ensure quality and regular education and also to ensure good health among the community. Considering the need of the hour, JVS conducted mobilization events for the community. 228 such meetings were conducted in the hamlets, in which discussions on importance of quality education, ways and methods to strengthen our education system, importance of healthy practices and ways to strengthen the health system were discussed. The community was made aware about the importance and responsibility of each member to constantly view and review the system and raise complaints wherever necessary.

### DISTRICT LEVEL CONVERGENCE MEETING



Liaising with the Government officials helps in the smooth running of any project especially that which focuses on the educational and health needs. It helps in the proper implementation with due support from the officials. JVS has always worked in liaison with the Government officials and have strived to ensure that no community member remain deprived of their entitled rights.

A convergence meeting was organized at the district level in which District Educational Officers, Block Education Officers, Chief Medical Officer and District Child Protection Officer took part. Discussion on the enrolment of children, Covid-19 preventive measures and health mela were discussed in detail.



## MEETING WITH SHG LEADERS

SHGs form the foundation of our works. We extend our roots to the community through the CBOs and SHGs which are formed democratically in consultation with the community.

Meetings are held constantly with the SHG members. In the month of August SHG leaders meeting was organized. A total of 28 SHGs were reached from which 310 leaders participated. The meeting discussed the preventive measures from Covid-19, the educational and health needs of adolescents and domestic violence faced by the young adolescents.

## PRI MEMBERS TRAINING

The Panchayati Raj Institution forms an integral part of the constitutional system. It is the fundamental base of the development of a panchayat. PRI members are thus an inevitable stakeholder when it comes to the development of the villages. Jan Vikas Sansthan organized training for the PRI members

## TRAINING OF SHG FEDERATION

SHGs are an integral part of our community works. The Self Help Group consists of members from the community facing similar problems and are ready to help each other in their problems. Under the project for empowering adolescents, JVS has formed SHGs in its working areas. To empower the group, meetings are conducted regularly, problems are shared and have created an environment where solutions are searched for together.

A training for the SHG leaders was organized by JVS as part of empowering the SHGs. The main purpose of the programme was to create awareness among the members on Violence against adolescent girls and women and also to initiate intergenerational dialogue between the parents and adolescents. The programme was organized in the month of October 2020.

The programme discussed the various kinds of violence that the adolescent girls and women face in our society and also talked about the menstrual hygiene for adolescents. Training was carried out at the block levels covering all the 76 panchayats under the project in the Baksha and Machhalishahar blocks. The community stakeholders took commitments to resolve the issues that the adolescents face.



## LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY LEADERS

The empowerment of the community members is the prime focus of JVS. Our activities are all organized with a view to empower the community members either through creating awareness among them or by providing various kinds of training. Mostly, the women from the disadvantaged communities shy away from coming forward and take the lead, for they have never experienced a situation where they can take a lead position. The social structure of our society gives power to the men in taking decisions. The opinions and arguments of women are valued less or are not even considered. Being restricted from the decision taking arena, women in our society considers themselves secondary to men and often does not come forward or put forward their opinions.



Understanding and to address the issue, JVS decided to work with women. Women and children are the focus of JVS and it functions through the formation of CBOs in the villages. Meetings are conducted regularly with the CBO members, discussing on their rights, elements and needs. From the CBOs a few members are provided leadership skill trainings every year. In 2020 also, such training programme was conducted with the leaders of the community. The leaders are selected after observing their participation in the CBO meetings. The training was organized on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2020. 43 women leaders from 9 panchayats participated in the programme and received leadership training



## INTERACTION WITH PANCHAYAT STAKEHOLDERS

Stakeholders are those who may be affected or have an effect in an activity. With respect to the activities of a panchayat, the village head, frontline health workers, Panchayat Development officers, Employment Officers all forms part of the stakeholders. Involving the stakeholders in the village level activities are necessary for any organization to implement its project for the benefit of the community.

In many villages, there is a gap between the primary and secondary stakeholders. The villagers are unknown who their respective officers are. The result is that the community remains emitted from their desired and entitled rights.

