

2015-16



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Annual Report of the SANSAD 2015-16

SANSAD'S Vision:

To make South Asia free from hunger and poverty

SANSAD's Mission:

To take global and regional initiatives for sustainable agriculture, rural development and human dignity aimed at putting collective pressure on policy makers.

SANSAD's Board Objectives:

- To undertake training, research, publication and build capacities to promote economic, social and gender justice. To promote a democratic, accountable and transparent system of governance and
- create an enabling and supportive environment for development initiatives in South Asian countries. To build alliances and network at national and international levels in order to campaign
- and Advocate policies for the marginalized in agriculture, agricultural trade, farming systems, natural resources ecological balance and human welfare SANSAD's Interventions for Change SANSAD creates knowledge that contributes to both the speed and quality of poverty
- To catalyze, support and strengthen civil society in promoting sustainable livelihood, ecological agriculture, food sovereignty, and equitable trade with a focus on the human dignity of poor and marginalized people in South Asia.

SANSAD's Interventions for Change:

- SANSAD creates knowledge that contributes to both the speed and quality of poverty reduction, with a focus on assisting those who are trapped in poverty and ecological degradation.
- SANSAD organizes mass campaigns, public debates, advocacy work shop, builds alliances, and Forges partnerships between civil society of South Asia and Northern NGO's with similar objectives, on issues of agriculture, poverty, hunger, food sovereignty and social development.
- SANSAD attempts to go beyond activism to analyze policies and advocates at decision-making and implementation levels for policies and programmes in favor of the poor in South Asia.
- SANSAD brings together farmers and trade associations, academic institutions, like-minded voluntary organization on common platform to strengthen advocacy campaigns for policy changes with respect to hunger, poverty, agriculture and trade.
- SANSAD makes all efforts to involve the rural communities in all advocacy efforts. SANSAD is continuously developing strategies to defend the livelihood of South Asia's poor and hungry. SANSAD is developing a resource centre that will function as nodal agency for research, documentation, collection, analysis and dissemination of information and reference materials.

1. Overall Progress:

In April 2015 Japan Fund for Global Environment (JFGE) renewed our project for another one year and provided financial support to SANSAD basically to empower farmers of the local community through

their capacity building, exposure and practical training so that marginalized communities of the area can secure their food security and adopt climate friendly sustainable agricultural practices. RKK also like last year generously agreed to provide financial support to SANSAD to meet the budgetary gaps in the overall project proposal.

In this support, SANSAD was supposed to do the followings: a) to train 25-30 local people through Training of Trainers (ToT) to build their capacity to work as local trainers, b) to build capacity of 200 farmers in the villages of the Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh, c) to aware farmers about effective use of animals to increase their income, d) to expose farmers on effectiveness of biogas plant to promote organic manures and generate cooking as well as lighting gas, e) awareness building of farming communities and f) effectively maintain a small office at its project site with basic infrastructure, communication system and other facilities for its smooth functioning of the project etc.

In the last one year, SANSAD has implemented all of the planned and supported activities by JFGE and RKK successfully. Apart from training of farmers which got hampered due to Panchayat (Local Self Government) election in the State during September and October, we have fulfilled all our obligations well before 31st of March 2016.

1. Activities conducted in FY 2015-16

1 Training of Trainers:



On February 20-21, 2015, SANSAD organized a two days Training of Trainers (ToT) programme in Hotel Sky Lark, Saharanpur in which around 40 local people drawn from farmers communities, agricultural scientists, NGO leaders were trained by experts came from all over the Country so that these trained local people can act as Master trainers for training of local farmers.

2. Training of 200 farmers:





Since April 2015 formal training of farmers started in phase manner and so far SANSAD has organised 36 days of training of farmers in five locations- Chalakpur village, Patni village, Ahardi village, Alhanpur village and Firozabad village. Apart from that field level practical training was also conducted to expose farmers how to plant paddy crop through SRI methods in June 2015, wheat plantation as mixed cropping methods in November 2015 and vegetable plantation in the month of September and October 2015.

