



Vikalp  
Sansthan

## Annual Report 2020-2021



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## About Vikalp

Vikalp is a non-profit organization registered in 2004 (under Rajasthan state registration act, 1958) by a group of youth with a steadfast commitment to create a society free of gender based violence and discrimination. We are dreaming an egalitarian society based on equity, peace and justice. "Vikalp" means an "alternative" and aims to find and enable alternatives to existing social structure that are marked by discrimination, violence and unequal access of opportunities for women and girls. Vikalp is historically tackling issues at the root cause of gender inequalities already persist in the society. We believe in accomplishing our aims by using democratic system already in place instead of investing in new parallel system.

Vikalp strongly believe in working with youth and creating a new generation champions for sustainable change. Vikalp has therefore decided to articulate the needs and aspirations of youth with integrity, accountability and perseverance and for that has always been focused to bring analytical & attitudinal change among youth with the help of adopting four fold strategies (community awareness, make stakeholders accountable, help women and girl survivors and Advocacy).

## Organization Basic Information

<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>Vikalp Sansthan</b>
<b>Head Office</b>	80, Vinayak Nagar, Ramgiri, Badgaon, Udaipur – 313 001, Rajasthan, India
<b>Registration of Organization</b>	Registered under Rajasthan Society Act 1958 No. 02/BARMER/2004-05 Dated- 08th April, 2004
<b>Income Tax Permanent Account No. (PAN)</b>	AAATV7471N

## Vision and Mission of our Organization

### Vision

We aim to create violence-free society and to achieve behavioural, social transformation for girls and boys based on equity, peace and justice. Where all can enjoy physical, mental and emotional freedom from gender violence and all sorts of discriminations. Can enjoy equal access of resources and opportunities.

### Mission

To empower youth to end gender based violence and discriminations through creating alternative and creative atmosphere to voice their opinions, integrating them in social development process and creating a future which is just and equal.

## **4. Geographical Presence**

Vikalp Sansthan has key intervention mainly in three Areas like Udaipur district, Mavli and Gogunda Blocks.

### **Gogunda Tehsil**

Gogunda is a Tehsil of Udaipur district in Rajasthan, India. The Tehsil consists of 232 revenue villages, 45 Panchayats, and 1 Census town. The population of Gogunda is 2, 14,948 as per the 2011 census, which consist of 51% male and 49% female. 96% of the population is rural and the literacy rate is quite low with 42%. Because of the predominant Scheduled Tribe Population of Gogunda has been designated a Scheduled area. Agriculture and migratory labour are the most significant source of income.

### **Mavli Tehsil**

The Area of Mavli Tehsil is spread over 837 square Kilometres and is a Tehsil of Udaipur District in Rajasthan, India. The Tehsil Consists of 179 revenue villages which are organized in 42 Gram Panchayats and one Town. The Population of Mavli Tehsil is 230,532 of which 96% is classified as rural in the 2011 census. The Sex ratio is 967. Literacy rate is low with 52%. Agriculture is a significant source of income with 57% of workers identifying as cultivators or agricultural labourers, Good numbers are migrant workers or daily wage workers. Most of them rely working on others field and out of state.

### **Udaipur District**

Udaipur with its lakes lies on the south slope of Aravalli Range in Rajasthan. Udaipur has an area of 13,883 Square KMs which has been divided into 12 Tehsil in which Mavli and Gogunda fall. According to the Census 2011, the Urban Population of Udaipur district was 608,426 and the population density was 262/km Square. The Udaipur Economy is primarily driven by tourism, though minerals, marble processing, chemical manufacturing and handicrafts and cottage industries are also contributors. Apart from that there is a huge ratio of urban poor and lower economy people who are dependent on daily wages for daily work living within the city and its periphery.

## **Vikalp Working Strategies**

- Conduct public campaigns led by volunteers, change-makers, and our partners
- Empower local communities and raise awareness about critical social issues
- Create linkages between local government, administration, politicians and other stakeholders to address issues of Violence against Women (VAW)
- Motivate local community members and involve youth to monitor their neighbourhoods to encourage the maintenance of a violence-free society
- Articulate the needs and aspirations of youth with integrity, accountability and perseverance and for that has always been focused to bring analytical & attitudinal change among youth with the help of adopting four fold strategies (community awareness, make stakeholders accountable, help women and girl survivors and Advocacy).

# Helpline and Support Centre



Vikalp Helpline centre was established in 2017 in Udaipur with the aim to create safe space for girls and women with case work so that they can raise their voice and stand against any sorts of exploitation, violence and atrocities because Vikalp since its inception has experienced that women and young girls face cases like domestic violence, sexual harassment, rape, acid attack, dowry, female foeticide, brutal beating, even the ratio doubled abruptly during the COVID19 pandemic.

Therefore, Vikalp is providing counselling to women, their spouses, and their families until the problem is resolved through its helpline and support centre. Vikalp's professional counsellors have been supporting in psychological and legal services, filing court case against perpetrator, drafting case, preparation for hearing, providing free sessions with a legal advocate, emotional support to person in distress and offer access to information/advice and grievances redresses. Our helpline centre facilitates accommodation, lodging and child care to survivors who travel from various other cities, towns and far villages for help. Our counsellors regularly follow up to ensure survivors' safety and wellbeing. We have followed up 500 survivors during this year, who are living peaceful lives now. Our support centre also ensure overall development by connecting individuals with outside resources when required like short-stay homes, police counselling, job opportunities, government schemes and education. Through our two way approach, we reached out to hundreds of survivors physically during the outbreak of complete COVID19 lockdown like situations.

