

# Organizational Status of BGVS

## National Organization

BGVS has its outreach in 22 States, 306 Districts, 2009 blocks and 21064 panchayats across the country with membership of more than 2,70,535 people. In the last three years the *organization has expanded in three new states of the North East i.e. Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya*. Its organization base in Gujarat has been revived. In most of the states the organization has a mass base character and its state units are independently registered. In Chattisgarh, because the organization was not being run in a transparent and democratic manner, the national centre withdrew its support.

The General Body consists of 100 members, which includes 13 - member Executive Committee and two permanent invitees from AIPSN (Chairperson and General Secretary). The General Body consists of three members from each state (State secretary, and two members nominated by the respective state committees), the out going EC members and 15 members to be nominated by the existing EC. The organization needs to address the issue of gender balance both at national and state level. In the national EC there women participation is 23% where as at and state level this varies from 5 to 40%.

## Organizational status of the States

### 1. Andhra Pradesh

Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Andhra Pradesh was started in 1988, one year after Jan Vignana Vedika (JVV) was formed. "Akshar Kalajatra" was its first massive activity. BGVS Andhra Pradesh is broad based organization. There are 4 retired IAS officers in its Executive Committee. Many officials, intellectuals, professionals from different walks of life are in its fold.

BGVS Andhra Pradesh is a strong and broad based organization. It faced the state oppression, threats and harassment but stood like a rock. Renewed BGVS Andhra Pradesh is the largest, most trusted, honoured organization and its core activities include literacy, health and women empowerment. Presently, BGVS Andhra Pradesh is working in 23 districts, 572 blocks and 264 panchayats with membership of 34502.

### 2. Arunachal Pradesh

In 2007 with Jan Adhikar Kalajatha, BGVS made its presence felt in the "land of the rising sun" Arunachal Pradesh. Being a very diverse state, it was difficult to work, yet with the help of Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), few youngsters beaming with enthusiasm and commitment could be identified and organized into small groups providing full working support to BGVS. A State level core group has been formed to impart resource persons trainings at panchayat level with a view to help in keeping the work process continuing in the state. They have presence in 3 districts, 3 blocks and 5 panchayats.

### 3. Assam

Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Assam is having strong grassroot presence in the state. Its journey began with the literacy campaign and Kala Jatha activities. Gyan Vigyan Samiti is having

organizational reach down to the panchayats. Its key thrust areas are not only limited to preparing material and publishing books but it has made a deep impact in the field of literacy, health, women empowerment, social security and child development. GVS Assam has been instrumental in forming an organization of SHG's namely PROCHESTA, at the state level, with a network of more than 4000 Self Help Groups. It has not only infused the spirit of savings among women but has made them self reliant by making small household goods and articles, which they sell through small outlets opened by them. The GVS Assam has been instrumental in forming BGVS units in Arunachal, Mainpur and Meghalaya. The state team is a mix of academicians, university professors, teachers and grass root activists.

Presently GVS Assam is present in 17 districts, 50 blocks and 300 panchayats with the total membership of 5000. GVS has now targeted to reach upto 1000 panchayats of the state in the near future.

#### **4. Bihar**

The Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti Bihar has been working since last 15 years. The organization is active with the help of strong activist support. They have worked amongst the poorest sections of the society and had tried to address their needs. BGVS, Bihar has made a significant dent in the field of literacy in the whole state but more specifically in Begusarai, Madhepura, Saharsa, Khagaria, Kaimur (Bhabhu) districts. Here teaching learning related material was prepared and distributed down to the grass root level. The organization has a very strong grass root level base, however the major challenge is to sustain the academic support and to deal with the high illiteracy levels.

The organization has also been very politically active in five districts of Northern Bihar. Many BGVS activists had contested the Panchayati Raj elections and won by good margin of votes. ***Organizationally every two years, there is membership campaign and conferences are organised at panchayat, block, district and state level.*** BGVS, Bihar is present in 23 districts, 162 blocks and 1944 panchayats with the total membership of 38215.

#### **5. Gujarat**

A nonfunctional BGVS state unit of Gujarat has been revived with the support of MP BGVS in 2007. To reach the masses of state, BGVS Gujarat has conducted Jan Adhikar Kalajatha in seven districts of the state. The organization is running 23 SHGs and 8 Gyan Vigyan Vidhyalayas by its Core Group. Constant nurturing of this group is required from National center and MP BGVS to sustain the group so that a strong organization could be built to combat the communal forces.

#### **6. Haryana**

Gyan Vigyan Samiti Haryana is working continuously to awaken the masses. Through kalajathas, a group of dalit young men and women is working hard to fight casteism, gender discrimination and other social barriers. Activists are creating a reading environment in the state by selling books in the villages. It has launched a special programme for Haryanvi women to spread the message of utility of science in daily life. BGVS Haryana is having its hold in 9 Districts, 26 blocks and 130 panchayats with the membership of 3000. The major challenge is to expand the organizational base in the State.

#### **7. Himachal Pradesh**

Himachal Gyan Vigyan Samiti has a strong organizational base. Literacy Campaign was the key agenda of intervention. The organization is broad based and had involved many intellectuals, educationists, and prominent persons to change the society by creating awareness among them. The major thrust areas are SAMATA, Environment, Health, Culture, Academic, Science & Technology, Panchayati Raj & Development, Children Science Club (Bal Bigyan Manch), Senior Citizen Forum (Varisht Nagrik Manch), Education & Continuing Education, Agriculture and other local issues. The organization has the capacity to intervene in policy issues with the State Government. ***The strength of the organization is to take up issues of farmers and women in both educational and agitational mode.*** It has organizational structure from Gram Panchayat Ward (Gyan Vigyan Kendra) to State level with democratically elected committees through organizing annual conferences. Presently, Himachal Gyan Vigyan Samiti is working in all the 12 districts, 45 blocks and 1000 panchayats with membership of 45000.

### **8. Jharkhand**

On 15<sup>th</sup> November 2000, Jharkhand became the 28<sup>th</sup> independent State of the Republic of India. After separation from Bihar, it was a very challenging job to build a democratic organization. Jharkhand started from scratch with a small group of committed activists who got involved in establishing BGVS. Jharkhand Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti came into being in year 2003. It is taking up social issues of the people of Jharkhand. It has made its presence felt amongst the tribals by taking up issues of food security and right to work and monitoring of NREGA. The state team is still small and is in the process of involving prominent, educated, committed persons in the organization to carry out future programmes with more intensity and innovation. The organization needs to strengthen the organizational base with collective leadership. Separate registration should be done on top priority. Presently, Jharkhand Gyan Vigyan Samiti is present in 14 Districts, 51 blocks and 1000 panchayats with the membership of 24000.

### **9. Karnataka**

Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Karnataka is having its own identity among the scientists and educational institutions in the state. The organization has built a strong network amongst teachers, but the biggest challenge is to bring the teachers into organisatioanl frame work for expansion amongst the masses. BGVS regularly publishing a Teacher Magazine. It has presence in 23 districts, 45 blocks and 75 panchayats with the membership of 3000.

### **10. Kerala**

KSSP is one of the leading organization of the AIPSN and has spearheaded many national campaigns. Major contribution has been in literacy and Kerala People Planning Campaigns. KSSP could gain lot of recognition from various sources for its untiring actions and social commitments. These include The Right Livelihood Award, The King Gzeon Award from UNESCO, Indira Paryavaran Award and Global 500 Award.

Major activities taken up by KSSP, include campaign on education, public health, environment and gender issues. Policy studies are considered very important in KSSP circles and so, it is striving hard to influence government policies through researches and studies, having a people orientation. In the last three years, KSSP has contributed to the national centre in a big way, for example, by hosting maximum number of activists from across the country under the Activists Exchange Programme. Presently, KSSP has organizational presence in 14 districts, 141 blocks and 992 panchayats and has got a membership of around 32666, female

members being around 20%. However the major challenge is to involve more women in the organizational framework.

### **11. Madhya Pradesh**

MP BGVS has a small team of young activists, which has expanded the organizational structure and activities across the state. The organization stretches from Chambal valley to the tribal region of Jabhua. It has taken a lead role in organizing JSA, Mid Day Meals campaign by creating a common platform with like minded organizations. It has a good network amongst local writers and cultural groups. It has supported the national center establishing and strengthening the BERC and hosting many national level programmes. It has also been instrumental in reviving the Gujarat unit.

Presently Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, MP is present in 26 Districts, 54 blocks and 855 panchayats with membership of 10393. In every two years, there is a restructuring of organization from district to regional level.

### **12. Maharashtra**

Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Maharashtra is a small organization in its initial stage. The samiti has a small mass base but a strong academic group. Expansion of the organization setup and spread of its ideology across the vast state are the major challenges. Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Maharashtra has spread in 14 districts, 10 blocks and 30 panchayats with around 450 members.

### **13. Manipur**

In the year 2007, a team of dedicated people who are committed to the cause of social change was identified by BGVS Assam. Jan Adhikar Kalajatha was organised which was very successful and had an over whelming response from people. Follow up of the Jatha needs to be planned so that an organization building process could start. Organisation is working in 5 districts, 5 blocks and 10 panchayats.

### **14. Meghalaya**

Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Meghalaya was formed in the beginning of year 2008 with the support of Gyan Vigyan Samiti Assam. Presently, Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Meghalaya is working from the Continuing Education Centre of North East Hill University. A small core group has been formed to organize BGVS activities. Organisation is working in 2 districts and 2 blocks.

### **15. Orissa**

Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samit, Orissa is a mix of scholars and grass root level activists. They have a good relationship with the state level administration. In year 1999 during Orissa cyclone, BGVS activists had played a major role in rehabilitating the cyclone affected people and reconstruction of the area.

The main challenge is to combat with issues pertaining to poverty, food security within the state and to sustain activists within the organization as most of them get co-opted by big NGOs.

State conference is held every two years, in which new, dedicated, committed youngsters and scholars are brought to the organizational fold. Presently, Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Orissa is working in 28 districts, 91 blocks and 451 panchayats with a membership of around 9200.

#### **16. Puducherry**

Puducherry Science Forum (PSF) has completed 22 years of its formation in the year 2007. PSF has established itself as a pioneering People's Science Movement (PSM) in the UT. Most of the key programmes like activities with children (children's science congress, science quiz programmes etc.) micro credit, rural development, science education related works, agriculture research etc. are currently limited to Pondicherry region, but during the last two years (2005-2007), various programmes like micro credit groups, continuing education centres etc. are picking up in Karaikkal region as well. One of the limiting factors in expanding activities to other regions have been the geographical discontinuity of these regions from the Pondicherry main enclave and lack of a uniform language (people speak different languages in the regions) in the enclaves. PSF has currently a membership of 951.

#### **17. Punjab**

Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Punjab was established in the year 1993. It has faced many challenges but the team of few dedicated and very committed people had stood the test of time. Presently, BGVS units are running in some panchayats. In every panchayat of Faridkot district there is a small library which is totally manned by BGVS activists. Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Punjab is working for the empowerment of women and farmers. Their main work is to spread literacy in Punjab through book melas. Many of BGVS activists of Punjab were elected as Panches and Sarpanches as also BDC members. Presently, Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, *Punjab is working in 20 districts, 135 blocks and 3500 panchayats with around membership of 35000.*

#### **18. Rajasthan**

Rajasthan is a biggest state in our country with diverse geographic conditions. The organization has worked extensively amongst the tribals and Muslim minorities. Major interventions have been in drought affected areas and monitoring of food security schemes amongst the tribals. The basic areas of activities are literacy, health, right to information, women empowerment and developing enterprises. Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Rajasthan has a group of scholars and activists. The major challenge facing the organization is the expansion of the organization to cover at least half the districts of the state. The state conference is held every two years to elect the new EC and GC. It has presence in *10 districts, 13 blocks and 80 Panchayats with total membership of 3300.*

#### **19. Tamil Nadu**

Tamil Nadu Science Forum has been involved in its service to the humanity during the last 28 years. The functions of the forum have been simply spread within the five State Level Sub-Committees : Education, Science popularization, Samatha and Health, Development and Science publications. Tamilnadu committee is a mix of teachers, scientists, health activists, women and grassroots activists. TNSF have 15 strong district committees and another 5 functioning district committees. Presently TNSF is working in *29 districts, 500 blocks and 10000 panchayats with membership of approximately 12,000.*

#### **20. Tripura**

Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Tripura is working in the field of literacy, post-literacy, science popularization, women and child development etc. Noted scholars of the state and committed volunteers have been regularly contributing to pedagogical and other activities. The government has constantly supported the BGVS activities to keep continuity in the programmes. The local problems are sorted by discussions with the concerned authorities by Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Tripura activists.