3. Training and exposure of effective use of Animals and its product:: During training courses, special session was also organized to educate and sensitize effective use of animals and its product. It has been noticed that farmers are virtually cheated by local middle man and therefore they are not getting proper returns to their product. SANSAD encouraged farmers to form their cooperative and sell milk in collective manner so that they can get proper remunerations. Farmers are also trained how to make organic manures and pesticides at their house hold level to reduce input cost of agriculture and make land healthy with increasing use of organic manure and decreasing use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. People were encouraged to rear local breed of cow and use cow dung and urine for increasing farm productivity.

4. Farmers Convention-1: In this financial year SANSAD organized two following farmers conventions:

a) South Asian Network for Social & Agricultural Development (SANSAD) in collaboration with Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Sultanpur Chilkana Nagar Panchayat and more than 20 Gram Panchayats, organized a big Farmers Convention on **September 20th 2015** at Jain Bagh, Chilkana, Saharanpur in which around 600 farmers and many eminent personalities participated and addressed the gathering. Those Gram Panchayats collaborated with SANSAD in organizing this farmers convention are AbdullahpurAhardi, Alhanpur, Chalakpur, Daulatpur, Dhaulahedi, Dudhgarh, Dumjheda, Dumjhedi, Firozabad, Katla, Manakpur, NarayanpurGurjar, Nalheda, Pathed, Patna, Patni, Raghunathpur, RawanpurBujurg, Sangmaur and Todarpur. It was pertaining to note that first time in the history of Chilkana, Saharanpur that such a convention was organized jointly by many public institutions and elected local self- governments.



Dr. Kamal Taori, IAS and retired Secretary Government of India; Former Minister of State Shri Sanjay Garg; National Convener, Education Forum, New Delhi ShriAmbrishRai; Director of PANI SansthanShri Bharat Bhushan; Dr. Ashok Kumar of KrishiVigyan Kendra and ShriYogendra Singh,KrishiAdhikari, Saharanpur participated as Guest speakers. Farmers Convention was chaired by Advocate Amir Zaidi as a representative of Chairman of SultanpurChilkana Nagar Panchayat Smt. Suraiya Jama and Senior Journalist Shri Vijay Saini anchored the show.

Anil K Singh in his opening remarks highlighted why his organization selected Saharanpur district to implements this project which is sponsored by two Japanese organization called **Japan Fund for Global Environment (JFGE)** and RKK. Technical support provided by another Japanese organization called **ShaplaNeer**. He highlighted that what kind of hurdles they have faced initially but thanks the local communities who have helped a lot in initiating this project in this area. He highlighted that farmer's suicides in the country has forced him and some of his friends who give- up their lucrative jobs and set up SANSAD as an organization to focus mainly on Farmers issues.

Dr. Kamal Taori stressed the important of Cow rearing and promotion of organic farming. He also proposed to set up many agricultural based small scale industries and make Chilkana as "Chilkanaway" the way Americans have developed to provide employment to local people and generate additional income for them. He also stressed the need of linking village level "FARMERS SCHOOLS" promoted by SANSAD with Banks and NABARD.

Shri Sanjay Garg, former Minister of State, UP was of the opinion that organic farming must be adopted as a movement to counter multi- national companies who are trying to grab our agricultural land make us food insecure country and then dictate terms. He said that present national government policies are same of previous government and both have worked and working to help corporates such as Ambanis and Adanies.

Shri AmbrishRai called upon farmers to unite and expose ill design of bib multi-national companies and challenge anti farmers policies of the Government. Organic farming could be one tool to expose ill design of multi-national companies the way Mahatma Gandhi exposed Britishers with boycotting of foreign clothes.

Shri Bharat Bhushan said that his organization is promoting organic farming in their area and results are very positive and farmers are adopting in a big way as they have understood the benefits or

organic farming which requires less input cost and gives healthy food. He also called upon farmers to make Saharanpur as Chemical free district with adoption of organic farming. He also pointed out that Prime Minister himself believes in organic farming therefore interested in promotion of organic farming in North Eastern states on India.

