



2022-2023 **ANNUAL** **REPORT**

YWCA OF INDIA

Annual Report 2022 -2023

Table of Contents:

1. From the Desk of the National General Secretary: Ms. Kalpana David
2. Quadrennium 2022-2026-Prelude and Plan of Action
3. Organizational Update
4. World YWCA and YWCA of India Collaborative effort for change
5. Youth In Action
6. Advocacy and Networking
7. Reaching out to communities
8. Reports from National Projects
9. Work within the Regions
10. **Our accolades**
11. Movement Emphasis

From the Desk of the National General Secretary

The years 2020 and 2021 forced us to adapt, survive, and transform under the pandemic. With restrictions easing and physical spaces opening in 2022, this past year has seen YWCA of India evolve, reclaim spaces, and expand networks. This of course is also to welcome the upcoming quadrennium with renewed vigor and energy.

As the National General Secretary of the organization, I've had the privilege of being a part of this movement for more than three decades. It's been an incredible honor to contribute to this cause and to collaborate with each of you, whose leadership has greatly strengthened our national body.

Taking on the role of National General Secretary came with a profound sense of responsibility and humility, especially with such an exceptional team by my side. Our guiding principle has always been a firm commitment to move forward, and we have diligently prepared to shape the future journey. We've harnessed the powerful combination of the extensive experience of our esteemed National Leaders and the boundless positive energy of the National Team.

Throughout this quadrennium, our movement has touched countless lives every day. We've strived relentlessly to remain relevant and responsive, adapting to the ever-changing landscape of our environment. Our collective efforts have been focused on serving and responding effectively to the shifts and challenges we encounter along the way.

Together, we have accomplished much, and I look forward to continuing our journey, making a positive impact, and further advancing our mission. Thank you for your unwavering dedication and support.

As an organization that continues to evolve, grow and progress into the future we are also making concerted efforts towards identifying our own sustainable goals -to be known for our work nationally and internationally for our:

- Professional Reputation and Value System
- Leadership trainings and development

- Operational Excellence

Financially we did have a setback in the years 2020 and 2021 but the combined efforts of the staff and volunteers that stood by the movement and pitched in as a whole to bring the Association back on its feet. From a financial point of view in FY 2021- 2022 we have scored better than where we were standing in the last two years. I would like to emphasize at this point that our passionate workforce is our core asset and I want to thank my team members for their hard work, dedication and resilience in scripting our success story. The collaborative culture and the vision to rediscover makes us such a unique and extraordinary group.

Ms. Kalpana David
National General Secretary

Quadrennium 2022-2026: Prelude and Plan of Action

The Quadrennium kick starts with the scheduling of the National Convention which is a Business meeting of the YWCA of India which takes place every four years. The 31st National Convention on the Theme 'WeMpower : Leaving No One Behind' laid the foundation for the quadrennium 2022-2026

We are expecting more than 300 delegates from YWCAs across the country. This meeting is the time for assessing the work of the past four years, prioritizing the issues that will be addressed over the coming quadrennium and chalking out a plan of action for the same.

The Theme has its foundation in the Bible Verse: "So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind.. - 1 Thessalonians 5:11

"Leaving no one behind" is also the central transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which represents the commitment of all UN member states to eradicate poverty, end discrimination; reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities that leave people behind.

When the YWCA of India considered this particular theme, what played in our mind was one question, 'Who are the ones that are left behind and what can the YWCAs do to ensure that even this last individual is included.

Over the years, the YWCA of India has adopted specific quadrennium themes drawing attention to the need of the communities and challenging its affiliated bodies to address these concerns proactively for the 4 years period. 'Leaving No one Behind' as a terminology, therefore, holds great gravity especially when it comes to what it would mean for the YWCA- not just talking about the marginalized but about developing a community as a whole.

The YWCA of India at its 31st National Convention hosted by the Northern Region and the Host Association YWCA of Delhi, in New Delhi from 18th-20th November 2022 resolved to proactively work for women along with men as allies to the root causes of violence.

