





NATIONAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN

GIWA AND UNICEF

ON ROUTINE IMMUNISATION,
CLIMATE CHANGE &
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



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INTRODUCTION

Faith leaders and faith-based organisations (FBOs) stand as indispensable pillars in our society, providing unwavering strength, enduring stability, and invaluable guidance to individuals. Now in our second year of expanded partnership between GIWA and UNICEF It is undeniable that these entities continue to be paramount in shaping the trajectory of our communities. Through this work together we see the power that exists in the capacity of FBOs who do not merely observe but actively spearhead solutions to the most formidable challenges confronting our society.

Faith Based Organisations are adept at mobilising large communities to take action, using ceremonies and events to raise awareness and pledge for change. FBOs are amongst UNICEF's strongest partners and have played a prominent role in sharing knowledge and experiences for implementing programs and providing financial aid, and as we see today, in an ever expanding and diverse spectrum of areas of work.

ABOUT GIWA

The Global Interfaith WASH Alliance (GIWA) is the world's first initiative that is engaging the planet's many faiths as allies in efforts to create a world where every human being has access to safe drinking water, improved sanitation and proper hygiene (WASH). GIWA was formally launched on September 25, 2013 at the UNICEF World Headquarters in New York, during the UN General Assembly meetings commencing a decade of cooperation together.

OUR PARTNERSHIP

This partnership commences a new phase of formal GIWA and UNICEF collaboration, although both parties have been close collaborators right from GIWA's launch at UNICEF World Headquarters in 2012. Since then we have been coming together regularly to activate interfaith leaders, such as in our annual initiative to raise awareness about health issues through the simple and effective practice of hand washing for Global Handwashing Day.

Building from the success of past years championing innovative approaches, in the last few months our work has borne witness to remarkable progress, encompassing pioneering initiatives addressing Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability (CCES) and leading a faith response to address India's need to bolster Routine Immunisation (RI).

This year, we are delighted to join in collaboration with an expanded group of faith partners focused on three areas where we will empower the influence of faith leaders through up to date data and knowledge to be a powerful catalyst for bringing positive changes in their own communities.

The 3 key areas include:



Routine Immunisation:

Helping to improve the community understanding of the importance of vaccination with the focus on its uptake especially in underserved communities.

(V)

Fostering Healthy Lifestyles:

- Including an understanding on impacts of climate change on human health
- Adoption of healthy lifestyles
- Use of the Vasundhara toolkit as a basis of SBC

Hygiene Promotion:

- Regular use of toilet and its maintenance
- Consumption of safe water and environmental cleanliness
- Hand washing with Soap (HWWS)

OUR PARTNERS AND AREAS OF IMPACT

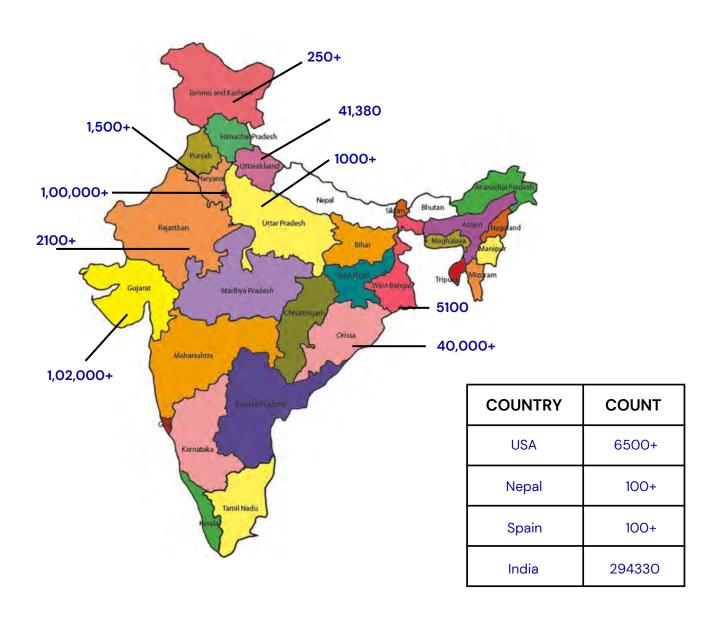
PARTNER ORGANISATIONS			
Delhi Gurudwara Bangla	Acharya Sushil Muni	Bharitya Sarv Dharm	
Saheb Committee	Mission, Delhi	Sansad, Delhi	
Harijan Sevak Sangh,	Swaminarayan Gurukul	Mahabodhi International	
UP, Delhi and WB	Parivar, Gujarat	Meditation Centre, Ladakh	
Vinoba Bhave Ashram, Shajahanpur	Keshav Priya Gaushala, Pujya Sant Murlidharji Maharaj	Madrasa Board Uttarakhand	

GIWA has focused on leveraging the power of its own platform and activating partnerships with a host of Faith Based Organisations and in amplifying outreach for raising awareness on the issues of increasing the coverage of Routine Immunisation (RI) and enhancing awareness of Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability (CCES). The events and initiatives were undertaken in several states and regions across the country – Rishikesh and Uttarkashi in Uttarakhand; Delhi, Uttar Pradesh; Ahmedabad in Gujarat; Rajasthan, and Kolkata in West Bengal.

The activities that were undertaken were broad and innovative in nature that have enabled this project to reach hundreds of thousands of people, especially targeting vulnerable and marginalised populations. The strategy included activating a diverse array of important and large scale faith gatherings, faith based events and pilgrimages in the nation, developing creative programs to engage youth at faith institutions and their schools, reaching large numbers of interfaith leadership, training health workers to reach out into rural communities, etc. Through working together on these initiatives, the program fostered a sense of 'active dialogue' among faith leaders and their communities, uniting them in joint action to address pressing social issues targeted within this campaign.

GIWA's platform for outreach activities extended from the national platforms to the international arena, where it deliberated the discourse on climate change and environmental sustainability in the highest level international fora that were attended by preeminent leaders in all sectors including heads of state, politicians, faith and thought leaders. GIWA's international presence during this partnership period extended through events in the United States, the United Arab Emirates, Lisboa, Portugal and Kathmandu, Nepal.

GIWA & Partner Activities Summary



DURATION OF PROJECT: September, 2023 - 31 March, 2024

TOTAL DIRECT OUTREACH: 3,01,030+

INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES FOR IMPACT

The project employed broad and innovative strategies, reaching hundreds of thousands, particularly vulnerable populations. This involved activating diverse faith gatherings, events, and pilgrimages, engaging youth in faith institutions, training health workers for rural outreach, fostering 'active dialogue' among faith leaders and much more.

The program united communities in joint action to address social issues in the campaign. Examples of the different strategies include:

Activating National and International Faith Events

Uplifting and inspiring hundreds of thousands at a broad array of inspiring events attended by eminent faith leaders and FBOs



Utilising Kathas and story telling as a Medium for Change

Capitalising on India's rich tradition of storytelling, inculcating messaging to inspire and uplift in various contexts.



Reaching Tribal Populations and Empowering Tribal Leaders

Reaching tens of thousands in underserved populations, especially tribal communities gaining from leadership to carry forward action



Gender Equity

Communicating to populations of the important role of fathers in ensuring vaccination and caring for the child



Activating large spiritual pilgrimages, Uttarakhand Yatra & Kanwad Yatra

Large scale pilgrimages being an opportune time to serve the masses, touch hearts and inspire positive behaviour change.



Grassroots work in schools and communities

Reaching into our schools and local communities utilising our schools and centers as a hub for outreach and transformation



Leveraging important events and conferences at Parmarth Niketan

Using a diverse array of summits, meetings, conferences and spiritual programs to spread messaging to diverse groups to inspire them for this cause



Mass awareness on RI & CCES through the Ganga Aarti

Uplifting and inspiring tens of thousands at a broad array of different inspiring events attended also by the nation's leaders



Activity 1 - Capacity Building Workshop Launches the Initiative

Activity 1.1: Engagement of Team

The Project Coordinators, Media Coordinators, Accounts and support team was on boarded and oriented based on the needs of the project from the last term of our partnership and permission was sought to bring in a dynamic and robust team that would be able to work with our partners and take the activities forward.

Activity 1.2: Preparation for the Capacity Building Workshop

Several meetings and visits were done in September to Delhi in order to re-engage and activate our partners ahead of the Capacity Building Workshop, especially as there was a long gap from the last project cycle.

Capacity Building Workshop (4-5th October)

An intensive two-day capacity-building workshop was organised jointly by UNICEF and GIWA at GIWA headquarters in Rishikesh from 4th-5th October 2023. The RI and CCES capacity-building workshop focused on orienting the faith leader and partners on the core objectives of the partnership and the development of their individual action plans committing towards achieving the partnerships. The workshop received robust participation by esteemed leaders and representatives from 6 different organisations, 6 faith leaders, with core activities in 6 states.



The workshop focused on:

- Understanding the Universal Immunisation Program in India.
- Key priorities and challenges faced in India, with a focus on vulnerable communities. The role of Faith Leaders & FBOs in engaging and reaching out to communities.
- Faith and Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability (CCES)

Through the course of the session, numerous myths around RI were identified and the faith leaders participated very enthusiastically to share their ideas for action and clear their doubts. The session concluded with a fruitful discussion on identifying various events and communication platforms for information dissemination, thereby developing action plans for reaching out into their communities. It was decided that the special hybrid event (Activity 2.1) would be planned at the end of the project term in January to celebrate the achievements of each of the organisations and chart the way forward.





Participants of the Workshop Including Prominent Faith Leaders & Partners



H.H. Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati Ji, President, Parmarth Niketan, Founder/Chair of the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance



Pujya Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati Ji, PhD, Secretary General Global Interfaith WASH Alliance



Sardar Paramjit Chandok Ji Chairman Bangla Sahib Gurdwara, Delhi



Maharaj,
Founder President Acharya
Sushil Muni Mission, New Delhi



Pujya Goswami Sushil Ji Maharaj, President of Bhartiya Sarv Dharm Sansad



Dr Maheshkumar K. Senghani, representing Pujya Sadhvi Shri Shilapiji, Veerayatan Vidyapeeth Kutch, Gujarat



Pujya BK Sister Aarti Ji, Brahmakumaris Uttarakhand



Tenzin Chodon,
Ganden Phelgyeling Nuns
Institute, Dunda, Uttarkashi,
representing Ven Dhammapiya Ji
alongwith Tenzin Yangdon and
Khili Devi



Shri Shamji Bhagat Ji, SGVP, representing Shree Madhavpriyadasji Swami

Participants of the Workshop Including Prominent Faith Leaders & Partners



Shri Sanjay Rai Secretary, HSS



Dr Devendra Budakoti, Vinoba Bhave Organization, Representing Ramesh Bhaiji, HSS Uttar Pradesh



Tamara Abu Sham C4D Specialist, UNICEF India



Shalini Prasad SBC Specialist, UNICEF India



Sukhpal Kaur Marwa Social & Behavior Change Specialist, UNICEF India



Bhavana Thakur UNICEF India



Varsha Chandra
CEO, Envisions Institute of
Development, EID

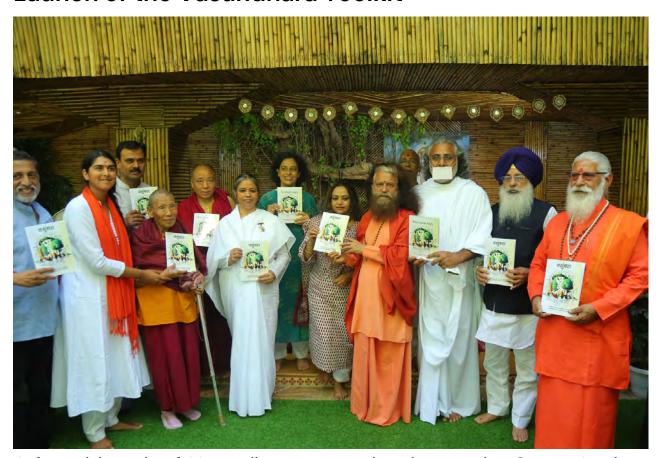


Nisar Ahmad Executive Director, EID



Ganga Nandini
Director of Programs and
Implementation, the Global
Interfaith WASH Alliance

Launch of the Vasundhara Toolkit



A formal launch of Vasundhara was undertaken at the Ganga Aarti on October 5th where the Pujya Swamiji together with the faith leaders launched the resource guide amongst the 500 (approx) devotees in attendance. The message of Paanch Saal, Saath Baar (Till 5 years, 7 times) echoed during the Ganga Aarti, wherein Pujya Swamiji spoke about the importance of Routine Immunisation and protecting our children's health and their future by vaccinating them.

Activation timeline

Second Half of October Partner and Regional Activities Ramp Up

Following the Capacity Building Workshop October 4-5, additional coordination was required to give clarity to faith leaders on the approved RI messaging, which was shared and approved by UNICEF around the 20th October. Developing creative and natural ways to incorporate the messaging into partners existing faith-based events and activities required several follow-up discussions above initial expectations.

Watch Speeches and Messages during the Capacity Building Workshophttp://tinyurl.com/bdzvn6v4

November Review meeting



An online review meeting with UNICEF took place on the 6th November to discuss the modalities and the necessity to have more support to enable a larger impact of certain proposed activities by partners. A strong pipeline of forthcoming activities was presented by GIWA.

GIWA echoed the comments from the CBW, that with interfaith based cooperation, there is the necessity of a relationship of mutual giving, therefore some financial support was requested for interventions around RI as well as resource persons from GIWA requested to undertake these activities and events with the partners.



Activity 2.2 Storytelling Sessions for Awareness Generation

Date: 15-24th October, 2023

Total outreach: 11000+ In attendance

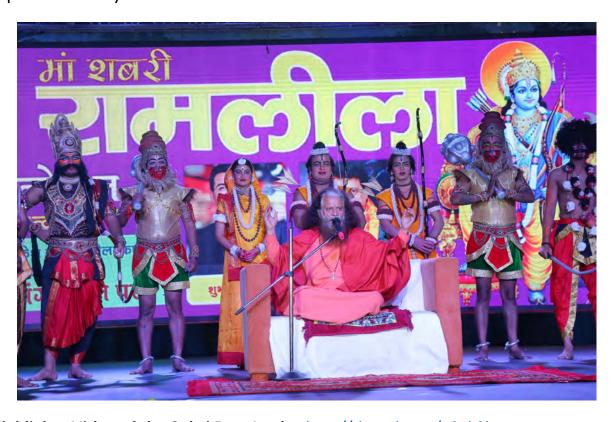
Storytelling was used as a medium for inspiring change at various events throughout the grant including through skits, puppet shows, and more formally to large crowds at the Parmarth Ganga Aarti and at large Kathas organised at the ashram. Storytelling was utilised by both Parmarth Niketan and in the initiatives of Partners.

In October, Parmarth Niketan in Rishikesh hosted two Kathas in October around the auspicious time of Navratri utilising the Vasundhara Toolkit and focused on promoting environmental awareness and taking action to protect the planet.

The first was a Shrimad Bhagwat Katha, from 15-19th October, by Kathakar Mohit ji and had an outreach of over one hundred people. Through the power of story-telling He highlighted daily actions that can make a positive impact, such as planting trees, reducing plastic use, and conserving water and energy. He shared the story of Lord Krishna and the Govardan Parvat from the Toolkit, elucidating how each of our actions are like holding up the mountain. Kailash Kher concluded the celebrations at Parmarth Niketan leading us in musical pledge to protect our rivers.