Dr. Ashok Kumar of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Saharanpur and Shri Narender Singh Bhullar of village Paniyali who are participating in Farmers training organized by SANSAD for the last one and half years has said that there is a need to systematically organized and motivate farmers of ill effect of chemical fertilizers and pesticides as our lands are becoming less fertile day by day. We have given training to farmers on how to make organic fertilizers and pesticides with local materials used in our house hold level. Dr. Ashok Kumar highlighted role of Krishi Vigyan Kendra in promotion of farming with less input cost. SANSAD efforts are commendable in this regards.

Shri Yogendra Singh, Krishi Adhikari, Saharanpur stressed the need of adopting vermi compost (KetuaKhad) against heavy use of chemical fertilizer. He offered to help and trained farmers in making pit for making vermy compost free of cost.

Chairperson of the meeting, Advocate Amir Zaidi thanked SANSAD for choosing this area and deciding to empower local farmers through capacity building and sensitizing them for promotion of organic farming which is going to be the future of agriculture.

Many Pradhans of different Gram Panchayats also spoke and appreciated efforts of SANSAD.

b) . Farmers Convention-2 South Asian Network for Social & Agricultural Development (SANSAD) in collaboration with Gochar Mahavidyalaya, Rampur Maniharan, SultanpurChilkana Nagar Panchayat and more than 26 GramPanchayats, organized a big Farmers Convention on **January 10th 2016** at Jain Bagh, Chilkana, Saharanpur in which around 700 farmers and many eminent personalities participated and addressed the gathering. Those Gram Panchayats collaborated with SANSAD in organizing this farmers convention are AbdullahpurAhardi, Alhanpur, Chalakpur, Daulatpur, Dhaulahedi, Dudhgarh, Dumjheda, Dumjhedi, Firozabad, Katla, Manakpur, NarayanpurGurjar, Nalheda, Pathed, Patna, Patni, Raghunathpur, RawanpurBujurg, Sangmaur and Todarpur. It was **pertaining to note that first time in the history of Chilkana**, such collaborative programmes are happening due to SANSAD's efforts. Last Year also in both Farmers Convention all such organizations collaborated with SANSAD. Shri Swami Agnivesh, Dr. Yogesh Dahia, Dr. Mahipal, Shri Raj Kumar Ji, Ms. H Fujime and many were the Guest speakers. Senior Journalist Shri Vijay Saini anchor the function.

While welcoming the delegates Dr. Anil K Singh, Secretary General of SANSAD narrated the history of the organization for initiating a project in Saharanpur district of UP. which is sponsored by two Japanese organization called **Japan Fund for Global Environment(JFGE)** and RKK. He thanked local people who have provided whole heartedly all required support to start the project and later on also in implementation of the project which includes training of farmers for promotion of the organic farming. Mr. Singh called upon all participants that SANSAD wants to make this as movement for organic food and restore dignity of farmers who have lost today as nobody is willing to choose as

career in agriculture which is possible only for adaptation of organic farming.



Swami Agnivesh appreciated the commitments of Anil K Singh who has left his national and international work and came to such a remote area to do grass root level activities which is very rare in the voluntary sector. Swami ji main stress was on Cow which gives us several lakhs worth of things including milk, cow dung, cow urine etc but we give dam care to the cow specially after she started not producing milk and sell to the people who are slathering them. He quoted Constitution of India, article 46 and 47 talks about ban of cow slathering and ban of alcohol in the Country. He call upon all delegates to organize themselves against alcoholism and he is ready to lead that movement from here.



Dr. Yogesh Dahia of Aam Admi Party talked in details about importance of the organic farming and how it is going to be beneficial to the farmers. He also narrated the plights of farmers and all struggles he has lead in the Saharanpur. He also highlighted that how big mafias are active in the area and grabbing agricultural and other lands in the name of development and government officials and politicians are helping then in their endeavour.