Curtain Raiser to the 31st National Convention

The umbrella theme of the Convention 'WeMpower-Leaving No One Behind' also concentrated on the three sub-themes – 'Strengthening Communities; Building Youth and Nurturing Nature.

Strengthening communities: Transformative changes cannot be sustained without engaged and mobilized citizens. Individuals- men and women when engaged collectively recognize their interdependence and can be the engines of community transformation and social change. Therefore, mobilizing community capacity to identify and solve problems within themselves and empowering them to be builders and sustainers of their own wellbeing is critical

Building Young People: The future of our country is in the hands of the youth of today. Children and young adults inculcate human values and learn new skills at an amazing rate which builds their personality and their confidence. To thrive, these young adults need to trust in their own capabilities. The second subtheme focal point will be on reinforcement of the basic human values and confidence in the young generation while empowering them to become proactive leaders.

Nurturing Nature: Ecosystem services include the provision of clean water, healthy soils, clean air, and food/fibre/medicines which are all essential requirements for human health, wellbeing, and livelihoods. From ancient times, Nature has nurtured us. But the Earth's ability to replenish its resources has diminished. Time has come that every individual consequently starts living in a way that reduces the pressure on the environment, helps preserve and repair the Earth's resources. The need of the hour is therefore to move from raising awareness to more action oriented institutional framework for taking corrective actions at all levels.

The Preconvention's in the Region were held at different days and locations where the brief on New Themes and Sub themes for 2022-2026 was discussed and deliberated with the regional delegations. It was also followed with regional updates and Workshops on developing action Plan for new Quadrennium.

Pre-Convention Dates & Location

1. Northern Region 13th & 14th August 2022 (New Delhi)
2. Western Region 20th & 21st August 2022 (Virtual Link)
3. Northeast Region 26th August 2022 (Virtual Link)
4. East Region 3rd & 4th September 2022 (Cuttack)
5. South East Region 10th & 11th September 2022 (Secunderabad)
6. Southwest Region 15th & 16th September 2022 (Ernakulam)

Highlights of the National Convention

As has been the practice the Youth Pre-Convention was held a day before the National Convention on the 17th of November 2022 with 60+ young women and men from across the country. The aim was to advocate , amplify and demonstrate the vision of the Youth for a better tomorrow and how the YWCA as partners, allies, volunteers, supporters, leaders would commit for a concrete change.

The National Convention on 18th November 2022 commenced Opening Address was delivered by Dr Shashi Tharoor Member of Parliament and the Public meeting was graced by the Chief Guest Mr Salman Khursid Member of Parliament and Ms Hina Khan Guest of Honour.

At this Convention **Amendments in the National Constitution 2022** were proposed and adopted by the member associations. While amendments in the Local Constitution were not made, the

Constitution review committee proposed one uniform Constitution for all YWCAs across the country. This proposal was tabled and adopted by the membership.

ORGANISATIONAL UPDATE

BREAK UP OF ASSOCIATIONS in year 2022-2023

Total Number of Associations: 81

Affiliated: 71

Accredited: 2

Groups in Formation: 8

01. North		02. West		03. East	
Affiliated	- 4	Affiliated	- 4	Affiliated	- 4
Accredited	- 0	Accredited	-	Accredited	- 1
GiF	- 2	GiF	- 1	GiF	- 4
Total	- 6	Total	- 5	Total	- 9
04. North East		05. South East		06. South West	
Affiliated	- 4	Affiliated	- 17	Affiliated	- 38
Accredited	-1	Accredited	-	Accredited	-
GiF	- 1	GiF	-	GiF	-
Total	- 6	Total	- 17	Total	- 38

The MINA Committee(Membership in National Association) of the YWCA of India-Assessment and Analysis of the work of the Associations

