



# Child Sexual Abuse

Annual  
Report

2015-16

# ***Child Sexual Abuse***

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Five years ago when Sahyog embarked on its journey to respond to the issue of Child Sexual Abuse, there was apprehension and uncertainty. It was a path less travelled, and consequently a more challenging route. It was a world defined by the language of silence, a silence which speaks and a silence, to which, we at Sahyog try to give it a voice. Being a spectator to the intimate narrative of betrayal of love and trust of children was emotionally painful. This journey has been as much about learning, enlightenment, emancipation and joy as it has about the pain. The joy and satisfaction sustains us through this rough terrain, reinstates our faith in the change that we observe in our Beneficiaries, their strength, appreciation and support of our work.

Sahyog's story of growth is as much a story of the organization scale of work as well as growth in each of its clients as well as its team. Sahyog care for you, ready to help those children find a way to overcome the darkness and realize that they are loved far more than they ever could imagine. This Report, will present the growth of individuals and their journey from being victims to survivors, from vulnerable children to empowered beings participating in their own safety net. Integral to this journey is the growth of Sahyog's practitioners' who evolve to become more empathetic and compassionate in their approach through their experience and interaction with beneficiaries and their lived realities.

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## **OUR INTERVENTION STRATEGIES AND PROJECTS**

Sahyog believes in child sensitization as an operational standard that advocates the basic rights of children to lead better life. This awareness based approach empowered children, their relatives and societies to become active and leading citizen in their own development.

### **Vision**

To inhibit Our Nation from Child Sexual Abuse

### **Mission**

To prevent the Sexual Abuse of Our Nation's children and raise the awareness by empowering & educating individuals, families, society & to cultivate partnership with organization to develop proven strategies that prevent child sexual abuse.

Child Protection, within the scope of work, is defined as the responsibilities, measures and activities that Sahyog undertakes to safeguard children from both deliberate and unintentional harm.

Sahyog's intervention and services is based on the following 4 independent strategies that goal towards providing a holistic intervention structure with regard to child sexual abuse

*These 4 strategies of SahaYog were realized through well designed projects:*

**Strategy – I**

Direct Services

***Project 01: Personal Protection Program;***

***Project 02: Psychotherapeutic Services for Children of Sexual Abuse;***

***Project 03: Psychotherapeutic Services within Institutional setups;***

**Strategy-II**

Prevention & Intervention Services

***Project 5: Civil Society Events;***

***Project 6: Psycho-Social Intervention Project;***

***Project 7: Discussion on Child Sexual Abuse in different networks and forums;***

***Project 8: Working on traumatic Children;***

**Strategy-III**

Training and Capacity

***Project 9: Training for teachers on child protection from Sexual offences;***

***Project 10: Capacity Building programs with Government and Non Govt. Organizations on child protection from Sexual offences;***

***Project 11: Trainings on Mainstream and Alternative Therapies;***

**Strategy-IV**

Research and Advocacy

***Project 12: Advocacy with Media;***

***Project 13: Accessing awareness tools to create awareness;***

***Project 14: Sex Offenders Study;***

***Project 15: National Policy Level [CSA Laws] and State Laws & protocols;***

## **The Year at a Glance**

With the closing of another financial year is 2015-2016, now it's time for Sahyog care for you to reflect and relive some of our best moments. With more opportunities to learn and grow, this year too *this year bears testimony to our steadfast progress and saw several milestones being achieved and accolades received for sustained work in the field of Child Sexual Abuse.*



### ***COUNSELING SESSIONS WITH CHILDREN***

Sahyog stepped out to implement the Personal Safety Education program and awareness sessions in Delhi MCD Schools where we reached out to over 70,000 children



## **AWARENESS SESSION WITH TEACHERS**

Sahyog trained more than 1200 teachers, social workers, NGO professionals, counselors for mainstreaming Sahyog's modules of prevention and intervention.





## **AWARENESS SESSIONS WITH PARENTS**

We conducted Awareness sessions of Parents in The Schools where we reached approx. 1500





### ***SESSIONS WITH COMMUNITY AND OUTREACH EVENTS***

Sahyog planned to implementation of the Personal Safety Education program in the rural outskirts of Delhi and piloted the Personal Safety Education module for Grade 7-8 along with the ongoing school based program.







Sahyog performed a street play on the issue of Child Sexual Abuse at Raahgiri, which evoked a marvelous response from the common man on the street.

## **PERSONAL COUNSLING SESSIONS**

### **WITH CHILDREN**



### **WITH TEACHERS**



### **WITH PARENTS**



## **SAHYOG IN RESCUE MODE**

During these Sessions & events we came across many children undergoing the traumatic situations. Few of the parents were not aware about their children's suffering, and those who knew of it, were in a dilemma that how to deal with it.

