



## Annual Report Summary – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 –31<sup>st</sup> March 2020



**Office of National Director and CORD Training Centre Sidhbari,  
Tehsil Dharamshala, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh**

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## Introduction:

CORD's thrust is to harness human resources and enable poorest of the poor to transform their lives through programs driven by themselves in rural India. Comprehensive nature of



integrated programs components of CORD have a strong faith in inner divine potential of human being and hence brings the most vulnerable and needy ones in rural communities to the centrestage of their development and empowerment through their organisations and self efforts. All program components briefly described in this narrative report supplement and complement national and global development efforts i.e 17 Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs) – Agenda 2030; 14 SDGs directly and 3 SDGs indirectly.

To know more about CORD's evolution and Panchayat based adaptable, scalable and replicable comprehensive integrated rural development model, please visit, [www.cordindia.in](http://www.cordindia.in) and stay updated with work at [www.facebook.com/CORD.India](https://www.facebook.com/CORD.India).

Each CORD sites and thematic programs have their detail reports of comprehensive program activities. CORD sites could be contacted through their contact details given at the end of this report. Please contact *Shri Narender Paul, Chief Operating Officer CORD* in case you need more detail reports or anything specific information at +91-9816655592; Email: [cordsidhbari@gmail.com](mailto:cordsidhbari@gmail.com)

**Reach:** 286 Gram Panchayats (1130 Wards) and 09 Municipal Panchayats in six States covering 904 villages (734 villages at CORD Sidhbari and its Satellite Sites in Uttarakhand, Chamba & Punjab). Rest of 170 villages in Tamilnadu and Odisha.

**Impact:** 60000 direct and 3 lakhs indirect community members empowered (80% women as direct associates with inclusive approach under comprehensive rural development program).

Chinmaya Vijaya an orphanage of CORD is providing holistic education to 109 girls for past 13 years.

## Strategic Goals:

### 1. Expand to remote India

- A. Panchayat as a unit of expansion of demonstrated comprehensive program
- B. CORD sites expansion and deepening of program in remote rural India

### 2. Increase depth of program components

- A. Each program to be deepened which entails cross cutting themes such as Self-Help Groups (SHGs) for access to credit and financial literacy, Livelihoods – farm and allied sector, non-farm/off-farm and services sector, disability, health, nutrition and sanitation, social justice, gender, Panchayati Raj Institutions for local self-government, natural resource management
- B. Since all programs converge at the community level, concomitant capacity building of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) especially Mahila Mandal (Women Group), elected representatives of Gram Panchayat and Gram Sabha is integral to the process. Ensure inclusion of the marginalized.

### C. Scale experiential trainings further

- a. Build a cadre of community development manpower for rural India
  - b. Enhance the Internship, Fellowship and volunteer program.
3. **Striving for Rural Prosperity in Rural Ways with Rural Diversity** by investing and building human capital at the Panchayat level.

### Highlights of the Year 2019-2020:

#### Awards and Network:

CORD received Nipman Foundation-Microsoft Equal Opportunity Award 2019 in **Innovation: Non-Technology**. On 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019, CORD's Chief Operating Officer CORD, Shri Narender Paul with CORD Trustee, Swami Prakarshananda received this award from **Mr. Amitabh Kant**, CEO, NITI Aayog and **Ms. Shakuntala Gamlin**, Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPWD), Govt. of India.



*As members of certain organizations CORD's senior team members participated and contributed regularly to the following forums/event/networks:*

- Dr. Kshama Metre, Chairperson with IEC (Institutional Ethical Committee), Medical College Tanda; Internal Committee of Punjab National Bank under Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013; Chairperson Board of Trustee, People Science Institute (PSI) Dehradun; Advisory Committee of Bhau Institute at Pune and the 9<sup>th</sup> Anjani Mashelkar Award for the 7th NCSI (National Conference on Social Innovation) that was organized by Pune International Centre (PIC), in association with National Innovation Foundation (NIF) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS); Dr. Metre chaired session and spoke on "Women: How to equip them to be agents of change for the Himalayas" during 2<sup>nd</sup> conference on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) organized by SEWA International in Dehradun. She interacted with Governor of Uttarakhand, Smt. Baby Rani Maurya specifically on Panchayat barriers and facilitators for women participation in mountainous State like Uttarakhand.
- Shri Narender Paul, member IEC, IHBT-CSIR Palampur; research networking with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi: representing CORD as convener in District Inter Agency Group (DIAG), Kangra on Disaster management; with Dr. Metre Executive Committee members in STARs Forum Pune; building and managing social enterprises by Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA) Gujrat; being National Level Master Assessor for National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR) to Certify Master Trainers/ Resource Persons visited SIRD Jaipur and HIRD Nilokheri, Haryana; international conference on water in Bengaluru; 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary function of



The Hans Foundation (THF); annual conference of All India Occupational Therapist Association (AIOTA).

- Dr. Kshama Metre accompanied by Narender Paul attended annual event of HCL Foundation where CORD's project was selected in top three projects **finalist** under Education category, *HCL Grant Edition-V*.

