

ANNUAL REPORT

ANNUAL REPORT (2013-2014)

Greetings from HRP A!

2013-2014 was a significant year for our organization. It was a year of consolidation and growth; it was also a year of intense reflection as we approached our 15th Anniversary.

Milestones and celebrations I believe are a result of tried and trusted partnerships. Our clients, communities, colleagues and volunteers in India and across the network, and all who believed in the potential of HRP A in India and partnered with us – thank you for your faith and support all these years!

This Annual Report which complements the formal reports and annual accounts, sets out in a less formal way how HRP A, has achieved growth during the year. It also indicates what we aim to accomplish in the next couple of years. None of the achievements of the year would have been possible without the efforts of HRP A India’s dedicated staff. The team has been committed to the aspirations and mission of HRP A and has been relentless in delivering solutions for clients and charities. My appreciation and thanks to our staff, donors and members. We are committed to pursuing HRP A’s mission with sincerity. I have every confidence that HRP A will continue to provide giving solutions in the years to come and will provide valuable resources to the not-for-profit sector.

It has been an honor to work with you all. Significant moments also require special mentions – Shayesta Bano, who have believed and invested in us; key Founder who continue to remind us of our purpose; our current Chairman and well wishers who have guided and endorsed this plan and our work – thank you! The members and staffs at HRP A-high on energy, optimism and dedication – none of this would be possible without you!

CONTENTS

ANNEXURE I

Mushidabad- Victims of Conflagration

ICDS, Birbhum

ANNEXURE II

Details of Communal Discord

AN INTRODUCTION

VISION

Realizing the dream of the deprived

MISSION

To work/act as an ‘agent of change; to help the poorest of the poor access and actualize their rights as enshrined in the Constitution of India and in the International Human Rights Law.

OBJECTIVES

- To work for the welfare of the society.
- To bridge the gap of disharmony between different communities.
- Providing a structured approach to reduce prejudice.
- Creating a healthier social and economic environment in which to live and work.
- Supporting development; fostering leadership and decision-making skills boosting motivation and improving retention.

WORKING AREA

Bihar

Birbhum

Hooghly

Kolkata

Murshidabad

North 24 parganas

West Bengal

CORE VALUES

We shall always Endeavour to achieve and reflect:

- Empathy
- Dedication
- Service
- Discipline and Obedience
- Veracity
- Liability
- Precision in all our activities and actions.

TARGET POPULATION

- Poor and indigent people of
- Rural poor and women from villages surrounding Hooghly and Birbhum;
- Women subjected to domestic violence in Bihar ;
- Girl children of villages surrounding Hooghly district of West Bengal;
- Women entrepreneurs of villages surrounding North 24 Parganas;
- Residents of slum area of Kolkata district for community development programs.