The MINA Committee led by Ms. Kunjamma Mathew, Vice President Head Quarters as Chairperson and comprising of members representing the Regions Ms Meenakshi Faith Paul (North)Ms. Shama Chatterjee(West),Ms. Lena Chand (East), Ms Felicity Saldahna Neomi Nayak (Southeast), Ms Susan Paul & Renu Philip (South West). Based on their suggestions, recommendations for actions pertaining to compliances and standards was communicated to the National Board. The MINA Committee also assessed the performance of the upcoming groups in formation and advised change of status to be brought into effect at the 31st National Convention in November 2022

Associations that had a change of status at the 31st National Convention 2022

Groups in Formation	
YWCA Groups in Formations which were granted recognition	Groups in Formations declared closed
North: Kasganj East : Bhubneshwar Patia, G Udaigiri	North: Mussoorie East : Bhubneshwar Northeast : Jorhat, Dimapur III, Siaha, tezpur Southeast : Mancheria

	Recommendations for change of Status from Vice-Presidents of Associations		
	The MINA Committee on recommendation of the regional vice-president will be tabling the change in status of the following associations at the nation convention 2022		
1	Eastern Region	Chabua	GIF to Accredited
2	North east Region	Lunglei	GIF to Accredited
3	Southeast Region	Kotagiri	Accredited to Affiliated
4	Southwest Region	Palakkad	GIF to Affiliated(was demoted to GIF)
		Angamaly	Accredited to Affiliated

World YWCA and YWCA of India Collaborative effort for change :

Rise Up! Phase IV, initiated by World YWCA has been implemented in phases across countries. YWCA of India has been selected as one of the eight countries where the IVth Phase is being implemented in over three years.

The focus is on building Young Women Leaders keeping in mind the 2030 Goal. YWCA of India have identified 7 Young Women Steering leads representing each region to assist in the Programme building along with Puja and Yashika the Rise Young Women Leads appointed by the World YWCA to lead the implementation.

The 6 locations are:

- 1) Tanda, Himachal
- 2) Ooty, Tamil Nadu
- 3) Kandhamal, Orissa
- 4) Adimali, Kerala
- 5) Chandigarh

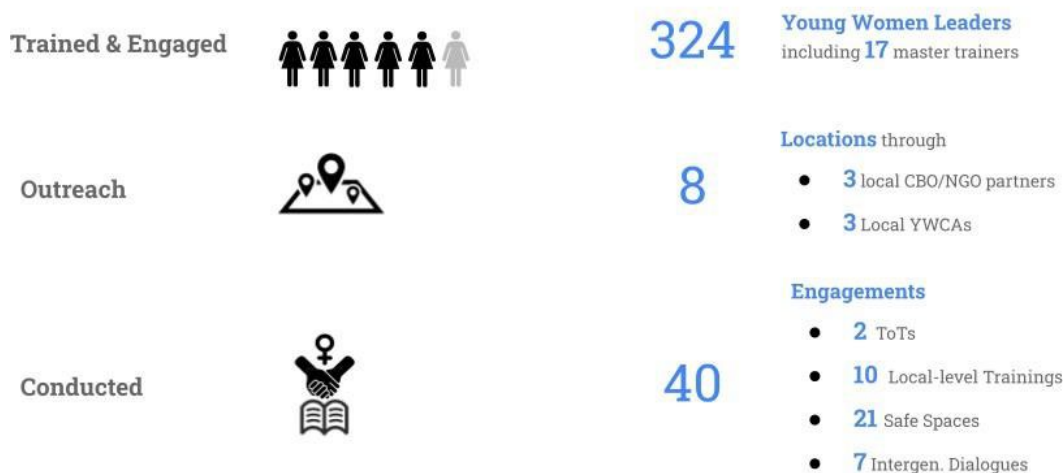
6) Palgarh, Maharashtra

For implementation Year 1, YWCA India had targeted 300 local young women in six (6) locations across India (Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Odisha, Mumbai, West Bengal and Kerala). However, by the end of Year 1, we successfully reached out to **324 young women** including **17 Master Trainers** in **8 locations** through **3 local NGOs** and **3 local YWCAs**. Given all the 6 original locations were extremely remote and travel related challenges were faced, YWCA of India added an additional location in a sub-urban community near Delhi, to ensure the program reaches 300 young women in a truly engaging manner. Our whole approach was led by a steering committee of young women made up of the YWLs and a local leader from each of the locations and supported by YWCA India National support staff.

