

# WORLD FAMILY FORUM

THE PLANET EARTH IS OUR ONLY ABODE,  
LET'S MAKE IT OUR SWEET HOME  
A DIFFERENT WORLD IS POSSIBLE

## STONE MINES

THE BREAD WINNER  
FOR GRASSROOTS  
ARTISANS

BANJARI'S  
BAMBOO  
ARTISANS

ORGANIC  
BANANA  
FARMING

CARPET  
WEAVERS  
AT BHADOHI

## WORLD POVERTY DAY

17 OCTOBER 2006

CARPET  
WEAVERS  
OF GADWA

BAL  
PANCHAYAT  
MIRZAPUR

WOMEN SEEK  
BETTER LIFE  
SONEBHADRA



For Private Circulation Only

A BRIEF REPORT ON  
ERADICATION OF EXTREME POVERTY  
17 October - 10 November 2006

## BRIEF SYNOPSIS

Today we are living in a global village. World is shrinking rapidly and drastically. Barriers of boundaries and question of sovereignty has been eclipsed by the emergence of concepts like globalization, economic liberalization and open market world economy. So is the change in the interpretation of ethics, principles, morals and values. Society is on the brink of collapse. Materialism and mechanism has over powered emotions and the feeling of community living. Challenges are ahead in all over the world. Transformation of the system is proving to be a nightmare. Ethnic conflicts, apartheid, terrorism, illiteracy, population explosion, power alignments, war etc... have become reasons for genocides. The gap between developed and developing nations getting widened. Developing countries have become the dumping land for the developed nations. Inner instincts and infatuation and fascination for world international philosophy, spiritualism, reclusion, intellectualism and informative aesthetic intelligence are no longer the hot beds for international peace and co-existence. The concept of 'whole world is a family' is still like a dream to come true and a goal still far off from attainment. The formation of 'World Family Forum' was necessary if a bird eye view is to be put on the present, modern and global scenario. 'World Family Forum' is committed to lighting candle, removing darkness and ensuring profound all round growth, development and welfare. We believe in clubbing the approach of traditionalism with the fundamentals of modernism.

The concept of global village and global family has always been universal in nature, a combination of ancient and modern era where universal brotherhood has been echoed and this is far from any geographical, historical, cultural, religious, social and political compartmentalization of barriers. Human beings cannot be subjected to artificial restrictions and humanity is the real truth. Humans are is the author of their own destiny, who can transform the universal system by their determination, conviction and dedication. Poverty is a curse while absolute luxury is a sin. The inevitability and indispensability of the same cannot be disputed. We all have to write a new history responsibly, accountably and transparently maintaining high standards of moral, ethics and values to attain the real goal, globally. This is what necessitated in constituting this world family forum.

### *Aims & Objectives of World Family Forum :*

- (i) Universal Brotherhood*
- (ii) Equitable Society*
- (iii) Social Harmony*
- (iv) Disaster Management*
- (v) Human Development*
- (vi) Institutions of Development*
- (vii) Basic Amenities*
- (viii) Social Justice*
- (xi) Trade*
- (x) Ecology & Environment*
- (xi) Gender Equality*

## FROM THE DESK OF CHAIRMAN



Poverty is a curse. Extreme poverty is a greater curse. The curse afflicts the entire universe in some degree. Some nations are better off; others feel the intense heat of poverty. In India, poverty is overwhelmingly a factor to reckon with. The Government of India has committed itself to eradicate poverty by the year 2015. NGOs have committed to act in the mammoth task of poverty alleviation. Each one is doing what they believe will work to achieve the golden goal of removing the ill effects of extreme poverty. Yet, poverty ruthlessly remains unfazed and refuses to go away.

If we analyze whatever has so far been achieved in poverty eradication program, it is more than evident that a lot could be claimed on paper, even though the ground realities have remained static in comparison to the year 2000, when the then Prime Minister of India, His Excellency Atal Bihari Vajpayee pledged to eradicate poverty from India.

Six years down the line, the Balance Sheet of India and a lot of other nations in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe indicate that achieving the Millennium

Development Goals set forth in the UN Declaration in 2000 is slogging far behind the benchmark due to lack of resources, political will, corruption and other factors.