This was observed by JVS, during the implementation of its projects and as a means of reducing the gap between the primary and secondary stakeholders, a stakeholder meeting was arranged. The meeting saw a good participation from the community as well as from the officials. 42 secondary stakeholders and officials and 412 community members participated in the programme.



In the programme, JVS team presented a data on the overall situation of the village observed over the period from the implementation of the project. The data was presented in front of the officials who were later given commitments to the community to resolve their issues at the earliest. Community directly interacted with the officials on the collective problems and their key issues. The officials also cleared the queries raised by the community. The discussion helped the community members understand the application process, eligibility criteria and the provisions available for them.

## ORIENTATION ON CBO FORMATION

CBO formation is a basic part of interacting with the community. The CBOs forms an integral part of community based project implementation. It later works as the point of interaction between the organization and the community. As part of the project intended to bring improvements in the living condition of the Dalit and Musahar communities, CBOs were formed by JVS in 9 panchayats of Machhalishshar block. These CBOs are meant to function as the change makers of the village.

As part of strengthening the CBO, selected community members received orientation on the running of the CBOs. The orientation was conducted in the month of October and saw participation of 38 community leaders. The community leaders were later oriented on the



formation of CBOs and its functioning. The aim is to make the CBOs self-sufficient, and able to function even in the absence of the organization.

## **BLOCK LEVEL WORKSHOP**

Block Level Workshop was conducted in the Machhalishahar block to promote and celebrate social inclusion. The workshop included games and activities and also conducted discussions on the discriminatory nature of our society. The workshop also discussed the ways to make our society a better living environment for the vulnerable communities.

The workshop saw a good participation of 100 community members who actively participated in the workshop.

## **DISTRICT LEVEL WORKSHOP**

Workshop was also conducted at the District level on 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 with 62 participants. The meeting discussed on themes of Social inclusion and disparities, challenges in creating an equal world, and also conducted various games and activities. The workshop was a one day programme. The programme discussed the identity, rights and dignity of Musahar, Nat and Dharikar communities and developed plan to achieve them through reaching out to the various government departments. The deprived communities like the musahars often do not receive their entitled rights as they are less aware and are largely uneducated. The programme discussed the overall life needs of the communities and methods to achieve them.

## **YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING**

Youngsters are the future of the nation. They form the base of a better tomorrow. Understanding and knowledgeable youngsters are thus the need of any nation and thus their issues forms part of the nation's issues. JVS decided to take up the issues faced by youth on this ground. In partnership with CASA India, we implemented a youth leadership training programme, in which the selected youngsters were provided training on various aspects of leadership. The training was conducted in the month of March 2021, from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. The five day training included various activities and games.

The programme was a youth development initiative to instill various skills among the participant youth. Life skills, leadership skills, Time setting, goal setting etc. were the major skills addressed by the trainer. It aimed to produce young people who are confident and are responsible towards the society. 21 youngsters joined and received the training.

## **DAKHAL DO CAMPAIGN**

Our society is an unequal one. The people of our society are divided and discriminated on the basis of their gender, caste, race and complexion. In such a society it is important to conduct activities addressing the issues regularly and constantly, so that the issues have attention from the society and collectively bring about changes. It was with this aim that JVS organized Dakhal Do campaign.

Dakhal Do campaign was organized to address the issues faced by women in our society. Dakhal means interfere, the caption asks the campaigners to address the issues faced by women, majorly violence against women. Women, even today faces a lot of issues. They lack freedom to move out freely, they are exploited sexually, emotionally, economically and mentally every day, they are denied educational freedom and are denied freedom to be employed. All these were considered while conducting the campaign.

As the title suggests, the campaign calls for everyone to understand, address and take action on the violence faced by women around them. 165 participants participated in the campaign which was held from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> of March 2021

## EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Our work extends with the educational institutions to ensure that the educational needs of the community are met. The work comprises of working with the community in raising their awareness to strengthening the School Management Communities.

### SCHOOL CHALO CAMPAIGN

School Chalo Abhiyan is a campaign organized to encourage children and adolescents to attend school. Campaign aims to bring all children and adolescents in the age group of 6-14 to school. The idea behind the campaign is a bit old. It was launched by the Government in the year 2000, in the districts where the literacy rate is low. Later, the campaign gained strength when other organizations and schools started organizing the campaign in the same name aiming to bring all children to schools.

