

# Anti trafficking workshop for Accredited social health activists (ASHA)



District Administration, Jilla Panchayat, UNICEF District Child Protection Project, Public Health Department- RAICHUR



**R**aichur District Administration, Jilla Panchayat, UNICEF District Child Protection Project and Public Health Department jointly organized one day workshop on child protection for Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA). The workshop was held on February 7, 2011 at Rangamandira, Raichur.

Deputy Commissioner of Raichur V Anbu Kumar inaugurated the workshop. Veena Pallakki, Chairman, District Child Welfare Committee and K Raghavendra Bhat, Project coordinator, UNICEF District Child Protection Project was present all along the workshop. District Health Officers and other Health Department officers were also present at the workshop.

More than two hundred ASHA volunteers of Raichur Taluk were present during the workshop. Each activist is provided kit, which contained literature about over all child protection methods. There were series of lectures on how an ASHA can be very effective in curbing the trafficking in the rural set up. There were many questions raised by the activists during the workshop and the resource persons answered their queries in an effective manner.

After inaugurating the workshop Deputy Commissioner V Anbu Kumar addressed the gathering. He told, “We have given anti trafficking training to all the district level officers. We thought community involvement in root level will be more effective in curbing the trafficking of women and children. Especially people friendly ASHA volunteers play a very important role in spreading the awareness. Taking that in to the consideration we are involving you people. From child birth ASHA workers will be in touch with the family and with your involvement we can make Raichur Taluk as a child labor and child marriage free zone”.

## Vision

**A** holistic approach for anti trafficking drive in Raichur Taluk.

**I**nvolving all stakeholders in Child protection from District administration, education, health, police and all other Government departments.

**A**long with that creating awareness in ground level with the involvement of local community.



Mrs Veena Pallakki stressed the importance of curbing trafficking menace in rural area and she also explained how grass root level volunteers can play a major role in this social drive. Mr K Raghavendra Bhat, talked in detail about the anti trafficking law. He also explained how a common man can take the cases in to his hand and stop trafficking in rural and urban sectors. The process of reporting the incidents of child labor, child marriages and trafficking to police has been explained to the participants.

Few participants also came up with some live cases which they came across and they sought expert's opinion about handling those types of incidents. Overall one day workshop proved to be very fruitful.



## Outcome

**M**ost of the participants understood the importance of spreading awareness in grass root level. They felt that with proper awareness 50 % of problem could be solved in grass root level. They pledged to spread the awareness.

**F**or the first time major portion of ASHA volunteers came to know about the legal aspects involved in child protection. Especially laws against trafficking, child labor and child marriages.

**P**articipants also felt that, by putting all the children of a village in the school they can easily curb the child labor, child marriage and child trafficking. They came to a conclusion that through education they can root out these social evils.

## Objective

**A**nti trafficking workshops and trainings have been conducted all over the Raichur Taluk. Especially for the members of Anti Trafficking Committee's (ATC) of all the Gram Panchayat's.

**A**ccredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) work on the grass root level and the idea of conducting a workshop for them is to sensitize the grass roots in rural set up.

**A**SHA will have one to one rapport with women folks in villages. By educating ASHA about the trafficking menace and the importance of child protection, in turn we can also educate the women folks.