

Association for Development

# ANNUAL REPORT: 2016-17

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## Executive Summary

Association for Development has been working on the women and children issues for more than 20 years. We lay main emphasis on extending the bundle of services to the survivors of crime especially sexual assault (Adult and children) and the children in need of care and protection. We continuously endeavor to improve the system and make it favorable for the women and children. For this purpose, we continuously engage with the government through using RTI as a tool, consultations, workshops, capacity building programmes, etc. Our programmes are designed to provide tailor made services to women and children so that their needs are addressed in a most efficient manner. Currently we are running the following programmes:

**Victim Assistance Programme (VAP)** has three components under it viz. Rape Crisis Cell (RCC), Crisis Intervention Center (CIC) and Mahila Helpline (MHL). VAP is the nomenclature used by AFD to denote the direct services programmes run by us for the females requiring support and protection. Rape Crisis Cell (RCC) has the team of 22 Lawyers to provide many of the legal assistance to the survivors of sexual assault across Delhi. CIC has a team of 3 Counselors, who provide assistance to survivors at the level of Police Stations, Hospitals, Courts and CWCs in East District, Delhi. CIC is 24 Hours helpline service, where any police station of East Delhi receives any information about the case of sexual assault; refer the matter to CIC immediately. MHL is 24 Hours helpline service, where any women in trouble can call and get the required assistance. A mobile van placed at the disposal of the counselors of MHL so that they could reach the woman in distress, at the earliest.

**Community Outreach Programme (COP)** is designed to make intervention at the community level. The community intervention is planned to work on community issues in general and women and children issues in particular. Under this programme, a group of teen volunteers is trained on RTI and other interventions to take up community issues. In many cases, the group successfully resolved the community issues. We have a dedicated center, for this purpose, at Trilokpuri Community, where these volunteers do brainstorming and get guidance from the AFD staff.

**Advocacy** is an integral part of the AFD strategy to ensure that favorable atmosphere is created for women and children. Through our advocacy efforts, we try to influence the system in favour of women and children. Our efforts also focused at creating a network of individuals, NGOs and Government agencies so that the provisions of immediate help should be ensured. Our efforts have helped in creating transparency in the system and fixing accountability on the erring officials. It has also helped in smoothing the procedures at various levels.

## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

CIC	Crisis Intervention Centre
COP	Community Outreach Programme
CrPC	The Code of Criminal Procedure
CWC	Child Welfare Committee
CAW	Crime Against Women
DCPCR	Delhi Commissions for Protection of Child Rights
DWCD	Department of Women & Child Development
DC	Divisional Commissioner
ICPS	Integrated Child Protection scheme
JJC	Juvenile Justice Committee
JJA	Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection) Act
NCPCR	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
NIPCCD	National Institute of Public Co-operation & Child Development
PDS	Public Distribution System
POCSO	Protection of Children from Sexual Offences
RTI	Right to Information
VAP	Victim Assistance Programme
J. J. Act	Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015

## **Victim Assistance Programme (VAP)**

AFD is running the Victim Assistance Programme (VAP) with the objective to provide holistic support services to survivors of crime especially sexual assault and women in distress. The VAP nomenclature is given by AFD that has three components in it viz. Rape Crisis Cell (RCC), Crisis Intervention Center (CIC) and Mahila Help Line (MHL). The programme is supported by Delhi Commission for Women, Government of NCT of Delhi.

### **I. Rape Crisis Cell (RCC)**

Under the RCC programme, free legal services are provided exclusively to survivors of sexual assault and a team of experienced lawyers is engaged for this task. The primary objective of the RCC programme is to provide legal support/ assistance to the survivors of sexual assault throughout the judicial process. We guide the survivors and their family members, alienates their fear, which they might confront while undergoing the judicial process, assess each case and provide required legal guidance and support to the survivors. Mainly the following support services are provided to survivors under this programme:

- a) Prepare the victim for depositing the statement and cross examination before the court-** The survivors of sexual assault (including minor) are not only unfamiliar but are also scared of the judicial process. Moreover, if the case appears in the Court after long time, it can affect the case adversely and could create more chances of the acquittal. Therefore, we try to bring the case in the notice of Court at the earliest. Apart from this, the RCC Legal Counselors make the survivor understand the legal process and help them to prepare for depositing the statement and cross-examination before the court. It helps to make the survivors understand and become comfortable with the legal procedures.
- b) Bail Matter-** Bail is another important legal aspect, which requires attention, as the survivors are usually scared of the accused. The survivors may get threats and face pressure to withdraw the case, if bail is granted to the accused. Therefore, the RCC Legal Counselors itself, and assist the public prosecutors to, oppose the bail application filed by the accused.
- c) Victim Compensation-** It has been observed that the economic hardships of the survivors and their families can impact adversely their capacity to continue their battle for justice. Also, if the survivors have suffered fatal injuries, they require immediate financial assistance to meet the medical expenses. Therefore, the RCC Legal Counselors file application for interim compensation on behalf of the survivors before the court, so that financial assistance will immediately be extended to the survivors.
- d) Trial-** During the course of the trial, the court examines the facts of the case to reach a decision. The court listens to the statements of the witnesses and cross-examines them. The entire process is very crucial and deciding factor for the case. Therefore, the RCC

Legal Counselors assist the public prosecutor in preparing arguments and facilitate the process for the survivors.

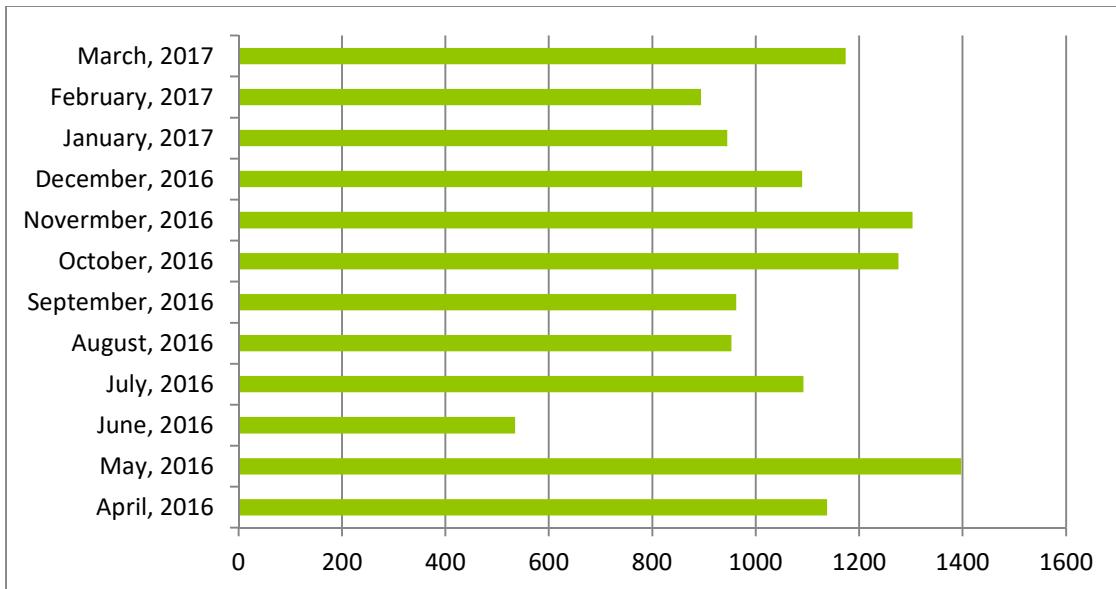
- e) **Filing application for protection**-In certain gruesome cases the survivors and their family members receive threats from the accused or his relatives or friends. In such cases, there is a need of protection of the survivors. Therefore, the RCC Legal Counselors move application before the court in this regards on behalf of the survivors.
- f) **Coordination with different stakeholders**- The work of the Legal Counselors require them to get engaged with different agencies, which are the part of the system dealing with the case of sexual assault. This system includes different stakeholders viz. police, the family of the victim, CIC counselors, court and its staff, the Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLSA) and the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW). Thus, the RCC Legal Counselors, as part of their duties, coordinate with these different stakeholders to create a congenial environment for the survivors.