With personal counseling of those children, now they are able to lead happy life. The spark in their innocence eyes and glam of happiness on their faces towards their life gave ecstasy of contentment to us.

After individual counseling sessions with parents and their children, which worked as a bridge, now they were living their life fullest.

After these sessions few of the teachers come forward with these cases, after breaking many barriers & were sorted out. Sahyog wants to SALUTE these teachers for their remarkable performance.

In spite of this Sahyog did rescue operations also and saved girls from the sexual abuse.



**"DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY LEADS TO SOMETHINGS  
EXCEPTIONAL"**

***Sahyog did not stop here.***

Sahyog has embarked on the path of addressing the issue of CSA by starting its PAN INDIA PROJECT by the partnership with NGO'S to give a secured and protected CHILDHOOD to our children.

Sahyog subtly and sensitively is treading and making a niche' for itself in the field of Child sexual abuse through its various endeavors, one of which was organizing an interaction meet with almost 30 likeminded and equally passionate organizations in India under PAN India initiative. This was held on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of Feb 2016.

The organizations participating in this meet appreciated Sahyog's efforts and were in synergy with its approach on the issue of CSA. The participants were keen to partner and work in coordination with Sahyog on CSA

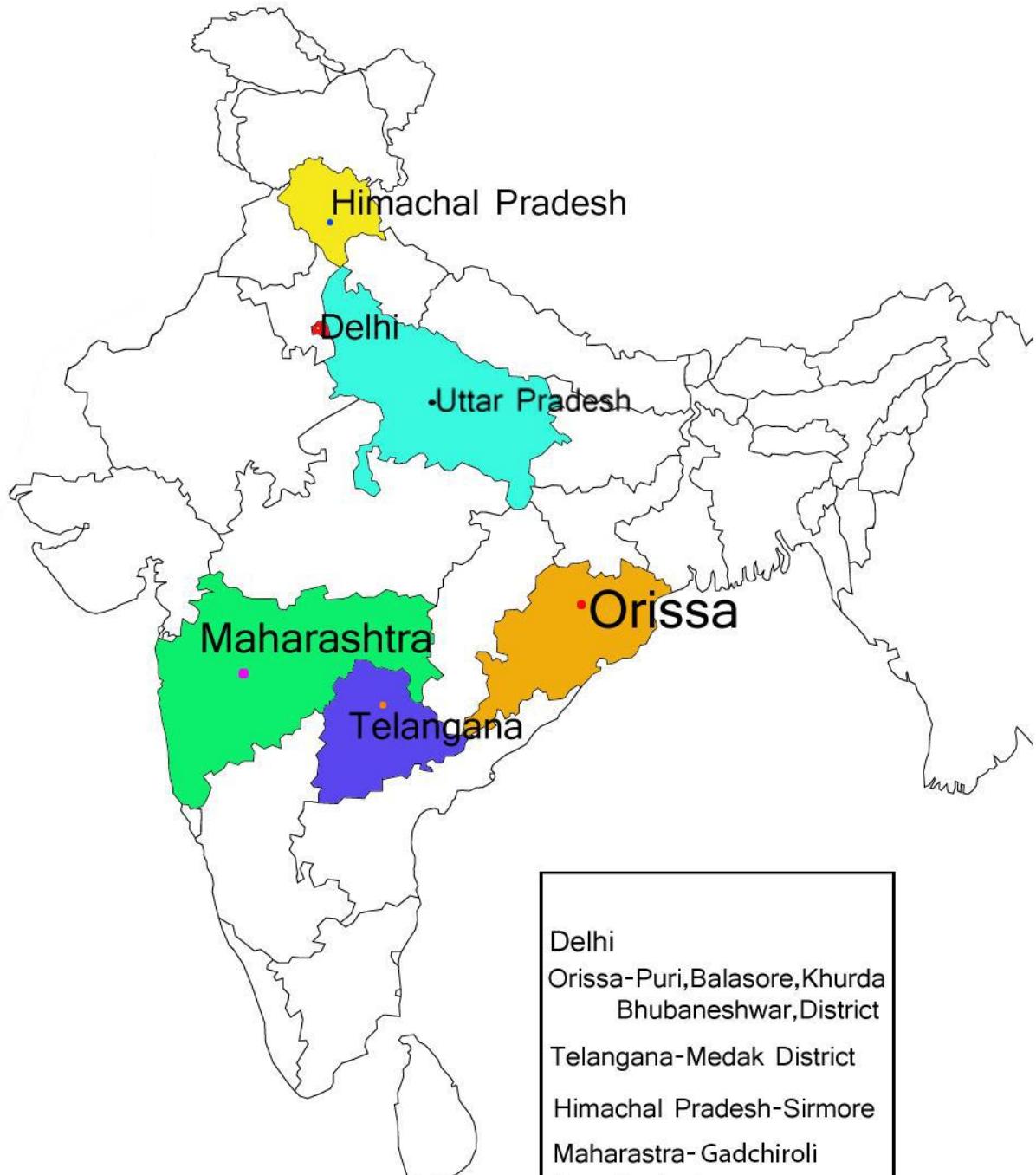
Sahyog envisages partnering with them on the issue of CSA and simultaneously enriching itself by exchange of views and ideas to mitigate the problem of CSA in our country.