**Following are the various program components of CORD:**

**1. Community Based Organizations (CBOs): Mahila Mandals, Purush and Farmers club, Adolescent Girls Groups (AGGs), Youth, Children/Balvihars.**

These are the resilient community at the center stage of development for collective informed decisions and transformative action locally. Mahila Mandals are the key driver of change. CORD developed people's leadership on various issues of social and economic development within these groups.

Sr. No.	Particulars of Outreach	Total
1	Number of Mahila Mandals	1146
2	Number of Self Help Groups	2209
3	Number of Adolescent Girls Groups (Yuvti Samuh)	180
4	Number of Bal Vihars	248
5	Number of Farmer Clubs/Men's Clubs	81
6	Number of PWDs (Persons with Disability) Groups	100
7	Number of Gram Sabha facilitated	254
8	Number of Up Gram Sabhas facilitated	787

**2. Mahila Mandal Highlights:**



- Membership of 43,476 women; Monthly meetings; women leadership trainings and development; participation in Up-Gramsabhas and Gramsabhas; Balvihar and Adolescent Girls Group meeting; 6709 members from 342 Mahila Mandals in 32 Panchayats in Kangra conducted sanitation drives in their villages on World Environment Day and planted 4504 fruit plants saplings in monsoon season; established 8171 household nutrition kitchen gardens.

- 32 Mahila Mandals of Kangra block received cash prize of Rs. 10,000 per Mahila Mandal for their performance from Block Development Officer (BDO); donated Rs. 1,01,200 for poor members' daughters' weddings and poor person's funerals ceremony.



- Collective advocacy and action by all Mahila Mandal's enabled resolution of long-standing problem of drinking water problem benefiting 325 households and irrigation of 250 hectares of agriculture land.

- In month of March, 2019, International Women Day celebration, 2250 women participated in 15 Panchayat in Kangra; 300 women in Thamraipakkam and 1500 women in other sites of CORD.
- CORD Lathikatta facilitated celebration of International Women Day where 1200 women from 92 Mahila Mandals and SHGs participated and managed the event including its expenses.

### 3. Self Help Groups (SHG) Highlights:

#### Self Help Groups (SHGs) for financial literacy, inclusion and social security

- Total women members enrolled in 2209 SHGs are 29140 nationally.
- **E-Shakti** Program of NABARD: CORD digitized 2143 SHGs for credit rating and bank linkages with 25585 women members in 10 Blocks of district Kangra, H.P. Every month the transactions of the accounts of the SHG are updated on the E-Shakti portal by CORD's community team members.
- Focused programs on financial literacy, micro insurance and social security provisions such as Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)-286



women, Pradhan Mantri Sureksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)-2159 women, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)-203 women, Atal Pension Yojna-34 women, enrolled under the program.

- CORD has facilitated loans of **Rs.8,29,14,600 to 452 SHGs** in ten blocks of district Kangra; 3637 leaders of SHGs imparted training programs through 511 training sessions; 318 out of 339 SHGs members trained for specific income generation activities are earning through mushroom production, sewing, knitting and pine needle products. 114 SHG members were trained in red rice production and backyard poultry farming under Micro Enterprise Development Program (MEDP) by NABARD.

- 25 SHGs were benefited with loan of Rs, 1,18,60,000/- facilitated by CORD Thamraipakkam for income generation activities like petty stores, buying cows, agricultural expenses, purchase of sewing machines, raw material, etc.

#### 4. Community Based Livelihoods Highlights:

Integrated, resilient, multiple and sustainable model of livelihoods with collective thinking/negotiations and individual enterprises in farm and allied sector and non-farm and service sector activities that were initiated during the period. Various activities were initiated and established with small and marginalized farmers in agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry with backyard poultry and dairy units at all sites of CORD.

##### A. Farm and Allied Sector Highlights – Sidhbari, Himachal Pradesh:

- Monthly meetings, institutional capacity building, exposure, demonstrations and trainings of rural farmers and micro-entrepreneurs with 13,188 marginal and small farmers (80% are women).



- 116 farmers attended 12 training programs; 5 farm technology exposures at various institutions i.e. Himachal Pradesh Agriculture University-Palampur, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) and different centers of agriculture and horticulture departments. 198 farmers got Kisan Credit Card; 1057 plants of fuel and fodders saplings

planted; 20 farmers facilitated soil testing; 70 farmers availed government schemes i.e. polyhouse, power tiller, farm tools etc; 62 farmers trained and practicing “Zero Budget Natural Farming with Agriculture Technology Management Association (ATMA).

- 670 women farmers are preparing various bio-formulations, vermin compost and Azola cultivation for supplementary feed for miltch animals and poultry birds.
- 528 women farmers cultivated wheat and paddy in 215 kanals (21.5 acres) of land through the System of Crop Intensification (SCI) method; 8171 women farmer households have maintained nutrition kitchen gardens; 670 women farmers are earning from backyard poultry; 2452 women farmers practicing mushroom cultivation and sold 2400 kg surplus after their household consumption.
- 35 farmers were trained in Millet promotion cultivation; 50 farmers of Rait development block have cultivated pulses on 10 Kanal of land for seed multiplication; 60 women farmers were trained on backyard poultry for six-days and 30 farmers on red rice cultivation for 8 days under Micro Entrepreneurship Development Program (MEDP) of NABARD.