It is a real challenge for the world fraternity to continue to strive harder day in and day out inspite of a number of road blocks so that the citizens of the world could be assured of some hope, peace and prosperity. World Family Forum submits this report in token of its acceptance of the challenge.

Manmohan Shastri (Good-Do)  
Chairman

WORLD FAMILY FORUM



## WORLD FAMILY FORUM

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Humanity can not be  
subjected to artificial  
restrictions. We author  
our own destiny.

Extreme poverty is a curse  
while absolute luxury  
a sin, a truth which  
can not be disputed.

Let's responsibly write  
a new destiny of the world,  
maintaining the high  
standards of ethics, action  
and peace to attain our  
ultimate global goal- bliss,  
and only bliss.

- Good-Do

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# PREAMBLE

**E**xtrême poverty has remained one of the core issues facing mankind today that refuses to die. Extreme poverty has engulfed most of the third world countries, where hunger, diseases and lack of civic amenities have pushed human lives to the fence. The print and video media regularly report hunger deaths and suicides due to extreme poverty in India, although, the official machinery is busy, as usual, on white-washing these deaths. Yet, the fact remains unadulterated.

Today, more people are hungry even though there is no food scarcity. The markets are flushed with food grains and essential commodities. The Government warehouses across India are filled to the brim with food grain. Yet, people have no food to eat, primarily because they have no money to buy food. It is not scarcity of food – we have had successive bumper crops for years. The fact is that people at large are so poor that they can not afford food and hence suffer hunger. The Government has no plan either to make food available to these masses at affordable prices, nor can it increase the paying capacities of people. Therefore, hunger situation is not expected to change.

Today, more people are sick even though medical science has made great strides in research and development to detect and treat diseases that inflict mankind. Although the Constitution of India guarantees each of its citizen basic healthcare, Government hospitals are far deficient in the quality as well as quantity of healthcare. Private hospitals cater only to the ultra-rich and are beyond the reach of common citizen. The concept of medical insurance is still at its infancy in India and Insurance Companies are notorious for refusing claims on flimsiest ground. For most people, premiums payable for medical insurance is an unaffordable luxury. Therefore, disease continues to strike the most vulnerable at will.

Today, more people are unemployed or under-employed even though industry and commerce has grown multifold, leaving almost 50% of the population jobless. In this great country of India, while qualified adults run from pillar to post to get a job, child and bonded laborers fill in positions that should have gone to jobless adults. Therefore, poverty continues to crush people under its weight.

## 1. World Poverty Day – 17 October 2006 Round Table Conference

Today major portion of the world in Asia, Eastern Europe, Africa and Latin America suffer extreme poverty. To highlight their plight and express solidarity with them, World Family Forum launched a fortnight of advocacy of World Poverty Day beginning with a meet on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2006 at a small hutment in Burari Village, Delhi.

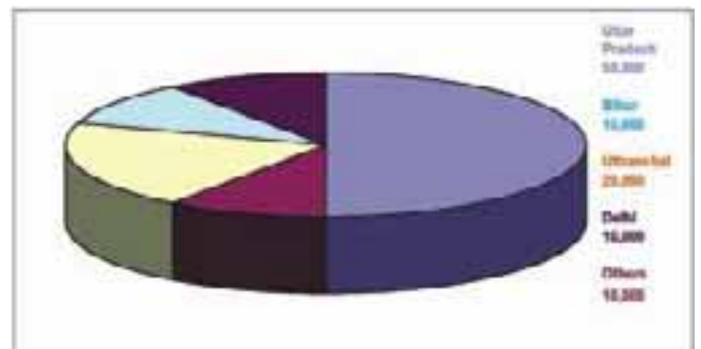
Burari is a urban village situated at the north eastern tip of Narela sub-division of Delhi, where even after six decade of independence, more than 50% of the population suffers

extreme poverty. There is no provision of drinking water, sanitation, healthcare and other basic amenities. The population at Burari Village is around one hundred thousand. Migrant labour from other states of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand settle down in the area in search of employment in Delhi to



Delegates at World Poverty Day - Burari

sustain their families. The estimated composition of population is illustrated below, of which 90% hail from labour class, who struggle hard to organize food and are unable to send their children to school.



