

Annual Report 2022-23

EDUCATION | HEALTH | COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**WE RISE BY
LIFTING OTHERS.**
- Robert. G. Ingersoll

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Message from our Chairperson	2	Concern India Foundation
3	Numbers that matter	4	Programmatic pillars Education Health Community work
5	Thank you to our partners	6	Financials



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON



Ms. Naheed H. Sorabjee
Chairperson & Managing Trustee

Dear All,

As Concern India Foundation stepped out of the post covid uncertainties that posed challenges at every step, I would like to congratulate the commendable efforts made during this year, as a result of the unstinting efforts of all the teams.

We have addressed the issue of climate change by working in watershed restoration, beekeeping, solar energy panels and mangroves. This is key to sustain the future of our children and families. Recognising this as the need of the hour, we are strengthening and aligning our work with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Our work this year included raising awareness about the importance of mangroves for a community's well being, promoting sustainable practices and enhancing the resilience of these ecosystems. We provided training and created alternative livelihood opportunities.

Last year saw the roll out of path-breaking work in Telangana with renovation of schools and Anganwadis. Need-based initiatives were customised for each village and included supplementary nutrition, health check-ups and upgrading of PHCs. Literacy rate for marginalised groups and school dropout numbers were addressed to improve secondary school enrolments.

I am certain the coming year will see our work impact additional vulnerable communities and help us achieve our mission.

CONCERN INDIA FOUNDATION

Our work over the last 30+ years has been focused on 'Helping people help themselves', in essence, empowering vulnerable individuals and communities to make themselves self-sufficient and self-sustainable, by transforming their lives, harnessing the tools of education, health and community development.

Through direct intervention and grassroots partner organizations, we reach and positively impact the lives of people across 16 states in India.



IMPACT AT A GLANCE



children, youth,
women, farmers,
weavers and
vulnerable
populations across
rural and urban India

5.29 lakh



mangroves nursery
established

2.2 lakh



benefited from
watershed
development
projects

4000



educational
scholarships
supported

675



community
members reached
across 124 villages
& 39 slum pockets

4.89 lakh



children
provided
access to
education
and school
equipment

24000



special needs
children, youth,
adults and elderly
reached

1631



self-help
groups
trained as
entrepreneurs

423



lives impacted
through health
equipment,
infrastructure and
programs

3.7 lakh



Youth provided
access to
education and
e-learning

5063



women and men
connected with
livelihood
opportunities

5164



mangrove saplings
planted

2.9 lakh

CONCERN INDIA FOUNDATION X SDGs





PROGRAMME NARRATIVES

Our programmatic work is focused on areas of greatest needs, in ways in which we can do the most good and reach the most vulnerable communities.

From education to health, to community development, our areas of focus offer the opportunity to dramatically improve the quality of life for lakhs of people. We forge partnerships that bring together resources, expertise, and vision—working alongside communities to identify issues, find answers and drive change for themselves.

Turn the page to get a snapshot of our work in 2022-2023.



EDUCATION

What transpires when children receive an education. Families, communities, and nations advance. Guided by the principle that every child deserves the opportunity to learn, our educational endeavours focus on the last mile gap to access education, target deficiencies in the system, and ensure children acquire knowledge, and are prepared for the future. We collaborate closely with children from families of daily wage earners, construction workers, orphans, abandoned children, and those with disabilities. Our diverse projects ensure inclusivity, leaving no child behind. From support to education and skill development to providing learning resources, refurbishing schools, offering scholarships with a gender focus and for higher education, facilitating experiential learning through STEM projects, enhancing the knowledge and capacity of teachers, and ensuring access to education for differently-abled children—our array of educational initiatives has brought about significant transformations in the lives of countless children.

BRIDGING THE EDUCATION DIVIDE THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

Kanika was out of school because her parents could afford to pay school fees only for her brother, Karan studied only till the 10th grade because his higher education meant he couldn't work and contribute to his home, Tara dreamt of being a scientist and needed support to study her vocation, Ravi had worked really hard for his entrance exams and secured a seat at a top school for his MBBS but didn't know if he would actually go through with it, Pratham lost his parents during COVID19 and also lost any hope of going back to school, Arhaan always held himself back because of his impaired vision but wished he could go to the same school as his best friend.