Presence of Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Tripura has its presence in 3 districts and 21 blocks with almost membership of 53. It is not a mass base organization and has membership of the general council only. However, it has a strong base as hundreds of neo-literates, TLC volunteers, Preraks and literacy functionaries respond to any constructive calls of the organization.

## **21. Uttar Pradesh**

Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti Uttar Pradesh started its activities in this state with its first nationwide campaign “crusade against illiteracy” in 1990. In U.P., the first effort was in mass mobilization for Literacy by conducting Gyan Vigyan Jatha. The organization has made effective intervention in the field of community health, women empowerment, panchayats, Jan Vachan, Basic Education, continuing education, SHG formation among women, promotion of Immunisation, sanitation and safe drinking water, awareness on Acts like Right To Information Act, NAREGA and campaigns like Jan Swasthya Abhiyan for Right to Health Care, Right to Food, etc. ‘UMEED’ magazine is published annually on the occasion of International Women Day. The organization is extensively working amongst the Dalits and Muslim minorities. The state team is a mix of writers, trade union leaders, university professors, teachers and grass root activists. It has good representation from marginalised and backward sections of the society specially dalits and women. The Major challenge in U.P. was to set up a democratic organization in a feudalist, crime dominated, casteists society and then to sustain it. The organization faces difficulties in sustaining its activists, due to lack of financial resources. BGVS UP is present in **28 districts, 60 blocks and 589 Panchayats, 10 Nagar Nigam/palika/nagar panchayats with membership of 10375.**

## **22. Uttarakhand**

Uttarakhand became the 27<sup>th</sup> state of the Republic of India on November 9, 2000 after carving out from Uttar Pradesh. After the creation of new state, Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti Uttarakhand came into existence. It was able to make its own identity among the prominent people and educational institutions in the state. The literacy, health, women empowerment, social security, child development, science awareness programmes are the usual programmes of the organisation. There is a strong cultural team which has organised Kalajathas on various issues. A book sale campaign was launched by using innovative methods. Gyan Vigan bulletin is being published regularly by the organisation. Major challenge is communication with the district because of rough terrain and the migration of young population from the hills. The organization needs to expand its base amongst the academicians and at the grassroots level activists. Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Uttarakhand is presently working in **11 districts, 17 blocks and 70 panchayats with the membership of 2000.**

## Organizational status of States

<i>S. No</i>	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Districts</i>	<i>Blocks</i>	<i>Panchayats</i>	<i>Town Areas</i>	<i>Villages</i>	<i>Membership</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	572	264	64	518	(JVV) 34502
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	3	6			
3.	Assam	17	50	300	8	3500	5000
4.	Bihar	23	162	1944	12	2417	38215
5.	Gujarat	7	2	22	-	54	1610
6.	Haryana	09	26	130	33	130	3000
7.	Himachal Pradesh	12	45	1000	20	-	45000
8.	Jharkhand	14	51	1000	12	3000	24020
9.	Karnataka	16	45	75	40	100	2800
10.	Kerala	14	141	699	57	1196	(KSSP) 32666
11.	Madhya Pradesh	26	54	855	60	2565	10393
12.	Maharashtra	14	10	30	7	45	450
13.	Manipur	5	5	10			
14.	Meghalaya	2	2				
15.	Orissa	28	91	451	35	2158	9200
16.	Pudicherry	02	04	50	02	71	951
17.	Punjab	20	135	3500	10	3500	35000

18.	Rajasthan	10	13	80	03	415	3300
19.	Tamilnadu	29	500	10000	20	30000	(TNSF) 12000
20.	Tripura	03	21	-	03	-	53
21.	Uttar Pradesh	28	60	578	18	1500	10375
22.	Uttarakhand	11	17	70	10	300	2000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>306</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>21064</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>51469</b>	<b>270535</b>

### Participation of women in EC at state level

S. No	Name of State	Male	Female	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	14	1	15
2	Assam	14	3	17
3	Arunachal Pradesh	4	2	6
4	Bihar	12	5	17
5	Gujarat	9	3	12
6	Haryana	19	3	22
7	Himachal Pradesh	21	10	31
8	Jharkhand	13	4	17
9	Karnataka	25	6	31
10	Kerala			
11	Madhya Pradesh	23	8	31
12	Maharashtra	15	3	18
13	Manipur	3	1	4
14	Meghalaya	3	2	5
15	Orissa	8	5	13
16	Pudicherry	8	3	11
17	Punjab			
18	Rajasthan	14	7	21
19	Tamilnadu			

20	Tripura	12	2	14
21	Uttar Pradesh	14	7	21
22	Uttarakhand	13	4	17

## Basic Education Programme

**Vision:** The Basic Education Program of BGVS is based on the vision and understanding that large-scale efforts are needed, within the Governmental system and outside it, to help increase access of children to schools, to create teaching-learning materials that are of interest and relevance to children so that they are retained in schools, and to provide institutional platforms where children have learning opportunities that are transacted in a joyful manner, which implies reducing and eliminating fear, trauma and boredom from the processes of learning.

BGVS also considers it important that basic education should stress as much on the affective domain as it usually does on the cognitive. Therefore addressing questions of values, feelings and emotions are as important as teaching various subjects. In particular, the BEP lays stress on values such as cooperation, peace, democracy and secularism, within an over all critical pedagogy.

### Modalities of Implementation

Beginning with the Joy of Learning festivals that BGVS conducted all over the country in 1995, a pilot program called Jeevanshala was launched in BGVS in selected blocks in Bihar (Nawada), Haryana (Samalkha) and in AP (Khamam District). The objective was to experiment with various methodologies, set up teacher training procedures, and develop an internal resource group and to work out methods of community involvement. After the completion of this program, that was fairly successful in most of these areas, BGVS since 2004 has been implementing its vision and objectives of Basic Education in the following ways:

1. **Improvements in the Government system:** BGVS considers that the state has the main responsibility for providing access and education of equitable quality to children. This is consistent with the right conferred on the children of India under the Right to Education; 86<sup>th</sup> amendment of the Constitution. Therefore collaborating with the Government so that it fulfils its obligations has been a major impetus in the implementation strategy for BGVS. This is however contingent on the readiness of

the central and state governments to seek such collaborations with an organisation like BGVS. There are a variety of local factors that determine whether collaboration begins; and if it does how long it sustains. Broadly these have to do with the political climate that a particular Government operates under; consequently either collaboration is denied by the Government, or it does not sustain beyond a regime change. On its part, BGVS has maintained that it shall collaborate with any elected government, independent of its political ideology; but according to principles of education that BGVS espouses.

In the period from 2004 to 2008, BGVS worked with the government structures in Maharashtra, AP, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand and the NCERT, NUEPA and the National Knowledge Commission and the MHRD at the center. The partnerships have mostly been in the areas of teacher-trainings, curriculum development and policy formulations.

2. **Gyan Vigyan Vidyalayas:** Where as collaborations with Governmental structures, as and when feasible, has been an important component of BGVS work, it is always constrained in as much that the basic structure of work is designed by the Government (SSA or some other scheme - already predetermined). In order to have more space in fostering education according to the vision outlined above, BGVS decided to make community as its partner by opening Gyan Vigyan Vidyalayas – community schools owned and supported by the community, rather than by the Government or any outside funds. The idea is to retain enough freedom in designing the teaching-learning processes and management practices. The decision to eschew outside funding has stemmed from the real fear of a dependency syndrome, with the hope that the local community support shall be more sustainable in the long-term. As schools fostering democratic and secular values and a critical pedagogy, the hope also is that these schools will act as a foil to similar initiatives by organizations that promote religious or social hatred through their schools.

GVV's started coming up in the last three years, and to date about 200 new GVV's have been set up. In addition, GVV processes have been initiated in another 300 schools that have pre-existed, like the venture schools in Assam. Eight GVV's have also been set up in Dohad, Gujarat. The other states running GVV's are UP, MP, and Orissa. GVV's were opened in Bihar and Jharkhand too, but have been assimilated under the SSA schools there. Initial discussions have already taken place with the National Institute of Open Schooling in order that children in GVV's get their certification from NIOS, rather than state education departments. This would give further freedom in designing teaching-learning processes, and give a degree of 'prestige' to the schools amongst the local community. A heartening feature of the GVV's is that a majority of children in them are either from the dalit, OBC or minority communities.

### **The four years experience says that it's a community school**

It's a very important thing to notice for the organization that how we got support from the community as .....

- **Land for the construction of GVV building**

- **Building materials and labour for construction of building**
- **Collecting money from the whole community as a teacher's salary.**
- **Grains for the meals at the school time**
- **Sponsoring fees of some children**
- **Space for running the school (constructed building)**

3. **Out of School programs:** The most common form of interaction with Children in most of the state units of BGVS are bal-melas, bal-sansads, gyan-vigyan clubs, bal-manches, children's libraries and a variety of similar events and platforms. Bal-manch is particularly a big program of Rajas than BGVS. Apart from various child-centered activities, most of these efforts are producing children's literature through local magazines, broad-sheets and wall newspapers. In about 256 Government schools of two blocks of Khagaria district of Bihar, many such activities created by BGVS over the years are being implemented.

### **Basic Education Resource Center (BERC)**

Most of the tasks in the last mode of implementation outlined above are now handled at the state level. Capable people have come up at the state, and even district levels at some places, to undertake out-of-school activities.

The task for the other two modalities is however still a challenge at the state level, except perhaps the southern states. Teacher trainings, curriculum development and the development of supplementary materials requires a fair amount of central support. To undertake these tasks, the BERC at Bhopal has been acting like a nodal center, with a staff of three people, supplemented by the senior BGVS faculty. A national core group, with most of the people from various states, is also serviced by the BERC. Teacher trainings for the governmental sector and the GVV's have been a major task of the BERC. Materials for such trainings and their logistics are handled from here. For example the trainings for government teachers in J&K, AP, Assam and UP, which are in addition to regular GVV trainings have been held by the BERC. Since the BERC can handle support in Hindi only right now, similar support in the government sector to states like Orissa and Maharashtra and has mostly been at the level of ideas.

### **Right to Education Legislation**

A national campaign for bringing in the Right to Education legislation was launched by BGVS, jointly with AIPSN, from the time the CABE draft was prepared in August 2005. Apart from a National Assembly at Kozhikode, ten other largely attended state assemblies and conventions were held to gather support for the Bill. The draft bill was reproduced in many languages for larger dissemination.

After the central government relegated the bill to a model bill that states were urged to bring in, a quiet advocacy was sustained by BGVS members to reverse the decision. The persistence paid dividends when the Prime Minister was forced to call for a central legislation in February 2008. BGVS members have been involved in the redrafting of the Bill, and are still campaigning for its introduction in the Parliament. Due to the efforts of BGVS, eminent

personalities like Prof. Yash Pal, Shantha Sinha, and Ashok Agarwal have been constant allies in his process. BGVS persons have also lobbied with MP's from different parties on the issue, including addressing a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of the HRD Ministry. If the Bill does finally get introduced in the July 2008 monsoon session of the Parliament, BGVS can take a fair amount of credit for the achievement.

### **Workshops and Trainings:**

#### **1. National Resource Person's Workshop**

During the last three years and also through this SDTT Project, we are able to create a resource team of 30 at the national level. They are from the Districts, blocks and due to the continuous capacity building program at the BERC level; at least 5-7 of them are excellent in skill. So more exposure is required for these people to support the Basic Education Program in the National Center. So as a part of capacity Building we conducted National level workshop and training for the states where GVV-Government school system intervention program is being conducted. The Resource Person from the states participated are MP, Bihar, Jharkhand, UP, Orissa, Assam and Gujarat.

#### **2. State Level Teachers Training**

We conducted 10 days teachers training in each state in each year. In 2006 and 2007 session, around 12 state level teachers training was organized in Assam, UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa and MP. The training are structured exactly to achieve such skills and attitudes, but that wouldn't happen in one or two training. Repeated exposure would be necessary. The sustenance of such classroom practices would ensure the ultimate acquisition of such skills and attitudes, but sustaining such practices over a long period is also a real challenge for the organization.