- An interaction program held with 32 farmers on possibility of cultivation of wild marigold and damask rose in collaboration with Institute of Himalayan Bio-Resource Technology (IHBT), Palampur.
- 62 women farmers earning from vegetable cultivations through established low-tunnel poly houses; 780 women farmer households guided with improved method of cultivation of onion crop; 35 women farmer constructed new vermin compost pits in collaboration with the department of agriculture.
- Exposure cum training visit of farmers conducted in Ambuja Cement Foundation, Solan on the learning and practicing by a Farmer Producer Company (FPC); orientation training program was conducted on cultivation of Cikkate Mushroom for CORD team at Institute of Himalayan Bio-Resource Technology (IHBT), Palampur.

***At other sites of CORD in Tamilnadu, Odisha, Uttarakhand.***

- CORD Siruvani has provided seeds to 500 SHG members to start nutrition kitchen gardens besides Pheromone traps, Biofertilizers and biopesticides for improving yield.
- CORD Siruvani Farmer's Producer Company (FPC) with 480 farmers with 29.74 Lakhs turnover has progressed well.
- CORD Thamraipakkam established 1450 nutrition kitchen gardens – twice a year; 28 bioformulations households' units; 38 Azolla units; 1220 fruit tree saplings were distributed benefiting 585 Households.
- In CORD Deuladhia, program's 480 women farmer out of total 1800 are earning from surplus vegetable; 65 progressive women farmers earned Rs. 40,000/- to Rs.1,10,000/- per person from vegetable sales; 277 women farmers practicing System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in 136 acres of land; 1200 households were able to grow turmeric and ginger for their one year household consumption through seeds provided by CORD; 30 farmers adopted new variety of backyard poultry; 14 treadle/foot pedal pumps provided by CORD are being used for irrigation in 4 panchayats.
- CORD Lathikata facilitated 120 farmers of Balani, Nuagaon and Timjore villages to grow green gram in 253 acres. CORD team facilitated with agriculture department provision of 3 quintals green gram seeds and fertilizers to these farmers. Farmers have yielded 20.54 quintals green gram during the winter season which was sold at the rate of Rs. 100 per Kg. 167 members of 52 SHGs and MMs have harvested 1160 kgs of Dhingry mushroom. 13 progressive farmers were providing 5 HP motor and 50 numbers of PVC pipes for irrigation of their 15 Acres of un-utilized land. These farmers are growing different types of vegetables and each one of them is earning profit between Rs. 5000 to Rs. 10000 per month.



- In CORD's Satellite sites 35 backyard dairy, 176 backyard poultry, 167 goat rearing, 15 beekeeping farmers were supported and trained to established their livelihoods.

## B. Community Based Livelihoods - Non-farm and Service sector Highlights:

Total **11452** members directly and indirectly associated with the program.

- 3260 Individuals out of 8175 program community members in CORD Sidhbari were provided direct training by CORD Training Centre Sidhbari, both in the centre as well



as the field in various activities like Sewing, Knitting, Handloom, Weaving, Kangra Miniature Paintings, Bamboo & Pine Needle Products, Soap Making, Edibles and Pottery etc. in CORD Sidhbari. 125 individuals in 20 activities groups joined the program to provide pine needle products, knitted products/bags/potli bags, food

products and stitching. Soap making and agarbatti training for 12 women at CORD centre. Three exposure visits were conducted and new vendors and products marketing was established (Minatare Kangra paintings have an international market too in Sidhbari).

- Ms. Rupa Makecha, a long-term volunteer from Houston, USA is serving with CORD program at Sidhbari through her valuable experiential inputs in the program team development, individual and collective micro business opportunities expansion and livelihoods development in the area of non-farm and off-farm for rural women. She served the program from 5<sup>th</sup> January to 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 and 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 till date.
- Gurudhara SHG in Sidhbari is a marketing outlet of women had annual turnover of Rs. 18,98,386/-



- Gurudhara SHG of Tamraipakkam is now growing better in sewing products. SHG women are making incense sticks, soap powder, phenyl, pain relief balms taught in 4 villages; in each village a livelihood activity group of 2-3 women earn from these activities; 10 out of 14 SHG women trained are earning from tailoring in Athupakkam Panchayat; out of 70 women trained in millet based food products, 8 to 10 are making and earning regularly.

- CORD Siruvani is coming up in pain relieving balm, soap, detergents, agarbathis, phenyl, soap-oil, toilet soap, wire basket making, pickles and other food products. Three tailoring programs for four months duration each—both at the centre and field trained 57 women to learn and earn.