The lives of children from vulnerable families and communities are typified by limited opportunities and therefore limited access to education. Our scholarships programme ensures we reach those children who need a push to receive the education they need and want to be able to build a future for themselves.

Scholarships for girls

Our goal behind scholarships is to advance gender equality through girls' education. Often no education or dropping out of school early on, holds girls back from tapping their potential, participating in public and private life, having agency and being empowered contributing members of society in their adulthood. With a focus on Girls in STEM, 227 girls were provided scholarships.



Professional courses for youth

Children and youth from low-income communities often find themselves at a crossroads on completing their secondary education. They are readied to join the workforce without adequate skills and specialisations needed to ensure stability in the workforce. We encourage students to enrol for professional courses that are needed to make them job and market ready. 325 youths were provided scholarships to complete their higher education and professional courses in B. Tech, M.B.B.S., B.S.C. Nursing, B.M.S, C.A, M.B.A., etc. from reputed colleges in Delhi, Pune, Bangalore, Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

STRENGTHENING SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE, SECURING IN-SCHOOL STUDENTS

A facelift of Anganwadi Centres and schools to promote

Early Childhood development and quality education in our commitment to advancing early childhood education and maternal health services, we revitalized nine Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), fundamental hubs for both aspects. Dilapidated conditions were revamped into child-friendly spaces, with toilets, water, storage space, play space etc.; fostering increased attendance among children and expectant mothers. Dedicated areas for pregnant mothers significantly improved accessibility, underscoring our commitment to bolstering community infrastructure for superior education and healthcare.

Annually, more than 300 children aged 0-6 and over 250 expectant mothers benefit from quality, accessible spaces. Renovating Anganwadi Centres is not just about refurbishing physical spaces; its about creating an ecosystem that nurtures the holistic development of children and provides essential care and support for pregnant mothers, positively influencing their well-being and future prospects.





AFTER



BEFORE

Strengthening Educational institutions

Based on an in-depth need assessment in collaboration with the District Education Department across Navi Mumbai, Nashik (Maharashtra), and Rangareddy (Telangana) we learnt of basic lack of facilities and poor maintenance of water, sanitation, and safety and no access to proper seating, storage, lighting, blackboards, and playground. The need to repair and renovate these facilities was directly correlated to ensuring children were coming to school. Well maintained and properly functioning schools also acted as motivators to parents to send their children. A boost of school infrastructure like toilets, water supply, electricity across primary and high schools has ensured girls don't drop out at the time of their menstrual cycle, children remain in school through their formative years, teachers are able to work in a more conducive environment and every child is happier to come to school. Our initiatives to uplift five primary schools and four high schools have assured quality education for 4000 students annually, securing their access to improved schooling



AFTER

Inclusive Support: Children, Youth, and Adults with Disabilities

Concern India Foundation has long championed access and empowerment for individuals with disabilities. In the reporting year we empowered 600 students across Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kolkata, and Mumbai. The support included essential resources like staff funding, specialized therapies and aids. We provided 18 hearing-impaired children from marginalized communities, who had severe hearing loss, with high-quality hearing aids and speech therapy. Moreover, timely identification and intervention led to two children undergoing successful cochlear implant surgeries, and three children were successfully integrated into mainstream schools.

Concern supported 12 youths with disabilities in completing their higher education, by awarding them scholarships to attain their pursuits. Apart from fees, we provided assistive technologies, laptops, hostel fees and tutorials.

Additionally, our initiative to solar-electrify a blind school in Mumbai addresses critical challenges faced by disability education systems, ensuring sustainable energy access. Solar panels of 37.37 KW were installed along with the required civil work. In a year approximately 43 tonnes of CO2 emissions are offset which will be around 1075 tonnes in 25 years.