AFD has been intervening in the cases of 11 POCSO/ Special Courts, 9 Fast Track Courts and 3 Juvenile Justice Boards in Delhi to help the survivors of sexual assault in getting justice. During the project year, we have intervened and done following work including above mentioned:

- i) **Case intervention:** AFD is working in close coordination with the Public Prosecutors of the all Courts/ Juvenile Justice Boards in Delhi, dealing the cases of sexual assault of women and children both. AFD provides their services to, survivors in preparing them to face the court proceedings confidently and, Public Prosecutors to prepare the case so that each and every fact could come in the notice of the court with the objective to get justice to survivors.

#### Number of Case Attended

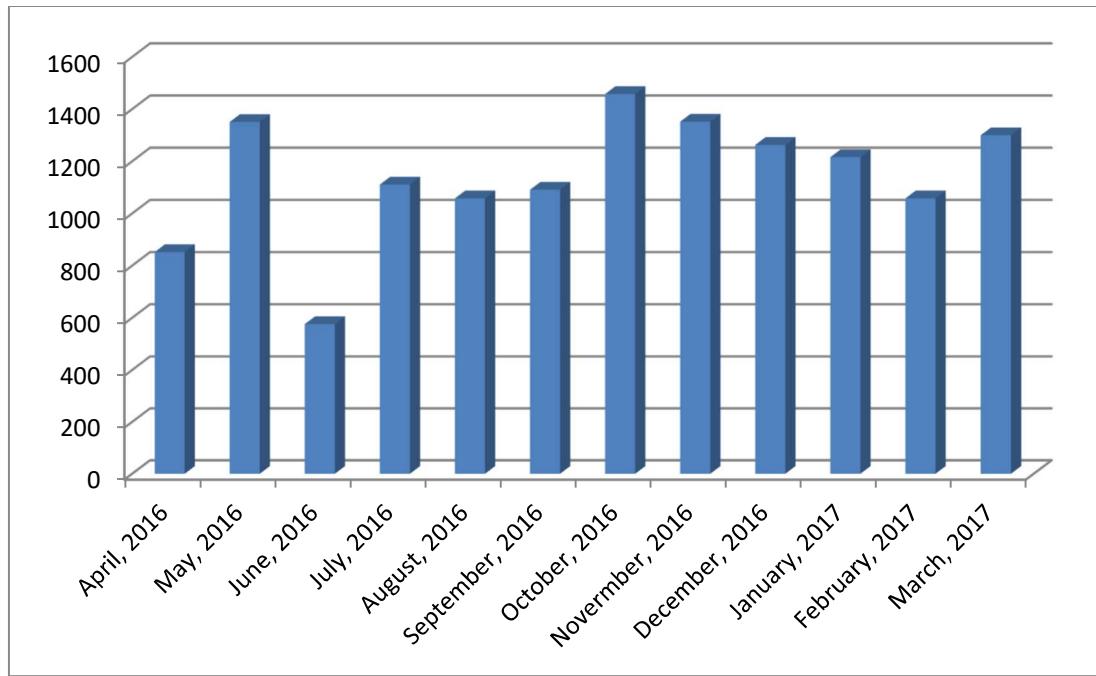
S. No.	Month	No. of Cases
1.	April, 2016	1138
2.	May, 2016	1397
3.	June, 2016	535
4.	July, 2016	1092
5.	August, 2016	953
6.	September, 2016	962
7.	October, 2016	1276
8.	November, 2016	1303
9.	December, 2016	1090
10.	January, 2017	945
11.	February, 2017	894
12.	March, 2017	1174



- ii) **Effective hearings:** In the effective hearing, AFD directly interact with the survivors on the date of hearing for either recording of her statement or cross examination during the trial. AFD do interact with survivors and prepare them about the nitty-gritty of the case and procedure of the court. Also, prepare them how to respond the queries to the respondent and court in appropriate manner. During the project year total 13,686 effective hearing has been attended.

#### **Number of Effective Hearings**

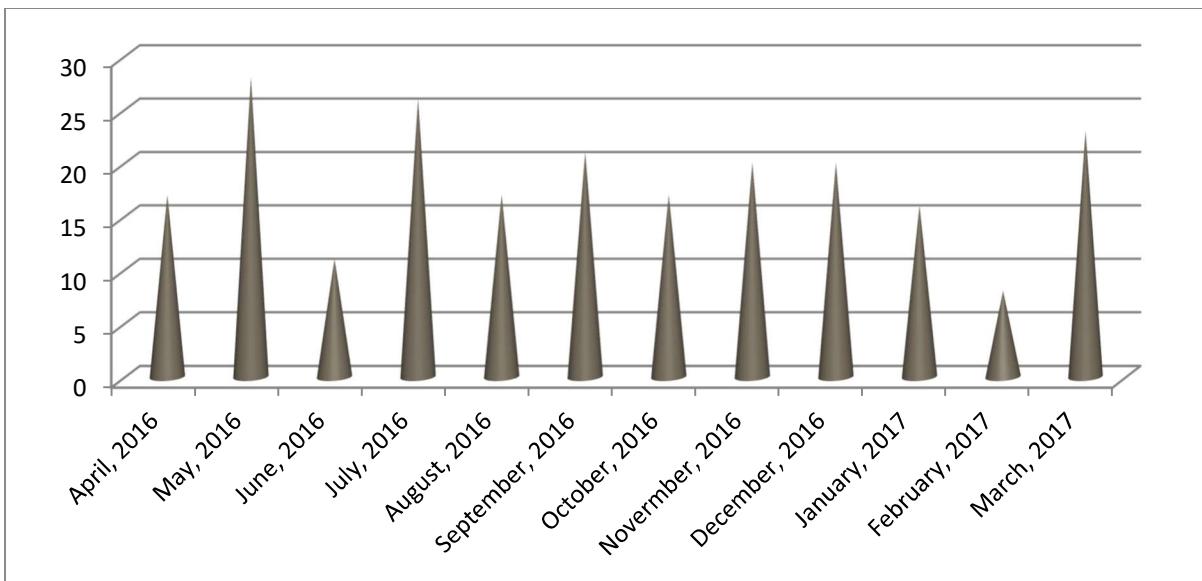
S. No.	Month	No. of Cases
1.	April, 2016	852
2.	May, 2016	1351
3.	June, 2016	576
4.	July, 2016	1111
5.	August, 2016	1058
6.	September, 2016	1091
7.	October, 2016	1458
8.	November, 2016	1352
9.	December, 2016	1263
10.	January, 2017	1216
11.	February, 2017	1058
12.	March, 2017	1300
	Total	13,686



iii) **Conviction:** AFD, in close coordination with Public Prosecutors, is involved in each and every case of sexual assault in the court and helping to Public Prosecutors to put up all the fact of the incident before the court to improve the conviction rate. During the project year, in 224 cases the court awarded the conviction to accused and AFD's intervention has significantly contributed.