- In CORD's Satellite sites, 8 petty shops, 6 small flour mills, 11 mules, 3 beauty parlors, 4 tent houses, 11 masons/blacksmith for tools were supported for their livelihood's establishment.



## 5. Community Based Inclusion and Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) Program Highlights:

- Empowerment of PWDs through community inclusion and rehabilitation approaches to enable PWDs as contributors beyond being just an issue of charity and welfare within local needs, realities and context and by leveraging existing policy/programs of the government too.
- Total of 2305 Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) are receiving various services at all sites of CORD. Of these, with 1950 PWDs in 100 Panchayats, a well-established unique inclusion and rehabilitation program has been developed in CORD Sidhbari. It includes developing and training of 100 Village Resource Persons (VRPs) for PWDs.
- CORD is the State Nodal Agency Centre (SNAC) under National Trust Act 1999 for four disabilities in the State of H.P. It supports Niramaya insurance for PwDs, guidance of Registered Organizations (ROs) in H.P under National Trust Act 1999.
- Provided rehabilitation service to PWDs (Person with Disabilities) such as physiotherapy, speech therapy, special education and play therapy etc. at CORD's central OPD in Sidhbari and provided home based rehabilitation services to PWDs in the field. 72 PwDs received Disability Certification; 368 PwDs received their unique disability Identity Card (UDID); 40 received assistive devices. 78 mothers of children with disabilities were integrated in the Mahila Mandals; eight children with disabilities integrated in mainstream education; 528 People with disabilities and their parents participated in the Gram Sabha; 41 persons with disabilities including 11 mothers of children with disabilities supported with vocational due-diligence on their abilities, skills and resources/resource linkages to establish livelihood activities on poultry, goat rearing, dairy, petty shop, stitching and tailoring etc.
- 410 field level advocacy meetings and 6 central level rural advocacy forum of PwDs i.e. Mini-Chinmaya Umang and Chinmaya Umang.
- Being SNAC, CORD has facilitated five persons with intellectual disabilities to receive legal guardianship through the Local Level Committee (LLC) under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner, Kangra for their best care, entitlements, rights, inclusion and empowerment in the family and society.
- Celebrated World Disability Day for inclusion, equity and equality for PwDs where 1000 people participated including 200 PwDs.



- Dr. Vineet Aggarwal, Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon, Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla volunteered to assess, examine and prescribe needful measure/surgeries for 16 poor and needy children with multiple disabilities and deformities.



-As a member of Special Olympic Bharat Chapter Himachal Pradesh, CORD has facilitated 92 special athletes to participate in various sports events from district to national level. PWDs have won 10 gold medals, 06 silver medals and 05 bronze medals in various special Olympic sports events so far.

-Mr. Balbir Guleria, attended Annual General House Meeting of Special Olympic Bharat; Mr. Sanjeev Gupta and Mr. Vinay Kumar, attended Advance Coaching Camp of Winter

Games; State Nodal Agency Centre (SNAC) meetings and workshops by the National Trust, Office, Delhi; Badminton Training Coaching Camp under Special Olympics in Chandigarh; State Nodal Agency Centre (SNAC) meeting under the National Trust Act 1999 held under chairmanship of Sh. Hans Raj Chauhan, Director, SCs, OBCs, Minorities and Specially Abled, Government of Himachal Pradesh; Resource persons for Sarav Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), district Education department to conduct 11 camps for 430 children. CORD team member, Ms. Kavita Chhetri from Disability Inclusion and rehabilitation program attended "Train the Trainer" Program on floor ball by Special Olympic Asia Pacific Region, Singapore; Mr. Sanjeev Gupta attended meeting on National Committee on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (NCRPD), Delhi; Balbir Guleria and Aishwarya attended release of Status report on Mental Health by The Hans Foundation, Delhi.



- **"Chinmaya Shanta"** is an inclusive and an integrated program focusing on awareness, prevention, promotion and management of mental health and well-being in the rural community. Program has reached out counselled/referred/benefitted 1300 people in the rural area. A CORD Fellow, Ms. Aishwarya Sreenivsan has collected data of 250 Mahila Members in Gram Panchayat Baidi, Block Rait, District Kangra through administration of modified/adapted General Health Questionnaire (GHQ). The main objective of the data collection was to observe and document the prevalence of common mental health disorders as well as various practices, individual & societal perspectives, stigmas and factors in the areas of mental health disorders/illnesses. In this Panchayat based survey, 8% of prevalence of common mental disorders was observed amongst the participants which is closely coinciding with national and global average percentages. Key activities under the program include, burnout management and documentation of 10 caregivers of



Alzheimer's patient; adherence management of 40 persons through phone calls and 20

individuals with severe or mild psychological problems through eight visits and consultation with Dr. Anita Thakur (Psychiatrist), Psychologist Ms. Jyoti Sharma in Zonal Hospital Dharamshala and Dr. Deepti Thussu, Psychiatrist, Fortis Hospital Kangra. A volunteer Psychiatrist, Dr. Sandeep Kumar from Government Medical College and Hospital, Hamirpur visited twice CORD centre and field areas to educate, guide and counsel for medical care needs and concerns of persons. To address this issue of drugs and alcohol amongst school students, medical students/interns from Monash University, Australia conducted workshops on “Being smart around Drugs and Alcohol” in 7 Government Senior Secondary School of District Kangra. A workshop on ‘Obsessive Compulsive Disorder which was organized by the Department of Psychiatry, Zonal Hospital Dharamshala was attended by Ms. Aishwarya Sreenivasan.

