

INCLUSION

NOVEMBER 2021

IN THIS EDITION, READ ABOUT

Self-help groups for women and men

Mukthi Bike Challenge 2021

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Oasis



Dear all,

We are elated to report to you that we had our first successful North East edition of Mukthi Bike Challenge 2021 last month and the India ride begins today! You can be a part of it too :) Read about how you can be involved.

Motorcycle rally to raise awareness on human trafficking held

From Our Correspondent
MOREH | Oct 28

A motorcycle rally to raise awareness on human trafficking was held on Wednesday at Moreh, Tengenoupal district, organised by Oasis India North East.

Around 20 bikers from Eimi Riders led by Oasis India NE manager, Tongkhomang Haokip, reached the border town around 6 pm on Wednesday. The rally started from Songpi in Chura-chandpur district and concluded at Lailoiphai, Pallel in Tengenoupal district. The bikers were welcomed in a reception programme held at KSO Moreh office.

Speaking to the media persons at KSO Moreh block



office, Tongkhomang Haokip said that the purpose of the motorcycle rally is to raise awareness on human trafficking.

"Asean Highway is one of the routes where human traffickers are used to transport innocent women and girls to Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and other South

Asian countries, which is a well organised crime," said Haokip.

The traffickers exploit the victim, who are innocent women and girls, for their profit with deception and false promises of education, job and transported to Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and other coun-

tries where they ended up in forced labour, debt bondage and becoming commercial sex workers, he added.

Parents, CVOs and other local bodies should remain alert and spread awareness to their localities to save the innocent women and girls from the hands of human traffickers, said Haokip.





Our team and a group of riders successfully completed a 2-day ride for Mukthi Bike Challenge - North East Edition. They rode from Churachandpur to Moreh, Manipur and back. This particular route was chosen because Moreh is a border town, known to be port of entry for India. This route is preferred by traffickers to traffick people from North East to India and other parts of the world. Several arrests and raids have been made on this route in the past years for human and drug trafficking. The Emmi Riders, Kuki Women Union, Light House and Centre for Women & Girls rode along and helped us reach out to people to create awareness on human trafficking! Thanks to everyone who supported our North East edition of Mukthi Bike Challenge 2021. Kudos to our team of resilient staff in Manipur!



Mukthi Bike Challenge 2021 - India edition begins today! Our staff across India will be riding in Chennai, Bangalore and Mumbai, raising awareness on human trafficking along the route. Chennai team will be riding to Yelagiri hills and will touch Arakonam, Gummidipoondi and Ponneri in Tamil Nadu on 26th November. Bangalore team will be riding to Chikmangalur, travelling along Bellur Cross, Channarayapatta and Hassan in Karnataka on 27th November. Mumbai team is riding to Alibaug, touching Panvel and Poynad along the way on 28th November.

You can be a part of this too! You can support our anti-human trafficking efforts in the link below.

Support MBC 2021

How are our self-help groups (SHG) helping the women and men in our communities? Here are a few testimonials.



REKHA
SHG, CHENNAI

Rekha joined our vocational tailoring class at Kannagi Nagar and picked up the skill quite easily. Her enthusiasm and commitment made her a hit amongst her neighbours as she started taking orders soon. Rekha and her husband opened a small tea shop but it not take off and that took a toll on them financially. Her husband started driving auto rickshaw for a living and Rekha started a tailoring unit at home. During the lockdown, she worked for hours, so that she would have enough money to run the family. Rekha says, “My husband is my biggest strength and support.”

Rekha joined our self–help group to begin saving money. She also became an office bearer and coordinated among the women in her group. Rekha took the responsibility during the pandemic to gather her team members and collect the money for the savings, despite everyone having financial crisis of their own. Rekha says, “I have not taken any loans yet. As a group, we felt that some needed the money more. I wanted to take a loan for my expenses during the Diwali festival but one of our SHG member’s husband had a heart attack and was hospitalised. So we all decided to let her take the loan. Many others have taken loans when they struggled with paying children’s school fees or for other sudden expenses.”

Rekha and the members of the SHG in Kannagi Nagar have a strong community that supports each other through their ups and downs. A much needed support system.

A group of 18 women from the Hallegudadhahalli (HGH) community in Bangalore came together with the focus on small savings to find ways to improve their living conditions. In 2019, our team helped start this 'Navachethana Mahila Sangha' which means 'taking new shape'. This group has been successfully functioning in meeting its objective.

ROOPA

SHG, BANGALORE



Roopa, 30, is our vocational tailoring course alum and is now part of our SHG in HGH. She was born and brought up in a village but after her wedding, she moved with her husband to Bangalore. She says, "Before I joined Oasis, I was very self-conscious and was not confident to talk to others. Life skill classes at Oasis helped me to talk in front of others without fear and nervousness. I have learned so many life skills like emotional intelligence, self-esteem, team building, decision making, relationship issues etc. and also learned about health related issues.

I initially did not have any knowledge about SHGs but once Oasis India's team oriented us, I was very keen to join. They taught us about savings, how SHGs work and its objectives. In our group we have 15 members and we have named our SHG's as Nava Chethana Mahila Sangha. We have started saving Rs. 200 every month. Monthly once, we gather together for a meeting. With my savings, I took a loan of Rs. 5000 from this group and I have paid the school fees for both my children. My husband and family members are very happy about me being a part of the SHG. In the future, I want to start a new SHG in my community."

SNEHA

ASSISTANT NURSING TRAINING, MUMBAI



6 months ago, Sneha's life was turned upside down when her father passed away. There was a belief in the community that as soon as a girl's father passes away, the girl has to be married within a year or has to wait for the next 3 years. Sneha's family decided that they cannot continue her education and have to get her married .

After her wedding, Sneha moved to Pune with her husband. As time passed, her husband became physically and verbally abusive. Sneha was also pregnant, experiencing torment every day from the hands of the one who promised to protect her. She says, "I, somehow gathered all my strength to come back to Mumbai and I told my parents everything." Sneha now lives with her elder sister and their family. This is when Sneha found out about our Assistant Nursing training. Life skills and one on one counselling helped her navigate through a lot of emotional and family issues that she was facing.

Sneha is growing to become mentally strong every day. She says, "No one has to feed me. I have learnt to take care of myself. I am very grateful for the new skill training which helps me to be independent. Every girl should receive a training like this and should be employed."

Sneha is also a change agent In her community influencing people to join the training. Skill training like this is a saving grace for many like Sneha who come from trauma and abuse. It helps them turn their life around for good.





You can help young girls learn self-defence today. Support Project Sarika in the link below and learn more about how we are helping young girls become fearless!

[Project Sarika](#)



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