MARTHA FARRELL FOUNDATION REPORT

September 2015-2016

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**Introduction**

Dr. Martha Farrell, Director at PRIA, was a passionate civil society leader and adult educator, renowned and respected in India and around the world for her work on gender equality and women’s empowerment. She undertook pioneering work on sexual harassment at workplaces in India and also trained thousands of grassroot women leaders for local governance. She was among 14 people killed in a Taliban attack on a guest house in Kabul, Afghanistan on May 13, 2015, where she had gone to conduct a gender training workshop with the Aga Khan Foundation.

The Martha Farrell Foundation (MFF) has been set up to carry forward Martha’s spirit and legacy with the overall goal of achieving gender equality, women’s empowerment and feminism in everyday life, in India and around the world.

**Structure of the Foundation:**

- Incorporated as an independent legal entity under Section 8 of Indian Company Act 2013.

- Founding Governing Board (Martha’s immediate family)—Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Tariqa Farrell Tandon, and Suheil Farrell Tandon.

- Present Governing Board: Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Rita Sarin, Tariqa Farrell Tandon, and Suheil Farrell Tandon.

- Regulatory approvals for receiving donations and grants towards its activities:
  - Registration under Sections 12A Indian Income Tax Act: **Received**
  - Registration under Section 80G of Indian Income Tax Act: **Received**
  - FCRA (Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010): **After 3 years**
Key Areas of Work Supported by the Foundation:

1. Kadam Badhate Chalo
2. Making Workplaces Safe
3. Scholarships, Fellowships & Awards

Cholapur, Uttar Pradesh

Hyderabad, Telangana
Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
1. Kadam Badhate Chalo (KBC): KBC is a youth-led programme to end violence against women. It develops and supports youth leadership among boys and girls, providing them with tools of change which they can use to meet collective goals, and in the process themselves become agents of change.

Highlights:

- 12 different locations in India
- 7 states within the country
- 2000 youth leaders recognised
- 2.5 million population reached out
- 974 youth (471 girls and 503 boys) participated in 12 gender cum sports camps
- 32 major events held so far
2. Making Workplaces Safe (MWS): Create safe places for women everywhere

Making Workplaces Safe (MWS) is a campaign run by the Foundation to help individuals and organizations (including unorganised sectors) to become safe workplaces - by becoming compliant with the law, ensuring the effective functioning of internal complaints committee, and by training young workers to become third party facilitators.

Highlights:

- Organisations/people have stated recognising the Foundation’s work and are approaching us to conduct trainings in their organisations.
- Trainings, orientations, addressals, roundtables and open forums have been held with a wide range of institutions/individuals - from state governments to army to schools, colleges, trade unions, the Women’s Associations, Rotary Club
- About 1400 people have been trained/oriented so far
- Sikkim Government signed an MOU with the Foundation to make the state 100% compliant as per the SHWW (PPR) Act, 2013.
- 37 third party facilitators trained and prepared so far
- 17 major events have been conducted so far

Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh

Gangtok, Sikkim

NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh

Lalitpur, Uttar Pradesh
3. Scholarships, Fellowships & Awards: The Foundation gives scholarships, fellowships and awards to develop new knowledge and the professional practice of promoting gender equality, leadership of women and prevention of sexual harassment at the workplace. It has tied up with national and international sponsors/partners to offer scholarships, fellowships and awards to deserving applicants, working in the field of gender mainstreaming, within India and globally.

- **MFF Scholarships with the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI):** In collaboration with the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI), the Foundation offers two annual scholarships for MSW students in India to support field research in Prevention of Sexual Harassment at the Workplace (PSHW). The first scholarships were awarded to Akhila Betsy George and Navprabhat Singh in October 2015 at the Annual Indian Social Work Congress of NAPSWI in Ladnun, Rajasthan by well-known social activist, Aruna Roy.

  ![Akhila Betsy George and Navprabhat Singh receiving their scholarships, Ladnun, Rajasthan](image)

- **Martha Farrell Memorial Fellowship in collaboration with The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU):** The Foundation offers fellowship to a staff member from an ACU member university in Asia to enable them to institute an effective anti-sexual harassment initiative at their home university. The fellowship has been awarded to Associate Professor Mojibur Rahman of University of Dhaka.

- **Dr. Martha Farrell International Scholarship for Global Leaders with Royal Roads University (RRU):** In honour of Dr. Martha Farrell, who taught in their Master of Arts in Global Leadership Program (MAGL), Royal Roads University, Canada has launched two annual Dr. Martha Farrell International Scholarship for Global Leaders to support students who have demonstrated global leadership through outstanding contribution to their communities, and who are committed to making a further contribution but would be unable to participate in the MAGL program without significant financial assistance.

- **Martha Farrell Awards for Excellence in Women’s Empowerment with Rizwan Adatia Foundation (RAF) and PRIA:** Two awards have been set up jointly by the Rizwan Adatia Foundation (RAF) and the Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), to be given to an individual and an organisation in India in recognition of their contributions towards commitment, leadership and innovation in gender equality and women’s empowerment in India. These will be declared in April 2017.
Social Media

- In less than a year, the Foundation’s Website has reached 12,000 unique visitors, mostly from India and the US.

- Martha Farrell Foundation has active Facebook and Twitter pages

- The Foundation reaches out to over 3,500 people on Facebook every month and Tweets have earned 8.7K impressions over the past month.
A Glimpse of Martha Farrell Foundation’s Journey 2015-2016...

1. **MFF Office:** The MFF Office was inaugurated and formal functioning of the office was announced on 7th January, 2016.

2. **MFF Registration:** The Foundation has received Certificate of Incorporation from Ministry of Corporate Affairs under Section 7 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 8 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014 on 4 February, 2016.

3. **MFF Bank Account:** A separate bank account has been opened for MFF, operational with AXIS Bank Limited.

4. **Regulatory:** We have received Permanent Account Number (PAN) from the Income Tax Department as well as 12A and 80G registrations.

5. **MFF website:** [www.marthafarrellfoundation.org](http://www.marthafarrellfoundation.org) was launched in November 2015.

6. **MFF Donations:** iPartner, a UK charity, is supporting a fund-raising campaign of MFF for the donations from outside India. The donations can be made through 2 different mechanisms, JustGiving and National Philanthropic Trust (NPT).
7. **MFF Donations: CAF Canada** is also now supporting MFF’s fund raising initiatives for donations from outside India.

8. **MFF Canada** has been set up for ease of donations coming from Canada.

9. **Rizwan Adatia Foundation (RAF)** has entered into a three-year agreement with MFF, sponsoring along with PRIA, the RAF-PRIA **Martha Farrell Awards for Excellence in Women’s Empowerment**.

10. The **Rockefeller Foundation** has been supporting MFF’s KBC initiatives in seven states in India.

11. Many **individual well-wishers and donors** continue to support MFF’s initiatives through their own contributions.

12. **MOU with Government of Sikkim**: The Government of Sikkim signed an MOU with MFF to support the State Government in achieving 100% compliance of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013.

13. **MOU with Rajasthan University Women’s Association (RUWA)**: RUWA has signed an MOU between MFF, PRIA and RUWA to foster an institutional partnership initiative on reducing violence against women and girls through KBC. The essence of this MOU is to establish a mechanism, through mutual cooperation, to implement various activities - programmatic as well as campaigns.