Under the orders of the Supreme Court of India, the Government of the National Capital Region of Delhi has sealed most industrial units in the name of beautification of Delhi, resulting in massive loss of employment opportunities to the residents. Drinking water and sanitation has not been provided and open drains carrying toxic pollutants and waste breed mosquitoes causing fatal diseases.

Delhi has spread its wings and estate agents are aggressively marketing plots of land to these migrants without planning basic amenities. Education and healthcare are hard to find. Extreme poverty spells doom to any attempt to access schools and medicines as most people depend on daily wages doing petty jobs occasionally.

Keeping in view the plight of the extremely poor people, World Family Forum organized a Round Table Conference in co-operation with Sheetal Education Society for the advocacy of Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations Organisation to eradicate

poverty by the year 2015. The round table was organized in a thatched hutment to discuss how best the issue of extreme poverty could be addressed so that each citizen could be assured basic food, education, gender equality, longevity, cleaner environment and equity.



Inder Raj Saini Summing up the Deliberations

The Round Table Conference was attended by journalists, writers, teachers, intellectuals, social activists, businessmen and people at large. Mr. Rajnath, a Social Activist from World Family Forum chaired the Conference and invited Rev. Basant Kumar, Executive Director, World Family Forum to make the Keynote Address to set the agenda in motion. In his address, Rev. Basant Kumar spoke of causes and affects of poverty and explained how each person's co-operation in achieving the Millennium Development Goals were essential in eradicating poverty within the next remaining nine years.

Dr. Ajay Kumar, Associate Professor, Adult Education, Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi emphasized on co-ordinated efforts in poverty alleviation.

Businessman turned Social Activist, Mr. Inder Raj Saini stressed upon self-employment as a key to poverty alleviation.

Mr. Manmohan Shastri, popularly known as Good-Do, Chairman of World Family Forum explained the world scenario vis-à-vis poverty. He stressed that trade, not aid is the route to prosperity in any civilization and every



Mr. Raj Nath Chairing the Conference

effort must be made to empower men and women so that the ills of poverty could be effectively dealt with.

Senior Journalist and writer, Mr. Chander Bhan 'Khyal' summed up the message that every person must rise and resolve to act decisively to remove the evil of poverty.

A brief message of facilitation from Dr. Shyam Swarup Sharma, Patron, World Family Forum, was delivered by Mr. Manmohan Shastri. The conference ended by unanimous resolution to achieve the eight basic goals set forth by the United Nations to eradicate poverty.

## 2. Two Day Workshop 18 - 19 October 2006 on Poverty

World Family Forum participated in a Two day Workshop from 18-19th October 2006 at India International Center, Lodhi Road, New Delhi to formulate strategy on eradication of poverty. Due to Commonwealth Games in 2010 in New Delhi, the Government has been forcing factories and businesses move out of Delhi to project Delhi as a world class city at par with Paris, London or New York. Businesses are being sealed and buildings are being demolished, leading to sudden spurt in unemployment. Poor people of Delhi are being displaced and uprooted because of bad policies and lack of foresight. Mr. Rajnath, Regional Co-ordinator of World Family Forum participated in this Workshop with other luminaries like officials from International Labour Organisation, Swami Agnivesh and Trade Unions. At this Workshop, Mr. Rajnath presented the views of World Family Forum on how to tackle the issue of these displaced people.

## 3. Meeting with Carpet Weavers in Garhwa, Jharkhand - 23 October 2006

A meeting was conducted on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2006 at Village Jamua under Garhwa District in Jharkhand on formulation of strategy on reversing the migration of carpet weavers. Hundreds of weavers and their families participated in these deliberations and made suggestions on how their lives could be improved. Local media reported that hundreds of laborers from adjoining villages have migrated out of the rural belt in search of greener pastures. More than 500 weavers in the village depend solely on carpet industry for their sustainment, even though not one factory exists in the village. Some time ago Jharkhand Government had established a Carpet Weaving Center in the village, but today this Center has closed down. World Family Forum is trying to restart this closed Center so that remunerative employment for the weavers could be generated to stop them from large scale migration.