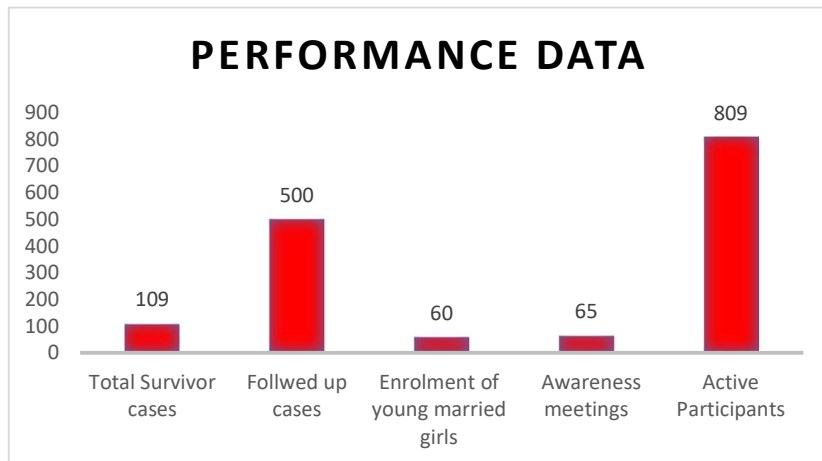
## Women Support Group

Vikalp works towards sustainability and to maintain it therefore formed survivor groups who are counselled at regular interval. Similarly, 5 women support groups have been formed having 20-30 women in each group who further create chains to supports other girls and women like them. These women along with other survivor women undertake group activities where they share their thoughts, experiences and encourage one another as well as provide solidarity and advice. **They have been encouraged to believe in "Our people, our problem and we are the solution"** due to which they are creating a self-sustaining support structure in communities.



## Outreach program

Vikalp Helpline and Support Centre does outreach program in the colonies, villages and other public places for general awareness. We reach to the masses through this program by distributing Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials like Posters, Flyers,

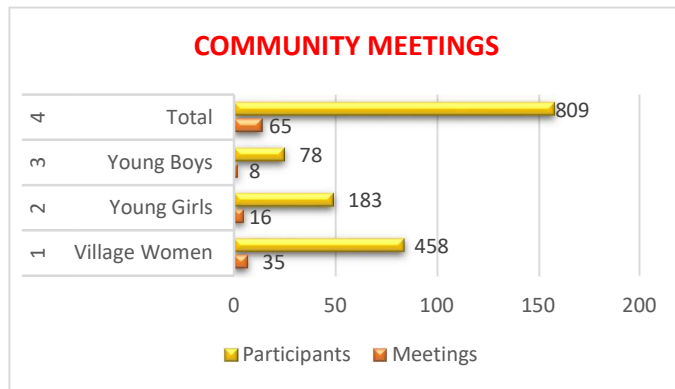


brochures, booklets, wall paintings etc. Around 109 cases have been received and resolved and 500 followed up this year (2020-2021) through our support structures directly and indirectly, re-enrolled 60 married and unmarried young girls with State Open Schools for pursuing their education, survivors directly access to our helpline number with the help of IEC Materials. Not only this we have received hundreds of calls from inter and intra states of India.

## Awareness workshops

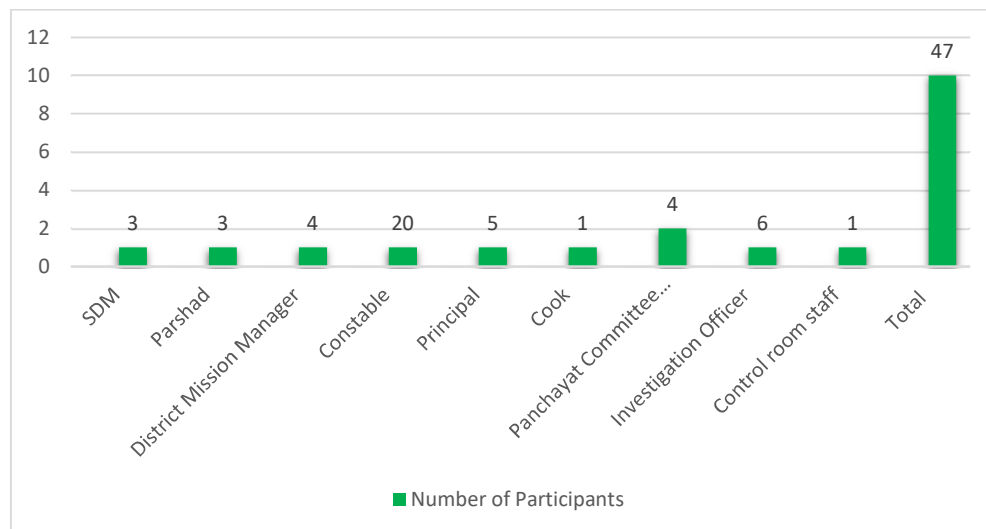
We are not merely restricted to approaching survivors and counselling. But also focus to bring long lasting changes and so for that we take sessions in schools, colleges, anganwadi and hostels on child marriage, women empowerment, gender-based violence & brain storming, freedom of speech and choice, POCSO Act, available support structures and Helpline, laws

related to their rights against exploitation, carrier counselling. In such workshops, adolescent girls and women also given platform to share their experiences of discrimination, unfold their dreams, and talk on their own consents. During this year capacity building workshops were organized for youth through online mode, in which 65 sessions were taken on different subject matters and ensured participation of 809 people including young boys and young married and unmarried girls.