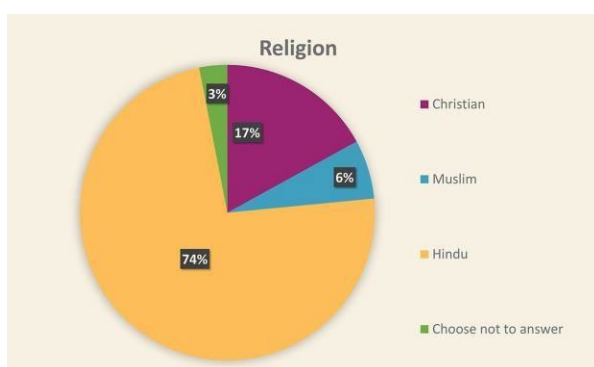
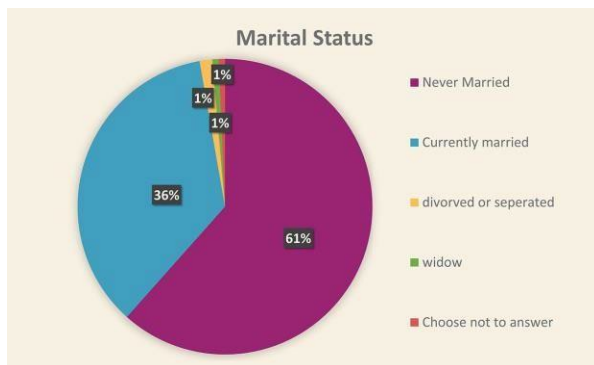
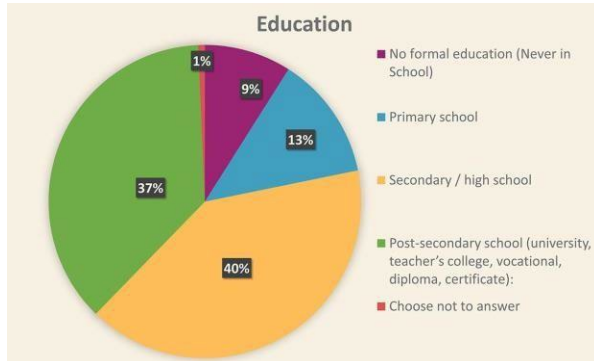
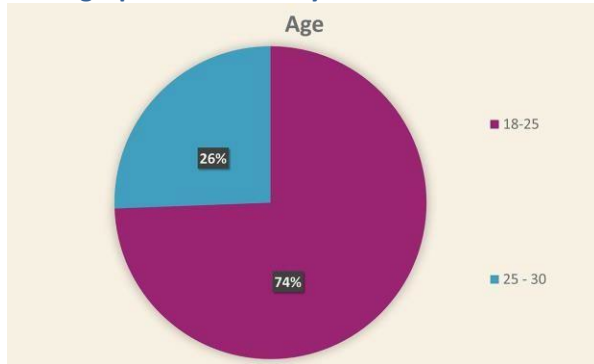
Key highlights:

- 100% of the young women belonged to the target age group of 18-30 years
- Highly diverse cohort in terms of education levels with 9% with no formal education at all, 13% having completed only till primary level, 40% till secondary level while a good 37% pursuing higher education; a good mix of young married women with children (27%) and unmarried young women (61%).
- In India, the implementation was predominantly done in very difficult and hard-to-reach places with 65% of women living in villages and 11% in small towns.
- While predominantly Hindu young women were part of the cohort, 25% belonged to other religious groups such as Christians, Muslims and Sikhs.
- An additional indicator from India relates to the diversity of ethnic groups in RiseUp! Since India has a huge population of Scheduled Castes and Tribes, it was ensured that the program engages with young women from these groups who are truly marginalized and hard-to-reach. Hence, scheduled castes (SC) and scheduled tribes (ST) and other backward classes (OBC) make up almost half of the cohort of young women in year 1. Furthermore, these women represent some of the most marginalized communities and tribes such as Toda, Katkari, Wari, Kokna and Muthuvan to name a few.