The second Katha was the first ever Sabri Ram Leela, inaugurated by Pujya Swamiji, Pujya Sadhvi Bhagawatiji, and the Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Government of Uttarakhand Shri Premchand Aggarwal Ji. The scene of Shabari Ramleela emphasised the way that Bhagwan Shri Ram served, and ensure that no one was left behind, there was no room for discrimination, especially Lord Ram's special connection with the tribal people, the forest and the environment as in line with the story from the Vasundhara toolkit. This event featured song and dance performances by tribal artists from various states and aimed to inspire attendees to take proactive measures to protect the environment. Notable figures such as Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri Manoj Tiwari, singer Kanhaiyaji, and Grammy nominated artist Raja Kumari also attended to spread awareness and encourage sustainable lifestyles aligned with Bhagawan Shri Ram's teachings, with a focus on protecting marganilised populations represented by Maa Shabri.



Highlights Video of the Sabri Ram Leela : http://tinyurl.com/y2ak2hav

See the detailed report in Annexure A

Activity 3.1 The Impact of Our Partners Leverage existing partnerships to reach

over 100000 people

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Date: October - November, 2023

Total outreach: 2,00,000+

The activities that were undertaken together with our Partners were broad and innovative in nature, enabling this campaign to reach hundreds of thousands of people across the nation and around the world. Building on the momentum from the initial Capacity Building Workshop, GIWA undertook a beautiful 3 day campaign on the occasion of Global Handwashing Day in different regions of the Himalayan mountains of Uttarakhand. Thereafter, the strategy with our partners included activating a diverse array of important and large scale faith gatherings and faith based events in the nation providing faith based messaging to raise awareness on RI and CCES.

Our activities to amplify this messaging and generate awareness was further enriched by creative programs to engage youth at faith institutions and their schools, reaching large numbers of interfaith leadership, training health workers to reach out into communities. Through working together on these initiatives, the program fostered a sense of 'active dialogue' among faith leaders and their communities, uniting them in joint action to address pressing social issues targeted within this campaign.



Swaminarayan Gurukul Parivar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat



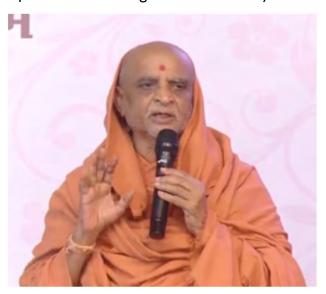
Mass Communication at large faith events

Date: October - December, 2023

Total Outreach: 1,02,000+ In attendance

Ahead of the 4th October, Pujya Swami Madhavpriyadas Ji of the Swaminarayan Gurukul Parivar shared a powerful message for the Capacity Building Workshop and a powerful pledge for climate action.

Later on the 18th of November, At a gathering of over 1000 devotees, Pujya Swami Madhavpriyadas Ji shared a message to inspire collective action for increasing uptake of RI during the Swaminarayan Mandir Pipal Murti Pratishtha Mahotsav.





During his speech he said that "To ensure the well-being of our children, the government provides various vaccination opportunities. It is crucial for us to be aware and prioritise vaccinating our children, as it not only promotes their health but also contributes to building a robust nation..."

Thereafter at a grand "Smriti Mahotsav" event on the 30th December at the Swaminarayan Gurukul, Ahmedabad, Gujurat over 1,00,000 devotees Pujya Madhavpriyadasji and Pujya Swamiji advocated for RI on a stage with the Hon'ble Home Affairs Minister Shri Amit Shahji and many other eminent faith leaders, ensuring everyone understood the necessity in doing their part to ensure complete immunisation for every child. These event specifically focused on the role of males and fathers on RI.

Watch these powerful messages by Pujya Swami Madhavpriyadasji: http://tinyurl.com/y2ak2hav and

Pujya Swamiji's pledge on RI in Ahmedabad: http://tinyurl.com/ym2ven88
See the detailed report on these interventions by SGVP in Annexure B

Delhi Gurudwara Bangla Sahib

Prakash Parv in Delhi Gurudwaras spreads Awareness on RI and Rehabilitating the Environment

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Date: 26-27 November

Total outreach: 10000+ In attendance

Every year the Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee (DSGMC) organises a grand celebration in the Delhi Gurdwaras and in the city to celebrate Guru Nanak Jayanti, also known as 'Prakash Parv', which is one of the most important dates in the Sikh calendar. With the blessings of Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji, Sardar Paramjit Chandhokji and other members of the DSGMC a special two-day intervention took place on the 26-27th November to integrate Routine Immunisation and CCES messaging into this massive celebration.



Below are some of the activities that were led:

- On 26th Nov, during the annual Prakash Parv procession, starting from Gurudwara Sisganj to Gurudwara Nanak Piao, a special GIWA truck with the banners of RI and CCES messages took part in the procession where more than 1,00,000 devotees and onlookers watching and joining the day-long parade.
- GIWA and Parmarth's volunteers also distributed 10,000 saplings as green prasad to the onlookers with the messages of a "healthy childhood & healthy planet"

- Local and religious channels covering the event especially took notice of this unique and innovative message of RI, which further brought the message to even more people.
- On 27th Nov, a special stall was installed at the Gurudwara Rakabganj fair, which sees a footfall of thousands of pilgrims, with a special focus on RI and had the following activities organised throughout the day:
 - o An engaging quiz on RI participated by families and children alike
 - A special drawing competition for all age groups, where children could be seen drawing and painting their ideas and thoughts around RI and CCES, sharing them enthusiastically.
 - Two shows of a Nukkad natak (Street Theatre), prepared by the students of Guru Harkrishan Public School, Karol Bagh, Delhi, on RI were also performed.
 - Pledges for Devotees and participants to be motivated to take on getting their children vaccinated - repeating with the children the slogan "Paanch Saal, Saat Bar, Chutte Na Tika Ek Bhi Baar."
 - A signature campaign where people were taking oaths for spreading RI awareness.





During the event Sardar Harmeet Singh Kalka Ji, President, DSGMC spoke about the Routine Immunisation campaign of GIWA & UNICEF in his speech during the Guru Nanak Dev Ji Prakash Parv Celebrations at Rakab Ganj Deewan Gurudwara and this was broadcast on the PA system.

- Video highlight of RI Skit by Gurudwara Youth http://tinyurl.com/bde9wvbe
- Highlights video of the Prakash Parv Interventions <u>http://tinyurl.com/y9uhxw8h</u>
- Media Coverage of the Intervention http://tinyurl.com/yck7tt7s
- · See the detailed report on the Delhi Gurudwara Interventions in Annexure C

Empowering Mothers & Protecting Children with a Street Play Program Organized in Jai Hind Camp, Delhi

Date: 23rd December, 2023 Total outreach: 200

Pragyata Foundation joined the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance and Parmarth Niketan to launch an important initiative, aiming to bring a vibrant mix of education, entertainment, and essential resources.

Under this initiative, a children's street play on the importance of routine immunisation was organized in Rangpuri Extension and Bengali Basti, Vasant Kunj, along with an awareness session by GIWA's Mrs. Vandana Sharma.







The enthusiastic students played the lead roles in the street play, which captivated over 200 women. These performances raised significant awareness about the importance of immunisation for children under the age of 5 and informed women about which vaccines are essential for children under the age of 5.

After the play, Mrs. Vandana Sharma discussed the topic in depth, providing information on maternity benefits, nutrition, and child development programs. She also provided information about their children's health and menstrual hygiene. In addition, she spoke about Mission Life, sustainable actions we can take every day to preserve water and conserve electricity, leading more sustainable lifestyles.

The awareness session was concluded with sanitary pads, immunisation booklets, and informative monthly wheels all of which contained information on immunisation. Fruits were also distributed. This thoughtful initiative went above and beyond, becoming a symbol of care and respect for the participating women.

Harijan Sevak Sangh (HSS) in Odisha

Tribal Youth Inspired to be Ambassadors of RI at KISS Campus

Date: 24 Nov-Onwards

Total outreach: 40,000+ Tribal Students in attendance



At a large programme with 40,000 tribal students and their parents representing India's 63 diverse tribal traditions at the one of its kind KIIT and KISS University in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji addressed the students and inspired them to be ambassadors and advocates for Routine Immunisation and take this message of vaccination with them to their families and communities.

During his inspiring speech Pujya Swamiji led a pledge by the tribal youth that they would ensure in their families and their communities children under the age of five would get their immunisation from their local Government Health Centres, having them chant the slogan "Paanch Saal Saat Baar, Chute na Tika Ek Bhi Baar." He tied in how the blessings of Jaganath Puri protected their mental and spiritual health whilst immunisation protected their physical health. This event, alongside two additional Ganga Aartis which took place in Kolkata were important factors in mobilising HSS West Bengal into inspired action by Pujya Swamiji.



See the detailed report in Annexure D

HSS in West Bengal

Tribal Education Session on RI & Capacity Building with Harijan Sevak Sangh in West Bengal

Date: 19 December **Total Outreach:** 60

On the ground interventions were inspired to commence in diverse regions, in one instance GIWA took the opportunity to build capacity with HSS and visit three tribal communities (Oraon, Munda, Bhumija) at Boynala, just outside Kolkata, supported by the leaders of thos communities. The event, attended by approximately forty youth, fifteen mothers, and two tribal leaders (from two tribal groups). The groups were sensitised on RI, however it was quickly discovered on the ground that the majority of this small group were lacking vaccine cards, and had not completed full vaccination, which demonstrates the potential for further targeted interventions to serve these communities.

पश्चिम बंगाल



See the detailed report in Annexure E

RI Message at Yog, Naturopathy and Health Conference at HSS Ashram in North Kolkata

Date: 20-21st December

Total Outreach: 30 volunteers

On December 21st, 2023, in North Kolkata, Harijan Sevak Sangh and Akhil Bharatiya Prakritik Chikitsa Parishad delivered a resounding message of healthcare and well-being, at the HHS Kolkata Ashram's Yog, Naturopathy and Health Conference with Shri Sankar Sanyal, President of Harijan Sevak Sangh, as the chief guest. In his keynote address he outlined the significance of completing vaccination for children, addressing the alarming risk of fatal diseases due to incomplete immunisation, while stressing the collective responsibility of both parents. The audience included key community workers, long-serving sevaks of the Harijan Sevak Sangh, and officer bearers of the organization in the State Chapter. Furthermore, the collaboration with Dhupguri Ichhadana Foundation brought forth a Yoga and Naturopathy Camp, enriching the community with the benefits of holistic well-being, thereby emphasising the shared values and goals essential for communal empowerment and progress.









Harijan Sevak Sangh in Uttar Pradesh

Report on RI Trainings and visit to the Vinoba Bhave Ashram, Shahjahanpur and Sarvodaya Ashram, Hardoi in UP

Date: 11 - 13th December **Total outreach:** 650+



The objective of this three day training and visit planned and conducted by GIWA was to understand the partner organisations available networks and resources and to advocate for and spread the message of Routine Immunisation amongst underserved and marginalised communities, especially rural women and members of the scheduled caste communities starting with the villages in and around Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

On the 11 December, a special introductory workshop conducted on Routine Immunisation (RI) for teenage girls at Vocational School of Vinoba Bhave Ashram and Sakhi Groups were formed to go village to village, raising awareness on Routine Immunisation.



GIWA volunteer Mrs. Vandana Sharma ji conducts RI Awareness session to Volunteers of Vinoba Bhave Ashram , Shahjahanpur

On 12th December, a one-day workshop was organised at Vinoba Bhave Ashram, Shahjahanpur with thirty selected women and karyakartas (workers) of their Samagrah Vikas Seva Prakalp, who are already serving at the grass root level in the rural community.

On the last day of 13th December, a special RI & CCES workshop at Sarvodaya Ashram, Hardoi with 120 staff and 100 teenagers of Sarvodaya School and Ashram was organised on the theme of RI to inspire and engage action in the local communities.

The objective of the training was to create a cascading effect with this partnership to reach out to grassroots level in rural regions of Uttar Pradesh, percolating this message in households and families across more than 33 villages.



RI Awareness session to students of Sarvodaya Girls High School, Hardoi

Beautiful highlights from these inspiring sessions in UP:

Vinoba Bhawe Ashram - http://tinyurl.com/237t8jjk
Chittepur Village - http://tinyurl.com/53by6d4f
Sarvodaya Ashram - http://tinyurl.com/379mu82e
Students taking pledge - http://tinyurl.com/ysuwvuv9

See detailed Report in Annexure F

Meetings with the Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh Smt Anandiben Patelji and the Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Durga Shankar Mishraji in Lucknow to discuss the upcoming Prayagraj Kumbh Mela (12–13th December)

Date: 11 - 13th December, 2023

Total outreach: Uttar Pradesh State

Meetings were held in Lucknow between GIWA's Co-Founder Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati Ji; the Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Durga Shankar Mishra Ji, and the Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Smt Anandiben Patel Ji, to discuss the upcoming Prayagraj Kumbh Mela. These discussions included utilising the Kumbh Mela as a platform to create social awareness on issues, ranging from routine immunisation and climate change to environmental sustainability and other pertinent social issues. Activities and events during the largest spiritual gathering of humanity that would promote social cohesion as well as empowerment of vulnerable and marginalised communities were also discussed. Creating events to celebrate our world's tribal traditions, the empowerment of women, youth and our divyang sisters and brothers – as well as to highlight the rich tradition of India towards yoga, spiritual health and wellness – would also be integrated in these interventions by GIWA, Parmarth Niketan and other like-minded organisations.



Pujya Swamiji meets Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh Smt Anandiben Patel ji to discuss the upcoming Kumbh Mela



Pujya Swamiji interacts with the Chief Secretary to Govt of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Durga Shankar Mishraji to discuss the upcoming Kumbh Mela

Manas Parivar (Murlidharji Maharaj)

Murlidhar Ji Maharaj Inspires Thousands on RI, Planting Trees & Environmental Preservation at the Shri Ram Katha, Jodhpur



Date: 11 - 13th December, 2023

Total outreach: 10,000+

Pujya Sant Murlidharji inspired and motivated more than 2000 devotees at a beautiful Shri Ram Katha in the first week of January 2024 at the Keshav Priya Gaushala of Jodhpur, Rajasthan with a message on Routine Immunisation, encouraging and motivating every family to ensure that all children under the age of five are vaccinated seven times.





During a large Katha in Gurgoan in December, Murlidar Maharajji shares "During my first visit, I had so much trouble breathing because of all of the pollutants in the air. To prevent this from happening we must work together for a clean and healthy environment. Whatever we do - whether it's visiting temples or other spaces - we must be mindful not to litter. We must be mindful about keeping our environment and our sacred rivers clean. And, as a personal pledge to the cause of a clean and healthy environment, everyone should pledge to plant at least one tree! Let us all raise our hands in agreement! I encourage all of you to constantly continue the practice of tree plantation throughout your lives. Let us make a positive impact on the environment for planting trees for as long as we live! I can't wait to see the results of your efforts when I return next year!"