#### Total Number of Conviction

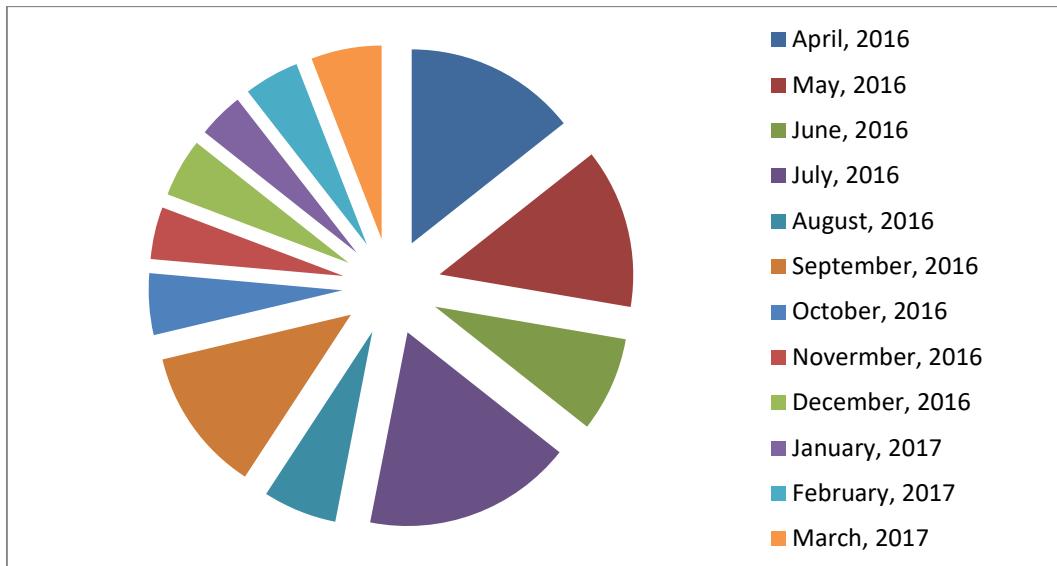
S. No.	Month	No. of Cases
1.	April, 2016	17
2.	May, 2016	28
3.	June, 2016	11
4.	July, 2016	26
5.	August, 2016	17
6.	September, 2016	21
7.	October, 2016	17
8.	November, 2016	20
9.	December, 2016	20
10.	January, 2017	16
11.	February, 2017	8
12.	March, 2017	23



iv) **Filling Applications:** After assessing the condition and need of the survivors, we move appropriate application including interim/final compensation, protection, cancellation of bail etc., before the courts. Usually, the Public Prosecutors are not able to, devote the time to every survivor and, concentrate on the immediate need of the survivors due to their heavy work pressure. Also, majority of the survivors belongs to poor economic background as a result they are not able to engage the efficient private professional counsel. AFD intervened in such cases and provide all kind of support in drafting, filling of applications and taking most favorable decision from the court. During this project year, total 390 applications have been filed in the court by AFD.

#### **Applications Filled**

S. No.	Month	No. of applications
1.	April, 2016	56
2.	May, 2016	52
3.	June, 2016	31
4.	July, 2016	68
5.	August, 2016	24
6.	September, 2016	47
7.	October, 2016	20
8.	November, 2016	17
9.	December, 2016	19
10.	January, 2017	15
11.	February, 2017	18
12.	March, 2017	23



- v) **Compensation:** It has been observed that majority of survivors of sexual assault belong to poor social-economic and educational family background. They are neither aware about their legal entitlements nor able to follow the laid down procedures to seek the same. POCSO Act, 2012 and Delhi Victims Compensation Scheme, 2012/2015 has given the mandate to State Government to provide the compensation to survivor of sexual assault. The court is empowered to grant the appropriate compensation considering the socio-economic condition and loss incurred due to the incident. Delhi Legal Service Authority is the nodal agency for disbursal of compensation. During the project period, AFD succeed to grant the compensation in 95 cases from the court, which makes the total amount approximately Rs. 78 laks compensation.

## II. Crisis Intervention Center (CIC)

This programme is the brainchild of AFD and it was initially implemented in collaboration with Delhi Police. The effectiveness of the programme was recognized by government of NCT of Delhi, in healing the suffering of the survivors of sexual assault. Therefore, this model was adopted and expanded by Govt. of Delhi to all over Delhi. AFD is running this programme in East District, Delhi. Under this programme, we are providing round the clock services to the survivors of sexual assault, trafficking, missing/found girl child and women in distress. AFD provides following services to them:

- I. Assess the survivor's immediate needs.
- II. Counseling and legal guidance to survivor and her family.
- III. Support the survivor and her family at Police Station, Hospital and Court.
- IV. Assist and facilitate in the rehabilitation of survivor of sexual assault.

The primary objective of this programme is to give immediate support and familiarize survivors and their family members with the legal procedure being followed during the entire process. Our counselors reach immediately, as soon as, the matter comes to their notice. They either get the case referred from Police or DCW. But in some of the cases, our counselors also take *suo-motoaction*, as and when they come across the case through media reports or other sources. Following are the mainservices provided by AFD to the survivors of sexual assault:

- a. **Counseling:** The component of counseling is very crucial because, both during and after the crisis situations, most survivors do undergo a phase of severe trauma. This is especially with the cases of sexual assault, where survivors may even suffer from problematic symptoms like lack of appetite, loss of weight, insomnia, nightmares, insecurity, depression and other behavioral and personality disorders. In such cases, extensive sessions are held with the survivors and other family members. It has also been observed that the relationship with the parents is also affected by such incidents. The assistance that the agency provided (medical, legal guidance & accompanying them to the police station, hospital and court) help the survivors and their family members in order to cope with the trauma. Also, the numbers of counseling sessions are decided as per the needs of the individual cases. Counseling plays an important role in motivating the survivor and her family to seek justice.
- b. **Medical Treatment:** In cases of sexual abuse, the first and foremost need is of medical attention, especially in the case of minor survivors. It is also very important for the survivor and her parents to collect the forensic evidence which play a very crucial role in conviction of accused. The counselors inform to survivors about the relevance of MLC and forensic evidence and accompany them to hospitals for medical examination in order to provide support to the survivors and to facilitate the conducting of medical examination properly and in time.