A holistic education with skills development

Getting students ready for meaningful sustainable careers mandates going beyond school curriculum and teaching a range of skills to children early on. This year we piloted the 'Skills Development in Schools' programme across 5 states (Delhi, Pune, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Kolkata), in 15 schools with students from Classes 6 - 10 with the aim to metabolise and supplement the education of children. The skills selected included Suraksha and WASH, Cyber security, Financial Literacy, Career Counseling Spoken English and Sports reaching 8045 students.



Every Story Matters

“During an excruciatingly difficult time, this scholarship gave me the hope for my future. My father died during COVID, leaving us devastated and distraught. I had always scored well in school and dreamt of becoming a doctor. My father, despite meagre means, always supported my education and had just paid 1 lakh for my coaching fees at NEET. As a Government school teacher, I was unable to pay my own fees and my mother now only had my father’s pension to run our home. I cleared my NEET and got admission for my MBBS at the Adichunchanagiri Institute of Medical Science in Bangalore... but how would I pay the 1.72 lakh fees? With the support of the Concern scholarship I am now in the 2nd year of my MBBS.”

- Divyashree
Youth Scholarship, Bangalore

“The STEM lab will not only make a difference to the students, but the teachers too. Practical experiments, access to science models, hands-on learning is all key to learning STEM concepts the way they need to be learned! The labs will give teachers the tools they need to teach and students the tools they need to be creative and curious. I cannot wait for the children to come back from their summer break and start learning at this lab. My students finally have the same access as other children across the country!”

- Mrs. Hemlata
Bhumkar, Principal, Hujurpaga
School, Pune

Having migrated with her family from Bihar to Ejiipura 5 years ago, Shrimati remained out of school due to her parents’ meagre income through daily wage work, her poor literacy levels, and their limited knowledge on the importance of educating their child.

During her work as house help, her mother chanced upon our partner organization, that admitted her to Bridge School. After school support and a scholarship ensured Shrimathi joined Modern School in Grade 4. Shrimathi was a topper in Grade 9 and is trying to master her mother tongue – Kannada. She shows promise of a bright future and wants to study to become a Doctor and serve her community some day.

- Shrimathi Jonko
Class 10, After school support,
Ejiipura



Never accepting defeat, meet Ganga, the girl who challenged her abilities to become Captain of the Maharashtra Women's Cricket Team for the Blind and member of Indian team

Ganga took to cricket like a fish takes to water. Her love, passion and commitment to cricket found her a spot in the Maharashtra Cricket team in Grade 12.

Ganga was always special. Unlike her sisters who dropped out of school in Grade 5 and 7, married early, and her brother who studied until Grade 8, she remained determined to complete her higher education no matter the odds.

Our scholarship ensured her family didn't have to choose between her and her brother's education. A laptop helped her balance her education and sports career. She could catch up on classes she missed despite her rigorous cricket schedule, and she could do it in the comfort of her hostel with her headphones.

Ganga, once skeptical of how she would use a laptop, was now confident with it and of a job in her future.

Since 2017, Ganga has been at the helm of Maharashtra Women's Cricket Team for the visually impaired as their Captain. In 2023, she stepped up and joined the Indian Women's Cricket Team for the visually impaired.

Against all odds, she moved to Mumbai to pursue her higher education and is currently in the final year of her MA.

Ganga's dreams don't end here. She looks into the future and dreams of securing a B.Ed for the visually impaired so that she can become a teacher for the visually impaired. She is determined to encourage families to send their visually impaired children, especially girls, to special schools with the support of scholarships for those who cannot afford it.

She wants to set an example for every visually impaired girl who believes she cannot do it... because she knows they can!



HEALTH

We resonate with the belief that 'Health for all' opens doors to education, economic opportunity and the strength and vitality of individuals and communities. Often, the most vulnerable sections of society have little or no access to basic healthcare. Keeping in mind every person's right to quality healthcare, we work to make it accessible to the last mile, so that communities can thrive.

To overcome the rural-urban development divide that significantly contributes to the health inequity amongst different communities, we work to improve access through up-to-date medical infrastructure, provide infrastructure support at the sub-centre and primary healthcare level, encourage prevention and early detection of health issues like maternal and child health & non-communicable diseases, through medical camps and carry out regular awareness programmes for adolescents on reproductive health and hygiene.

