

NCDHR

NCDHR-ALL INDIA DALIT MAHILA ADHIKAR MANCH (AIDMAM)



Two day networking meeting of Dalit Women Activists on violence against Dalit women in Lucknow, July 30-31, 2011

A 2 -day meeting was held in Lucknow for strengthening network of Dalit women activists in Lucknow. Ms. Asha Kowtal and Ambalika Roy along with entire team of AIDMAM helped in facilitating the entire meeting.

We are happy to welcome Ms. Namrata Daniel as Programme Coordinator, in AIDMAM, National Secretariat, New Delhi

The meeting was attended by 25 activists from several districts of UP. The main issue of deliberation was the multiple forms of victimization of Dalit women owing to their gender and caste. The Secretary of the UP State legal services Authority, Ms. G Sreedevi inaugurated the meeting and also facilitated a session on free legal Aid and access to Justice System. She also enumerated the services available in the state of UP for availing legal aid. She briefed the group about the upcoming mobile van facility which would take complaints from all the villages of UP and help to redress such complain.

A thorough discussion took place on understanding different dynamics of gender and patriarchy. A detailed discussion on the Protection of Domestic Violence Act and the Prevention of Atrocities on SC/ST Act was held as well.

The meeting virtually led the foundation of a network of dalit women activist in UP, which would be further strengthened in the upcoming meetings.



NCDHR-DALIT ARTHIK ADHIKAR ANDOLAN (DAAA)

Developments made on the High Court petition filed against unlawful demolition of Gayatri colony (Baljeet nagar) in March 2011, New Delhi

In the March Newsletter you were informed about the unlawful demolition of 750 houses in the Gayatri colony, New Delhi, 80% of which belonged to Dalits by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA). NCDHR together with other organisation through Human Rights Law Network filed a petition in the Delhi High Court. After court directions to the DDA to ensure basic amenities to the evicted victims and providing information about any survey conducted by them before executive the demolition of houses here, the High Court on 8 July directed:-

1. Respondent N.3, Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) to conduct a survey of the area and determine whether the land in occupation of the residents falls within the cluster of Punjabi Basti or is a separate cluster; &
2. In the event if any person is found not eligible for rehabilitation under the scheme, reasons for ineligibility must be recorded.

The DUSIB is mandated to complete the survey by next date of hearing on December 14, 2011



Demolition of Dalit habitat in Karol Bagh, New Delhi, July 28, 2011



DAAA has now intervened in yet another case of unlawful eviction of Dalit families in New Delhi.

On Thursday, 28 July 2011, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) demolished the houses of 15 Dalit families who had been living in the Karol Bagh area for the past 60 years. The demolition was conducted without any due process in clear violation of the residents' constitutional and statutory rights. The forced eviction occurred even though an urgent petition had been filed on behalf of the residents by the Human Rights Law Network (HRLN) in the Delhi High Court, challenging the legality of the eviction.

These families having population of 80 people, who have been residing in the area, a very posh locality, for decades, possessing ration cards, voter I-cards, birth certificate, death certificates, electricity bills and water bills etc. on the given residence address. The residents were all taken by utter shock. The families reported that they had maximum 30 minutes to salvage their belongings, due to which very little could be saved and the rest is now forming part of debris.

The people from the dominant castes in the locality called them by caste names and mistreated them. They could not stomach the sight of Dalits living next to them. The Resident Welfare Association of the area used RTI as their tool to obtain information about the legal tenure of these Dalit families, resulting in the eviction of these families.

A petition is filed at the Delhi High Court and the various partnering organisations have started thinking of alternate ways of holding the government authorities responsible for the miscarriage of the norms and violation of human rights. It's hard to see how in urban settings also casteism is exercising its strong hold over the educated masses.

Read the press release at- [Demolition of Dalit habitats continue in Delhi/Karol Bagh](#)

NCDHR- DAAA-NATIONAL DALIT WATCH
www.nationaldalitwatch-ncdhr.blogspot.com

RTI to seek information on the compensation secured by 1135 Dalit families, on the basis of list submitted by DW-AP after 2009 floods

RTI has been filed to the Commissioner, Disaster Management of State Disaster Management Department, seeking progress made or action taken on representations submitted after flood, list of such families with the exact details of the compensation given, and reasons why these families did not receive compensation earlier. Responses are awaited.

