

TESTIMONIALS TO MUKUL MADHAV FOUNDATION

SEARCH has been a pioneer in several healthcare causes while working closely with mainly tribal populations in Gadchiroli district, which we took our *Karmabhoomi*.

One cause which we initiated and which made a significant change in the area of healthcare for women was to ensure awareness and behavioural change with respect to the menstrual hygiene in the rural pockets and tolas (hamlets) of Gadchiroli. The work done to alleviate the appalling conditions of menstruating women forced to spend this time in semi-thatched dwellings outside the villages (Kurma ghar or period homes).

SEARCH's work included both creating awareness of dangers of this practice to the health of these women and substantially improving conditions of Period Homes, by building structures with toilets and water facilities, providing sanitary pads, helping them with information on conditions of their menstrual flow, leading them to better recognition of their health and making efforts to seek help in case of any abnormalities.

Over the years, these interventions have resulted in ensuring better menstrual healthcare and importantly basic dignity and understanding about menstrual hygiene among the women, their families and the larger populations among whom this practice was more prevalent.

The support and donation rendered by Mukul Madhav Foundation has made such progress possible and I personally want to thank the Foundation for their care and continued support.

Dr. Rani Bang

Co-Founder, SEARCH Gadchiroli

The incredible support from the Mukul Madhav Foundation to SEARCH over the last 3 years towards provision of community base care to mothers, newborns and children from the tribal and rural villages of Gadchiroli has been extremely useful.

This very generous support has enabled SEARCH to provide a range of services including Health Education for behaviour change to the mothers; diagnosis and management of newborn sicknesses such as neonatal sepsis and hypothermia; supportive care to newborns born low birth weight or pre-term newborns as well as diagnosis and treatment of childhood sicknesses such as pneumonia and diarrhoea. These services supported by the Mukul Madhav Foundation have enormously contributed to sustained improvement in maternal, newborn and child health as well as child survival. But we appreciate not only the financial support, but also the ever-ready unconditional grant management support by the wonderful team of Mukul Madhav Foundation, with whom, it has been a joy to partner.

Hence, on behalf of SEARCH and the people of Gadchiroli, we express our deepest gratitude to the Mukul Madhav Foundation.

Dr. Anand Bang

Jt. Director, SEARCH Gadchiroli