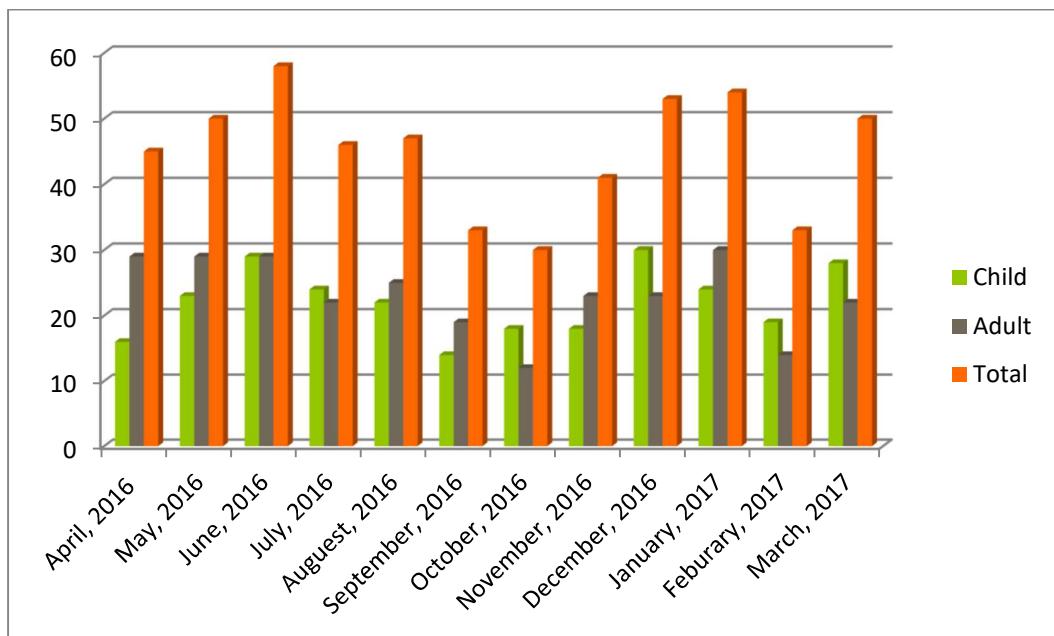
- c. **Legal Aid and Guidance:** It is seen, in the Indian context, that the lack of awareness of relevant laws, legal procedures and legal rights often affect the coping capacity of the survivors. We have observed that insensitive handling at police stations, humiliating cross-examinations, cumbersome court trials and corruption at various levels add to the woes of the survivors of crime. This often results in a situation where victims and their guardians lose interest in the case. Therefore, our legal aid and guidance help the survivors in understanding the situation in realistic manner that helps them to cope with the situation more effectively. Also, counselors from AFD take up the matter, in urgent and appropriate cases, with concerned senior police officials, public prosecutors and judicial authorities to remove bottlenecks and impediments in the investigation and trial of cases. We not only prepare the survivors and their families for court hearings, but also accompany them to the court and police stations, as and when required. Additionally, AFD provides relevant legal inputs at crucial stages of the case. In this entire process, we adopt a persuasive approach rather than confrontational and antagonistic one vis-à-vis the authorities.
- d. **Assistance in expediting claim under Delhi Victims Compensation Scheme (DVCS)-2011:** The DVCS, 2011 was enacted by the Government of Delhi to provide interim compensation to the survivors and their dependent(s) to compensate the loss of injuries due to incident. Our experience shows that in most cases, the family of the survivor is not aware of the scheme. It has been observed in almost all cases that the survivor's family faces difficulties in completing formalities due to the cumbersome process. Therefore, AFD helps in expediting the claim for these families. We represent their case before the concerned SHO so that he/she may take up the matter with the Delhi Legal Service Authority (DLSA), the nodal agency that decide and disburses the interim compensation to be given to the survivor. Our counselors coordinate with the concerned police station; offices of DLSA, RCC Lawyer and keep update the survivors about the development.
- e. **Coordinate with the concerned Investigating Officers and Police Stations:** As soon as any case of sexual abuse comes to our knowledge, the counselor coordinates with the concerned Investigating Officer and Police Station for social work intervention. The counselor makes visits to the police station and helps the survivors to coordinate with the I.O. for the legal formalities at the police station, hospital & court for the recording of statement and for the medical examination. We keep in regular contact with investigating officer in order to remain updated on the status of the case. Also, the counselor aware the survivors about their rights at the police station, hospitals and courts.
- f. **Accompany the survivors to court:** AFD's counselors established rapport with the RCC lawyers. Under legal guidance programme, the counselor accompanies the survivors to the court for 164 CrPC. statements. Once the case was taken up, under legal intervention programme, it is followed till the last stage.

AFD, being a designated CIC, East Delhi provide their services to the cases reported in 16 police located in same district, AnandVihar Railway station and Yamuna Bank metro station. During the project year, we have intervened in the cases of sexual assault, trafficking, missing/found children etc.

- a. **Case Intervention:** During the project period, AFD intervened in total 542 cases which include cases of sexual assault (child and adult), trafficking, found children, molestation, harassment and others.

**Total No. of Cases Dealt**

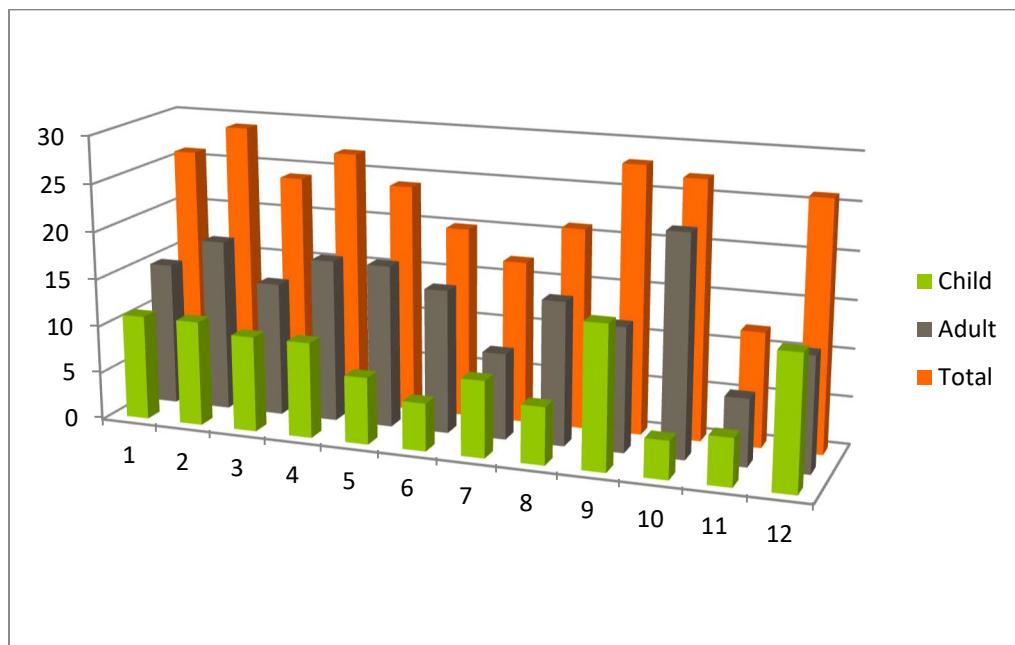
S. No.	Month	Child	Adult	Total
1.	April, 2016	16	29	45
2.	May, 2016	23	29	50
3.	June, 2016	29	29	58
4.	July, 2016	24	22	48
5.	August, 2016	22	25	47
6.	September, 2016	14	19	33
7.	October, 2016	18	12	30
8.	November, 2016	18	23	41
9.	December, 2016	30	23	53
10.	January, 2017	24	30	54
11.	February, 2017	19	14	33
12.	March, 2017	28	22	50
	Total	265	277	542



**b. Penetrative Sexual assault/ Rape Case:** The cases of penetrative sexual assault lodges under section 375, 376, 376A, 376B, 376C, 376D IPC and 3,4,5,6 POCSO Act, 2012. During the project period, AFD intervened total 280 cases of penetrative sexual assault.