Most carpet factories are situated in Mirzapur, Bhadohi and Allahabad districts of Uttar Pradesh, where most weavers work. However, these factories are notorious for employing child and bonded laborers clandestinely as they cost 20% of an adult labour. From these areas hundreds of child laborers have been rescued and restored



Carpet Weavers at Gadwa make a Presentation

back to their families by World Family Forum in 2005.

Many former child laborers have been rehabilitated with the efforts of World Family Forum. Yet, it is beyond doubt that as long as the people at large continue to slog their lives under the yoke of poverty, child labour and bonded labour shall remain a thorn on the flesh. The average population of each of these villages stands at 2,000. World Family Forum is lobbying the Government of Jharkhand to bring this district under Employment Guarantee Scheme of the Government of India. The Scheme makes it mandatory for the District Administration to provide employment to at least one person per family. The revival of Carpet Weaving Center in the District could well ensure employment to at least 200 skilled weavers and stop their migration. World Family Forum is also persuading local businesses and trader community to co-ordinate self employment of weavers to ensure better returns to the grassroots to uplift their life styles.

#### **4. Bal Panchayat (Front for the Children) Mirzapur 24 October 2006**

In Mirzapur district, 250 children belonging to dalits



Children at Bal Panchayat

(under-privileged) were identified, most of whom are forced to oppressive regime of child labor due to extreme poverty. Their helpless parents can not manage two meals a day for their families after a day's hard work even after

60 years of independence of India. These children represent the poorest sections of the landless and homeless people. An NGO, Swami Vivekanand Shiksha Samiti has provided basic education facilities at their institution after these children were rescued from factories in 2005. They are doing a very commendable work in the community.

World Family Forum conducted Bal Panchayats with small groups of such children, containing 25 to 30 children at a time, where their human as well as constitutional rights were conveyed and discussed. They were informed how they could organize themselves and decisively claim benefits under various Schemes run by the Uttar Pradesh and Central Governments. Bal Panchayats could become a powerful medium for poverty eradication as it presents a united face of children deprived of rights accorded to them by the Constitution.

#### **5. Sonebhadra – 25 October 2006**

Mr. Rajnath, Regional Co-ordinator, World Family Forum, visited villages after villages in Sonebhadra district of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, witnessing extreme poverty. He came to one binding conclusion that after having invested (?) crores of Rupees annually, the



Women seek Better Life

Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations have been unable to dramatically change the scenario of poverty in the area. It is a matter of grave concern that there has been no change in the standard of living of the poor people. Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had made an irrevocable commitment in the United Nations in 2000 at poverty will be eradicated by 2015. It will make no one surprised if this dream comes true at least on official papers. However, on the ground, little or no work is being done for achieving Millennium Development Goals. The goals are unachievable grossly, given the pace of development taking place. The fact is that the fruits of development are not reaching the poor and needy and is not expected to reach them in the near future.

World Family Forum identified a village named Naruia Damar Tola under Sonebhadra district, where 5,000 people live in desperately hostile conditions. More than 500 people in this village suffer from acute physical disability due to poisoning of drinking water caused by massive pollution. Majority of the villagers suffer hunger

and poverty. They have no access to employment and to cap it all, the Government has no plan to address the fast spreading menace of disability.

World Family Forum lobbied with local journalists to visit the village and beam the story as the height of callousness. The story was telecasted in the local TV channels, yet the Government has not yet woken up to the reality. No NGO is yet working in this area. There are 20 other villages like Naruia Damar Tola in Sonebhadra district that suffer physical disabilities silently due to lack of clean potable water. World Family Forum proposes a concerted effort with NGOs, businesses and local administration to help villagers gain self-sufficiency, availability of potable water, healthcare, education and food.