## ❖ Institutional Partners:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Prachandeswar Seva Sansthan</li><li>❖ Jiban Bikash</li><li>❖ Rural and Urban Development Youth Association</li><li>❖ Municipal corporation Department of Delhi</li><li>❖ Vision Rural Development Society</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Centre for Child Welfare &amp; Social Development</li><li>❖ Arushi Gramin Sansthan</li><li>❖ Basti Area Development council</li><li>❖ Nipun</li><li>❖ Care &amp; Concern</li><li>❖ And many Private schools in PAN India</li></ul> |
|---|--|



## **CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED DURING THE YEAR**

*Sahyog has been make significant impact in the lives of its beneficiaries and has over achieved compared to its project targets. This year also brought with it multiple challenges and provided many new learning opportunities. The difficult challenges were:*

- It is difficult to enroll the private schools on child sexual issues as child sexual abuse is still a complex and silent phenomenon although most do not realize it; child sexual abuse is one of the most significant risks facing children today. One in 10 children will be a victim of sexual abuse, and the consequences of this abuse can be devastating. They don't want to start dialogues on the issue as the issue is prohibited between children and the reputation of school matters.
- As being very proscribed issue it is difficult to involving all the stakeholders like parents, teachers and staffs within the school environment continues to be a challenge, Parents and teachers are often reluctance to commit time and energy for counseling sessions. Involving parents in counseling sessions for children is also challenging as parents are not motivated or willing to attend sessions.
- Child Sexual Abuse is still a complex and silent phenomenon. The denial and stigma around the issue cuts across all sectors and very few organizations for responding to child sexual abuse through sustained training capacity building. Some organizations and schools, even after undergoing the training are unable to implement what they learn.
- There is lesser recognition for the existence of the issue of child sexual abuse as a prevalent social issue in India due to the social and cultural taboo around the same. This acts as a barrier for us to reach out to children and other stakeholders.
- The infrastructure of certain schools is not conducive for holding counseling sessions. Many times there are no room and hall available for conducting sessions and they have to be conducted outside the hall and classrooms. This creates distraction and disrupts the counseling sessions.

## Sahyog in News

# देश का अखबार - सबसे तेज रप्तार

# नैशानिक दुनिया

**THE FUTURE**  
**Strategic Map for Sahyog**

Strategy	S.No .	Sub Strategy	S.No.	Projects
<b>Advocacy</b>	<b>1.</b>	Public & Policy Advocacy	1.	Visibility at PAN India level
			2.	Ongoing public advocacy / education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media programming</li> <li>• Community level discussion</li> <li>• Include the education system so that children are being sensitized.</li> <li>• Use designated periods e.g. Child Abuse Prevention Week; Child Rights week;</li> </ul>
			3.	Identify a "champion" - prominent local person to be a spokesperson against CSA.
	<b>2.</b>	Legislation that discourages abuse, protects children and penalizes perpetrators	1.	Strong penalties and sanctions in legislation including tougher implementation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the current legislation related to children and families</li> <li>• Mandatory reporting, including parents</li> <li>• Protection Orders to facilitate removal of victim from home</li> <li>• Occupational Orders to prevent criminal from visiting the home</li> </ul>
			2.	Effective Administration of Justice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specially trained and assigned officers in the Police Force</li> <li>• Expeditious handling of child sexual abuse cases</li> <li>• Family Court or child sensitive court proceedings</li> <li>• Video-taped evidence from</li> </ul>

				<p>child</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child friendly settings</li> <li>• Sex Offenders Register</li> </ul>
	<b>3.</b>	Social Service Supports to victims and perpetrators	1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly identified focal point for dealing with cases</li> <li>• Hot Line and other confidential sources for reporting</li> <li>• Protocol to guide interaction between all key players</li> <li>• Rehabilitative services for victims and perpetrators</li> <li>• Peer support networks</li> <li>• Foster Care services</li> </ul>
<b>Programs</b>	<b>1</b>	Prevention & Intervention Services	1.	Personal Safety Education in Schools, Institutions, and shelters homes, community workshops.
			2.	Awareness and basic skill building sessions with diverse stakeholders.
			3.	Counseling and Psychotherapeutic Services
	<b>2.</b>	Training & Capacity Building	1.	School staff and students should be encouraged to take trainings.
			2.	Counseling sessions for Parents to attend sessions on Child Sexual Abuse.
			3.	Public sensitization on the provisions of the Protocol and the implications for members of the public
	3.	Research and Development	1.	Conduct baseline research on the issue.
			2.	Development of IECs to take sessions with different stakeholders.