TAKING HEALTH TO EVERY VILLAGE

Ramesh experienced frequent headaches, not knowing that he was highly diabetic, Lata complained of never recovering from Covid as she had developed chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) after, Sunita dropped out of school in the 8th grade because she got her period and felt embarrassed of staining her uniform, Vanita suffered severe malnutrition during her pregnancy and didn't have a clue that it could affect her child, Kadar waited in long lines at the sub-centre, but no electricity meant he couldn't get his eyes checked.

Healthy individuals make healthy communities and nations and therefore our work begins at the village level. The health needs of children, adolescents, adults and the elderly are considered as we strengthen access, systems and service delivery for every person, with the aim to build healthier families and communities.

Mobilizing community health through awareness

As a culmination of a collaboration between local health institutions, governing bodies, and the community, in 2021, we piloted a health programme across the states of Karnataka & Telangana, reaching 5 villages and 2 urban slums in Mandya district of Karnataka and 5 villages and 2 hamlets in Shabad block of Rangareddy district, Telangana. Aligned with SDG 3, our interventions were focused on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD), and maternal and child health. We carried out 40 Health Camps to create awareness on NCDs to encourage early detection and prevention. We reached a total of 5445 families across both states, including children, pregnant women, young mothers and community members.



Prioritizing health, increased referrals, and linkages

Awareness through Health camps across villages and hamlets began gaining steam, equipping community members with knowledge of their health and the need to prioritize it. Our partnership and linkages with the District Health Office of Mandya and Rangareddy district through local Primary Health Centers, and private partnership with Spandana hospital, Bhaskar Hospital and Dr. Patnam Institute of Medical Sciences meant that for the first time, they had options to avail services they needed for their unique health needs, and support for health intervention. More referrals meant that more people were acting for their health and learning about how to keep themselves healthy.

MAKING HEALTHCARE WORK THROUGH STRENGTHENED INFRASTRUCTURE

Access to quality healthcare services across the rural and urban landscape is largely linked to the available healthcare infrastructure – be it schemes, services, medicines, testing, equipment, hospitals, amongst others. Unless the healthcare ecosystem is robust and ready, families and communities remain bereft of their most basic right to healthy lives. During our community development work, the looming gaps in the rural-urban health infrastructure posed a serious concern for the community members, that initiated our efforts towards addressing the shortcomings.



Improved Service Delivery through Sub-Centres & primary Health Centres

In close collaboration with the local Government Health Department, District Administration and community members we identified the dire need for a good healthcare facility through a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA). Across 3 states, namely, Telangana, Karnataka and Maharashtra we refurbished and strengthened 3 Sub-Centers, 4 Primary Health Centers and one 1 Rural Hospital, making healthcare accessible to 3 lakh people.

With repair and painting, electricity back up, drinking water facilities, walking ramp, toilet renovation, new furniture, medical equipment, consumables etc., service delivery was enhanced for every member of the community, motivating healthcare professionals too.

Enabling adolescents, through the 'Suraksha' initiative

Often the life of adolescents are typified with questions, confusions and the dilemma of a time of transition. Cultural barriers, gender inequality, social norms, taboos amongst others prevent them from thriving and living to their full potential. Driven by the goal to empower individuals to help themselves, we work with adolescents through our 'Suraksha' initiative to address their concerns and provide solutions for them to be in charge of their lives.

From personal safety, sexual abuse, reproductive and menstrual health, Water, Sanitation and hygiene (WASH), good and bad touch, we deliver interactive awareness sessions for different age groups through school and community collaborations, imparting knowledge, tools and life skills to be able to navigate these issues. **We reached out to 12,000 children, adolescents and youth across Bangalore, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, and Pune and distributed 1,300 Suraksha kits to motivate better health and hygiene.**



Every Story Matters

“Often basic medicines, testing products and equipment are scarce at our Public Health Centre (PHC) and we run short when patients are in need. This means they don’t get treatment or services in a timely manner. A 17-year-old boy came to us with Hemoglobin as low as 4, and no symptoms, proving to be critical. The test strips to immediately measure his hemoglobin proved to be life saving for him. Had he visited the neighbourhood hospital he might not have got the strips. Thank you Concern for keeping our health facility well equipped and prepared to cater to the needs of the community, delivery quality healthcare to all those who need it.”