## 6. Carpet Weavers of Bhadohi 27 October

The town of Bhadohi in Eastern Uttar Pradesh is known the world over as a city of finest carpet weavers. It is one of the biggest foreign exchange earners for the state. With a population of over one million (10,00,000), the district also hosts about 2,00,000 carpet artisans from neighboring Jharkhand, Bihar and West Bengal who work for large carpet consortiums. However, the plight of the local artisans is the most pitiable. Today most big names in carpet industry are decentralizing their operations. They are hiring more and more migrant labor at remote locations to avoid taxes, law enforcement agencies and child rights activists. The result is devastating loss of jobs for the local artisans. The real carpet weavers are today forced to quit their ancestral homes and migrate to other states in search of livelihood. Their children often work as child labor to sustain themselves.

World Family Forum conducted a Weaver's Conclave on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2006 at Bhadohi and challenged them to unite under Self-Help Groups to revive the ancient art of carpet making to sustain them. Trade and businesses have been appealed to assist by making a positive contribution to these efforts.

## 7. Bamboo Artisans of Banjari Village- November 2006



Bamboo Art of Basketry

On 5<sup>th</sup> November 2006, a Meet was organized at Banjari Village in Mirzapur District. Hundreds of Bamboo Basket makers participated in these deliberations. The plight of bamboo basket makers came to light during the visit of Mr. Manmohan Shastri, Chairman, World Family Forum, in April 2006. He displayed their products at



Fine Touch to Basket Making

Tendence Life Style Fair 2006 at Frankfurt, Germany in the month of August 2006. Many potential enquiries were generated during the Fair. However, it was felt that the artisans needed to upgrade their quality, finish and value addition to make their product truly world class to ensure it claimed prime shelf space at major stores in Europe.

The artisans were briefed as to why they need to innovate and make their baskets world class to match the quality



Bamboo Artisan Weaving Basket

with China, Vietnam and Indonesia. Customers demand value for money and shall be willing to pay good price provided they got good value products coupled with immaculate services. It was recommended that they form Self Help Groups to market their products in the domestic and local markets.

## 8. Stone Crushers in Allahabad - 5 November 2006

Stone crushing is a labor-intensive job. Mountain with rocks is blown with dynamite. Rocks are blown out into large chunks. Hundreds of laborers break these chunks of stones into smaller pieces with hammer. These small



Stone Workers Rehabilitated

pieces are then fed into the crushing machine, which churns out different sizes of crushed stone for use in road and building construction industry. Laborers engaged in stone crushing activities breathe in fine stone dust continuously and are usually bathed in stone dust from head to toe. Small particles of stone severally damage their eyes, ears and nostril.

In Allahabad district, 75 to 100 people are working in stone crushing on daily wage basis. They had been receiving Rs. 40 to Rs. 45 per day for a day's hard labour. World Family Forum lobbied on their behalf and now some of these stone crushers are earning Rs. 150 to Rs. 175 per day. World Family Forum has organized 50 Self Help Groups for these people and is lobbying with the District Administration for the grant of lease of stone crushing to at least 5 of these Groups for alleviation of poverty.

## 9. Kushinagar: 6 - 11 November 2006

Kushinagar is a historically famous globally. It is the place where Gautam Buddha and Mahavir attained 'moksha'. They remain the eternal icons of non-violence.

People in modern day Kushinagar suffer extreme poverty to the extent that farmers and laborers face hunger and homelessness. Kushinagar was created a district headquarter on 13<sup>th</sup> May 1994 in order to ensure overall



Lush Green Banana Farms

economic development. The land is most fertile in U.P. and the economy is agrarian in nature. A wide variety of useful crops are grown. It could be an ideal place for organic farming in a big way provided some one takes the initiative to promote such a measure.

Kushinagar district is located at the foothills of Nepal, touching Bihar border. This terai region of north-eastern tip of U.P. is most fertile. The majority of people are engaged in farming. The population can be divided into three segments:

### 1. Big time farmers:

Big time farmers own several acres of agricultural land and commands banana market. They supply banana fruit to the local wholesale market, using synthetic fertilizers like DAP and urea. The bunch of fruit is injected with a number of steroids for faster growth and better appearance. It fetches them good price. It is an irony that the banana farmer never eats his own fruit, knowing fully well the harm it could cause to their health.

