

Activities of NASVI (July 2006 to Jan 2007)

She is just 21 and speaks more than seven language. Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati[Urdu, to name a few, and of course, English. She has been to jail thrice. She is no high profile leader, but just a girl who used to sell vegetables near the Indian Institute of Technology at Powai.

Anees Fathima Jafar Shaikh or Salma, as she is popularly known ,yesterday left for Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, to address a session on child street Vendors at the World Social Forum of January 22.

Hours before she left for her first foreign trip, an elated Salma. Who is ladies wing chief of Azad Hawkers Union, Said, “ I am going to speak on child labour. I’ll dwell on why one becomes a child labour and difficulties child labourers face. I’ll also speak on the advantages and disadvantages of child labour.”

“She is the only one to speak on this subject from Asia. She’ll get 10 minutes and I am sure she’ll make an impact.” Azad Hawkers’ Union chief, Daya Shankar Singh, Said

Salm’s journey has been a tough one. She started working at the age of seven, helping her parents and selling vegetables from a basket on her head. When she was 15, she used a haath-gaadi (trolley) to sell vegetables.

Her life changed three years ago, when a local corporator joined hands with a builder and harassed her. “One day the makeshift place where she put her trolley was being demolished. She was at home, sick at the time. Someone informed her of this and she immediately went there and protested.

20th January : Vendor Day Celebration throughout country.

➤ **A meeting with Kumari Shailja** (Hon’ble Minister, Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation)- ‘NASVI’ delegates met with the Minister of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation at her office at Nirman Bhawan in New Delhi on 11th Jan 07 in which following members from NASVI went to met with the Minister-

- Arbind Singh & Sanjay Kumar from Bihar
- Sodhan Singh from Delhi
- Gokul Prasad and Md. Siraj from U.P.
- Vasudev Patia from Punjab
- Arjun Nirankari-Delhi
- Neelam & Geeta from Delhi
- Sanjay Chopra from Uttranchal

A memorandum regarding the National Policy of the Urban Street Vendors, survey of street vendors, and rehabilitation of the street vendors etc.

Kumari Shailja has made the following promises during the meeting.

- Those vendors evicted in Urban Renewal Mission scheme would be rehabilitated soon.
- We will discuss with our Ministry to involve the street vendors representatives in the task force
- To write a letter to the Governor of U.P. about the U.P. Draft Policy.
- The training program has been conducted for Municipal Corporation staff, in that training stakeholders representative would also be included
- Give a proposal and take project from us
- We will also write a letter to every state government about implementation of the National Policy
- During Vendor's Day we will give a message to the whole country from our ministry.

Insurance of Footpath Shopkeepers

Last year NASVI has started insurance programme for footpath shopkeepers by the help of the associate members. After the success and need of insurance, this year some other states are also included through this programme, the associate members of Mumbai, Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Hyderabad, Delhi, Lucknow & Haridwar are interested in the insurance policy programme. Members from NASVI visiting all the cities to explain its importance and the process of claiming to its associate members.

Dharna by Street Vendors in Mumbai

After the order issued by the Supreme Court of India, it is the prime responsibility of the Police Commissioner to provide safety and security to the street vendors evicted by the municipal authorities and to monitor that at the evicted place again they couldn't rehabilitate. At the evicted land permanent shopkeepers situated in that area enlarge their shops with the support of police, and some shops are constructed over drainage made by Municipal Corporation in against of it on 10th of Oct 2006, more than thousands of street vendors sat on dharna in front of municipal corporation office. The Dharna has been conducted after the intervention of the police commissioner, and it was decided that again a dharna would be performed in the front of police-commissioner on 15th, a Mumbai visit has been done by NASVI in this context. A petition is under suppression in Supreme Court against this issue.

Hyderabad: Dual Policy Of Municipal Corporation

Govt. of Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporation and municipalities have issued an order under which the urban area is scrapped into Green, Amber & Red zones for signifying free access trade or time based access, for this a predetermined fee will be collected and prohibited access respectively.