School Chalo Abhiyan, has attracted the crowd. News reports states that the number

of new enrolments to school has been increasing where the campaign has been organized. The Right to Education is an act in India, introduced in the year 2009. The act states that all children between the age JVS also organized the School Chalo campaign in 9 gram panchayats where the Andheri Hilfe supported programme is implemented. Children, school teachers and parents participated actively in the campaign. The campaign was also followed by school enrolment of out of school and drop out children.

group of 6-14 have a right to free and compulsory education. The campaign strengthens the act in its implementation. Progress has been visible in the areas where the campaign has been taken place in its required form.



### AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON 12(1)(C)



The Right of Children to free and compulsory Education act was introduced in India in the year 2009. This act ensures that every child between the age group of 6-14 should receive free education. This act has made considerable changes in the primary education of children from vulnerable communities especially that of girl children. Every child upto the age of 14 are now eligible to receive free education. Earlier, girls were denied education with a thought that the investment in the education of girls is pointless. Now, with the compulsory and free education introduced many young girls have found themselves in schools atleast until the age of 14.

The act also encompasses a section 12(1)(c), which states that to the extent of atleast twenty five percent of the class in all schools should be children from the weaker and backward communities and they should be provided free education. This section states that the private unaided schools have the responsibility to admit in their class children from disadvantaged section of the society and should be provided free education. This provision in the act ensures equality and justice and helps in the inclusive elementary education of all.

JVS works with the weaker and disadvantaged sections of the society. It was observed that even with the introduction of the act, many children find themselves out from the elementary education as there is no government or aided schools in the nearby areas. To address this issue JVS implemented an awareness campaign on the article 12(1)(c) of RTE act, aiming to aware the parents on the provision for their children's free education in the nearby private schools. The campaign was organized in 9 panchayats of the Machhalishahar block.



Around 326 participants formed a part of the campaign. Block Education Officer and District

Education Officers were contacted as part of the campaign. The campaign was helpful in making the community aware about the enrolment process of their children

## HEALTH AND HYGIENE

Health and health needs of the community cannot be ignored. Many a times, the Musahar community women deliver their children at their own homes, without the privileges of a hospital services. Lack of knowledge, lack of money and social discrimination are the main reason they deliver their kids at home. They thus remain deprived from the essential health services. We implement our health services at such a situation. With health mela, health check-up camps, awareness generation, training to the frontline functionaries and liaisoning with the PHCs and CHCs, our work in the field of Health are slowly creating an impact in the community.

## HEALTH MELA

### SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN  
IDENTIFIED – 11

NUMBER OF NEW ENROLMENTS  
MADE DURING THE YEAR – 11

Health is one of the major aspect of our life. Good health and health treatments is a right of every Indian citizen. Article 47 of the Constitution of India stated that raising the level of nutrition, and the improvement of public health are among the primary duties of the state. Even when

we are celebrating the 73<sup>rd</sup> independence, our society have not achieved equality in terms of delivering health services. The women from the Musahar communities deliver their babies at home and without proper care or treatment and resulting in the lack of required nutrients and malnourishment among the children.

Addressing this issue JVS conducted a Health Mela, with support from the breakthrough foundation to help the communities receive proper health check- ups and health care.

Health Mela was a big success with 1142 participants joining in. The objectives of the programme were to make the participants aware about the Covid-19, make the adolescents aware about menstrual hygiene, to make the participants aware about the nutritious food and to make the participants aware about the facilities under ICDS. During the programme, iron tablets and sanitary napkins were distributed to the adolescent girls.



## ASHA- AWW TRAININ G

Stakeholders play an important role in delivering the health services. The ground level health workers such as the ASHA, ANM and AWW play an important

role in ensuring health of the citizens of India. They serve as the first point of contact for the communities. These service providers are instrumental in creating an enabling environment for the communities. They are responsible for the health of each and every member in their respective areas.

Considering the big role that they play in keeping the communities safe, a training programme was organized for the Accredited Social Health Activists and Anganwadi Workers.