Watch these messages from Pujya Sant Murlidharji :

https://youtu.be/BTptFOKWbSE

Madrasa Board of Uttarakhand (Mufti Shamoon Qasmi Ji)

Living Water for All Conference, Sees Commitments for Protecting Rivers, Gaining a New Partner

Date: 27-28 October

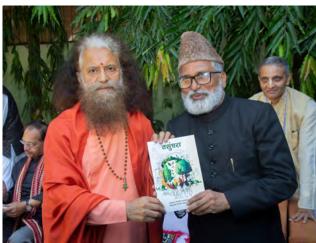
Total participants: 200+ participants



A three day "Living Water for All" global conference took place at Parmarth Niketan, organised by the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance and Living Peace Projects, an organisation which works to provide fresh water from natural resources for all. The event was designed to bring together spiritual leaders, politicians, industry professionals and community leaders, to make natural 'living' water available to all. The event was presided by participants from various different countries of the world. It was during this conference that Mufti Shamoon Qasmiji was on-boarded as a partner to take up the work of inspiring and engaging Islamic Madrasas and his congregation to spread this critical message.

This event prominently presented the Vasundhara Toolkit during the conference that aimed to highlight the importance, origin, and conservation of rivers worldwide. Notable attendees included Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji, Founder of GIWA, Secretary General of GIWA Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati Ji, President Living Peace Projects, Netherlands Brigitte Madeleine van Beuren, President Madrasa Board, Uttarakhand Mufti Shamoon Qasmi Ji, Bahai Religious leader Shri AK Merchant Ji





Awareness for RI on Human Rights Day

Date: 10 December, 2023

Total participants: 100 students and 12 Maulanas

On Human Rights Day at Arbi Madarasa in Kishanpur, Rajpur Road, Dehradun, an inspiring show of unity unfolded with the participation of 100 students and 12 Maulanas pledging to the importance of health and for Routine Immunisation.



The Chairman of Uttarakhand Madarsa Education Board, Mufti Shamoon Qasmi Ji led those gathered with an impassioned announcement, emphasising the importance of this crucial healthcare practice in the context of Human Rights Day, highlighting the commitment to promoting the well-being and health rights of the students and the community. He encouraged the students to repeat the messaging after him and encouraged them to take this message to their families and communities to ensure that no child is left behind in their right to a healthy future.

RI Message at Abul Kalam Azad School

Date: 17 December, 2023 Total participants: 500+

Mufti Shamoon Qasami Ji visited Maulana Abul Kalam Azad school in Claim Town, Bada Bahadur, Dehradun Uttarakhand. delivered messaging once more on Routine Immunisation, with on this occasion having 500 Students. teachers & Others present.



Watch Muftiji's Pledge and Message: https://youtu.be/ZQZCm29ePEQ

Acharya Sushil Muniji Mission

Acharya Vivek Muniji Advocates for RI to Faith

Leaders at two Interfaith Events in New Delhi and Aligarh, UP

Date: 9 & 19 Dec

Total participants: 350+

Acharya Vivek Muniji attended two high level gatherings of interfaith leaders in Delhi during December, using the opportunity to advocate for RI.

Firstly at Sarva Dharma Sammelan, an interfaith assembly which brought together



उत्तर प्रदेश

approximately 150 people, Acharya Vivek Muniji as Guest Speaker used this opportunity to bring in the key issue of RI and at the crescendo of his speech, he led the gathering in a unified chant calling for: "Paanch Saal Saat Baar, choote na teeka ek bhi baar."

Similarly on 9th December at the Aligarh Interfaith Centre and Humanities Advanced Studies Institute, International Seminar, Acharya Vivek Muniji addressed nearly 200 faith leaders, scholars and individuals. During the seminar, he stressed that through open exchange of views and dialogue, solutions to societal problems could be resolved.

He went on to bring up important themes of CCES as a tool to unite all people and religions against a common threat stating that 'We are polluting water, air and food for our own interests. Everyone needs to be aware of climate change'. He then extended this meaning of ahimsa, live and let live theme, to cover the importance of health and RI, explaining the concept of 'Paanch saal saat baar, choote na teeka ek bhi baar'.

See the detailed report in Annexure - G
Watch Acharya Vivek Muniji's Inspiring RI Pledge - http://tinyurl.com/2xrs873e

Global Handwashing Day Yatra & Celebration in the Himalayas Raises Awareness of RI and Environmental Protection

Date: 13th to 15th October, 2023 Total participants: 3500+

GIWA organised a 3 day yatra throughout the hill area of Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand, from 13th to 15th October, in the lead up to Global Handwashing Day. The trip aimed at reaching out to the youth of the area to inspire behaviour change across several thematic areas. During the visit, local leadership was met with to encourage greater consciousness for the need for Immunisation and to encourage environmental awareness, highlighting ongoing projects in these areas.

Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji and Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswatiji visited several schools, to reach out to the local community. They interacted meaningfully with students, teachers, and parents, inspiring them to protect the Himalayan ecosystem and how RI not only protects children from serious illnesses but also contributes to their well-being.



Visits to schools such as Vijay Public School and Goswami Ganesh Dutt Saraswati Vidya Mandir Inter College saw discussions on climate change and sustainable living & RI, reaching over 2000 participants, including students and parents, gathered at various schools.









The Uttarkashi visit culminated in a Ganga Aarti attended by over 1000 people, attended by the District Magistrate of Uttarkashi, and the Buddhist Nuns from GIWA's Capacity Building Workshop which affirmed ongoing commitments together. There was a special pledge on handwashing led by Pujya Swamiji and Pujya Sadhviji. The day after the aarti, the group visited Smriti Van and Rudraksh Vatika to promote tree planting initiatives for sustainable agriculture and economic empowerment, including a unique concept of planting 11 saplings on the birth of a daughter.

See the detailed report in Annexure - H

Watch here:

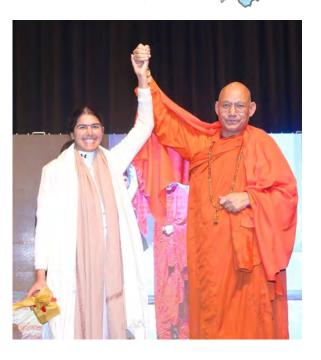
http://tinyurl.com/eta7dyuv http://tinyurl.com/fs843rbu

Mahabodhi International Meditation Center Ladakh

Maha Karuna Diwas at the Adhyatm Sadhana Kendra in Chhatarpur, Delhi

Date: 8th January 2024 Total participants: 250+

At a beautiful celebration of Maha Karuna Diwas at the Adhyatm Sadhana Kendra in Chhatarpur, Delhi organised by Mahabodhi International Meditation Leh Centre. Ladakh. Mahakaruna Foundation, Delhi, and Adhyatm Sadhna Kendra, along with the of various other support organisations the and message work pledge to Routine on Immunisation as well as continue to work on Climate Change Environmental Science and WASH in Leh, Ladakh this year was taken by GIWA and MIMC.







GIWA's Director of Projects Ganga Nandini Ji, represented Param Pujya Swamiji and Pujya Sadhvi Bhagawati Ji on the occasion, read their message, as they were abroad at this time, offering a sacred Rudraksha sapling and led a pledge for Compassion in Action. Conversing with Ven Bhikkhu Sanghasena Ji on stage during her address they reminisced on the long history and work that GIWA and MIMC have done together. Ven Sanghasena Ji invited GIWA Secretariat to visit GIWA's Ladakh Branch at MIMC in the summer and affirmed his commitment to not only continue the work of CCES and WASH but to also work on raising awareness and ensuring immunisation for every child under the age of five. Ganga Nandini shared that the work for healthy children and a healthy planet was an excellent example of "Compassion in Action."

On the side-lines, Nandiniji also invited many of the saints and partners present on the occasion to the upcoming event at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh in early March.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Sadhviji Raises issues of Climate Change and Environmental sustainability and Presents leaders the Vasundhara Toolkit at the Parliament of World Religions in Chicago



Date: 8th December, 2023 Total participants: 350+

Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswatiji, Secretary-General of Global Interfaith WASH Alliance and President of Divine Shakti Foundation, based at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh was an esteemed speaker at the renowned Parliament of the World's Religions which just concluded today in Chicago, Illinois, USA. In the same city as the original Parliament of 1893 at which Swami Vivekanandaji gave his historic addresses, the Parliament again took place this year. With more than 6500 people in attendance from nearly 100 countries, the theme of the Parliament was A Call to Conscience: Defending Freedom and Human Rights.

Sadhviji spoke in seven sessions on a wide variety of themes including: Faith for the Earth and Faith for Water, both of which looked at the role of faith leaders and faith communities in protecting and preserving our Mother Earth and our planet's water.



She also participated in two panels focused on women leaders, "Women of Faith as Peacebuilders" and "Women Faith Leaders as Critical Catalysts for a Peaceful and Sustainable World."

Both of these panels focused on the importance of women faith leaders in bringing about peace and sustainability. She also spoke in a powerful session highlighted by the Parliament of Religions on Climate Repentance in which leaders of different religions from different regions shared prayers, teachings, mantras, and climate principles.

Sadhviji concluded her inspiring address with a pledge in which she led all of the leaders on the Parliament's main stage and all the audience to raise their hands together in a Sankalp, a vow, that they would not only pray to abate climate change and protect our environment but that they would actually WORK and ACT to protect and preserve Mother Earth.



Sadhviji Represents Hinduism Promoting Sustainability at the Global Faith Leaders Summit in Dubai Ahead of COP28

Date: 1-3 December, 2023 Total participants: 150+

Pujya Sadhviji took part in creating change early this month as – under the patronage of Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates – the Global Faith Leaders' Summit brought together over 150 representatives from science, religion and politics to enhance climate ambitions ahead of COP28 in Dubai. Pujya Sadhviji joined other renowned and esteemed faith leaders, as she represented India and Hinduism in the August gathering organised by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Council of Muslim Elders.

The Abu Dhabi summit was convened in the lead-up to COP28 to unite faith leaders in commitment to abate the climate perils that the Earth faces. The leaders all unanimously emphasised that we all share a sacred duty to protect and preserve not only our human family but also the fragile ecosystem that cradles us. In her first discourse, Sadhviji shared the Hindu principles of Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam – the world as one family of Vasudhu, the Goddess of Mother Earth.



The second event, "Women of Faith for Rights and Resilience: Taking Stock of Progress and Lessons Learned from Decades of Climate Action," was presented by Religions for Peace International and focused on the intersection of women, faith and climate and was moderated by Deepika Singh, the Associate Secretary-General and Director of Programmes for Religions for Peace. Other panellists included Dr. Ibrahim Salama Chief of the Human Rights Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Mr. Mihir Mathur Founder, DESTA Research LLP; Mr. Pradnya Mathur Consultant and Global Peace Initiative of Women (GPIW). Sadhviji shared the difficulties faced by women of the Himalayan region in the face of climate change and emphasised the importance of providing access to water, seeds and education and training for the women and girls, and emphasised the importance of tree plantation by sharing the work that HH Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji is spearheading, that gifts fruit trees to girls and women, providing them with a source of income, while also reforesting the Himalayas.





Carrying the Partnership Forward UNICEF Heart and Mind ToT Kathmandu, Nepal

Date: 26th November, 2023 Total participants: 35

GIWA had been invited to participate in a five day 'National Mind Heart Dialogue Training on Faith & Positive Change for Children, Families & Communities' Conference in Kathmandu, Nepal at the UNICEF Rosa headquarters from the 26th November - 2nd December. It was organised with UNICEF India, Religions for Peace and Joint Learning Initiative on Faith & Local Communities (JLIFLC).

GIWA's Director of Projects Ganga Nandini was proud to share about the recent campaigns at the Rakabganj Gurudwara on Prakash Parv and KITT, KISS University with tribal students, where GIWA spread the message about Routine Immunisation for children under the age of five.

During this training very important discussions were made on the GIWA and UNICEF India partnership as well as on the integration of the MHD approach into these plans. A follow up online meeting was also held with Mrs Shalini Prasad, SBC Specialist, UNICEF India and GIWA Secretary General Sadhvi Bhagawatiji in addition to GIWA's Core Team post returning from this meeting on 13th December to discuss the way forward.





Dialogue in Action Showcases GIWA UNICEF Activities during ToT on Interreligious Dialogue in Portugal, Spain

Date: 1-5 September, 2023 Total participants: 200+

GIWA's work to bring Dialogue into Action was presented in a special session on Inter-religious Dialogue (IRD), Climate Change and Ecology during the KAICIID Alumni Training of the Trainers on IRD from 1-5th September, 2023. GIWA's Director of Projects Ganga Nandini was glad to share the work that GIWA and UNICEF were doing together on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability as well as about the efforts to bring FBO's together to support the Government of India's Mission Life initiative. She enthusiastically shared about how faith communities can inspire sustainable actions and work to significantly impact reduction in our global carbon and water footprint. She highlighted how interfaith efforts to take climate action not only helped support the health of the planet but also harmony and peace within diverse faith communities.







ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY GIWA HEADQUARTERS

RI Message at International Digital Mandir Connect Conclave

Date: 5 October, 2023 Total participants: 1000+

The International Digital Mandir Connect Conclave is a revolutionary initiative set to transform the spiritual landscape in Uttarakhand by digitising in excess of 100 temples. Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati Ji participated in the conclave alongside other eminent faith leaders including Saints Shri Mahant Vridhashram Das Ji, Swami Ram Vilas Vedanti Ji, Swami Yatindranand Ji, Political Leaders such as Shri Shyam Jaju Ji, Minister of Finance, Urban Development and Housing, Parliamentary Affairs, Uttarakhand Shri Premchandra Aggarwal Ji, and other distinguished guests.

During this gathering of forward looking faith institutions, Pujya Swamiji prominently raised awareness towards our new project with UNICEF – "Routine Immunisation, Environment Sustainability and Climate Change", whilst also sharing about education, healthcare. He further outlined detail on the 'Five Years Seven Times' vaccination initiative (Panch Saal Saat Baar) for children, emphasising the crucial role of the initial two years in a child's five-year immunisation schedule. Pujya Swamiji endorsed the government's commendable vaccination plan, underscoring its role in strengthening the foundation of a child's life and providing protection against various diseases.



MASS AWARENESS ON RI & CCES THROUGH THE GANGA AARTI

Total participants: 10000+

Date: October - December 2023

Mass awareness, faith based messaging during Parmarth Niketan's world-renowned Ganga Aarti continued to educate and inspire thousands to help address the need for routine immunisation, improve sanitation, hygiene, protect our sacred rivers and natural environment with messages given at over 25 aartis. These inspiring discourses and powerful messages were galvanised by the use of mass pledges which were taken by all those in attendance to take up a new desired

Messaging summary

behaviour.



Important national and international days of celebration such as World Children's Day, International Day of the Girl Child, Navratri, World Vegan Day, International Vaccination Day, Gita Jayanti, Christmas, and the lead-up to the inauguration of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya. Messages were given to encourage the uptake vaccination in populations in diverse manners and included also messages along the various themes of CCES.

The aarti was also importantly used as a medium of communiucating sustainable ideals through the use of storytelling using tales from the Vasundhara toolkit to communicate sustainable ideals.

See the detailed report in Annexure - J

Awareness Program on RI in Parmarth Vidya Mandir

Date: 8th October 2023 Total participants: 335+

Parmarth Vidya Mandir (PVM), one of several schools under Parmarth Niketan's management, served as a central hub for launching a comprehensive initiative to raise awareness about Immunisation. Initially, the school hosted an orientation session for 30 teachers, providing them with knowledge about the benefits of immunisation and encouraging them to disseminate this information within the local community, where they are esteemed residents.