#### **3. Guide Book Finalization Workshop**

5 days guidebook finalization workshop was conducted from 18<sup>th</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> February at BERC where the guidebook was finalized and 5000 copies of the same was printed. The perspectives of our Basic Education which will help the teachers and Resource Persons to implement in their schools was implied in the Guide Book with the following contents.

- About GVV
- The objective of the education
- Theory of the education
- Questioning on value
- The behaviour of the teacher
- Language, mathematics and social studies.
- How to monitor the school
- The guide book is being used in the states

### ***Let us see in States.....***

#### **1. Assam**

Presently 242 GVV are operating actively in 16 Districts of Assam under GVSA. Altogether 675 GVV teachers had been trained. In the last three years they have conducted 8 teachers training. 5 training were conducted through projects and remaining 3 by

community mobilization. Apart from these GVV Assam made a campaign on Right to Education Bill 2005. They have trained 1287 teachers from 452 schools, out of them 998 teachers are male and 291 teachers are female.

## **2. Bihar**

In Bihar GVS has created teachers group at Block, District and State level, formed Balmanch. They have also organized Bal Samvad on different issues of Basic Education. They have given training to the Government school teachers.

## **3. Gujarat**

The new state Gujarat has 8 schools in Dahod District, the most backward district of Gujrat. Two teachers training programme were organized at Dahod in last two years, where around 20 teachers got trained. 25 Resource Person were trained for 3 days, and they organized Balmelas in 22 Panchayats of Dahod. Challenges of spreading the Gyan Vigyan Shiksha Karyakram in another 7 Districts of Gujrat where we had formed BGVS Adhoc committee. The resource person also need to more be capable and for that a continuous efforts from the BERC is required.

## **4. Haryana**

Haryana Gyan Vigyan Samiti had involved teachers union to change the Basic Education in Haryana. So with a long consultation with each other they formed a small core group of 11 members to implement different activities at the school level, they have formed another expanded core group of 23 members. They have conducted two state level workshops where 113 participants participated in order to implement the Basic Education Agenda at the school level. They are planning to prepare an approach paper on the status of education in Haryana. They have conducted 3 zonal level workshops in Kornala, Rohtak and Hizoor followed by 6 District level workshops.

## **5. Jharkhand**

Formerly BGVS Jharkhand started around 200 GVV's but later on due to the Government's policy to start a school at every one k.m distance they had to close their schools. They did massive campaign on Right to Education Bill by doing Shiksha Samvad up to the Panchayat level. They trained 55 Para teachers for 10 days in Kodarma District. In the last three years they could form 912 science clubs in 14 Districts of Jharkhand under this SDTT project. These clubs emerged through conducting 1107 Balmelas. Around 164 resource persons emerged out the process.

## **6. Madhya Pradesh**

**In last 3 years they tried to set up the following GVV in MP:**

Number of GVV –60  
Number of Teachers -108  
Trained Teachers -84  
Total Student -4566  
Girls -2099  
Boys -2467

In year 2006, MPBGVS conducted a review program of the GVV in a interactive way. The main findings came out from the review was:

- Even of critical condition most of the schools are running because of strong zeal of their teachers.
- It is highly appreciable that the GVV in ater and Sankri areas of Bhind district are running continually even though these areas are Dacoit affected.
- Our GVV's children's have been enrolled in Government schools also because Mid day Meal scheme is going on in such schools.
- In most of our GVV's the teachers are working without honorarium due to lack of resources and money. So they are working in self motivating manner.
- There are still some GVV's where the SMC is still not functioning. Strengthening of school management committee(SMC) is essential. For this purpose, continuous training of SMC is required.
- Continuous monitoring of GVV at all levels i.e. block, District and State is essential.
- Balmela is an important activity, for Joyful learning. In last four years we have organized state, district and block level Balmelas.

## **7. Maharashtra**

In Basic Education they focused on training of teacher's and Balvigyan Manch and organising Balmelas. As they had good access to Government Primary Schools in they did not formed the GVVS. They also tried to train the teachers in Zilla Panchayat, Municipal Corporation and of some renowned private institution like Rayat Shiksha Sanstha which are known as institutions for the Bahujan. 3 workshops with teachers of 31 primary schools in Kagal Block of Kolhapur. 3 workshops with teachers from Pinpuri Chinchawal Municipal Corporation. 3 workshops with teachers of 23 High schoolsof Royat Shiksha Sansthan were organized. Apart from these they conducted workshop on Balvigayn Manch. A hand book on Balvigyan Manch containing experiment, Games, information about various corners like science, Mathematics, Language, Art, etc was designed and developed during this period. They also contributed in Maharashtra SCERT's science teachers Handbook and Science teachers Question Bank for classes III and IV. Ideas of activity based out of class room science were introduced for the last time in SCERT's Hand book.

## **8. Orissa**

Gyan Vigyan Shikshya has been done through a well scheduled process of developing sense for education in most logical and scientific manner that too through establishment of GVV. This is one of the idealistic attempts made by BGVS Orissa to orient the public as well the social activists to promote education in a most scientific manner.

BGVS envisages this trait in the society itself through Children with emphasis on Gyan Vigyan Shiksha Program operationalised and implemented through:

- 1. Existing School intervention (Government School System where ever Possible)**  
:-. At present in Belaguntha Block of Ganjan District, 120 Government schools are

covered under GVS teachers training program, more than 132 teachers were trained in two phases with the GVS methodology in pilot basis.

2. **Schools run by community:** - Owned by the community where in the community itself provides teachers to meet the vacancies in schools by nominating educated Youths as teachers in those schools. Visiting of SHG members to schools from time to time to observe attendance of Children and availabilities of basic amenities in schools. There has been two round of community teachers training was organized at Panchhagaon and Vikrampalli of Lakhanpur Block of Jharsuguda Districts more than 142 teachers were trained.
3. **Gyan Vigyan Vidyalaya:** - BGVS Orissa has initiated 51 Gyan Vigyan Vidyalayas in different parts of Orissa. Presently Government of Orissa (SSA) declares few schools as project school by providing building grant and a single teacher. BGVS enables the teaching staff to continue in there schools providing them their requisite salary with community contribution as well as registering them as recognized school under National Institute of Open School (NIOS).
4. BGVS Orissa had conducted a series of educational activities over these years with active support from its activists at the District, Block and Panchayat level. The Process of intervention was through formation of Science Clubs, Capacity Building of VEC and Teachers, Organizing Children's Parliament, Balmela, Formation of Parents Teachers Association, Organizing Children Science Festival, Curriculum development Training, Vocation Education, Akash Darshan and Nature Study.

Now they have:

- Number of State level Resource Persons for GVV –13
- Number of persons attended in the management committee meeting – 321
- State resource persons for Balmela –91
- Government Teachers trained –165
- Total Number of Science Club – 712

## 9. Puducherry

The status of Basic education in Puducherry is quite good due to the infrastructure made available by the state itself. Overall school enrollment rates, drop out rates, reach out of Mid Day meal scheme, introduction of the breakfast for the first time in the country are examples of the effective basic education infrastructure in the UT, with this background, PSF did not initiate new schools like GVV in Puducherry. As we have been working in the past to improve as delivery systems like methodology, pedagogy, making science education interesting and innovating etc. A number of basic education centres were initiated for those children who were found to be weak in their studies. Currently these centers are run by a night tuition centers. Under the SDTT program, workshops training programs envisaged for improving the functioning of these centre.

## 10. Rajasthan

Identified 20 teachers in 15 schools of each Baran and Alwar District. They activated the mid day meals committee. They organised 200 Balmela and tried to strengthen the Balmanch. During these period they organized 100 Balmanch. Tried to keep dialogue with the Government and with the teachers Students union. The great thing that BGVS Rajasthan had done by involving 50 Children of Ghomatv Caste.

### **11. Tripura**

BGVS Tripura organized workshop on Joy of Learning for teachers in west and North Districts. They also organized Balmelas and Joy of Learning for students in the same districts where around 111 students participated. They trained 105 teachers on Basic education from both the Districts with the help of the Science and Technology department of Tripura Government. They trained 50 resource persons for Balmela followed by sub divisional level Joy of Learning program in West Tripura District. The Organization thinks that out of this intervention on Basic Education focusing in two Districts, teachers could be motivated for alternative approach of teaching. The teachers are also ready to teach accordingly. As a result rate of drop out may be decreased.

### **12. Uttar Pradesh**

BGVS UP have 52 GVV's in 32 villages / wards of 19 Blocks of Nine Districts of the state. A group of 40-50 resource persons emerged in the process of supporting the GVV. They started the process of setting up GVV and Balmanch by organizing Balmelas in the identified areas. A good state level core group exists which meets on time to time. The challenges before the organization are to ensure the active involvement of school management committees. Documentation, evaluation and monitoring systems have to be evolved. How to register the GVV with NIOS is also a challenge before the organization.

### **13. Uttarakhand**

In Basic Education, the state organized state education assembly in which SCERT, eminent educationist, writers, social scientist, teachers participated. In the Assembly groups of educationist and teachers network were formed to discuss NCF 2005.

Many school level activities like Balmela, Bal writers workshop, Balvigyan Mela, Seminar, GK competition, Star watching, Science Games, Cultural Activities were also organised. They were able to form teachers network and Balmanch in all the Districts. As they started a GVV in Haridwar but they could not continue due to lack of proper community support.

### **Challenges before us:**

- Lack of coordination and support of the state and District committee to the GVV and Gyan Vigyan Shiksh Karyakram.
- The organizational support would require for strengthening the GVV
- There are still some GVV's where the SMC is still not functional
- The resource teams have a long way to go in order to provide proper academic support.
- Involving other academic personalities and organizations working on Basic Education is also a challenge for us.
- Monitoring is the weakest link as of now. Its absence implies that the teacher does not feel her/ him as a part of the movement
- The teachers are excited and committed to the cause. Most schools are being run by the commitment of the teachers. However no remuneration is being paid to the teachers in some of the schools.

- Creating awareness amongst the parents and society is imperative without creating a proper environment. The enthusiasm of the community and the teacher wants sustaining.

Annexure -1

## Gyan Vigyan Kendras and Bal Manch

S. No	State	Gyan Vigyan Kendras				Bal Manch			Total Bal Manch
		2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	GVV	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	
1	Assam	95	120	175	242	420	-	-	595
2	Bihar	14	-	-	14	651	18	-	803
3	Chhattisgarh	34	-	-	0	-	-	-	-
4	Gujarat	-	10	10	8	-	-	-	-
5	Haryana	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-
6	Jharkhand	16	100	192	-	145	-	-	145
7	Karnataka	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	25
8	Madhya Pradesh	50	3	7	60	14	-	-	14
9	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	188	-	-	188
10	Orissa	25	15	11	51	68	20	-	98
11	Puducherry	-	-	-	-	17	-	-	17
12	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	250	-	-	250
13	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	203	-	-	203
14	Uttar Pradesh	35	13	12	50	13	-	-	121
					430				2459

# Samata

Today Samata has an out reach amongst the most deprived section of the society. We have developed our groups amongst Muslim, Tribals, Dalits, and some of them are now taking leadership in their villages. Several workshops and training programs were taken up at the state level including the leadership camp that which gave them the ideas and strength to fight against marginalisation and discrimination.

Samata emphasized on savings and self-help and towards undertaking micro enterprises. These groupings may be seen primarily as socio-economic in nature, contributing towards women's empowerment through organizations and some awareness generation activities like health, gender issues, preventing violence against women and Panchayati Raj.

For us its very amazing that the groups we have set in places, have raised their demands, and we tried to work according to their needs and demands. And in many places family relation had also changed because the women have access to money. They came into decision-making process at home. Caste relations are being challenged as in many places as we see that the groups have a mixed caste character in which Dalits and upper caste women are together. They mix freely. Eating and meeting together. In many states such as Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh many of the group members have fought panchayat elections and won.

In these years we have formed around 21, 750 SHG's in 17 states and with these SHG's we were able to formed 23 federations also. Around 134 Samata Shops in their villages and blocks had been established. For our women readers we have opened 2,956 samata vachanalayas.

