# BHARATIYA MUSLIM MAHILA ANDOLAN

# ANNUAL REPORT 2013

Supported by Ashana Trust

# Index

- 1. Report
- 2. Health Survey report of 10 communities
- 3. Anganwadi Survey report of Navpada and Bharatnagar
- 4. Baseline Report of Navpada and Bharatnagar
- 5. Report of survey of 8 BMC schools
- 6. RTE Pamphlet
- 7. Press Coverage
- 8. Photo Gallery

# ANNUAL REPORT OF BMMA MAHARASHTRA UNIT 2013

## GIVEN BELOW IS THE SUMMARY OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2013

#### **OVERALL ACHIEVEMENTS**

During the last 12 months the following are our specific achievements:

- 1. Publication of two advocacy material on codification.
- 2. Mention of reforms in Muslim family in the Maharashtra State appointed Mahmadur Rahman Report submitted to the State government
- 3. Submissions to the Maharashtra State Women's Policy draft
- 4. 118 cases reported in 5 Aurton ki Shariah Adalats in Mumbai and Pune
- 5. Outreach in 13 areas of Mumbai and 6 districts of Maharashtra
- 6. Mobile tower removal in Jeri Meri and road repair in Bandra east
- 7. Mohalla Committee in 4 police stations.'
- 8. Road repair work in Bandra east
- 9. Improvement in the Kherwadi BMC school seen with better quality of education, repaired toilets and disbursement of school items for children.
- 10. Gender training with women and girls'
- 11. Outreach with Muslim boys started
- 12.Increased interaction with state bodies like the State and National Women's Commission, State and National Minority Commission, Minority Development Department and the MPs and MLAs.
- 13. More visibility to BMMA and the issues of Muslim women through intense media outreach

# **DIRECT BENEFICIARIES**

- Sehr- 50 girls direct beneficiaries
- Udaan -35 boys between age 10 15
- Sponsorship children 400
- Aurton ki Shariat Adalat 118 cases
- Entitlement beneficiaries 332
  - PAN Card 108, Ration Card 5, Voter I card 80, Senior Citizen Cards 83, Domicile Certificate 10, Income Certificate 22, Driving licence 5, Passport 1, Gazette 1, Birth Certificate 11, School Admissions 6, Fees support 10
- Capacity building 780 [TOTAL TRAININGS: 39 Training sessions x 20 = 780]
- Community Outreach -13 communities x 5 x 12 months = 780
- Beneficiaries at the national level = 40 [ state and district leaders] TOTAL DIRECT BENEFICIERIES = 2535

# **INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES**

- Mohalla committee in 4 police stations
- Mobile tower removal in Jeri Meri
- Letter to corporator for eve teasing
- Press conference and Dharna on oral divorce

- Osmanabad water tank sponsor Khwaja nagar in Osmanabad city
- Protest and signature campaign for reduction in kerosene supply
- Recommendations to the women's policy on codification
- Booklet on oral divorce distribution
- Booklet on Ouranic verses
- Gutter repair in Behrampada
- Road repair in Bandra east
- Codification consultations

#### **BMMA- UDAAN**

#### FORMATION OF GROUPS AND MEETINGS

Formation of young boys group ages 10-15 in Navpada and Bharatnagar. 2 sessions were held with the Shakti Group as they would like to call themselves. These boys are very vulnerable to influences from anti-social elements. It is important that they are exposed to progressive and liberal thoughts and opinions. Two such groups have been formed. Regular sessions will be taken with them. In Navpada 17 boys became part of the Shakti Group and in Bharatnagar 23 boys became part of the Shakti Group.

Formation of young boys group ages 10-15 in Navpada and Bharatnagar. 1 sessions each held in the month of March at Navpada (16 boys and 2 girls) conducted by Irfan Sir and Bharatnagar (11 boys) organized by Lia. Activities, Games are conducted for the children to help them understand themselves, think differently and improve themselves.

Bharat Nagar – Held 2 meetings, activities and interactive session with young boys to help them speak and express themselves taken by Sponsorship Coordinator.

Navpada/Pipeline – Held 3 sessions and activities with young boys attended by 4, 3 and 8 boys respectively on communication skills, to express themselves, decision making etc. .

Joint sessions held of children from Bharat Nagar and Navpada. 21 boys from and 15 from Navpada attended the meeting conducted by Mr. Mohammed Khan.

Cricket match held on 18<sup>th</sup> May'2013 at Bharat Nagar between the young boys of Bharat Nagar Vs Navpada & Pipeline. Bharat Nagar won the match by 2 wickets.

Bharat Nagar – Held 1 meetings, activities and interactive session with young boys attended by 11 boys to help them speak and express themselves taken by Mohammed.

Navpada/Pipeline – Held 3 sessions and activities with young boys attended by 5 & 7 boys respectively on communication skills, to express themselves etc. Mohammed took 3 young boys from the community for the selections of a short play to Andheri.

2 meetings was conducted by Mr. Mohammed Khan and Lia Caldeira and attended by 8 & 10 boys respectively. Short films were shown to the children and they were asked to share their opinion.

Roza Iftar meeting held with the Sehr and Udaan group which was attended by approximately 30 girls and 15 boys. Sangita from Action Aid, and 2 members from Akanksha conducted a session each followed by a party. The planning and sponsorship was done by the core team members.

1 meeting conducted by Suraiya on the problems faced in the community, schools etc and a letter has to be drafted which the children will present to the Cooperator of Bandra.

3 meetings attended by 12, 8 & 14 Navpada boys conducted by Mohomeed, Ishara and Lia. Short films shown to the children on Eid and the children were asked to share their opinion. Skit practice, dance exercise and other fun based activities were also done to develop concentration and trust. 3 new members joined the group, more are expected. Plans were made for the visit to Nehru Science Centre on 1st Sept'2013.

Udaan group meeting held on all four Saturdays of the month by mostly Mohomeed and Ishara and attended by 11,10, 9,8 children respectively. Each session was a mix of a few activities such as free dance exercises, indoor games/activities, discussion of difficulties faced by children at home, schools and community, skit / recitation / dance / singing rehearsal, knowing a leader – Bhagat Singh etc.

#### **CAPACITY BUILDING**

Exposure visit to Nehru Science Centre was organized for the children of Navpada and pipeline which was attended by 13 children.

Training conducted by Mr Kaushik on self development which was attended by 12 boys.

3 young boys from the community selected to act in short movies by the Kabeera Theatre Group.

Khatoon Shaikh took a meeting with the parents of the young boys to create awareness about BMMA and its work with the community conducted attended by 8 parents and 20 children.

Supported the staging the Street play "Tamasha" on Corruption presented by Kabeera Theatre Group held at Behrampada (Zakaria Maidan) with an action replay at Navpada (Nuralanur Masjid) at 7.30 pm. The community too supported by coming in large numbers.

Udaan and Sehr group together showcased their talents (Recitation-poetry/story/jokes, singing, dancing, acting) in a program organized by the Kabeera Theatre Group at Andheri (E).

Child abuse awareness program was organized for the team members. 3 meetings were organized which were attended by 5, 6, 11 children respectively of Navpada and pipeline boys on cleanliness and the action to be taken. Games and activities were also conducted. City Park was visited along with 12 boys. A visit was also undertaken to Bharat Nagar to prepare a new boy groups and to Yuva Parivartan to understand about vocational courses for self employment.

Three half day sessions were organized with the help of Arpan on safety against child abuse for children in 5<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> Std which was attended by 9-10 children. One meeting was held with the young boys to form a new group. 14 boys were present. Two meetings held attended by approximately 10 and 8 children respectively. The session on the first day was an introductory session to understand the aspirations of the boys while the second one was just games and fun. Three meetings were held attended by 8 – 10 boys on the issues of cleanliness in the locality and how to work towards making it a better place, play practice, picnic planning, sharing knowledge on Diwali festival etc. Children's day celebration was held which was attended by 30 children from the colony and the community of Navpada and Pipeline. The celebration began with an introductory game followed by more games, music, dance and lots of fun.

#### **BAL MELAVA**

Bal Melava of Navpada and Bharat nagar children was done. 150 children along with their parents came for the get together. The special guest was DCP Chavan from the BKC police station. He addressed the children as well as the parents. Senior Inspector of Police from Nirmal Nagar Police station. He gave the message of peace and harmony to the children. Noorjehan SN also spoke with the children and told them a story which conveyed that as children we must all support each other and help each other. Snacks and gifts were distributed to the children. All of them danced and enjoyed themselves. Some groups of boys wanted to play cricket. It was decided that another group from age 10-15 will be formed and they will be given programmes and activities on a regular basis.

Bal Adhikar Parishad was held with the children from Navpada and Bharatnagar. Children shared about their community concerns. They shared that their communities are not clean and healthy. Because of which children fall ill and diseases flourish. They said that the BMC must do it work properly. They are also not happy with the functioning of the police and want to talk to them about their perceptions about them. Many other issues were shared. In 2014 this group will be encouraged to have more such empowering sessions, especially with the police and the BMC.

# BMMA - Sponsorship Children

Child Profile of 200 children from Navpada community and 200 from the Bharatnagar community was prepared. A baseline survey of the Navpada as well as Bharat nagar community was also done.

Bal Melava programme for the sponsorship children was conducted which was attended by 40 children. The second child profile for children were drawn and updated. Child profiles of children in Navpada and Bharatnagar were verified. A meeting was also held with the parents of sponsor children of the two areas to understand their requirements about the children.

Verification of 233 children in Bharatnagar was done by Heena and Aliya. The second child profile for 128 children in Navpada was also drawn.

Messages from children to their sponsors were collected from 220 children in Bharatnagar by Lia and Heena. The second child profile for 65 children of Navpada was also drawn.

Final CM message and reason for missing children, verification and dispatch of Child message to ActionAid on 18th Oct'13. Community newsletter of Ashana Trust was prepared and sent to ActionAid. 2 meetings with parents of profiled children on community based issues which were attended by 6 and 13 parents respectively. Awareness on ration related issues is to be conducted in Navpada.

Sponsor came to meet child from child profile, 4 times we visit her place to click photo

A visit was done to the Prince of Wales museum, Gateway of India and Kamla Nehru Park with 18 boys and 3 supervisors. The Anganwadi report was shared with Varsha Gaikwad, Husain Dalwai, Priya Dutt and ICDS office. Meeting was conducted with parents of children for Navpada to understand the requirements of the people to improve their living conditions. Four visits were made to Afreen's family- to click photographs, understand the problems faced by them and inform them about the visit of the sponsor; with Rashmi and Neerja from Action-Aid as they wanted to meet Afreen and with Rashmi, Gangadhar, Neerja and the sponsor to meet Afreen and to understand how the community works.

#### **OUTCOME**

This is the first time that our interaction with the young boys started effectively. We now have a group of 30 boys from the age of 10 - 15 who are active and are engaged in all our training programmes. Regular interactive sessions are held with them with the help of a volunteer from IPSCR. This is for the first time that BMMA Maharasthra Unit is interacting with young Muslim boys.

#### **BMMA-SEHR**

#### CAPACITY BUILDING

Girls participated in the session on 'Rights of Women in Islam'. 17 girls attended this meeting. Difference between Quran, Hadis and Sunnah were explained. Based on quranic injunctions women's rights vis-s-vis marriage, divorce, maintenance, mehr, age of marriage, polygamy, custody of children were explained. The provisions of draft law were also explained to the girls.