Dr. Mahipal as former Director in the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India and also one of the expert on PRIs, talked about how newly elected Pradhans who are collaborating with SANSAD in organizing this Farmers Convention could mobilize maximum benefits under PRIs and help their constituents. He also offered to come and trained elected Panchayats members if they are willing.

Shri Raj Kumar (Guru Ji) explained various aspects of organic farming and how farmers can reduce their input cost and make agriculture as profitable enterprises. He requested every participant to adopt organic farming which will make people healthy, wealthy and wise. Technically and scientifically he explained that our so called agricultural scientists are fooling people and directly or indirectly helping multi- national corporations who have entered in our agricultural profession and

taking all profits while farmers are the losers.

Anchor of the meeting, Shri Vijay Saini thanked SANSAD for choosing this area and deciding to empower local farmers through capacity building and sensitizing them for promotion of organic farming which is going to be the future of agriculture.

Many Pradhans of different Gram Panchayats and some farmers leaders also spoke and appreciated the efforts of SANSAD.

5. Effectiveness of Bio gas plant: SANSAD organized several exposure trip of farmers on its farmland to show how effective is bio gas plant. With just one bio gas plant one family can get 1200 kg of organic fertilizer in a month, can lit 2-4 lamps and cook food for 6-7 members three times a day without incurring any additional cost. For running one bio gas plant only two buffalos or three Cows are needed.

6. Awareness building of farming communities: SANSAD organized wall writings of different slogans prepared by the master trainers in the selected 20 villages of the localities. So far we have organized painting of more than 240 slogans in the localities which created a very good environment about organic farming. Almost every day we are getting number of calls from farmers. A ripple effect one can see because of that.

SANSAD also organized three rallies of farmers in the month of February 2016 in which a large number of Children participated. People were carrying hundreds of colorful banners on which slogans in support of organic farming was written and slogan shouting was part of the rally.

SANSAD also prepared 2 leaflets of 1000 each and after printing it distributed widely to the trainees as well as to other farmers.

SANSAD also organized **YOGA Diwas on June 21st 2015** as per call given by United Nations to educate people at large and mold them into living a simple and sustainable life style. **On August 15th** which is our Independence day, SANSAD organized plantation of plant day involving a large number of students and aware them about environment degradation as well importance of plants in our life.

7. Exposure visit of farmers:





Selected 16 farmers from the operational villages was sent to Punjab for 4 days (From March 1st to 4th 2016) exposure visit. They went to different locations where good organic farming as model has emerged and with the help of a local NGO get exposures. It was really a very exciting and learning experience for all those who were part of the team.

8. Village level rally for awareness generation:

SANSAD organized several rallies in different villages to build awareness amongst farmers in which large number of children from schools participated along with their parents. Initially we noticed that farmers were hesitant to participate but after seeing their childrens in these rallies they gradually started participating.



9. Farmers School: SANSAD is trying to form Farmers Schools in these above mentioned villages and liked with more than 26 existing Farmers clubs in the old villages selected last year and provide additional literatures, films, books and booklets so that these farmers club can work as learning centre for farmers and become a real farmers schools. In 2015-16 SANSAD is trying to form 20 new Farmers Schools in the newly selected villages.

10. SANSAD local office: SANSAD local office at Chilkana is functioning well with all modern communication facilities as well as like a call centre for farmers as they are calling us to know remedies of their various problems related with farming, animal husbandry as well as other local social problems such as alcoholism, domestic violence, indebtedness etc.

11. SANSAD Website: SANSAD Website was upgraded this year and one can see how many hits are there. It is a healthy sign that since inception of project in Saharanpur in September 2013, till date we are having more than 63,000 hits.