- CORD Thamraipakkam, Siruvani & Deuladhia PWDs program in community is growing slowly.
- CORD Lathikata team helped 31 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) to get their disability certificates from the medical board and 15 PwDs bus pass for free travel.

#### **6. Social Justice and Informal Legal Aid Program Highlights:**

- CORD being a Service Provider for District Kangra, H.P. by the Government of H.P has registered 35 new cases and facilitated 32 victims to get justice in H.P. in CORD Sidhbari under various related Acts such as Domestic Violence Act, Right to Information Act, Parent and Dependent Welfare Act, Panchayati Raj Act etc. during the period (out of total 1040 cases registered till date (50% are matrimonial issue);776 cases resolved).
- Single Women Day is being conducted for 30-35 women every month at Sidhbari. The program, focuses on their health, wellness, social security, peer support, counseling, legal guidance/help livelihood and community inclusion in collaboration with Friendsline U.K.
- Poor person from Tangroti Panchayat received justice: he got Rs. 1,30,000/- for house construction from the government after two years of struggle. Smt. Sujajata, an advocate and PhD student from Lovely University completed her sample survey on domestic violence cases enrolled with CORD.
- Program Coordinator, Shri Sunil Kumar Mishra from CORD as a member of Internal Committee of Kangra Central Cooperative (KCC) Bank under Sexual Harassment of women at Workplace (Prevention, prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 as well as a member of Committee under SC/ST Act, 1989 attended two meeting during the reporting year and guided the committee with appropriate interventions.



#### **7. Community Health, Nutrition and Sanitation and Hygiene Program Highlights:**

- Out patients services provided in Sidhbari and Siruvani. Total 9597 patients for different ailments were attended in the year.

- Health services provided in slum areas of Nagrota Bagwan and Dharamshala in District Kangra under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) - Urban Reproduction & Child Health (URCH) program; Health team member, Ms. Darshana attended Sub National Immunization Day meeting at Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) office Dharamshala.



- Dr. Anju Virmani (Senior Endocrinologist and Diabetic Consultant from Delhi) examined 28 patients for diabetes & endocrine disorder in June as a part of her volunteer work every year. Dr. Aditi Parashar (Ophthalmologist) volunteered free consultation for these patients; Mr. Venkata Rao held a session with Diabetic patients on balanced diet with emphasis on millets and Yoga.
- 48 patients were referred to Zonal Hospital Dharamshala and Medical College, Tanda for further investigations; 68 children received polio drops.
- CORD facilitated Alcohol de-addiction program where three new patients were registered and followed up through counseling.
- Completed 74 ANC (Anti Natal Check-ups); 63 children provided Pentavalent vaccine dosage; 58 children immunized; 48 institutional deliveries; 18 Personal hygiene camps attended by 168 individuals; all the slums dwellers using toilets instead open defecation; 110 children age 0-5 years provided pulse polio from high risk areas; 38 ANC camps under Pradhan Mantri Janani Suraksha Yojna; 20 sterilizations via the laparoscopy method were facilitated under concerned health center for family Planning.



- CORD Siruvani provided HPV vaccination and career guidance for poor 40 girls through Rotary club; Women and children

were given free, iron, vitamin and calcium supplements; 360 blood tests facilitated for 360 patients; 431 villagers blood sugar test; 8 girls provided Rubella vaccine doses; 12 free medical camps for 269 villagers for free blood, urine and ultrasound tests; 277 villagers checked and 161 pairs of eyeglasses given through a 3 days optometry camp; 70 villagers and PwDs were provided with aids and appliances like commode, air-bed, walker, bed-pans.



- 14138 kitchen gardens promoted in homes to improve nutrition in families. Thamraipakkam and CORD satellite sites in Chamba and Uttrakhand have promoted

it in also in the slum like village homes with minimal space near their homes admirably.

- A total of 3885 toilets, 2957 soakage pits and 6177 garbage pits and 3520 waste segregation units promoted in individual households were facilitated through government and SHGs at all CORD Sites.

- A focused panchayat based integrated sanitation work is in progress in 20 panchayats in **CORD Sidhbari** with the kind support of Gartner India. A one-day



workshop on “Financial Provisions in Gram Panchayats for Sanitation Related Programs” held in CORD Training Centre Sidhbari chaired by the Project Office District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) as resource person and attended by Elected Panchayat Representatives, VVRPs and executive members of Mahila Mandals. A “Swachh Mahotsav 2019” program organized by Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin), Government of India in New Delhi was attended by four Gram

Panchayat Pradhans and Six VVRPs from Panchayats associated with CORD’s program. 597 Toilets, 2745 garbage pits, 1226 soakage pits, and 3210 household level micro garbage segregation units were constructed during reporting period. 76 Swachhata Committees with 385 active and motivated members in 20 Gram Panchayats have been trained to ensure sustainability of the program. Village Volunteer Resource Persons (VVRPs) visited 37 Anganwadi Centers, 12 Primary Schools and 5 High schools in 19 panchayats and 47 NSS students of local school volunteers in Panchayat on sanitation awareness and action.