Capacity building of DBSU members (active part of DW-AP working network), July 22, 2011, Mehboobnagar district, AP

DW-AP held a meeting in Mehboobnagar district which was attended by the members and leaders of Dalit Bahujan Shramik Union (DBSU) from 100 mandals from across 8 blocks of the district. Information on disaster management and Calamity Relief Fund scheme was disseminated among the participants, both with respect to floods and droughts.



Pre-monsoon representation filed in Mehboobnagar and Hyderabad districts of Andhra Pradesh

DW-AP filed a Pre-monsoon representation to the administration of Mehboobnagar district and Disaster Management Commissioner in Hyderabad. This representation stands for knowing the preparedness measures undertaken by the government well before the monsoon sets in, to know of their disaster management plans, arrangement for the grievance redressal mechanism well in advance with special mandate to look into issues of exclusion of Dalits; enumeration of all Dalit families (with details of women, pregnant, lactating, single women, women-headed households, aged and all the children) in the village, a status report (vulnerability assessment report) of the administration of the extent of risk, the status of their habitation, housing and food security situation as the monsoon approaches, so that there is no excuse after the disaster strikes and so on.

Pilot application of VM-IM exercise in village Pithiyal of district Lakhimpur, block Dhakuakhana, Assam, July 20-24, 2011

Rural Volunteers centre, network partner of NDW in Assam, after having identified and trained its volunteers in VM-IM exercise in May, piloted the first phase of the exercise in Pithiyal village. On July 25, they held a debriefing meeting to analyze the achievements and constraints, on the basis of which future plan of action is devised for Dhakuakhana.

Training of task force members on Vulnerability Mapping (VM) - Inclusion Monitoring (IM), July 5-6, 2011, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh



After the training in Karnataka and Assam in May this year, Dalit Watch-AP team conducted workshop for training the identified volunteers from the network organisations working on inclusion issues in disasters in VM-IM. Twenty volunteers hailing from different flood prone regions of AP underwent this training. The objectives of the workshop were (i) to develop a clear conceptual and practical understanding of exclusion of Dalit communities in disasters and learn methods to monitor and record such practices of exclusion; and (ii) to equip the cadre of volunteers to in inclusion monitoring during and after disasters.



NCDHR-NATIONAL DALIT MOVEMENT FOR JUSTICE (NDMJ)

An interface with MLAs and Parliamentarian of the Maharashtra on the proper and effective implementation of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and Rules, Maharashtra, July 29, 2011

A meeting of Dalit MPs, MLAs and MLCs, was organised through the Secretary, SC & ST Forum of MPs and MLA, which was attended by a total of 12 MLAs, MLCs/MPs. In the meeting, various issues related to the Dalits, such as, diversion of funds from special component plan, dropout of Dalit students from the primary education schools, land and water related issues, housing, and discrimination in scholarships were discussed. In their agenda, the forum also included the issue of non implementation of the PoA Act and Rules. NDMJ apprised the members of the forum on the non implementation of various monitoring and accountability mechanisms under the Act and Rules. We also gave the questionnaires, report card and proposed amendments on the PoA Act to all the MLAs and MPs. The members agreed to raise the issue of the non implementation in the

ensuing sessions. Some MLAs also showed their interest to meet us later on with the draft status on some of the issues.

Meeting with the Director of State Judicial Academy, Maharashtra, July 28, 2011

In pursuance of our engagement with the National and State Judicial Academies, we met with the Joint Director of the State Judicial Academy, in Utthan and Mumbai. The director agreed for a separate 2-day training programme for the Judges and Special Public Prosecutors of the Special Courts on Dalit exclusion in socio-economic spheres and SCs & STs (PoA) Act and Rules. We also discussed the possibility of monitoring some of the special courts, which comes under the purview of the High Court and not under the purview of the State Judicial Academy.

Meeting with the Nodal Officer, Mr. Dinesh Waghmare, Secretary, Social Welfare and Special Central Assistance Programme, 28 July 2011

We met with the Nodal Officer under SCs and STs [PoA] Act 1989 and Rules 1995, Mr. Dinesh Waghmare, Secretary, Social Welfare and Special Assistance Programme. Since the Government of Maharashtra is establishing six exclusive special courts, the Nodal officer asked us to prepare the guidelines for the special courts to function more efficiently. The guidelines will be prepared by the NDMJ, in collaboration with Dr. Ambedkar Research and Training Institute, Pune. He was also shown a 'Model Government Order' for the proper enforcement of the mandatory responsibilities to be carried out by the District Magistrates under the PoA Act and Rules [On the Identification of Atrocity Prone areas, Preventive and precautionary measures, review of the PPs and conducting of the District Level Monitoring Committees].