The zone situated near the main road at Hyderabad are declared as red-zone, due to which vendors are facing lots of problem but about 8000 vendors has issued identity cards situated in Green & Amber zones.

On 6th Nov 06 300 book shops has been demolisehd from Koti area, and D . Laxman Yadav, Md. Ayub, Harry, Praveen, Basu & P. Nageshwar were arrested because they all intervening hampering the demolished work.

After raising the voice against the demolition by Ekta Footpath Vendors Association 135 shopkeepers have allotted shop of 4x6 feet in Municipal area, and it is assured by the municipal authorities to provide space to the remaining vendors. Several visits have been done through NASVI at Hyderabad city, and a state level meeting has also be organized there.

State Level Workshop in Rajasthan

A State level meeting has been organised for the representative of street vendors at Hotel Chandragupta in Jaipur.

In this meeting representatives from different city of Rajasthan like-Patan, Jhalawar, Ajmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Udaipur, Jaipur etc has participated. The meeting was inaugurated by Deputy Mayor Mr Pankaj Joshi.

Sanjay Kumar (Programme Manager) has focused on the objective of this meeting and activities related to NASVI in details.

Ms. Saroj Khan (Centre for Human Rights & Social Welfare, Jaipur) has voted thanks to NASVI and said that before this meeting, I was not aware about the national policy of urban street vendors, she also informed that 15 thousands street vendors are present only in Jaipur and earning their livelihood, but they are always exploited by the Municipal authorities, so for their betterment State Govt. should implement the national policy soon, she also addressed the vendors and said they should always try to live in union, because union is always powerful.

Purisetam Soni from Ajmer stated untill and unless National Policy would not be implemented in whole Rajasthan, Vendors would be exploited by municipal bodies and police too, to solve their problem its important to support NASVI at every step.

Arvind Shukla (NASVI) has explained in details the various activities of NASVI and urged the various organisation to join a hand with NASVI and also make a request to municipal bodies of different cities that if they removed/evicted the vendors then must rehabilitate them at a particular place, so that their family couldn't die in want of bread/food.

Deputy Mayor Mr. Pankaj Joshi – has advocated that bank must be open for vendors, so that they could save themselves from 'Mahajan'. He was also keen to see the 'night market' open for the vendors in Indore and he has promised that he will by at his level best to implement the National Policy in the State, and also accepted the fact that, there must be particular arrangement before eviction of the vendors.

On this Occasion 'Rajasthan Coordination Committee' was constituted including 13 people as its member, the main aim behind constituting this committee is to organize meeting every month and to work in the direction of implementation of the National Policy.

BHUBANESHWAR

A positive approach by BMC-Vending Zone

"Bhubneshwar Municipal Corporation finally realized the pain of the street vendors and for their betterment decided construct vending zone in the city at various places. In the first phase, 17 places are selected for making of vending zone, and at Power House Chowk, vending zone has made for 120 vendors which was inaugurated by BMC High Commissioner Ms. Aprajita Sarangi' with it on 31st Oct 06 vending zone was inaugurated for vendors at bapuji Chowk, and Keshri Nagar 120 Batallian, Vidyut Marg, Nikko park, Bhaoi Nagar are in the row.

High Commissioner Ms. Sarangi has informed that 7 acre of land has been given to BMC at different places for rehabilitation of the vendors in which about 2500-3000 vendors would be rehabilitate, whereas upto 10,000 vendors are present in Bhubaneshwar only.

At present BMC has no plan for the remaining 7000 vendors. For the establishment of the remaining vendors. NASVI is in contact of Bhubneshwar Development Authority, PRDA & Urban Development Department Orissa.

A seminar has been organized on the same issue on 26th Oct 06. by 'Khudra Utha Dukani Sangha' in which Mayor Mr. Mihir Mohanty (Bhubneshwar) has promised to provide space to all the vendors. On the other side 'Utkal Utha Dokani Mahasangha' has supporting BRDA in survey and establishment work for the street vendors.

