National Resource Centre for Women National Mission for Empowerment of women Ministry of Women and Child Development Government of India

VATSALYA MELA 2013

Vatsalya Mela, organized by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, every year is a celebration of childhood and womanhood, inviting everyone to foster and engage in all that is nurturing, empowering, enlightening and enabling for the child and the woman to enjoy their rightful place in the family, the workplace and society, free from threat or fear of violence in any form.

Following the spirit of this *Mela*, the National Resource Centre for Women (NRCW), National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) participates in Vatsalya Mela 2013 for the third consecutive year in order to showcase its convergence initiatives, promote activities of its partner organisations including NGOs etc. NRCW takes this opportunity to present a few activities during the *Mela* to draw attention to the themes chosen this year; namely, Ahimsa Messenger and Declining Child Sex Ratio.

This year's edition of the *Vatsalya Mela* is bigger and grander than the previous years as it is being held between 14th to 30th November at two venues, Dilli Haat Pitampura & Dilli Haat, INA, New Delhi. It provides a rich opportunity to get a glimpse of the schemes, policies, programmes, initiatives, projects and activities of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, its partner organizations and other autonomous bodies. It's a blend of ideas, IEC (Information, Education and Communication) activities, cultural programmes, participatory engagements, thematic exhibitions and display of services and products of states, NGOs and partners. Entry fee to visit the *Mela* at both Dilli Haat has been waived by the Government of India to encourage the public. The NMEW stall at the Mela at Nari ki Chaupal is engaged in showcasing the activities of the NMEW, providing information about women's schemes to the public and creating awareness on critical women's issues.

Further, the NRCW has organized various interesting and informative programmes and activities under the '*Nari ki Chaupal*' banner which is a vibrant space outside the NMEW stall. It's a unique GO-NGO convergence model for raising awareness on critical issues related to women. The activities at the *Chaupal* include, screening of films on gender sensitization, adoption, violence against women etc, street plays, puppet shows, thematic song and dance performances by women and girls, legal literacy quizzes along with discussions on various themes such as the declining sex ratio and violence against women etc.

These events and activities are being organized with the support of the NMEW's partner organizations and NGOs like Action Aid India, Centre for Social Research, Aradhya, Sulabh International Social Service Organization, Amba Foundation, Cequin, Azad Foundation, Women Power Connect, SADRAG, Delhi School of Social Work Society, Centre for Advocacy and Research, Action India, READ India, Kalyanam etc. to make Nari Ki Chaupal a grand success.

For a detailed programme schedule Click here

For more details please contact:

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Ilum Sunenge Naari ki Baal