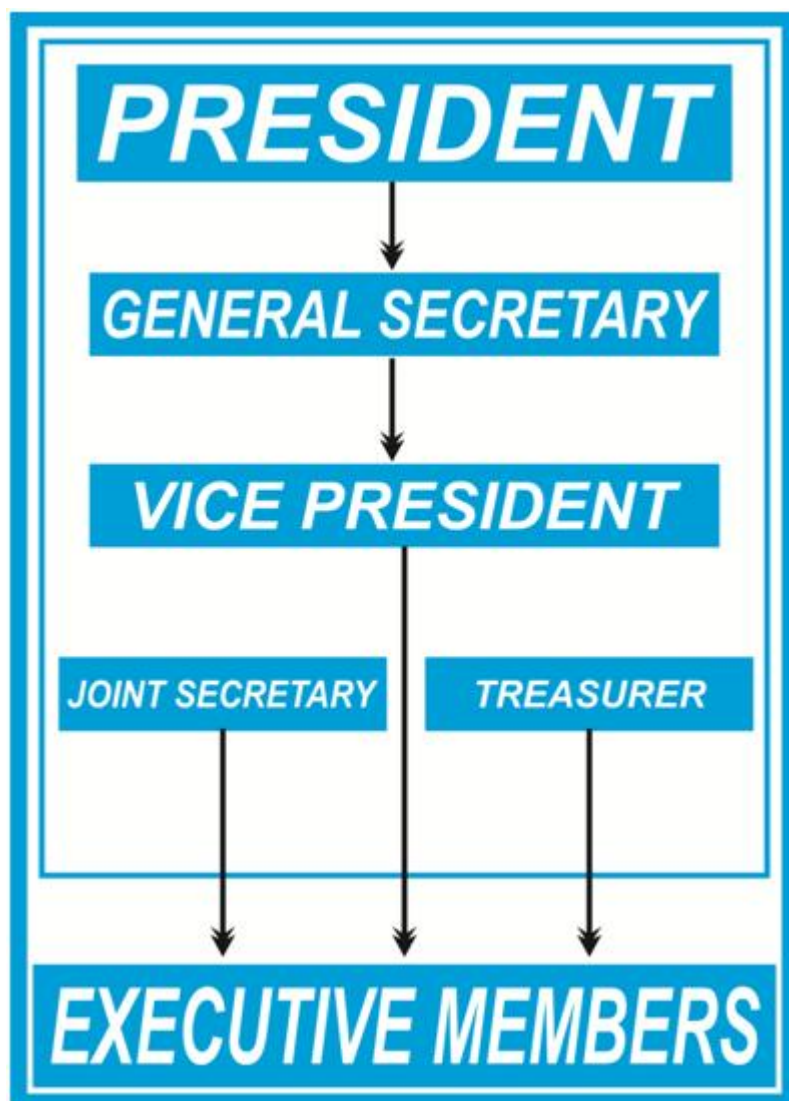
PROGRAMMES

HRPA made a modest beginning in 1999 with an approach to help the unfortunates of the Indian society. Today our organization has earned a reputation of pride and honor in the society with 11 State branches all over India. All of HRPAs activities are housed in National Control office of Kolkata. Gradually we expanded our initiatives and today we have a number of programs spread in all over the districts and state of India. Here the programs address a diverse group such as the elderly, youngsters, school children, women and the sick and destitute. All programs are geared to benefit people living in rural and urban locale.

We try to maximize the utilization by efficient and effective use, multiple use of facility and low administrative costs. Our members and ambassadors not only support in cash and kind but also render voluntary service. HRPAs main capital, is its personnel – the Coordinators, Social Workers and Members. The Coordinator and Social Workers regularly interact with the beneficiaries of the programs. It is the committed efforts of our team that make the real difference for the beneficiaries.

At HRPAs, despite our small administrative set up, we meticulously maintain our day to day records. Transparency and accountability are emphasized in all our activities. The focus of every program of HRPAs is not only to enable the poor and indigent to lead a healthy life and a life of dignity, but also get full of opportunities for development and growth. We hope to strengthen as well scale up these efforts in the future. This Annual Report contains description of our programs and achievements in the year 2013-14.

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE








NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF HRP (INDIA)


(Include the names)

Sl.No.	NAME	DESIGNATION	ADDRESS	PICTURE
1	SHAMIM AHMED	NATIONAL PRESIDENT INDIA (HRP)	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
2	NAZMA KHATOON	TREASURE	NATIONAL CONTROL	

		(HRPA, INDIA)	OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
3	Prime Minister of Vanuatu <i>Barak Tame Sopé</i> Mautamata	South Pacific PRESIDENT (HRPA)	INTERNATIONAL OFFICE P.O. BOX 110-PORT VILA, EFATE – REPUBLIC OF VANUATU	
4	JUSTICE I M QUDUSSI	ACTING PRESIDENT (HRPA)	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
5	SRI. SWAMI SARWANAND	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMER CONVENER OF DHARAM SANSAD (HRPA)	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
6	SRI SWAMI VIJAY CHATURVEDI YOGI	NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT (HRPA)	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
7	JUSTICE SOUMITRA SEN	NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
8	JUSTICE S.P. TALUKDAR	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014	

			NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
9	AMARENDRA NATH GHOSH	ACTING PRESIDENT	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE, 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014, NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
10	RETIRED I.S. , ADVOCATE TARUN KUMAR MUKERJEE	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	25, BAGUIATI 4 TH LANE, SOUTH DUMDUM, KOLKATA – 700028	
11	PROFESSOR GANAPATI MUKHERJEE	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
12	SHASHANKA DEY RETI	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
13	ALKA PAREEK	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
14	SYED ASAD RAZA NAQVI FORMER GROUP EDITIOR RASHTRYA SAHARA	NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
15	SUBHAS BHATTACHARYYA	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD,	

			KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
16	AFTAB AHMED KHAN	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
17	SANJAY SHAROFF	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
18	SALAUDDIN LODHI	NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
19	ASHOKE SARAOGI	STATE COUNCIL MEMBER W.B.	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
20	BIPLAB DUTTA BARMAN	STATE COUNCIL MEMBER W.B. STATE COUNCIL MEMBER W.B.	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
21	MD MUSTAK KHAN	VICE PRESIDENT OF W.B.	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	

22	SANJAY JAISINGH	STATE COUNCIL MEMBER W.B.	NATIONAL CONTROL OFFICE 48, B ANANDA PALIT ROAD, KOLKATA – 700014 NEAR: EXECUTIVE TOWER	
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HRPA- MAIN OPERATIONAL CENTERS

Assam

Bihar

Chhattisgarh

Delhi

Gujrat

Haryana

Maharashtra

Madhya Pradesh

Punjab

Uttar Pradesh

West Bengal

PROJECT 1

RAISING AWARENESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES: (Kolkata)

Summary: Ending theOf Violence

Slum areas (Jalwa toli Kela bagan, Mehdi bagan, Motijheel, Haddi bagan and Rajabazar, Belgachia) of Kolkata district is facing serious economic, political and security challenges. This project implemented by the Human Rights Association Protection will, on the one hand strengthen their own capacity as well as work with communities, local authorities in order to change the current culture of violence.

(Geographical map of that area)



Background:

Since August 15, 1947 India is a independent country. However, despite the largely peaceful separation from the Britons the nation is facing serious economic, political and security challenges. The slum areas of Kolkata, bordering urbanized and under developed area is one of the conflict-prone areas. The society is divided into different ethnic groups with complex relations. These groups are sometimes manipulated in conflicts by political and security actors, some of whom are implicated in human rights abuses particularly towards women. Moreover, many of the communities in this region are either small pheriwalas, vendors, daily wagers or cobblers and from the lower economic strata, who regularly clash over use of land, water, sanitation and other resources. Further pressure has come from the influx of large numbers of refugees and returnees, most recently as a result of the economic crisis faced on their region.

Initial Situation:

The trainee team in Kolkata has benefited from policy development and skills training workshops facilitated by HRP. The current proposal is a result of several planning and consultation sessions. HRP has requested specific capacity building support related to financial management and the development of a proper financial system.

Goals:

This project enabled the Human Rights Protection Association to recruit extra staff and organize activities with local communities to change the current culture of violence and achieve the following 3 objectives/outcomes:

1. Women stand up for their rights, resist to violence and develop their ability to participate in decision making processes at local and state level;
2. People are aware and defend their rights and contribute constructively to build a peaceful society;
3. Respectful and respected security forces fulfilling their tasks according to the law.

Goals

- Increasing knowledge on Human Rights and Conflict Management

Indicators

- 5 Meetings held between two group of stakeholders on security and justice
- 3 Community groups supported to engage in peace building
- 150 Women and men trained on human rights and/or local laws

Target Group:

The project aims to reach more than 500 direct beneficiaries (incl. members of Human Rights Protection Association committees, women, youth and religious leaders, government and security officials) and indirectly reached approximately 10,000- 15,0000 inhabitants of that particular area.

Project Plan:

There are 3 groups of activities per objective:

Objective 1: Women stand up for their rights, resist to violence and develop their ability to participate in decision making processes at local and state level.

A: Empowerment through training

In meetings with the women organizations the HRP members informed the members about the project and share the criteria of how to select the participants. Through interactive and participative workshops these women were trained. Regularly visits of the HRP members with the various groups was conducted after the workshop to ensure quality delivery of the project activities.

B: Sensitization of the greater public on women rights and related issues

In order to also reach people who are less educated, dramas were developed, dealing with women's rights issues. Through special designed audio-video programs the sensitization within the population of the slum 25,000 was achieved. To create more awareness of the situation of the women a 1 day conference was organized.

C: Advocacy activities

A Position paper on the situation of women's participation in public life was developed and used for advocacy and lobbying.