The Nodal Officer appreciated the Model Government Order and assured issuing such orders to all the District Magistrates. We also agreed to draft a format for monitoring the monthly reviews conducted by the District Magistrates.

Training of District Magistrates, Superintendent of Police, Special Public Prosecutors, district social welfare officers, on SCs and STs [PoA] Act 1989 and Rules 1995, Nasik, Maharashtra, July 27, 2011



In continuation of the directions issued by the Maharashtra High Court, regarding proper implementation of the SCs/STs [PoA] Act 1989 and Rules 1995, Dr. Ambedkar Research and Training Institute, Pune, an initiative of the Maharashtra State Government in the social sector has been given the responsibility to engage, train and sensitize the district level enforcement officials on the Act and its Rules.

Since the Public Interest Litigation was filed by NDMJ, the institute also invited Dr. S.D.J.M Prasad, Gen. Secy of NDMJ, as a resource person for these trainings.

On July 27, training for the Nasik division was organised, where NDMJ also participated. The training programmes were led by Mr. P. S. Wankhede (Director – Dr. Ambedkar Research & Training Institute, Pune) and the honorable members of the State SC / ST Commission and DGP (crimes), Maharashtra among others. Around 100 participants were trained from Nashik division at the Administrative Office, covering the DMs, SPs & DSPs of Ahmednagar, Dhule, Jalgaon, Nandurbar, and Nashik.

Jobs to the dependents of Dalits murdered in Bhagalpur, Bihar, July 25, 2011

According to the Contingency Plan of Bihar State Government under rule 15 of the SCs & STs (PoA) Rules, the dependents of the victims murdered in atrocity cases registered under the SCs & STs (PoA) Act, are supposed to be given State Government jobs. We have been following up various atrocity cases for months. Finally on July 25, the Bihar SC / ST Welfare Minister, Mr. Jitan Ram Manjhi, gave the appointment letters to 10 such survivors in a public function organized by the District Magistrate of Bhagalpur District, Bihar.

A meeting with the Additional Director General of Police, Orissa, July 24, 2011

In continuation with our earlier discussion with the DGP, Orissa, a delegation met with the Mr. Kapur, Additional Director General of Police, at Bhubaneswar, Orissa. The Police department is preparing a strategy paper to work on 102 atrocity prone areas identified by them of the Act and Rules. They have drafted a concept note based on the '**Report Card of 20 years of SCs & STs (PoA) Act**', prepared by NDMJ.



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Following our sharing on different strategies of engaging with different State Governments, they sought our support in terms of preparing guidelines / format for the enforcement officials for the enforcement of the mandatory provisions of the Act & Rules. This commitment was re-confirmed when the DGP mentioned the same strategy in his plan report to the National Commission for Scheduled Caste.

The purpose of the consultation was to enable the trained HRDs to avail necessary accompaniment and support from the Human Rights leaders and organisations, to use their knowledge and skills in an efficient manner and render their services effectively to the victims of human rights violations.

The meeting was organized by a Consortium of NAWO, SFDC, Jana Vikas and CSNR in association with NCDHR and People's Watch. Forty-three persons representing thirty-three organizations participated in it. Dr. SDJM Prasad was one of the resource persons and a senior civil society activist from Kandhamal, Adv. Paul Pradhan (Director, Pollishree) was the chair.

State Consultation with Elected Representatives and Civil Society on SCs & STs (PoA) Act & Rules, Special Component Plan & Tribal Sub Plan and Education in Madhya Pradesh, July 14, 2011



