

Monthly Newsletter: September 2021



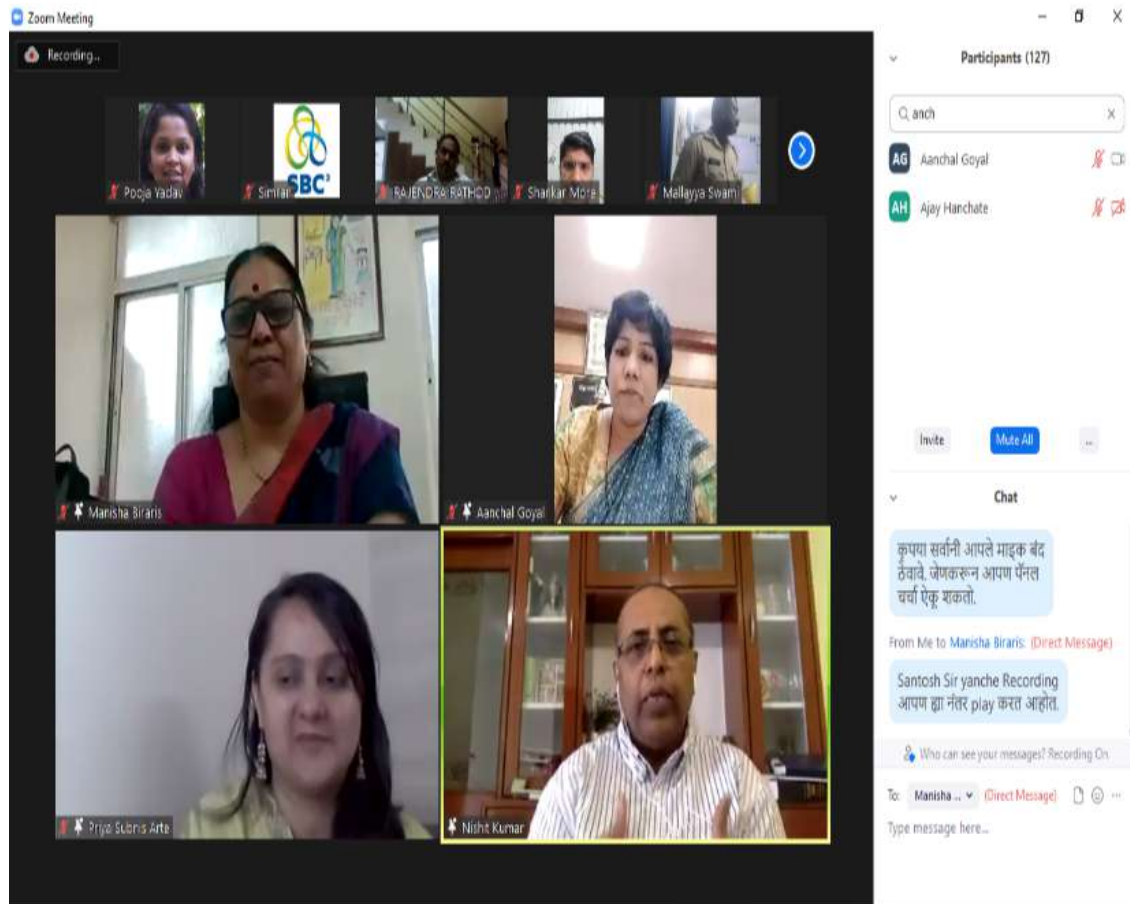
Ending Child Marriage Program in Maharashtra

Online Orientation Programs with District Officials

To strengthen the work of adolescent empowerment and Ending Child Marriages in Maharashtra, there is a need to have a strong, sensitized, and active district administration. In line with the efforts of the Department of Women and Child Development, SBC3 and UNICEF are working intensively with the District Administrations to End Child Marriage. As part of these efforts online orientation programs with District Officials from various departments, on Ending Child Marriages in districts were organized on 1st, 2nd, and 7th September 2021. Hon'ble Assistant Commissioner, Ms. Manisha Biraris, Assistant Commissioner, WCD, Maharashtra inaugurated the program and set the context for ending child marriage. Dr. Mrudula Phadake, Sr. Advisor, UNICEF Maharashtra, and Maharashtra Government shared her valuable insights in understanding child marriage's impact on adolescents.

Mr. Abhijeet Raut (I.A.S) District Collector, Jalgaon, Mr. Radhabinod Sharma (I.A.S) District Collector, Beed, Hon. Mr. Milind Shambharkar-(I.A.S) District Collector, Solapur. Hon. Ms. Anchal Goyal- (I.A.S) District Collector, Parbhani, gave their valuable time for the online orientation program wherein they shared