Girls participated in the session on 'Rights of Women in Islam'. 14 girls attended this meeting. Difference between Quran, Hadis and Sunnah were explained. Based on quranic injunctions women's rights vis-s-vis marriage, divorce, maintenance, mehr, age of marriage, polygamy, custody of children were explained. The provisions of draft law were also explained to the girls.

Created awareness and explained about Meher as per the Quran and discussed their opinion at Navpada – 6 girls, Bharat Nagar – 9 girls, Pipeline – 8 girls and at the summer camp – 42 girls attended.

Summer Camp was arranged for approx 20 girls from Sehar group of Pipeline, Navpada, Bheram and Bharat Nagar to attend the summer camp organized by Life trust. Topic: Self identification, Home and Family related problems, Sex & Gender, Hopes, Dreams, aspirations and values. Quality of leaders ect.

A 2 day training on gender was conducted by Devshala in which 34 girls participated.

Information about education through correspondence was given by resource persons from Yashwant Rao Chavan Open University to girls in Bharatnagar and Behrampada.

Information about beautician course given to girls in Behrampada.

Girls in Pipeline had meeting with Kotak Foundation who gave them information about various courses on which they offer training.

Full day workshop on leadership was held at Chota Kashmir. Mr. Kaushik a leading corporate trainer took the sessions with 70 girls.

13 girls attended meeting to get information about nursing course. This information was given by speakers from Anjuman Khairul Islam. Mehndi class is scheduled to start in Navpada. Gender training with 6 girls was held with the help of Life Trust.

Meeting with Mithun from Akshara to plan training on leadership, ideas of masculinity, gender etc along with Khatoon Sheikh, Lia and Suraiya.

#### ADVOCACY

The girls addressed a press conference to denounce the Delhi High Court judgment on 15 being the age of marriage for Muslim women. The TOI covered the event.

Akshara Workshop on sexual harassment. Walk from skywalk to Family Court, from Shantilal Compound to Golibar, Colgate Compound, Indira Nagar Pipeline. Visits to both the places, twice during the day and once during the night to assess the safety of the area.

Participated in Hamari Beti Abhiyan rally and public meeting and a press conference

#### **VISITS**

- Arranged for the visit of 9 girls to the Mantralay office.
- Family Court visit held on 10<sup>th</sup> May'13 attended by 11 girls and 1 supervisor. Marriage counselor, Jaganat Kamble explained civil law and criminal law, history of family court, procedure and operational layout of the Family court.
- Women Commission visit held on 1<sup>th</sup> May'13 attended by 11 girls and 1 supervisor. Any women facing violence or harassment at home / society can approach them. They conduct counseling.
- The girls also visited the Jijamata Udyan at Byculla and the Nehru Science Centre at Worli.
- The girls also visited the Nirmal Nagar Police station and met the Senior Inspector.
- A new group of 11 girls including girls from the non Muslim community has been created in Kherwadi.
- A visit was done to the Maharashtra Rajya Vyavasaya Shikshan Pariksha Mandal.

# **MEETINGS**

- Pipeline: 1 meeting attended by 8 girls. Explained about of the summer camp.
- Bheram : 2 meetings organized with a group of 5 and 7 girls respectively on topic of education and second on summer camp
- Bharat Nagar: 3 meetings attended by 9, 11, 24 girls respectively on Beautician course and explained about the Summer camp.
- Navpada: 2 meeting attended by 5, 6 girls. Explained about the summer camp.
- Bheram: 1 meeting organized with a group of 17 girls on topic of leadership, education and gender training.
- Bharat Nagar: 1 Meetings attended by 10 girls on importance of education and on vocational training for beautician course. Introduced 3 girls interested to Shama Dalvai for admission of beautician course and spoke to Shama Dalvai PA for the document procedure.
- Navpada: 1 meeting attended by 5 girls about Computer education. Helped six girls to get admission for computer certificate course @ Rs.300/- for 3 months.
- Mahim: Helped 2 girls with regard to admission in Std 12.
- Pipeline: Visited the home of the 7 girls (Nargis, Archana, Sana, Rukaya, Afreen, Aapoo and Sadaf) to speak to the girls and parents and understand their problem for not attending the meeting.
- Garibnagar: Visited 11 girls (Tabasum, Samreen, Shagufta, Nazmeem, Sahila, Farzana, Parveen, Shahin, Farheen, Rubeena, Sana) to start an new group.
- Pipeline: 2 meeting held along with area leaders to understand the problems of the girls for not attending the meeting.

- Bharat Nagar: 1 meetings attended by 27 people where documents were collected for beautician course which was followed by a session with TV9 channel person on how to bring forth issues in the area through the media.
- Navpada: 2 meetings held. Attended by 7, 10 girls. Explained about Meher and informed about the Iftar party.
- Visited voter ID office twice and collected 3 forms and gave to the girls to be filled.
- Met the parents of Sher group parents (Bharat Nagar, Navpada and Pipeline) to obtain permission to go to see the movie "Bhag Milka Bhag".
- Suraiya and Sunita took a session on BMMA with young Muslim girls in Mumbra. 25 girls attended this meeting

## **OUTCOMES**

Regular visits with girls from the communities of Indira nagar, Navpada, Behrampada, Garib Nagar, Bharat nagar are being held. Visits to the community are done regularly to keep the girls apprised of new activities and programmes.

Exposure visits to Family Court, Mantralaya, Jijamata Udyan, Nehru Science Centre were done to help girls gain confidence and know facts which can be utilized by them in their future life.

The girls for the first time addressed a press conference to condemn the judgment of Delhi High Court which validated a Muslim girls marriage at the age of 15. The spoke confidently before the press and expressed their views on the issue.

BMMA gave a lot of emphasis on training in the last 6 months. Capacity building sessions on gender, team building/self confidence and leadership, Muslim family law, health and hygiene. At the end of 6 months one can see the increasing confidence of the girls in their family and community life.

The girls undertook a safety walk to ascertain the safety and security of the area in which they live. This exercise gave them a lot of confidence in themselves. They also presented their report to the local corporator.

#### **WOMEN'S RIGHTS**

Khatoon Sheikh visited Kherwadi Police station to speak to the Senior Officer for misbehavior of beat officer towards the members of the BMMA. Due to our efforts Mohalla Committees have been revived in Dowri nagar and Mahim, Mori road and Navpada. Regular meetings are being held and BMMA leaders attend those meetings. Regular meetings with DCP and Senior Inspector was held in Behram and Navpada to raise the issue of security and violence against women.

16 BMMA activists attended the Mumbai Police Melava where actors like Rani Mukherjee, Shabana Azmi, Javed Akhtar along with CP Satyapal Singh addressed the women audience and expressed support to women's call for halt to violence.

Participated in a public meeting held at Gateway of India on Women's day to honour, respect and motivate the women. It was addressed by R.R Patil, CP Satyapal Singh, Hema Malini, Preeti Zinta, Diya Mirza, Anu Kapoor.

Balatkar Sanskruti Mahila Parishad along with BMMA, Mahila Vikas Kendra, Swadhar, Samajwadi Mahila Sabha, Sangh Mitra Mahila Mandal, Ghar Hak Samiti(CHR), Jagruti Maulkarni sanghatna,

Nagri Niwar Mahila Manch, Mohalana Azad Vichar Manch, Satya Shodhak Vidharti Sangatna organised rally on Women Day on 9<sup>th</sup> March.

7 members attended Women Day program at Don Bosco on Women Safety. Zubeda Khatoon was one of the speakers for the program.

2 new BMMA groups have been formed in Mumbai. One in Kalina and the other in Mahim. The group in Mahim is called Garima Mahila Mandal.

BMMA conducted survey in 4 areas of Bandra east along with Akshara. Area mapping was done and a report was prepared after doing discussions with women and young girls. This report was submitted to the local corporator so that she takes actions on eve teasing and crimes against women.

Two day training on awareness of law was conducted by Miss Pouruchisti Wadia attended by approximately 27 members including area leaders.

Four team members attended a protest rally at Dadar to protest against the rape at Shakti Mill organized by the Student Organization. A meeting of Mahila Vikas to plan an event against rape was also attended. BMMA activists attended a rally organized by Zeal Times to protest against the rape of a woman in Shakti Mill Compound. BMMA also attended a public meeting titled, 'Refuse the Abuse' organized by the students of St. Andrew's College. Information about BMMA was given in this meeting.

A 2 day workshop by Devshala on self defence and

Shubhagani from Arpan shared information on child abuse which was attended by 45 women. Approximately 12-13 women attended a two day training conducted by Devshala at Kherwadi.

Participated in Beti Zindabad Abhiyan by joining the campaign on the Western Railway and by distributing pamphlets and brochures

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### DOCUMENTS FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Right To Education pamphlet was translated in Hindi and distributed in the communities. Also the Anganwadi report, health survey report and the BMC school status report were all translated in Hindi for the community to access and read it. The material generated will help BMMA in advocacy.

# SACHAR REPORT AWARENESS

- Javed Anand from Muslims for Secular Democracy gave a talk on Sachar report in Bharat nagar attended by 50 women.
- Khatoon Shaikh and Suraiya took a session with women in Mori road, Mahim on the recommendations of the Sachar report.
- A similar meeting was held in Jintur to give information about Sachar report
- The members of the BMMA-Sehr group also participated in the meeting where they understood the provisions of Sachar report.
- BMMA-Hukook group also got information about the Sachar report based on which they carried out activities in their own communities.

- Sachar Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> Jun'13 at Kalina attended by 83 persons. After the information was given on the report, a local committee of women was formed to take up local issues of concern. This committee will meet every Saturday to coordinate and carry out the planned activities.
- Ramzaan cards were prepared and distributed in the communities. The card contained BMMA prayer. It had a special prayer for the implementation of the Sachar report.
- 10 boards were prepared and hung at the communities where BMMA works. The Board had prayers for implementation of the Sachar report and wishes for Ramzaan.

#### **OUTCOME**

Very innovative methods were used to create awareness about the Sachar report. During the month of Ramzaan, cards were printed to carry the timings of breaking the fast as well as prayers for better implementation of the Sachar report. 1000 cards were printed and distributed outside the masjids as ramzaan started.

Boards were prepared and hung at the different communities where we are working. the Board wished everyone ramzaan Mubarak and also prayed that the government gets a sense of responsibility and implements the recommendations of the Sachar report.

#### **HEALTH**

Complaints were given for repair of BMC drinking pipe at 6 places. Repairs were carried out in Golden Bakery Road, Razak Chawl, Moona ki Hotel and in Kherwadi. Repairs are still pending in Sangam hotel and Shanti medical.

The roads leading to the communities of Behrampada, Kherwadi and Navpada were in a bad condition. Repeated letters to the Corporators yielded results. The road has been repaired now.

The mobile tower radiation in Jeri Meri was posing a big health hazard. Due to the intervention of the area leaders, the mobile tower was removed. A morcha was organized with the women of the Zari Mari locality for removing the Mobile towers. An NC was registered with the police station on account of the threat received after successfully removing the mobile towers in the locality.

A survey conducted at Douri Nagar of the ration shop to keep a check as to whether the local people are getting rice, wheat and kerosene.

Helped 3 people get medical aid from Sion Hospital. Helped 1 person get 1 lakh for bypass surgery from Kidmat trust (Sion Hospital).