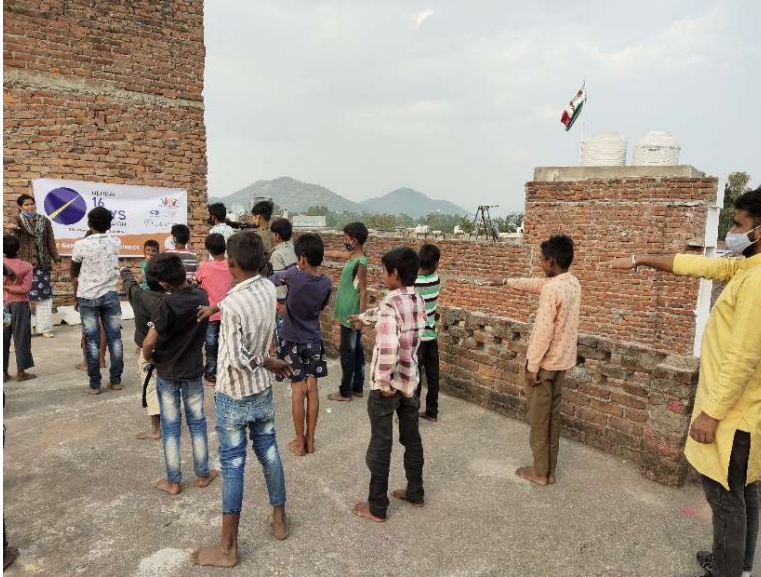
## Networking

During outreach we focus on police, NGOs and women departments to increase participation and commitment to make society a better place to live in. Together we could raise voice against violence against women and injustice in society and collectively bring a lasting change. Police, NGOs and Media are referring survivor women to our centre. Due to pressure and advocacy, police started taking quick actions especially in rape cases. Vikalp also interacts with Anganwadi workers and principals at schools regarding different ways to empower young girls and boys, violence, drawbacks of early marriages and drop out. Vikalp team paid visit to gram Panchayats 8 times and spoke for betterment of the communities.



# Youth for Equality

Vikalp has dreamed to make a violence-free society on the basis of equality, harmony, peace and justice. Working on this line, we realized that change in attitude is the main reason behind violence against girls and women. Merely attitudinal and behavioural change among the dominated structure of societies can zero discrimination and violence against women and girls, and can increase respect, and ensure their all sorts of rights. With this thought Vikalp started working with men and young boys in 30 villages of the Mavli and Gogunda blocks.



During the outbreak of CoVID19 pandemic when violence based cases were increasing abruptly since then Vikalp has started engaging with boys and men in addition to women and girls and had consistent dialogues with them separately by conducting physical and virtual sessions. The aim was to sensitize men and boys to about gender roles and gender justice. As a result of that we have received

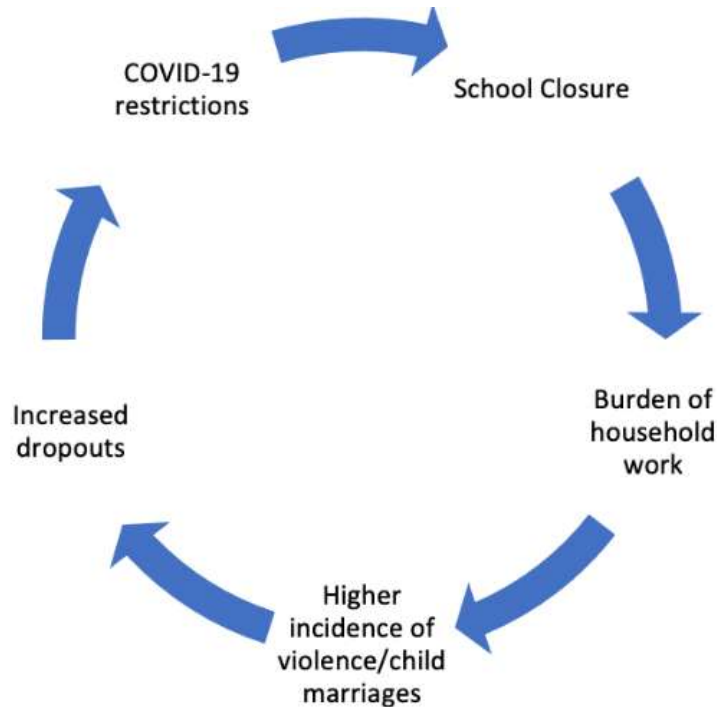
positive attitudinal changes among men and boys. They began supporting their wives, sisters and in-laws in household works, communicate properly with them, helps in studies, boys negotiate parents for sisters to study further and not to push them for child marriage and child labour works, not only this at several places young boys are raising awareness regarding use of sanitary napkins during menstruation. So, this is how changes are being noticed. We believe gradual change in attitudes and behaviours must develop equal Male sensitization must occur in conjunction with female empowerment and for that Vikalp have planned to double sessions frequencies on different sensible issues.

## Learning and Education Centre

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a dramatic loss of human life worldwide and presents an unprecedented challenge to the education sector where millions of children across the globe have been severely affected by school closure. India with the second largest school system in the world has witnessed an increase in learning gaps among the children due to political, social, economic, regional and technological inequities. The pandemic has further exacerbated these trends and data by UNICEF suggests that in India, over 1.5 million schools closed down due to COVID-19, affecting 286 million children from pre-primary to secondary levels. This was in addition to the 6 million girls and boys who were already out of school prior to Covid-19. Vikalp was actively working on the field from the onset to reach out to vulnerable



households with a relief response which included cooked food, kits containing essential items and emergency supplies. It was at this point that we realised the consequence of lockdown for children whose lives would be radically altered due to the restrictions and confront the cycle of:-



The vicious loop in our opinion had the potential to offset the inroads we made in addressing issues around child rights and gender based violence over the past eighteen years and the learning loss because of successive academic cycles being compromised had the potential of significantly hampering learning outcomes of children. The survey which we had conducted during our field interventions consisting of 1072 respondents highlighted that out of 67 percent who owned smartphones, only 11 percent of the children had access to a smartphone without relying on parents/siblings who were essentially working somewhere else and this shows the significant gaps which emerge from online mode. After a one month trial and pilot survey, Vikalp established Learning and Education Centres in seventeen villages located in Udaipur city and Mavli, Gogunda block to provide a platform to children from marginalized communities to continue their studies even post closure. Through this endeavour, we intend to keep around 500 vulnerable children connected with education and encourage parents to ensure that their wards do not drop out. The classes are divided into Classes 1-4 and Classes 5-8 and we have designed a module which seeks to move beyond complementing school education, the way a tuition centre would do. Along with focus on building a solid foundation basics across Hindi, English and numeracy, we also closely look at behavioural changes such as emphasis on hygienic habits like washing hands at regular intervals, co-curricular activities like painting, poetry and storytelling, speaking in English, life skills and sports. A total of 130 parent teacher meetings have been conducted in a span of 6 months with over 2000 participants.