Parents of PVM students were also met with by to address concerns and doubts about immunisation, ensuring parents departed with a clearer understanding of its importance, particularly for children under 5 years old. Following on, sensitisation sessions were conducted for students from both PVM and Parmarth Naari Shakti Kendra (a women's vocational training center which operates from the campus), with 250 students and 30 staff members in attendance.

Subsequently to these sensations, the school became a platform for empowering students to advocate for immunisation through various mediums, including speeches, skits, and social media platforms. Students demonstrated their learning by presenting skits portraying the benefits of vaccination, effectively engaging their peers and showcasing the power of creative arts in conveying crucial health messages. During the project period, the entire student body and faculty of PVM organised a rally in Rishikesh, actively engaging the community and displaying awareness slogans about immunisation, earning commendation from onlookers.

See Video - http://tinyurl.com/4btkf3mb http://tinyurl.com/4bmbpt6j

See the detailed report in Annexure - I

RI Message at Yatra on Gujarati New Year

Date: 14th November, 2023 Total participants: 1000



On Gujarati New Year, a 3-day Rishikesh Yatra was organised for over 1000 devotees from Surat by Matushree Kashiba Charitable Trust and Glostar Family at Parmarth Niketan.

Pujya Swamiji wished them a happy

new year and invited them to start the new year by doing good to humanity. He spoke to them regarding regular vaccination and why it is crucial to spread the message of 'Paanch Saal Saat Baar, Chute na Tika Ek Bhi Baar' to every household in their community.

RI Message Given at Gopashtami Festival and Shrimad Bhagwat Katha at Devi Chitralekha's Gau Seva Dham Hospital in Hodal, Palwal, Haryana.

Date: 20th November (World Children's Day)

Total participants: 10000+

Pujya Swamiji played a key role in the Gopastami Mahotsav in Haryana, standing alongside Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar Ji during Devi Chitralekha Ji's Shrimad Bhagwat Katha. Swamiji highlighted the importance of cultural values, stressing the significance of service (seva). In addition, he promoted the crucial message of safeguarding children's health by advocating for the administration of seven free immunisation vaccines for ages 0 to 5, underlining the essential role this plays in securing a healthy future for the generation.





Devotees of American India Foundation take Immunisation Pledge with Param Pujyaswamiji

Date: 27 - 30th Nov, 2023 Total participants: 100 students+10 teachers

Under the guidance of Shri Bhuvan Dhyaniji, ten teachers and more than 100 students of the American India Foundation came to Parmarth Niketan for a four-day residential camp.



Pujya Swamiji spoke to the students about spirituality, meditation, climate change, and the importance of yoga for good health. He talked about awakening the public regarding routine Immunisation. He encouraged each student to speak to at least ten

people about seven vaccinations in 5 years without missing a single dose. The students also pledged to plant trees and protect the environment.

World AIDS Day Utilised to Spread the Message of RI

Date: 1st Dec 2023 Total participants: 100 students+10 teachers

Counselor Shri SB Nautiyaji attended the World AIDS Day rally organised under the joint aegis of Parmarth Niketan, Global Interfaith WASH Alliance, Harpic World Toilet College and Jagran. More than 100 students and 10 teachers of GGIC Laxman Jhula participated in this occasion.



Experts counselled the students on AIDS and stressed cleanliness and purity. Param Pujya Swamiji and Pujya Sadhviji spoke on the importance of regular vaccination of children aged zero to five years to protect them from lifethreatening diseases. They asked each teacher and each student to educate at least ten people about routine immunisation. Everyone pledged, 'Paanch saal saat baar, choote na teeka ek bhi baar'. Shri SB Nautiyaji was inspired to spread the vaccination message in the entire Dehradun district.

Kautik International Film Festival RI & Environmental ProtectionMessages

Date: 3rd Dec 2023 Total participants: 500+

Hon'ble former Governor of Maharashtra, Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyariji, attended the second day of the Kautik International Film Festival organised at Parmarth Niketan. He said film is a beautiful platform for solving problems dedicated to spiritual, social, cultural, environmental and humanity.



Param Pujya Swamiji said cinema aims to awaken society's consciousness. He inspired the directors of short films from different countries, including India, to showcase the beauty and spirituality of Uttarakhand and spread the message of regular vaccination of children from zero to five years all over India. Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyariji and Param Pujya Swamiji inspired the gathering to pledge to protect the environment.

Sensitising Farmers on RI at the Viksit Bharat Yatra-Khamgaon, Roorkee & Haridwar

Date: December 5th, 2023 Total participants: 1000 Farmers & 10 leaders

The Viksit Bharat yatra is an initiative being undertaken across the country, to raise awareness about and track the implementation of flagship central schemes. During the event, Mufti Shamoon Qasmi Ji, the Chairman of the Uttarakhand Madarsa Education Board, Government of Uttarakhand, delivered a pivotal message concerning routine immunisation to our children, especially girls in the towns of Khamgaon, Roorkee, and Haridwar. The event garnered significant attention with the participation of 1000 farmers and 10 leaders who eagerly gathered to absorb his insights.

Jatan Sanasthan Annual Camp Empowered with RI Message

Date: 13-14th December 2023 **Total participants:** 90

A team of 90 staff members from Jatan Sansthan, a grassroots not-forprofit organisation working with rural and resource poor communities in the state of Rajasthan, India in the districts of Rajsamand, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Udaipur and Bhilwara with presence in more than 1300 villages across these areas, met with Param Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati Maharaj at Parmarth Niketan Ashram. Pujya Swamiji specifically spoke to them about RI for the health of all children and the necessity of MHM, provision for eco-friendly products and services. Pujya Swamiji led an oath to inspire the staff on increasing their work and knowledge of RI emphasising parents' responsibility to ensure their children receive timely vaccinations, promoting the message of "Panch Saal Sat Baar, Chute na Tika ek Baar" (5 years, 7 times, not missing a vaccination). Pujya Swamiji also acknowledged the dedicated work of Dr. Kailash Brijwashi, Founder of Jatan, and Dr. Laxhmi Murthy, the additional director of Jatan Sansthan, in addressing social issues in Rajasthan during the Ganga Aarti, honouring them with a sacred Rudraksha sapling.



Parmarth Vidya Mandir Annual Festival Program, RI, Health & Environmental Messages

Date: 23rd December 2023 Total participants: 350+

Pujya Swamiji, Sadhvi Bhagawatiji, our wonderful sevaks, Rishikumars, students and beloved guests from around the world joined together for the annual Parmarth Vidya Mandir celebration that, this year, took place on the day of Gita Jayanti, the day that the divine music of the Shrimad Bhagwat Gita was spoken from the holy mouth of Lord Shri Krishnaji. It was a delight to distribute Outstanding Teacher Awards to our beloved team, and to bestow prizes on the students that excelled in their studies. We also encouraged the students to celebrate every holy and holiday as a green festival by planting saplings as a gift to Mother Earth and ourselves! On this occasion, Sadhviji explained to the students the importance of health and immunisation and environmental presarvation.







RI Messages given at State level Mapping and Estimation Camp Inaugurated by the Parmarth Ashram

Date: 27th December 2023 Total participants: 130+

Ambala state level camp of Hindustan Scouts and Guides Panipat Team was organised in Rishikesh. Members from Ambala also participated in this camp. This camp was organised under the supervision of state secretary Naveen Jaihind, with 21 members along with District Secretary Vinod Vats participated. Sadhviji participated in the training and addressed the teachers on character building and spoke on the awareness around the vaccination of children. District secretary Gurmeet Singh, treasurer Amit Singh, Malkit Singh, Balijeet Singh, Bhupendra Singh, Manoj Singh also participated. The camp was devised, as per the guidelines and orders of District Education Officer cum District President Kuldeep Dahiya from Panipat District.







Special Grand Dev Deepawali Ganga Aarti Gets RI Message in Kolkata

Date: 26th November, 2023 **Total participants:** 5000+ In attendance

Dev Deepawali event was a special grand scale aarti and took place immediately after Kali Puja and Diwali. The Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) planned a special Ganga Aarti celebration at Baje Kadamtolla Ghat. Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati, the President of Parmarth Niketan, addressing thousands of devotees gathered there, he helped to light thousands of lamps, creating a magnificent spectacle. In the presence of Sadhvi Bhagwati Saraswati at Parmarth Niketan, Nethra Chikitsaks (eye specialists) from Rishikumars of Parmarth Gurukul and various countries lit lamps, celebrating the festival of Dev Deepawali. Swami Chidanand Saraswati in capitalising on the large scale and auspicious event said that "on the day of Dev Deepawali, Lord Shiva defeated the demon Tripurasura, likewise we should defeat unnecessary illnesses through important use of Routine Immunisation".



Powerful Messages during the Parmarth Ganga Aarti Advocate for RI

Moreover, the selected aartis, utilised as messaging platforms, were graced by esteemed dignitaries such as Honorable Shri Bhupendra Yadav ji, the Union Cabinet Minister of Labour and Employment, Environment, Forest and Climate Change in the Government of India; Kailash Kher, Famous Sufi Musician; Bollywood actress Diya Mirza Ji; Pushkar Singh Dhami, Chief Minister of Uttarakhand; Anita Mamgai, Mayor of Rishikesh; Premchand Aggarwal, Cabinet Minister, Uttarakhand; Shri Suvendu Adhikariji, Hon'ble Opposition Leader West Bengal; Dr Ashish Chauhan, District Magistrate Pauri Gharwal; Shri Meharban Singh Bisht ji, District Magistrate of Uttarkashi; Kumar Vishwaji, National Executive AAP and many others.

Natural opportunities were seized to connect important social themes with the promotion of Routine Immunisation, Climate Change, and Environmental Sustainability. Messaging during the Aartis aimed at promoting Routine Immunisation by educating the masses on vaccination's importance, fostering social acceptance, and incorporating government slogans as pledges to reinforce these messages to the gathered devotees in person and online.

Similarly, approaches for Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability involved various pledges aligned with the spiritual intention of the day's aarti, advocating for actions such as protecting rivers, planting trees, reducing single-use plastics, and recognising our interconnectedness with and impact on the natural environment. These diverse methodologies were purposefully employed to drive meaningful change.



For more details on these 25 powerful Aarti Pledges and Messaging, please see : Annexure J

Activity 2.1 End of the Term Activities & Swasth Seva Mahotsav,

March 15, 2024

Date: 8-14 March, 2024 Total participants: 1400+

In partnership with UNICEF, we organized a series of impactful events during and after the International Yoga Festival at Parmarth Niketan, where over 1400 individuals from 75 countries convened. These events highlighted our work throughout this partnership and served as platforms to advocate for Routine Immunization (RI) and climate action, leveraging the festival's reach to promote health and wellness initiatives, particularly focusing on raising awareness about RI across India. With a collective reach exceeding 1000 participants, our interventions aimed to underscore the interconnectedness of health, wellness, and the imperative of RI advocacy within and beyond our community.

Our intervention began with the dedicated program evening on March 11th, where our Programme Director highlighted our collaboration with UNICEF and emphasized the importance of RI for every child's health. Additionally, a prominent exhibition stall at the International Yoga Festival from March 8–14 served as an interactive hub for sharing information on RI and fostering dialogue on community empowerment and environmental consciousness.

Following the festival, on March 15th, we organized a large-scale Seva Celebration Event across two locations in Rishikesh, showcasing the impactful work done under this partnership. These events, attended by international and national participants, underscored our commitment to community outreach and RI advocacy. By integrating these themes into this world renowned event and extending outreach to marginalized communities, we aimed to effect positive change and promote holistic well-being, inspiring attendees to carry forward these messages and bridge gaps in vaccination to ensure no child is left behind. Through collaboration, advocacy and powerful faith based messaging, we strive to create a healthier and more equitable world for all.



For more details, please see Annexure K

Working Together:

The Global Interfaith WASH Alliance is thrilled to continue collaborating with UNICEF India in empowering faith leaders and communities to drive positive social change, with a special focus on climate change, environmental sustainability, health, and beyond. As we look ahead to the upcoming year, 2024–2025, we eagerly anticipate expanding our reach and impact through a diverse range of initiatives. This includes potentially historic flagship endeavours such as convening India's Multi-Faith Advisory Council, conducting National Level trainings of the Mind Heart Dialogue, and orchestrating a momentous interfaith activation during the 2025 Maha Kumbh Mela. Together, we are poised to make significant strides towards a more united, sustainable, healthy and equitable future for all.

Media & News:



टीकाकरण के प्रति समाज में विश्वास पैदा करना जरूरी

जाराय सेहरदाक संक्रिया गरिनार दर्शनक वाम प्राथमित व ग्रीमार के सार्वाचे में परावर्ष निकार में अपनिका कर्मसारक में परावर्ध संस्थानी के काम कि टीकस्थल के प्रतिकार के अकास प्राथमित परावर्ध में परावर्ध ने काम कि टीकस्थल के प्रतिकार के साम प्रतिकार में स्थाप के साम प्रतिकार में में भाग के साम आप मीमार्ग के काम काम के सामका मीमार्ग कर के सामार्थ के सामक्ष मीमार्थ कर के सामार्थ के सामक्ष मीमार्थ कर के सामक्ष के सामक्ष कर के सामक्ष मीमार्थ कर के सामक्ष मीमार्थ कर के सामक्ष मीमार्थ कर



शामन्य अब्देश कारण स्वामी पियनंद सर्पायों ने कहा कि कह एक दिखान स्वाम है। सभी धर्म और सभी धर्म की खर्मकों एकता, सुखा च समस्ता में बात करती है, हम्मी धर्म एकतुरा का सदेश हो। सभी कार्मपुर्वों से यार्च करते हुए, उन्होंने बात कि आने उद्योग्दे, प्रवर्मी, संदेश, वसनी के साध्यम सं

पुरुक्त के अध्यक्ष सरदार गरमाजीत मंद्रीक ने कहा कि टोक्क्सण का मंद्रीत हमारी कराओं, होग सातान कहा, उद्दोग्धें, ट्रेटरनेट मीडिया और अपना मंद्री से प्रस्ताति कही से अध्यक्ष हर्ग कहा महानी करीने कहा कि नवस्प, हिस्सेग्ध और कामणी में पुरुक्ता में यह महत्वक्ष का अध्यक्षता किया जान है। हिस्सोक माजम में जम्मण्यक तक मंद्रीय

महाने सामी क्रिकार सारकों के साम समुदार्थ तक टीकाकरण का संदेश महान के स्थान कर टीकाकरण का संदेश महान के सिंदा मार्ग मृद्य का उसके पिंठ के पण को दु कर को उन्दे टीकाकरण के सिंदा मृद्य के साम के प्रकार के स्थान के मार्गाम से जनस्मुचन में मृद्य के सुमान कि मार्ग के मार्गाम से जनस्मुचन में मृद्य के स्थान के स्थान के स्थान के मार्गाम से जनस्मुचन में मृद्य के मार्ग मृद्य के साम के मार्ग के अपाल मार्ग के मार्ग के साम के



मिशन लाइफ के संदेशों को कथाओं के माध्यम से प्रसारित करने हेतु वसुंधरा मार्गदर्शिका का उद्घाटन





मरोता गए हिन्दुस्तान का

गिंगा पुजन । परमार्थ निकेतन में गंगा दर्शन और पूजन के बाद पत्रकारों से रूबरू हुए गायक कैलाश खोर गीत से देंगे पर्यावरण संरक्षण का संदेश