## KITCHEN GARDEN



Kitchen Garden, also known as vegetable gardens are the small gardens developed in the backyards of the house. The Kitchen Garden is an old concept developed in the European lands, later spread across the world. In India as well Kitchen garden is a common concept. But less prevalent among the disadvantaged communities like the Musahars as they are unable to buy the seeds at its market rate nor do they have such long backyards to grow the garden.

For the vulnerable communities, Kitchen garden can act as a nutrient supplier, one which they lack due to poor economic status.

JVS has distributed kitchen garden seeds to 170 families belonging to the Dalit and Musahar communities, from 9 gram panchayats in the Machhalishahar block, to improve their nutrient intake and thereby improving their health status. Vegetable seeds of lady's finger, brinjal, sweet gourd, bitter gourd, pumpkin etc were distributed to the families. The initiative was supported by CASA, India.



## PADDY SEED DISTRIBUTION

As similar to the Kitchen Garden, Paddy seeds were also distributed by JVS to the needy families as part of promoting organic farming. Organic farming trainings were earlier provided to the families. 150 families received the paddy seeds free of cost. Each family were given 300 kg of seeds. The distribution was conducted in the month of June 2020.



## LIVELIHOOD PROMOTION

Livelihood is a core concern of JVS. We address the issues faced by the community members with respect to their livelihood in a serious manner. Among the communities we work with there are lot of issues in connection to the Livelihood, as the Dalit community members are less educated in comparison to the other castes. Hence we decided to support our community in achieving a proper income.

## POULTRY DISTRIBUTION

Financial independence of women is as equivalent as addressing women's issues. As part of promoting women's independence, JVS promoted poultry farming among the selected CBO members. 567 hen and chicks were distributed to the community members on 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2021.



The selection of the community members were done by the CBO members itself. The most vulnerable family was selected for the purpose of receiving chicks.

## PIG DISTRIBUTION

Pig rearing is an occupation that Musahar community is engaged in. Owing to their poor economical status many could not afford to buy pigs though they wanted to. Hence JVS decided to provide to those interested poor families pigs, free of cost, one time. The CBO members together identified the eligible candidates to receive the pigs. 37 families thus received pigs and have started to earn from them.



## GOAT DISTRIBUTION

Along with poultry and pigs, selected number of families received goat kids for rearing and receiving an earning from. 24 families were selected by the CBO members themselves. The community members also took an oath to ensure that there are kids in every family. The members who received the goat kids from the organization would rear them and when they grow up and start giving kids, those kids would be distributed to the other community members until everyone in the CBO has a kid or goat at their home. Goat rearing is comparatively easy and they start giving kids earlier, that too 3-4 kids one time. Currently, all the CBO member owns a kid or a goat and have started to earn either by selling them or selling their milk.



## LABOUR REGISTRATION CAMP

A one day Labour registration camp was organized by JVS on 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 at the Machhalishahar block in which 255 participants registered their participation. The



participants registered as labourers free of cost and are awaiting their approval.



## LEGAL AID PROGRAMME TO PREVENT VIOLENCE

Women face a number of violence in our society. To make them aware and self-sufficient to address their issues related to violence, a legal aid programme was organized.

### COVID-19 RELIEF WORKS

The pandemic has affected the daily wage labourer communities very badly. With the implementation of lockdown they lost their jobs. The loss of job also meant that there was hunger, as they lacked money to buy the essential materials. This was a real test for them. The struggle was real and there could not be a time much needed than this for a critical intervention from the organizations. Hence, we decided to come up with lockdown intervention support to the families struggling from the pandemic impacted lockdown. Ration distribution, sanitation, nutrition and vegetable seed kits distribution, rickshaw trolley distribution and rope making support were provided by Jan Vikas Sansthan during the lockdown period.

### COVID-19 AWARENESS

Over the years, we had committed ourselves to engage in Poverty alleviation measures. We had been working to improve the Livelihood opportunities of the community we work with. The unskilled members of the community with no fixed income are depended on the daily works they get or are migrated to other lands in search of a better life. But the unprecedented arrival of the Pandemic and the Lockdown that followed created a most unfavorable environment for them, socially and economically.