# Fellowship Program

We at Vikalp strongly believe in creating a network of change makers from the grassroots and for this purpose, young committed individuals from the community were identified to follow their passion of teaching and thus empowering them to spearhead the initiative. A motivated cadre was built from the scratch through sessions, technical training, screening interviews and tests and they were expected to teach in places which were located a little away from their own villages depending on the requirements. This stint would provide impetus to their career prospects and help us customise the programs based on the needs of children through a bottom up approach. Our beginnings were modest and we along with the fellow's criss crossed the nook and corner of each village to find a suitable location to teach which included shade of a tree, courtyard, temple premises, dilapidated rooms and unused community centres. Getting children to attend classes was also difficult during the initial days but the remarkable stories of resilience, grit and determination is a testament to the success of this project.



## Implementation Insights

**Decline in rates of child labour-** The children who otherwise would have dropped out of school and joined work have been able to continue with their education because of LEC. Even fellows who had to assist their parents in the agriculture farms to supplement incomes were able to shift to teaching and contribute to family income.

**Use of technology** - Harnessing the potential of technology in imparting education and exploring the possibility of making learning more interesting, interactive and simple. The scholarship amount helped some fellows to purchase smartphones for their own use for the first time and they are now adept at working on Zoom and MIS platforms.

**Social awareness-** Organising rallies, session on child marriage/violence, celebrating festivals like Republic day involving community members and interactions about COVID 19 protocols/hygiene requirements.

**Sensitisation on gender related issues-** This has been one of the core focus areas of Vikalp and the experience built through years of experience in the field has helped us to locate the reasons and identify a suitable way out. The module too has been structured around addressing issues like inequality, acceptable norms of behaviour, drug abuse, and alcoholism and gender justice

**Engagement of parents-** Earlier the parents were not aware about how their children were performing in school because of the daily toil in work and this led to lack of interest among them to check progress. The regular meetings as mandated by the program have helped in reaching out to the parents, facilitating an understanding of their ward’s potential and now ensuring that the children attend classes.

**Sense of agency-** Being able to find a new voice and be able to stand up for their rights in the family and society without any inhibitions.

**Change makers-** Pooja is a fellow from Ladana and her father Prakash proudly says “She and 16 other fellows are example of a frontline worker during the pandemic. Vikalp salute their work spirit and support.”

**Two way interaction** -Teaching is a two process where the children feed off from the energy of the fellows and the other way round. Updating one’s knowledge base and finding innovative means of reaching out to the children has been a positive development as a result of this.

**Unique pedagogy-** Emphasis was placed on developing a curriculum which has the space for customising according to the student’s specific needs.

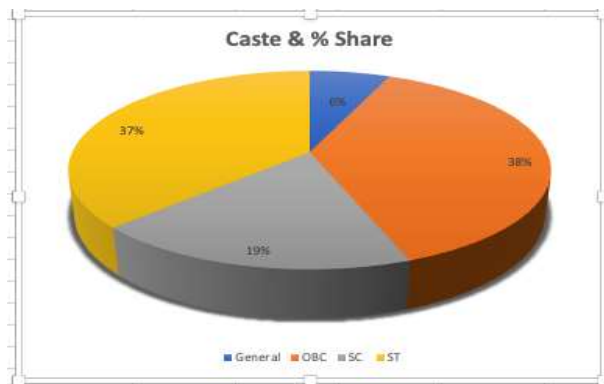
**Art of negotiation-** Our training gives special emphasis on negotiating spaces, inclusiveness bringing each stakeholder on board with the vision.

**What The Data Shows?**

We conducted a baseline survey based on ASER’s methodology to measure learning outcomes of the children and the sample size for the purpose of study was 450.

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The project was piloted for a period of six months and we did not have prior experience working on this front. Despite limitations, we browsed through the work done by various organisations for developing modules to ensure joyful and fruitful learning experience for the children in the face of a once in a lifetime crisis. Vikalp was particular about the fact that the centres should reach out to marginalised and vulnerable communities who could not have had any other option for continuing education due to the closure of schools. The demographic representation of the children associated with LEC highlights this point



The baseline survey was conducted in the month of October after preparing a detailed modus operandi, holding residential camps for fellow training, organising interactions with parents and community members and engaging with other stakeholders like Sarpanch (village head), school teachers, anganwadi workers etc. Over 47.3 percent of the children associated with LEC belong to Classes 5-8. In Hindi which is the medium

of instruction for majority of the children associated with us, 26.4 percent of them were in the initial stages of learning but after six months of LEC, the commensurate figure had fallen to 9 percent showing an incremental increase in other parameters like 27 percent now being able to understand letters. There was a thirty percent increase in children who were able to read words and relate it with pictorial representation. Our experience in the field shows that the parents are not hesitant to send their children till at least Class 8 to the school irrespective of their family background and it is constitutionally mandated as well. But the parents are not able to attach importance to education because of lack of measurable outcomes and tangible changes in their ward by the virtue of going to school. In the case of English, we developed interactive modules which were centred on conversational skills, backed up by translation in their mother tongue. We focussed on basics such as introduction, identifying objects, a brief description of the day and behavioural changes like courteously addressing elders. The changes were visible on ground with the parents acknowledging efforts on this front and priding over the fact that now their children could talk/write and read in English. The assessment shows that as opposed to 30 percent who were in the initial stages with no initiation to English, 40 percent of the students could now identify words apart from a 20 percent increase in those being able to read sentences. The figures for mathematics are reflective of the need for focussing on fundamentals and how successfully we were able to achieve the same with 50 percent increase in ability to solve multiplication and division along with a steady increase (20 percent) also seen in case of addition/subtraction.