### 2. Marginalized Farmers:



The Dawn of Organic Farming

Marginalized farmers grow banana on small tracts of lands with limited resources as he finds it hard to invest in expensive urea, DAP, insecticides, pesticides and steroids. He attempts his best to dispose off his produce. His produce is usually grown on home made bio-fertilizer. Natural calamities could seriously jeopardize his production and in certain bad years crop failure could ruin him economically. Under such circumstances he has to sell off his unripe fruit at throw away price. He is unable to recover even his input costs. Many farmer deaths have been reported in the area due to sudden crop failure and debts.

### 3. Landless Laborers:

Landless laborers are too poor to own any land and are homeless. They have no resources at their disposal to sustain themselves. Their only alternative is to sell their labor.

The district presents another irony of sorts. Some farmers are ultra rich, others are extremely poor. Some display the magic of money on their tables, others suffer hunger and disease. If organic farming is promoted in this region aggressively, the district could become a major supply source of healthy organic farm produce.



These children can have a Bright Future

On 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November 2006, the Regional Co-ordinator of World Family Forum visited the region to assess the ground realities of the area. On 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November 2006, two rounds of meetings were held with 51 officials of the District Administration, including District Collector and dozens of senior officials, to evolve a workable methodology to eradicate extreme poverty, child labor and other social ills by accelerating economic prosperity of the poor and marginalized. World Family Forum intends to promote Kushinagar as a test case in the field of organic farming.

The meetings and visits to the region yielded umpteen opportunities of investment in agricultural development as under:

1. Some big time farmers are willing to donate land to World Family Forum for construction and establishment of a Development Center in Kushinagar.
2. Organic farming of banana has excellent potential. 500 marginal banana farmers have been formed into Self Help Group under the banner of World Family Forum. 45% of them have already begun farming on organic lines. It will



Ready for Organic Farming

take them next three years to completely shift their farmlands to organic cultivation.

3. Haldi (Turmeric), Adrak (Ginger Root) and Sooran are the region's cash crop, which are in great demand in the domestic market. The farmers producing these cash crops could be linked to bulk buyers in Delhi and spice processing plants to offer them the best remunerative price.

4. The region is well known for Litchi production. Many farmers are switching over to planting Litchi plants in larger scale. However, the region has no facilities to process Litchi fruits. Innovative projects to convert Litchi into juices, jams and jellies could help farmers by limiting wastage.

5. The region is a virtual leader in sugar cane production.

World Family Forum is trying to achieve the following in co-operating with Emmaus International and other like minded people:

1. Banana farmers and laborers are given better wages so that their children could have brighter and better future.
2. Bamboo is widely available in the adjoining forest, which has excellent potential for development of bamboo based handicrafts in large scale to help small and marginalized artisans and craftsmen.
3. Bee-keeping has umpteen possibilities in view that the region is most compatible for bee keeping and honey extraction. Wild flowers are in abundance in the region from where bees could suck in nectar and convert it into honey
4. To promote organic farming, animal husbandry and dairy farming should be promoted in the region. Dairy farming will not only yield inputs for organic fertilizers, but also usher in a white revolution with plenty of milk and milk by-products.

World Family Forum believes that these composite efforts will alleviate poverty and improve the economic well being of the people at large.

Banana Farmers' Self Help Groups could be further consolidated in the region to go into animal husbandry for added edge.

Farmers are destined to be the most vocal and active participant in the above mentioned programmes.

Respectfully submitted to World Family Forum Head Office by Rajnath, North India Co-Ordinator, World Family Forum, Naini, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh on 11th November 2006 with grateful thanks to Usha Exim Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi for underwriting the campaign at Delhi, U. P., Bihar and Jharkhand states.