#### Number of Cases of Penetrative Sexual Assault

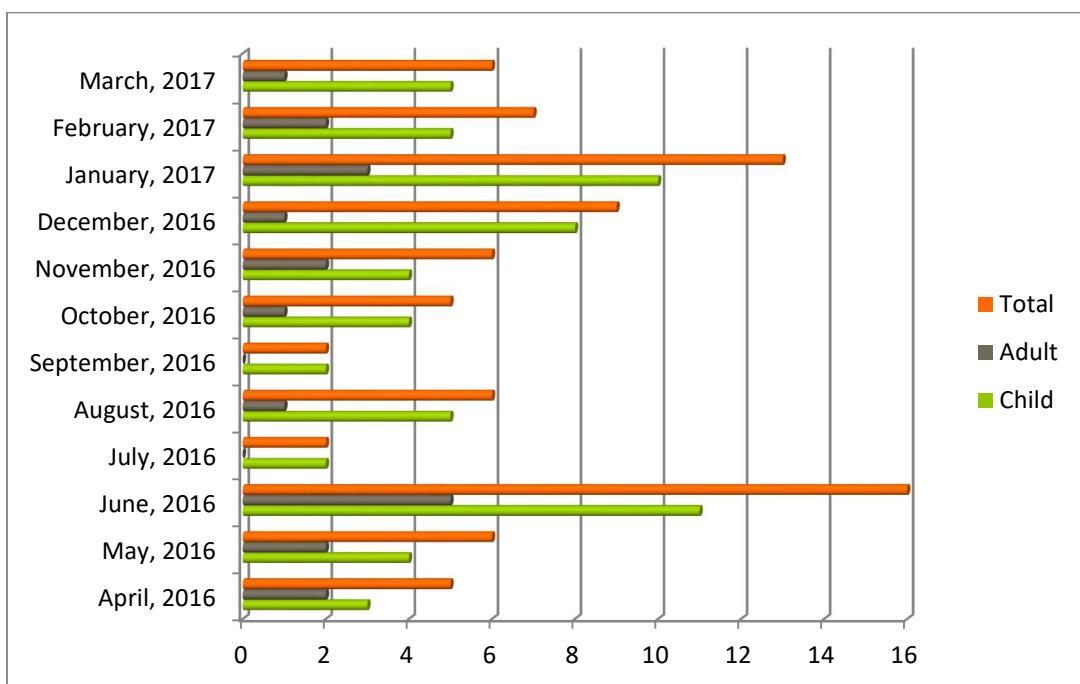
S. No.	Month	Child	Adult	Total
1.	April, 2016	11	15	26
2.	May, 2016	11	18	29
3.	June, 2016	10	14	24
4.	July, 2016	10	17	27
5.	August, 2016	7	17	24
6.	September, 2016	5	15	20
7.	October, 2016	8	9	17
8.	November, 2016	6	15	21
9.	December, 2016	15	13	28
10.	January, 2017	4	23	27
11.	February, 2017	5	7	12
12.	March, 2017	14	12	26
	Total	105	175	280



- c. **Non-Penetrative Sexual Assault, harassment, molestation case:** The cases of non-penetrative sexual assault lodges under section 354 of IPC and 7,8,9,10 of POCSO Act, 2012. During the project period, total 83 case of non-penetrative sexual assault have been dealt by the AFD.

#### **Number of cases of non-penetrative sexual assault, harassment and molestation**

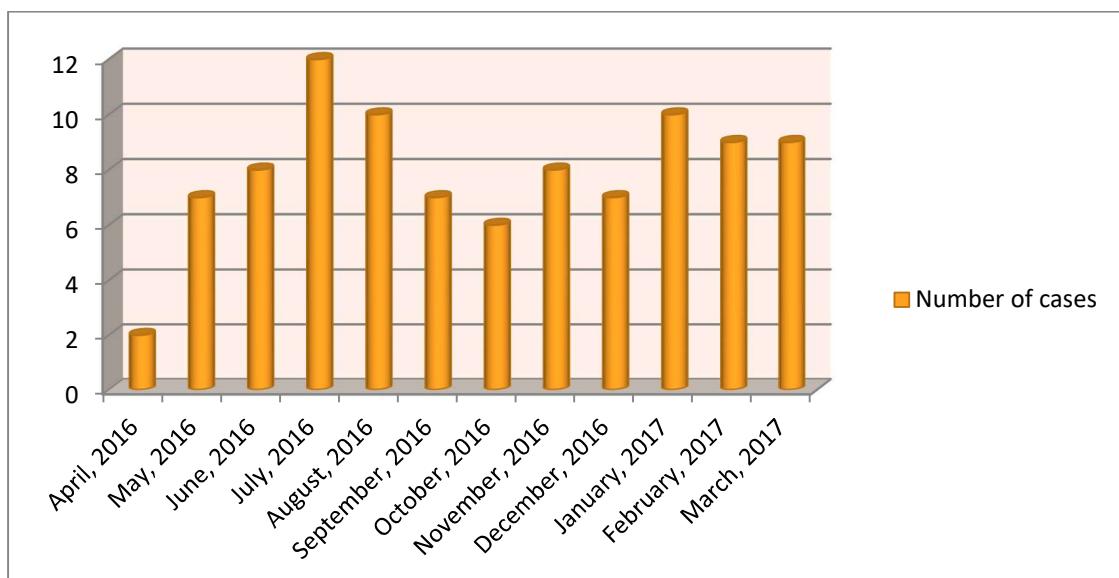
S. No.	Month	Child	Adult	Total
1.	April, 2016	3	2	5
2.	May, 2016	4	2	6
3.	June, 2016	11	5	16
4.	July, 2016	2	0	2
5.	August, 2016	5	1	6
6.	September, 2016	2	0	2
7.	October, 2016	4	1	5
8.	November, 2016	4	2	6
9.	December, 2016	8	1	9
10.	January, 2017	10	3	13
11.	February, 2017	5	2	7
12.	March, 2017	5	1	6
	Total	63	20	83



- d. Trafficking/ missing children:** The cases of missing children/ trafficking lodged under section 363 of IPC and relevant section of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. Total 95 cases of missing/ trafficking children have been dealt during this project period.

#### Total number of cases of trafficking/ missing children

S. No.	Month	No. of Cases
1.	April, 2016	2
2.	May, 2016	7
3.	June, 2016	8
4.	July, 2016	12
5.	August, 2016	10
6.	September, 2016	7
7.	October, 2016	6
8.	November, 2016	8
9.	December, 2016	7
10.	January, 2017	10
11.	February, 2017	9
12.	March, 2017	9
	Total	95



## Field of Intervention

- a. **At Police Stations:** When a case comes in the knowledge of the organization, a counselor visits to the police station to make sure that, the investigation is done in a transparent manner. All sorts of assistance is extended to the survivors, which includes registration of FIR and getting other pertinent information from the Police like a copy of the FIR, information on the status of the case etc.
- b. **At Hospitals:** The role of the organization is not restricted to the Police Station and providing counseling. Survivors are accompanied to the hospital for medical examination. The organization ensures that the medical examination of the survivor should be done quickly after the incident, due legal procedure is followed and a female doctor must do the medical examination, if the survivor is female. The organization also ensures that humiliating questions pertaining to the case shall not be asked to the survivor and that doctor and other hospital staff behaves properly with them. The survivors are made aware of their rights vis-à-vis the medical examination in the hospital and the importance of the medical examination in bringing the perpetrators to book.
- c. **Recording of statement in the office of the concerned Magistrate:** Counselors accompany the survivors to the office of the Magistrate for recording the mandatory victim's statement under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973. The presence of counselors helps in boosting the morale of the survivors and brings about a feeling that they are not fighting their case alone. They are also made aware of the importance of recording their statement under Section 164 of the CrPC.
- d. **At Court during trial:** The counselor accompanies the survivors to the court during the trial. It helps in boosting the survivors' confidence during the cross-examination and facing the trial boldly. The survivors are encouraged to give their statement without succumbing to external pressures or fear. The organization also ensures that, if necessary, the survivors and other witnesses are given protection by the Police.
- e. **At the Child Welfare Committee:** In cases involving a child in need of care and protection, the child is produced before the committee for care, protection, treatment, development and rehabilitation. Counselors of the organization accompany the child and ensure the sensitive handling of the case by members of the committee. AFD also raise the issues pertaining to the protection of the child and ensure that the child receives benefits of the schemes meant for them.

### **III. Mahila Help Line**

Under the programme, AFD provide their services on 24\*7 basis. A mobile van is kept for this programme. Any woman in distress can call on the toll free number 181. The call then is transferred to the concerned NGO/counselor. As and when the counselor gets the call, she immediately reaches to the spot where the woman is located. Neighboring Police Station is also informed so that one police personnel, preferably woman police, shall also reach at the spot immediately. It is being endeavored that the matter shall be resolved on the spot and if required the FIR should be registered. Also, if the circumstances are not amicable at home, the woman is taken to the short- stay home. The women are also assisted in case they require medical and legal assistance. AFD continued this programme till the month of June, 2016.