व्यक्तिक्र, संवाददाता। प्रकार पायक कैरतात खेर का अस्य की प्रवीवरण बरेशक के तिया प्रोतसादित करने वाला वीत लोगों के

बोच होगा। यह ' अब निरुवय श्रीच होगा। आ' 'अब रिनश्य करना होगा' जान संखय करना होगा' जीत में 'जान संस्थान करना होगा' जीत में 'जान संस्थान कर संस्था होगा अग्र आएंगे। सैजूदा हरतार्थी का जिल भी प्रजुकता के साथ उनके हींग में होगा। मुख्यार की परमार्थ निवेतन आक्रम में फैलाल होगा में प्रकृतारों में चान की। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रमानों मेंस्ट

बट और सम्बद गरी होता। बाहा कि



संवें से गलना है। उनकी छन्नशाया में सब कुछ सम्भव है। बताया कि

मच्चे प्रेम का अलगास और पता की वार बी मार्थ कर साजिवर में हो मारतीय संस्कृति, अध्यातम और संगीत की विधाओं से देश-दूनिया में

विद्यानंद्र मृति ने कहा कि कैल्हार खेर जहां भी जाते हैं, जह को थी हैं, हमते भी है और लोगों को हमारे भी हैं। इनके जाने से पूग वातावरण भा तो उनके अने से पूरा वातावरण आनंद और उसलात से पर जाता है। कहा कि लीग तीजें की धून घर चिराकते हैं, नाम तीजें की धून घर चिराकते वालते पीड़ी को दिखाइन पीड़ी बन्ते देना यहाँ पड़ाकी कैलाज चेर जा शकत है। इससी पूर्व कैलाज श्चेर ने कंगा के दर्शन के साथ पूजा अर्चना की। उन्होंने देश-दुनियां की समृद्धि की कामना भी की।



परमार्थ निकेतन के अध्यक्ष स्वामी विदानन्द सरस्वती और उत्तरप्रदेश के मुख्य सविव दुगार्शंकर मिश्र की हुई मेंट वार्ता आगामी प्रयागराज कुम्म को दिव्य व मेव्य बनाने हेतु हुई चर्चा



स्वच्छता ही सेवा है; स्वच्छता ही धर्म : स्वामी चिदानन्द सरस्वती



Social Media:

Parmarth Niketan @ParmarthNiketan

We are delighted to extend a warm welcome to respected faith leaders and UNICEF experts on the 2nd Day of our Orientation Workshop, on Routine Immunization, Climate Change, and Environmental Sustainability. @UNICEFIndia @tamaranet1

@Shalinee12 @SBCCalliance @bhavnathakur25



11-45 . 05 Oct 23 . 241 Views



ta You reposted Pujya Swamiji 🔮

Two-day workshop organized by @wash alliance with @UNICEFIndia at @ParmarthNiketan concluded with aim of spreading the message of regular vaccination for children to every household, family, community, & all sections of society through the teachings & messages of #faithleaders.



9:03 · 07 Oct 23 · 421 Views



19:05 · 27 Nov 23 · 75 Views

WASH Alliance

@wash_alliance

@parmarthniketan

Param @pujyaswamiji

GIWA & @unicefindia joined the

Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Committee

& conducted a Drawing & Painting

Competition to teach them about

Immunization and climate change.



ta You reposted



Pujya Swamiji 🥏 @PujyaSwamiji

Today, the 8th Global Leadership Forum, 'Living Water For All,' was held at @ParmarthNiketan by GIWA and Living Peace Projects. It was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister @pushkardhami ji along with @SadhviBhagawati ji.

@wash_alliance #CleanWater #water



21:11 - 27 Oct 23 - 469 Views



WASH Alliance wash_alliance

youtu.be/VQpmRVcqNVs?si...

Campaign on Routine Immunization with Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Committee members and their families 💜 🌷 💉

@PujyaSwamiji @SadhviBhagawati ji @ParmarthNiketan #immunity #vaccination #Health 3+



टीकाकरण के प्रचार प्रसार से लेकर रक्तदान और



WASH Alliance wash_alliance

TOT(Training of Teachers) in Routine Immunization conducted today at our Parmarth Vidya Mandir for teachers, with awareness msgs for Chandreshwar Nagar community members and activities for students about Vaccination and it's importance.

@PujyaSwamiji @SadhviBhagawati @UNICEFIndia



Nandini Tripathi and 4 others 18:47 · 08 Nov 23 · 45 Views



Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswati @SadhviBhagawati

Such a beautiful joy to join @PujyaSwamiji to inaugurate the 8th Global Leadership Forum 'Living #Water For All' organized by @ParmarthNiketan, @wash alliance & #LivingPeaceProjects. Together we can re-remind everyone that #waterislife...without it there is no life!

#CleanWater





Speaking in a panel by @AJCGlobal at #cop28 in the @faithpavilion on the role of faith in #ClimateAction, I shared that according to the #Hindu tradition everything in the universe is pervaded by the Divine and is sacred and must be protected.

#faithatcop28 #faith4earth



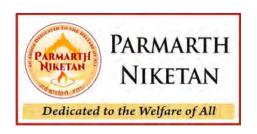


Enjoy and share these highlights from the recent 5 day South Asia Regional Mind Heart Dialogue Training of Trainers org by @UNICEFROSA @religions4peace @JLIFLC in which the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance (GIWA) participated along-side participants from 8 South Asian countries 34











"पाँच साल साथ बार छूटे ना टीका एक भी बार"

GLOBAL INTERFAITH WASH ALLIANCE

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 - @/@wash_alliance
 - washalliance.org



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ANNEXURE A

SHRIMAD BHAGWAT KATHA at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh gives messages of **Routine Immunisation and Climate Action**



15th - 19th October, 2023



A beautiful Shrimad Bhagwat Katha was held at Parmarth Niketan attended by devotees from all across India and around the world. During the Katha, led by Kathakar Mohit ji, stories from the scriptures were shared on the ways one could reflect and apply these values from the life and stories of God into their lives. During the Katha, Pujya Swamiji blessed the devotees and inspired them to lead a special pledge on the necessity to not just worship the creator but serve all of creation. He mentioned that our health, our families health and our planet's health is in our hands. At the Ashram in addition to the sacred Katha, one enjoys the fresh air, the sacred waters of Maa Ganga, a beautiful daily schedule and activities that help us maintain our physical, mental and spiritual health.





He shared that in addition to this it is important that we ensure the health of our children by ensuring their immunisation. He added that children under the age of five must get vaccinated seven times and that it was the responsibility of the whole family and not just the mother to ensure their children's health. Lastly, He also shared that one can protect their planet's health by taking daily actions that reduce our carbon and water footprint, like planting trees, refusing to use plastic, and conserving water and energy.

He shared the story of the Lord Krishna and the Govardhan Parvat from the Vasundhara Toolkit on how each of our actions are like holding up the mountain. A special eco-friendly Bhandara was also held as part of the example of a Green Katha with strict ban on plastics to serve water and food during meals. Pujya Swamiji led the more than 100 attendees in a very special pledge on the occasion.





It was a beautiful honour to welcome Padamshri Kailash Kher ji to the conclusion of the Katha and for the Ganga Aarti, leading us through music to protect our sacred rivers and eco-system. It was a beautiful honour to welcome Padamshri Kailash Kher ji to the conclusion of the Katha and for the Ganga Aarti, leading us through music to protect our sacred rivers and eco-system.



Sabri Ram Leela

First Ever Sabri Ram Leela lays emphasis on Lord Ram's time in the forests and learnings on living in harmony with Mother Nature from the tribal communities





A unique and first of its kind Maa Shabri Ram Leela was organised at Parmarth Niketan during the auspicious time of Navratri. Pujya Swamiji and Pujya Sadhvi Bhagawatiji inaugurated the Katha on the 20th with the Hon'ble Minister of Finance, Government of Uttarakhand Shri Premchand Aggarwal Ji, along with devotees from more than a dozen countries, and each day was a special theme based on the life story of Bhagawan Sri Ram through beautiful song and dance.



The storytelling was enacted by tribal artists and performers from various states of India like Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and the theme of Shabri emphasised the way that Bhagawan Shri Ram served and ensured that no one was left behind, there was no room for discrimination, especially Lord Shri Ram's special connection with the tribal peoples, the forest and the environment. The entire event was planned in a way in which the story of Maa Shabri and Lord Shri Ram's time with Mata Sita in the forests were used as a medium to encourage and inspire all the more than over 500 participants to be the change they wish to see for a planet that is rich with forest cover and a generation that is aware of their actions and it's impact on the planet.

Special visits by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri Manoj Tiwari, famous singer Kanhaiyaji, internationally renowned artist the Raja Kumari, Shri Gajendra Chauhan, who played the role of Yudhishthir in Mahabharata, news anchor and social media influencer Shri Shubhankar Mishra ji, Chairman of Madrasas, Uttarakhand Mufti Qasmi Shamoonji and other faith leaders amongst many others helped bring greater awareness to this message and encouraged the over five hundred people participating in the Katha every day, countless more joining the event online, to be part of the change they wish to see in the world towards leading sustainable lifestyles in line with the teachings and message of Bhagawan Shri Ram.







Watch Pujya Swamiji's environment awareness message here: http://tinyurl.com/aynhhm5t

ANNEXURE B

Swaminarayan Gurukul Parivar's Pujya Swami Madhavpriyadasji's powerful and inspiring messages on RI and CCES in Gujarat



October - December 2023



Pujya Swami Madhavpriyadasji's Inspiring Message on RI ahead of the **Capacity Building Workshop**

Date: 4th October Total participants: 1000+



Pujya Swami Madhavpriyadas Ji of the Swaminarayan Gurukul Parivar shared a powerful message which was shown at the Capacity Building Workshop which included pledge for climate action. In showing his commitment and support of this year's endevour, and leading by example for all of the assembled leaders through taking up the projects mission prior to our formal start of Partner work.

Pujya Swami Madhavpriyadasji Inspires the Masses with Messages on RI and CCES in Gujarat

Date: 18th November Total participants: 1000+

A gathering of over 1000 devotees was convened for the Mandir Pipal Murti Pratishtha Mahotsav. Pujya Swami Madhavpriyadas Ji shared an inspiring and powerful message to catalyse action, "To ensure the well-being of our children, the government provides various vaccination opportunities. It is crucial for us to be aware and prioritise vaccinating our children, as it not only promotes their health but also contributes to building a robust nation. Building a resilient nation begins with safeguarding the health of our children, which in turn protects our societal foundations. Safeguarding our temples begins with ensuring the strength and health of the upcoming generation through vaccination."

Pujya Swami Madhavpriyadasji, got the crowd to participate in a series of pledges to:

- Vaccinate our children 7 times without any failure.
- Protect our water
- Protect our trees and will protect our Mother Earth
- Only do natural organic farming

Pujya Swamiji at this same event raised the essential need for a strong foundation of immunisation, "All Children should receive a 7 doses of vaccination from the age of 5yrs. Believe my words you should do yoga and take ayurvedic medicines, but that 5 yrs of vaccination will protect the child to stay healthy for next 50 years"

Smriti Mahotsav Messages on Vaccination

Date: 30th December Total participants: 1,00,000+





"Smriti Mahotsav" event was organised at SwamiNarayan Gurukul, Ahmedabad by Swami Madhavpriya Das Swami ji who addressed everyone and shared the importance of culture, tradition, and spirituality. During the event he requested everyone to vaccinate their children and spread the word about the same. He also explained the importance of the environment and climate change. On this occasion, a written message of the Honourable Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi was broadcasted. Home Minister of India Shri Amit Shah ji attended the event and shared the importance of culture, art, spirituality which are the identity of India. Parmarth Niketan President Swami Chidanand Saraswati ji, Acharya Swami Avadheshanand Giri Ji Maharaj ji, Bhikkhu Sanghasena ji Yogendra Upadhyay ji were some of the guest speakers.

Watch here: http://tinyurl.com/y2ak2hav









ANNEXURE C

Two Day Campaign on RI with theme "Healthy Childhood, Healthy Planet" conducted at Delhi Gurudwara on annual Prakash Parv celebration



26 - 27th November 2023



Inspiring awareness and outreach event organized by the Global Interfaith WASH Alliance (GIWA) during the grand annual celebration of Prakash Parv in Delhi Gurudwaras to spread awareness on RI and CCES, in partnership with Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee (DSGMC), Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh, in collaboration and with the technical support of UNICEF India.

Every year the DSGMC organises a grand celebration in the Delhi Gurudwaras and in the city to celebrate Guru Nanak Jayanti, also known as 'Prakash Parv', which is one of the most important dates in the Sikh calendar. During the occasion in close coordination and partnership with DSGMC, GIWA and Parmarth Niketan for several days leading upto the Guru Purab to carefully plan integration of Routine Immunisation and CCES messaging into this massive celebration. With the blessings of Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji, Sardar Paramjit Chandhokji and other members of the DSGMC this year they envisioned a two-day intervention on the 26-27th November, 2023.



On November 26th, during the annual Prakash Parv procession starting from Gurudwara Sisganj to Gurudwara Nanak Piao, a special GIWA truck with the banners of RI and CCES messages took part in the procession where more than 1,00,000 devotees and onlookers watched and joined the day long parade. GIWA and Parmarth's volunteers also distributed hundreds of saplings as prasad to the onlookers with the messages of a "healthy childhood & healthy planet," with Routine immunization and clean environment, just like immunisation is important for every child in the same way our daily actions and tree plantation is important for the health of our planet, vaccinating us and preventing death and disease.

The GIWA team realised that combining the RI messaging with CCES helped people understand and receive the messaging better, as vaccination and routine immunisation was a dense topic that required more of the mind to understand whereas environmental preservation was easier to understand.



So combining the themes of healthy children and healthy future helped convey the Routine Immunization message better. The local and religious channels covering the event especially took notice of this unique and different message of RI, which further brought the message to even more people.

On November 27th, a stall was installed at the Gurudwara Rakabganj fair, which sees a footfall of thousands of pilgrims, on the day of the Prakash Parv. The stall was visited by more than one thousand families, childrens and devotees, from all sections of society who had come to take blessings of Guru Nanakji on his birth anniversary. They came with curiosity to the stall and after receiving information on RI from the GIWA and Parmarth volunteers answered the questions related to RI in a fun quiz with full enthusiasm.

A special drawing competition was also held on the subject for all age groups, where children could be seen drawing and painting their ideas and thoughts, sharing them enthusiastically. All the participants of the drawing and quiz competition were rewarded with a beautiful sapling.







Two shows of a Nukkad natak (Street Theatre), prepared by the students of Guru Harkrishan Public School, Karol Bagh, Delhi, on RI were also performed at the venue. In the weeks leading upto the event these students had prepared and performed this skit in and around key areas in around Delhi a few other times. Devotees and participants were motivated to take pledge on getting their children vaccinated – repeating with the children the slogan "Paanch Saal, Saat Bar, Chutte Na Tika Ek Bhi Baar." A signature campaign was initiated where people take the oath for spreading RI awareness. These activities were well appreciated by Bhavna Thakur, UNICEF representative who attended the event. GIWA's efforts were rewarded with a certificate for this innovative and noble service initiative.