Through the participation in round tables, networking and meetings with dignified representative of the particular area will push for implementation and accuracy of the programme.

Objective 2: People are aware and defend their rights and contribute constructively to build a peaceful society.

A: Empowerment through training

In meetings with the training team and HRPAs members informed the local Members about the project and share the criteria of how to select the participants. Through interactive and participative workshops the participants were trained. We included experts who have knowledge and experience in the various topics. Trained people and HRPAs members visited the place where no Committees are established to inform and share experience about their work and to prepare the establishment of new HRPAs Committees. Regularly meeting and monitoring visits of the HRPAs members with the various committees were conducted to ensure quality delivery of the project activities.

B: Human rights monitoring

The trained Members capacitated other members and collect data and report about HR violation within the parish. These data were transferred to the HRPAs Department, which passes on the information to other relevant organizations. In very serious cases the HRPAs Department advocated or takes the case for further action and follow up the process. The trained members informed the community about social accountability and establish social accountability committees within the county level.

C: Sensitization of the greater public on human rights

In order to reach more people special designed audio-video programs was broadcasted on a regular basis. Recognizing that the youth is an important pillar of the society and to change the culture of violence towards a more peaceful coexistence, we organized different events particular for the youth. Among the different churches, mandir, mosques, gurudwara etc ecumenical prayers were organized.

Objective 3: Respectful and respected security forces fulfilling their tasks according to the law.

A: Research.
A position paper on incidents between communities was developed and used for advocacy and lobbying.

B: Campaigning

HRPA joined campaigns to implement the current weapon law for humans and to make the HRPAs Commission functional.

Sustainability:

The HRPAs has a unique role in the society. This position can provide HRPAs access to people/communities/institutions/authorities that are less approachable for NGOs's. HRPAs also sees this as their role, working with all actors related to the elimination of violence in society. The project includes the strengthening of the HRPAs. By strengthening their capacity, not only the current project but all their current/future initiatives will become more effective.

PROJECT 2

WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY LIFE (Bihar)

Summary: Violence against women remains a reality in Bihar

Violence against women is still a daily reality in Bihar and can be considered as a community phenomenon. Hence, we believe it requires a community response. Through this project, we focus on the prevention and consequences of this crime by taking care of the victims, by building community capacity and by promoting high-level lobbying for the political participation of women.



Background

Violence against women in all its forms remains a reality in Bihar. The number of victims seeking support is still very low, due to the low level of availability of services and their distance from the crime scene. Furthermore, raped women often feel ashamed and fear the response from their community. Perpetrators are usually men with authority, but also often the husband.

Prevention strategies continue to be incomplete or they do not empower key players in the prevention. Men, as potential perpetrators of such violence, are usually less associated with prevention programs.

Initial situation

We supported a small project to facilitate and to ensure community participation in a focused lobby/advocacy program on Transitional Justice. Further we wanted to create an environment where women and men committed to working hand in hand in building a just society and bringing positive change to Bihar and the rest of the region.

Goals

The project is aimed at promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls, and their reintegration into community life. Participatory mechanisms for community advocacy will be developed, by strengthening the capacity and by developing community plans. Also, we will promote community support for victims of sexual violence and gender-based violence in order to enhance community security. In this way, we contribute to our common goal of building trust within communities and creating a common security and justice agenda.

- Ensure community participation and support in the prevention of sexual and gender based violence
- Promote the taking into account of the specific needs of women and girls

Target Group

The project was targeted at high-level political actors, civil society and indirectly the population of the identified areas, thereby focusing 60 % on women and 40 % on men in all training activities and advocacy which will be implemented in Bihar (Chhapra, Mir- Shaeed Chak gurmiya, Motihari, Aba bakkarpur, Sherpur , Laalganj) These villages were selected because of their geographic location, exposing them to a cultural interpenetration and interpretation because of the movements of massive repatriation.

Project Plan

By developing participatory mechanisms for community advocacy, the rights of women were promoted and protected. Additionally, we promoted community support for victims of sexual violence and gender-based violence in Bihar. To strengthen the organization we supported the implementation of the District Office of HRP, for which a member monitored the extent to which the organization has been able to follow up on the recommendations.