## **Vocational Trainings**

Our aim is to make the women self-sustained; we are always trying to provide them the best for their living and sustainability. In many places we have opened vocational training centers and have sent our women in many workshops of bakery , vermi-compost, Tribal art and craft, etc.

## **Enterprises and Women Technology Support Center**

We opened many small enterprises and doing well according to their region/area wise. They are mainly to enhance production in the existing occupation/trade, opening petty shops and some new group enterprise. The enterprises that have come up are in the following areas; Agriculture, Local Food, Art and Craft, Herbal Medicines, Readymade garments, Pickles, Papad, soap making, dairy, Tailoring, Fisheries, Umbrella making, Bakery items, Carpet making, Cloth weaving etc.

We have also opened training center of Weaving, designing, development and production center at Chandrapur of District Kamrup, Assam. 'Hunar-A women enterprise' at Jaipur, Rajasthan is garment manufacturing and export unit.

Different strategies were used for marketing, opening Samata shops, organizing fair for the sale of products, and participating in fairs organized by State Govts as well as out side the states e.g. Saras Mela, Hart bazaar. Still we have to workout on more strategies for marketing of our products.

### **Trainings and Workshops**

1. A national health workshop in Hyderabad was organized followed by state and district workshops. The key leadership specially doing health programs in their states attended the workshop. As a follow up program some states are doing health intervention programs with SHGs.
2. National SHG workshop followed by 13 states in 92 District workshops. The only objective of the workshop was to review the SHG and the federation. Accordingly the status and the needs identified that would be the follow up plan. A guide book in English and manuscript form was brought out.
3. A National consultation meeting on the draft of the micro finance Bill was conducted in Bhopal where other organizations like Nirantar, AIDWA and NFIW participated, discussed and gave their comments on the draft.
4. A campaign on the micro finance Bill was organized on which District and satate convention were organized. A national convention was conducted jointly by BGVS and AIDWA in Delhi. Around 1700 members of different SHGs participated in that convention; Ms. Brinda Karat, P. Sati, and other MP's who are also the members of the standing Committee presented and appealed to the delegate. A rally was organized which culminated at Jantar Mantar, P.Sati was with us in the rally. A delegation of Nirantar, Samata, along with honourable MP Ms. Brinda Karat and P. Sati met honourable Finance Minister Sh. P. Chidambaram and presented him a memorandum. This campaign got good responses from the people.

### **Voices from the fields.....**

#### **1. Assam**

In Assam, Samata activities are being organized in the name of Prochesta. At present Prochesta is operating in 14 Districts of Assam has covering 294 Panchayats. 2514 groups were formed . Prochesta entered in two new areas Kamrup and Tinsukia. More than 700 SHGs were formed in these two Districts.

### **Training cum Production Centre:**

Prochesta established a production centre for economic sustainability as well as designing & marketing of various traditional garments. Two resource person have been working with

4 jacquard Loom and the production activities are going on. One of them is on deputation from Handloom and Textiles department of Assam. Procheta started a sale center at Shilpagram, Gowahti. It is a very good initiative taken by the Samata, Assam. But the challenges are of sustainability. A good leadership with organizational understanding is required in Assam.

## **2. Bihar**

The BGVS, Bihar has its Samata strength in 22 Districts by organizing 838 Village level Samata Vigyan Utsav. At present they have 3836 SHGs, out of which 5 District level federations have been formed. A good state level resource group of 62 members has emerged in the last three years. Which gave resource support from time to time. An active state core group emerged from the field which is giving full time to Districts. Still Bihar Samata has to learn many things from others also. They have to keep some coordination with other academic institutions and personalities. The leadership has to study more and develop their skills which will help the Samata group more creatively and informatively. It was felt that 80% of SHGs members are illiterate. So a literacy program for the SHG members is need to be planned.

## **3. Haryana**

In Haryana, Samata tried to take program and approached the women on against female feticide, gender equality, discrimination, dowry, unequal status etc. Five different programs were prepared and used in Districts. The state has good state level core group. The groups raised many Local level issues of the women. As female feticide is an important issue of Haryana, the Samata groups had organized so many programs against this issue up to the village level. Samata conducted 12 different workshops for newly appointed 300 Doctors and the ICDS officers and Karyakarta to semitise them on the Rural Health realities with SRC, Haryana. Around 450 women participated to keep constant and continuous dialogue with these people, 'Swasthya Dialogue' a magazine on health is being used Haryana also organized a very remarkable cultural program (kalajatha) with Dalit Adolescent girls .A leadership from that group has emerged in Haryana.

## **4. Himachal Pradesh**

The most remarkable and revolutionary activity that Samata HP conducted during the last two years was, 'Beti Bachavo Abhiyan'. Started the campaign on 8<sup>th</sup> march 2007 on the eve of international women's day with the other democratic women's organization in HP to implement the PC DMDT Act. They staged Dharnas in front of 52 Government and private Ultra Sound Clinics in 9 Districts of HP with an appeal for to misuse this technology. They also gave a memorandum to CMO of each district as well as to Honorable Chief Minister and Health Minister of HP.

The second phase of the campaign was taken through a cultural program from 23<sup>rd</sup> September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2006. In which, the campaign tried to expose the dual mentality of the society on the existence of women. On one hand the society worships the women as 'Devi' in the Nav Durga festival, On the other hand they are brutally killing the female

feouts. To strike on this particular mentality this campaign has taken symbolically. A number of activities were undertaken during this campaign.

They approached several departments like social Justice, SHRC, women cell of police, State women's commission, department of education, Health, Rural development, HP University, Schools and colleges. The other organizations like Priya, Bralmakumari, Arya Samaj, Singh Sabha, Art of living, Vivekanda, DYFI, AIDWA, Kisan Sabha, Mahila Morcha of BJP, Women's wing of Congress, SFI, Samatan Dham Sabha have also been approached. They invited the people on a one day convention to express their views and ensure their participation on the issue. This was their strategy to involve all sections of the society and also to apprise these organizations to understand what actually they think. They also involved press by conducting several press conferences right from state capital to different Districts. This was also a way to reach a number of people and to semitise them on this issue.

During this campaign they prepared pamphlets and distributed them at all the public places including the temples. The role of print media and electronic media was very positive. The state could do SHG movements actively in Kullu and Mandi districts. In these two Districts the women are developing economically as well as socially. They have state core group, but the core group has to participate actively. A lively and vibrant functioning of the core group is expected.

## **5. Jharkhand**

It has a small samata team at the state level. They have 1200 SHGs and federation in Kodarama district. The SHGs have done some very innovative collective farming to increase the productivity. The impact is visible as they are now marketing their produce. They have made a good outreach amongst the tribal women and some tribal women are in a position to give leadership at the state level. They have also very closely monitored the NREGA and had played a active role in implementing literacy programmes. However the main problem is to sustain these women within the organistion.

## **6. Madhya Pradesh**

They tried to build up a good and full time Samata team at the state level and they gave time to District forming 3 federations 10 running some enterprises giving them proper training with the help of MPVS, initiated health program with SHGs specially community health Monitoring program in 45 villages of 3 Blocks, the programs were undertaken after the GC. A very good campaign on MMR with AIDWA was under taken in the worst MMR area of MP like Bhind, Murena, Gwalior, Shivpuri and sheopur. In this campaign, Kalajatha, Survey and activities in schools and colleges were conducted. The findings of survey was given to the state Government and press as a memorandum. Posters, paplets were prepared and used in these areas.

Most of the SHG are running Mid day Meal scheme and after the convergence training the women have strongly participated in NREGA. They are also demanding some information from the Government through RTI.

It is appreciable that the members of Samata in MP have participated in the programs organized by Sanskritik Morch and the Progressive women organizations against

communalism Samata MP initiated for drafting the women's policy in MP. They staged protest against the CM and the minister of women and child on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2007 for declaring the women's policy with out involving the women's group working in MP. The Government accepted their demand and later on alternate draft was prepared and presented before the State Government. It all made to happen through a hectic process of regular meetings and discussion at state center for about four Months.

They also protested against the women's schemes the state Government introduced in last two years, which reflects the feudal and insensitive mentality of the Chief Minister. On the gender issues it raised a very good response.

The proper information and implementation of the Domestic violence and protection Act 2005 and the Bishakha Guide line on custodial violence was a major program of Samata. Training and workshop were organized from state to Districts. Now a number of cases are coming to them and Samata is engaged in fighting and supporting to them. As the outcome of this program, mainly police officials, Advocates, Medical officers came in their contact. They planned to start a Counseling and Rehabilitation centre for these women in Bhopal. More expertise for the core group is needed.

## **7. Maharashtra**

Samata is one of the most regular activities in the state. Before SDTT project they had nearly 40 SHGs in the state. Under SDTT they tried to increase SHGs and moved towards federation. In 2005 they had 66 SHGs in Beed, 15 SHGs in Pune, and 16 in Kolhapur. In Beed they formed a Samata federation. The SHGs were working and monitored regularly but Beed unit accepted foreign funds without information to the EC. So the state committee had to dissolve the District unit. They retained a small group with their efforts in Beed and again formed SHG in new villages. The older groups are also interested to come with samata. Now they were 54 SHG in 4 Districts including Beed.

A review of SHGs was undertaken in 5 Districts of Maharashtra named Beed, Kolhapur, Naik, Pune and Solapur. This helped the leaders of SHGs and the activists in the area to correct their account keeping and monthly report writing and maintains of records. A State level workshop was organized at Kolhapur make the people understand the concept of federation. SHGs also involved in different programs taken by BGVS including Jatha, Right to Food campaign, Right to Education campaign on Micro finance Bill etc. They were conducted slide shows programs in different villages on 'our universe', Malnourishment, Anamia, No more Hirosina, Women and Health etc.

A regular tie up with CE activities at village level such as campaign on anemia took a nice shape in the cluster of Pune, Kolhapur. The women activist took initiative in arranging the slide show followed by Iron testing campaign by PHC centres. The result showed that the percentage of anemia were more than 80%. This built a pressure on Zilla Panchayat which further took a policy level decision for campaign against anemia. It is good and inspiring. It all happened sometimes without a full timer at the state center. A one fulltimer and a core group is to be formed to take more program, expand the organization and also support to field. A vibrant and living contacts with the Districts Samata group is also an important and essential requirements for the organization.

## **8. Orissa**

After the last GC Samata in Orissa could interact with other women's organization and learned from their experiences like AIDWA, SAMA, Health Resource Centre. It also developed linkages with women's commission, Mission Sakta, Mahila Vikas Samakya Mission etc. Also in last three years built institutional support at the village level for the SHG women and their visible self reliance. SHG federation in 3 District Sopna in Jagatsingpur, Samata in Jhasuguda, Samata in Baragada. A technical livelihood training was organized at Sopna resource centre, Ersama for two Month and exposure visit to OUAT, CIFA and other technical institution for intensive training. The Panchayat resource group support to give regular technical support to SHG and Panchayat federation. They undertook different training activities. Produced through on dairy development, fishery, goatry, Grocery, Bettle vine fodder cultivation, weaving with indigenous materials with broomdry fish, food processing, rice and vegetable marketing.

They could undertook the programs like state level workshop on micro finance Bill, campaign on micro finance Bill, Technical flexibility study for Sopna, SHG capacity building, state women health workshop and state SHG federation workshop.

## **9. Puducherry**

Samata, Puducherry have its EC of 35 members who meets 6 time in 1 year. After the last EC it met 12 times. They approached to 57 villages by 263 SHGs and 4522 women associated with SHG. 10 full timers and 57 part timers are working in Samata. Now the SHG has 98.81 lakhs of total savings. Apart from SHG, samata initiated a community health program in 9 villages in Bahour Corrune in last two years, but could not pursue due to lack of resources. Under the SDTT program 25 villages have been taken up samata is also looking at non communicable diseases of women age above 35 years and relate them to the national levels of women. The health volunteers will be trained for this. So many enterprises training program was also organized by Samata with the help of CERD.

## **10. Rajasthan**

Rajasthan Samata has shown some progress in last three years. They tried to involve the women in agitational as well as educational process. Women from the minority and tribal communities have also been involved in their process. To upgrade the skills of Muslim women on Handicraft, they started a very planed program by giving training to these women from Rangсутra, Delhi. In the name of HUNAR, they are getting orders and as such economic status of women involved is developing.

