Bal Mela held on Children’s day 2018

Children’s day is celebrated on 14th November across the country. The day emphasises on the importance of providing love, attention and affection to all children. As Pandit Nehru stated, “The children of today will make the India of tomorrow. The way we bring them up will determine the future of the country”. On this day, schools and colleges host cultural programs, functions and events. But children in the rural areas are sadly left behind.

This year, with our program ‘Making It Happen’, we planned to organise the first ever Bal Melas at select Anganwadi Centers across our intervention districts. The objective of the same was to hold participatory and confidence building activities for the enrolled beneficiaries and attract potential, currently unenrolled, beneficiaries. A snapshot of the Bal Mela held at Tonk District, Rajasthan can be found below.

The Mela was organised with nearly 120 children aged 3-6 years of age. It was initiated with prayer offerings by the children, following which anthropometry measurement and health check-up drive was organised in the presence of ANM, frontline workers and an ayurvedic doctor.

After which various age appropriate activities were organised including drawing competition, poem recitation competition, innovative races and throw ball for children as well for the attendees.

The event was enthusiastically attended by Mr. Bhanwar Lal, Sarpanch Jhillai - Gram Panchayat, Ms. Mamta Vijay, Ward member, Ms. Sajio Bano, Ward member, Mr. Mahanant Masih, Manager, World Vision Tonk, Mr. Adison Steveson, PDIC, World Vision Tonk, 18 Anganwadi workers and their helpers and 9 ASHAs. It witnessed active involvement of community members and the parents of attending children.

The Sarpanch expressed his heartfelt gratitude for all the organisers, attendees and participants. He proudly stated how this was the first Bal Mela held in his gram panchayat since gaining independence and he would like to continue the tradition.
Children participating in frog jump race.

Sarpanch, Jhillai, Tonk also trying his hand at throw ball.

Children with their colourful and creative art work made for the drawing competition.

Award ceremony