A Vending Zone— A New Initiative by BMC

With a view to rehabilitating the street vendors, Bhuaneshwar Municipal Corporation has taken initiative in identifying lands for establishment of vending zones about 17 such places have been identified spread over BMC area and also 28 places have been identified for construction of kiosks for rehabilitation of educated youths.

The first such vending zone under nomenclature of 'Bhubaneswar Hat' was opened on Local self Government day i.e. 31st August 2006 at Gandamunda. All the road-side vendors (from Khandagiri Chhak to Gandamunda Chhak) like vegetables vendors, fish vendors and meat vendors have been settled in the said Haat. For one month BMC is not taking any fees from them but daily keeping a note of vendors coming to the said Hat and after a month due space will be made avaialble on the basis of lottery. Taking the area people a "Bazar Committee" has been constituted for smooth management of these said Haat consituted.

UTTRANCHAL

dharna near Legislative Assembly by Laghu Vayapar Association

More than 100 of street vendors gathered near 'Dharampur Mandi' at Dehradun the uttranchal on 11th Oct 2006 to raised their voice for fulfillment of their demand and implementation of National Policy in the State. They took out a procession to blockade the Legislative Assembly.

The Dharna/Rally was organised by 'Laghu Vyapar Association' and its president Mr. Sanjay Chopra has said that - we are struggling since long from Gandhivadi method, but Govt has not paid attention till yet, but creating more difficulties for us.

As a representative from the State Govt. and administration, Mr. Nagendra Kumar from Urban Development Department accepted the memorandum and said that the demands of the vendors will be accepted soon.

On the other side, street vendors said if their demand would not be 'fulfill soonly and in short span of time then their procession will take the form of rigorous revolution.

In the Dharna Minister from different department alongwith MLA Mr. Harak Singh Rawat has participated.

Earlier on 20th July 2006 a dharna has been organized by association in which, State Minister & Vice Chairman of State Business Tax Advisory Committee Mr. Vivekanand Khanduari in absence of Chief Minister Mr. Narayan Dutt Tiwari had supported their demand and said that whenever he will come a meeting will be organised with him, after that Chief Minister has written letter to the Secretary, development of small industries about the whole proceedings related to the National Policy.

Dharna

On 11th Oct 2006 at 11 A.M. a Dharna was conducted by Delhi Rehri Patri Sangrasha Morcha in front of Town Hall near MCD office in New Delhi. In this procession near about 500 street vendors has participated, and they submitted a memorandum to MCD Commissioner and Mayor about their demands.

Their main demands were-

- To rehabilitate the vendors at the Hawker's Zone marked by MCD as soon as possible.
- To conduct survey by reputed survey institute.
- After survey licence and identty card must be issued
- To constitute a special committee for solving the problem of street vendors siutated in Laljapat Nagar and Chandani Chowk.
- Some Model Market should be developed in MCD area.
- In Delhi, market shoudl be constructed on every big small drainage.

So, the actual number of eviction of vendors from the areas like Chandani chowk & Lajpatnager would be known.

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Formation of Delhi Rehri Patri Sangarsh Morch

On 3rd of Sept 2006 a meeting has been organized by NASVI in Delhi at “Gandhi peace foundation” on the issue of “National Policy, Delhi law (special provision) Act 2006 and exploitation of the Street Vendors”, in this meeting 100 participants from 18 organization has participated and discussion was based on the issue that supreme court has given direction to MCD & NDMC for implementing the National policy and to identify the hawking zones, MCD has constituted ward rendering committee at 12 zones, But till now no meeting has been organized, NDMC also not fulfilling their responsibility properly. During Discussion, the member have suggested that the survey should be conducted by any free and unbiased institution, because the way vendors are evicted from the various places like from the Chandani Chowk & Lajpatnagar area then to whom survey would be conducted and identity cards would be distributed?