The achievement extent of ultimate outcomes of the project : As we are in the 2nd year of the project and some positive impact is visible but real impact one can see only after completion of third

year of its implementation but ultimate outcomes of the project are as follows:

- a) 30 master trainers are prepared to impart training to local farmers.
- b) A training manual emerged after ToT which was released in the Farmers Convention held on January 11th 2015.
- c) 2 leaflets of 1000copy each was printed and distributed.
- d) More than 240 slogans are painted on the walls of different villages.
- e) 200 farmers selected from 20 villages are trained for 14 days sofar. These farmers are mainly from marginalized communities such as Dalit, tribals, muslim minorities and women.
- f) Around 200 farmers are given practical training on paddy and Wheat plantation through SRI method and mixed cropping pattern.
- g) Practical training to the farmers are given on how to make organic fertilizers and pesticides at house hold level and many farmers are making it and using in their field which has reduced their input cost of farming drastically.
- h) SANSAD outreach has gone to Chilkana local Municipality, various local self government (Panchayats), Agriculture collage, Agriculture Science centre and many Governmental officials. 2nd Farmer's Convention was hosted by all above mentioned institutions as well as 20 village level Panchayats also collaborated with SANSAD in hosting this farmers convention held on September 20th 2015.
- i) Local communities and farmers were educated and sensitized on adverse impact of climate change and how to cope with that

Details of training activities:

Sl. No.	Date	No. of Participants
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1.	25-07-15	60
2.	26-07-15	50
3.	27-07-15	62
4.	28-07-15	70
5.	21-08-15	41
6.	22-08-15	35
7.	23-08-15	52
8.	24-08-15	52
9.	01-12-15	52
10.	02-12-15	39
11.	03-12-15	40
12.	04-12-15	38
13.	05-12-15	42
14.	06-12-15	36
15.	21-12-15	33
16.	22-12-15	26
17.	22-12-15	44
18.	23-12-15	26
19.	23-12-15	53

20.	24-12-15	39
21.	25-12-15	30
22.	25-12-15	35
23.	25-12-15	41
24.	26-12-15	24
25.	26-12-15	39
26.	04-01-16	50
27.	18-02-16	73
28.	19-02-16	86
29.	21-02-16	78
30.	22-02-16	82
31.	23-02-16	75
32.	24-02-16	85
33.	25-02-16	80
34.	26-02-16	82
35.	27-02-16	78
36.	28-02-16	85

Survey/ information dissemination/awareness raising (bench mark survey, review of reports/references, posters & leaflets dissemination, farmers convention):

- a) For awareness raising SANSAD has organized wall writing of slogans in 20 villages and overall more than 240 slogans has painted on walls of these 20 selected villages.
- b) Many books/reports were reviewed to suit of training of farmers and used while training.
- c) SANSAD prepared and printed two leaflets on importance of organic farming and disseminated to all trainees as well as to large number of farmers of the area.
- d) SANSAD also printed 1000 copy of a appeal letter addressed to the farmers and appeal to adopt organic farming which was distributed widely.
- e) SANSAD organised two big FARMERS CONVENTION on September 20th 2015 and on January 10th 2016 in collaboration with local Municipality, number of Local Self Governments(Panchayats), number of NGOs and Agricultural College situated in the area. A large number of farmers, academicians, Agricultural Scientist, Media fellows and thousands of local farmers are going to participate in it.

Training of Trainers in organic farming: As mentioned above that SANSAD has organised a Training of Trainers (ToT) in the month of February 2015 and prior to that a Resource kit was prepared to give to all participants. SANSAD has used various trainers of the ToT as Master trainers and various training manuals prepared by others also for imparting training to the farmers. Literatures/ books/ booklets/folders/video films collected are used by Farmers Schools to aware others farmers of their respective villages which has impacted their mind set and now they are ready to go for such training organised by SANSAD in future.

Networking: During a short span of time SANSAD has build a very good rapport with many local NGOs, Panchayats(Local Self Government), local Municipality and many eminent people of the area.

Unavoidable Problem faced while implementing project: In this year also communal violence took place in Saharanpur and due to that our movement was restricted and therefore no activity took place during that time. It is unfortunate that sometimes political parties create such tension to gain political mileage specially just before election time.

