

## June Newsletter

### June Events

#### - **28<sup>th</sup> June- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010: Regional Lobbying and Advocacy Workshop in Nepal**

Three members of NCDHR (Seema from AIDMAM, Ashim from NDM and, Sanjeev from DAAA) have participated in a 4 days Workshop on Lobbying and Advocacy at Dhulikhel near Kathmandu, Nepal, which was jointly organized by INSEC, Nepal and IPAC, India. The workshop was attended by participants from Nepal, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. The 4 days workshop was facilitated by Mr. Narender Kumar from IPAC, Mr. Krishna Prasad from INSEC and Mr. Malay Kumar from Prayatna. The Workshop was focusing on the various conditions required for lobbying, steps in lobbying, networking and alliance-building and various things to be done for the organization which is taking up Lobbying as its Strategy. On the third day, the participants were taken to a guided organizational visit to INSEC accompanied with an address by the Chairman highlighting their experience of the Lobbying strategy they have undertaken for the last two decades in the history of Nepal and the various challenges they faced.

### National Dalit Movement for Justice (NDMJ)

#### - **22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010: State-level Consultation at Una, (Himachal Pradesh)**

Nearly 30 activists from 4 districts participated in the consultation. It was jointly resolved that all the activists would undertake the following assignments in order to ensure the better enforcement of the SCs & STs (PoA) Act, 1989 and Rules, 1995 for proclaiming Dalit Human Rights in the State:

- They will contact with more and more activists to network for the promotion and the protection of Dalit Human Rights through the provisions of SCs & STs (PoA) Act, 1989 and Rules, 1995.
- They will meet with as many MLAs as they know along-with a note on their power and role to enforce District-level and State-level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees.
- They will inform the State Secretary of NDMJ whenever they come to know of any atrocities against Dalits in their region.
- They will file RTI applications to the various authorities on the various provisions of the SCs & STs (PoA) Act and its monitoring mechanisms being guided by the State Secretary of NDMJ.

#### - **Dalit Paralegal Trainings**

As per the understanding with the Indian Institute of Paralegal Studies, a training of Dalit Paralegals was organized across the country (Haryana, Punjab and Maharashtra). During these Dalit Paralegal Trainings, the legal aspects of SCs & STs (PoA) Act, Domestic Violence Act, Right to Information Act, NREGA Scheme were covered and the ways to utilize these practical legislations to protect and promote Dalit Human Rights by the Paralegals were explained.

## Dalit Arthik Adhikar Andolan (DAAA)

### - 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> June 2010: Workshop on Special Component Plan



As known a study has been carried out in collaboration of the CBGA and DAAA-NNCDHR, with the support of UNDP, on strengthening the implementation of SCP (Special Component Plan) and TSP (Tribal Sub-Plan) through revealing their present gaps and status. In order to further this project, a three and half days training was organized in collaboration of the CBGA and DAAA-NCDHR. The training was also focused on making the State Representatives able to decipher the budget books and decode the different codes in the Detailed Demands for Grants and then interpret it. The other objectives of the training were to build the

capacity of the state representatives, to analyze the budgets of their respective state in terms of plan allocations and actual expenditure on various schemes and programmes being implemented for the benefit of SC/STs, and finally to strategize the future plan of action in the states in order to carry out advocacy and lobby work, to give an orientation about the scope, objectives and methodology of the study being carried with the support of UNDP.

## All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch (AIDMAM)

### - 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2010: Half Yearly Review and Planning Meeting, (October 2009 –March 2010)



AIDMAM organized its half yearly Review and Planning Meeting from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2010 in the conference room of NCDHR. All the state coordinators were attending the meeting in order to:

- Critically review the AIDMAM programme strategy & activities and systems
  - Identify the major challenges and risks and the different plan to address them
  - Build State plans of actions according to the objectives which were fixed
- Increase the knowledge and the skills of AIDMAM team through input sessions
  - And finally update the profiling of Dalit Women Elected Representatives (DWERs) and identify the next action points towards the completion of the programme.

Following the Half Yearly Review and Planning Meeting, TNA (Training Need Assessment) meetings with DWERs were carried out in most of the States of intervention.

### - Creation of a blog

AIDMAM announces its presence on e-bloggers: <http://allindiadalitmahilaadhikarmanch.blogspot.com/>.

## National Dalit Watch (NDW)

### - **18 & 19 June 2010: National Consultation at the India Habitat Center, New Delhi**

The National Dalit Watch (NDW) of the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR) and Sphere India co-organized the National Consultation on **“Exclusion of Dalits from disaster response and risk reduction interventions: Advocacy for effective civil society monitoring, enabling policy regime and well defined state entitlements to ensure inclusion”**, on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of June 2010, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

The National Consultation aimed to bring together civil society organizations, International NGOS, experts in the field of disaster response, mitigation and preparedness, senior government officials and executives (NDMA, SDMA and nodal ministries such as MHA) from the UN bodies to deliberate on the issue of exclusion of Dalits from all disaster related interventions, so as to strengthen effective inclusion solutions. The Consultation reviewed the existing evidence and experiences of exclusion, developed draft guidelines for developing tools to monitor dalit exclusion to finalize an agenda for advocacy.

Prof. Vinod Menon, Member, National Disaster Management Authority, emphasized the need to sensitize people at grassroots level because all implementations take place at that level, and the workers should understand the dynamics of the problem of casteism. He also stated that policy interventions need to be upscaled strategically and the existing institutions should be fortified.

On the occasion, the monitoring study of Dalits’ access to Relief and Rehabilitation following 2009 floods, undertaken jointly by Dalit Watch Andhra Pradesh and National Dalit was formally released.