Khatoon Shaikh organized a BMC Medical camp at Navpada where Bharti was also present to help the doctors. 108 patients were tested of which 2 were diagnosed with malaria. Pamphlets were distributed regarding the medical camp to be held on 1st September 2013 at Sanjeevani Hospital (Khar) by Dr Suraj. Suraiya and Priyanka (ex reporter) visited Pipeline and Behrampada to understand the status of TB in these slum areas.

2 medical camps were held in Navpada and Pipeline communities. In one camp where heart check up was done, 100 women attended the camp. In another camp which was conducted by the BMC, a general health check up was done in which more than 150 women and men participated.

A BMC medical camp was organised at Mahim and also supervised the repair work of water pipeline.

A medical camp was organized for the girls of Bharatnagar and Kalina. 42 girls of Navpada and Bhartnagar were benefited. Bharthi and Nirmala conducted health survey in Bharat Nagar, Andheri, Kalina and Navpada.

Health survey of 10 communities and report prepared which will be given to state authorities for action.

#### **OUTCOME**

2 major outcomes from our work on the issue of health is that the mobile tower which was erected in the middle of the slum community was removed after incessant work by our Area Leader from Jeri Meri. It was a big victory for our community leader whose leadership qualities were fully utilized.

Near gate no. 18 in Bandra East, the road leading to the station was filled with potholes and it was impossible to walk on it. BMMA repeatedly sent strong letters to the local corporator and got the road repaired. Now the road is set with paver blocks.

#### **EDUCATION**

Under the School Improvement Programme of BMMA a survey of 20 schools in underway to assess the quality of education and infrastructure in BMC schools

Handled case of sexual abuse in school by a teacher

30 BMMA activists attended a 2 day conference on the issues of education of the Muslim community. Mr. Rahman Khan from the Ministry of Minority Affairs was the Chief Guest.

6 children got admission in Purshottom School – Kherwadi. Bala Sawant (MLA) and Kalum Tamoli gave letter for books for children.

Report writing work on the survey work done on functioning of municipal school, baseline survey and anganwadi survey was underway. Donation of 300 books was received from Bala Sawant and 100 books from Kalum's office. The books were given to the area leaders to distribute to the community (approximately 5 books per child).

Sehr group leader, Suraiya along with Nirmala attended a meeting by Jan Lok Sansta which gives training in computers and also helps to get loans to buy computers. Suraiya and Sunita visited Minority Comission and Employment commission to collect information about vocational training. The president of Yuva Foundation, Mehmood Deshmukh organised a programme to facilitate X and XII students securing high percentage which was also attended by a few Congress leaders.

The Anganwadi survey, the baseline data of Navpada and Bharatnagar, the information on RTE and the report of the BMC school survey was given for translations.

World Vision Center organized a meeting on girls education at Don Bosco (Matunga) attended by 60 girls where Khatoon Shaikh was invited as a speaker to speak on importance of girls education.

A visit to Purshotam school was undertaken to give a letter to improve the standard of education especially the demand to be able to communicate in English. Right Track organization from West Bengal visited the BMMA centre to understand the work and programmes.

The report of anganwadi survey carried out in Bharatnagar and Navpada have been shared with Minister for Women and Child Development, Varsha Gaikwad, MLC Hussain Dalwi, Vice President of the Maharashtra State Minority Commission, Janet D'souza, MP Priya Dutt.

#### **OUTCOME**

Quality of education in the Kherwadi BMC school has become better. Parents report that children are given worksheets for studying. The toilet door has been repaired. Benches and desks are in better condition now.

#### LIVELIHOOD

Loan of 1.5 Lacs was given to 2 beneficiaries for purchasing rickshaw

Attended meeting called by Maharashtra State Minority Commission to discuss problems of SHGs

SHG training held at Saboo Siddique and conducted by Nasreen Contractor was attended by 20 people. Provided loan for 2 person of Rs.10000/- each from the 2 SHGs (Samjhauta Swayam Sahiyta Mahila Bhachatgad account and Vikas Swayam Sahayta Mahila Bhachatgad).

Kotak Educational Institute agreed to visit Dahisar, Santacruz, Ghatkopar and Bandra to conduct vocational training for the above areas.

Meeting on Ration Kruti Samiti was attended along with the area leaders at Dadar on the issues and problems of the ration available in ration shops.

Speakers from Anjuman-e-Khairul Islam gave a lecture on nursing courses and career in nursing. In all 40 women attended this meeting, out of which 13 were young girls.

#### PEACE AND SECURITY

Mohulla committee was started and meeting held at Bharatnagar.

A peaceful protest carried out against the trustee of the Kabristhan Masjid for not allowing the use decorative light for the Sandal. Press Also 2 team members attended the conference at Marathi Patrakar Shang organised by Irfan Engineer titled "Justice to Muslim victims of police excesses in state of Maharashtra". Dakshata Samiti meeting held at BKC on Ganesh Chaturthi attended by the 4 team members of BMMA and area leaders of Bharat Nagar. Mohulla Committee meeting attended by 2 BMMA members at Gate No.2. Mohulla Committee meeting at Vakola attended by Bharti along with area leader Munni appa. Khatoon Sheikh along with Bharti spoke to DSP about Mohulla committee meeting. Nehru Centre, Momin Trust and Mohulla committee meeting taken by Naseem Shaikh and attended by 20 people.

2 Mohalla Committee movement Trust meetings were attended by BMMA. One was a zonal meeting at the Nehru Centre to discuss issues of concern. Another meeting was called for by the Nirmal Nagar police station around the time of Ganpati festival. A new Mohalla Committee has been formed in Beat no. 3 in Kalina.

A meeting with Irfan sir on communal harmony was arranged for the area leaders followed by a discussion on the upcoming elections in 2014. Visit was also undertaken to Muzaffarnagar camp to meet the people affected by the riots. The tehsildar office and police station was also visited along with area leaders to understand the cause of the riots. Mohulla committee meeting was attended at

Nirmal Nagar police station to maintain peace during Ganpati and Navratri festival. Also attended Mohulla committee meeting with 3people at Vakola police station. A Mohulla committee and B.M.M.A meeting was organized at Kalina which was attended by 75 people. The police showed a short film on chain snatching and Khatoon Aapa introduced BMMA to the people. 6 people went to Delhi to attend meeting against Modi's rise as a leader.

A meeting was organized at Navpada along with RKS to create awareness on food security provided by Government which was attended by 35-40 members. The arrangements were made by Heena, Ruksar and Lia. Khatoon Aapa and Irfan sir conducted Sachar meeting in Bharatnagar which was attended by 35 people.

A group called Defense of Democracy was formed in Mumbai to counter the fascist forces. 4-5 meetings were held in the last 6 months to work out a strategy to promote secular values and to counter the rise of right wing parties.

Coordinated meeting of area leaders on the upcoming elections. Irfan was the resource person.

Press release for the launching of the website of secularism by Anhad

#### **MUMBAI DISTRICT**

#### 1. PIPELINE

- Interview with India Today channel
- 2 forms for ration card filled up
- One PAN card made
- Attended: Rally 9th march along with 5 person
- Police meeting at VT to honor women's with 7 person
- 11<sup>th</sup> March Conference with 3 people.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> March Federation meeting attended with 6 person.
- Visit to Pune, Juntir, Kourwadi, Ambajogi with Khatoon
- Collected money from the people and arranged to repair the broken water pipe.
- Sent 25 people to make Aadhar card.
- Visited the Voter card ID office to check if the cards of the people applied have come.
- Helped 1 child get admission of 1 child in School.
- On Sunday sent 3 young boys from the community for the selections of a short.
- Helped 2 persons get their pan card.
- Help provided in the procedure of applying for ration card.
- Visited the corporators Pratima Sawant and requested for cleaning the drainage system.
- Helped 2 persons make pan cards and applied for 2 ration cards.
- Attended dharna against Shakti Mill rape case along with 4 women and 5 girls.
- Sent young boys for the Udaan group meeting every Saturday at 2 pm, and the girls for the conference.
- Cleaning work carried out in the locality through the reference of Corporator
- Attended federation meeting along with the 4 girls on the topic of nursing course.
- Submitted application of 2 Pan cards and one ration card.
- Registration forms of girls filled and given to Suraya.
- Attended meeting at Kalina along with 5 women on "Why government schemes do not reach the poor in the Muslim community".

- Helped issued 5 pan cards, enquired about 2 ration cards and voter id card.
- Visited ration officer.

#### 2. MORI ROAD

- Continuous work on managing SHG
- Given two names for getting caste certificate
- Arranged for drinking water and got BMC pipe repaired by taking contribution
- Handled one case
- One SHG formed and money deposited in bank
- Participated in the public police programme in Vile Parle
- Attend Meetings : 2nd March Federation at Bandra (E)
- Micro saving deposited in the bank for the month of Mar'13. Conducted meeting on the problems faced by the people on Micro related Scheme
- Visited Govt. Bank and got Widow Pension started for Rs.900/-
- Attended 2 day Law Awareness training.
- Enrolled 1 new member in Bachat gadh work.
- Collected 5 voter ID forms submitted 1 form.
- Enrolled one person in the Widow Pension Scheme.
- 2 boys enrolled with Kotak Mahindra for Vocational training course.
- Helped in preparation on PAN Card for 2 person.
- Distributed 100 Ramzan Cards in the community. Put Id Milad board in the area.
- 2 cases registered, Change of 12 doors for BMC toilets from the Cooperators Fund.
- BMC gutters cleaned.
- Helped 2 senior citizens get medicine from Bhabha Hospital.
- Helped 2 children for their admission in Std 8 and Std 6.
- Applied for Voter ID card for 7 person.
- Helped 1 woman to obtain Income certificate and open account so that she can avail the benefit of Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Scheme
- Helped obtain 3 new water connections, 10 pan cards.
- Collected 3 forms of Sanjay Gandhi widow pension from old custom house.
- Bharti and Famida took 1 person to Sion Hospital for dialysis treatment.
- 3 meetings held and information of BMMA given.
- One woman was mentally ill and was admitted in hospital.
- One senior citizen was admitted in hospital. He was given medical aid through corporator.
- 100 people filled up applications for PAN card.
- 3 water pipe line was laid down. Each pipeline has 12-15 households attached.
- 11 members of the mandal attended the Mohalla Committee meeting.
- The mandal was also registered. 47 women attended the meeting.
- 15 forms of Gharelu Kamgar were filled.
- 2 men were employed.
- 1 poor family was given ration.
- 4 new ration cards made.
- 22 senior citizen cards made, 12 out of which were for men.
- Attended 3 meetings.
- Collected money for bachat gadh and deposited it in the bank.

- Applied for 1 new voter id card and enquired about senior citizen card.
- Helped one woman for medicine in J.J Hospital.
- Deposit bachat ghat money and submitted groups document and photo for government scheme.
- Registered complaint regarding the gutter chamber lines.
- Visited Kalyan with Suraiya to check the maps and its location drawn by the girls.
- Conducted meeting for women's of bachat ghat for providing loan to its members.
- Visit to Delhi for dharna along with 5girls and 2 mandal staff.
- Conducted medical camp in Navpada and Bharatnagar which benefited 42 girls.
- Sent 2 patients to Bhabha hospital as they were diagnosed with dengue and typhoid.
- Registered 4 cases in which 3 were reconciled and 1 was in progress.
- Replaced Mahim BMC toilets doors.

