



AVANI Organization's

ARC

Addressing Root Cause Project

**With Great Support From
Global Fund For Children (GFC)**

Background of Project

- GFC has been funding Avani Organization for the past 7 years.
- For the first five years, Avani worked on gender equality
- For the last two years, it has been funding work on the topic of Addressing Root Causes.

Gender Equality model in school



- At the start of the Project GFC asked Avani Organization what work you could do for children. Avani Organization said that we work with teenagers and accordingly, Avani Organization prepared a 16-week syllabus for the school and implement in 25 schools in two year with 2000 girls and boys.

Work in COVID-19

- While this work was underway, Covid-19 came and schools were closed.
- After that, the Avani organization started working with children in the waste picker community.



Story Of Change

Child Marriage Intervention in Wadnage

•**The Incident:** Jyoti, a 15-year-old leader of a Child Rights Forum in a 16-week community program, was married off by her family to a relative. Although the family claimed the marriage was consensual, it was legally a **child marriage** due to her age.

•**The Action:** Upon discovering the marriage, the **Avani Organization** fulfilled its legal and ethical mandate by reporting the incident to the **Child Welfare Committee (CWC)**.

•**The Conflict:** The report triggered a backlash from the Wadnage community. Residents, feeling the organization had interfered in private family matters, became hostile toward the staff.

•**The Outcome:** Due to the community's anger and lack of cooperation, the Avani Organization's local operations and educational programs have been **forced to a halt**.

Introduction of SALT Approach

- The community in which the organization had been doing good work for so long that community rejected the organization, and child marriages occurred there, which made the organization very upset.
- AVANI shared their failure with the donor (GFC).
- During this time, GFC understood the Avani organization and GFC made Avani realize the reason for this failure.
- GFC made Avni realize why it is important to work not just with children but with the entire family and the entire community.
- Then GFC introduced the Salt Approach to Avani organization on how to work with the community.
- Given 3-4 months of training on how to work with the Salt Approach

SALT Process in Community

- *Ritu Nanda of GFC gave training to AVANI staff on how to take SALT.*
- *AVANI Facilitators go to the community and chat with people and feel their strength through SALT. These powers help them to fulfill their dreams.*



Work in community with Salt Approach

When the Avani organization started working with the Salt Approach in the community, it was noticed that after starting to work with this approach, people started talking more openly and sharing their thoughts.

Research Team in Nandwal Community



Findings presented to the community in the form of a play



- The research team presented the findings from their research to other people in the community through a play.

Actions After Salt in Community

- After SALT Many women present for Gramsabha is possible because women realize that they should speak for their rights. An example of this is the presence of women in the gram sabha held this year.
- Earlier only men used to attend gram sabha but now the number of women is increasing salt has made these women aware of the power that women can also speak.



Actions After Salt in Community



Women Group – starting Exercise, Starting hoteling and outing, Starting celebrate each others birthday, celebrate dandiya dance first time in village



Actions After Salt in Community

Group of Men –

- Starting Plyaning jtraditional Game – Lezim
- Because of this Youth, middle-aged men are staying away from mobile phones for a while due to traditional game.
- Children are getting to know about our traditional game.
- Small children also come to see adults while they are playing, so they are also staying away from mobile phones for some time.



Change Is Possible... Sameer Has Proven It...!

In Nandwal village, Sameer Patil's journey highlights the power of self-reflection and community support. Through **SALT conversations** with the Avani Smile Team, Sameer transitioned from low-skilled labor—a path often leading to addiction—to a fulfilling career as a **supervisor**.

By identifying his strengths and prioritizing his family's future, he broke the cycle of "easy money" to pursue education and professional respect. His shift from painter to "Saheb" has brought his mother immense pride. Sameer's story serves as a beacon for local youth, proving that when hard work is paired with the right direction, transformation is inevitable.



Actions After Salt in Community



Salt With Widow and her mother in low



After SALT she has courage to participate in traditional Rituals and Functions.



SALT gave support to second marriage of Widow.

Actions After Salt in Community

After SALT
Ujwala's Dream Come True
She started her own Business of Making Masala.



Housewife started Business GFC Head John sir
inaugurated her business



Married Woman in Nandwal community started
Police Bharati preparation After SALT



Before Salt



After Salt

Actions After Salt in Community

Tree Plantation by Nandwal Grampanchyat



Thank You...!