Watch here:

- http://tinyurl.com/bde9wvbe
- http://tinyurl.com/2nfzds8h







ANNEXURE D

Tribal Youth inspired to be ambassadors of RI in Odisha, Bhubaneswar



26 - 27th November 2023



At the third convocation ceremony of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) in Bhubaneshwar, Odisha GIWA's Co-Founder and President of Parmarth Niketan Ashram, Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswati ji inspired more than 40,000 Tribal Youth to become Ambassadors for RI in their communities.

At a large programme with 40,000 tribal students and their parents representing India's 63 diverse tribal traditions at the one of its kind KIIT and KISS University in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji addressed the students and inspired them to be ambassadors and advocates for Routine Immunisation and take this message of vaccination with them to their families and communities.

The Founder of KIIT and KISS University Achyuta Samanta, the Hon'ble Governor of Chattisgarh Shri Biswabhushan Harichandan, the Hon'ble Governor of Odisha Shri Raghubar Dasji alongside G20 Sherpa, Govt of India, Former CEO Niti Aayog Shri Amitabh Kantji, Internationally renowned Indian music composer & 3 time Grammy award winner Dr Ricky G Kej, and others were present at this event.

During his inspiring speech, Pujya Swamiji led a pledge by the tribal youth that they would ensure in their families and their communities children under the age of five would get their immunisation from their local Government Health Centres, having them chant the slogan "Paanch Saal Saat Baar, Chute na Tika Ek Bhi Baar." He tied in how the blessings of Jaganath Puri protected their mental and spiritual health whilst immunisation protected their physical health.





He expressed just as the *tika* on our forehead protected our spiritual energy the *tikas* in our childhood protected our children's physical health and well-being. Both being critical for their holistic and wholesome growth.

Pujya Swamiji message for RI was the powerful conclusion to a motivational and powerful speech that lauded the exceptional example and efforts of the KISS University. He expressed that the eradication of hunger through education was truly phenomenal. Through this temple of education, not only the hunger for education has been awakened in the tribal communities but also it has given an amazing opportunity for the students to study and graduate in various streams like philosophy, environment, science, technology, management, language, heritage, law, tribal culture, yogic sciences etc. Besides, efforts are being made to keep the ancient culture of India alive and to connect the young generation with their roots, values, traditions and environment so that their culture can be kept alive.





Not only was Pujya Swamiji welcomed with a standing ovation but as He concluded the students joined together in unison with the RI pledge and applauded in great enthusiasm.

At the end Pujya Swamiji presented a sacred Rudraksha sapling to Achyuta Samanta, Founder of the University for his great example, dedication and to his incredible work.

Watch Pujya Swamiji's speech here : http://tinyurl.com/2nfzds8h

ANNEXURE E

Session on RI with 3 tribal communities with Harijan Sevak Sangh, West Bengal



19th December 2023



GIWA, in collaboration with HSS West Bengal, conducted a significant intervention with three tribal communities (Oraon, Munda, Bhumija) at Boynala, just outside Kolkata. The event, attended by approximately forty youth, fifteen mothers, and two tribal leaders (from two tribal groups), began with a traditional welcome, cultural dance, and folk songs celebrating the sacred bond between a mother and her children, and underscored the importance of nurturing strong family bonds. Ten of the students were specially honoured with flower garlands for their achievements in recently securing scholarships.

Following this, a discussion, jointly facilitated by GIWA and HSS, unfolded on the critical role of Routine Immunisation adapted to the themes expressed on the day of maintaining a healthy family and community. It was revealed during the discussion that many community members had not received complete vaccinations with only two confirming they had, most also lacked proper vaccination cards.









Attendees joined together with great enthusiasm pledging to be more health conscious and for the mothers to inquire about their children's vaccination status, and for children to ask their parents the same. The attendees were encouraged to disseminate these essential messages within their communities by asking others if they too had been fully vaccinated and reminding them that it is good for their health and can help the community be sick less often (many shared to have regular upset stomachs).

Follow-up initiatives are now being planned, led by HSS and GIWA, to ensure community members obtain their vaccine cards. Additionally, the local drama teacher is very keen to address important social issues through skits and is developing with the children performances that continue to highlight the themes surrounding Routine Immunisation in the coming time period.

This visit was inspired by a series of meetings and visits held in Kolkata, a visit by Pujya Swamiji to KISS University in Bhubaneswar, Odisha addressing 40,000 Tribal Students as well as the last two Ganga Aartis in Kolkata where HSS West Bengal was deeply inspired to action by Pujya Swamiji.





ANNEXURE F











Report on Trainings and visit to the Vinoba Bhave Ashram, Shahajanpur and Sarvodaya Ashram, Hardoi in Uttar Pradesh

11 December-13 December, 2023

The objective of this three day training and visit planned and conducted by GIWA was to understand the partner organisations available networks and resources and to advocate for and spread the message of Routine Immunisation amongst underserved and marginalized communities, especially rural women and members of the scheduled caste communities starting with the villages in and around Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh.



Samagrah Vikas Seva Prakalp

11 December, 2023

Introductory workshop conducted on Routine Immunization (RI) for teenage girls at Vocational School of Vinoba Bhave Ashram and Sakhi Groups formed to go village to village raising awareness on Routine Immunisation.



12 December, 2023

A one-day workshop was organised at Vinoba Bhave Ashram, Shahjahanpur with thirty selected women and karyakartas (workers) who are already serving at the grass root level in the rural community.





Sarvodaya Ashram, Hardoi

13 December, 2023

A special RI & CCES workshop at Sarvodaya Ashram, Hardoi with 120 staff and 100 teenagers of Sarvodaya School and Ashram to inspire and engage action in the local communities.



Sakhi Groups to Spread Grassroots Awareness on Routine Immunisation in Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh

11th December, 2023

The Global Interfaith WASH Alliance (GIWA) planned a visit and training at it's partner organisation Harijan Sevak Sangh's affiliated Vinoba Sewa Ashram in Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh. The Vinoba Sewa Ashram is an NGO dedicated towards the empowerment of youngsters, women and members of the marginalized communities with a strong emphasis on a participatory approach, based on the principles and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi's close associate Vinoba Bhave. Vinoba Sewa Ashram provides education, counselling, recreational activities and community outreach to the most marginalized and vulnerable communities.

On the first day of their visit the team of three from GIWA visited the Vinoba Bhave Ashram run vocational centre named 'Samagrah Vikas Seva Prakalp'. There the met and interacted with young girls aged 10 to 20. As they understood the needs, challenges and activities of these young women they also spoke to them on the necessity of routine immunization.

During the conversation the young girls were encouraged to form a Sakhi team and reach each house with children less than 5 years of age in the village and encourage all mothers to get their wards vaccinated in due course. They also took a pledge to spread awareness on the subject among 200 families in their Chhitepur village, District Shahjahanpur.





One Day Workshop on Routine Immunisation at Vinoba Bhave Ashram in Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh

12th December, 2023

A one-day workshop was organised at Vinoba Bhave Ashram, Shahjahanpur with thirty selected women and karyakartas (workers) of the Ashram who are already serving at the grass root level with a collective reach of over fifty villages. The workshop was designed along the lines of the Capacity Building Workshop conducted at Parmarth Niketan in early October covering topics of the importance of universal immunization program to eradicate the childhood diseases, the impact on children's lives as well as the society and nation as a whole. It discussed the LODOR concept and the necessity to meet the gaps in ensuring all children under the age of five receive their immunisation in a timely manner.



The workshop concluded with participants discussing and planning avenues of their own engagement with community and how they could be part of the solution to meet the challenges in total coverage, especially in reaching the most marganlised and vulnerable communities for RI. Together they brainstormed, shared and presented steps they could take to be part of the change. The slogan 'Paanch saal saat baar' was repeated to convey its importance and success stories like Godhra was narrated.

The session was further enriched by a beautiful discussion on how the path of faith and the teachings of Mahatama Gandhi and Vinoba Bhave inspire and empower us to serve. There was also a segment dedicated to Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability (CCES) wherein the Vasundhara Toolkit was presented to Vinoba Bhave Ashram's leader Ramesh Bhaiya, Bimla Didi by GIWA's Dr Priya and Vandana Sharma.

Teachings and stories of Gandhi and Bhave's emphasis on environmental preservation were shared. It was suggested that an edition of the Vasundhara Toolkit on these stories and teachings would be a powerful approach to inspiring sustainable living.

A UNICEF clip was also shown to them where a message by Amitabh Bachchan ji was to take the children even if they have mild fever for immunization was conveyed.



Two Rudraksh saplings each were given to Ramesh Bhaiyya ji and Bimla didi ji as a gratitude on behalf the team. All the participants were presented with a Rudraksh mala and were given a kit from Parmarth Niketan which included a bag with stationery and pamphlets with the information on RI. The whole workshop was concluded with the plantation of the presented Rudraksh saplings. One in the Ashram itself and the other one in the Gaushala compound.





Special Workshop on Routine Immunisation at Sarvodaya Ashram in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh

13th December, 2023

A special one day workshop at the Sarvodaya Ashram, Hardoi started with a prayer sung by the more than 100 students, 120 teachers and community members. After a opening prayer, a welcoming introduction by Urmila Srivastava, Vice President, Harijan Sevak Sangh, a short meditation and mindfulness practice, the workshop commenced with a engaging talk on the importance of RI for our communities health and wellness, which was imparted in an interactive and engaging manner by the GIWA team. Participants paid attention with enthusiasm.

Since the majority participants were teachers so they were encouraged to spread awareness information through Parent Teacher Meetings, during community's events and school functions with large gatherings, especially as full immunisation was critical for the health and well being of all. They were also inspired to convey these key RI messages at the personal level by reaching out to their family, neighbors and relatives to ensure that every child under the age of five is immunised. They were also encouraged to ask any questions on the topic and share their ideas. The workshop was concluded on a high note with a vote of thanks by Kusum Didi, President of Harijan Sevak Sangh, UP. A special gift of a beautiful Rudraksh sapling brought from Parmarth Niketan Ashram was offered to the school.













ANNEXURE G

Climate Change & RI message at **Aligarh Muslim University**



9th December 2023



Aligarh Interfaith Centre and Humanities Advanced Studies Institute recently organised an international seminar focusing on the perspectives of religions regarding the way of life and lifestyle of our populations. The event took place at the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical Centre and was attended by approximately 200 guests, including many renowned faith leaders and personalities from diverse traditions spanning the India, and Iran.

The aim of the seminar was to explore how the insights of various religious scholars could contribute to understanding how Islam plays a role in fostering unity and peace within society.

During the seminar, GIWA Partner and Jain spiritual leader Acharya Vivek Muni Ji emphasised the philosophy of 'live and let live' as a guiding principle for life. He stressed that through open exchange of views and dialogue, solutions to societal problems could be reached.

Acharya Vivek Muniji used the opportunity to bring in the key issue of Routine Immunisation (RI), stating the critical importance of total vaccination coverage in our communities for the health and well-being of all. At the crescendo of his speech, he led the gathering in a unified chant calling for: "Paanch Saal Saat Baar, choote na teeka ek bhi baar."



He also went on to bring up important themes of Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability as a tool to unite all people and religions against a common threat stating that 'We are polluting water, air and food for our own interests. Everyone needs to be aware of climate change and then to take action, leading lifestyles in line and in harmony with our planet.'

Notable attendees included Chief Guest Dr. Haddad Adel, an Iranian Intellectual and former Parliamentarian; Father Dr. M.D. Thomas, a Christian Spiritual Scholar; Dr. Vijendra Nandan Das, the Vice President of ISKCON; Shahzada Qusai Bhai from the Bohra community; and Agha Mehdavipour, the Spiritual Representative of Ayatollah Imam Khomeini in India and many others.



RI awareness in Sarva Dharma Sammelan



19th December 2023



Sarva Dharma Sammelan ("Meeting of all faiths") is an assembly organised in several places in India. It is generally organized by the Jain community, since it confirms with the anekantavada principle of Jainism, that truth and reality are complex and have multiple aspects.

During the Sarva Dharma Sammelan organised on 19th December in New Delhi, with a gathering of approximately 150 people, Acharya Vivek Muniji, the disciple of the well respected His Holiness Acharya Shri Sushil Muni Ji Maharaj, spoke about the necessity for us as human beings to live with ahimsa (non-violence), which distinguishes humans from animals. He shared that it is our ability to have compassion, and contribute to other's lives through service that distinguishes us from other species.

He used this opportunity to bring in the key issue of Routine Immunisation (RI) as a means of ensuring people's health stating, "As you've heard Amitabh Bachchan speaking on Routine Immunisation and inspiring everyone to ensure children under the age of five should receive their immunisation. He shared that the responsibility for immunisation is not only for the mothers but also for the fathers and the elders in the family.

Together, as responsible citizens, we should ensure that every child under 5 gets their shots." At the end of his speech he reaffirmed the slogan of "Paanch Saal Saat Baar, choote na teeka ek bhi baar" with all the participants.

Watch here: http://tinyurl.com/42ehhrtb









ANNEXURE H

RI & CCES Awareness during Global Handwashing Day special Uttarakhand Yatra



13th - 15th October 2023





A very special series of events and awareness activities were organized by GIWA in Uttarakashi, Uttarakhand on the occasion and in the lead up to Global Handwashing Day from 13-15th October. These activities included visit to the schools listed below by GIWA's Founder Pujya Swami Chidanand Saraswatiji and GIWA's Secretary General Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswatiji wherein they emphasized the importance of handwashing with soap, the importance of immunization of children under the age of five, with seven doses. They shared how RI not only protects children from serious illnesses but also contributes to their well-being.

Pujya Swamiji shared that both handwashing with soap and RI were actions we can take to ensure and secure the health and the future of our children. Pujya Sadhviji shared about the seven steps of handwashing and had children repeat these steps with her. They also interacted with children, teachers and parents and answered their questions and inspired them to be protect their sacred Himalayan eco-system.





Pujya Swamiji & Pujya Sadhviji at Saraswati Vidya Mandir

On the 13th October Pujya Swamiji & Sadhviji was welcomed by District Magistrate of Uttarkashi, where they discussed about GIWA's ongoing projects related to Environment and Sustainability. There was a short visit to the Vijay Public School which was attended by 300 students where Pujya Swamiji shared about importance of Immunisation, Climate Change, sustainable lifestyle and what students, teachers and parents can do to prevent climate change and protect their sacred eco-system.





Pujya Swamiji and Sadhviji at Vijay Public School

On 14th October they visited the Goswami Ganesh Dutt Saraswati Vidya Mandir Inter College in Uttarkashi, and addressed more than 140 students and teachers. During the speech Pujya Sadhviji explained the significance of handwashing and its benefits on an individual and community level. While addressing the students, Pujya Swamiji explained about the necessity of Routine Immunisation, Handwashing With Soap and Climate Action all of which was well received by the participants.





Goswami Ganesh Dutt Saraswathi Vidya Mandir Inter College





Swami Vivekanand School





Shri Vishwanath Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya

On the 15th October they interacted with students of Swami Vivekanand School, Swami Chaitanya School, Paramedical College, Shri Vishwanath Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Sainik school and Laxmi Divyang School in Uttarkashi with over 2000 students, teachers and parents at this gathering.

There was also a beautiful Ganga Aarti in Uttarakashi on the evening of the 15th, attended by over 1000 people, in which the Hon'ble District Magistrate of Uttarakashi Meharban Singh Bisht Ji was present, a special pledge and message on handwashing was also led by Pujya Swamiji and Pujya Sadhviji during this ceremony bringing great inspiration to many. The Buddhist monks from GIWA's Capacity Building workshop were called to participate and take part in this event.