## 3. SHANTILAL COMPOUND

- 12 ration cards made
- 15 PAN cards made
- Opened bank account of 16 people
- 2 forms for Sanjay Niradhar Yojna filled for widow pension
- 25 forms of senior citizens filled up
- 21st March Sayadri guest house meeting on micro savings
- Mahulla committee meeting (Khar Nirmal Nagar, Shivaji Nagar, Ambawadi, Mahim-W)
- Dakshata committee meeting ( Nirmal Nagar, Kherwadi, Bharat Nagar)
- 2 Times Card Collector office for Bharat Nagar Survey
- Visited Bharat Nagar Anganwadi committee to set up Mahulla Committee
- Visited Husain Takdi 2 times for making Women group and conducting Meetings
- Visited Anganwadi Office Sunadar Nagar Kalina
- Filled 150 Domestic workers Gharalu Khamghar Pension Form and submitted to BKC office.

#### 4. NAVPADA

- Handled 2 cases of domestic violence
- Bal Melava in Navpada
- One case of domestic matter
- Medical camp benefitting 200 people
- Helped in Anganwadi survey.
- Distributed donated books to 10 children.
- Ration provided for 6 families. Provide clothes for 2 person.
- Helped 1 child in admission in Purshotham School.
- Visited 1 case of Mahila Shakti Mandal.
- Got voter id forms for 13 people and also went to Gandhi hospital for help.

# 5. BEHRAMPADA

- Gave letter to the Corporator Priyatama Sawant to repair the road
- Closed down the gambling happening in the area
- Helped balwadi teacher to give polio dose
- Supporting the Mahila Shakti Mandal for case handling
- people supported for getting medical help

- senior citizen cards made
- Galli cleaning
- Road repair has begun
- Repaired the Public Toilets for the area
- Person appointed for cleaning the area.
- Arrange for a letter from Priya Dutt to do free CT Scan of 1 Women.
- Helped in the Medical Camp at Mudha Masjid
- Visited Nirmal Nagar Police station for a passport verification, handed over a mad Girl from Garib Nagar and for 1 case of Shakti mandal and the case was solved.
- 20 application forms filled of voter ID cards.
- Helped one women get her deposit amount back and another person her utensils.
- Helped distribute ration for 100 needy families (including 6kg Rice, 6kg Atta, 2kg Masoor Dal, Milk, Sugar, Oil, Sevaya).
- Helped 2 people in registering name to get the ration card.
- Got the drains of Behram cleaned.
- Provided clothes for 4 poor women from Gas bazaar.
- Visited Bhabha hospital and registered the name of a pregnant woman.
- Got a sponsor for the books of 2 children and also distributed books for 10 children through area leaders.
- Helped in the admission of a child in 1<sup>st</sup> Std in St Joseph, one child in St Andrews School for Jr KG, girl from Bharat Nagar into Chetna College in Std 11 and admission for a boy from Mahim to Rizvi college in Std. 11.
- Resolved problems associated with the gutter.
- Helped in adding a child's name to the ration card.
- Visited the Nagar Sevak office for Water connection issues.
- Provided ration for one person.
- College fees exemption benefit given to a poor child.
- Job provided for a young boy.
- Prepared 10 members to join the Mahila mandal.
- Applied for concession of school fees of 4 students of Purushottam school with the help of letter from Priya Dutt.
- Helped one patient with Rs. 80,000 for medicine and traveling allowance.
- Issued one new ration card and added names on 2 old ration cards, issued one senior citizen card, domicile, 2 certificates of Chetna college and employment card from Mantralay.
- Attended one committee meeting and national school meeting.
- Repaired community toilet.
- Constructed (Rahim gali) passage.
- Admitted one child to the hospital who was suffering from polio.
- Helped 50 people to get kerosene from ration shop.
- Provided information about bachat ghad to women from Bangalore.

#### **JERI MERI**

- One case handled
- Met the corporator to demand that he gives attention to the area. There are problems related to sewage and cleanliness.
- Resolved one Hindu Muslim conflict

- Handling issue of mobile tower radiation
- Area meeting held with Cabinet Minister, Naseem Arif Khan
- People from BMC came for inspection
- Letter given to ACP for the same
- Started work of road and toilet repair
- Mobile Tower: Organised a morcha with the women of the locality for removing the Mobile towers and registered an NC with the police station on account of threat received. Success achieved in removing of the Mobile towers in the locality.

## 6. BHARAT NAGAR

- Bal Melava of Udaan group
- Attended Dakshata samaiti meeting at BKC police station.
- Attended 2 day conference Maulana Azad Vichar Manch along with 3 members on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> May'2013
- 1 new case registered in Nay panchayat and follow-up of old cases. Six women attended Gender training on 18-19 July'13. Helped in meeting of Girls and boys with Suraiya and Lia. 19 girls interested for Beautician course. Put the Ramzam board and distributed cards.
- 100 new members registered for BMMA. Attended Mahula committee meeting at BKC police station.
- 1 new case registered.
- 2 new SHG started and visited BOI twice and account opened for the same.
- Creating awareness among the people to make Aadhar card.
- Visited Darul Kaza office at Bombay Central to get information about the Kazi.
- 2 members attended the Training on Aurto Ki Shariat Adalat at St Pius College.
- Attended Daksata Samiti meeting at BKC with regard to Ganesh Charturthi.
- Attended Eid Milan Program.
- Khatoon Sheikh conducted a session on Shariat Adalat with the team.
- Attended Dharna against rape (Shakti case) on 1st Sep along with 4 women and 5 girls.
- Codification meeting attended by 47 women
- Went to BKC police station 4 times- once for mohalla committee meeting and 3 times regarding cases, went to Kherwadi police station for case.
- Attended 5 meetings in the office on issues addressed by members.
- Helped issue 1senior citizen card.
- Education meeting was conducted by Khatoon Sheikh in Bharat Nagar at Anjuman school.
- Visited Kherwadi police station to meet Rekha Bhawar.
- Visited BKC police station 2 times for Mahim case.
- Meeting conducted by Suraiya was attended by 3 girls.
- Attended meeting with Priya Dutt.
- Filled 600 forms for handicapped people.
- 5 women of mandal attended meeting.

#### 7. DOWRI NAGAR

- Attend Meetings
- 2nd March Federation & OBC at Bandra (E)
- 11th March Conference on Socio-legal Status of Muslim Women
- 20th March Training on RTE

- Handled 2 cases successfully in the month of March one on Property and second of Mother in Law & daughter in law.
- A survey of the Ration shop to keep a check the local people are getting rice, wheat and kerosene.
- Admitted 2 women for Malaria in the BMC Hospital
- Made a new Ration card
- Conducted Audit for 6 years report and got the certification for the Trust.

#### 8. GAUSIYA COMPOUND

- Attended Women's Day program on Women Safety
- 8<sup>th</sup> March Police meeting at VT to Honor Women
- 9<sup>th</sup> March Rally against Rape
- Mohalla Committee (Shivaji Nagar & Kherwadi)
- 2 Girls Meeting with Suraiya

## 9. KALINA:

- 3 cases registered in Mahila Shakti. Planned Sachar meeting
- Sachar meeting held at Shed organization on 28<sup>th</sup> Jul'13 attended by 86 persons.
- 3 ration cards cancelled restarted.
- Visited the Co-operator with regard to 1 case. Gave ration for 1 person.
- Visited Bandra court for case twice.
- Helped in the admission of 2 children in Air-India Modern School.
- Conducted Morcha of 8 people to Gas cylinder office.
- Made a new ration card. Helped 1 person for financial help from Kidmat Trust.
- Helped one person to get money from J J Hospital under Rajiv Gandhi Health Card.
- 10 women Employed in the Garment Industry. Attended meeting at DCP office twice.
- Attended training on law awareness.
- Conducted 1 meetings per week and discussed on a topic every week.
- Visited Air India School 5 times to reduce the school fees.
- Visited the lawyer in Chembur for registration of organization.
- Rs 2000/- donation received from Sattar Bhai for Eid Milan programme.
- Visited Co-operator twice for income certificate and water problem.
- Visited BMC office to put water meter.
- 15 children given help through scholarship.
- Weekly 4 meetings attended by 10-15 women where information about BMMA was provided.
- Attended dharna against the rape in Shakti Mill along with 3 women.
- Went to VT to avail Rajiv Gandhi Scheme on education with 2 boys.
- Helped woman in getting gas connection for her house.
- Attended federation meeting on the topic of nursing course.
- Along with 24 women attended meeting on "Why Govt schemes do not reach the poor in the Muslim community."
- Visited Co-operator office twice for Income certificate for child admission in government school.
- Helped 6 person get Voter Id, submitted 2 person's ration card application.
- Organised 2 meetings to provide information of BMMA which was attended by 10 and 21 person.
- Helped to get admission for a child in Maulana Azad School.
- Attend 3 meetings in office and 2 meetings in Kalina.

- Attend mahila committee meeting in Vakola.
- Visit to Bandra court for making affidavits and permits for a girl for Maulana Azad education loan.
- Attended meeting conducted by Irfan sir and brought 4 women along.
- Applied for 2 Aadhar cards.
- Went to government bill power office 4 times for income certificate with Bharti.
- Visited charity commission office 2 times for Garima Trust certificates.
- Visit with Suraiya to shed organization.
- Went to ration office for ration card.

#### 10. GARIB NAGAR:

- Five new cases registered, visit conducted for the same.
- Helping 5 children in the college admission procedure.
- Visit to Mumbra for case.
- Visited Co-operator for water problem in the area and got the work started.
- Medicine aid given for 2 persons.
- Attended 2 meetings of BMMA with 4 members, 7 members for dharna, 5 members for Sachar meeting and 2 Mohalla committee meetings at bandra with 8 members.

#### 11. MALAVNI

- Help 2 children get admission in local school in Jr.Kg and 1st Std.
- Helped a women to add her name in the ration card.
- Provided financial help of 1 Lacs for a cancer patient through local corporator.
- Arrange for the cleanliness of the lanes and gutters.
- Police station visit of a case.

#### 12. KAPASWADI

- Visited the bank to comply with their requirements and apply for cheque book of the SHG account. 2 person admitted in Kotak Institution of employment course.
- Filled application of 4 person Pan card of which 3 received, one is pending.
- Visited Mumbra police station with Fameeda with along with the case applicant.
- Spoke to people for help required by a man for dialysis.
- Attended federation training on Leadership, the conference at Goregoan on Monitoring Govt. schemes
  for minorities and role of NGO's, follow-up 2 day session of Gender training and Sachar meeting held
  at Kalina.

# 13. Naya Nagar

- SHG has opened. She collected money from the members and has applied to the bank for loan for personal needs.
- 10 PAN card made, 5 women and 5 men
- Old 7 Voter Card applications were given, all 7 have come
- New 3 voter cards application submitted
- 10 senior citizen cards made
- One persons SGNY form was filled and submitted. 5 new forms have been filled up
- The women from Naya nagar went to Fehmida's meeting. 2 forms of Gharelu Kamgar Union were filled in.

#### **OUTCOME**

Area Leaders from the communities of Kapaswadi, Garibnagar, Malavni, Kalina, Gausia Compound, Navpada, Behrampada, Indira Nagar, Bharat Nagar, Dowri Nagar, Husein Tekdi, Jeri Meri, Shantilal Compound, Mori road and Mahim are working to help communities get their entitlements and important documents. They are also providing support for medical and educational aid. They attend all the training progammes and visit the local police stations and ward offices or corporators office to address their grievances.