# गरीबी दूर करने में स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं पर चर्चा की गयी

(नैनी/वार्डफैमिली फोरम)

नैनी/वार्डफैमिली फोरम के अध्यक्ष श्री राजनाथ ने वार्डफैमिली फोरम के सदस्यों से वार्डफैमिली फोरम के बारे में जानकारी देकर स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं के बारे में चर्चा की। उन्होंने कहा कि स्वयंसेवी संस्थाएँ गरीबी दूर करने में एक प्रभावी साधन हैं।

उस दिन में वार्डफैमिली फोरम के अध्यक्ष श्री राजनाथ ने वार्डफैमिली फोरम के सदस्यों से वार्डफैमिली फोरम के बारे में जानकारी देकर स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं के बारे में चर्चा की। उन्होंने कहा कि स्वयंसेवी संस्थाएँ गरीबी दूर करने में एक प्रभावी साधन हैं।

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## Government lacks poverty eradication policy

Verbatim English Translation of the news item published on page 2 of Hindi News Paper Hindustan published from Varanasi on Saturday, the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2006

Varanasi (Somnath). World Family Forum's Regional Co-ordinator, Mr. Rajnath stressed that the Government lacked a policy to eradicate poverty. In the year 2006, the country made a commitment under the leadership of the then Prime Minister, Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee to eradicate poverty from India by 2015, however, the Government has not come up with a concrete policy to remove poverty, resulting in migration of thousands of labourers in Somnath district.

World Family Forum and National Child Rights Movement has carried a series of public meetings in Jamsa, Barbedha, and Bhangra areas under "Eradicate Poverty and Save the world" programme. The Forum's Co-ordinator reminded that on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October, the world Governments including the Government of India has pledged eradication of poverty from the world by 2015. This pledge should also reflect in the life of Somnath and Gadhwa districts so that large scale migration of workers is checked and people are freed from poverty. Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand Governments have adequate economic resources for the development, but they lack political will, resulting in migration of people in search of food in other states.

Mr. Rajnath informed that Somnath and Gadhwa districts are covered under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme of the Government of India and State Governments. It is the major obligation of the Government to provide employment to all citizens. Local carpet weavers should be given work so that their migration could be stopped. Mr. Sikarsharan Singh lamented the rural situation and emphasized on reviving carpet industry. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Kashi Prasad Choudhary. Key note address was given by Mr. Surender and anchored by Mr. Vijay Kumar. Thousands of men, women and children participated in the meeting.

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## जागरुकता को किया नुक्कड़ नाटक

नैनी। वर्ल्ड फैमिली फोरम एवं राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार आंदोलन की ओर से सोमवार को विभिन्न मोहल्लों में नुक्कड़ नाटक कर लोगों को सही प्रत्याशी के पक्ष में मतदान करने के लिए जागरुक किया गया। संस्था के क्षेत्रीय संयोजक राजनाथ ने नुक्कड़ नाटक के माध्यम से लोगों को संदेश दिया कि ऐसे प्रत्याशी को चुना जाना चाहिए जो बेरोजगारी, भूख और गरीबी के साथ बच्चों के अधिकारों के लिए संघर्ष करने की बात करें। किसी विशेष प्रत्याशी का समर्थन न कर लोगों को जागरुकता के साथ मतदान करने के लिए नुक्कड़ नाटक किए गए। नैनी के विभिन्न मोहल्लों एवं समुदाय के कोरांव, मेजा, माण्डा, भारतगंज, सिरसा तथा शहरी क्षेत्रों में फोरम के स्वयं सेवकों ने नुक्कड़ नाटक किए। इस मौके पर बालकृष्ण, सुरेन्द्र, कमलेश, बाबूलाल, लालता आदि लोग उपस्थित रहे।

## Concern over condition of artisans

Verbatim English Translation of the news item published on page 9 of Hindi News Paper Umar Ujala published from Varanasi on Wednesday, the 1st November 2006

Gyanpur. World Family Forum and National Child Rights Movement conducted a symposium at Wari village with carpet weavers and expressed deep concern over the condition of carpet artisans. Forum's Co-ordinator, Mr. Rajnath lamented that "Eradicate Poverty" has remain a hollow slogan and poverty remains unremoved. The symposium was chaired by Mr. Uttam Kumar, Chairman Child Welfare & Social Development Organisation, Mr. Lalita Prasad, Mr. Basant Lal Maurya, Mr. Ram Lal, Mr. Sheela Prasad, Mr. Purnamasi Prajapati, Mr. Murari Lal and Mr. Nanad Lal shared their views. The symposium was anchored by Mr. Ramesh Chand Bind.