Country Factsheet: India



Demographics & Diversity Data





Youth In Action:

YWCA is focused on building a youth-led modern age movement for social, economic, environmental and political justice. Through Y-Deepa's training for Youth, it has tried to utilize this transformative power to have more representation in the Boards and committees of the YWCAs enabling the young to raise their voice for equity, equality and sustainability for all.

Collaboration with Enactus:

Enactus college entrepreneurship is a dynamic and empowering initiative that harnesses the innovative spirit of students to create positive change in their communities and beyond.

Through Enactus, college students develop entrepreneurial skills, collaborate on innovative projects, and leverage their knowledge to address real-world social and environmental challenges.

YWCA of India collaborated with Enactus for the Trilokpuri Project. The students from the YWCA Stitching unit in Trilokpuri helped in sewing sustainable tea bags, showcasing their dedication to both skill development and environmental responsibility. Together with Enactus, the YWCA worked for sowing the seeds of change and fostering a brighter, more sustainable future for the community.

Pipal Chhaya simultaneously worked with IKHTIRAA (Enactus) on developing eco-friendly tea bags. At present, we have completed 300+ orders and 200 orders in process, as well as providing production support after expansion into the retail business.

Working with the deaf young women leadership training:

As a new initiative, YWCA of India conducted Young Women Leadership training for 17 deaf women on September 17th, 2022. By adopting an intersectional approach, YWCA aims to create inclusive and tailored programmes that not only empower these young women but also amplify their voices and experiences.

Internships:

- The YWCA of India signed an MOU with the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun
 - 10 Interns - the Dehradun Project
 - 12 Interns - National Office and
 - 3 - YWCA of Delhi

- TISS Guwahati and from the YWCA of Goa: 4 Interns
- Delhi School of Social Work: 2 Interns

Capacity Building and Trainings

Interlinking YWCA for further Growth and outreach:

Certified TRAINING for PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORK PLACE

The YWCA of India is serving as a NGO Representative on several Complaints Committee for Prevention of Sexual Harassment at the Work place. Information Kits, booklets and posters have been developed on the issue and shared with the YWCAs as well with Corporates, Colleges and Government institutions. In addition to that it is also conducting regular trainings on the subject on invitation

Noting the need to build an understanding of the Sexual harassment Act 2013 and to train women to serve on Complaints Committees as Expert members the YWCA launched a certified Training Course spanning for a period of one month. The certificate Training was led by Ms Kalpana David National General Secretary and assisted by the Ms Dhiya Ann Mathew National Secretary Administration and Programmes and Michelle Mall, Programme Associate. Two training sessions were conducted where a total of sixteen participants from the two cohorts participated. Six of these were YWCA members from the Southwest and West Region attended the session.

Setting up of Legal Aid Clinics

YWCA of India has been actively promoting setting up of legal aid cells with the support of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) By offering legal aid services. Through these free legal aid clinics it intends to concentrate on issues that disproportionately affect women and through legal awareness provide them with a safe and familiar environment to seek assistance. The aim is to bridge the justice gap and make legal services more accessible to marginalized and underserved populations.

Keeping in mind that legal awareness and accessibility contributes to a fairer and more equitable legal system, the YWCA of India in collaboration with NALSA inaugurated two Free Legal aid centres in Delhi, one at the National Office and second centre at Pipal Chhaya Project Trilokpuri.

Two YWCA in Southwest Region, YWCA Alleppey and YWCA Kollam have also started Legal Aid Clinics.