#### **DISTRICT UNITS OF BMMA**

#### Pune

- Started Micro savings work for Papad, Pickle, Bhakarwadi, Chakli
- Masala, Tej Papdi is working successfully (travel for collecting orders & delivery)
- 25 women Gharalu Khamghar form submitted in Pune office and work in progress.
- Domicile certificate: 25 person application submitted
- Sanjay Gandhi Pension Scheme benefited 25 person.
- Loan sanctioned of 1.5 lacs for purchase of rickshaw: 2 person
- Provided financial help for 2 school children. Area corporator helped in the admission of 5 children. 15 children provided books from the support received.
- Domicile certificate for 3 person. 3 new cases registered. Kolhapur: 1 case follow-up done in Jun'13. Work is being carried out for Auto rickshaw batch. Bhachatgad loan sanctioned Rs 95000/- another bhachatgad loan of Rs 100000/- in process. Solution for water problem in Yervada is in process.
- 2 cases registered in Daund. Distributed clothes for orphan children, 6 children registered in school and ensured they were provided with books, bags, uniform etc.
- Solved 2 cases in Hadapsar, made peace between the husband & wife. In one case the party agreed to give property rights. Arranged for donation from the Sarpanch for school expenses of two children (fees, books etc).
- Reconciled husband and wife in 1 case in Yervada. Mualana Azad loan application applied for 30 women for Rs.10000/- per person. 12 people provided jobs. BMMA gave Rs10000/- deposit for the office for Shariat Adalat.
- Solved 1 property case in Daund and filed an FIR in a rape case.
- Helped 2 persons obtain rickshaw permit.
- Attended meeting by Muslim Samahu Samity on "Shishak Melawa" on "The Quality of education provided to the Teachers".
- Follow-up of 5 pending cases and one divorce case successfully closed. Visited the Co-operator and got the road and gutter work done.
- Registered 4 cases in which one reconciliation was done and 3are been followed up.
- Issued 10 ration cards.
- Conducted meetings for girls and women to discuss about the organization and its developments.
- Filled 10 forms for widow women for the widow scheme and they were submitted to the Zila Parishad.
- Sanctioned loan from 3 bachat ghad to 12 women each with Rs.25000.
- Filled 20 forms for loans for 50,000 to 5lac Rs. Also issued 2 education loans.

#### Nasik

- Cases: Total 7
- 4 cases solved and reconciliation done, 3 still pending.
- Phenol preparation training attended by 3 women.
- Save water Rally: 400 women attended
- Celebrated 8<sup>th</sup> March: with information of BMMA, Play on Abortion of Girl child organized (Approx 600 people) Rangoli competition with certificates (400 person)
- Made new ration cards for 2 divorced women.
- 9 new case of family problems of which 3 were solved and 6 were pending. (1case of Oral divorce for which Iddat and Mehar money was given to the women).
- Mahila melawa attended by 35 women.
- Phenol preparation, perfume preparation, ladies bag making training was given to 25, 30 and 25 women respectively.
- Handled total 7 cases of which one case were 2 talak in which the women Rs.40000 and 50000 thousand along with their luggage, 2 cases mutual settlement and three case is pending.
- Two training of phenol making conducted.
- Organised a program to pay tribute to Late Narendra Dabolkar.
- Took training for self employment of preparing phenol and tailoring course.
- Took loan from bank of Rs.20000 for 10 women.
- Applied for 5 peoples ration cards, helped 5 women for gas connection.
- Attended city police meeting and sent 6 cases.

#### **Osmanabad**

- Filed 4 forms of Domestic worker & labour form.
- Tanker water distributed to the people.
- 700 ration card form file for revised Ration cards.
- Conducted BMMA meeting in the area attended by 24 members.
- 1.5 lacs loan sanctioned against bachatgad file. A new bachatghad named Rajiv Mahila stated in June month. 24 black slates distributed to the children of Nagar Parishad School.
- Also helped a bachatgad (10 women group) to get contract of making Kichadi for school children. Donation received of Rs.2000/- from the MLA for the marriage of a girl.
- Visit to Mumbai to attended Gender Training on 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Jun and brought 7 girls for admission for B.ED course (Borivali) on 29<sup>th</sup> meeting in Mumbai.
- Computer training given to 25 girls, 3 women given 2 wheeler training.
- Filled form for 1 Domestic Worker for women's scheme.
- 3 women provided job in bio-environment company.
- 20 person Aadhar card made.
- 50 women attended a meeting on information of BMMA.
- 4 Days training of Bindi making course.
- Senior citizen account opened for 2 person.
- Helped issue 25 voter ids.
- Conducted programme in which 31 women attended and were given information about government related schemes.
- Through bachat ghad loans were given to 2 women amounting to Rs. 20,000.
- Given information about B.M.M.A

- Met Sarpanch of Takli village to discuss about meeting and it was decided to keep the meeting after Diwali. registered form for domestic worker association and their 5card are issued now.
- Organized 2 self defense training sessions.
- Applied for Maulana Azad Bachat Ghat loan

## **Sholapur**

- Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of every month
- Celebrated 8<sup>th</sup> Women Day attended by 50 Women
- 50 women got loan @ Rs.2000/- for Micro savings. Survey is being conducted in the area for Papad & Tiffin Service.
- Case: Total 10 cases 3 cases solved 7 pending.
- Filed 2 cases of section 498 (domestic violence) of which a husband made peace.
- Filled 10 forms of Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana of which 4 people (1 blind man, 3 women) have started availing the benefit.
- Handled total 5 cases of which one case was charged with section 498(Dowry). Mutual settlement was reached in 2 cases and one case was pending.
- Attended meeting at the police station.
- Registered one case of section 498.
- Submitted 7 application forms for new ration cards.
- Held meeting on cleanliness and water issues.
- Wrote application to start train from Sholapur to Mumbai and it was started. Will be going to give a letter of thanks.
- Registered FIR in police station for section 420 and doing its follow up.
- Registered 3cases, did their paper work.
- Under unemployment scheme filled 2 forms and under widow scheme filled 5 forms.
- Organized meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> of every month to provide information about BMMA.
- Issued 2 new BPL cards.
- Arranged meeting for 3 areas.

# Satara

- A batch of 35 persons completed beautician course and a new batch of 25 persons has been started.
- Tailoring course of 30 women has been started.
- Helped 2 persons open a account in the bank.
- 4 new groups of bachatgad accounts opened for men. 2 loans approved of 50 thousand and 1 lac each for 2 women through Bachatgad.
- 30 persons applied for loan through Canara Bank on the Pension Yojana Scheme. Follow-up for cases already registered.
- New trust named Gulshan Foundation started in June'13, registration and other procedure work in progress. Gave letter to the Gram Panchayat and started the road repair work.
- Training given to 2 bachatgad group on how to plan, enhance and increase the income of the groups.

#### Yevatmal

• 10 Bachatgad are there from which 2 are operational, weekly meeting conducted with this regard. Attended the meeting held on Human Rights Federation along with 15 women and 10 men of the community.

- Jan-nari Insaf Sangatna meeting was attended by 5 women & 2 men. Meeting the MP on community related issue. Made arrangements for BMMA meeting for which the main speaker was Khatoon (Mumbai). 30 women and 15 men attended this meeting. Attended meeting along with 50 women and 10 men from the village held at Patrakar Bhavan having 15 eminent people.
- Attended meeting in Babul village with 20 women and 10 men. Sahista has been honored and also give to attend program called Nayalay by the TV channel. Sahista along with the Judge resolved 20 cases of 498.
- Shahista received award "Best Social worker" form Akashwani Doordharshan Kendra. Survey
  conducted to understand the number of people BPL. 30-35 persons attended the meeting conducted at
  Vashim on BMMA and to plan the work to be carried out in the area. Meeting conducted to provide
  additional information of Bachat Ghad.
  - Registered 2 women in Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana. Made 2 pan cards for women. Filled application forms for BPL card for 2 women. 50 women attended training on Human rights. 50 women provided loan of Rs.12000/- per person.
- Applied for 15 BPL ration cards
- Attended 2 to 3 meetings of BMMA.

#### PUBLIC AWARENESS ON BMMA IN MUMBAI AND OTHER DISTRICTS

A public meeting was organized in Jintur, Amberjogai and Kurudwadi by BMMA and Muslim Samanway Samiti and was attended by 80 Muslim women. The gathering discussed issues of status of Muslim community and the challenges faced by them. Khatoon Shaikh addressed this meeting.

A public meeting addressed by Noorjehan Safia Niaz was held in Sholapur and was attended by 94 people.

BMMA meeting held at Yavetmal attended by 21 Taluka and 7 Zilla level people. Around 45 people attended the same.

Public meeting in Shahpur to give information about BMMA to a small group of 15 people.

Public meeting in Vashi organised by Maharashtra Mahila Parishad at the completion of their 15 years. The meeting was attended by more than 1000 people. Information about BMMA was given.

Participants of the Common Purpose Meridian programme visited BMMA office to understand the issue of codification in the context of Coalition vs. Consensus as a strategy to work on the issues of the Muslim community, especially on a difficult issues like codification.

Attended a meeting of Muslim teachers from Maharashtra. 100 teachers from different parts of Maharashtra got information about BMMA. Many have come forward to work with BMMA.

Participated in the Convention of Nagari Hakk Adhiveshan organized by organizations in Maharashtra. More than 300 people participated in the Adhiveshion where the organizations demanded better governance from the state and put forth a list of demands to be fulfilled by the state.

Participated in a public meeting on police reforms. This meeting was organized by Praja, and was titled 'Modern Policing for Modern India'. It was addressed by former CP, Julio Rebeiro, Maja Daruwala who have been campaigning for reforms in the policing system in the city. They discussed the Police Reforms Act and other policy decisions which have not been implemented so far as a result

of which common people suffer. An action plan was drawn up with participation of many organizations.

Two BMMA activists have joined the Haiyya Community Fellowship Programme. The programme will be functional till July 2013 and will work on the issue of public safety. Issues of safety will be addressed by the fellows in the community where they are working. They will also mobilize more women to understand the concept of safety at all levels and strategize to ensure it for everyone.

BMMA attended morcha organized by Ghar Bachao Andolan. Information about BMMA was given in this gathering.

#### **ENDORSEMENTS**

- Endorsements 'Save RTI from amendments' and 'Protect Food from BRAI'
- Endorsements- stop MPs from passing a new that would allow gangsters to stay in power
- Endorse-making Mumbai safe for women,
- Endorsements integrating waste pickers in solid waste management system
- Demanding that russian authorities release green peace activists, and stop repressing peaceful protests against arctic drilling
- Communal Violence Bill
- Petition against cycle ban by police in Kolkata
- Joined demo to demand CBI inquiry into Gujarat stalking
- Petition to stop global warming after the Philippines typhoon
- Signed petition to support We Are All Afghan Women [WAAAW] campaign

#### **OUTCOME**

Our outreach into the community has increased as a result of our public meetings as well as through media interface. Through facebook and blog posts, many have come to know about BMMA which is confirmed from the fact that many people call up to ask about BMMA after going through the blog. Many women have approached us with their domestic problems including one from Dubai.

#### **NATIONAL MEETINGS**

First National Council meeting of BMMA was held in Kolkata. Important decisions about the activities and administration of BMMA were taken. A public meeting was held on the issue of codification. Dr. Umar Ghani address the gathering along with founder members of BMMA.