Pujya Swamiji and Sadhviji participate in Uttarkashi Aarti

The next Day, Pujya Swamiji and Sadhviji with the local people, students of Parmarth Gurukul and devotees from various countries visited Smriti Van and Rudraksh Vatika established by Parmarth Niketan after the 2013 Uttarakhand disaster. Here, hundreds of Rudraksha saplings are being planted every year during monsoon, in collaboration with Parmarth Niketan and Forest Department, Uttarakhand. Pujya Swamiji said that to eradicate poverty from Uttarakhand and reduce migration from the mountains, create employment, promoting local goods and livelihoods is important. Hence planting trees like walnut, sandalwood, Rudraksha, lemon etc promotes sustainable agriculture as it is climate friendly and also provides stable income for the locals. Pujya Swamiji encouraged the start of an initiative in which there should be 11 saplings planted on the birth of a daughter to encourage people living in the hills to plant trees and celebrate the girl child. These eleven trees would be walnut, sandalwood, Rudraksha, lemon, malta and kiwi plants so that when the plants start bearing fruits it would coincide with helping the family support their girl child's higher education and marriage. This concept was well-received by everyone.





Pujya Swamiji and Sadhviji visits Uttarkashi Rudraksh Van

Watch here:

<u>http://tinyurl.com/eta7dyuv</u> <u>http://tinyurl.com/fs843rbu</u>







ANNEXURE I

RI Awareness at our Free School & **Vocational Training Center**



11th November 2023



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A) 'Training of Teachers' - For Teaching Staff From Parmarth Vidya Mandir



The GIWA team conducted an orientation session for the teachers who serve at the Parmarth Vidya Mandir (PVM), a free primary school run by by the Divine Shakti Foundation located at Rishikesh. Chandreshwar Nagar, The objective of Parmarth Vidya Mandir is to provide education, inspiration and positive outlook to underprivileged



children in a community where most families are below the poverty line and many in their family are illiterate. Many teachers of PVM are qualified graduates and reside in the local community. GIWA trained 30 teachers present in the school about benefits of immunisation, the crucial necessity for it, vaccinations according to age group, the location of nearby health care facilities and contact details of Asha workers etc. They were encouraged to share this message with parents of their students and within the communities to ensure full coverage in the nearby community.

Watch Here: http://tinyurl.com/3ex4sskk

B) Awareness about Immunisation to Parents of students studying in Parmarth Vidya Mandir



The GIWA team arranged a meeting with parents of Parmarth Vidya Mandir (PVM) students, catering to students aged 3 to 15. Given that immunisation is relevant for the age group of O to 5, GIWA Educators aimed to provide information to parents with children in the primary classes, as many of them have younger siblings under the age of 5.



During the session, parents raised numerous questions and expressed doubts about immunisation. The team addressed these concerns, providing clarification and ensuring that parents left with a better understanding of the importance and benefits of immunisation for their children.

C) Awareness Raising Activities and Workshop for Students at the Parmarth Vidya Mandir and Parmarth Naari Shakti Kendra



Students of Parmarth Vidya Mandir and participants from Parmarth Naari Shakti Kendra, our skill development centre for women, underwent a sensitisation session on immunisation. The session covered information about the benefits of immunisation, details about vaccines, and guidance on how to effectively communicate this information to their families and friends.

Communications Workshop:

With a focus on utilising various mediums, such as speeches, skits, rallies and the use of social media platforms like WhatsApp, Instagram, and Facebook, students were equipped with the tools to raise awareness. They learned techniques like uploading WhatsApp statuses during immunisation camps in their communities



and distributing notices. This comprehensive session, attended by 280 students and 30 staff members from Parmarth Vidya Mandir and Parmarth Naari Shakti Kendra, aimed to empower participants to play an active role in promoting Immunisation.

Performance of Skits:

Students dressed up as Parents, and the Doctor performed a drama where the characters talk about the benefits of immunisation and also speak about the effects of not being vaccinated and how it affects future generations. All the students in PVM eagerly listened and appreciated the skit, it was a powerful demonstration of enlisting the creative arts as means of communicating the importance of vaccination to students.



Watch here: http://tinyurl.com/uwxuvn32

Students and Teachers Participate in an Immunisation Rally:

The entire student body and faculty of Parmarth Vidya Mandir orchestrated a rally in Chandreshwar Nagar, Rishikesh.

Nearly 150 students and 25 teachers actively participated, displaying placards showcasing awareness slogans about immunisation. The initiative received commendation from many onlookers, acknowledging both the students' dedication and their collective efforts. During the rally, a few new mothers approached GIWA's team seeking information about immunisation. GIWA's Dr. Priya, along with the team and teachers from PVM, extended assistance by sharing the necessary details for vaccination, thereby contributing to community education and public health.





ANNEXURE J

RI & Environment awareness messages during Ganga Aarti at Parmarth Niketan

Date: October 7, 2023 Event: Third day of Navratri

Topic: Naari Shakti, RI & Environment

The sacred Navratri Ganga Aarti, dedicated to Chandraghanta Mata, was attended by eminent faith leaders, visitors and devotees from across India and the world. Pujya Sadhviji said "the divine Mother Goddess that we worship in the temple is the same devi that resides in our homes in the form of a daughter, mother, sister and wife. That which we would not do to the divine Mother in our temple, we



should never think of doing to the divine feminine to all the forms in our lives. Mother Goddess lives not only in the human form but also as Mother Nature and Mother Earth, so we should treat them with care and respect".

Param Pujya Swamiji added "if there is Shakti, then there is Shrishti. Parents spend their entire lives saving money for a girl's marriage. Instead, parents should invest their money in their education. Today, girls are outperforming boys academically, have become IAS officers, are winning medals in the field of sports, have sent satellites to the moon, and are making our country proud. Parents should realise that girls are God's gift and take pride in them."

Pujya Swamiji and Pujya Sadhviji inspired everyone to make a Sankalp to respect Shakti because there is no creation without Shakti. "Give naari love, respect and care along with Mother Nature and Mother Earth."

Regarding RI, Pujya Swamiji spoke of the gender discrimination made by parents, wherein ofeth boys were more likely to receive immunisation than girls. He said it saddens him to see the difference in immunisation coverage for boys and girls. "We are working with UNICEF to ensure that every child, without discrimination, can receive and benefit from RI." He further urged parents to remember to vaccinate their children by saying "Paanch saal saat baar, choote na teeka ek bhi baar".

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/5t2f85mz



Date: October 11, 2023

Event: International Girl Child's Day

Topic: RI, Enivironment, Beti Padhao Beti Bachao and RI & Vaccination

Param Pujya Swamiji spoke on Beti Padhao, emphasising the importance of education for a daughter to advance in life. He encouraged parents to invest in their education instead of worrying and saving money for dowry and wedding celebrations. He added that today's educated girls have made their parents proud with their achievements in every field, be it sports, science, corporate, technology, etc.



Pujya Swamiji shared his plans for the girl child in Uttarkashi. The family will receive 21 fruit-giving plants when a girl child is born. Cash crops like walnuts, avocados, dragon fruit, oranges, lemons and many others will bring good returns after six years. The parents can sell the produce and earn sufficient money to educate their daughter. After marriage, if a girl has to return to her parent's home due to any mishap, the produce from these trees becomes her life support. He asked parents to bless daughters not only with gifts but with respect and encouraged everyone to respect Naari Shakti's presence at home as mother, wife, sister and daughter.

Regarding RI, Pujya Swamiji shared that "in India, every year, one million children under the age of 5 die due to pneumonia, cholera and diarrhoea. The Government of India, under the leadership of Hon'ble PM Modiji, has launched Mission Indradhanush, bringing colors to a child's life through immunization. Parents should now take the responsibility of vaccinating their children because vaccination has eradicated many fatal diseases like chickenpox and polio. With vaccination, parents should also take care of their lifestyle – eating and sleeping habits and physical fitness– because healthy children make a healthy nation." Pujya Swamiji said that spiritual leaders are pivotal for the RI campaign and shared the plans of incorportating the message 'Paanch saal saat baar, choote na teeka ek bhi baar' during every katha, programme and festival.

Ganga Nandiniji shared "in India, due to gender discrimination, often the girl child is less likely to receive vaccination. To ensure that every child, irrespective of gender, under the age of 5 receives and benefits from vaccination, GIWA is working on the RI campaign in partnership with UNICEF. A simple vaccination given to a child, as per the recommended schedule, is vital in protecting a child's health." She invited everyone to participate in spreading the message 'Paanch saal saat baar, choote na teeka ek bhi baar ' in every house in the community.

Watch: https://www.facebook.com/ParmarthNiketan/videos/1488005298701401/



Date: October 27, 2023

Event: Shreshth Bharat Inauguration Program

Topic: Environment, Women's Empowerment and Beti Padhao

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launched the Shresth Uttarakhand (Shreshth Bharat) news channel leading to the Ganga Aarti. Param Pujya Swamiji, Pujya Sadhviji, Mayor of Rishikesh Anita Mamgai, Associate Editor at Jagran New Media, Ashish Maharishi, Director General of Information Banshidhar Tiwari, Cabinet Minister Premchand Aggarwal, District Magistrate Dr Ashish Chauhan, SSP Shweta Choubey, Aishwarya Bisht Miss India Uttarakhand 2022, Himani Rawat 1st runner up of Miss Uttarakhand 2022, Vocalist Vidhi Sharma, Government officials, the news channel crew and many more were present at the launch.

When asked about women's empowerment, Pujya Sadhviji said "there is no requirement to empower women as they are already empowered. We just need to help them realise how empowered they already are. Parents should embrace and celebrate the birth of a girl child without any gender discrimination because the Devi that they pray in the temple is also present in their homes in the form of mother, sister, wife and daughter. Instead of worrying about their marriage, parents should love and respect them, educate and provide them with a healthy and progressive environment and opportunities to realise their power."

Pujya Sadhviji said to address parents' worry about their girl child; "Param Pujya Swamiji devised a plan to give the family cash crops when a girl child is born. After six years, the parents can sell the produce and earn sufficient money to educate their daughter. Besides, planting trees will help not only families but also the environment." Pujya Sadhviji said to tackle dropouts during puberty; "schools should ensure proper toilets for girls and speak to them about menstrual hygiene. With education, parents should instill values as they govern our lives and help us create the future we want."

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/y5j7kvem

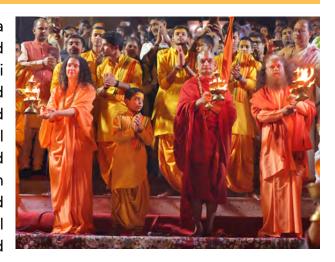






Date: October 29, 2023 **Topic:** Environment

Sri Tridandi Srimannarayana Ramanuja Chinna Jeeyar Swamiji from Hyderabad who set up 'Statue of Equality' for Adi Shankara joined the aarti and explained the importance of spirituality and requested the devotees to see and feel god in all forms. At the aarti it was said that water, sky, sun, moon, all elements in the planet, air which we breathe in and out is a form of god and we should feel and respect these gods, earth and environment.



Pujya Swamiji shared that "karthik month is famous for 3 things: snan, dhyan and dhaan. Dhaan should not be just money. It should be 'time' for our families and 'talent' for our nation and community. There should be giving in our minds which is the primary concept of sanatan Dharma and every time we gather together we should remember these to create vasudeva kudumbakam – one earth, one family as per the goals of the G20."

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/4pas5erh

Date: November 1, 2023 **Event:** World Vegan Day

(Karwa Chauth) **Topic:** Environment

Coinciding with World Vegan Day, Pujya Sadhvi advocates for veganism, highlighting the importance of treating cows as family members rather than exploiting them in factories. She urged a pledge to embrace a vegan lifestyle, ensuring that our choices do not harm



animals or the planet, emphasizing our capacity to provide ample grains to eradicate hunger for the growing population. The pledge is to be instruments of non-violence, refraining from causing harm to both animal and human families.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/3ypw6cuj



Date: November 4, 2023 **Topic**: Environment

Pujya Sadhvi Ji warmly welcomed he global family to the enchanting Ganga Aarti ceremony, echoing the timeless message of our scriptures: Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam – the whole world is one family. In this land known as Yog Nagari, the birthplace and world capital of yoga, people from around the globe gather to connect with the divine. Every evening, he underlined that we share a collective prayer which emphasises our commitment to preserving and protecting our sacred environment – the trees, mountains, and rivers, sharing that "It's a beautiful responsibility that brings true happiness. Indian culture teaches that happiness lies not in having more but in giving and sharing more, realising that we are more when we contribute to the well-being of our shared creation."

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/uersmkf5





Date: November 8, 2023

Topic: Environment, Reflecting on the teachings of Sanatan

Pujya Swamiji expressed joy, sharing the serene moments on the banks of Mother Ganga in Rishikesh during sunset prayers. He highlighted the significance of connecting with spirituality and emphasized the launch of the book "Sanatan," underlining the importance of yoga in everyone's life. Swamiji also acknowledged the launch of another book dedicated to the life of Sri Sri Ravi Shankar ji. Reflecting on Sanatan's teachings, he stressed the unity of humanity and the need to care for both the creator and creation. Pujya Swamiji urged everyone to cherish the spiritual connection, take care of Mother Ganga, and pledged to abandon single-use plastic while planting more trees for a sustainable future. He emphasized the collective responsibility to transition from a "use and throw" culture to a "use and grow" culture, concluding with the mantra: "My garbage, my responsibility."

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/tcsfxukd



Date: November 10, 2023

Event: International Vaccination Day and Dhanteras

Topic: Health and RI & Vaccination

Today's Ganga Aarti celebrated and honoured Dhanvantari, the father of Ayurveda. Pujya Sadhviji shared that Dhanvantari taught us the vital connection between our health and the well-being of Mother Earth. She said if the earth is not healthy, we cannot be healthy.

Coincidentally, as it was also International Vaccination Day, Pujya Sadhviji emphasised science's role in saving young lives from chickenpox, polio and other diseases. She urged us to commit to protecting children through vaccination, ensuring they have the opportunity to grow, learn, blossom and embody the divine being themselves.

Pujya Swamiji said, 'Health is Wealth' if the family has health, happiness and harmony. To maintain good health, exercise daily, eat right and light, get adequate rest, and control anger.