- Dr. Koli

Medical Officer, Public Health Centre, Kaluste, Maharashtra

“I always had questions about body changes, but I didn’t know who or how to ask them. The sessions on Suraksha and WASH opened a safe space for us to learn and ask questions and cleared a lot of doubts that my friends and I had.”

- Neha

Student, 7th grade, ZPHS Hyathnagar, Hyderabad

“Adolescents have issues unique to their age group that need to be addressed keeping current realities in mind. We’ve always known what we need to touch up, but our partnership with Concern India Foundation lent a definitive framework and outcome to every session we decided to explore. Personal health and hygiene, financial literacy, counseling life skills amongst others were of particular interest to adolescents navigating a transitory time in their lives. Students benefited hugely from these interactions.”

- Mr. Kaustav Mitra

Assistant Headmaster, Jadavpur N. K. Pal Adarsha Shikshyatan, Kolkata

I was born and raised in Mandya, Karnataka. My hearing difficulties often isolated me from socialization and other activities. As luck had it, I chanced upon Concern India Foundation who gave me a hearing aid. My life changed forever... it opened up a new world of sound and possibilities. Being able to hear gave me confidence I never had before. No longer struggling in silence, I excelled in my studies, completed my SSLC with pride, and even pursued a diploma program at JSS College.

I was fortunate to have the big supporters in my family, who became advocates for hearing and health awareness in my community. Making healthcare accessible has the power to change lives – I am a testament to that!

- Gowthami Krishnachari

Hearing Impaired, Mandya, Karnataka



Breaking the silence – How Hamdan transitioned from a hearing impairment to speaking his first words

As any parents would react, Hamdan's parents were devastated on understanding that their 8-month-old son had a hearing impairment. They immediately sought advice at Wadia Hospital in Mumbai that confirmed the diagnosis. He was referred to our partner organization for a thorough investigation and treatment. Here, Hamdan was given just what he needed - high-quality hearing aids and speech therapy, both of which were extremely vital. For an infant, these interventions played a significant role in his cognitive and social development too.

The team's efforts didn't end there. With much thought and discussion on how he could progress further, Hamdan's therapist recommended Cochlear Implant (CI). After passing all physical evaluations, Hamdan underwent the CI procedure at Nair Hospital in Mumbai, with a successful implantation. After 30 days of recovery from surgery, he was referred back to the continued therapy.

Hamdan has made remarkable strides. He can now vocalize individual words and understand and use two-word phrases. His parents are overjoyed with his progress and grateful for the support provided to their child, assured that he will be integrated into society and live a normal life.

★ **3,75,868 people reached**
through multiple health interventions

★ **3 Primary Health Care Centres &
3 Health Care Centers**
repaired, renovated, refurbished, and supported with solar electrification

★ **1 ambulance & medical equipment**
donated to rural hospitals in Maharashtra

★ **12,000 youth and adolescents**
reached through project Suraksha



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

In every community, there is work to be done. Held back by poverty, inequality, lack of opportunities, and a host of other factors, a core aspect of our work is focused on involving communities in their own progress. Spread across both rural and urban communities in India, we believe sustainable development of our country is possible when communities are empowered and self-sustaining.

From food security, water revival and watershed management, mangrove restoration, solar energy, integrated village development, skill-based training, and livelihood opportunities for women and men in urban and rural areas, initiation of self-help groups and women empowerment we work to engage and empower every member of the community, to build their own lives and successes.

FOOD SECURITY, THE FIRST STEP TO EMPOWERMENT

Given the vulnerability of urban and rural communities, food security became a significant challenge for families relying on daily wage labor. To address this issue, Concern India Foundation initiated several initiatives, including ration distribution, support for mid-day meals, and promotion of kitchen gardens. These efforts enabled Concern to provide sustained support to children in schools and families in communities.