# Sports for Empowerment



There is enough good evidence that participation in sports can help break-down gender stereotypes, improve girl's and women's self-esteem, contribute to the development of leadership skills, end body fear among girls and ultimately provide possible place for young married and unmarried girls to raise their voice against any sorts of exploitation and their own rights. With these aims Vikalp runs "sports for empowerment" program in the fifteen villages of Gogunda Block. Under the shadow of sports like volleyball, Kabbadi and other which are expected to be played by boys and men are taken into consideration. We have created 8 Volleyball and Kabbadi groups in the villages and each group having 12-15 young married and unmarried girls. Our volleyball team have represented at state level tournament along with Panchayat and district level. This Program has helped us prepare youth volunteers in the villages. Around 100 plus youth volunteers have been prepared so far and the numbers are increasing with the passage of time.

## Other Activities

**Covid19 Awareness:** Due to out-break of Pandemic Sports activities were stopped but these volunteer girls are acting as a frontline-workers in times of crisis. They are sensitizing other girls to end gender discrimination, to negotiate their parents for their rights and consents, they are making community aware of CoVID19 precautions, and also they are helping Vikalp to resolve domestic violence cases by counselling, mobilizing parents to send their children at learning and education centres opened up in 6 villages by Vikalp as Covid19 response.

**International & National Girl Child Day Celebration:** On the occasion of National Girl Child Day a mass level event was organized at Vikalp Resource centre in Gogunda Block. The event was full of activities like 100 meter race, Jalebi race, sack race, Spoon race, story sharing moments, Dream exercise with girls, Awareness talk by girls and local government representatives, bike rallies and activity based awards were distributed among first, second and third Participants. The main objective of this event was to galvanize young girls to zero child marriage and child labour, to prioritize education in their lives to bring bigger change. Around 200 young girl participants along with their parents took oath to make their villages free from all sorts of darkness.

**Parental Empowerment:** Vikalp with the passage of time have amended its strategy to empower young girls and young boys. It is essential to have separate conversations with these two genders but more importantly we have focused parental empowerment strategy. During

this lockdown period we have focused parents counselling going door to door, sensitized them for say no to child marriage, child labour, school dropout, gender based discrimination, naming of baby girl as curse. Impact of consecutive counselling, meetings, one to one dialogues seemed positive. 100 Parents are taking care of their daughter's rights and consents, ensuring equal roles for boys and girls, enrolling daughters and daughter in laws in school and colleges, allowing daughter to attend workshops, residential trainings, taking care of COVID precautions, supporting learning and education centres to function well and to be continued.

**Virtual Capacity building Workshop:** This year during complete lockdown due to corona pandemic we have provided virtual Capacity building trainings to all the staffs on zoom calls and ensured village level volunteers to get trained and then on the basis of that we had conducted several webinars and workshops in which youth from village got participate. During this webinar 91 girls and 61 boys had actively participated in each session. The sessions were based on different topics like career counselling, digital divide, Covid19 awareness & precautions and gender equality etc.

**Girl Child Birth Celebration:** We have celebrated girl's child birth in the patriarchal dominant societies and also engage community people (Men & Women) to promote gender equality. On that occasion newly elected representatives of local self-governance have attended this event and urged community to encourage to value the girl child. Also a girl from the adolescent groups (prepared by Vikalp) has named the little baby girl "Jyoti" meaning light. Meaning names to girls are kept by such adolescent groups because in male dominated communities girls are considered as stigma and that is why their names are kept accordingly which depicts unwanted girls. So, through such initiatives new norms or culture is being set up to promote meaningful names of a girl. Similarly, we have celebrated naming ceremonies for more than 20 girl child birth.



**Disability Day Celebration:** Vikalp has celebrated disability day on 3rd December with disabled persons and made them aware about schemes, how to get certificates, how to cure those who could get well and apart from that they have been given woollen clothes on that occasion. Around 5 Disabled persons took part in the meeting.

**Anti-Women Violence Day:** Anti-women Violence day was celebrated with the aim to empower and sensitize women efforts for zero the violence of any sorts. Also, encouraged them to raise their voice against injustice. During the discussion several women have shared their stories of violence they face in their houses and workplace as well. They have been distributed the Vikalp helpline centre Pamphlets to get reach freely in case of any discrimination and violence.

# "My Happiness" (Meri Khushi)

Meri Khushi Program is being run in 40 villages of Mavli Block by Vikalp Sansthan with mixed castes population with the aim to create an enabling environment for girls and married girls where community adopt sustainable change in beliefs, attitude and behaviours. Where rights can be ensured for girls and a violence free community could form.

During the entire year COVID19 Pandemic had tapped all of us to execute our planned activities but instead of all that Vikalp team and community volunteers responded the community in different ways.

**CoVID-19 Awareness Meeting:** It has also been found out that villagers do not have much information about the Corona Pandemic, how it spread and what are the preventive measures? Along with the distribution of Essential kits Vikalp Volunteers conducted meetings and provided right information about the Subject of corona. They were instructed to maintain social distances, wear mask, wash hands on regular intervals, avoid outing but only in emergency, keep homes clean, take good care of old age persons, persons with other severe diseases, children, and pregnant women, avoid fake news and myths and find reliable resources of information, keep oneself busy and happy by doing work of own interests, make habit of regular exercise etc.