Pujya Swamiji inspired the gathering and all the viewers watching online from across India to prioritise our well-being for a life filled with pleasure and prosperity. He asked parents, health workers and ASHA workers to reach out to everyone in the community and ensure the children are vaccinated seven times in 5 years. Everyone repeated the slogan 'Paanch saal saat baar, choote na teeka ek bhi baar'.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/puu4b6vf

Date: November 13, 2023 Event: Govardhan Puja Topic: RI & Environment

Pujya Sadhvi Ji emphasized the diverse ways in which we worship the creator, but she urgee a collective commitment beyond mere worship – a pledge to preserve and protect our shared creator, Mother Earth, along with its water, air, and soil. On the occasion of Govardhan Puja, symbolizing Lord Krishna's act of holding up the sacred Govardhan mountain, Sadhvi Ji draws a lesson from Krishna's teachings as appeared in our Vasundhara Toolkit. "Acknowledging His presence, we are reminded to fulfill our responsibilities to the best of our abilities. Today, let us collectively pledge, inspired by Lord Krishna, to take meaningful actions in safeguarding and conserving our precious Mother Earth and its soil." Pujya Swamiji extends a warm welcome to Mahamandaleshwar Swami Geetanand Ji Maharaj and Bollywood actress Diya Mirza Ji. They beautifully expressed that for the past four days, we've been celebrating a







festival, culminating in today's Ganga Aarti dedicated to soldiers who enable us to celebrate. Diya Mirza shared her lifelong dedication to the environment, urged people to vote for their nation, and emphasized the importance of worshiping the nation alongside any other form of worship. As a Diwali gift, trees were shared. Finally, Pujya Swamiji emphasized the significance of children's health, urging the adoption of government-provided, free-of-cost immunization vaccines administered seven times over five years for a happy and healthy life.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/yeefdphh

Date: November 19, 2023

Event: Chaath Puja **Topic:** Environment

On the occasion orf Chhath Pooja, Sadhviji emphasised the cultural teachings of India, whilst also encouraging worship and respect for nature – the sun, soil, mountains, rivers – as integral elements. On the special occasion of Chhath Puja, she invites everyone to pledge a commitment to giving back to Mother Earth. "The focus is on serving, celebrating, and worshiping the sun and the entire creation, with a shared responsibility to protect all natural elements and ensure their safety."

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/4xb34978

Date: November 20, 2023

Event: International Childrens Day

Topic: Education, Environment, RI & Vaccination

On International Children's Day, Pujya Sadhviji said "we should commit to giving our children the best: access to their rights, good health, a healthy environment, freedom and opportunities. We should empower them with education without discriminating between boys and girls. If you educate a man, you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman, you educate a generation."



Along with education, Pujya Sadhviji encouraged parents to instill values in their children to help them know their purpose and what good things they need to do for society.

Pujya Sadhviji encouraged environmental responsibility, emphasising the need to protect air and soil from pollution. "We must pledge to keep our water bodies clean, avoid single-use plastic, conserve energy and preserve the environment."

Lastly, she underscores the significance of vaccination to protect our children's health, giving them the best chance of growing, achieving and succeeding. She urged the parents to follow the recommended vaccinations seven times over five years without missing a single dose to safeguard the children from harmful diseases.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/2x3nkvxr

Date: November 25, 2023

Topic: Environment

Pujya Sadhviji beautifully set the tone for the Ganga Aarti, emphasizing the importance of approaching with surrender, silence, and a spirit of love and devotion. "In India, Maa Ganga is revered for her role in liberation and divine connection, underlining the responsibility to preserve her purity. The practice of silence by sages and saints is noted as a means to deepen connection with the divine. Alongside the spiritual reverence, there's a crucial reminder of the collective duty to keep the Ganga clean, considering the significant number of people relying on its waters for livelihood. Preserving the purity of Maa Ganga is a shared commitment." Ending with a plea to avoid polluting her sacred waters, particularly with plastic."

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/58a5ry46

Date: December 4, 2023

Event: Conclusion of Environmental Film Festival

Topic: Environment and RI

Pujya Swamiji concluded the film festival at Parmarth by expressing the intention to inspire and motivate people through films to raise awareness about protecting Mother Nature and preserving our water. He emphasized the importance of being online but also staying aligned, suggesting a harmonious balance between technology and alignment with nature.

Pujya Swamiji emphasised the critical importance of the first five years for a baby, highlighting the necessity of mother's milk during this period. Additionally, he mentioned crucially the Indian government's provision of seven vaccines during this



crucial time frame, urging everyone not to miss a single dose. Stressing that these vaccinations are essential for both boys and girls, calling on fathers to also take responsibility.

Swamiji invited everyone to take the pledge: "5 Saal, 7 Baar, Chhute Na Tika, Ek Bhi Baar" (For five years, seven vaccines, not missing a single dose). Alongside this pledge for health, he encouraged tree planting as a commitment to making Mother Earth healthy. The dual pledge underscores the importance of both individual health and environmental well-being.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/ycxsdb2s

Date: December 5, 2023

Topic: Environment and Health

Pujya Sadhviji warmly welcomes everyone to the Holy Banks of Mother Ganga for the sacred Ganga Aarti, emphasising the profound connection between individuals and the divine and nature. She highlights the crucial understanding that the preservation and protection of Mother Earth which comes from acknowledging that earth, water, trees, mountains, and rivers are integral parts of our extended family, as taught by our Vedas and scriptures.

Referencing the G2O slogan, "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (the world is one family), Pujya Sadhviji invites everyone to take a pledge to consider Mother Earth as a member of their own family. In the course of the ceremony, she encouraged embracing love for the divine and extending that love to the entire global family. The Aarti is a moment of collective connection, reflection, and commitment to the well-being of our shared home.

Pujya Swamiji extended a warm welcome to Kumar Vishwa ji, Amit Gambheer ji, Prabhat Kumar ji, and the talented team from Times of India at Parmarth Niketan. He emphasised the significance of embracing spirituality in Uttarakhand, urging a shift in focus to contribute positively to India's growth. Highlighting the unique unity for sacred ceremonies, he advocateed for instilling cultural values, practicing yoga, and embracing Ayurveda for a harmonious and healthy life.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/4bfewhjx

Date: December 10, 2023

Topic: World Human Rights Day

On World Human Rights Day, Pujya Sadhviji encouraged reflecting not only on individual rights but also on collective responsibilities. Emphasising conscious living and a vegetarian lifestyle for environmental preservation, she invites everyone to take a pledge to protect human rights globally.



Acknowledging International Mountain Day, she expressed gratitude for the gifts the Himalayas have bestowed upon us, including yoga, Ayurveda, and scriptures, calling for a collective commitment to preserve and protect these sacred mountains and all mountains worldwide by living with dharma, consciousness, and love for a healthy, happy, and sustainable world.

Pujya Swamiji extends his heartfelt blessings to the newly wedded couple, Arpit and Shivani. He emphasises the profound significance of love as the key to life and encourages the couple to imbibe and share this love, instilling positive values in their family. Pujya Swamiji believes that a world filled with love is a world that radiates happiness.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/4be7etnm

Date: December 20, 2023 **Topic:** Environment and RI

Pujya Swamiji imparts wisdom about the significance of self-transformation, emphasizing that regardless of changing places, carrying the essence of Ganga within ourselves is essential. He highlights the continuous flow of Ganga, urging people to draw inspiration from it when feeling tired.

Pujya Swamiji advocates for respecting all forms of Shakti, particularly emphasising the importance of giving respect to women rather than things. He encourages a pledge for eco-friendly festivals, promoting tree planting, avoiding single-use plastic, and preventing water pollution to care for the environment and rivers.

Connecting health with family and children, Pujya Swamiji stresses the importance of routine immunization for children aged O-5 years. He introduces a slogan, "5 saal, 7 baar, chute na tika, ek bhi bar," underlining the significance of ensuring children receive the seven vaccines for their well-being.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/usesueve

Date: December 22, 2023

Event: Gita Jayanthi

Topic: Environment and RI

Pujya Sadhviji warmly welcomed Honorable Shri Bhupendra Yadav Ji, the Union Cabinet Minister of Labour and Employment, Environment, Forest and Climate Change in the Government of India, and everyone to the banks of Mother Ganga. She emphasised the evening gatherings as opportunities for divine connection through prayer, chanting, and ceremony, linking the connection with the divine creator to the divine creation.



Highlighting the spiritual teaching that we were not separate from creation but a part of it, Pujya Sadhviji underscored the sacredness of every human being, living being, and aspect of nature. She expressed the interconnectedness emphasised in the prayer "Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah," linking the well-being of all beings and implored the congregation to care for the natural environment.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/3pk6te8r

Date: December 23, 2023

Topic: Environment

Pujya Sadhviji beautifully shares the universal essence of the Bhagavad Gita on Geeta Jayanti, emphasising that it goes beyond the battlefield teachings to touch the lives of each individual. She highlights the transformative power of implementing even one teaching from the Bhagavad Gita, which contains solutions for both daily and spiritual challenges sharing, "The core message, is to stand up without fear, fulfill one's dharma, and remember the constant support from the divine. Together, let us raise our hands and take a pledge to embody the divine teachings of the Bhagavad Gita in our lives. We commit to standing up fearlessly and fulfilling our dharma, contributing towards the well-being of Mother Earth and the entire universe. May these teachings guide our actions and inspire positive change in the world."

Pujya Swamiji marked the significance of Geeta Jayanti, emphasising the profound meaning of the first mantra of the Bhagavad Gita, highlighting the power of our actions in shaping our lives. He underlines the idea that our hearts can lead us to liberation or towards challenging situations based on our actions. "The emphasis is on transcending self-centeredness, moving beyond personal desires, and aligning with dharma." Pujya Swamiji further advocates a life guided by a sense of belonging and responsibility, emphasizing trust in God and the daily recitation of Geeta mantras for spiritual grounding.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/bdzj3tnf

Date: December 25, 2023

Event: Christmas **Topic:** Environment

Pujya Swamiji marks the significance of the day, celebrating the birthdays of Bharat Ratna Shri Madan Mohan Malviya Ji and former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji, both stalwarts in preserving Indian culture. Additionally, it's the sacrifice day of Pujya Saint Swami Sradhanand Ji Maharaj. Swamiji underscored the importance of learning from these figures to contribute towards preserving our culture for future generations. A special welcome is extended to Shri Panchatanti Maha Nirmani Akhada's Acharya Maha Mandaleswar Pujya Swami Vishokanand Ji Maharaj for the Ganga Aarti.



Pujya Swamiji invited everyone to celebrate Christmas in an environmentally conscious way by taking a pledge to plant Tulsi, contributing to clean rivers, and avoiding the use of single-use plastics. This initiative aligns with Pujya Swamiji's focus area of fostering environmental consciousness and promoting sustainable practices during festive celebrations across all faiths.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/yc5saac3

Date: January 19-21, 2024

Event: Ayodhya Ram Mandir Inauguration Celebrations in Parmarth

Topic: Environment awareness Katha using Vasundhara Kit

Acharya Dileep ji utilised the Vasundhara toolkit to tell mythological stories in the form of a katha to the congregation at Ganga Aarti, he emphasised the indispensable nature of a clean environment for all living beings, including plants, animals, and humans. Through divine Leelas, he shared that God consistently imparts the message of environmental conservation. Pollution is likened to a devil, much like in the story of Shri Krishna and Kalya Nag, necessitating collective efforts to safeguard our surroundings. Acharya Dileep ji advocated for personal responsibility, urging individuals to clean their immediate surroundings, refrain from polluting rivers, and abstain from tree felling. Emphasising the vital role of trees, he underscored that "caring for trees is tantamount to securing our future – without trees, there will be no rain." In concluding, he asked the crowed to collectively pledge today to refrain from polluting rivers, nurture our environment by planting trees, and actively contribute to preserving water and reducing air pollution.

Watch: http://tinyurl.com/aynhhm5t

ANNEXURE K

SWASTH SEVA MAHOTSAV

National Awareness Campaign with UNICEF Celebrated at the International Yoga Festival at Parmarth Niketan, Rishikesh

In collaboration with UNICEF, we are proud to have hosted a series of impactful events during and immediately following the International Yoga Festival at Parmarth Niketan where over 1400 people gathered from 75 countries. Through using this platform we emphasising our joint commitment to Routine Immunisation (RI) and climate action, aiming to leverage the platform of the Festival as an opportune space to communicate and advocate for health and wellness, to promote our vital initiatives which address raising awareness on Routine Immunisation throughout India. The events over this period of time reached in excess of 1000 people.

OUR INTERVENTIONS:

Programme Evening:

During a dedicated programme evening on the 11th March in which students and children of the Divine Shakti Foundation performed during the Festival, GIWA's Programme Director Ganga Nandini spoke about and highlighted our partnership with UNICEF and our shared campaign on Routine Immunisation (RI) to ensure that every child under the age of five gets' immunised and is ensured their right to a healthy life. The evening provided a platform to underscore the integral connection between health, wellness, and the imperative to raise awareness about RI, advocating for its significance within our community and beyond. Participants were encouraged to visit the special stall dedicated to this cause.



March 8-14: Stall/RI Activation Point at the International Yoga Festival Festival:

A prominent exhibition stall was secured International Yoga strategically positioned at the entrance of the exhibition area to engage the over 1400 festival participants and many visitors as they arrived. This space served interactive hub for as sharing information on our service initiatives and raising about Routine awareness Immunisation.



The stall acted as an activation point to foster a deeper understanding of the

important service based work. Educational materials were offered and interactive sessions were held to generate meaningful opportunities for dialogue and spreading the message of the importance of RI, community empowerment and environmental consciousness among diverse festival attendees who come from across India and around the world.

The exhibition stall also proved to be an important location for undertaking group sensitisation on Routine Immunisation where GIWA's Vandana Sharmaji shared detailed overviews of the importance of Routine Immunisation to support a holistic view of health that was inclusive of all.



March 15th end of Project Cycle Seva Celebration Event and Community Engagement in Rishikesh:

In showcasing the important work done under the grant with UNICEF and as part of our commitment to community outreach, a large-scale event across two locations was organised on the 15th of March (the day directly following the conclusion of the International Yoga Festival). The chosen date was an perfect time to leverage international and national participation from the attendees of the International Yoga Festival, and to leverage esteemed presence of Pujya Sadhvi Bhagawatiji who blessed the day community members and festival attendees joined together, coinciding with the auspicious occasion of her own birth anniversary.



Swasth Seva Mahotsav Cum Medical Camp and Langar at Mayakund

The first of the two event locations was located on the banks of Mother Ganga at Mayakund, one of Rishikesh's largest slum communities, here a stage program cum holistic medical camp and langar was held to serve the community and celebrate our efforts to ensure that we reach full vaccination in underserved communities.



The day was a resounding success with attendance in excess of 1000 community members receiving a sattvic meal and benefitted from the medical camp and received sensitisation on Routine Immunisation. The event showcased the commitment we have to serve needy populations, and enabled the international audience which had joined to likewise participate actively in the service based program through the offering of anna daan / langar (free community meal).

The official program began with a ceremonial lamp lighting followed by speeches from the dignitaries with empowering messages on the importance of Routine Immunisation, health and wellbeing in our communities, a group pledge was led to ensure that all children were fully vaccinated.











Honouring the Role of Community Centres as Instruments of Service and Social Awareness on RI

The second event was held at Parmarth Vidya Mandir, run by the Divine Shakti Foundation, where a celebration took place honouring the important service initiatives which are taking place from this school/community hub and training center.

The day began with cultural performances showcasing the talents of the children of the school, culminating in speeches by Pujya Sadhvi Bhagawati Saraswatiji and Ganga Nandiniji who both rallied the community with commitments to ensure that we reach full vaccination throughout the community. Several messages were shared focusing on raising awareness about Routine Immunisation and advocating for the vaccination of children and mobilising the support for RI within the community.



In Conclusion

Through these collaborative efforts with UNICEF, our series of events during and post the International Yoga Festival served as powerful platforms to advocate for Routine Immunisation and Climate Action. By integrating these crucial themes into the fabric of the festival and extending our outreach to marginalized communities, we strived to reach deeper into the communities we serve and showcase the important work that is taking place together with GIWA's Partners, giving those who attended a first hand experience of ways in which we effect positive change in communities and promote holistic well-being for all. It also inspired several of them to carry these messages forward into their communities to help bridge the gaps seen in vaccination and ensure no child is left behind.