The second National Council meeting and three day certificate course on Aurato Ka Shariat Adalat was held at Sarvodaya, St. Pius College, Goregoan (East) which was attended by 38 BMMA members from all over India. The planning and organization was done by Khatoon Sheikh and her team.

The third National Council meeting of BMMA was held in Mumbai at the St. Pious Complex. Ms. Devshala Giri took a full day session on gender and women's rights. 40 Muslim women who are active BMMA leaders from across the country attended the training. The draft law prepared by BMMA was discussed. The functioning of Aurton ki Shariah Adalat was reviewed. Activities for the first quarter of 2014 were planned and other administrative decisions were taken.

BMMA and ORF jointly published a book and had a press release. The book titled "FROM SECLUSION AND EXCLUSION TO INCLUSION – Indian Muslim Women and their Initiatives" chronicles the initiatives and achievements of Muslim women in India.

A call was given by women's organization including BMMA to demand 33% reservation for women in the Parliament. The gathering also expressed their worry about rising fascism and fundamentalism and called for all secular groups to fight for defending pluralism and democracy in the country.

In another national convention co-organised by BMMA in Delhi, women from all minority communities gave a call to defend democracy and secularism. In this Convention, women survivors of communal violence narrated their stories of death and destruction at the hands of fascist forces. Activists and academicians from across the country rededicated themselves to the values of rule of law and secular principles.

In Ahmedabad Muslim women called for a Convention to safeguard democratic values and expressed their protest against communal and fascist forces. The gathering also wanted the Muslim community to imbibe democratic principles and allow voices of dissent and debate within the community, especially the voices from the Muslim women. The issue of law reform and codification were also discussed.

In another public meeting in Bihar, BMMA opined that the Muslim community which wants all the benefits of democracy must also create space for democratic values within the community. The community must learn to listen to voices of the marginalized from within the community. Social consciousness and democratic functioning within the community is also the need of the hour. Muslim men must join the Muslim women in demanding codification of Muslim family law so that there is justice and fairness within the community. A call for codification of Muslim family law was given by BMMA.

The issue of codification was also done with Muslim women in Hyderabad. The meeting was organized by My Choices – an organization working with Muslim women. The draft law of BMMA was discussed with Muslim women and suggestions were taken from them.

The draft law was also discussed with women in Patna. The provisions of the law were shared with women. They also were given training on rights stated for Muslim women in the Quran.

To strengthen BMMA's work in Karnataka meetings were held with local organizations and individuals who can take on the responsibility of BMMA's work in the state.

In Mumbai, BMMA attended the National Consultation on Rights of Minority Community organised by CSSS. The issue of democratization of Muslim community was discussed and the issue of codification was also shared with the participants.

A State Consultation on 'Improving the Socio-Legal Status of Muslim Women in India' was organized in March 2013 in Mumbai University co-organized by Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andola, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies and Multiple Research and Action Group

More than 100 Muslim women and men from Mumbai, Yavatmal, Nasik, Osmanabad, Pune city, Sangamner, Pimpri, Daund, Indapur, took part in these deliberations. Activists, journalists, academicians, lawyers were part of the forum.

The panelists in the morning session were Ms. Zakia Soman from Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andolan, Javed Anand from Muslims for Secular Democrary, Khatoon Shaikh from Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andolan, Dr. Chandrakant Puri from Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies, Anju Talukdar from Multiple Research Action Group, Faiyaz Inamdar from Muslim Samanway Samiti, Ritu Dewan and Sandhya Mhatre from Mumbai University. The morning session was facilitated by Noorjehan Safia Niaz

The panelists in the afternoon panel were Ghazala Azad from NEEDs Foundation, Maqbool Alamactivist, Nusrat Pathan from Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andolan, Adv. Uraizee, Mallika Mistry from University of Pune, Nirja Bhatnagar from Action Aid, Nabi Idrisi from Idrisi Association, Salim Shaikh from Muslim Samanway Samiti. The afternoon session was facilitated by Dr. Chandrakant Puri

The focus of the deliberations was to generate suggestions and ideas to make the Minority Commission and Women's Commission more responsive to the challenges faced by Muslim women in India. The deliberations will shortly be released and will give a glimpse of the ways in which these Commissions need to engage with Muslim women.

Briefly the following recommendations were given by panelists as well as participants.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS TO MINORITY COMMISSION

- These Commissions need more teeth and power
- The work of the Commission must not be impacted by political interference
- The Commission must get statutory approval to make provision for 50% women members.
- There must also be statutory provision to give equal space for issues of Muslim women
- The Commission must have offices in all district of the state
- The Commission must reach out to Muslim girls and women to understand their concerns and aspirations and communicate this to their political bosses
- The Commission must effectively overlook the implementation of various schemes meant for the Muslim community. It must collaborate and tie up with NGOs for the same.
- NGOs must also be part of the state committee to monitor the implementation of these schemes
- The Muslim Family law must be codified to ensure legal justice to Muslim women
- The Wakf Land must be used for building hostels for girls for education and economic empowerment
- A study must be done to assess the percentage of Muslim women beneficiaries in schemes of Women and Child Development and MAVIM and other schemes
- The state must ensure that schemes announced under the 12th 5-year plan must have Muslim women beneficiaries
- End to corruption in MAFC and MAF and strengthen them with more budget and human power and infrastructure

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM WOMEN'S COMMISSION

- The Commission must have more teeth and power
- It must be made immune to political interference
- An effective chairperson must be immediately instated in the Women's Commission
- Women representatives from Muslim community must be made members of the Commission

- The Commission must reach out to Muslim women and girls to understand their aspirations and issues
- The Commission must have offices in all districts of the state
- The Commission must work in collaboration with NGOs across the state for effective implementation of various policies and programmes
- The Commission must ensure that Muslim women get benefits of the schemes announced by state and national government

Another consultation on 'Rights of Muslim Women and Institutional Linkages' was organised by Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andolan, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies [RGCCS] and Multiple Research and Action Group [MARG]. The objective of the Consultation was to develop a referral system between the community of Muslim women in Maharashtra and the various institutions for sustained future engagement. The focus was thus to find out ways to engage with state institutions like the Women's Commission and Minority Commission. The Consultation was attended by Member of the National Women's Commission Ms. Shamina Shafique and Ms. Janet D'Souza, Vice-Chairperson from the State Minority Commission. The Consultation was facilitated by Ms. Zakia Soman, Founder Member, BMMA. Other panellists were Dr. Chandrakant Puri, Chair and Professor, Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Studies, Ms. Anju Talukdar, Executive Director, MARG, Mr. Javed Anand from Muslims for Secular Democracy, Ms. Khatoon Shaikh, Maharashtra Convener, BMMA, Dr. Noorjehan Safia Niaz, Founder Member, BMMA. The inaugural address was given by Professor Gautam Gawali, Hon. Director, Western Regional Centre, ICSSR, Mumbai University.

#### **NATIONAL PROGRAMME**

The highlight of 2013 was the launch of 4 Aurton ki Shariat Adalat in the cities of Mumbai, Pnne, Ahmedabad and Dindugul.

The issue of ban of entry on women in the sanctum of the Haji Ali Dargah Trust was taken up. BMMA sent letters to Haji Ali dargah trustees to reconsider their decision. Submission regarding this was also given to State Minority Commission. A meeting was called by the Minority Development Department to discuss the issue in which the Trust people did not turn up. No further follow up was done by the Department.

A manual on the health rights of Muslim women is on its way. BMMA gave its inputs on the manual.

BMMA signed a petition to support We Are All Afghan Women [WAAAW] campaign

#### **OUTCOME**

BMMA highlighted the issue of ban of entry of women into the mazaar of Haji Ali dargah. The issue was widely reported in the media as a result BMMA got a lot of visibility. It also established BMMA as a strong voice of Muslim women. Submissions were sent to the Minority Development Department which tried but failed to take the issue further. The issue also established our presence in the Minority Commission and the Department who now take us seriously as a voice of Muslim women.

#### SHARIAH ADALAT AND CODIFICATION CAMPAIGN

# 1. Campaign to demand ban on oral divorce

Press Conference against oral divorce was held on 20th November at the Mumbai Marathi Patrakar Sangh. Victims of oral divorce from Mumbai and Pune narrated the manner in which they were divorced by their husband.

To highlight the issue of oral, unilateral divorce, BMMA through its national annual convention held a national public hearing of victims of oral unilateral divorce. Women from Maharashtra, Gujrat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh will narrate the different ways in which they have been divorced by their husbands. To put an end to this heinous practice BMMA demanded that the Muslim family law must be codified. The activists of BMMA have been working on a draft law since its inception. Many consultations have been held across the country to arrive at the various clauses mentioned in the draft. Through this Convention, BMMA wanted the state to hear the voices of Muslim women. The state now can no longer ignore this voice. It must treat Muslim women as citizens of this country and must put an immediate ban on the practice of oral/unilateral divorce.

After the Annual Convention letters demanding abolition of the practice of oral divorce was sent to National Minority Commission, National Women's Commission and Soniya Gandhi, National Advisory Council. Letters were also sent to State Minority Commission, State Women's Commission and Minority Development Cell. Along with the letter signatures collected from across the country, list of supporting organizations and case studies were also sent. Letters were also sent to the 6 Member of Parliament to demand that they advocate on this issue.

Thereafter the various national units of BMMA began the process of compiling case studies of oral divorce. In all 68 case studies were compiled from across the country and this compilation in the form of a book was released before the press in Mumbai, Bhopal, Ahmedabad and other cities. The booklet titled 'Stories of Oral Divorce and Indian Muslim Women' was sent to all MPs in Mumbai as part of the campaign to demand ban on oral divorce.

Similar signature campaign was done on oral divorce and submitted to all the 6 MPs of Mumbai, to Chief Minister of Maharashtra and to the State Minority Commission and State Women's Commission.

In Mumbai a meeting was held in collaboration with the Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policies, SNDT Women's University. Invitations were sent out to 48 maulanas, muftis and qazis. 5 of them whose names are mentioned above came for this meeting. The objective of the programme was to initiative a dialogue between *Kazi/Mufti* and Muslim women in order to finding solutions on their legal problems, to let the *Kazi/Mufti* know that Muslim women have immense grievances against them and that they should evolve some system by which they could rein in rogue qazis who oppress women, to let the Kazi/Mufti know that their pronouncements are against the spirit of the Quran and to know their views on codification of Muslim family law. The panelists were Dr. Asghar Ali Engineer, Mr. Javed Anand, Mufti Muzaffar Alam, Mufti Abdul Rehman, Maulana Waqar Ahmed, Maulana Mufidul Islam, Maulana Muzaffar Alam, Mr. Nabi Idrisi and Mr. Maqbool Alam

The litigants suggested that the decisions by the qazis or the court should be taken after consulting both the wife and the husband. The suggestions were:

- Husband must support his wife and the children. He cannot be allowed to remarry during the subsistence of one marriage.
- Oral divorce should not be allowed. Arbitration is mandatory. Because of easy divorce man
  can remarry easily in which he is fully supported by the qazi. Unilateral oral divorce must be
  abolished. Men should not have the right to pronounce divorce at all. This right should be
  with the court.
- All rights mentioned in the Quran must be translated in a law so that women can access it
- Women must get a bigger mehr amount so that the husband is discouraged from initiating divorce
- All Muslim marriages must be registered.