They tried to take support with other institutes like ISI, New Delhi, UNFEA, UNICEF, State Women Commission on education health and Panchayati Raj etc. They have helped the women in implementing the domestic violence and protection act 2005 and other issues also.

They have been actively involved with the womens movements in the state and have taken up issues collectively time to time. It is a member of the Mahila Salaha and Suraksha Kendra- a women counselling centre set up in the Mahila Thana in colloboration with

womens organizations and Rajasthan Police. This has increased the scope of dealing with women atrocity cases with the police.

### **11. Tripura**

Tripura BGVS could consolidate the women force under its banner by expecting women empowerment program through SHG movement. They had a direct link with 17735 SHG groups which have either been formed by BGVS activists or by Preraks of ZSS. No credit may be extended to the functionaries of either RD Department or the panchayat Department at the initial stage or setting SHG in the whole of the state. These groups are still monitored by Preraks or BGVS activists. BGVS Tripura also conducted training program to the leaders of SHGs on technical production and marketing. With such skilled technical groups the organization conducted two studies .One on socio economic status of some SHGs in west Tripura and another on the marketing of the products produced by these. These two studies were sponsored by DRDA, West Tripura. Afer the last GC.BGVS Tripura organized a state level Vidyasagar mela in Dhmnagar District ,8 workshop of SHG leaders and members in which 442 women participated .A state level samata workshop was organized followed by 4 districts and 8 Blocks level workshops. Around 350 women got an opportunity to participate .But lack of a Samata subcommittee at the state & district levels is a major problem in Tripura.

### **12. Uttar Pradesh**

The UP Samta group has been very active in mobilizing women at the grassroot level. They have 221 SHGs and a federation in Raibralli district. They have also taken up production on Anwala mouth freshner, which is of very good quality and is in great demand. They have conducted many vocational trainings with the AMU among muslim women. The samta group publishes an annual document UMMEED on the occasion on International Women day.They have worked amongst muslim and dalit women.

### **13.Uttrakhand**

They tried to form strong women's group from cluster level to states level. Three days national workshop on SHG was organized followed by District level SHG workshops formation of SHG federation in all 7 District is in the process .A Good leadership is required at the state level which can support to districts and initiates the program up to the Panchayat level specific to Uttrakhand women's issues. Now they have 82 SHGs, 12 Samata groups, 10 Kisan Manch. More direction is needed for these groups.

### **Challenges**

8. To develop women leadership at all the level.
9. Mobilizing women through SHG's is easy but support and co-ordination is yet to develop and have to work out.
10. To make micro enterprises as a means of women empowerment in all aspects.
11. Providing proper technology support according to the need of each and every micro enterprise.
12. To work out marketing strategies for micro enterprises.

13. The culture of NGOlisation affects our group for the grass root level and the communal forces are also 4 problems for us. To strengthen the SAMATA leadership ideologically is to be planned

*Friends, we are many in Villages, Panchayats, and also in Districts, but a little in states and finally no time for national. Who will give the leadership to those thousands of women involved in SHG and other programmes, It's a real challenge for us for the coming years.*

**Annexure - 1**

**SAMATA OVER ALL**

S. No	State	Total RP Training	Total Vocational/ Entrepreneur Training	Total Participants	Samata Vachananlya	Total Samata Shops	Total SHG	Dist wise
1	Assam	8	9	1050	-	26	3124	Proches Federat
2	Bihar	22	15	1225	56	5	3305	AWAR MASKA SAMBA Sakhi M SAMM
3	Chhattisgarh	2	-	86	16	20	620	
4	Haryana	5	4	348	14		14	
5	Himachal Pradesh	5	6	580	2663	2	3000	MASHA
6	Jharkhand	16	8	1048	-	-	-	

7	Karnataka	2	10	656	12		307	Belur –
8	Madhya Pradesh	14	12	1907	22	12	1118	<b>AWAZ Priyada Chindwa Samrid Bhind</b>
9	Maharashtra	2	6	306	10	-	65	<b>SAMAT</b>
10	Orissa	4	17	768	-	2	1498	<b>SAPNA Jagatsin Jharsugu SAMAT</b>
11	Pondicherry	20	45	2745	-	30	-	<b>SAMAN</b>
12	Punjab	1	1	72	-	-	-	
13	Rajasthan	12	16	888	39	2	162	Baran in
14	Tamil Nadu	45	75	5184	4	-	5500	<b>MALAI</b>
15	Tripura	5	29	2329	50	22	2700	

16	Uttarakhand	9	1	611	-	-	116	Pithora Chamol
17	Uttar Pradesh	14	30	1840	70	13	221	ASTHA MUMT SAKAR Sarigar
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>186</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>21643</b>	<b>2956</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>21750</b>	

## Continuing Education

The “Continuing Education” in literacy is a social engineering process having multifaceted dimensions of continuing the educational process having its components in literacy, skill training, awareness build up, information dissemination, cultural wake up etc. It is a polyvalent programme of education, which can be implemented, only with the participation of all type of social organizations and institutions including local self-governments and peoples’ movements. It is a total societal education in which people of all walks of life can take active part and derive benefits but, the neo-literates, socially and economically deprived classes and women being at the central part.

In the beginning SDTT project, in two and a half years we have given 88 Resource Persons trainings and done around 266 CE trainings and HRD in 375 panchayats out of 456 of 96 districts of 16 states and in these 375 panchayats we have formed around 268 libraries. We have trained all total 18, 871 peoples in these trainings and trained them to take up any responsibility and work for their block/panchayat/districts.

We have also trained around 578 sanyojaks and sanyojik (RP) for CE in 100 panchayats of 13 states from year 2005 September till 2006 October.

While working in Continuing Education for around two and a half years before Convergence of Samata and Continuing Education in year 2006, we had given main attention and stress on to following activities that we realize necessary for the functioning of the CE. We have linked CE with other activities like Health, Women activities, involvement of village people in the local level of mainstreaming, started libraries for our readers, **Introduced** Wall Newspaper, and forming Charcha Mandal.

### Convergence of CE and Samata

The idea behind convergence in BGVS was the Integration of efforts; Focusing of various activities in a specified geographical area- the Gram Panchyat and Formation of 8 resource group of which 50% were women with definite skills and a shared vision in each

gramapanchayat. As, we were engaged in samata- women empowerment, SHG. Women's health, Balmanch, literacy, continuing education, skill development, vocational training, right to work, right to information, right to food, ICDS, early child care, midday meals, primary education, GVV, watershed based development etc. etc. All these took place in the one and the same community. Unless there is a group of people with in the community who are knowledgeable about these and who can learn continuously and knit all those activities together in to one developmental whole much of our efforts will be of no use.

The convergence which we can speak as a **Citizen Education Programme for Democracy**. Which aims at making the 'gramsabhas', the critical location for direct democracy, effective and capable of directing the panchayat's activities. All these are elements of a larger vision- to build a truly democratic and egalitarian society. Those who participate in this programme should develop within themselves this larger vision.

We have successfully completed 323 first round trainings in 16 states and also completed 173 of second rounds of training of six days each, the details is given in the annexure.

The Objectives behind this convergence training was to equip and install a group of social activists in a continuous area with certain level of awareness and understanding. To develop a group of activists who have faith and concern about their surroundings especially in the community. To develop a group of activists who have faith in collectivism. To develop confidence to the activists for understanding the surroundings and realizes the social issues and its causes and to priorities the area of interventions by understanding the scope and limitations and develop strategies by taking into consideration the objective realities. To motivate the participants to take the challenge of continuous learning through self-learning, collective learning and experiential learning. To develop the skill of transaction or communication by understanding the context, need and the level of the participants.

Participatory approach was adopted through out the training. We have tried to avoid "Bhasans" which will ultimately function as hindrance to any kind of learning. We had to unlearn many things that we had undergone and what we have practicing now as a part of the learning process.

In this training we used different types of methodologies, to make this training effective, easiest and interesting. Discussion, Dialogues, debates, short lectures were also used in the training. Audio, video shows role-plays simulations, field visits and games and songs helped very much to make the training interesting. Through these methodologies the targeted people got different kinds of exposure.

Keeping the concept and objectives in mind, the training was designed to cover the contents one the nation wide schemes like NREGA, ICDS, Mid Day Meals, NRHM, PDS, Right to Information Act. Secondly to enreach and strengthen our activities like SHG, CE, Health Programs, Panchayati Raj. Thirdly to make the people understand on our surroundings, BGVS, Samata and other social movements. Finally made some structures and programs for the follow up and continuities. Balmanch, Kissan Manch, Youva manch, Wall Newspaper, Local History, Library as Charcha Mandal and information centre were formed and planned as a follow up programs and now are taking various issues in most of the states.

A good manual in Hindi and in Ahamiya, Oriya, Bengali and Telugu was also prepared and used in trainings. The manual was brought out in a process. In the first three Months the draft form of the manual used in trainings got feed back and get printed. Like the concept of **convergence** all the efforts made for the training was also with the same concept. Like every preparation for this training was a group efforts. Friends from states and all the National leaders contributed as resource persons and preparing the manuals and also conceiving the whole concept. We also used so many supplementary materials like primers on NREGA, ICDS, Mid Day Meals, NRHM, RTI and Literacy and Social Security.

We tried to understand the social, Economical and Cultural aspects of the people who have been taken training for 6 Days by using a format during the training period. The overall analysis of the training was we covered 1673 Panachayats in 127Districts of 16 states. In the training around 55% were women, more than 10 % were from SC, ST and Minorities of each. Around 30% are from the backward classes. The economic background says that 42 % are from Agricultural farmer and only 2% are from service sectors. 15% participants are from below 10<sup>th</sup> class and only 2 % are post graduate. Amongst the participants 49% are newer to the organization only of 2 years back. The details is given in annexure

**Yes, there were some weaknesses of this training;**

- Lack of coordination in District and State organization
- Lack of investments in the technical group from the state as well as National
- No proper guidance to the Panchayat resource person for the follow up program
- Need to develop the expertise of the resource person

**Our strength .....**

- Most of the states are taking actions for the Mid Day meals, NREGA and Aganwadi Kendra
- Organizing social audit for NREGA
- Formation of different Manch and their participation for the action
- Library, Charcha Mandal and Wall newspaper in maximum states
- Demand for school and GVV

The **possibilities** for the organization and the people what we observed during this training is there is a chance of **Expanding** this training in the neighbouring Panchayats, **Pressuring** the Government for the implementation of the different schemes, **Emergence** of a active sensitive and committed group in maximum Panchayats, **Enrichment** of BGVS programs in Panchayats, **Struggle** for the local issues, **Live and Constructive** support to the local self Government.

**Friends, strength is there in all 1673 Pnachayats and possibilities are many so we have to search our ways to reach 50,000 Panchayats of the country in the coming years for a peaceful and equitable society. And we will definitely do**

## **Social, Educational, Economic Background of the participants**

### **EDUCATIONAL**

Masters (MA)	1.57%
BA	6.81%
Inter	12.09%
10th	14.35%
8 <sup>th</sup>	7.42%
5th	8.23%

### **SOCIAL**

SC	14.43%
ST	8.04%
OBC	20.84%
GE	8.92%

Muslim	1.57%
Christian	0.037%

**ECONOMIC**

PRI	1.75%
Teachers	2.23%
ICDS	1.70%
ASHA	1.00%
SHG	9.22%
CE	1.43%
Students	9.40%
Farmers	18.02%
Labours	6.09%
Business	1.88%

**ASSOCIATION WITH BGVS**

1900-1995	3.69%
1995-2000	4.57%
2000-2005	5.29%
2005-Till now	49%

**Annexure - 2**

**CE - Samata Convergence Training**

Sl. No	Name of the State	No of district	No of blocks	No of clusters	No of G.P.'s	No. of Participants		
						M	F	
1	Andhra Pradesh	6	8	19	101	895	475	420
2	Assam	17	23	35	175	1372	522	850
3	Bihar	18	31	35	177	2745	1371	1374
4	Haryana	1	1	1	4	32	16	16

5	Himachal Pradesh	8	17	17	84	602	311	291
6	Jharkhand	9	24	35	178	1600	700	900
7	Karnataka	9	10	10	46	512	187	262
8	Madhya Pradesh	8	20	37	185	1629	892	737
9	Maharashtra	5	6	7	30	294	154	140
10	Orissa	13	22	31	172	1160	498	662
11	Puducherry	1	2	5	25	210	83	127
12	Punjab	5	5	10	50	500	-	-
13	Rajasthan	7	7	11	54	529	319	210
14	Tripura	4	20	26	169	1528	628	900
15	Uttarakhand	7	10	11	55	519	197	322
16	Uttar Pradesh	9	20	33	168	1725	789	823
	Total	127	226	323	1673	15,852	7142	8034

## Kalajatha

We are living in an era of extreme divides. Some say that there has never been a period in the history of humankind when so much of wealth is available. But on the other hand others rush to add that there has never been a period in the history when the inequality levels have been so high and visible. Apart from economic divides there are innumerable types of socio, cultural and information/ knowledge divides clamoring around us. Even some of the divides that we were trying to mitigate through years of struggle and suffering are coming back with a vengeance. The caste and religious divides are wearing new masks and taking new shapes. The gulf between the village and the city is increasing day by day in the context of the imperialist, neo-liberal socio-economic policies being pushed by the capitalist world in partnership with Indian ruling elites. Education, Gender, Culture...take any field, we are stunned by the kinds of walls and divides that are becoming taller, thicker and stronger day by day. What do we do in such a situation? Do we remain as dumb, helpless onlookers? Or do we empower ourselves at any cost to expose and resist these divides and its perpetrators?