During October and November 2015 Panchayat election was happening on phase manner and for different post therefore almost two months project work was at halt and therefore we were behind our schedule plan for few months but make up the loss of time with our speed

Infrastructure Development: As mentioned earlier that SANSAD is having a two Acres plot and we have built a small cow sheds for animals with the support of RKK and at present 3 Cows and 2 Buffalos with their calf's are leaving there. SANSAD has also put up a Bio gas plant on the same farm land which produces sufficient organic manure for our land as well as produces cooking gas for 6-8 people and lighting 3-4 lamps. This piece of land is used for demonstrating various types of cultivation in different cropping seasons. So far we have demonstrated rice cultivation through SRI methods, Wheat cultivation as mixed crop and seasonal vegetables plantation to the farmers of the area on this demonstration plot of SANSAD.. This year we have put up boundary wall to make our animals safe as chances of theft was very high. SANSAD also put up tin shed on the boundary wall to make more space for animals as well as for vermy compost which SANSAD is making regularly.

Governing Board of SANSAD

The Governing Board of SANSAD comprises of seven persons, including the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary General and three members. At present, the Vice President's position is vacant. It will be filled by a woman member in near future. The present Board Members with their positions are as follows:

1. President K.S. Gopal Centre for Environment Concerns, Hyderabad
2. Vice President Vacant Treasurer Dr. Sanjay Bhatt Delhi School of Social Work, Delhi
3. Secretary General Anil K. Singh SANSAD, Delhi
4. Treasurer: Dr. Sanjai Bhatt, Delhi School of Social Work, University of Delhi
5. Member Sheelu Francis Women's Collective, Chennai Member
6. Sharad Joshi CECOEDECON, Jaipur Member
7. Biplab Halim IMSE, Kolkata Member Rita Sarin The Hunger Project, New Delhi

The Advisory Committee of SANSAD: The advisory group has two representatives from each of the major countries of South Asia:

Afghanistan

- Mr. Roz Mohammad Dalili, Executive Director, Sanayee Development Foundation

- Ms. Hangama Anwari, Vice Chair, Women and Children Legal Research Foundation

India

- Dr. Devinder Sharma, Chair, Forum for Biotechnology & Food Security, Delhi
- Mr. Atul Kumar Anjan, General Secretary, All India Kisan Sabha, Delhi

Nepal

- Dr. Rohit Nepali, Executive Director, South Asia Partnership International (SAP-I), Nepal
- Dr. Nani Ram Subedi, Coordinator, Culture, Equity, Gender and Governance, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

Pakistan

- Mr. Mohammad Tahseen, Executive Director, South Asia Partnership, Pakistan
- Ms. Najma Sadeque, Project Director, The Green Economics and Globalisation Initiatives, Pakistan

Sri Lanka

- Dr. Harsha Kumar Navaratne, President, Sewalanka Foundation, Sri Lanka
- Dr. Deshpriya S. Wijetunge, Director-General, Sri Lanka United Nations Friendship Organisation (SUNFO), Sri Lanka

Bangladesh

- Ms. Farida Akhter, Executive Director, Policy Research for Development Alternative (UBINIG), Bangladesh
- Ms. Rokeya Kabir, Director, Bangladesh Nari Pragoti Sangha (BNPS), Bangladesh

Maldives

- Ms. Jennifer Latheef, Council Member. Human Right Activist, Maldives

5. Staff Members of SANSAD

1. Secretary General : Mr. Anil K. Singh
2. Project Coordinator : Mr. Arvind Sharma
3. Assistant Agronomist: Mrs Bimla Singh
4. Account cum Administrator: Mr. K George Kutty
5. Care Taker: Mr. Swaraj Saini
6. Helper: Mr. Abdul Sakur
7. Manpower for Agriculture: Mr. Ravi Upadhyay
8. Watchman: Mr. Nitin Kumar

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