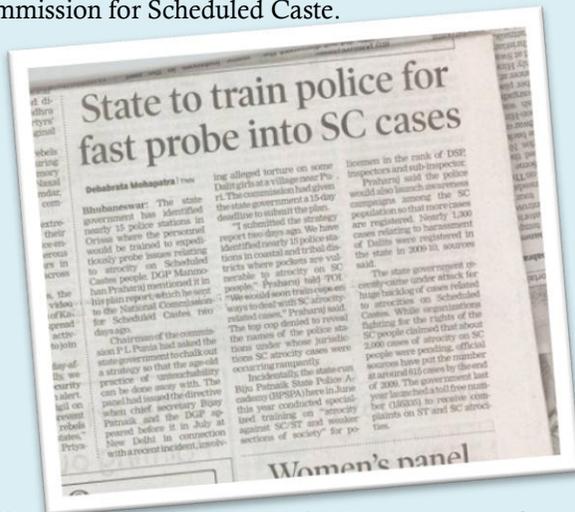
After the presentations on the findings of a study on discrimination in education and health system in Madhya Pradesh; the status of enforcement of SCs & STs (PoA) Act & Rules in the state by NDMJ; and status of allocation of funds in SCP & TSP by DAAA, vis-à-vis the possible

strategy and role of MLAs, the present MLAs engaged in a candid discussion with the representatives of the civil society organizations, about their interventions and challenges they face in delivering their responsibilities as elected representatives of Dalit and Adivasi population in Madhya Pradesh.

Many representatives from the Civil Society suggested some constructive suggestions. Some of the resolutions decided in the consultation included, formation of a forum of SC & ST MLAs from across different political parties; participation of the MLAs in fact finding missions on atrocity cases and organization of a pre-budget consultative process with the civil society organizations and the elected representatives to discuss the demands in the upcoming state budget. It was also decided that while the MLAs will raise questions for the welfare of Dalit and Adivasi community, civil society organizations would utilize public interest litigation as a tool to secure justice and welfare for dalits and adivasis.

Advocacy with National Commission for Scheduled Caste, Bihar, July 3, 2011

A public awareness programme on the rights of Dalits was initiated by the National Commission for Scheduled Caste, Bihar. NDMJ in Bihar was also a part of the organizing committee for this public awareness programme. Following the programme, a delegate NDMJ submitted a representation to the chairperson of National Commission for Scheduled Castes, Mr. P. L. Punia, along-with the status of 25 recent major atrocity cases of Bihar. The chairperson promised to take up the cases for consideration.



Follow-up Consultation to the Training on of Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) of Kandhamal, July 24, 2011

Based on the suggestions during the state level training on Fact Finding and Documentation Skills for Effective Monitoring of Human Rights Violations, held in April 2011, at Gopalpur, Ganjam; a follow up meeting was organized at DRTC-CYSD at Bhubaneswar, with the decision makers of the groups (those mentoring the trained HRDs).



NCDHR making news:-

[4,311 cases pending in SC/ST police stations in Bihar, July 29, 20](#)

[Can anticipatory bail be granted in atrocity cases? July 29, 2011](#)

[The Dalit groups give political warning to UPA over SC status, July 28, 2011](#)

[Mirchpur victims march towards Delhi to meet Rahul, July 21, 2011](#)

[MCD demolishes 20 houses in Karol bagh, GovernanceNow, July 29, 2011](#)

[Karol Bagh settlement demolished, New Delhi, July 29, 2011, The Hindu](#)

[NAC's Communal Violence Bill draft ready: \(The Hindu, 20th May 2011\)](#)

[Three Police companies deployed at Mirchpur: \(The Pioneer, 31 May 2011\)](#)

[Mirchpur Kand: Tarachand ki patni ne 81 aaropi pehchaane: \(Dainik Bhaskar, 30th April 2011\)](#)

[Witness identifies 81 accused in Mirchpur caste violence case: \(The Hindu, 5th May 2011\)](#)

[“Nyay Ke Liye Kadi Suraksha Kee Maang” – Manisha Bhalla \(Outlook – Hindi\)](#)

[“Mirchpur probe set to miss extended deadline” – Nishu Mahajan, Chandigarh \(The Pioneer\)](#)

[Funds for SC/STs to come under separate sub-heads](#)

[CM mute spectator to SC, ST atrocities: MLA – the Pioneer](#)

[“Govts watch blockades silently” – Dhananjay Mahapatra \(The Times of India\)](#)

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

[Manmohan pitches for implementation of laws to protect SCs](#)

[Non-Jat leader Tanwar in 7-day police custody](#)

[Mayawati wants PM to pay attention towards dalits of Mirchpur village](#)

[Police lathicharge Dalit protesters in Hisar](#)

[Khap panchayats' diktats must be ruthlessly stamped out: Apex court](#)

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