The world was on a standstill. The impact of the Pandemic extends from loss of lives and livelihood to the increase in Violence and discrimination. While others could protect themselves



from the virus spread by shutting themselves off from the main streets, the Dalit and Musher community members in the region, who are mostly depended on daily wages to run their daily needs, were suffering to make both ends meet. There was dire need for food. With loss of income, and nation under lockdown, the covid situations became the most unfavorable for them. With the Covid-19 being spread, awareness was made through the televisions on how to protect



oneself from the pandemic. But the vulnerable community members who had no access to the media world was unaware about the new developments and were underprivileged to afford the preventive equipment's. JVS conducted awareness campaigns for the vulnerable communities, on the preventive measures to be taken and how to protect oneself and others from the pandemic. The awareness campaign also included information on who and how to contact if detected with symptoms of the pandemic.

## DRY RATION AND NUTRITION KIT DISTRIBUTION

To overcome the impacts of Covid-19 JVS distributed Dry ration and nutrition kits to the families from marginalized sections of the society in the year 2020-21. The Covid-19 has tested the restraint of the community. They were lacking proper food and with jobs of daily wage labourers lost, the community were staring at a starvation period to come. It was at this period that we decided to distribute to the needy community members dry ration and nutrition kits. The kits were sponsored by Andheri Hilfe, CASA, CII and Azim Premji Foundation. The main aim of the programme was to reach out to the families of migrant labourers and other needy families and provide humanitarian aid to protect them from the starvation hunger caused by the lockdown. The kit contained essential food items and hygiene items like the sanitary napkins and sanitizers. The beneficiaries were selected through the CBOs. After the selection of the families, market survey and vendor selection, 1825 families were supported. The selected families included 90 women headed households, 32 widows, 36 sweeping class families and migrant families.

## RICKSHAW TROLLEY SUPPORT



As we all know, the pandemic has affected different communities in different ways. The communities at the lowest rung of the social ladder faced the most tragic face of the pandemic. Mostly the workers from the communities in the marginalized sections are daily wage workers. They make their living from the everyday work that they engage in. With the loss of work, they were facing starvation and hunger which was when JVS decided to help the communities with ration distribution. But we felt, ration and sanitation kit distribution was not enough. And hence we decided to help them in a way that would last permanently.



Distribution of rickshaw trolley was one among them. Most of the labourers used to hire rickshaws from other communities for rent as a means of earning. With lockdown they were denied the rickshaws which affected their daily income. Such members were selected from the community and rickshaw trolley were provided to them.

## ROPE MAKING SUPPORT



Rope making support was another lockdown intervention of JVS. Here again, needy families were first identified and were supported with an amount of Rs. 12000/- for them to begin rope making business. 12 families from 9 different panchayats were provided the support.

## Sanju's Garden Of Vegetables

Sanju Gautam aged 35, is living in Batnahit village of Machhalishahar block and belongs to the very deprived Gautam caste among Dalit community. Apart from Sanju, the family consists of her husband As his, their two daughters 12 year old Vrasha, 5 year old Chandresha, and 7 year old son Chaman. Sanju is a house wife and her husband lives in Goa. He is a daily wage laborer who lost job in the lockdown period. The family was left with things to survive for a day or two and no money to buy other essentials when the lockdown announced. The challenge was real as there was no job available. Sanju and her husband were worried that they will not be able to feed their children in the coming days. They were staring at very dark days which was about to come. Her husband even thought of going back to Goa to earn a living but the pandemic has affected the whole world, nowhere was safe. Sanju started thinking of ways to survive the pandemic period. The family survived on bread and sause for a number of days. It was the she thought about having a kitchen garden at her own home so that they can have food without depending on the market.



Batanhit was one among the village where the Andheri supported project of JVS was implemented. In the later days that followed, JVS had decided to help the families who were suffering to make both ends meet due to the Covid-19 impact. For the purpose JVS staff went out in the field for identification of families, during which Sanju was also identified and was supported later with vegetable seeds to begin a kitchen garden at her home,

Weeks after the distribution of seeds, Sanju was seen happy to harvest vegetables from her own garden, which she never thought would be possible in the middle of the pandemic.

## Heartfelt Thanks to our Supporters