#### **Nature of cases attended**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Nature of calls received</b>	<b>Total no. of cases</b>
1	Domestic Violence	82
2	Maintenance	3
3	Harassment by family/ relatives	33
4	Murder/ Suicide	2
5	Molestation	4
6	Harassment by others	14
7	Mental Illness	1
8	Dowry	2
9	Alcoholism/ Drug Addition	7
10	Child Marriage	1
11.	Rescue Shelter	2
12	Acid Attack	1
13	Miscellaneous	36
<b>Total</b>		<b>188</b>

## **Community Outreach Programme (COP)**

### **(Supported By Christian Aid)**

AFD is running the Community Outreach Programme, for more than 20 years in the resettlement colony of Trilokpuri, East District, Delhi. This programme is running with the mandate of making people aware, empower, independent and capable so they can understand the community issue in wider perspective and take appropriate action. The programme's main objective is to ensure a supportive and protective environment for women and children in the community. Therefore, we take up the general issues of the community as well as specific issues of women and children.

We adopt an empowering process wherein the community members are empowered to take up their issues and make efforts to resolve them. AFD encourages involvement of children and adolescents of the community, who are interested to own community issues in future. We have trained five groups of local volunteers, who are into their teenage, to take up the matter with various concerned agencies. We call them "Agents of Change" who have been trained on RTI i.e. drafting and filing of RTI applications, first appeal, and second appeal. They filed RTI on number of issues and resolved many of them through their RTI interventions. This exercise not only helped them in taking community issues but also in developing their confidence to deal with the Government machinery. It is important to highlight that they train other community members on RTI. Apart from this, these volunteers of the community conduct sessions with children and adolescents organize street plays and rallies to create awareness and sensitization on different issues, especially on children and women issues. They design the activities to be undertaken in the community, with the required support, in terms of guidance and material, from AFD. Now, they are playing important roles to facilitate different services to the community, provided by governmental and non-governmental organizations. We encourage the involvement of local adolescents and children to become the part of the groups nurtured by AFD. We have conducted the following activities within the community, under COP.

#### **A) Street Plays**

Street play is a vital tool to create awareness, on social issues, among community people. Keeping the importance of street play in mind, we organized a number of street plays at the various locations in the community. The street plays were organized on the following major issues:

1. **Child Sexual Abuse:** A total number of two street plays were organized in the community to create awareness about the problem of child sexual abuse and the legal provisions as well as schemes for children. The volunteers dexterously told the people how to avoid as well as confront this problem. It is also being conveyed through street play that parents should give enough space to their children so that they speak to them in case of any untoward incident either happened or they experienced something unusual. On the other hand, children were also motivated to discuss their problem with their

parents or any other trust worthy person. Another important feature of the street play was that the children were told the difference between good touch and bad touch.



2. **Child Labour (3):** With the initiation of industrialization, urbanization and globalization the society started developing and the amenities for comfort were produced at a rapid pace. Also, the competition between industries increased to produce the quality products and services in minimum cost. This requires not only the availability of low cost material but also cheap labour. Therefore, the demand for child labour increased, that has resulted in employment of children in the sweatshops. Now the problem is quite rampant in our society. Though, legal provisions are there to curb the problem of child labour yet the problem has not been resolved. It has been found that majority of the children joining the labour force are from the slum and resettlement colonies. Therefore, we organized four street plays on child labour to sensitize the community about the issue and the legal provisions meant for their protection and development.



3. **Child Trafficking (2):** Article 3(a) of Palermo Protocol defines trafficking in Person as "*...the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, or fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the*

*exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs*". UNICEF adopted the same definition to explain the trafficking in children. It is astonishing to know that though the problem is big yet the people at the community level are ignorant about it. Therefore, we organized two street plays on this issue to sensitize the people.



4. **Education (2):** Education is a right of every child. Article 21A of Constitution of India gives the provision of free and compulsory education to children in the age group of 6-14 years. The primary aim to give education is to ensure the development of the child. It has been found at the community level that education is the least priority area of the parents. The reason for the same might be that they are unaware about the importance of education and benefit it has for their children. Keeping all these things in mind it was decided to create awareness in the community about the legal provisions and the importance of education for their development. Therefore, we organized one street play on education to cover all the important aspects pertaining to education.
  
5. **Save Water (2):** Water is precious gift of nature. The water is available in abundance and it constitutes 71% of Earth surface. But the potable water is only 1%. So this precious gift of nature requires to be conserved and used prudently. The wastage of water is to be either avoided or minimized. These above stated information is required to be spread among the community. Therefore, we were invited by GRC of Chentalaya to perform a street play and spread the information in Trilokpuri community. The same was performed by our volunteers and the vital information on water was disseminated among the residence of the Trilokpuri community.



6. **Women Helpline-181 (1):** The crime against women is rapidly increasing in Delhi. To provide the immediate support to the women in difficult circumstances, Delhi Commission for Women has started a helpline service round the clock. Any needy women can dial the helpline no. 181 to seek the help. Then the team of Mahila Helpline will approach to the women and provide necessary support. It is a great initiative, which was required to create awareness in the community at the great extent. Keeping in mind the importance of the issue and the helpline, AFD organized a street play to create the awareness about the women helpline in Trilokpuri community.

### **B) Domestic Violence Case**

*"Domestic violence"* includes actual abuse or the threat of abuse that is physical, sexual, verbal, emotional and economic. It is in commonplace to hear about the domestic violence in Newspapers, community and neighborhood. Though umpteen number of provisions are available for women, yet violence at their home is a peculiar situation to deal with and it has now become a major area of concern. Therefore, AFD has been working on this issue in the community for a very long time. We have a dedicated community center where women are encouraged to report any matter of violence they have been facing at home. Here we provide counseling services as well as information pertaining to legal provisions to women and their family members. In case any incident of domestic violence is reported to us, we first go for reconciliation. If our reconciliation efforts are failed, the cases are referred either to Crime Against Women Cells or MahilaPanchayat or local Police. During the project period, 2015-2016, AFD handled 2 cases and done follow up in previous cases.

### **C) Sessions with Children**

AFD conducted number of sessions with the children. The primary purpose of organizing sessions with children is to provide them a platform, where they can do brainstorming on vital issues and put their perspective on it. Issues like- time management, communication problem, career guidance, child labour, child sexual abuse, impact of domestic violence etc were taken up

during these sessions. Later follow up sessions were taken to get their feedbacks about the programs and activities done in the community. Also, their ideas and opinions were taken to organize more effective programs in the future. Total number of beneficiaries were around 40-50 children of the community.

#### **D) Educational Classes**

The organization provides educational classes to children of the community with the objectives to improve their performance in education. It is observed that the children face major difficulties in two subjects viz. English and Mathematics. Therefore, we hold classes primarily on these two subjects and discuss their problems at length. It is endeavoured that their problems are discussed systematically so that it will help in developing their interest and basic understanding of the subjects. It is important to mention here that more than 40 children are benefitted through the classes, during the current project period.



#### **E) Women Education Classes**

In a male dominated society, the education female is least concerned about. One can easily find that women in the community are not given chance to go for basic education and going for higher education is distant dream for them. Especially, women in resettlement or JJ clusters do not get the opportunity of getting education. Therefore, literacy classes were organized for them wherein they were not only taught how to sign but also read and write properly. More than 50 women were benefitted from our literacy classes.



#### **F) Health Checkup Camp**

Health is a very important and common issue in the community. Due to the various pull and push factors, the community people do not give priorities to health problem and always prefer to take some medicine without consulting the doctors. It was a felt need to organize a free health checkup camp so that the community people can take an opinion of the well qualified doctors with regards to health issues. Hence two health checkup camps on 28.5.2016 and 30.9.2016 have been organized in the community in collaboration with Max Hospital Saket and approximately 300 community people got benefitted.