It is in this context of ever increasing socio, economic, cultural divides that are perpetuating in our country and the rest of the world that the BGVS has decided to organize a nation

wide Janadhikar Kalajatha during October – November 2007. Janadhikar Kalajatha is meant to expose the divides in our society and policies that allow perpetuation of such divides. This time we did not organized national workshop, the state independently prepared the Jan Adhikar Kalajatha was organized in 21 states of India simultaneously by respective state teams. These teams together have performed at more than 2000 points most of it was at village and block levels. A whole range of street plays, dance dramas, songs and theatrical performances has been prepared for this purpose. We also intend to use this opportunity to release and propagate a whole series of interesting books on varied topics, which would initiate and inculcate a new culture of reading that would form the basis for people’s resistance against the deplorable divides.

We developed the script and songs by conducting state level script writing & production workshop. Around 6-7 plays and 10-15 songs prepared during this Jan Adhikar Kalajatha. We could reach in 350 Districts covering around 3500 points in 21 States of the country. Around 150000 people of different communities from theunapproachable areas of the country could be approached though this Jatha. The most remarkable thing was, we could run Jatha in North East states like Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh & Gujrat. After Jatha we formed Adhoc Committees of the organization in thosestates to initiate the process of forming the organization. The Jatha was moved in areas of the state where we have done the convergence training programs. So instead of moving in the District place, the Jatha moved in Panchayats & Blocks which was another new important thing of this Jatha. Thirdly Jatha was targeted to take the Book selling process during the performance, that was the reason we had given books to states, but many states except Bihar, Haryana, Assam & Uttarakhand could not sale books in that way. This has to be taken in priorities by the state units.

## Annexure - 1

### BGVS JANADHIKAR KALAJATHA Details on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2008

S. No	Name of state	No. of Dist.	No. of block	No. of GPs	No. of jathas	No. of Artists			Starting TDate	Culmination date	Total Point	Approx. No. of Audience
						M	F					
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	-	240	4	50	10	60	15/12	7.01.08	240	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	13	40	1	6	4	10	19/11	5.12.07	40	80000
3.	Assam	8	18	102	1	8	8	16	7/11	6.12.07	98	100000
4.	Bihar	28	73	98	2	23	16	39	22/11	10.12.07	117	100000
5.	Gujarat	7	-	40	1					18.03. 2008	40	
6.	Haryana	18	-	-	2	35	35	70	14/11	2.12.07	105	80000
7.	Himachal Pradesh											
8.	Jharkhand	18	101	126	3	41	21	62	27/12	11-12-07	126	80000
9.	Karnataka	21	-	-	6	78	12	90	14-22/12	6.01.08	200	100000
10.	Kerala	14	-	-	6	-	-	125	-	-	360	-

11.	Manipur	9	-	-	1	20	-	20	14/11	8.12.07	40	150000
12.	Madhya Pradesh	27	70	-	2	18	4	22	20/11	20.12.07	130	100000
13.	Maharashtra	14	-	38	1	18	6	24	24/11	8.12.07	38	24000
14.	Orissa	29	120	120	2	24	09	33	18/12	10.12.07	122	73000
15.	Pudicherry	2	5	38	1	11	4	15	23/11	6.12.07	50	12500
16.	Punjab	20	-	-	3	35	10	45	22/12	26.01.08	200	80000
17.	Rajasthan	10	17	100	2	23	7	30	14/11	10.12.07	130	50000
18.	Tamil Nadu	29	90	103	3	31	14	45	24/11	5.12.07	103	100000
19.	Tripura	4	207	110	3	27	5	32	14/11	11.12.07	51	63000
20.	Uttar Pradesh	26	-	120	2	23	5	28	24/11	16.12.07	120	60000
21.	Uttrakhand	11	-	-	1	11	4	15	11/11	10.12.07	82	85000
		<b>305</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>1235</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>781</b>			<b>2352</b>	<b>1337500</b>

## Jan Vachan Andolan

BGVS launched the Jan vachan Programme to make good quality reading material at affordable prices to the millions of new readers who have emerged out of the Nation Wide Literacy campaigns of the 1990s. A number of eminent writers in different languages came forward to provide whole hearted support to the programme. Apart from producing interesting books for the new readers (children as well as adults) it also devised several programmes to generate reading culture in the villages.

The Jan Vachan Programme which was initiated during the late 90s as part of the NLM Project was continued later with the support of the SDTT Project. Till date More than 350 titles have been published.

While books in Hindi were published directly by the National centre, many BGVSstate units took up the publication of JVA titles in their respective regional languages. Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Pondicherry, tamil nadu, Orissa and maharstra participated in the JVA publication programme.

There was considerable progress in Jan vachan publishing during the past two years. Around 200 new titles were published in the past two years. Around 200 titles have been reprinted also. A detailed catalogue of books published so far has also been brought out recently. We were able to improve the production quality of the JVA titles considerably during the past few years.

The BGVS National Centre as well as state units undertook several programmes to boost the sales of Jan vachan publications. Our stall at the World Book fair has been attracting several thousands of people. A number of Zilla Saksharatha Samithis , voluntary agencies and so on have been regularly purchasing the JVA books. However, we have not been able to reach out to various agencies like the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan sufficiently. An urgent programme has to be drawn up by each and every state unit of the BGVS to sell more books.

Innovative book propagation campaigns will have to be initiated. Each state should train several volunteers to lead such campaigns. Book sales should become an integral part of our day to day work. If we are able to work systematically, the JVA programme can be made financially viable and self sufficient.

Without the committed hard work of several people and whole hearted cooperation from large number of writers, illustrators and translators JVA could not have achieved such progress. Mr. Thaposh chakraborty who conceived and edited more than 100 titles, smt. Anshumala Guptha who edited, translated and wrote many books, Sri. Aravind Guptha who has been a source of great strength to The JVA programme since its inception, Abhay Jha and Jagmohan who worked hard to meet dead lines , all staff members of the BGVS national Centre who supported the JVA programme with great commitment, Godfrey Das and his colleagues who helped us to produce quality covers and designs owe our sincere gratitude. We also use to thank all our authors, translators and illustrators.

## **Activist Exchange Programme**

BGVS National Executive Committee decided to have an important activity as part of the mass mobilization programme. It is an Activist Exchange programme which would help a good number of BGVS activists to visit other state. In the initial round Kerala, Tamilnadu, Himanchal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar and Assam were the hosts and other state were guests. The state identified for the host state, who have good organisational work The host state also have sent their activist to other states. The duration of visit was tentatively one week including travel time.

The local hospitality provided by the host organisation states. The BGVS national centre undertook the coordination of the exchange programme.

The objective of the programme was for sharing and learning from each other, understanding the Social, economic and political situation of the states. To understand how society evolve up to this level and lastly understanding the organisation  
The participants visited the states and learned so many things like organization, other supplementary activities, etc.

The details of the programme is given in Annexure

### **Lessons from this programme...**

- Almost the second level leadership participated of which 40% are women
- Each participants were maintaining daily diary .So we could able to get reports from each participants
- They tried to analyze and compare the political social cultural situation of their states with the host states

- This programme strengthened them to work in their states and they are trying to implement.
- The experiences say that this programme should be in a continuous process.

Annexure - 1

## Activists Exchange Programme's Details

Host States	Guest States	M	F	No of Participants Children	Total
<b>BIHAR</b>	Himachal Pradesh	6	5	-	11
	Puducherry	3	3	-	6
	Tamil Nadu	3	3	-	6
	Rajasthan	6	5	-	11
	Punjab	5	4	-	9
	Orissa	3	3	-	6
	Kerala	8	4	-	12
	Andhra Pradesh	6	6	-	12
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>JHARKHAND</b>	Arunachal Pradesh	0	2	-	2
	Assam	2	2	1	5
	Haryana	5	4	-	9
	Maharastra	5	-	-	5
	Kerela	13	9	2	24
	Tamil Nadu	5	1	-	6
	Puducherry	3	3	-	6
	Orissa	3	4	-	7
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>ASSAM</b>	Kerala	8	2	-	10
	Puducherry	3	2	-	5
	Tamil Nadu	4	1	-	5
	Uttrakhand	3	3	-	6
	Uttar Pradesh	4	2	-	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32</b>	

	Madhya Pradesh	7	6	-	13
	Assam	2	2	-	4
<b>TAMIL NADU</b>	Bihar	6	3	-	9
	Orissa	3	3	-	6
	Tripura	2	3	-	5
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37</b>

Host States	Guest States	No of Participants			Total
		M	F	Children	
	Assam & Manipur	9	9	-	18
	Bihar	17	8	-	25
	Jharkhand	13	10	-	23
	Haryana	6	6	1	13
	Tripura	3	2	-	5
	Orissa	7	5	-	12
<b>KERALA</b>	Madhya Pradesh	13	7	-	20
	Rajasthan	7	4	-	11
	Punjab	9	-	-	9
	Uttarakhand	6	6	-	12
	U P	11	10	-	21
	Himachal Pradesh	27	9	-	36
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>205</b>
	Kerala	13	11	-	24
	Tamil Nadu	10	2	-	12
	Puducheery	3	3	-	6
	Jharkhand	9	7	-	16
	Uttar Pradesh	8	7	-	15
<b>HIMACHAL PRADESH</b>	Maharashtra	4	2	-	6
	Madhya Pradesh	13	9	-	22
	Gujarat	4	3	-	7
	Rajasthan	4	2	-	6
	Bihar	13	12	-	25
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>139</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>550</b>

# Projects and Programmes-State wise

*According to organizational strength and reach, the state units of BGVS are engaged in different projects and outreach activities. Although a lot of activities are being undertaken at state levels but these activities generally go unreported because of lack of documentation at the implementation stage. We have been able to compile major events, activities and programmes of different states based on the reports received from each state unit.*

## 1. Andhra Pradesh

Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samithi, AP initiated kalajathas, published primers, imparted trainings, organized activists camps, motivated both volunteers and non-literates in a very big way. When the neo-literate women demanded ban on Arrak, BGVS stood with them, faced repression and tried to spread this movement all over the state. Its core activities are focused on literacy and education. It has prepared more than 100 graded books for neo-literates and children. Conducting studies on health status and education on health issues are the regular activities of BGVS. Samata sub-committee of BGVS has been mobilizing women against repression and inequality. Now BGVS, AP has committees in all the 23 districts. It has organizational set up in **572** blocks with 264 panchayats and 518 villages with a membership of around 34500.

## 2. Assam

GVS Assam organized NEAC Programme, RGF Library, Sanitary Mart, Children Science Festival and 11<sup>th</sup> AIPSC as some of its major activities during 2004-2008.

