

Agra Catholic Diocese Samaj Seva Sanstha (ACDSSS)

Activity Report – 2021–22

1. Enlightening and Eliminating Child Labour through Securing Education and Livelihood Promotion – Etmadpur Block, Agra

Over the years, this project has transformed the lives of daily wage labourers and their families in Etmadpur. Women now recognize the importance of immunization and increasingly visit Primary Health Centres for safe deliveries.

Through Self-Help Groups (SHGs), women have improved their economic conditions by inter-loaning and initiating small-scale income-generating activities, which has reduced household financial burdens. Community members are now more aware of health, hygiene, education, village development, and gender equality.

Child labour has significantly reduced, with children attending school regularly. Parents and community leaders now value children's rights and education as essential to their future.

2. Inclusive Development for Children & Youngsters with Disabilities – Ganjdundwara Block, Kasganj District

This community-based rehabilitation programme covers **178 villages**, catering to **2,100 Persons/Children with Disabilities (PWDs/CWDs)** as indirect beneficiaries and **44 CWDs** as direct beneficiaries.

The project has built acceptance and compassion for differently abled children. At present, 44 children are enrolled in the programme, receiving support in education, therapy, and livelihood.

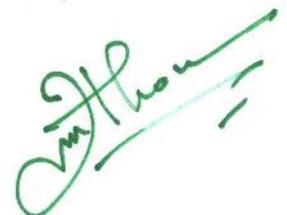
Through **Disabled Persons' Organizations (DPOs)**, children and their families have been linked with government schemes, educational materials, health benefits, surgical interventions, assistive devices, and other entitlements. Overall, **784 children** have benefitted from this initiative.

3. Empowerment of Young Mothers and Adolescent Girls – Bastar

This programme has brought remarkable changes in the lives of young mothers and adolescent girls. They are now more aware of health, hygiene, and the importance of a clean environment. Families have adopted kitchen gardens to grow nutritious vegetables, improving household nutrition.

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Self-Help Groups (SHGs) have been formed, where women and adolescent girls discuss issues and find solutions collectively, supported by project animators. Women now confidently seek medical advice when unwell and are better prepared for meaningful family life and well-being.

4. Women Empowerment Programme – 30 Villages, Etmadpur Block, Agra

This project addresses gender-specific issues at the rural level, focusing on confidence-building and leadership development among women. Empowered women now lead communities, challenge exploitation, and advocate for their rights.

ACDSSS supports women's networks to access government entitlements and public services. Through vocational training, **215 young girls** have enhanced their economic status.

The project has shown measurable impact:

- **195 girls** enrolled/re-enrolled in schools.
 - **1,550 women** actively participating in public affairs.
 - **3,105 women and girls** gained awareness on prevention and management of communicable diseases.
 - **24 SHGs** formed, with **353 women** engaged in income-generating activities.
 - **510 women** availed various government schemes and benefits.
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5. Community Health Development Programme – Mehrara Block, Etah

Health development remained a core focus this year. Awareness campaigns, medical camps, and training sessions addressed HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, STDs, reproductive health, and hygiene.

Impact highlights:

- **515 villagers** accessed government health resources, maternity benefits, vaccinations, and sanitation facilities.
 - **3,500 children** immunized during the year.
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6. Eliminating Child Labour from Carpet Industry – 30 Villages (Shamsabad, Ahir Baruali & Fatehabad Blocks, Agra District)

The project focused on combating child labour in carpet-weaving villages by ensuring education, health, and community participation.

Key initiatives included:

- Formation of **SHGs, adolescent girls' groups, and children's groups**.
- Mass awareness campaigns, home visits, and training sessions on education and health.
- Establishment of **Non-Formal Education Centres** to transition children into formal schools.

These efforts have strengthened community ownership in eliminating child labour.