MCD has suggested to open these market early in the morning or in late night if this would be applied than thousands of vendors will die in hunger.

MCD has suggested that now its time for the vendors to get united then only they will get their rights.

Mr. Arjun Singh President of Delhi Pradesh Rehri Patari Weekly Market Welfare Society has focused struggle on the grass-root level, is very necessary he also said that its responsibility of MCD & NDMC to make arrangement for us because we paid tax to them now its time to struggle because paper work has been done since long.

A memorandum & Meeting with President

On the invitation of the President of India, Mr. Rakesh Tripathi from NASVI has met with the President on 15th Aug 06 and a memorandum related to the National Policy has given to them. President has assured that he will write letter to Govt. of India for implementation of the National Policy.

Leadership Development Training:-

A training workshop had organized by NASVI to develop leadership quality among associated org on 28th -29th of July 2006 in New Delhi. Around 40 representatives including 11 women from different organizations based in Bihar, UP, Rajasthan, Manipur took part in the training programme.

After an exhaustive discussion during the training, the participants felts that for running a successful organization, expertise leadership was needed and for expertise leadership, dedication, good conduct, respect for others, zeal learn and other were required.

General Body Meeting of NASVI:-

The General Body Meeting of NASVI met under the Presidentship of Shri Sodhan Singh on 27th July 2006. Ambedkar Bhawan in New Delhi. The coordinator presented the progress report of the activities from 1st April 05 to 1st July 2006.

Report of the coordinator includes-

- NASVI would focus on the following five issues-
- Implementation of the national Policy
- Strengthening NASVI its affiliates.
- Developing social security for street vendors.
- Access to legal space mainstream struggle of woman vendors.
- Mainstream struggle of woman vendors.
- Public Hearing:- NASVI organized a public hearing in Delhi with the help of associated members organization in which about 700 representatives from 16 states has participated and Urban Development Minister Mr. Jaipal Reddy and Housing and Urban poverty alleviation Minister Kumari Shailja were the chief guest.

UTTAR PRADESH

NASVI DELEGATION MEET DIRECTOR , SPECIAL SECRETARY OF U.P. URBAN DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT) AND COMMISSIONER MUNICIPAL CORPORATION REGARDING AMENDMENT NEED IN STATE POLICY OF STREET VENDORS

VIJAY UTSAV IN GULABATHI

Uttar Pradesh Cabinet on 10th July 2006 has decided and announced to implement the National Policy for Vendors and to cancelled the collection of toll fees by the local contractors . The statement related to this order has been sent to all the municipal bodies. The Govt. order for policy implementation has come into existence after the self immolation of Late Abdul Rafiq Khan & vigorous struggle of the street vendors. Last year, In Gulabathi a seminar has been organised against the contractor system, where vendors have to be paid Rs. 70-120 per day to the contractors, in weekly haat. The order given by the Govt. shows the victory of the street vendors.

Again on 5th July 2006 a Vijay Utsav has been organised by ‘Mangal Paith Bazar Kalyan Samiti’ at Maharaja Agrasen Dharamsala in Gulabati. In that ceremony Basic Education Minister and local MLA Shri Kiran Pal Singh has congratulated the vendors and said that Govt. has decided to implement the National Policy for the welfare and betterment of the street vendors. The licences and identity card will also be issued to them by the municipal bodies (authority). He also said that municipal corporation will have to suffer a huge loss due to eradication of contractor system, but it will be managed by other means.

‘Rakesh Tripathi & Sanjay Kumar from NASVI had given the statement about the loopholes present in the state policy made by the Govt. of U.P. for the street vendors.

In the seminar the Chairman of Mangal Paith Bazar Kalyan Samiti. Md. Siraj, Chairman of NASVI Mr. Sodhan Singh and Ashok Gautam from Ghaziabad Hawkers Union has also addressed.