- **NEAC Programme:** It is an environmental project sponsored by Ministry of Forest and Environment, Govt. of India, being implemented in the State since 1986. GVS Assam has collected sufficient information and data on the climatic change and its impact on the micro climate and the environment.
- **11<sup>th</sup> AIPSC:** It was jointly hosted by Assam Science Society and GVS Assam at Sankardev Kalakhetra – Shilpagram in Guwahati on Feb. 5-9, 2006. In this Congress a galaxy of participants from all walks of life and all state BGVS units participated. Various issues of scientific, social, environmental, woman and child awareness, rural health, national and international importance were debated and followed by a resolution to create ‘A BRAVE NEW WORLD’.
- **Rajiv Gandhi Foundation Library:** 20 libraries under RGFL project have been able to lay the foundation for the establishment of a literary society in different parts of rural Assam, which has received an enthusiastic response from the people. Consequently, RGFL has willingly offered to set up new libraries in rural areas.
- **Children Science Festival (CSF):** For last 5 years GVS Assam has been holding Annual National level CSF. Tripura and few other NE States are sending participating in this festival.
- **Sanitary Mart:** GVS Assam has established 3 Sanitary Mart under a project of State Health Department and UNICEF. These marts are located in Moirabari, Jorhat and Chandrapur for health and sanitation awareness.
- **Pre-school Teachers Training:** Apart from GVV Schools, GVS Assam has been organizing pre school teachers training programmes out of its own resources.

- **A Public Hearing on Health:** GVS Assam has been coordinating the Jan Swasthaya Abhyan (JSA), which is a network of organizations working for health rights. A public hearing on health was organized with the help of National Human Rights Commission.
- **Production –cum- Training Centre:** In 2006, a production cum training centre for handloom was established for empowerment of woman self help groups through manufacture and sale of goods at “Shilpagram”.
- **Book Reading Competition:** 10 years back GVS Assam has started a programme “Kitab Parhar Pratijogita” meaning book reading competition. Since then it has become regular feature for World Book Day celebration.
- **Gyan Vigyan Barta:** It is a neo-literate newsletter started in 1990. Since then it is in circulation uninterruptedly. *Perhaps it is longest surviving neo-literate newsletter in the country.* Few years back NLM rated this newspaper as best in its category both from content and presentation point of view.

### 3. Bihar

District agricultural plan, National Programme for Education of Girl Child Elementary Level, Health Programme etc. are some of the highlights of activities undertaken by BGVS, Bihar.

- **District Agricultural Plan :** Under Planning Commission, Govt. of India, District Agricultural Planning Programme BGVS, Bihar has been involved in making District Plans of five Backward Region Grant Fund (BRGF) Districts, namely; Rohtas, Kaimur, Shaharsa, Madhepura, and Begausari, since January 2008. Vision documents for these districts have been completed and panchayat vision document preparation and panchayat plan preparation work is in progress in 44 blocks of these districts.
- **National Programme for Education of Girl Child Elementary Level** (From January 2006 to June 2006): This programme was launched w.e.f. Jan 2006 to June 2006 in a Kalajatha mood in those areas of Purnia, Katihar, Arariya, Kishanganj where female literacy is unprecedentedly and alarmingly low. 28 kalajathas were organized to builtup an environment for female education.
- **Health programme:** An AID India Aided Programme, it has been very successfully launched in 7 districts to spread the message of better health for child and mother with an aim to eradicate malnutrition.

### 4. Haryana

Besides undertaking various science related activities for child and woman development, the BGVS Haryana has been specifically active in organizing Gyan Vigyan Vidyalaya (Jivan shala) and social awareness programmes during 2004-2008.

- **Jeevanshala/Gyan Vigyan Vidyalaya :** BGVS is running five Jeevanshala/ Gyan Vigyan Vidyalayas in which more than 150 children are studying. About 150 have already passed primary and upper primary and now are studying in higher classes. These are children from deprived sections of the society. This is a community based activity run entirely on donations in cash or in kind which BGVS have happily collected to the tune of rupees 10 lakh.
- **Social Awareness Programmes:** BGVS is trying to raise issues related to social, economic, cultural, health and woman welfare as well as woman empowerment by enacting street plays, nukar natak and folk songs.

## 5. Himachal Pradesh

In Himachal Pradesh from 2004-2008 BGVS was actively involved in many projects and campaigns. However, Year of Scientific Awareness, Pustak Dastak Abhiyan, Beti Bachao Abhiyan and Kheti Bachao Abhiyan have been our star attractions in Himachal Pradesh.

- **Year of Scientific Awareness (YSA)-2004:** BGVS implemented the Project on “**Year of Scientific Awareness-2004**” with the help of Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India. This programme was aimed to inculcate scientific temper among society and spread scientific awareness among masses. This project was implemented in 11 districts, 55 blocks and more than 750 panchayats with a reach to more than 3 lakh people.
- **Pustak Dastak Abhiyan:** HGVS has launched regular yearly campaign under Jan Vachan Andolan (JVA) as “**Pustak Dastak Abhiyan**”. This campaign created reading and learning environment in society through books which had practical utility in the day to day life and livelihood.
- **Beti Bachao Abhiyan (Save the Girl Child Campaign):** Intensive campaign was launched against Female Foeticide as “**Beti Bachao Abhiyan**” involving more than 28 organizations. This campaign involved educational as well as agitational mode. *This campaign has been able to sensitize the Deptt. As a result, it has been conducting regular raids on ultra sound clinics and licenses of a number of such clinics flouting the statutory provisions of law are being dealt with sternly.*
- **Kheti Bachao Abhiyan:** Aggressive campaign was initiated to highlight the issue of ‘**Human-wild animal conflict**’ under the banner of “**Kheti Bachao Abhiyan**”. This involved three years intensive campaign resulting in state wide protests organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2006 in 49 blocks as one day action throughout the state. A State level protest rally was also held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2007 at Vidhan Sabha, Shimla. This whole process helped in building pressure on the State Govt. Realizing the gravity of the problem, different political parties had to include this issue in their manifestos during assembly elections of 2008. Present government has agreed to address the demands of farmers and they have written to central government to lift ban on export of monkeys and they have also agreed to include watch and ward of crops under NREGA.
- **Continuing Education Programme (CEP):** ‘**State level Demand Rally on Continuing Education Programme**’ on 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2005 and Advocacy campaign for launching CEP in the state. The HGVS had been playing proactive role by constantly pursuing the matter regarding implementation of CE programme in the entire state. Due to these efforts, the state government had decided in November, 2002 to implement the programme in the State. However, the successive government deferred the matter despite the fact that the then Chief Minister had declared on ILD 2005 that CEP would be launched in the state shortly. With the change of the Govt., the President, HGVS and a delegation again met the Chief Minister. It was on the occasion of State Level Convention organised on completion of 2 decades of NLM on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2008, presided over by the Chief Minister, HP that he made clear that the CE programme or adult literacy programme sponsored by GOI would be implemented by his government at the earliest.

## 6. Jharkhand

Jan Swasthaya Abhyan, World Social Forum, Right to Food Campaign are some of BGVS Jharkhand's major activities.

- **Jan Swasthaya Abhyan (JSA):** BGVS Jharkhand has been coordinating the Jan Swasthaya Abhyan (JSA) in Jharkhand which is a network of organizations working for health rights. A public hearing on health was organized with the aid of National Human Rights Commission.
- **World Social Forum:** BGVS Jharkhand has also been coordinating the World Social Forum at the state level. Several seminars were organized in various districts on "*The effect of globalization on Jharkhand*"
- **Right to Food Campaign:** BGVS has been an active partner in Right to Food Campaign in state from very beginning. It organized seminars on People's Right and Supreme Court judgment in Dhanbad, Palamu, Koderma, Dumka, and Latehar.
- **NREGA :** BGVS has also created awareness about NREGA through kalajatha and has conducted social audit of the implementation of the scheme.

## 7.Karnantaka

- **Education Festival:** This is an annual event of two days involving nearly 1000 teachers organized by BGVS Karnataka. Funds are mobilized from the local units. For the last two years, SSA is also supporting it financially.
- **Vidyankura:** This is continued from NIAS. New proposal was submitted by BGVS to SRTT and 1.25 crore rupees has been sanctioned for 3 years. This is in operation in the district of Chamarajanagar where 16 full timers are working as teachers.
- **Manual for VHSC.** Dept. of Health and Family Welfare has entrusted the tasks of preparing manuals for village health and sanitation committees to BGVS. It is active in Jana Swasthya Abhiyan in the state. Two joint conveners are there in the state group. As a result of this one district Community Monitoring programme under NRHM has also been entrusted given to BGVS.
- **Teacher magazine:** State unit is continuously publishing monthly educational journal called TEACHER. Its current circulation is around 3000 and there is a plan to increase it to 5000. This programme has the financial sanction and support of SRTI.

## 8.Kerela

Major activities taken up by KSSP this year include, campaign on education, public health, environment and gender issues. Policy studies are considered very important in KSSP circles and so, it is striving hard to influence government policies through researches and studies, having a people orientation. Award winning has been the habit of KSSP due to the recognition to its social commitments. The Right Livelihood Award, The King Gzeon Award from UNESCO, Indira Paryavaran Award and Global 500 Award speak high of KSSP standing in social circles. Going by various activities for the last three years KSSP has opened following new vistas like Kerala studies, Yuva Sangaman, Curriculum development and related debates, Gender studies, Organizational restructuring.

- **Kerala studies:** KSSP discusses the understandings of the general public on various developmental, political and cultural dilemmas, providing sufficient database. It establishes the emerging social patterns, the increasing gulf between the rich and poor social strata, the peculiar type of gender approaches etc. Analysis of this study has

been usually quoted because of its authenticity and this study has aroused interest for further micro studies.

- **Yuva Sangamam:** This is a programme to infuse more youths in the activities of KSSP. It is designed as an independent forum for debating social issues, especially those having a bearing on youths. Experiences for the last three years prove that the out turn is substantial.
- **Curriculum development and related debates:** KSSP has been involved in a big way in developing the new school curriculum, syllabus and text books in Kerala and this involvement has been a matter of criticism in various forums including the media. KSSP could make it a point of wide discussion, creating greater awareness in the society in related matters. It is still going on in a big way.
- **Gender studies:** As stated above, KSSP has designed a detailed sample study on gender issues to have a better understanding on 'How the Kerala women think and live'; and data base evaluation is in progress.
- **Organizational restructuring:** This programme has been designed to make defunct and sick units functional.

## 9. Madhya Pradesh

Anti globalization campaign, advocacy on women legal rights, women health needs, rural health issues and NRHM are major thrusts of BGVS Madhya Pradesh during 2004-08.

- **Anti Globalization Campaign:** BGVS, MP organized one state level social forum at Bhopal, and three Regional social forums in Gwalior, Indore and Jabalpur were organized as part of anti globalization activities.
- **Advocacy on minority women's legal rights:** Samata is trying to address the minority women's issues. In 2005 and 2006 activists participated in many workshops, conferences and talks based on model Nikahnama. BGVS is mobilizing women from minority and marginalized disadvantaged groups in slums of Bhopal.
- **Massive campaign against Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR):** BGVS, MP conducted a massive campaign with the support of UNICEF in five districts viz. Gwalior, Morena, Shivpuri, Bhind and Shyopur with effect from July 2006 to Dec 2006 to create awareness about alarming rate of MMR.
- **National Peoples Health Assembly-NHA-2:** The Second National People's Health Assembly of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan was organized in Bhopal with effect from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Mar 07. The assembly was focused upon "Defending people's health in the era of globalization" theme.
- **People's Rural Health Watch:** The National Rural Health Mission is an ambitious programme of central government for improving primary health care. The Jan Swasthya Abhiyan participated at grass root implementations through People's Rural Health Watch. Under this process, BGVS-MP had surveyed 10 districts during 2006-07.
- **Community Monitoring of NRHM:** BGVS-MP is conducting the community monitoring process in Bhind district. Under this process monitoring of implementation of NRHM at three blocks, nine primary health centers and forty-five villages is in progress.

## 10. Maharashtra

Maharashtra BGVS has been conducting slide shows, campaigns, and seminars on Health, Education, and Agriculture.