FUND RAISING:

Benevity

Through the online platform of Benevity an amount of Rs.1,19,000/- has been raised for community development projects. This amount will be utilized as seed money for Associations to work on any sustainable projects.

Korea Funds:

Rs. 50,000/- is being allocated for local associations to implement any post Covid measure. Terms of reference along with the call for inviting proposals was sent to the YWCAs but only two proposals were received one from the South west Region and another from Northeast..

Grant from Denmark

A proposal for three grants was submitted to the Friends of YWCA in Denmark through the National President, Dr. Shakuntala David. The grant was graciously accepted by the donors for starting a Pre-school at Trilokpuri Delhi and for the Health Clinic Building construction.

Advocacy and Networking

WOMEN RESERVATION BILL

The YWCA of India has actively participated in the struggle to pass the Women's reservation Bill from its inception as a part of the Seven Sisters women's network and the struggle still continues. It has been over ten years since the bill was drafted and yet, an overwhelmingly male parliament has failed to enact the legislation that aims to boost the number of women in the Lower House.

YWCA had the roundtable discussion to draw up an action plan in February 2023. The meeting was to take forward ideas on how to mobilize collectives, groups, and partners and build on the campaigns and activities to be pursued in the year to give impetus to the movement across the country.

Celebrations

The YWCA India Day:

On February 1st, the foundation day of the YWCA of India was celebrated. As part of the celebration, the Yknots, was launched. The effort is to establish a dynamic platform for the graduates of the YWCA skill development centers to showcase their work and also be a source of livelihood.

Youth engagement and Ydeepa being the focus of the day, Ms.Arati Giridhar, Director of Anon Foundation was invited to share on the ways and means to reach out to children be changemakers. The event was live streamed on Facebook.

Reaching out to communities through CDP

The YWCA of India is running several Community Development programmes within its National Projects with an aim to support and empower communities. The income generated from the National Projects is utilized for these programmes.

- **KHAREBERIA, CALCUTTA**

The Weaving Centre at Khareberia project is an ongoing programme, weaving of handloom cotton fabric continues in its most basic form. The Kharberia project focuses on socio-economic development of the women in the Kharberia community. The weavers are 15 in number as of now. The bed sheets made by the Unit are being sold through involvement of the National Team and also through our Y-Knots Store.

The products are sturdy woven fabric by women artisans of the community. The weavers do require a few more looms.

The primary school in Kharberia has been renovated and has received 64 enrollments. The primary school is also looking into developing soft skills and awareness after school sessions.

The Maternity Clinic has received funding support. To start the programme the YWCA of India has collaborated with 'Doctors for you' to support procurement of equipment and staff. The building renovation plan has been created and a quotation have been invited from the contractors for further renovation.

The Project has been able to develop capacity and collaboration with local community and organisations for field implementation:

- Survey individual & FGDs for Maternity clinic setup (45 participants)
- Support school structure maintenance and enrollment process (64 students enrolled)
- Mobilising group awareness sessions and events in collaboration with youth groups
- Engagement with Govt. School
- RiseUp! conducting Survey, TOT, Workshops with the young women in the community
- Supporting the production unit of the weavers:
 - looking into awareness, physical equipment repair,
 - keeping check on the production of products
 - KHCDS Handloom group in Kenjakura - looking into skills development training and tech support/upgrade for our weaving

- **SPREADACRES, DEHRADUN**

The skill development classes continue to attract young women from middle and lower strata of society as they see it as an opportunity to learn a skill that will allow them to provide for themselves and their families.

An alumni meet was also held where all the students who have completed the course came forward and shared their experiences with the YWCA of India and how these courses have made a difference in their lives.

New computers have also been donated to the computer center and currently there are more than 25 students enrolled for the course.

The staff had organized a Christmas program for senior citizens and a daycare center. At present the team is looking into starting a geriatric programme.

Senior Citizen Program:

The senior citizen program is ongoing and includes awareness sessions, health clinics, connections with organizations such as PREM DHAM, and access to various government schemes and hospitals.