**Village Level Meetings:** Vikalp team has experienced that during pandemic women and girls are dealing with several menstrual problems. So, with the help of ANM sessions on sexual and reproductive health was organized in 11 villages where 209 participants (girls and young married girls) had taken active part.

**Community Initiatives for own people:** During the pandemic villagers who are having stood up helping have not, driven grain donation campaign, accumulated 100 kg wheat and distributed among stranded migrants and others needy. It happened due to frequent motivation of Vikalp Team. Now, girls and women use to sensitize own peers and family members in an informal talks.

**Virtual Trainings:** This year during complete lockdown due to corona pandemic we have provided virtual trainings to all the staffs on zoom calls and ensured village level volunteers to get trained and then on the basis of that we had conducted several webinars and workshops in which youth from village got participate.

**Dropout girls meeting:** Whole day workshop was conducted at Fatehnagar and Changedi village with the drop out girls with the motive to encourage adolescent girls studying in open schools to focus on education and prepare for forthcoming exams. This year 70 girls have participated in this 3 block level meetings. To motivate them we asked them to share their dreams for which they started their education.

Enrolment of young girls and young married girls: 2 block level meeting and 47 participants

**Educational Survey:** With the outbreak of pandemic schools, colleges get closed and girls and boys were in their houses without any work. So, to find the educational status of such youths Vikalp had conducted education survey in 10 villages of Mavli Block. Then afterward made whatsapp group for youth to Stay connected with online webinars and other fruitful information.

**National Girl child day:** National Girl Child day was celebrated in different villages of Mavli Block in which different events took place to spread awareness related to COVID19, to stop child marriages, child labour, gender equality, gender discrimination free village. So, in that line Street play was organized in 6 Villages, education awareness rallies with children, candle march Journey, sports events like Race, sack race, spoon race, magical chair etc. were organized. Total 162 girls participated in all these events.

# Project Raise

In collaboration with Equal Community Foundation (Pune) we started working with boys of group between 13 to 17 years. The mission of raising every boy in India to be gender equitable and to transform their thinking process. The approach of raising gender equitable boys can make a significant contribution towards preventing gender-based violence and discrimination.

Particular project consists of 14 module from which we have completed all the 14 sessions during this. These sessions includes various games to make session more interactive and engaging along with the session contents.

During the session the boys were asked few questions like should a girl should stay home to be safe from molestation. Then few said that the girl should not fear from it and should come out of home and be fearless. Govind Regar said that its girls fault that they dress up so beautifully and impress the boys because of which boys try to impress them. Later after the session we tried to make him understand that it's an individual wish to dress up and look nice, you should change you mentality and be a good person. Similarly, another question was asked that can a boy and girl be friends, Hiral said that doing friendship with anyone is not bad, but the issue is that our society judge us. If a girl talks to boy then people think that they have an affair and then girl is asked to be at home and leave her studies. Indrjit said that both girl and boy have the rights to make friends of their own choice but it because of society pressure that girls cannot make male friends because it's against their culture. Total 6 groups of boys have been formed and the total 117 participants who got benefitted from the program. After receiving the entire training sessions, we have received the positive response from the parents that they are observing behavioural and attitudinal changes in their sons. Boys are now supporting their sisters, mothers and sister in laws in all the household works, speaks on gender equality topics, help sisters in studies, help sister's to negotiate parents for her rights etc.

## Awareness Campaign & Celebration

### "International Day of Girl Child"

Like every year, this year also, entire world is going to celebrate "**National Girl Child Day**" on 11th October 2020 under the theme "**My voice - Our Equal Future**". Vikalp had started responding IDG campaign a month earlier. In order to run and execute this campaign in the best way, Vikalp had held whole day staff members meeting till late night and decided/Fixed several deliverables. Vikalp had organized IDG campaign for 11 days from 1st October to 11th October, 2020. Staffs were trained and instructed on Video making, photography (solo/group), Facebook live, media coverage, article writing, case story writing, digitally flags and poster making, preparing village girl's to take initiatives to explore their dreams through cards, flags, charts, videos, story-telling and writings etc. Some events were developed like poster making, girls' volleyball match competition, cycle & bike rallies, virtual interaction with community women and girls. Through IDG campaign we were able to amplify the voice of 1000 girls and 1000 women.





## **"Grain Donation Campaign"**

In response to Covid19 Pandemic, Vikalp Sansthan continuously were reaching to the most vulnerable people including old age people, Single women, person with disabilities, pregnant women, children with care and protection in remote areas of Gogunda, Mavli and Udaipur to serve. Similarly, around 100 migrants' workers relying on daily wages from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh living in Chandeli villages of Mavli block had to leave their jobs due to the sudden shut down of factories from the outbreak of lockdown and were unable to arrange food and shelter for a single time. With the intension of helping those out, the villagers along with community volunteers and Vikalp team had driven 'grain donation campaign' to help such stranded migrant labours. This donation was from the haves to have not among the society. The idea to help migrants was welcomed by 200 Villagers and supported with wheat grains as per capacities irrespective of caste, religion, region, language, creed, race, gender etc. Around 400 kilogram wheat had been raised and distributed most of its parts among the migrant labours.

This was one of the outstanding moves with the view of care for others during COVID-19 which was appreciated by the villagers and local administrators. In times of Pandemic this idea proved as worthwhile and became the instance for other states.