All 11 states of BMMA held dharnas/rallies to protest against the practice of oral divorce. In Mumbai a dharna was held at Azad Maidan. It was attended by 80 women. A submission was sent to national and state minority and women's commission, to all MPs and MLAs in Mumbai and to the Chief Minister

Dharna held on 12<sup>th</sup> Jun'13 against oral divorce at Azad Maidan. The same was attended by approx 80 members from the BMMA. Plaque cards and 8 banners one for each area were made. The members protested and demanded a Ban on Oral Divorce. The activists paid tribute to Dr. Asghar Ali Engineer by maintaining one minute silence. This news was covered by 6 News papers Praahar, The Indian Express, Times of India, Sakal (2 articles), Hindustan Times, Lokmath. The coverage in press along with a submission letter was sent to NCM, NCW, SCM and SCW and also to all MPs and MLAs in Mumbai.

#### 2. Consultations on codification:

Consultations on individual level are happening with lawyers. The draft so far has been sent to Mihir Desai, Kirti Singh, Tahir Mehmood, Justice Akbar Ali, Prof. Wani, Adv. S.A Uraizee, Adv. Pouru Wadia, Adv. Arvind and Adv. Bader Saeed. Adv. Bader Saeed has kindly agreed to work on the draft and help us finalize it.

The draft has also been sent to National Law Commission, National Women's Commission, State Women's Commission and State and National Minority Commission.

On 7th March, a consultation was held with lawyers in Kolkata. It was organized by Nari-o-Shishu Kalyan Kendra, which is the supporting organization of BMMA in West Bengal. 7 practicing lawyers from Kolkata High Court gave valuable suggestions to the draft.

Consultation was held with lawyers in Chennai on 30 and 31 March 2013 to discuss the draft law. Mr. Faiz Rehman, Adv. Zafarullah Khan, Adv. Jawad, Mr. Salim participated in the discussion. The draft was discussed in details. Many suggestions were given and were incorporated in the draft.

Apart from consultations the draft was sent to Adv. Zafarullah Khan, Adv. Saeed Uraisee, Adv. Pouruchisti Wadia, Adv. Mihir Desai Adv. Kirti Singh, Adv. Arvind and Adv. Mini Mathew Comments and suggestions have so far come in from Adv. Pouruchisti, Adv. Mihir Desai, Adv. Arvind and Adv. Kirti Singh

On 16th April, a discussion on 'Codification of Muslim Family Law' took place in Puri, Odisha. The meeting was arranged by Sauhard Manch to educate its members about various personal laws. Zakia Soman gave an overview of the development of the Muslim family law in India. Noorjehan SN shared

the draft prepared by BMMA. Many suggestions were given and they were incorporated in the draft. A small discussion also took place over the current codified laws existing for the Muslim community and how they are being used by practitioners for helping Muslim women get justice and how it is difficult to interpret existing laws which are ambiguous and depend on the interpretation of the practitioner.

A consultation in Kolkata with civil society groups and academicians was organized by BMMA unit and Nari-o-Shishu Kalyan Kendra in which a format was evolved for a manual stating rights of women in the Quran.

In a public meeting in Ahmedabad in December 2013, the salient features of the draft was shared with close to 500 Muslim women who endorsed the draft and resolved to work together for its implementation.

Another meeting will be held in Patna on 11th and 12th December 2013 to discuss the provisions of the draft in a public meeting. A training workshop will also be held to discuss the rights of Muslim women and call for a demand for codification of Muslim family law.

A similar meeting was held women in Hyderabad with help from My Choices organization. More than 60 Muslim women attended the meeting and gave their suggestions on the draft law.

# 3. Challenging High Court judgment on the age of marriage of Muslim girls:

In keeping with the demand for codification, the BMMA units across the country held press conferences to denounce the Delhi High Court Judgment which declared that the marriage of a 15 year old girl is valid under the shariah law.

Young Muslim girls who are part of the BMMA-Sehr Initiative addressed a press conference in Mumbai where the condemned the Delhi High Court judgment which validated a Muslim marriage at the age of 15. Alisha Patel, Heena Shaikh, Rukhsar Siddiqui, Zeenat Shaikh and Iram Siddiqui spoke to the press confidently and said that they want to educate themselves and become economically independent. The judgment is not in tunes with the time and does not reflect the aspirations of young Muslim girls. The BMMA activists demanded codification of Muslim law as a codified law would end the arbitrariness of judicial decisions.

## 4. Awareness on codification of Muslim law:

20 girls from different localities attended the monthly meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to give them information about law and the status of women in our society. Memory games were played and a quiz competition was held to test their knowledge about law information about which was given in the previous session In addition meetings with local women's groups are being held to spread awareness about the process of codification. Meetings have also been held with young girls group called Sehr.

25 BMMA area leaders attended a meeting on codification of Muslim family law. Women from areas like Husein Tekdi, Bharat nagar, Mori road, Navpada, Behrampada, Gausia Compound attended this meeting.

Girls participated in the session on 'Rights of Women in Islam'. 17 girls attended this meeting. Difference between Quran, Hadis and Sunnah were explained. Based on quranic injunctions women's

rights vis-s-vis marriage, divorce, maintenance, mehr, age of marriage, polygamy, custody of children were explained. The provisions of draft law were also explained to the girls.

As part of creating awareness among young Muslim women on the issues of women's rights, 2 sessions were conducted with members of the BMMA-Sehr group.

The National Council meeting of BMMA was held in Kolkata, West Bengal. It was attended by state leaders of MP, UP, Maharashtra, Gujrat, Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal. The National Council discussed the questionnaire prepared to do a study on codification of Muslim family law. The entire questionnaire was discussed and many questions were added. The group also discussed the nikaahnama of BMMA and made some modifications in the same for reprinting.

On 26th of April, a public meeting was arranged by the West Bengal Unit of BMMA. Zakia Soman the co-founder of BMMA shared the genesis of BMMA, its vision, objectives, activities and campaigns. Noorjehan Safia Niaz, co-founder of BMMA discussed the codified law prepared by BMMA. She shared the salient features of the code and called upon everyone to join in the demand for demanding a gender just Muslim family law. The chief guest, Dr. Osman Ghani gave a very motivating speech. He said a prayer in Islam means to be able to serve the people. He accused the religious leaders for subjugating Muslim women in the name of Islam.

Another discussion on the draft law happened in Bharatnagar, Mumbai with Muslim women. Around 50 Muslim women discussed the draft and gave their comments on it. They were happy to hear that a process like this has been initiated which will eventually help Muslim women get justice.

Training of core team members on codification was done in the Mumbai Unit of BMMA so that they can in future take up the issue for discussion in the community. training was also given to members of the Shariah Adalat run in Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Dindigul and Pune.

# 5. Advocacy:

A press conference on oral divorce was organized on 21st March at Marathi Patrakar Sangh(VT) Speakers were Noorjehan, Raziya Rehman Shaikh, Farhana and Nirmala Nahar. A book containing 68 case studies was released in the press conference. The press releases and the book was then sent to NCM, NCW, SCM and SCW along with copies to Mumbai MPs and MLAs. The information on this event was also uploaded on the facebook, AISF and Moderate Forum.

BMMA had sent recommendations to the Women and Child Department to be included in the Women's Policy. BMMA attended two meetings to reiterate their demand for codification. The first meeting was attended by Minister Fauzia Khan. The minister incharge of the WCD suggested that a separate meeting must be held with Muslim women's organization to take their views on what can go in the Women's Policy from the perspective of Muslim women. Hence a meeting was held on 25th May, coordinated by Farida Lambay, to take the opinion of Muslim women. BMMA gave suggestions on education, livelihood, health, entitlements etc. The main crux of our demand was about codification of Muslim family law. All members present in the meeting barring one, agreed that Muslim law must be codified. BMMA also added to other recommendations, specifically on codification and submitted to the Department. An informal group of individuals and organizations, called Ankur was formed for taking forward issues of Muslim women. The group's first job has been to work on the women's policy from the perspective of Muslim women. In future it plans to take up

the issue of codification. In the final document all suggestions given by BMMA except codification was accepted by the core committee formed to work on the draft women's policy.

The issue of codification was also incorporated in the document prepared by Wada Na Todo Abhiyan and WRAG. Submission by BMMA was done in a Muslim Women's Consultation in Mumbai, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2013 titled 'Integrating Community Experiences and Expectations: Formulation of the Post Development Agenda'. BMMA gave recommendations on various social, economic and educational issues. A special submission was made regarding codification of Muslim family law and it was incorporated in the document.

A major achievement has been that the Mahmadur Rahman Report released by the Government of Maharashtra on the socio-economic status of Muslim women in Maharashtra mentioned in its recommendations that the practise of oral divorce must be abolished and maintenance must be given to Muslim women. This we can say is the direct impact of our campaign.

# 6. Publication:

Compilation of oral divorce case studies

A manual on those verses which are in support of legal reforms of Muslim was published. It is in the form of a pocket book in English and Hindi. It will also be published in Urdu.

#### 7. Future Activities:

A detailed questionnaire is finally prepared and given for printing. 5000 interviews will be done across the country, 500 in each state to ascertain the legal status of Muslim women and their views on personal laws. The survey has already begun.

# ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE LAST ONE YEAR

- 1. Our campaign on demanding a ban on oral divorce was a nationwide campaign which highlighted the issue in a big way. Public hearing of victims of oral divorce, press release of case studies and dharna to demand ban on oral divorce. Submissions were done to state and national minority commissions and all activities received huge press coverage.
- 2. The draft so far has been sent to 13 advocates like Adv. Mihir Desai, Adv. Kirti Singh, Dr. Tahir Mehmood, Justice Akbar Ali, Prof. Wani, Adv. S.A Uraizee, Adv. Pouru Wadia, Adv. Arvind and Adv. Bader Saeed, Adv. Mini Mathew, Adv. Zafarullah Khan, Adv. Jawad and Mr. Faizur Rahman. Out of the 13, inputs have been received from Mihir Desai, Pouruchisti, Kirti Singh, Arvind and Bader Saeed. The draft will be ratified by the National Council of BMMA on 21st December 2013.
- 3. BMMA has started 4 legal aid centres in cities of Ahmedabad, Dindigul, Mumbai and Pune. In Mumbai the centre runs in 2 communities of Bharat nagar and Navpada. In Ahmedabad it runs in Juhapura and Bombay Hotel area.
- 4. 2 books were published in the last 6 months. One is a booklet containing 68 case studies of oral divorce and second is a pocket book on Quranic verses
- 5. Regular training on Muslim family law were conducted with BMMA Area Leaders, with BMMA-Sehr group and with the core team of BMMA. The draft was also discussed in details

with the core team. 8 such training sessions have been held through the year on the issue of codification and the draft law has been discussed.

