STATISTICS REVEAL…

GLOBAL:
65 of the 121 million out-of-school children are GIRLS -- (UNICEF)
Out of 860 million illiterates – more than 2/3rds are WOMEN

INDIA:
2/3rd of 40 million (6 to 14 yrs) out-of-school children are GIRLS
Only 40% of children attain basic levels of learning
58% of girls drop out before completing primary school

DELHI:
30% of the population lives in slums, with no proper facilities for education/health
1.8 lakh children in the age group 6-14 yrs are out of school, most of them are girls

ISF LAUNCHES “GETTING GIRLS TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGN” IN DELHI
April 2006

SHUBHA MUDGAL SINGS IN SUPPORT OF THE GIRL CHILD

The campaign in Delhi is being done in partnership with 10 other NGOs across Delhi, working on the issue of education with a specific focus on girls. The NGOs will implement the campaign activities in their respective slum communities.

Campaign Partners:
1. ABHAS (Action Beyond Help and Support, Tughlakabad Fort Area
2. Bhartiya Navdeep Samiti, Shakurpur Village and Pitampura
3. Kalyanam, Sangam Vihar
4. Navjyoti, Holambikalan Village
5. Rasta, Patparganj
6. Sakshi– Centre for Information, Education and Communication, Okhla and Jasola Village
7. SAYA (Social Action with Your Assistance), Seelampur
8. SPOWAC (Society for Promotion of Women and Children), Patparganj
9. The Vigyan Vijay Foundation (VVF), Palam
10. VIDYA –Integrated Development for Youth and Adults, Munirka

The campaign partners met on the 21st of June 2006 to decide on the strategies to be followed and the activities to be done in the campaign.

For a detailed report, visit: www.Indiasponsor.org
Admission drives were carried out in all the NGO locations during this fortnight. Two camps were organized by each NGO to sensitize the community about girls’ education and also provide information to the parents. The drive saw a special focus on girls’ enrollment. Many activities like Prabhath Pheris (Morning Rallies) by children, painting and slogan writing competitions, street plays, etc. were organized.

The biggest problem encountered during the drive was that all the government schools were charging more fees than the stipulated rules.”

NGOs assisted the parents in the admission process by helping them fill out the forms, even provided monetary help to those who could not afford to pay the fees. Further, where cases of malpractice like overcharging the fees, were observed during admissions, the NGOs tackled the problem by taking up the matter with the concerned officials from the government education department.

Surveys of 20,000 households & 50 Government schools…..

The results will also clearly bring out the specific problems in different slum localities, which in turn will be used to tailor-make the interventions in the areas. It will give insights into the status of girls’ education as compared to that of boys in the community, the age at which most girls drop out of school and many more similar indicators.

In the capital 50 government schools are being surveyed. In scrutiny, under the microscope, will be the infrastructural facilities such as toilets for girls, the number of classrooms, the number of female teachers and a lot of other relevant issues. This will provide an understanding of the problems faced by the girls in schools and also the reasons why many of them drop out.

In the months of August-September. The survey will help us ascertain the number of out of school or drop out girls in these areas and also reasons for the same. Analysis of the survey is still going on and a report will be coming out shortly to be shared with all stakeholders.
A seminar was organized by the campaign team on “Status of girls’ in Urban Slum Communities.”
The seminar brought to the table many issues and facets of girls’ education and related ramifications.
The panelists (NGO experts, academicians, activists, government representatives) also lauded the efforts of the campaign network and gave many valuable suggestions to build up the momentum and take the movement forward.
It was recognized that one of the foremost issues to be focused on in the campaign is working on problems of infrastructure in the government schools.
The seminar offered a rich blend of ideas through the day long interaction and left the campaign group determined to take the cause forward.

“There are many instances of children attending schools being run in very unsafe buildings with no toilets or drinking water facilities and under very adverse weather conditions of excessive heat or cold”.
Ashok Agarwal, Lawyer and Civil Rights Activist, Social Jurist

“The India Sponsor Foundation has invested in genuine, community based initiatives in partnership with NGOs, addressing issues of education, health, disability, integrated slum development, livelihoods and advocacy.

Centers for Early Childhood Care & Development
Preparing for a better tomorrow

Student’s counseling workshop
Visit to the Science Museum
Inclusive education to children with special needs

Bridging the digital divide through access to Computer Technology
Skill training
Encouraging creativity & talent
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FROM JOB SEEKER TO JOB PROVIDER
Woman Cabbie Breaks Gender Stereotypes

Thirty-seven-year-old graduate and housewife, Kamla, completed her driving training under ISF’s Vahini Shakti project in 2004. After her training at Megacab Taxi services, she worked at Fortis Hospital, NOIDA, as an ambulance driver and is now a trainer at the Institute of Driving, Training and Research, (IDTR) Delhi. Tall by Indian standards, Kamla at five foot five has taken a keen interest in the mechanical aspects of automobiles and can carry out minor and emergency repairs.
A salary of over 10,000/- a month is further augmented by earnings from a partnership in a taxi. Her advancement from a housewife to an entrepreneur in the face of discouragement by her family and friends has been a story of true grit and determination. Along the way she learned how to be punctual and disciplined which has earned her the admiration of all those who come in contact with her. Now she feels that she has finally earned the respect and appreciation of not only her family but her colleagues and the community at large. Along with her earnings, her dreams have grown. “Someday I shall have a driving training school run only by women,” she says.

SCHOOL DENIES ADMISSION
Admission done after NGO intervenes

Ritu a precocious nine-year-old girl wanted to study and make something of her life. Her family comes from a small village in Bihar and they have recently moved to Delhi. Her mother feels that her daughter should have a different life than hers and that education is the key. However, when Ritu gave an admission test for Class 4 in the local Primary MCD School she was denied admission despite passing the test. ABHAS, a partner ngo intervened in the matter and on their insistence she was allowed to sit for the test again. Despite passing the test three times in a row, Ritu was denied admission to the school.
The NGO then went on to complain to several government authorities about this case. The Education Officer of the zone gave written instructions to the girls’ school principal to admit the girl. Ritu was admitted but in class 3. This is one example of how the admission process in a number of government schools works on the whims and fancies of teachers and principals rather than stipulated rules and regulations.

LOOKING AHEAD...

We invite you to join us by supporting this campaign to get all girls to school and help them to continue learning.
To know more about the campaign visit www.indiasponsor.org
If you wish to express an opinion, write to us at ggs.campaign@gmail.com

Stakeholders Meet to share the trends and findings from Campaign Survey

Remedial Education Centers for 150 girls started. Sixteen more centres coming up. Running cost of a centre is approx. Rs. 76650/- annually (@Rs. 7/- per girl/day)

Children to bring out a 10 Point Charter about their perspective on education

SAMPARK

www.Indiasponsor.org