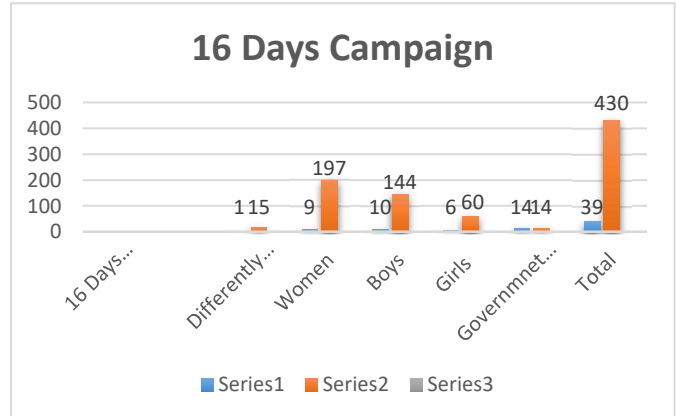
## **"Cloth Donations Drive"**

Vikalp Sansthan has always been initiated useful campaign and drives to support economically backward and poor families socially, economically, emotionally even in the serious outbreak of Corona Pandemic. This Pandemic Under "Khushi" program Vikalp had intended to provide clothes to all aged people in its operational areas. Earlier, proclamation were done on social media among the people to



donate clothes whatever the people have. It was shocking within a week 1500 pair of clothes were donated by all groups of people including doctors, professors, police administrators, social workers, students and community itself. This drive was successfully conducted for entire months and reached up to more than 1500 vulnerable children, 200 men, 450 women etc.

## "16 Days Campaign"



Against gender-based violence is an international campaign to challenge violence against women and girls. The campaign runs every year from 25 November, "the International day for the elimination of violence against women" to 10 December, "Human Rights Day". Vikalp has organized a series of activities like sensitization campaign with men and boys and held discussion, story, video show. Organized several meetings with urban and rural women and girls to discuss about sexual abuse, gender-based violence, women's and girl's rights, reproductive health etc. Awareness programs were organized with differently abled children and men to make them aware about schemes, scholarships and other beneficial grants and also from the discriminations happens with them. Below meeting and participants data has been mentioned. (In index blue colour bar depicts number of meetings while orange bar depicts participants).

## Late Evening Gathering (Ratri Chaupal)



We have done Ratri Chaupal Events in 2 different villages for domestic violence and education awareness because most of the people go to their farms and jobs during day time. One of the community stakeholder sung song using local dialects requesting parents to send their girls to our learning centers and schools to get education. Almost 250 participants including girls, boys, men and women were present.

Right before Ratri Chaupal Event, dialogue with community girls. Wardi Gameti (girl in red saree) is the only girl from her community who has completed her matriculation (10th standard) is sharing her experience how hard for her to complete her 10th and why not other girls even pursue their basic education.

# **Our Initiatives During COVID19**

## **Vikalp COVID-19 Response**

At an early phase of lockdown Vikalp with immediate effects had conducted a survey with the help of volunteers in the villages of Mavli, Gogunda blocks and in Udaipur districts to know the actual need and grievances of the people. That survey helped to find that number of people living in the villages or in urban areas do not have enough food for daily consumption and also gave a level of insights on the situation that who and how many are in need. According to that a strategically planning was formulated.

## **Vikalp's Covid19 Response -2.0 (2020)**

Vikalp has responded community since the beginning of pandemic out broke and when every single settings got stopped. Vikalp have responded most vulnerable community of Mavli, Gogunda and Udaipur Blocks in two phases and named it phase 1 and 2.1 and served over all 3000 families with essential groceries kits, 8000 sanitary pads, 8000 soaps, 8000 masks, 2400 foods to stranded migrants and resolved 109 violence based cases by advocating government officials.

Although, 17 learning and education centres were set up in seventeen vulnerable villages with the help of local community youth fellows to zero the risk of complete dropout from school, child marriage, child labour and violence. Through these centre Vikalp Sansthan served more than 800 children. Till the date, centres are providing joyful learning and saving them from COVID19 through spreading awareness through learning and education centres.

## **Online Capacity Building Workshops for boys and girls**

During this year when everything got stopped even the schools, colleges too due to out-break of pandemic. Vikalp found the opportunity to turn crisis into opportunity for which survey was conducted on access of digital device in village and it was found that about 67% one or two persons have smart phone in each houses especially youth have. This survey proved to be a very helpful in making us next plan. We started connecting the youth with online youth leadership capacity building workshops, turning crisis into opportunity in which we have sessions on various topics like, Use of digital device for better cause, photography, film and video making, career counselling, Corona epidemic and it's prevention, Pedagogy, Role of

youth towards community, leadership building, best understanding of gender in youth, Best practices during Pandemic, Story-telling and making etc. Almost 35 sessions were taken and around 700 youth made their presence. Participants were between the age groups of 15-25 years. Similarly, several such sensitive and productive issues were covered up through it.

Regular interaction put an imminent impacts on the youth as they join meetings on or before the time, ask for questions and get queries resolved, actively support Vikalp field workers in village based events and activities, many girls got herself re-enrolled with open schooling education system even after long gap, many boys are supporting their sisters, mothers in household works and studies.

## **Learning and Education Centre**

In response to covid-19, Vikalp on basis of pilot survey has established learning and Education Centre at 17 places of Udaipur, Mavali and Gogunda blocks where children from marginalized and low economic community use to come to continue their studies even after the complete closure of all the government and private schools. While segregating centres in blocks, Udaipur slums having 2 learning centres, Gogunda Block having 6 learning centres and Mavli Block having 9 learning Centres. All the 17 villages have been selected on the basis of highest possibilities of children drop out from the schools, increment in child labour and child marriage and the core intension behind was to zero child drop out, zero the child marriage and child labour and connect children with joyful learning and education.



The program was started in the month of July 2020 and since then we have recorded the presence of 800 plus marginalized children from our learning and education centres and successfully saved 800 plus children from being dropped from education and learning, from pushed into child marriage and child labour and moreover ensured good learning outcomes and behavioural changes among children as well as parents.