#### **G) Sensitization programme on Child Trafficking**

During the work in the community, AFD came to know about the many cases of missing children. That is quite possible that the children got trafficked. Hence it was realized to sensitize the adolescent group associated with AFD so that they can carry the same in the community to prevent the incident of missing children. The programme was organized in collaboration of Justice and Care. A documentary movie was showed to the adolescent group and discussion was initiated about the various dimension of trafficking. Also, discussed about the prevention strategies for child trafficking took place. At the end of the programme, the group members also informed about the reporting and legal provisions in case of child trafficking. 15 adolescent boys and girls benefitted from the programme.

#### **H) Campaign on Safe Drinking Water**

AFD in collaboration with IIRD Foundation For Sustainable Development initiated a campaign in East Delhi with the objective to disseminate and generate information on safe drinking water, collect water samples and analyze on-the-spot and share observation & analysis with the community members. Also disseminate and generate information on Safe Drinking Water. To achieve the objective, AFD adolescent group – ‘Jagriti’ performed the street plays on 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 at Trilokpuri and Khichripur. Thereafter, the public was addressed by the

experts to motivate them to take advantage of Mobile Water Testing Laboratory of IIRD to check the quality of drinking water and sample of water was collected for the testing.

### I) Republic Day Celebration

On the eve of the Republic Day, AFD celebrated the same with the children and adolescent volunteers associated with AFD in the community. During this programme the children got opportunity to perform dance, songs, poem and shayari. Also, a quiz and drawing competition were held to appreciate and to encourage them. The programme was conducted in such a manner that the children could learn and develop their confidence and personality.



### COP Activities

S. No	Date	Activity	Venue	No. of Beneficiaries
1	01.04.2016	Street Play on Women Help Line (181)	AFD, BhartiVikas Kendra	80 - 90
2	14.04.2016	Street Play on Child Labour cum child trafficking.	Block-8 TrilokPuri	100 - 150
3	24.04.2016	Awareness camp on Missing Children	AFD, BhartiVikas Kendra	80

4	24.04.2015	Street Play on Child Labour cum child trafficking.	AFD, BhartiVikas Kendra	80
5	14.05.2016	Street Play on Sexual Abuse-1	Block - 5, Trilokpuri	90 - 100
6	24.05.2016	Street Play on Sexual Abuse-2	Block-12, Trilokpuri	100 - 150
7	28.05.2016	Health Camp on collaboration with Max health hospital	AFD, BhartiVikas Kendra	225
8	13.06.2016	Street play on Education	Block-6, Trilokpuri	100 - 150
9	02.06.2016	Awareness meeting on child trafficking with justice for case and protection	AFD, BhartiVikas Kendra	15 Volunteers (5 staff members)
10	27.06.2016	Street play on sexual abuse	Block-19, Trilokpuri	200 - 250
11	25.07.16	Street Play on Child Labour cum child trafficking.	Block-5, Trilokpuri	150 - 200
12	17.08.2016	Street play on Education	Block-31, Trilokpuri	90 - 100
13	30.09.2016	Health Camp	Old baraatghar&Pratidhi Office TrilokPuri	50-65
14	11.2.2017	Street Play on safe drinking water	Block-3,Trilok Puri	90 - 100
15		Street Play on safe drinking water	Khichripur	80

## **Advocacy efforts made to improve the governance pertaining to Women and Children**

### **i. Campaign Against Child Trafficking(CACT)**

The Campaign Against Child Trafficking was formally launched on 12 December 2001 in Delhi and it has chapters in 13 States across the country. AFD is designated as *Delhi State Coordination Office* for the campaign. CACT believes that trafficking of children is one of the gravest violations of their human rights and hence it has been the first ever campaign in the country to draw attention specifically to child trafficking. The members of the campaign work in source as well as destination areas to create awareness and to rescue and rehabilitation of trafficked children. The campaign advocacy initiative brought some significant changes in the government policies. Sixteen years since the last report, update and assessment of the scenario was planned at a meeting with the 13 CACT states partners in January 2015. The report draws upon existing information, governmental and others to trace the changes that have taken place since 2000. It was also decided that a public hearing would be organized to bring the issue on the forefront. To highlight our advocacy effort, during this year a national report on the present scenario is prepared, which will be released in next year.

As Delhi State coordination Office, AFD has filed series of RTI applications in various government departments viz. Department of Women and Child Development, Labour Department, Delhi Police, Office of the Divisional Commissionaire and Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights. The information received from these departments is compiled and a brief report was prepared. This report was incorporated in the national report and released in the Public Hearing organized by CACT on 22 June, 2016.

### **ii. Functioning of Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR)**

DCPCR is constituted under Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005. The mandate of the Commission is to work as a ‘watch dog’, to protect and promote the Rights of the Children. It is also empowered to seek report from the related departments; conduct visits to children institutions, highlights the gap in the implementation of law, and gives recommendations to the government, etc. to improve the governance in the interest of children. Commission is also empowered to monitor the implementation of various legislations pertaining to children. But it has been noticed that the Commission is not performing its role and responsibilities properly. Also, the positions of six members of DCPCR is vacated and only the chairperson sitting in the commission. Therefore, AFD took up this issue and filed series of RTI in order to streamline the functioning of the Commission and written representation to the Government to raise the following issues:

- a) Visit to children institutions.
- b) Utilization of budget on the children issues.
- c) Cases of sexual assault dealt by the commission
- d) Amendment in Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Right Rules
- e) Selection of Chairperson and members in the Commission.

It was revealed under the RTI that the Commission has not conducted even a single visit to children institution in the last 3 years. Also, there is misutilization of government fund. No mechanism was developed for the monitoring of the implementation of POCSO Act. We took up the matter with the concerned authority through sending representation and followed the matter with the RTI.

### **iii. Working of Child Welfare Committees:**

Child Welfare Committee is a very important statutory body constituted under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, vested with the power of judicial magistrates to decide care, protection and rehabilitation of children. It is also a final authority to protect human rights of children. The committee consists with five members including one woman. The selection of the members has been done by the State Government on the recommendation of Selection Committee formed as per Rule, 87 of J.J. Rules, 2016.

The new J.J. Act was notified in 2016 and there are various important changes/additions in the provisions which directly affect the functioning of Child Welfare Committee. Hence, it is required that the Government should take affirmative action to implement the provisions of the act with the spirit in the best interest of the children.

AFD always focuses to improve the ground situation through effective implementation of the legislations. We engaged the government through RTI intervention and representations in view of improving the quality of services of the committees towards the children and raised following issues:

- a) Transparent and fair selection of members in Committee (Ref. Rule 88 of J.J. Rule, 2016)
- b) Duty roster for the members of the committee (Ref. Rule 16(6) of J. J. Rules, 2016)
- c) Monitoring of Committees by the concern SDM (Ref. Rule 20 of J. J. Rules, 2016)

It was revealed under the RTI that the offices of the SDMs were not aware about their role in the monitoring of the Child Welfare Committees and mostly was not taken any action in this regard with reference to J.J. Rule. It was also observed that some SMDs took initiative after RTI when they came to know about their role in reviewing the pendency of cases and monitoring of Committee. Regarding the duty roster for the members of the committee, the Department of Women and Child Development, Govt. of Delhi took action on our representation and issued directions to committees to develop the duty roster and circulate with all stakeholders. In compliance, the committee has developed the roster and shared with all stakeholders.