Mid-day Meals

Concern supported the provision of mid-day meals for 250 children in the slums of Delhi. This initiative not only ensured regular attendance in schools but also contributed to the overall well-being and development of the children.

Ration Distribution

Basic grocery items like dal, rice, flour, oil, spices, sugar, and salt were provided to 100 vulnerable families, including single women, widows, daily wage earners, differently-abled individuals, and the elderly. This support ensured that these families could have two square meals a day and reduced their dependence on daily wage earners.



Kitchen Gardens

A total of 1,550 kitchen gardens were established, benefiting 325 families in Karnataka, 725 families in Telangana, and 500 families in Odisha. The kitchen gardens not only helped families save money on vegetable purchases but also improved their access to nutritious food and enhanced their awareness of utilizing backyard spaces effectively.

SELF-SUSTAINABLE AND CLIMATE-SMART COMMUNITIES

The growing need of the hour has been to build smart communities and cities that are climate resilient and contribute to building a safe environment. Rural communities have been largely dependent on intervention from the outside despite having faced the brunt of climate change. Our efforts were geared towards climate sustainable solutions for communities to mitigate the impact of the ever changing climate.

Watershed Management for future generations

Through the Integrated Watershed Development Program (IWDP) initiative rolled out across 3 drought prone villages in Marathwada, Maharashtra, in collaboration with the local government and community members, we undertook the task of acute water scarcity and its impact on agricultural productivity. Nala deepening-widening, repair and renovation of water structures, construction of percolation tanks, and the distribution of sprinklers to farmers were some of the measures we took that yielded in a significant increase in the water holding capacity and improved agricultural practices in the villages, impacting 4000 people across these communities.



Climate mitigation through Mangrove restoration

Mangrove restoration came with multi-pronged outcomes - Protecting the climate ecosystem and creating livelihood opportunities for community members. In partnership with local communities, government agencies, and stakeholders, we worked to raise awareness about the significance of mangroves, promote sustainable practices, and enhance the resilience of these ecosystems. 6 lakh mangrove species were planted, restoring 350 degraded mangroves. 250 women, 125 landless farmers and 2000 community members now had livelihood opportunities linked to mangrove restoration, supplementing the income of 1000's of families.



Powering schools with renewable energy and solar electrification

Solar lights were installed in schools and Public Health Centers where infrastructure renovation and refurbishment were being carried out. In Mumbai, we implemented the largest solar electrification project to encourage the use of renewable energy.

Women at work through Self Help Groups

To address the needs of women, create working opportunities for them and make them financially independent and contributing members of society, we matched local needs to women's needs fulfilled through Self-Help Groups and other initiatives.

Uplifting the weaver community, one skill at a time

With the goal to restore, revive and reinvent Indian textiles, we have worked with the Weaver community by providing them training for upskilling, need-based technical support, quality control and branding, connections and linkages to retail markets and exhibitions to be able to sustain their livelihoods, impacting the lives of 210 weaver families in Chirala, Andhra Pradesh



Promoting livelihoods, pushing women to the fore

Through skill based, entrepreneurial and agri-related livelihoods, women were encouraged to participate in their own lives and earn a living. This included supporting women farmers in cultivation, providing infrastructure support, solar-powered cold storage, and training on agricultural techniques empowering them to become self-reliant and self-sufficient.

Every Story Matters

“My family has been struggling to meet day-to-day expenses and even used the Public Distribution System (PDS) to buy rice at a subsidized rate to have regular meals each month. I had to take a loan from money lenders to manage home expenses...but life changed when the Farmer’s Group for women was initiated. I began to make enough money to support my family, my children’s education and even repay my loan. I plan to work towards paying for my children’s higher education – a dream I can now see because of the support I received!”