- 6. In all public meetings of BMMA the issue of codification was discussed with confidence. Our campaigns on oral divorce was also discussed and shared with everyone. These public meetings were held in Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Pune, Shirur, Delhi, Mumbai, and now in Patna.
- 7. The issue of codification was also suggested to be included in the Women's Policy of Maharashtra. It was rejected by the core committee but the issue was nonetheless highlighted in the government, especially with the Women and Child Department. The press clippings of the book release and the dharna along with a demand for banning oral divorce was also sent to NCW, NCM, SCM and SCW. Also letters were sent to all MPs and MLAs in Mumbai. All efforts were made to highlight the issue of codification with the government. Submissions were also given to the Wada Na Todo Abhiyan in a seminar titled 'Integrating Community Experiences and Expectations: Formulation of the Post Development Agenda'
- 8. The practice of oral divorce must be abolished; this was mentioned in the Mahmadur Rahman Report released by the GOM. This is the first time a government document has acknowledged that the problem exists.
- 9. Consultations were held in Kolkata, Chennai, Puri and Ahmdabad and Patna [11 December] to firm up the draft. Individual advocates also gave their comments on the draft.
- 10. BMMA blog reflects the work done on the issue and has been viewed by many across the world.
- 11. Articles on the issues of family law have been uploaded from time to time in the personal blog of Noorjehan.

#### **ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT YEAR**

- Ratification of the draft on 21 December 2013
- Release of survey report by February 2014
- Release of draft by March 2014
- Formation of Coalition in each state based on the draft
- Formation of National Coalition
- Lobbying with Parliamentarians and other stake holders

## **OUTCOME**

Our campaign on demanding a ban on oral divorce was a nationwide campaign which highlighted the issue in a big way. 2 books were published in the last 6 months. One is a booklet containing 68 case studies of oral divorce and second is a pocket book on Quranic verses,

Regular training on Muslim family law were conducted with BMMA Area Leaders, with BMMA-Sehr group and with the core team of BMMA. The draft was also discussed in details with the core team.

In all public meetings of BMMA the issue of codification was discussed with confidence. Our campaigns on oral divorce was also discussed and shared with everyone.

One press conference and one dharna were organized to highlight the issue of oral divorce. Both the issues were well covered in the media.

The issue of codification was also suggested to be included in the Women's Policy of Maharashtra. It was rejected by the core committee but the issue was nonetheless highlighted in the government, especially with the Women and Child Department. The press clippings of the book release and the dharna along with a demand for banning oral divorce was also sent to NCW, NCM, SCM and SCW. Also letters were sent to all MPs and MLAs in Mumbai. All efforts were made to highlight the issue of codification with the government. Submissions were also given to the Wada Na Todo Abhiyan in a seminar titled 'Integrating Community Experiences and Expectations: Formulation of the Post Development Agenda'

Consultations were held in Kolkata, Chennai, Puri and Kolkata, Patna, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad to firm up the draft. Individual advocates also gave their comments on the draft.

## AURTON KI SHARIAH ADALAT

Muslim family law as practiced in India is not codified, as a result Muslim women face injustice as judgments by qazis, shariah courts and even secular courts are given based on discriminatory shariah law which is in total contrast to the Quranic injunctions. BMMA has initiated a campaign demanding codification of Muslim family law based on the Quranic verses. As part of the campaign, BMMA had published a women-friendly nikaahnama and more than 200 marriages have been solemnized over it. BMMA has also drafted a codified law after many rounds of consultations with Muslim women, lawyers, academicians and with people having knowledge of Islam.

BMMA has been able to do this campaign because it has a vast body of experience in dealing with cases of Muslim women facing discrimination due to oral divorce, polygamy, lack custody of children, lack of maintenance etc. As a natural progression of our work on law reform it is now imperative that we scale up our work on provision of legal aid in other cities and states.

We envisage that legal aid centres managed by BMMA will provide legal aid to Muslim women based on the provisions of the codified law which it has prepared. The centre will also promote the model nikaahnama amongst young Muslim couple. It will also be a natural progression for BMMA as we will progress from formulation and implementing model nikahnama, to formulating codified, Quran-complied family law, to setting up structures for implementing this law.

As we know that Muslim religious institutions have for long exercised their hegemony over the community and specifically over the women. They have formulated laws, they have misinterpreted the religious texts and they have set up institutions which are patriarchal, unjust, dogmatic and unIslamic. BMMA represents Muslim women's aspiration to reclaim these spaces from Muslim patriarchal forces represented by Muslim men. BMMA represents Muslim women's desire to not just formulate laws and wait for these patriarchal institutions to implement it but to create, sustain and nurture those institutions which are bound by values of justice and equality and would implement those laws. The proposed activity is in continuation of Muslim women's engagement with its family law moving towards the goal of justice for Indian Muslim women.

# **Objectives of the Centre:**

- To provide legal aid to Muslim women based on the Quran-complied codified 'Muslim Family Law' prepared by BMMA
- To undertake activities to promote women-friendly nikaahnama prepared by BMMA
- To create awareness among Muslim women and men about their legal rights of women in Islam

#### **Work of the Justice Cadres**

The Centre will have 2-3 trained counselors who will be well-versed with laws meant for women and also the codified law based on which they will impart justice.

They will also have counseling skills and a strong gender perspective

They will visit the police stations, courts, qazis/muftis, families and communities so that the victim gets justice.

#### **Guidelines:**

We believe that Muslim women are the well equipped to provide legal aid as they are the victims of a discriminatory law. The legal aid providers are well versed in law and they are also aware of the various strategies that are to be employed so that a harassed Muslim woman gets legal redresser. The decisions of the court are going to be based on the rights of women enshrined in the Quran. Some of the guidelines that we will follow:

- Take recourse to all secular laws like the Anti-Dowry Act, Domestic Violence Act etc
- The justice cadre will utilize the existing legal machinery like the courts etc to help women get legal aid
- They will also use the justice implementation machinery like the police
- They can also work in coordination with qazis and muftis to help the litigant

## They will be guided by the following Quranic injunctions:

- Triple oral/unilateral divorce is not acceptable
- Whoever initiates the divorce will have to go through the process of talak-e-ahsan method of divorce.
- Women must get maintenance during her marital life
- Women must get maintenance after divorce as per the provisions of the Muslim Women's Act, 1986
- All grounds of divorce mentioned in the 1939 Act are applicable to the women visiting the Shariah Court
- Halala is not acceptable
- No other restriction except remarriage during iddat
- If the children are small the custody of the children will be with the mother
- If the children are the age of 7 whether boy or girl, they child will be given the right to decide

# **Rules and Regulations**

## **Counseling with women:**

• Be sensitive to the litigant

- Listen to her carefully, allow her to ventilate
- Facilitate her decision making, don't take decisions for her
- If she is in the wrong don't discuss it in front of her husband or inlaws. Speak to her separately and sensitively about her mistakes
- If a wife files a complaint then send a notice to the husband. But if a husband files a complaint send a request letter to the wife

#### **Administration:**

- Be punctual, reach the Adalat on time.
- Take an application from the litigant along with her passport size photo and other important document
- Maintain the file and register properly
- Follow the Quranic verses
- Follow the codified law of BMMA
- Take advice from muftis, qazis but do what is fair and just to the litigant
- Take help of lawyers but do not leave the litigant on their mercy. Follow up with the lawyer regularly
- Don't use abusive language in the adalat
- Maintain silence and decorum

# Defense of Shariah Adalat run by BMMA:

- Our main concern is justice for the Muslim women
- Our court is easily accessible, inexpensive, fast and women-friendly
- We do not challenge the existing shariah court run by religious groups.
- We work in alliance and as complimentary body to the formal, secular courts
- We work in a coordinated way with qazis, muftis, lawyers, NGOs, human rights activists
- We use the word 'court' because court is a place where people go seeking justice. Since the purpose of our initiative is to enable justice delivery to the poorest Muslim women, we call ourselves a 'court'. We are an Alternative Dispute Resolution Forum the formation of which is mandated by article 39A of the Constitution of the India.
- It is a well know reality that formal courts are expensive, formal, inaccessible and bogged down by excessive rules, regulations, procedures and paper work. a poor oppressed women cannot approach a court without paying starting fees to a lawyer. After that also there is no guarantee that she will get justice.

#### TOTAL NO. OF CASES IN MUMBAI AND PUNE ADALAT

MUMBAI – 96, PUNE – 22, TOTAL CASES: 118

CASES SOLVED: 70, RECONCILED: 31, DIVORCE: 7 [Out of the 7 one woman received all dowry goods, jewellery, mehr money and another received 1lakh and 5gm gold], ORAL DIVORCE: 2, KHULA: 2, PROPERTY: 8, POLYGAMY: 20, FOR SAFETY: 6, ONGOING: 42

# CAPACITY BUILDING OF SHARIAH ADALAT TEAM

The first training of the justice cadres was held in August in Mumbai. The second training was held in Ahmedabad and the third training was held in Mumbai in December. In all the meetings information

about rights of women was given. Rules and regulations of the Adalat were discussed and the Parliamentary laws was also discussed. Another meeting of the members of Gujrat Shariah Adalat was held in Udaipur. The members of the Mumbai Shariah Adalat were given training also. In all 5 training programmes were held for the team of BMMA's Aurton ki Shariah Adalat.

## TEAM PERSPECTIVE BUILDING

- Self Awareness training conducted by Dr Puri for the core team members of Ashna Trust.
- Manager vs Leader training given by Mr. Kaushik.
- Knowing self better session taken by Ritu Divan
- Perspective building workshop was held for the core team of BMMA at the Royal Garden Resort. Information about BMMA was given to all. They were also informed of the linkages between BMMA and Ashana Trust. The management of Ashana Trust and the sources of funding was shared with everyone. Everyone was asked to share their views about the Trust.
- 26 women attended federation meeting conducted by Khatoon Sheikh about her visit to Muzaffarnagar and the riots which happened there.
- Resource persons from Yashwantrao Chavan Pratishthan had come to give a presentation on the educational facilities available at the Pratishthan. 30 women attended this meeting.
- Organized Training on Right to Education for the staff and area leaders. Arvind Vaidya an activist
  explained the history of education, the changes in the field of education and the current and future
  of education.
- Meeting/Training held on 4<sup>th</sup> May'13 conducted by Shama Dalvai on the education of the children attended by 21 people. Provided information on Maulana Azad Vichar Manch to be held on 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> May'13
- Since BMMA will be working with children it is important that all core staff and area leaders are made aware of the child rights. They also must have skills and knowledge about the issues faced by children. Since we have always had a rights based approach it is important for all leaders of BMMA to under the issues of children from a rights perspective. Hence Santosh Shinde from the Child Line project was invited for a full day workshop with area leaders to understand issues of children and evolve our strategy of working with children.
- Santosh Shinde from Bal Prafulta took a one day workshop on child rights. He started with understanding the legal definition of child, gave a history of development of child rights perspective, nationally and internationally, Indian laws which are meant for the protection of child rights, and the various rights which have been enumerated for children. The workshop gave the BMMA team an overview of the rights of children and will help the team in evolving programmes and activities with children in Navpada and Bharatnagar communities.
- Haji Mehmood Parvez and Nabi Idrasi gave information to 21 women on the rights of the OBC
- Training on leadership was given with focus on self development. The training was attended by 29 members.
- In all 5 days of gender training was given to the core team and area leaders of BMMA by Devshala. 55 women in the first phase and 22 women in the second phase were part of this training programme. Certificates were given to out to all regular participants.
- A community workshop organized by CSSS was attended by BMMA and other NGO participants. Sandhya Mhatre and myself made presentations on a presentation on the recommendations of the Sachar report and the various government schemes and how it can be accessed.

## **OUTCOME**

In the last 6 months a lot of emphasis was given to building up capacities of our community leaders through exposure to different issues and through different resource persons. A very successful 4 day gender training programme was organized for the Area Leaders. Similarly sessions on leadership, child rights, RTE, rights of the OBC community and on education were organized.