- Training of social workers with basic counseling skills and honing the skills set of counselors to deal with trauma in case of survivors will be initiated in order to create strong network of counselors.

- In order for effective implementation of programs focusing on prevention as well as healing it is eminent that the organization develops its capacities as a resource and training center.
- The advocacy efforts will be further consolidated to promote the integration of Personal Safety Education program with school curriculum and educational system.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS & BOTTLENECKS**

During the counseling session we found 9 cases of CSA and we took the necessary step for the best interest of the child.

S.No	Name of the Victim	Case History	Achievement & Success Story
1	Vanshu (name change) 4th class	➤ abused by her Cousin ➤ Household members unaware of the abuse.	✓ Called & informed her parents. ✓ Counseled the parents to take action and be empathetic towards the child. ✓ Individual counseling sessions with the child to lead a healthy & happy life.
2	Simmer(name changed) 5 <sup>th</sup> class	➤ Abused by her Neighbor	✓ Informed parents about the abuse ✓ Parents acted immediately & accused in jail. ✓ Sessions with parents and child ✓ Follow up of the case & child found to be doing well in her studies and society.
3	Kiran(name Changed) 4 <sup>th</sup> class	➤ Touched in private parts & threatened by her cousin ➤ Mistrust on her by her family and she is blamed for the abuse.	✓ Called & informed her parents but they were not ready to trust. ✓ Counseled them and they understood the issue. ✓ Few sessions helped the family and child to bridge the gap & build trust ✓ Now parents adapted a protective stance & trust their child.
4	Kiran (name	➤ Touched by the butcher	✓ Mother called in the school

	Changed)	<p>shop owner in the private parts</p> <p>➤ Threatened the child to kill the mother if she disclose</p>	<p>premises and informed.</p> <p>✓ After counseling child ready to confide in her mother.</p> <p>✓ Action taken by her mother and neighbours took action and the accused jailed.</p>
5	Tanya In 3 <sup>rd</sup> class	➤ Abused by a stranger	<p>✓ Abused by a stranger and the child didn't disclose this.</p> <p>✓ Underperformance in the class and destructive attitude in day to day activities.</p> <p>✓ Very poor self-hygiene.</p> <p>✓ counseling sessions assisted in making her confident</p> <p>✓ Taking interest in her studies &amp; daily chores</p> <p>✓ Is aware and has learnt to defend herself</p> <p>✓ Saved her in one marriage event she attended.</p>
6	Sarita(name changed) 4 <sup>th</sup> class	<p>➤ Abused by tenant</p> <p>➤ Neighbor hit &amp; touched her private parts</p>	<p>✓ Called the parents and counseled them.</p> <p>✓ Took immediate action and with the help of landlord sent the accused to jail.</p> <p>✓ Child is happy and confident in her life.</p>
7	Meena (name changed)	<p>➤ Cousin maternal Uncle accused</p> <p>➤ Family not supportive &amp; do not trust the child</p> <p>➤ Only class teacher is supportive.</p> <p>➤ Principal not understanding and supportive</p>	<p>✓ Met the girl out of school premises with the assistance of class teacher</p> <p>✓ Child made aware about the session.</p> <p>✓ Child found hard to believe that someone did trust her</p> <p>✓ Interactions helped her to build trust.</p> <p>✓ Provided counseling session to her and her father.</p> <p>✓ Father not interested for further action.</p> <p>✓ Her father trusts his child</p> <p>✓ Child is happy, even preparing for scholarship exam.</p>

8	Raja(name changed)	✓ kidnapped from his house and came back after 15 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Counseled the child</li> <li>✓ Met her mother &amp; found that it's not a case of CSA</li> <li>✓ Child was in a traumatic situation hence still had fear and was not able to concentrate in the studies.</li> <li>✓ Counseled the child and he is showing improvement.</li> </ul>
9	Seema (name Changed) 3 <sup>rd</sup> class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Abused by elder brother (married)</li> <li>➤ Parents &amp; family not supportive</li> <li>➤ Sister using her as baby sitter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Child abused &amp; employed as labor.</li> <li>✓ Rescued with the help of DCPO, Uttam Nagar PS &amp; CWC 1 from her sister's house.</li> <li>✓ Send her to shelter home</li> <li>✓ Her brother arrested within a fortnight.</li> <li>✓ Child rescued and happy with her family.</li> </ul>
10	Shruti(name changed) 3rd class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Kidnapped ,hit &amp; abused by accused when she was 4 years of age</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Consistent counseling sessions ongoing</li> <li>✓ Child in much better shape</li> <li>✓ Child was hit very badly &amp; finds difficult to speak</li> <li>✓ Speech sessions also ongoing.</li> </ul>

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