- Ms. Swati Rajprohat a public health professional from Brown University USA conducted research and published poster on her research findings in three Panchayats on barriers and facilitators in maternal and child nutrition and adolescent health.
- 113 Village Health Sanitation & Nutrition Committee (VHSNC) meeting facilitated in all CORD sites on regular basis.
- **CORD Siruvani** conducted door-to-door campaign on Dengue prevention. 145 dustbins and 42 plantations; 17 toilets were built with CORD’s contribution for the vulnerable families.
- **CORD Deuladhia** facilitated renovation and use of 26 defunct toilets constructed by Government contractors under Swachh Bharat Mission.
- A three-day *Swachhata* campaign was conducted by **CORD Lathikatta Mundajore** village where 90 students of Chinmaya Vidyalayas from Jamshedpur, Bokaro, Therubali and Rourkela actively participated as a part of Chinmaya Hari Seva Shivir.

## 8. Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for local self-government Program Highlights:

- The 73rd Indian Constitution Amendment Act, 1992 has provided a constitutional status and framework on which to build three tiers Panchayati Raj System. CORD is striving to ensure Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI's) function as instruments of local self-government through active engagement of people at the bottom of pyramid through Up-gramsabhas and Gramsabha. To demonstrate significant results, CORD has been focusing on 87 focused (Khas) Panchayats nationally (57 in Himachal Pradesh).
- Total 787 Upgramsabha (UGS) 254 Gramsabhas (GS) were facilitated in the Panchayats under CORD area of operation. CORD in Sidhbari facilitated 374 Up-Gram Sabhas attended by 10017 members in the 57 Khas Panchayats. 190 Gram Sabhas attended by 29709 villagers with 70% women participants. CORD Siruvani facilitated 107 Up gramsabhas Independence Day, Mother's Day, Diwali, Pongal, Navaratri, Shivaratri, Yoga day, Environmental day, Republic Day celebrated in CORD and Panchayats. 850 undeserving families were removed from BPL (Below Poverty line) and new most deserving families were added by the active advocacy of Mahila Mandals in concerned Gramsabhas. 110 needy households were supported for construction/repair of their houses and 29 families with poultry sheds under government schemes. 320 persons (old, disabled, widow) were facilitated with pension schemes.
- On the occasion of International Women Day, 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019, Himachal Pradesh Government organized special "Women Gram Sabhas". CORD facilitated 95 Mahila Gram Sabhas in the 95 Panchayats with active participation of 6488 Mahila Mandal members.
- Mr. Sunil Mishra and Mr. Arvind Kumar attended workshop on Strategies for Creation and Mobilizations of Own Source Revenue for Gram Panchayat at NIRDPR.



## 9. Rural Immersion Trainings and Development at CORD Training Centre, Sidhbari. Some Highlights:

1401 people were provided 109 days of trainings and rural immersion through CORD Training Centre.

Besides above-mentioned activities, below is the summary report of the knowledge sharing skill development programs, ongoing activities and volunteers & interns from India and

abroad who visited throughout the reporting period at CORD's Training Centre, Sidhbari and interaction with Dr. Kshama Metre and team on CORD inspiration and work.

These participants included interns, volunteers, farmers, community development leaders & participants from organizations such as Ambuja Cement Foundation, Roorkee, Uttarakhand; Consul General of Canada, Chandigarh; Aman Biradari Trust, New Delhi; Himachal Institute of Public Administration (HIPA), Shimla; Himachal Pradesh University; Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT), Palampur; Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS) Mumbai; fellows from Teach for India (TFI); Delhi, Indian Medical Association (IMA) Dharamshala; Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) Dharamshala; All India Chinmaya Yuva Kendra (AICHYK) Mumbai; Deendayal Research Institute (DRI), New Delhi; I-Teach, Pune; Teach For India (TFI), Delhi; Chinmaya International Residential School (CIRS), Coimbatore; SPJIMER, Mumbai; Central University of Jammu; Hi Happy Monk, Chennai; CORD sites in Odisha, Tamilnadu, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab; Indo Global Social Service Society (IGSSS) from Jammu and Kashmir; BOSCO Institute Jorhat, Assam; Brown University USA, CORDUSA, GlobeMed, Boston College, USA; London; Los Angeles, USA.