## **Youth Fellowship Program:**

Vikalp Fellowship program is also an initiative during the First wave of COVID19. Vikalp has always dreamed of working with youth to create change maker. So, Youth Fellows were elected from the same community where there are learning centres so that they can take ownership for their own villages. The aim was to make Fellow's technically empowered, socially aware, analytical thinkers, community carder builder, motivator, leader, digitally skilful, gender Sensitized etc. Fellows are being digitally empowered by zoom calls twice in a month. Accordingly, 20 sessions have been conducted during six month of tenure. Fellows are now very much familiar with zoom app and its processes. Moreover, they prepare their own

monthly action, learnt report writing, develop joyful curriculums, Communicate well with parents, sets agenda to communicate with parents and community people, learnt interactive pedagogy, each fellow handles 50-60 children at her centres. They have screened several arts, crafts and other talents taught to children by fellows, photos of which have been attached below. Now, Fellows have been certified for fellowship program for the completion of six month tenure. Further, 3 months program have been extended till the month of June 2021.



Vikalp do focus on the "Joyful Learnings" for children which is beyond education. We are already involved with some friend organizations who have helped us giving radio programs, video films related to these children and resource materials also. These days children are learning by playing, doing paintings, learning English speaking with the help of videos dialogues.

## Research and Survey

**Survey with Disabled:** With the intension to assimilate disabled groups who are considered out skirts from the main stream of the society, Vikalp has conducted digital survey through google form to know the actual conditions of disabled lives, consumption and utilization of resources, schemes and other services and facilities in their daily lives. By knowing the fact that the they are looking helpless, do not have access to utilize government schemes, resources and services, do not have disabled certificates, those who have multiple disabilities are not in schools and even schools are not providing any such facilities for such kids and people. So, there is a lot to work with them and make them feel they are integral part of the society.

## Research on Child marriage, sexual harassment and violence:

Particular research has been done by Vikalp Sansthan in association of Nirantar Sansthan, Delhi on the emerging issues of Child marriage, sexual harassment and violence. This has been done in two districts of Rajasthan (Udaipur and Rajsamand) both in rural and urban settings. Researcher training were conducted prior to research conduction for research induction as

well as tool kits trainings. Covering case stories, interviews and FGD methods were adopted. Police, NGO workers, young boys and girls, parents, Community stakeholders were the main respondents during research.

**Educational Survey:** With the outbreak of pandemic schools, colleges get closed and girls and boys were in their houses without any work. So, to find the educational status of such youths Vikalp had conducted education survey in 55 villages of Mavli, Gogunda block and slum areas of Udaipur city. On the basis of survey it has been analysed that boys spent most of their time in unproductive work, while girls have to face extra household burden due to which do not get time to study. Then afterward Vikalp made whatsapp group for youth to stay connected with online webinars and other fruitful information. More than 200 boys and girls are connected with our whatsapp group and are getting benefited with productive information and online events.

## Testimonials

*"Within Five month I have seen behavioural and attitudinal changes within my children. Now, they are taking care of their own cleanliness, health and hygiene. And that is why we and entire community want learning centre to be continue for further periods as it put greater and different impacts on our children and us too."* -Tola Ram, Sarpanch - Obra khurd Panchayat, Gogunda Block

*"Earlier Parents had to utilize ample energy to drop the children at learning centre, while with the passes of time both the children and parents have received acceptance towards the learning and education centres and children in large number (60 in numbers) come to the centres by themselves."* -Pooja Bairagi, Vikalp Fellow - Ladani Village, Mavli Block

### Fellow's Corner

#### Reena Banjara

'LEC has made parents take notice of their child's growth holistically.'

I completed my Class 12 with First Class and though my father is a habitual drinker who has not taken care of his family, I have personally been witness to him talking about his daughter with great pride who was among the very few girls in the community who went for higher studies. During holidays, I would take up various works to fund my education. I have never owned a smartphone before and though its use was mandatory for the fellows, Vikalp persisted with me till I purchased a new one. It took me time to understand how it worked but the pace at which I picked up the technicalities which even surprised me. I have a sharp sense of articulation and am not afraid to conduct presentations in front of people, rather I enjoy doing it. The children were accustomed to using expletives or disrespectful phrases but I



ensured that they switch to proper language with greetings showing respect to each other irrespective of age. It was difficult to assemble all the kids at one place and around half an hour was spent just doing this task. But as time progressed they started taking more interest and parents were keenly following their ward's progress through the PFM." The module according to her was an interesting mix of co-curricular, sports and academics and she made some modifications to it as well. The challenges have been aplenty "I have not got support from my community and they have threatened to alert government officials for violating COVID-19 norms. The smallest noise would trigger frantic response from the elders but I have not hesitated to raise my voice against such behaviour. The women in my village are hesitant to come for PFM since the men would create tension at home for participating in it after drinking alcohol. The celebrations among the children during festivals are occasions of immense happiness and one thing I am particular about is taking permission from the children before clicking their photographs. Their consent should not be taken for granted. I conduct door to door PFM and a lot of parents are happy with the LEC due to simple reasons such as they talk to their parents with respect or speak full sentences in English. This has led to increased participation during PFM. Vikalp gave me a platform to express myself and talk freely without any inhibition."

## Our Recognition

### "I am Shakti Award"

Tara Regar one of the Vikalp Youth volunteer has been awarded this year with "I am Shakti Award" by the Ministry of Women and Child Development Department of Rajasthan. She has been awarded for her bravery to stoppage her own child marriage with the great efforts. She dared to step out and take action for the cause and got support from Vikalp. Later on she stopped more than 50 child marriage cases in her locality.



### "VIRANGNA AWARD"

Usha Choudhary has been awarded this year for working tirelessly during COVID19 for the welfare of the community, to eliminate hunger, to zero drop out, to zero child marriage and child labour. She has saved 800 plus children child marriage, child labour and drop out from education by opening up of 17 learning and education centers in 17 most vulnerable areas. She has been awarded by Jwala Care Foundation with "Virangna Award".



# Our Partners

