



### **Basic Health Care Services for Slum Communities (PAHAL)**

Saraswati Kunj is an unauthorized slum colony under Haryana Urban Development Authority. It is situated in the District Gurugram Near Sushant Lok E-Block, Phase-1. Adjacent areas are DLF Phase-V, Wazirabad, Sushant Lok E block etc. Saraswati Kunj is a slum cluster in Gurugram District with area of approximately 2 acres. There are 1500 jhuggis with a population of 8000 approximately. Majority of the people living in the slums in Saraswati Kunj are illiterates, unskilled and unorganized labour. Men are working as Rickshaw pullers, Coolie, Daily labourers, factory workers, rag pickers, street vendors etc and women are mostly unemployed, and some are working in construction sites as daily labours or as domestic helps.

Pahal project provides health services to the rag pickers, migratory workers, rickshaw pullers, fruit/vegetable hawkers, domestic help, etc, that constitute the population living in the Saraswati Kunj slums in Gurugram, Haryana. Bi-weekly comprehensive health camps are organized across the intervention areas, covering preventive, curative and referral services. The camp provides consultancy and check-ups by doctors, and free medicines at a nominal registration fee of Rs. 10. There are separate camps for ladies and children. These camps also serve the purpose of advocating healthy practices through workshops, presentations and informal discussions.

**Health education** to women, school children and men on nutrition, personal health and hygiene, community sanitation, safe deliveries and immunization by talk shows, documentary films, leaflets and pamphlet distribution in the community are also part of the camp.

**Monthly health check-up** of children focuses on health check up by doctor which includes growth monitoring of every child (height and weight), free distribution of medicines, de worming all children, follow up of the target children and their families and referring serious cases to hospitals. Children are also counselled about personal health, hygiene and nutrition.

**Immunization Drive:** The people living in the Saraswati Kunj slums are totally neglected from the basic facilities, they are not getting proper immunization facilities, children are not getting mid-day meal from ICDS, and pregnant women are not getting IFA tablets. An initiative was taken by Sukarya to arrange an Immunization camps at Saraswati Kunj.

**This project was done from December 2009 to November 2012.**