



CENTRE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

June 29, 2010

Kind Attention Chief Editor Press Release

Centre for Civil Society under its '**Jeevika: Law, Liberty & Livelihood Campaign**' formed a Human Chain urging the government to protect the honest livelihood of poor working in informal sector in partnership with *Great India Dream Foundation, Pravah Jaipur Initiative, AIESEC, Rajasthan Abhyudaya Sanstha, National Association of Street Vendors of India and Jaipur Mahanagar Thdai Thela Footpath Vyawasayi Union*, at Jal Mahal at 6 PM. Active Citizens of Jaipur and Youth Students of Different colleges also joined the Human Chain.

Mr. Amit Chandra, the Campaign Coordinator of *Centre for Civil Society* said, "The participation of citizen and youth is very crucial for bringing any kind of social change. We wanted to bring the common citizen out to stand for the livelihood and create a positive environment to enable government to reform the informal sector. Policy reform would ensure protection of livelihood and financial as well as welfare services to the poor working in informal sector such as *street vendors, food dhabas, barbans, cycle rickshaw pullers* to name a few. The message that we want to pass on to government, media and people is that the street vendors have traditionally been part of social and cultural India and we need to protect this tradition similarly as we have preserved our heritages such as Jal Mahal"

Mr. Ghanshyam Kotwani, Executive Member of *National Alliance of Street Vendors of India* said, "Street Vendors have to face natural hardships such as rain, sun and cold but they brave it because they have no other alternatives but what really creates problem is the continuous threat and torture of authorities. The stigma attached to us as traffic hazard is also not right. We should be seen as service providers and the one who brings colour, convenience and taste to the life of festival city, Jaipur."

Mr. Babulal Ramchandani, representative of *Jaipur Mahanagar Thdai Thela Footpath Vyawasayi Union* at the gathering said, "The Rajasthan Government had introduced a policy for welfare and rehabilitation of street vendors named *Pheriwalon Ka Sansar* in 2007 which is in effect till date but the Jaipur Municipal Corporation hasn't implemented this policy. Once the policy is implemented there wouldn't be a problem of vending and hawking in the city."

A street play was also done at the beginning of the program showing the hardships of the life of a street vendor. It brought lot of tourists also to come forward and share their view about the issue after which the gathering of around 200 people formed human chain in different shapes and sizes in a very creative and attractive way.

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The event was coordinated by Ms. Meenu Nagpal and thank you note was given by Mr. Nitin Dixit at the end.

For more details please contact:

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