Internship Opportunities:

The organization hosted an internship drive for students from UPES, lasting for a duration of one month.

Vocational Courses:

Three vocational courses are being offered, including computer training, stitching, and beauty courses.

Karate Classes:

The classes started in February 2022 and currently have 20 students enrolled.

PIPAL CHHAYA, TRILOK PURI:

- Vocational training Centre in Trilokpuri, East Delhi has been running with multiple programmes in the past year. The centre has courses on tailoring, beauty culture and mehndi with 50 students. The centre is also ready to explore job-oriented ventures as part of its development, it has multiple beneficiaries starting their own tailoring units or working with textile jobs with the support of Singer.
- As part of Rise Up Phase 4, multiple sessions took place - a safe space cafe with 44 students and Batch 2 with 24 participants.
- The Legal Aid Centre in Trilokpuri has been added as part of holistic awareness for the children and adults in the community. The legal aid centre will also be having awareness sessions with the community and increase engagement through awareness sessions.
- Y-Knots India project, is inspired by the products created at Pipal Chhaya with focus on everyday use, eco friendly and smart design products for all. The initiative has made sales for above 25,000/- in the last 3 months and is looking to develop more collaborations with CDP of other YWCAs across the country.
- As part of collaborative art work, the Project has worked with the MAMTA organisation to develop wall art on physical diseases.

DADU MAJRA, CHANDIGARH:

The YWCA of India Working Women Project is also supporting community Development programmes with the Hostel and in one of the suburbs in Chandigarh. Stitching classes by 'Singer' run at both the hostel and Dadu Majra. The working women's hostel has also now started the stitching classes in collaboration with Singer Company and also running the beauty culture classes. Dadu Majra also caters to these courses and they also initiated a Summer Camp for the community kids this June

1. Stitching Classes : 40 students graduated
2. Beauty Culture Classes : 27 students graduated
3. Tuition Classes for underprivileged students : Ongoing with 12 students
4. RiseUp! Year 1 was also implemented for the students : Total 45 Young Women impacted. Will continue connecting with them in year 2 as well.

Anandagiri Project:

The campus also consists of a free vocational training centre for local individuals for tailoring and stitching. Trainings on SRHR along with distribution of sanitary napkins was conducted for the young women of the Tribal communities. The connection with Shalom has helped YWCA India in creating a rapport with the Toda community and access to other tribal and local communities is being looked into.

To engage with other communities there is a need to make available physical spaces for the other tribes and local communities in the area including make the campus accessible to the communities through training and courses

Reports from National Projects

INTERNATIONAL GUEST HOUSE, DELHI

12 rooms have been upgraded and renovated. The cafeteria for the IGH is leased out to M/S Cusineur Hospitality and the contract has been run through the National Finance Committee and the retainer lawyer.

WOMEN HOSTEL JABALPUR

The hostel was decided to be closed down for renovation. As per the request of the hostelites an extension was given till June 2023 for any further action.

BURNS AND GALWAY HOUSE HOSTEL AND GUEST HOUSE KOLKATA

Major repair works are needed in Burns. The Khareberia Weaving Centre Pond, boundary wall, lake, school have been renovated with the funds received from Friends of Denmark.

YWCA WORKING WOMEN'S HOSTEL, CHANDIGARH

The Hostel has 64 girls in the month of December, therefore with full capacity. The Conference Hall and an adjoining room is being used for Church/Prayer groups- at present we have 8 groups. Although the hostel is running at 100% occupancy, there is a need to expand and meet the increasing expenditure.

Agreement has been signed with KK Management Services to provide security services, housemaids & Gardeners for one-year wef 1st Jan,2023

Mess contract renewed for one-year wef 15th June-22.

SPREADACRES HOME DEHRADUN

The Inauguration of the New Building Block: The new building block was officially opened on February 16th, 2022.

Lease Agreement with Cusineur Hospitality: The building was leased to Cusineur Hospitality for a period of 10 years, starting in March 2022 but due to non-payment of monthly rentals, the contract was terminated. The orchard was leased out for one year.