- Dr. Urshula Sharma and Ms. Sandhya with her daughter Roza from England. Ms Sandhya had been a volunteer at CORD almost two decades earlier.
- Shri Navin Bahl, Smt. Purnima Daulat Singh, Shri Laju Chainrai-Trustees of CORD with Smt. Parveen Bahl and Smt. Kavita Chainrai stayed at CORD new campus from 6-9 May 2019 during CORD Board Meeting which was held at CORD new campus on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

- Ms. Mia Yen, Consul General of Canada from Chandigarh visited CORD's comprehensive work in Sidhbari. She interacted with National Director and Chief Operating Officer CORD to explore opportunities of collaboration in service and empowering development in rural India specially women as victims of domestic violence and their rights. This visit was followed by her kind invitation to National Director CORD to meet friends of Canada and to celebrate India's National Day of the Girl Child in Chandigarh.



- Dr. Chandrika Parmar, Chairman from SP Jain Institute of Management Education and Research (SPJIMER), Mumbai visited CORD for deepening its internship of flagship Development of Corporate Citizenship (DOCC) program with CORD; A group of 16 students and teachers from different schools in USA under Format Travel; 77 students from CIRS (Chinmaya International Residential School) Coimbatore; 14 MSW (Master of Social Work) students from BOSCO Institute Jorhat, Assam; Ms. Neha Vaidhya from "I Teach India" Pune visited and stayed at CORD's Chamba site village for learning immersion in rural life for herself and her 6 years old; Ms. Pranaamya, a student intern from Master's program in Psychology from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai; Ms. Janani Raman from Los Angeles, USA; Ms. Jahnavi Thakur from Delhi; Ms. Manyaa Garg from Dharamshala; Dr. Hemal Shah with her son and daughter from USA; Ms. Meera Bajaj from Delhi; Smt. Saroj Nagle from USA; Mr. Retesh Sain, MBA (Rural Development) student joined

by 35 students of MBA (Rural Development) from Himachal Pradesh University Shimla. Four M.Sc (nursing) students from Shivalik Institute for Nursing, Shimla; 10 MBA students from SPJIMER, Mumbai joined CORD for internship in the month of March but have to go back home due to lockdown of COVID19 in the fourth week of March. Only six students of SPJIMER could complete their internship projects after their return.

- Five days educational cum rural exposure/training of 44 students and teachers of Social work department Central University of Jammu; Residential program review and capacity development of 45 team members CORD's Mahila Mandal; Seven days capacity building & skill development program for 22 community leaders/farmers by an international NGO, Indo Global Social Service Society (IGSSS) from Jammu and Kashmir; Annual get-together of CORD's earlier trained 37



Multipurpose Health Worker (Female) with their 25 family members and 29 trainee nurses; Three-days' residential workshop for 43 participants by Aman Biradari Trust, Delhi; Get-together with yoga session by Prof. OSKS Shastri from Central University of Himachal Pradesh for 42 participants/members of Indian Medical Association (IMA)-

H.P wing of Woman Doctors; Two-days' workshop on Jal Sanskriti by Deendayal Research Institute (DRI), New Delhi for 78 number of participants followed by closing ceremony's special presence of Mr. Mohit Chauhan, a well-known Bollywood singer with his wife Smt. Prerna Chauhan; Four-day residential skill development training program for seven members of women Self Help Groups from Ambuja Cement Foundation Roorkee, Uttarakhand; "Mindfulness" and "SMILE" residential programs for five corporate participants and six participants respectively by Mr. Sounak Chakrabarty, a private consultant from Hi Happy Monk organization, Chennai; Get-together for 158 participants of Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK) Dharamshala; A series of two residential workshops, three-day each residential fellows get together retreat program by "Teach for India", Delhi in two groups from 5-8 and 11-13 January 2020. Total 131 participants attended both the program; Three-day Regional Level Training program on "Creation of taskforce of youth volunteers for disaster preparedness and response" for 40 trainees from three district of H.P organized by H.P Institute of Public Administration (HIPA), Government of Himachal Pradesh; interactions with 18 members of IHBT-CSIR Palampur; 37 Veterinary Doctor's visited CORD from Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir as a part of their training with Dr. Divesh Thakur, Assistant Professor,



Veterinary College Palampur; 148 students with their teachers from Chinmaya Vidyalaya Sr. Secondary School, Chinmaya Nagar Chennai.

- 199 MBBS students and 58 Nursing students and their faculty guides from Dr. R.P Medical College and Hospital, Tanda visited CORD to orient and learn about its comprehensive approach and holistic model on community health and development in rural India.

- From 19th to 25th May 2019, CORD's National Director office Sidhbari conducted seven-days intensive training for Directors and team members of CORD sites in Odisha and Tamilnadu at CORD Training Centre Sidhbari, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. Dr. Meera (Director - CORD Siruvani, Tamilnadu), Ms. Priya (Director – CORD Tamraipakkam, Tamilnadu), Shri Alok (Deputy Director – CORD Deuladhia, Odisha) and Shri Rudra Mohanty (Community Development Officer – CORD Lathikatta) attended this training with their team members including accountants from Siruvani and Deuladhia.