7. SAFFAL – Women Empowerment through Livelihood, Rights & Entitlements – 10 Villages, Raya & Baldev Blocks, Mathura

The SAFFAL project continues to build women's capacities, enabling sustainable livelihoods and active participation in governance. By linking women to entitlements and rights, the programme has laid pathways for long-term empowerment and poverty reduction.

8. Saksham Project – Anup Nagar, Mathura

Implemented across **15 villages** covering **1,200 households (population 6,016)**, this project promotes sustainable agriculture, climate resilience, and participatory farming.

Key outcomes:

- Formation and strengthening of **farmer groups** for collective decision-making.
- Awareness on **plastic recycling** through demonstrations.
- Plantation of **1,500 tree saplings**.
- Vaccination of domestic animals.
- Training on **soil testing, organic farming, and pest management**.
- **81 families** established nutrition gardens.
- Government schemes: **430 households employed under MGNREGA**, farmers received seeds, and women benefitted from Janani Suraksha Yojana.
- Mobilized construction of toilets in villages.

9. Integrated Development & Rehabilitation of 16 Children – Missionaries of Charity, Agra

In collaboration with the Missionaries of Charity Sisters, **16 children with intellectual disabilities** received physiotherapy, counselling, and continuous care. Remarkably, **70% improvement** was observed in their physical and mental well-being.

10. Samvaad – Creating Peace and Social Integration – Bijnor, Pilibhit, Lucknow, Agra & Jhansi

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This programme addresses rising challenges to social peace and harmony in Uttar Pradesh. It works to foster brotherhood and strengthen relationships among diverse social, cultural, and religious groups.

Samvaad promotes dialogue, mutual respect, and peaceful coexistence, countering extremist influences in the community.

11. SUDHEER Project – Covid-19 Awareness

Launched in June 2021 by Uttar Kshatriya Samaj Vikas Kendra, in memory of **Mr. Sudheer** (a CRS staff member who passed away due to Covid-19), this project spans **10 dioceses**.

ACDSSS contributed with **32 volunteers** across Kasganj, Mathura, and Agra districts, spreading awareness on Covid-19, vaccination, and safety through phone calls, WhatsApp, and messages.

12. DASRA Project – Covid-19 Awareness, Ganjundwara Block, Kasganj District

In 25 project villages, extensive awareness and vaccination drives were conducted. By February 2022:

- **5,000 people vaccinated (1st & 2nd dose).**
 - **150 Covid-19 awareness camps** organized, reaching **10,164 people.**
 - **156 vaccination camps conducted.**
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13. Adolescent Girls Empowered through Skills Development

Young girls were trained in vocational courses such as **computer education, tailoring, and beautician skills**, improving their economic independence and confidence.

Covid-19 Relief Work

During the pandemic, ACDSSS extended timely support to thousands of vulnerable families by distributing cooked meals, dry rations, and medicines. In collaboration with local administration, the organization served **60,298 beneficiaries** with food packets, ration kits, masks, and sanitizers.

14. Monthly Ration Distribution

ACDSSS continues to support poor families, widows, and the elderly by distributing essential rations including flour, oil, and pulses every month.

15. Ashraya – Shelter & Medical Support

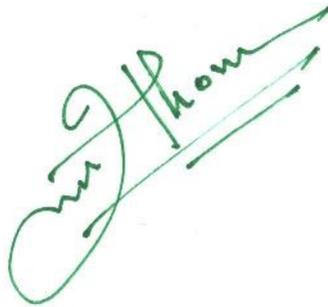
Through the Ashraya initiative, ACDSSS has fulfilled the dream of permanent housing for poor and vulnerable families. Immediate medical support was also provided for critical operations and emergencies.

Conclusion

The year 2021–22 has been a period of resilience and transformation for ACDSSS and the communities it serves. Despite the challenges posed by Covid-19, our programmes have continued to bring hope, dignity, and empowerment to children, women, farmers, and marginalized groups.

We remain deeply grateful to our donors, partners, volunteers, and well-wishers for their constant support and solidarity. Together, we continue our mission to build an inclusive, empowered, and compassionate society.

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