Construction of Pathway Road: A pathway road has been built to enhance access to the building.

Installation of Entrance Gate: An entrance gate has been installed for added security and convenience.

ANANDAGIRI, OOTY

The Property has been in possession of YWCA of India for 73 years.

The property has a total number of thirty-three rooms including 6 cottages, chapel and a marriage hall and can accommodate 180-200 persons at a time. There is also a restaurant in the main block.

Three leases have been signed for the following:

- Lease Agreement signed with M and N Goodies Pvt Ltd on 9th March, 2021 for running a chocolate museum. Rs. 70,000/- plus taxes p.m. With an increase of 10% lease agreement will be revised to Rs. 77,000/- plus taxes from May 2023.
- The Lease agreement for 9 rooms with Mahindra Holidays closed on 30th September 2022. The decision has been taken due to several maintenance issues and delayed payments on their part.
- Shalom Welfare Society -signed on 25th Sept, 2021. Rs. 20,000/- plus taxes p.m.

WYOMING, COONOR

It is a colonial building and National opened it as a Holiday Home 1969. It has 12 rooms and one restaurant. Renovations are being planned for a few rooms along with the upgradation of the lawns. Restaurant is being opened up to the public.

PINE RETREAT AND FAIRHAVENS

Pine Retreat Mussorie and Fairhavens Nainital are functioning as Leased property under and are being managed by M/s B. L. Kashyap and Chevron Hotel and Resorts respectively.

Our Accolades

- **Delhi School of Social Work- 75 Anniversary Celebration**

Known as one of the Apex Institution of Social work, worldwide, the vision, conceptualization and foundation of this eminent institution was laid by the YWCA of India, Burma and Ceylon (as known at that time) in 1947. The YWCA School of Social Work received five applications from prospective students but when it officially opened its doors on 15th August 1946, only two students – one from Sindh and the other from Bengal joined the course. Equipment for this school was donated by Murree Club Lucknow. The YWCA School of Social work formally moved to Delhi in September 1947 with 27 students. The YWCA of India subsequently sought affiliation of its courses from the University of Delhi and later it handed the School to the University in March 1949. The school became an autonomous post-graduate institution of the Faculty of Social Service of the University of Delhi and the name was changed to Delhi School of Social Work.

Though the YWCA of India continued to be part of the Delhi School of Social work Society as a member it lost touch with the Governing Board in last two quadrennium but was pleasantly surprised to receive an invitation to the 75-anniversary celebration of the school. At this event the YWCA of India National President Dr Shakuntala David, the National General Secretary Ms Kalpana David, Ms Dhiya Ann Mathew National Secretary Programmes was felicitated and the contribution of the YWCA of India in visualizing this Apex Educational Institute was acknowledged and lauded.

- **Felicitations of YWCA India by ANON Foundation on the COVID Crisis Response Initiatives**

Covid-19 has thrown up monumental challenges for India. We are struggling to have a humane approach while we deal with the 'new norm'. The pandemic hit the most vulnerable section in terms of job loss which is leading to increasing poverty, inaccessibility to basic necessities like food, shelter and health.

How it has impacted Women and Children in India: - The increasing loss of livelihoods clubbed with a long period of quarantine has led to increase in domestic violence cases all over India. Work From Home is also causing the more stress on the women as their work has

increased. Children being cooped up in homes with their perpetrators are also a concern for Mental Health. With the timely support of World YWCA we have been able to take off the COVID crisis response Project “Psycho-social and mental health –Outreach to children, youth, and communities with provision of a platform for young women and women to openly address the subject of mental health, especially in the context of COVID-19 causing extraordinary disruption and anxiety in their lives” YWCA of India along with Anon had initiated the Psycho Social, Mental Health workshop for kids and young adults. Through these online workshops we were able covering 18,624 students and teachers and 1425 parents.

Anon Foundation felicitated YWCA India for the initiative.