



Plot no.243, B Block, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi 110075

## **Empowering women as agents of social change**

### **URJA ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19**

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

To end all forms of violence against women and children by creating an environment where women, youth and children can develop themselves to be agents of their own change and where opportunities/spaces are created to enable them to participate fully in achieving their rights.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of URJA is to empower, educate and enable marginalized women and children and to advance their status by advocating for their educational, economic, social and legal rights.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

1. Provide women and girls, especially women migrants, and women in distress with life choices and access to opportunities and resources
2. Encourage leadership amongst women and to build awareness of their rights.
3. Promote economic self sufficiency of women
4. Advocate collectively for educational opportunities, economic resources and legal protection of marginalized women and children.
5. Lobby with policy makers and government to pro-actively address gender based violence and discrimination

**URJA** is a registered non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in New Delhi, India. Founded in 2011, it is working with the migrant community in Pandvala Kalan in Najafgarh, located near the Delhi- Haryana border. The village is predominantly inhabited by the Yadav and Jats , who own vast farmlands and employ migrants from other states to work in their fields. As per Population census 2011, Pandvala Kalan village has a population of 3779 of which 2012 are males while 1767 are females. The migrants of the village settled in the early 1990s. Initially, a handful of them came to the village without their families in search of jobs and gainful employment.

Low education, poor health and growing unemployment are the major problems faced by the migrant people. Both, men and women work to supplement the household income. Almost 85% of migrant women are working in low paying jobs such as agricultural workers or construction site workers.

In November 2017, URJA started another Centre in Jaffarpur Kalan in Najafgarh, New Delhi. Here, the organization is implementing the 'Mahila Panchayat' programme under the aegis of Delhi Commission for Women( DCW). The programme aims to combat gender violence and provide victims of domestic violence, harassment, eve teasing and marital disputes with legal aid, counseling and advice. The programme is covering 22 villages surrounding Jaffarpur Kalan.

**The following project activities were conducted by URJA in 2018-19.**

**Balwadi Education-** In 2018-19, URJA covered around 9 (3-5year old) children for pre school education in Pandvala kalan village. The aim of the Balwadi is to prepare children for formal schooling. URJA's Balwadi provides them a positive environment for their full motor, physical, mental, social and emotional development. The Balwadi class makes learning fun and is filled with activities such as painting, dancing, colouring, singing and alphabetical knowledge. To enhance their physical growth morning exercise, outdoor games are conducted.



*Balwadi Pandvala*



**Vocational Training-** To make women and girls independent, vocational training on tailoring and stitching is given by URJA to women and adolescent girls. Around 8-9 women and girls benefitted from URJA's stitching course in 2018-19.



*Sewing and stitching class*

**Beauty Parlour Class-** URJA's beauty parlour class in Pandvala Kalan village teaches young girls employability skills so that they can learn skills through which they can earn some income and support their families. In 2018-19, there were almost 6 girls who benefitted from the course. The girls are taught basic make up, cleaning, waxing, pedicure, manicure and bridal make up.



*Beauty parlour class in progress*

**Supplementary Classes-** In Pandvala Kalan, migrant children are first generation learners. Their parents are illiterate and school going children face many problems in their studies because they don't have a conducive environment at home for education.



They receive no guidance from home as their parents are not educated. Through Supplementary Classes, URJA is providing them with a positive/motivational environment and is helping them to continue their school education and to curb drop outs among migrant children. Almost 25 children are benefitting from URJA's supplementary class programme in 2018-19.



*Supplementary class Pandvala*

### **Child educational sponsorship**

In 2018-19, URJA provided full educational sponsorships to children from poor families namely, Bharti from Pandvala Kalan village and Tanya was sponsored for private education from Rewla Khanpur. Another girl called Lakshika was sponsored in a private school called Bholi Ram Public School.



*Bharti, is a 10 year old daughter of URJA's Balwadi teacher, Kavita. Bharti's mother has gone through hell raising her family with practically no support from her husband. Kavita, Bharti's mother was handicapped at an early age, is unable to walk and is wheelchair bound. Her husband, who is a mason, squanders all his money on alcohol giving nothing for the running of the household. Kavita wanted to work hard and give a better future to her kids. This sponsorship will help her in that direction.*

*Tanya was sponsored by URJA in 2018-19. She is studying in Rao Convent School and excels in both studies and sports.*

*Lakshika is a thirteen year old girl who is sponsored by URJA to study in a private school called Bholi Ram Public School. She is a bright girl who excels in Maths and sports. Her mother was abandoned by her father and she is being brought single handedly by her mother. URJA is paying for her tuition fees.*

## **B- Monthly Activities**

**Centre meetings-** Regular centre meetings are conducted on centre progress. Work performance of staff is regularly reviewed and reported.

**Parent Teacher Meeting-** Parent teacher meeting is organized once every two months. Seven parent teacher meetings were held in Pandvala Kalan in 2017-18. Parents come to the Centre and the staff informs them about their children and progress. The aim of the activity was to inform them about the importance of education, personal hygiene and cleanliness in the Centre.

**Mahila Mandal meetings-** Four Mahila Mandal meetings were organized by URJA in 2018-19. Two meetings on 26/5/18 and 7/5/18 were conducted by experts Ms. Dipti and Ms. Batul on market linkages with products made by women. Another meeting was taken by Mr. Sud an LIC employee on 14/6/18 on small savings and how that can help women.