A state wide campaign was conducted on the Right to Education Bill 2005. To initiate the campaign, a state level workshop was conducted in collaboration with like minded organizations, in which 120 delegates from 18 districts participated. In the end of the workshop a committee **Maharashtra Rajya Shikshan Hakka Samiti** (Committee for Right to Education, Maharashtra) was formed under the leadership of Dr. N.D. Patil and BGVS President Dr. Hemu Adhikari. A book "Education for All Not Dream but a Right" was also published. Thereafter an Education Assembly was organized in Bombay in Nov 2005 in which 700 activists participated. To further press the demand, a dharna was organized in March 2006 with an active participation of eminent scientists, film makers and BGVS activists. Furthermore, the Bombay group took out a rally of 200 persons on 15 Aug 2007 to spread the message of the Education For All.

The state health organization has made a solemn pledge to bring woman under Anti Anemia Umbrella; and in a campaign in which 8000 woman participated, the BGVS Maharashtra organized 100 slide shows on Anemia; and on the spot counseling and check up by medical experts was arranged to anemic and malnutrition women.

A National level seminar was organized in collaboration with ICSSR on the crisis in Agriculture. Around 80 members from 16 states participated in this seminar. Eminent scientists working on Agriculture also participated in this seminar.

## **11.Orissa**

BGVS Orissa has been involved in Jan Swastha Jagran, Literacy and women empowerment, Signature Campaign on Human Rights Day, SOPNA Society for Punah Nirman Ashiyan and State Campaign on Right to Education Bill activities during 2004-08.

- **Jan Swastha Jagran.** BGVS Orissa in collaboration with UNFPA/IPDP educated SHGs on reproductive and child health issues and other women related health issues.
- **Literacy and women empowerment:** The activists among women are being advised to work for spread of literacy among women by organizing women kalajathas and women preraks.
- **Signature Campaign on Human Rights Day:** Street plays were organized to get signature of people and to spreads message of health for all and education for all without sex discrimination.
- **SOPNA Society for Punah Nirman Ashiyan :** BGVS has formed a federation of the SHGs in the Jagatsinghpur district with specific aim to empower woman.
- **Watershed Project – Bhanjagar:** Watershed programme is in progress in Ganjam District, Gallery & Bramahpur GP in Bhanjanagar Block.
- **State Campaign on Right to Education Bill:** The bill was translated in Oriya and 10000 copies were printed and used in various consultations, workshops and meetings. A two day state level workshop was organised in Bhubneshwar followed by five regional and 10 district level workshops. The participants were BGVS activists, teachers, PRI members, VEC members, parents etc.

## **12.Puducherry**

Puducherry Science Forum (PSF) works on Development, Science Communication and Women's Empowerment and has the full support of two more institutional structures viz-viz the Centre for Ecology & Rural Development (CERD) and the Samam Makalir Suyasarbu Iyakkam (Samam). Major areas of policy intervention were on rational drug use and drug policy, health policies, the promotion of a scientific temper, the need for a literacy campaign, the movement for nuclear disarmament etc. In recognition of its work, the PSF was awarded the National Award for Best Organization working for Science Popularization in 1992. PSF is one of the recognized CORE (Centre Of Relevance and Excellence) Support Groups under the Science & Society Division of Department of Science & Technology, Government of India. All the development initiatives undertaken by PSF are carried out under a specific R&D centre called "**Centre for Ecology & Rural Development**" (CERD) jointly promoted by PSF and its sister organisation Tamil Nadu Science Forum.

The PSF had initiated its work with extensive science communication and science education programmes and policy advocacy and intervention in S&T related areas. The initial communication programmes included Slide Show Lectures on 'science and society' themes, teacher training on science education, publication of science books and children's science periodical, children's science festivals, and Kalajathas (Mobile Street Theatre Programmes). Currently, PSF members work to help support a network of over 80 tank users associations which reach out to over 30,000 rural households, another network of 250 self help groups which reaches out to 5000 families and a network of continuing education and supplementary school education centres that reaches out to the children of weaker sections, largely first generation learners.

CERD works in the areas of Natural Resource Management, Health and Sanitation, Micro Enterprises and Technology Development for weaker sections with specific focus on women, and the use of Information Technology for rural development, watershed development, participatory irrigation management, renewable energy etc. CERD operates in Puducherry and Tamilnadu.

### **13.Punjab**

BGVS Panjab is actively involved in Faridkot district where malnutrition and anemia are major health hazards among the rural poor and socially backward groups, particularly the rural farm women. Continuously health marches, kalajathas and nukkar plays are undertaken by the activists of BGVS Punjab under NRHM. The BGVS Punjab is promoting literacy among the rural poor under the umbrella of NLMA. The efforts of BGVS have been appreciated for the survival of girl child through campaign. Generally the cultural groups of BGVS arrange cultural shows for social causes such as "Beti Bachao", soil testing, natural manuring or organic farming, environmental protection, the "Dahej Hatao", "Istri Suraksha", "Jacha-Bachha Suraksha Abhiyan", malnutrition, health for all, right to education etc.

### **14.Rajasthan**

BGVS Rajasthan have conducted various programmes, research studies with the help of state Government and other agencies. BGVS Rajasthan has been a part of the Right to food and work campaigns. BGVS is also part of a women's collective to fight atrocities on women. It is member of the Mahila Salha aur Suraksha Kendra, a women counseling center set up in Mahila Thanas in collaboration with other women organizations and Rajasthan Police.

Some of the projects undertaken during the last four years are as follows:

- Innovative CEP in 4 districts of Rajasthan. This was supported by Sir. Rattan Tata Trust and is being implemented since 2003. Under this 40 libraries have been established.
- Technological up-gradation of the traditional artisans through improved vegetable tanning and carcass utilization. Implemented in Baran district, Shahbad block amongst the flayers supported by Department of Science and Technology
- “Diya” hope of light forwarding women: For gender equality, human rights and empowerment. Women health project for two districts supported by UNIFEM
- To demonstrate processes techniques for new oil seeds pulses, in Alwar district.
- To monitor the food security schemes amongst Sahariya tribes of Baran district.
- To prepare a “Status of Human Development in Rajasthan, Plan of intervention for Dholpur, Barmer and Jhalawar Districts”. Supported by UNDP
- Place and Role of women in Panchayati Raj in Rajasthan Study in collaboration with ISS New Delhi
- Action research cum study evolving methodology for participating in micro level planning in collaboration with Institute of Social science, New Delhi
- Study of panchayat election Study in collaboration with ISS New Delhi
- Women health and survival of Girl Child project in collaboration with Prayas and Health and family welfare
- Community monitoring of NRHM Ministry of Health.
- 5 Vocational Training of Tailoring, Embroidery, Beauty Parlour, organised in the slums of Jaipur with Jan Shikshan Sansthan.

### 15. Tamil Nadu

Tamilnadu Science Forum (TNSF) has been involved in its services to the humanity during the last 28 years. The functions of the forum have been simply shared within the five state level sub committees. They are Education, Science popularization, Samatha and Health, Development and Science publications.

- **Organisation:** TNSF has 15 strong district committees and another 5 functioning district committees. TNSF is putting all its efforts to strengthen another 5 districts. It has some contact persons in other 6 districts. It has membership of approximately 12,000 people.
- **Some works of Education sub committee:** TNSF has been networking primary school teachers in the name of Teacher’s Network. An official organ in the name of Vizhudhu has been published. This provides forum for school teachers to share their classroom experiences. It comes as a quarterly magazine. This network has a membership of 600 teachers. It has been campaigning to make the people aware of the Right to Education bill, and equitable education. Now the intervention has been turned to Universalisation of Secondary Education and Improving School ethos. Apart from this, TNSF has conducted several education conferences, workshops and seminars. These are only state level programmes and several other activities are undertaken at the district levels. TNSF had a program to link the schools with the community to bring in the community ownership. This movement covered 20 blocks in various districts.

- **Science popularization:** TNSF is state level coordinator for the nationally renowned National Children's Science Congress right from its inception in the years 1993. It has been catalyzed and supported by NCSTC Network. It has been conducting state level as well as district workshops for the Guide teachers. In the same way it has successfully conducted the district level as well as state level conferences. This provides a forum for child scientists to share their findings. It has been providing research experience for more than 5000 child scientists at the district level. The State level event of National children's Science Congress is a colorful event every year. Honorable Ex. President Dr. A.P.J .Abdul Kalam has congratulated TNSF efforts and child scientists in his address when he had been to conference in 2006.
- The **Thulir** Science Quiz is another annual event where children from various socio economic and cultural backgrounds interacts with each other. It has been conducted in almost all the districts, zones and ultimately the screened talent enters the state level contest. Along with this, a Jantar Mantar Quiz is also held for the children who have their education through English as their medium of instruction.
- **Thulir Talent Test:** For the past 5 years TNSF has been successfully conducting a state level talent test. By this way it has collected subscriptions for magazine. During the year 2007 there were more than 3000 subscribers.
- **Year of Planet Earth:** With the active support of UNIAWE it has been trying to educate little children to understand the universe and sky. TNSF has launched the NCSTC programe of Year of Planet Earth. Several rallies and seminars have been held. It has prepared future programe to move further strongly.
- **Other science popularization activities:**TNSF has planned children's science festival even at the village level with the active support of village volunteers.
- **Samatha and health:**TNSF has consolidated the women and making them empowered under the umbrella of Self Help Groups to inculcate in them the spirit of entrepreneurship.
- **Health (Arokia Iyakkam):**TNSF is forerunners for the existing successful health model to prevent infant mortality and healthy pregnancy. It has field volunteers to successfully educate the masses for the better healthy life.
- **Development:**TNSF has been trying to address the anti people developments. Some efforts related to waste land development has been carried with the active support of CERD Pondicherry. A small project has been initiated in the coastal zone recently near Kalpakkam.
- **Science Publications:** It has published 120 titles so far. More than 25 new books are ready to be printed soon. This year, there was sale of nearly Rupees 3,00,000 on the eve of World Book Day. However, annually a revenue of Rs. 12 lakhs through sale of books is generated.

## 16. Tripura

BGVS Tripura along with SRC Tripura is working widely to eradicate illiteracy from the state. BGVS is also supporting 3 ZSSs of the Tripura in starting Skill Development Training, like Tailoring, Cane and Bambo Crafts, fishery, poultry, horticulture, etc. BGVS Tripura has been instrumental in forming SGSY Self Help Groups. These are being run and monitored by the Preraks or BGVS activists. BGVS Tripura has so far conducted:

- A study on Socio Economic Status of SHG's in West Tripura district

- A study of the Marketing of the products produced by Self Help Groups in West Tripura district.
- Benchmark survey on Rural Water Supply and Sanitation programs in 6 TTAADC blocks of west Tripura District, sponsored by the District Water and Sanitation Committee, West Tripura District.

### 17.Uttar Pradesh

GVS, UP has organized a number of activities and campaigns in education and health with the following major activities.

- A campaign for the improvement of the state of Elementary Education in UP was undertaken in collaboration with other NGOs and Voluntary organizations. A Basic Shiksha Manch was formed with the help of NGOs, Educationists and academicians working in the field of Basic Education. A charter of demands was drafted and then a Signature campaign was organised.
- A Bulletin “**Guhar**” was published on behalf of parents.
- A study was conducted of election manifestoes of all the political parties to understand their views on Basic education in the state.
- A convention on qualitative education to every child was organised in which the Vidhan Sabha Speaker presided.
- Campaign for Right to Education was organised by BGVS, UP in collaboration with Teachers Union of Madhyamic, Junior Senior high school and Para teachers
- Health campaigns on Women and Child health.
- Founder member of the Peoples Health Movement in Utter Pradesh, and convener of the Jan Swasthya Abhiyan in the state.
- A Pilot project of the Government of India supported by UNDP, was also launched in Raebareli and Pithoragarh districts in 2005 till 2007
- Under Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, Northern Regional Public Hearing of 5 states was organized in Lucknow.
- **Rajeev Gandhi Foundation girl scholarship programme:** In Barabanki RGF supported Girl Scholarship programme to popularize educational skills among girl child and females.

### 18. Uttarakhand

Science popularization and communication, Peoples health watch survey in health sector are important activities of Uttarakhand.

- **Science popularization and communication:** Organized a six days state level resource person workshop with the support of UCOST for formation of Vigyan Prasar Kendras in the state .
- **Health Sector :** A State Coordination Committee for National Health Assembly participated in Bhopal in March 2007.
- **People’s health watch survey:** Workshops were organized for two districts at Haridwar and Roorkee to conduct health surveys in four blocks of these two districts.

