

The Influencer Bulletin

VOL III | ISSUE 9 | JAN 2021



Your support to the Influencers journey is ensuring women and girls freedom from violence and discrimination, access to legal justice, grassroots leadership, rights and entitlements and freedom from economic dependence. In this issue we bring to you updates from our coalition partner Jan Sahas' extensive work on freedom from violence and discrimination. This issue we additionally reflect upon the work and journey of ITforChange and Sanjog in ensuring gender equality in all spheres of life. Also, join our partners and us in celebrating the #16DaysofActivis, a global campaign against gender-based violence.

Freedom from violence and discrimination

It is important to build supportive systems to avert violence and discrimination against women and children. With this backdrop, our partner NGO **Jan Sahas**, in association with the **Department of Women Child Development**, Madhya Pradesh, organized a one-day workshop on December 29 around the Prevention of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children in the Khargone district. The workshop saw participation of more than 50 participants along with representation from multiple stakeholders such as MP Police, Childline team, DLSA lawyers, OSC members, CWC and Juvenile Justice Board along with Additional District Judge (Khargone), Mr Subhash Solanki and Assistant Director of Women and Children Welfare Department, Ms Monika Baghel.



With a vision of Dignity and Equality for All, we are proud to share that with help of local authorities in Madhya Pradesh and the Police Forces of Maharashtra, Jan Sahas successfully rescued 17 bonded labourers (seven men, five women and seven children) in Beed district of Maharashtra on 25th December. The workers belonged to the tribal community from Jhabua district in MP and were working in a sugarcane plantation as bonded laborers under inhumane conditions.



Access to justice

Continuing on its mission to provide improved awareness, advocacy and access to legal justice, our partner **Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives** (AALI) organized a police workshop on December 12, at the Women Crime and Security Office in Lucknow. The workshop focused on the police's



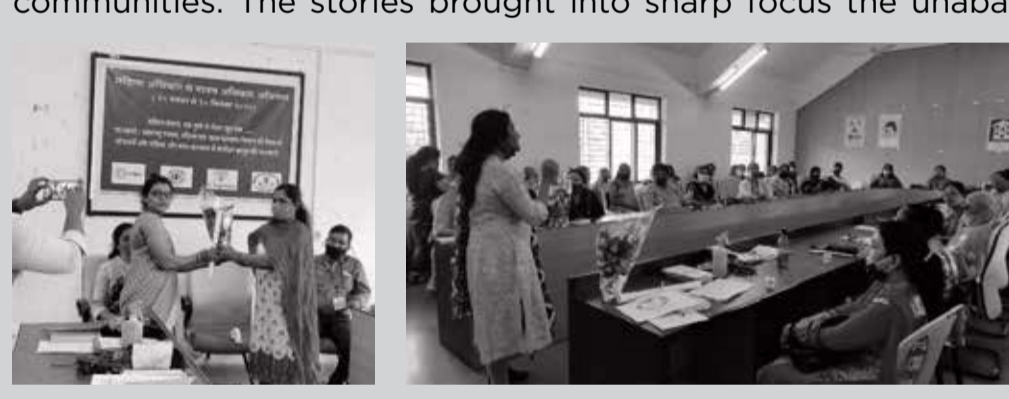
actions in cases of violence against women and the strong need for providing recourse to legal information, particularly on gender-related issues. Twenty-two police officers from different police stations of Lucknow, including DCP (Women Crime) Ruchita Chaudhary, were present at the workshop to share the challenges that they have faced while working on the ground level.

Voices from the Grassroots

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. It was started by activists at the inaugural Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and continues to be coordinated each year by the Center for Women's Global Leadership. It is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls.

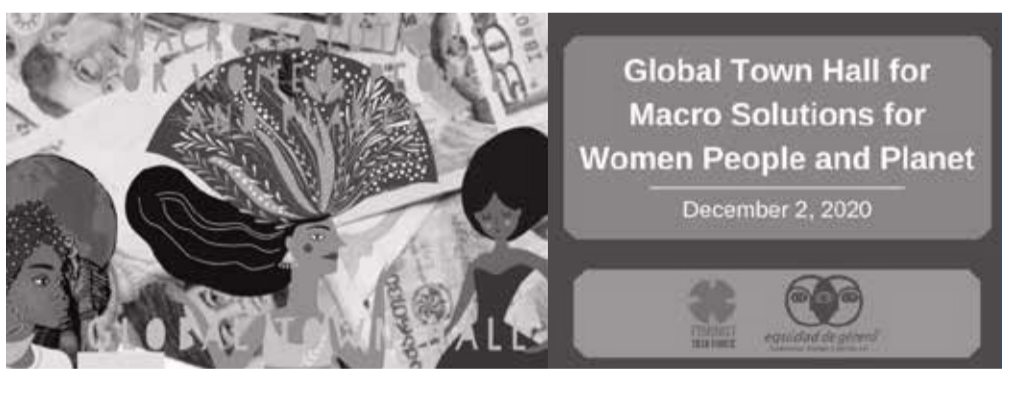
In the spirit of participating in the global campaign, **Jan Sahas** recently organized several awareness programs in Indore, Ujjain, Neemuch, Khargone, Delhi, Dewas, Mandsoor, Khandwa districts of North & Central India, to end sexual violence against women.

CORO along with Swachata Savardhan Sanstha Mahasangh and **Women and Child Welfare Department** jointly conducted a session on gender-based violence for women in the local communities. The stories brought into sharp focus the unabated violence against women and the significant journey that still needs to be traversed. The engaging discussions also centred on tackling violence against women, information on development schemes and awareness about laws related to women and children.



Collective Conversations

Happy to share that our NGO partner **IT for Change's** executive director Anita Gurumurthy spoke at a panel discussion organised by the Women's Working Group on Financing for Development (WWG on FfD) on 2nd December, centred around 'Lessons learned from 2020 to democratize economic governance and planning ahead'. The panel was part of WWG on FfD's global town hall for macro solutions for women, people and the planet webinar series. Watch the complete session [here!](#)



IT for Change also co-organized a session "The Deal We Always Wanted", with **Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung** at the **Global South Women's Forum 2020** on December 15. During the event, Nandi Chami (Deputy Director) and Anita Gurumurthy (Executive Director) presented a feminist action framework for the digital economy that was developed over a year of rigorous research, debate, and deliberation by a global group of eight feminist scholar-practitioners. Click [here](#) to watch the session.

In the news

We are excited to share that the book "Power, Sexuality and Gender Dynamics at Work" written by our very own Roop Sen and Uma Chatterjee, Founders of **Sanjog**, was launched on 16th December. The digital unveiling of the book was followed by a panel discussion featuring SV Nathan, Partner and Chief Talent officer, Deloitte India, Naghma Mulla, President & COO, EdelGive Foundation and Ashok Malhotra, managing director, Reflexive Lenses Consulting. The book touches on some very critical issues in today's evolving workplace environment and is another initiative by Sanjog in ensuring gender equality across all spheres of life including the workplace. Click [here](#) to order!