## Poverty Eradication by NGOs (Naini Office)

Verbatim English Translation of the news item published on page 7 of Hindi News Paper United India published from Allahabad on Tuesday, the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2006

Naini (Allahabad). NGOs operating in Northern India presented a united front under the banner of World Family Forum to discuss how common man could be given self-employment in order to alleviate him from acute poverty to enable him to provide food, education and care to his children.

The meeting was conducted at the Regional Office of World Family Forum at Sadwa Kalan, BPL Gate, in which representatives of several NGOs and intellectuals participated. Mr. Rajnath, Regional Co-ordinator said sadly that the Government and International Donor Agencies through a number of NGOs are spending Crores of Rupees for projects aimed at poverty eradication, however, all these projects are going down the drain and the aim remains elusive.

Mr. Rajnath asserted the need of the hour is to prepare a project that could bring relief to common man. He cited the example of Bamboo Basketry project initiated in Allahabad and Mirzapur Districts under the leadership of Mr. Manmohan Shastri, Chairman, World Family Forum. The bamboo baskets were displayed at the International Exhibition in Germany and samples have been sent to buyers in different developed countries to ensure self-employment of grassroots artisans, increase in his income. He emphasized the need to closer co-operation between NGOs, Government Officials and Trade Lobby so that such small projects could benefit common man. Mr. Shobha, Mr. Kamlesh, Mr. Bal Krishan, Mr. Chander Bhan, Mr. Dinesh, Mr. Raj Narayan shared their insights and experiences.

## हिन्दुस्तान सोमवार

# सरकार के पास गरीबी खत्म करने की नीति का अभाव : राजनाथ

वार्डफैमिली फोरम के अध्यक्ष श्री राजनाथ ने वार्डफैमिली फोरम के सदस्यों से वार्डफैमिली फोरम के बारे में जानकारी देकर स्वयंसेवी संस्थाओं के बारे में चर्चा की। उन्होंने कहा कि स्वयंसेवी संस्थाएँ गरीबी दूर करने में एक प्रभावी साधन हैं।

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## Awareness through Road Shows

Verbatim English Translation of the news item published on page 9 of Hindi News Paper Umar Ujala published from Allahabad on Tuesday, the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2006

Naini. World Family Forum and National Child Rights Movement joined conducted a number of Road Shows on Monday in different localities to create awareness among voters to vote for candidates with clean image. Forum's Regional Co-ordinator, Mr. Rajnath gave a message through these Road Shows to elect such candidates to local bodies who act decisively for eradication of poverty, unemployment, hunger, illiteracy and propagate child rights. No canvassing was done for a particular candidate, but voters were made aware of the power of their franchise. Road Shows were conducted in different localities of Naini including Trans Yamuna areas of Koraon, Meza, Manda, Bharatganj, Sirda and urban locations by the Forum's volunteers. Mr. Bal Krishan, Mr. Surender, Mr. Kamlesh, Mr. Babu Lal and Mr. Lalita took the lead in these Road Shows.

## भदोही

# हस्तशिल्पियों की दशा पर चिंता जताई

जानपुर। वर्ल्ड फैमिली फोरम के सहयोग व बाल कल्याण एवं सामाजिक विकास संस्थान राष्ट्रीय बाल अधिकार आंदोलन के वैनर तले जारी गांव में आयोजित हस्तशिल्पियों (कालीन बुनकरों) की एक संगोष्ठी में हस्तशिल्पियों की दशा पर चिंता जताई गई। वर्ल्ड फैमिली फोरम के क्षेत्रीय संयोजक राजनाथ ने कहा कि दुख की बात है कि गरीबी हटाओ का नारा देने के बाद भी यह समस्या अब तक उस को तस बनी हुई है। संगोष्ठी को अध्यक्षता बालकल्याण एवं सामाजिक विकास संस्थान के अध्यक्ष उत्तम कुमार ने की। इस मौके पर लालता प्रसाद बसंतलाल मौर्य, रामलाल, शीतल प्रसाद, पूर्णमासी प्रजापति, मुरारी लाल, नंदलाल आदि ने विचार रखे। कार्यक्रम का संचालन रमेशचंद्र बिंद ने किया।