

Support the Dalits of Punjab by donating to this vital health project.

India is the world's fastest growing major economy. While part of India's population participates in the growing economic prosperity, another part does not. India is a country of inequalities. One look at the healthcare system is sufficient. On the one hand, there are cities with 5-star hospitals and then again there are rural areas where state healthcare facilities are barely accessible. The Dalits suffer especially from this disparity. The Church of North India (CNI) has therefore launched a project to provide Dalits in the state of Punjab with access to basic healthcare.

The state of Punjab is situated in the north west of India. The number of HIV/AIDS cases in this region rose sharply in 2021-22. Tuberculosis, drug addiction and alcoholism are also widespread. The healthcare system fails to provide its services throughout the region. The CNI is therefore setting up a healthcare network in villages in the region bordering Pakistan.

The church is organising community events to inform children,

young adults and adults about diseases such as AIDS and tuberculosis, thus ensuring greater awareness among the population. Medical camps offer regular preventive screenings. A mobile outreach service encourages people to take up the offer and provides full palliative care.

CNI empowers Dalits and promotes social inclusion

The church sets up contacts with educational institutions and state organisations. In addition, they are organising self-help groups. This is creating a network of both salaried and voluntary workers. During project implementation, the CNI takes into account the different needs of men and women and involves the afflicted in the project at all levels of planning and implementation.

The villages near the Pakistani border are mainly home to Dalits who belong to the lowest social caste. Many of them are illiterate and many have no access to government services. With this project, the Church of North India intends to reduce social inequalities and promote social inclusion and justice. The Church of North India has long been committed to empowering Dalits. It is involved in combating human rights violations and in performing social and educational work.

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