## **C- Legal Advocacy- Pandvala Kalan Village**

### Legal cases

**Meena** (name changed) is a poor lady whose husband and in-laws have thrown her out of her matrimonial home. Meena approached URJA for help as she wanted to fight a domestic violence case against her husband and in-laws and also wanted a share in the ancestral property for her children. URJA registered her complaint and directed her to District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) for free legal aid and advice

**Sapna** (name changed) is a widow whose husband died of HIV/AIDS under tragic circumstances. She has a small son to take care of and was living with her husband separately in Haryana. After the death of her husband, her in-laws refused to take her back and give her any rightful share in her husband's property. She approached URJA for her rights and URJA provided her with legal aid and advice.

## **JAFFARPUR KALAN**

URJA started a Centre in Jaffarpur Kalan in November 2017. The Centre is implementing the 'Mahila Panchayat' programme under the aegis of Delhi Commission for Women

(DCW). The Mahila Panchayat Programme is reaching out to 22 villages (and one colony) of Jaffarpur Kalan . All 22 villages have been surveyed under the programme and a comprehensive data compiled regarding the number of men, women and children in each village has been compiled. The Mahila Panchayat Programme is aimed to prevent gender based violence, spread gender awareness, and provide legal counseling, aid and advice to victims of domestic violence, eve teasing, sexual harassment, assault and other kinds of violence against women. Community meetings and Mahila Panchayat meetings along with counseling sessions are held every month in the Centre. Women are also made aware of the various government schemes available and are provide assistance for getting widow pension, old age pension, PAN Card and Aadhar Card.

In the year 2018-19, 46 community meetings were held on gender awareness and laws, 50 Panchayat meetings, 113 verbal cases related to violence against women 140, registered cases on domestic violence and other forms of atrocities against women and 230 other cases related to Adhaar, PAN and pension cases for old age and widow persons.



*Mahila Panchayat Meetings at Jaffarpur Kalan*

## **D.Meetings & Conferences**

Under the aegis of Delhi Commission for Women (DCW), URJA as part of the Mahila Panchayat, participated in a protest (Rape Roko) / hunger strike by DCW Chairperson Ms. Swati Maliwal from 13th April to 22nd April, 2018 at Raghat. There were several demands place at the protest, including the passage of an ordinance requiring the death penalty for individuals who rape children under age 12, fast track courts and demanding accountability of the police. Almost 60 women from URJA participated in the rally to raise awareness on child rape and for death penalty of child rapists. Speedy justice and commitment of the State to prevent child rape was highlighted during the hunger strike.



*Rape Roko/Hunger strike by Chairperson DCW, Ms. Swati Maliwal.*

On 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 URJA organized a mega camp for the residents of Jaffarpur Kalan on awareness and providings facilities regarding PAN CARD, AADHAR and opening of Bank accounts. Shri. Jagmohan Singh, Ld. Secretary (Judge) District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) graced the occasion.



Sh. Jagmohan Singh, Ld Secretary, DLSA(SW) and Founder President, URJA ,Ms.Anjali Pathak at URJA's camp in Jaffarpur Kalan on 15-09-2018





URJA' camp in Jaffarpur Kalan 15-09-2018.

URJA participated in the National Conference on Indigenous Social Work: Challenges, Responses and Way Forward on 17-18 November, 2018. URJA presented a paper on "INTEGRATING FEMINIST MODEL AND EMPOWERMENT APPROACH IN SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS- EXPERIENCES FROM FIELD LEVEL INTERVENTION IN NAJAFGARH, NEW DELHI".



Jamia Millia Islamia Conference

### **Orientation programme of paralegals:**

URJA participated in an orientation training programme organized by Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) on 20.12.18 at Directorate of Training, Union Territories Civil Services in New Delhi. URJA para legal workers and coordinator participated in the programme.



### **Mahila Surksha Padyatra on Women's Rights:**

URJA participated in a 13-day Mahila Suraksha Padyatra on women's rights under the aegis of Delhi Commission for Women which started on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 and culminated on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 - Women's International Day. The Padyatra started from Rajghat and covered Shakarpur Police station, Laxmi Nagar, Trilokpuri, Kalyanpuri.



Padyatra on Women's rights organized by DCW

**Celebration of International Women's Day :** Under the aegis of Delhi Commission for Women, URJA celebrated 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019, International Women's Day at Rajiv Chowk.



*Women's rights celebration, Rajiv Chowk, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2019. Founder President, URJA Ms. Anjali Pathak with Smt. Swati Maliwal, Chairperson, Delhi Commission for Women, New Delhi.*

### **ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION:**

Name of organization- URJA

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Registration Details: The Indian Trusts Act, 1882 (No. 3095, New Delhi)

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Savings Account no- 01341450000356.

80 G Number- DEL-UE24322-19122012/1666

Website: [www.urjaforwomen.org](http://www.urjaforwomen.org)

**TRUSTEES:**

Anjali Pathak	President & Founder Trustee
Rajive Raturi	National Director, Human Rights Law Network
YSR Murthy Yadavalli	Professor& Registrar, O.P. Jindal Global University, Haryana, India
Dr. Swati Shirwadkar	Head, Department of Sociology, University of Pune, India
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