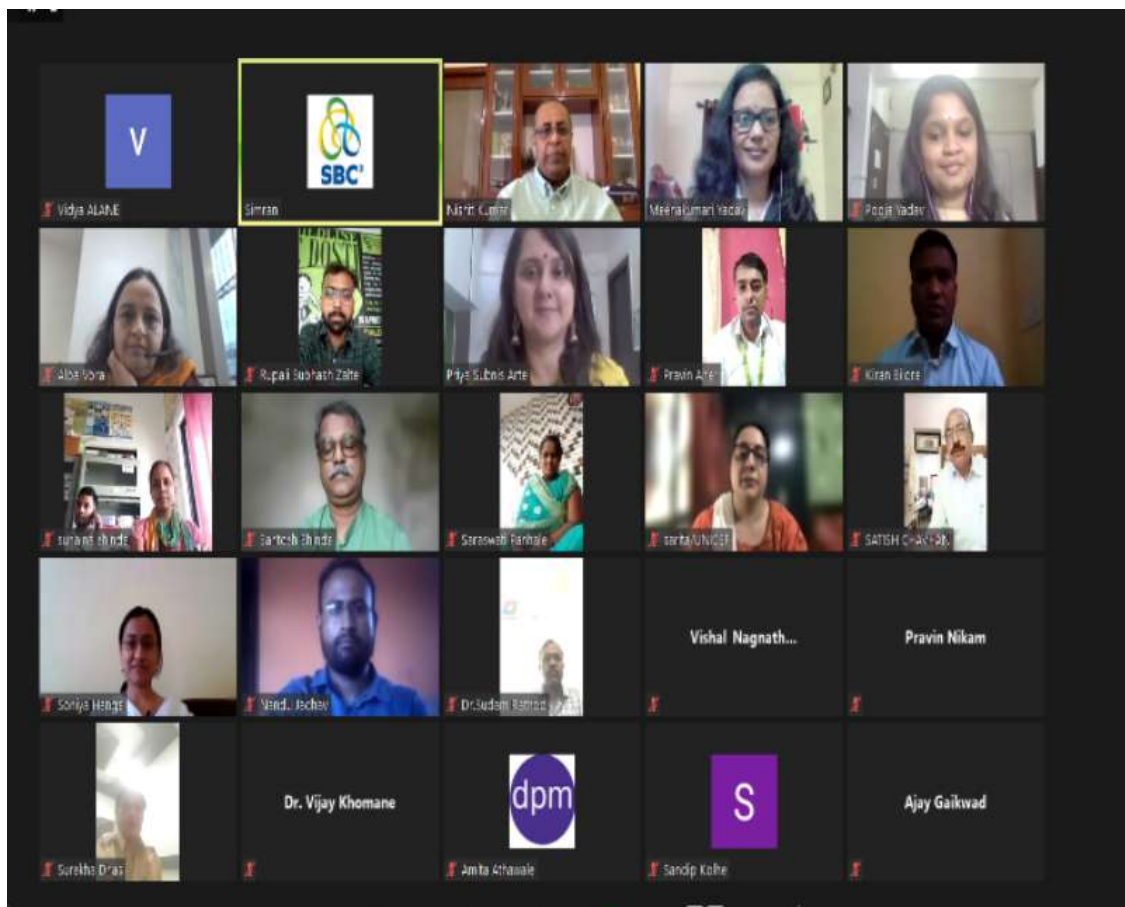
the commitments of district administration towards ending child marriage and also motivated participants for contributing to ending child marriage in their respective districts.



Mr. Radhabinod Sharma (I.A.S) District Collector, Beed, expressed his concern about high prevalence of Child Marriage due to socio-economic situation in Beed district. He mentioned how child marriage leads to MMR (Maternal Mortality Rate), IMR (Infant Mortality Rate), Stunting, Wasting and undernourishment in Children, which affects life cycle of a person and the next generation. Thus, he appealed to all the members in District Task Force (DTF), Beed, to take child marriage issue very seriously and take the issue on priority. Beed District Child Marriage prevalence rate (43.7%) is almost double compared to average rate of Maharashtra State (21.9%). He humbly requested to all the district administration officials to do excellent work in their respective departments and also work collectively for Ending Child Marriage. He assured all the help and support from Beed District administration for Ending Child Marriage program and also mentioned that his administration is committed to remove Beed from the list of high Child Marriage prevalence Districts list.

Experts from Health, Child protection and Child Rights Practitioners shared their knowledge, experience, challenges and practices towards ending child

marriage in the districts by government and non-governmental organizations.



**471 Participants participated in
Online Orientation held on Sept 1, 2 & 7, 2021 in 7 districts**

On 8th September 2021, 100 participants participated in one hour online cascading refresher training organized for TOT master trainers of Hingoli. Mr. Ganesh Wagh, Hon'ble Deputy CEO, WCD, ZP and Mr. Vittal Shinde DWCD, Hingoli attended in the program and encouraged participants to cascade the training. DWCD issued a letter to respective departments for participating in the cascading training.



On 22nd September 2021, Pooja Yadav, Head of Programs, SBC3, in coordination with Mr. Digambar Umbrikar, faculty Health training Center, Hingoli conducted a refresher training for 18 LHV Master Trainers of Health Department. The LVM are going to conduct training with a block facilitators and ASHA workers at the PHC level.

SAKSHUM Yuva Shakti

A campaign consisting of Outreach, Social Media Communication and Competitions conducted by Youth groups



On 28th September 2021, UNICEF Maharashtra in collaboration with SBC3 organized Online Orientation Program on Ending Child Marriage wherein 52 Nehru Yuva Kendra Youth Volunteers and District Youth Officers participated. The

dignitaries present were Hon. Prakash Manure, SD NYKS MH& Goa, Dr. Swati Mahopatra, Ms. Alpa, Ms. Sarita from UNICEF, and Nishit Kumar- Founder & MD of SBC3. Ms. Pooja Yadav, Head of Programs SBC3, shed light on the different trends of child marriage in Maharashtra and its impact on the Adolescent's health and nutrition. After the orientation, Ms. Pooja discussed the SAKSHUM Yuva Shakti campaign aimed to end child marriage in Maharashtra by the Youth. Many participants encouraged by the presentation suggested taking SAKSHUM Yuva Shakti campaign at school and village level. They are enthusiastic to take up the pledge of Ending Child Marriage by reaching out to a larger audience through street plays, flashmobs, and social media.



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