Additionally, community plans that meet the specific needs of women and girls in the community were developed. Hence, the project participants were aware of the causes and consequences of sexual gender based violence and engage in a fight against these crimes. Also, so called agents of change worked with the local administration and various other stakeholders to identify gaps, priorities and opportunities for the implementation of strategies and effective solutions to the crime of violence against women and girls. Next to that, men and boys are engaged at the communal level in the fight against violence against women and girls. Lastly, community warning systems was created which included participatory mechanisms for community advocacy against sexual gender based violence. A data collection system was established where data was collected.

Sustainability

The promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls as well as promoting community support for victims of sexual violence and gender-based violence in Bihar will contribute to the promotion of a competitive and entrepreneurial culture for the active, non-violent and lasting development of Bihar.

PROJECT 3

IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN FAMILIES (West Bengal)

Summary: Improving economic conditions and reducing domestic violence

In remote villages of West Bengal insecurity rules and impunity does largely exist. Women are still victims of injustice, of domestic and sexual violence, and mostly excluded from decision and policy making. Hence, we will contribute to conflict solving within the communities and within families, by giving training on women's rights, land ownership, conflict resolution, gender analysis and social therapy (counseling for both the parties).



Background

The main problems, such as weak government institutions, lack of political will, corruption, impunity, poverty and insecurity still remain. The circle of poverty in a country which is extremely rich in natural resources is felt day by day by most of the citizens. Many of these quoted problems are visibly enlarged in the context of West Bengal state. In this part of the country, insecurity rules and impunity does largely exist. Women are still victims of injustice, of domestic and sexual violence, and women are mostly excluded from decision and policy making.

We will contribute to conflict solving within the communities and within families through social therapy (counseling for both the parties). We focus on the unequal power balance between men and women, and thereby cooperate with different civil society organizations in the region.

Initial situation

The mission of HRP is to improve the living conditions of women and their families – including social, economic and political conditions. The strategy of the centre is an integral approach: Since 2009 HRP is working with projects focusing on the improvement of living conditions of rural families.

Goals

With this program, we reached out to families and households, who were organized into groups. These groups were designed in integral action plans and received training and sensibilisation on women's rights, land ownership-regulation knowledge, conflict resolution, gender analysis and social therapy (counseling for both the parties). Hence, we aimed to improve economic conditions, agricultural production, health conditions, and reduce sexual transmitted diseases and domestic violence. By improving the relations within families and communities, we will contribute to our common goal of building trust within communities.

Goals

- Trust and respect in and between communities is increased

Indicators

- Community groups supported to engage in peace building

Target Group

In general, the beneficiaries of our partner are vulnerable women and girls, including their families and communities. One cannot evolve a culture without the participation of all stakeholders. This project however is targeted at small vulnerable people, which included a special focus on widows, abandoned women and young single mothers. Additionally, we supported female professional centers. Indirect beneficiaries involve the communities of the target groups.

Project Plan

To restore the dignity of women and to improve family and community relationships in vulnerable families, women should know about their rights and how to make use of them. Hence, we raised awareness on the dangers of gender-based violence, disseminate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the law on sexual violence, organize information sessions on children's rights, organize exchange sessions with parents on the appropriate teaching method in the education of children, educate community groups on pregnancies and train representatives of groups on social therapy techniques (counseling for both the parties). For groups to be able to defend their family and community rights, we will give training's on negotiation skills, mediation and reconciliation and on advocacy techniques, organize information sessions on land law, facilitate meetings between members of groups and local and state officials in customary land matters and form groups on citizen expression.

To contribute to the intellectual and professional empowerment of women and girls, specific training tools will be identified and the capacity of officials trainers were strengthened. Also facilitators were trained and best practices were exchanged.

This project is also geared towards increasing the living and health conditions of women and vulnerable families. This was done through awareness rising on for instance the unequal distribution of family meals, training on nutrition and balanced diet. Besides awareness rising on food and diet, sanitation, training will be given on crop protection. To improve health conditions, we raised awareness on the importance of habitat and improved sanitation; identify models of improved habitat and adequate sanitation and support initiatives of vulnerable families in regard to home improvement, latrines and showers.

Sustainability

By empowering beneficiaries from the outset, ownership will be increased, because they will become owner of the results themselves.