### **iv. Amendment in Delhi Victims Compensation Scheme, 2011**

Delhi Victims Compensation Scheme, 2011 was notified on 02.02.2012, in pursuant of section 357 A of the CrPC, to provide compensation to the victims or their dependent(s) who have suffered loss or injury as a result of the offence and require rehabilitation. Under this scheme, Victims Compensation Fund is created from which the amount of compensation shall be paid to the victims or their dependent(s). Delhi Legal Services Authority (DLSA) is the nodal agency

who decides the amount of compensation. The emphasis is given on the rights and rehabilitation needs of each victim that has to be minutely gauged, recognized and redressed. The important component of scheme is the immediate financial support, in terms of interim compensation, is to be extended to the victim. But the system is fraught with the number of legal procedures. Also, the lethargy and inherent gaps in the system create hurdles in providing immediate assistance to the victims and many a times they have to run from pillar to post to get the compensation but they are unable to get the compensation. Therefore, AFD took up this matter with Delhi Police, Delhi Govt., DLSA, Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) and Courts to streamline the system and make it more affable for the victims. In this process, we had continuous dialogue, through meeting, consultation and formal communication, RTI intervention with all the vital stakeholders. Due to our continuous efforts, the Govt. has recommended amendment in the scheme in 2014 and the amended scheme is notified on 23.12.2016 by the Government of Delhi.

#### **v. Monitoring mechanism of the placement agencies in Delhi**

The business of placement agencies is mushrooming in Delhi and other metropolitan cities. With the development of the society, the demand of domestic help is increasing every day and the placement agencies are recognized mainly for the supply of domestic help. Unfortunately, the regulatory mechanism has not been created wherein the monitoring of these placement agencies can be ensured. It is a known fact that these placement agencies bring young poor tribal and other socially oppressed girls to the city, to meet the increasing demand of domestic help. These girls are brought to the metropolitan city on the pretext of giving good earning opportunities but in reality, they face lots of exploitation. They get victimized at various levels that ranges from placement agency to the households. So in order to desist this exploitation, AFD started doing advocacy. We have been consistently making efforts to involve all the stakeholders to deal with the problem of victimization of domestic helps and unregularised placement agencies. We have brought the issues of children domestic help exploitation in the form of torture, beating or confinement etc. in public domain and sought to generate maximum support to deal with the problem efficiently. It is important to mention here that the High Court of Delhi has also given the direction to enact the legislation on placement agencies so that their unregulated business shall be checked. In pursuance of the court order, the Government of NCT of Delhi prepared a draft legislation on placement agencies, which is riddled with loopholes. AFD is consistently giving its inputs in the draft legislation to make it more robust and also pushing the Govt. to notify the placement agency (regulation) Act so that the menace of child labour will be minimized. It is important to highlight that the Govt. of Delhi issued a guideline for placement agencies for the monitoring of their functioning. But it is revealed under the RTI, filed by AFD, that the order is not being implemented at the ground level. Therefore, AFD is involving other stakeholders to push the Govt. to implement the guidelines properly.

#### **vi. Social audit of National/ State Commissions for Women**

National Commission for Women and State Commissions for Women have been set up as a statutory body under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 with the mandate to review

the constitutional and legal safeguards for women, recommend remedial legislative measures, facilitate redressal of grievances and advise the Government on all policy matter affecting women. The commission is also empowered to look into the complaints and take suo-moto notice of matters relating to deprivation of women's rights, non-implementation of laws enacted to provide protection to women and to achieve the objective of equality and development and non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines and instructions. To do the work and fulfill their mandate the Central and State Governments provide them fund. But the functioning of the commissions are not satisfactory and up to the mark.

Therefore, it was a felt need to conduct a social audit of the functioning of the committees. Hence, AFD took up this task and filled the series of RTIs to National and State Commissions to analyse the functioning of the commissions, which mainly covers following aspects:

1. Constitution of Commission;
2. Human resources provided to commissions;
3. Fund/ grant received to commission and its utilization;
4. Handling of cases by the commissions;
5. Recommendation on policies and plan for the women;
6. Field visits conducted in case and otherwise as well.

AFD has been receiving the assessing information. We will carry forward this task in next project year and release a detailed audit report.

#### **vii. Handbook on the cases of child sexual assault (Hindi)**

The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act was enacted in 2012 with the mandate to provide protection to children from the offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography with due regard for safeguarding the interest and wellbeing of the child at every stage of the judicial process, incorporating child friendly procedures or reporting, recording of evidence, investigation of trial of offences and provision for establishment of Special Courts for speedy trial of such offences. It is a very important act to deal the cases of child sexual Assault. It provides very important right to the child in getting justice. But the main issue is that the people are not aware about the rights and entitlement given under the POCSO Act. There is serious lack of awareness about the Act. Especially, the people live in the slums and resettlement communities from which the maximum cases have been reported. Due to low literacy rate in these communities, it makes tougher to them to understand the legal language as well.

Therefore, it was needed to develop IEC material for them. Hence, AFD has decided to develop a handbook with reference to some case studies containing the information of provisions of POCSO Act, in an easy and understandable language. We have been developing this handbook in Hindi so that the community people can read this and understand their rights and entitlements given under the POCSO Act, 2012. The handbook will be published in next project year.

## RTI Intervention in Different Departments/Ministries 2016-17

S.No	Department/ Ministries	No. of RTIs	No. of First Appeals	No. of Second Appeal
1.	Department of Women and Child Department, Govt. of Delhi	07	-	-
2.	Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR), Govt. of NCT of Delhi	02	-	-
3.	Home Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
4.	Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
5.	National Commission for Women	03	-	-
6.	National Human Right Commission	01	-	-
7.	Office of District Magistrate, West District, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
8.	Office of District Magistrate, South- West, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
9.	Office of District Magistrate, South District, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
10.	Office of District Magistrate, Shahdara, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
11.	Office of District Magistrate, North- West, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
12.	Office of District Magistrate, North- East, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01-		-
13.	Office of District Magistrate, North, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
14.	Office of District Magistrate, New Delhi, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
15.	Office of District Magistrate, Central, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
16.	Office of District Magistrate, East, Govt. of NCT of Delhi	01	-	-
17.	State Commission for Women, West Bengal	02	-	-
18.	State Commission for Women, Bihar	02	-	-
19.	State Commission for Women, Nagaland	02	-	-
20.	State Commission for Women, Jharkhand	02	-	-
21.	State Commission for Women, Telangana	02	-	-
22.	State Commission for Women, Andhra Pardesh	02	-	-
23.	State Commission for Women, Rajasthan	02	-	-
24.	State Commission for Women, Karnataka	02	-	-
25.	State Commission for Women, Tamil Nadu	02	-	-
26.	State Commission for Women, Meghalaya	02	-	-

27.	State Commission for Women, Uttar Pradesh	02	-	-
28.	State Commission for Women, Gujrat	02	-	-
29.	State Commission for Women, Uttrakhand	02	-	-
30.	State Commission for Women, Pudcherry	02	-	-
31.	State Commission for Women, Tripura	02	-	-
32.	State Commission for Women, Shimla	02	-	-
33.	State Commission for Women, Goa	02	-	-
34.	State Commission for Women, Punjab	02	-	-
35.	State Commission for Women, Chattisgarh	02	-	-
36.	State Commission for Women, West Bangal	02	-	-
37.	State Commission for Women, Kerlla	02	-	-
38.	State Commission for Women, Assam	02	-	-
39.	National Commission for Women, New Delhi	01	-	-
40.	State Commission for Women, Odisha	02	-	-
41.	State Commission for Women, Arunachal Pradesh	02	-	-
42.	State Commission for Women, Haryana	02	-	-
43.	State Commission for Women, Sikkim	02	-	-
44.	State Commission for Women, Madhya Pradesh	02	-	-
45.	State Commission for Women, Maharashtra	02	-	-
46.	State Commission for Women, Mizoram	02	-	-
47.	State Commission for Women, Manipur	02	-	-