- Five-days residential All India Chinmaya Yuva Kendra (AICHYK) workshop on self-unfoldment for 157 participants under the leadership of Swami Swaroopananda (Global Head Chinmaya Mission), Swami Swatmananda and Swami Mitrananda through Central Chinmaya Mission Trust (CCMT) Mumbai.

#### **At Other Sites of CORD:**

- Annual monitoring and support visit by Resource team at Sidhabri to CORD sites in Odisha, Tamilnadu, Uttrakhand, Punjab and district Chamba (H.P) were conducted with follow-up for compliance.
- 20 children with four parent chaperons visited CORD Siruvani for 12 days and five children with two parent chaperons visited CORD Deuladhia for 12 days as a part of CORDUSA's service visit program. Seven Globe Med volunteers from USA spent two weeks at CORD Siruvani.
- Exposure visits of different satellite sites teams of CORD from Uttrakhand, Punjab and Chamba were conducted at Training Centre throughout the year.

**Swadhayaya Group:** Self unfoldment by understanding self and service to people. CORD is striving by investing in human capital “Knowledge, Shradha and Bhakti” in action for inclusion and empowerment of rural communities.

At all sites, group meetings and team meetings have simple interventions through prayers and simple talks and discussions.

**8<sup>th</sup> May and 3<sup>rd</sup> August:** The team and Mahila Mandals celebrated 8<sup>th</sup> May (Birthday of Gurudev for reflection and gratitude called *Chinmaya Aaradhana Day*) and 3<sup>rd</sup> August as *Sadhana Day*.

At CORD Site in Sidhbari a number of team members are doing special Vedanta Course from **Chinmaya International Foundation (CIF)**. CORD team leaders have been motivated to do Basic Vedanta, Advanced Vedanta, Bhagvad Gita and Upanishad. Some team leaders have completed Basic Vedanta successfully with certificate from CIF. Chief Operating Officer CORD, Sh. Narender Paul has completed successfully Basic Vedanta, Advanced Vedanta, Bhagvad Gita and Upanishad course.

Team leaders are further sharing their learnings as blessings of Param Pujya Gurudev with team members of their program, field/community groups and as well as with people visiting CORD including politician, civil servants, bank officers, panchayat presidents/members, person with disabilities and their parents and related stakeholders of various programs.

**Gayathri Havan is held** weekly (on Sunday) at the centre in Sidhbari.

10-12 senior team members of **CORD completed one cycle of Bhagvad Gita** listening to Pujya Gurudev on Sundays in Sidhbari. They are continuing 2<sup>nd</sup> time again for their reflection, assimilation and action within and without.

Every Centre day (total six centre days in a month) all team members conduct swdhayay. All other sites too are now beginning to encourage team members and community groups with regular Swadhayay.

#### 10. **CORD at Kaza: Chinmaya Vijaya**

Chinmaya Vijaya, the CORD Orphanage at Kaza has 109 girls. Following is the distribution of the girls in the various steps of their education:

<b>Class</b>	<b>Students</b>
LKG to 10 <sup>th</sup> Standard	69
Junior Intermediate	19
Senior Intermediate	10
Degree	03
B.Sc Nursing	03
B. Tech	02
Other Courses	03



- All students are performing excellently in school with more than 90% marks for most of them in various classes.
- 20 students passed 10<sup>th</sup> class with all of them scoring 8.5 out of 10. Out of these 19 joined junior intermediate college.
- Ms. Tirumulla topped in BDS (Bachelor in Dentistry) 1<sup>st</sup> year in Andhra Pradesh. 3 students have joined the BBA course in Chinmaya Vishwavidyapeeth.
- Due to the pandemic all girls except one were sent home to their guardians as recommended by the government at the end of March 2020.
- Throughout the year number of visitors and supporters visited the orphanage and celebrated their birthdays and festivals with the girls.

### **CORD's Response on pandemic COVID19 in the month of March:**

On 15<sup>th</sup> March, nine days before lockdown, CORD envisaged the changes that CORD would need to anticipate to face the pandemic. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, under kind guidance and leadership of the National Director CORD, all team in all sites strictly followed government's decision of three-weeks lock-down/curfew to ensure prevention of the spread of COVID19 i.e. practice social distancing, hand-washing, staying at home and keep vigilant and reporting to authority about people returning from out of State or abroad in villages. CORD teams are working from their homes through mobile phones and WhatsApp messages with the Community Based Organizations (CBOs) leaders/members i.e. Mahila Mandals/Self Help Groups/Panchayat leaders in the villages/Panchayats. Sh. Narender Paul conducted rapid appraisal on the ground situation of COVID19 and communities with 200 Panchayat leaders. Dr. Kshama Metre, National Director CORD and Dr. Sudhir Prabhu (USA), founder Trustees of STARs Forum developed comprehensive guidelines on prevention and precautions of COVID19 spread and role of general public in rural areas. These guidelines were inclusive and expanded on the guidelines of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and were translated in Hindi and local languages i.e. Kanad, Tamil, Marathi, Orriya etc. for wide public circulation in villages.



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Kshama Metre

Kshama Metre,  
National Director