- Vinodini

Member, Women’s Farmer Group,
L. Endathur village, Tamil Nadu

“I belong to a traditional weaving family in Amodagiripatanam village, Vetapalem Mandal. My disability makes it difficult for me to take on many jobs. My family income was only INR 7000, making it difficult to make ends meet. With support in setting up a loom at our home and providing raw material, I am now able to earn enough to support my family.”

- Sajja Naga Lakshmi

Weaver, Andhra Pradesh

“I belong to a conservative family...my husband and mother in law were never encouraging of me working or drawing an income to support the family. I wasn’t even allowed to sign up for any courses or do any training to learn new skills. But counseling sessions over 5 months by a community worker finally changed my husband’s mind and he allowed me to enroll for a cake making course. I immediately made a Whatsapp group and I started getting multiple orders, earning INR 2000-3000 monthly. I then felt motivated to join the tailoring course organized by Concern, and I started stitching cloth bags and masks. This gave me an additional income of INR 1000, and my husband changed his outlook entirely. I finally undertook the Entrepreneur training programme and together with my husband set up a fish stall, fetching us INR 15,000 monthly. I am now determined to start my own catering business with the help of my Self Help Group. I am hopeful of setting up catering services within the office premises of the Ghansoli ward office. Today, I multi-task manage multiple businesses, earn INR 18-20,000 a month and I am financially independent and confident!”

- Yogita Suresh Patil

Entrepreneur, Talvali village, Mumbai,
Maharashtra



Her moment of Lift – Jharna leads her Self Help Group through a Beekeeping business in Odisha and lifts her family out of distress

Jharna Mahalik, a determined woman of 42, lived in a rented home in Subarnapur Village, Banki block, with her daughters. Her husband was away working in Dubai, and only sent a nominal amount, that didn't cover expenses for the children. But this didn't deter Jharna.

As an active member and President of the Satyasai Self-Help Group (SHG) since 2016, she felt a sense of responsibility towards the women in her group and strove to enhance the quality of their lives through the engagement in different activities. Due to limited skills and income generating projects, her SHG was crumbling and her efforts didn't seem to yield the desired results.

When all else seemed bleak, there was one glimmer of hope – a local beekeeping project through the Gram Panchayat and supported by Concern India Foundation. On learning of this, Jharna grew curious and attended their orientation session alongside her group members. She organised parallel meetings to discuss this new idea, engaged in their training sessions, took a keen interest in understanding the technical aspects and recognised the possibility of a successful start-up business.

Jharna grew confident, and motivated by the prospects of beekeeping encouraging all group members to participate in awareness and training sessions.

Jharna stepped up. She underwent technical training, participated in an exposure visit, gaining expertise not only in bee farming but also in understanding the potential of honey production. She took the lead in organizing and encouraging other women, persuading their families to step forward for a better life through beekeeping.

5 women joined Jharna in her new venture.

Jharna received two bee boxes with beehives, which she installed in her backyard. In addition, she received a kitchen garden kit and began cultivating vegetables alongside the bee boxes. She sold surplus vegetables, earning INR 2500. Her capability and confidence increased dramatically, enabling her to manage the bees and assist other beekeepers in box inspection and bee swarming.

Today, Jharna is responsible for the well-being of her bee colonies and kitchen garden, she is preparing herself to market honey on behalf of her SHG, and she is at the helm of a breakthrough in her life and career.



★ **1,29,719 community members**
reached through various initiatives

★ **20 community development projects**
across 124 villages and 39 urban projects

★ **5,164 women and men**
provided with livelihood opportunities

★ **423 Self Help Groups initiated**
engaging over 4,230 women in rural and urban areas

FINANCIALS

ABRIDGED INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AS AT 31.3.2023

PARTICULARS	Rs. (In crores)
Establishment Expenses	3.34
Legal and Professional Charges	0.10
Audit Fees	0.02
Miscellaneous Expenses	0.00
Depreciation	0.04
Expenditure on Objects of the Trust	23.53
TOTAL	27.04
Interest	1.69
Donations in Cash or Kind	25.26
Profit on redemption of Mutual Funds	0.45
TOTAL	27.40
Earmarked amount to be utilised in 2022-23 for objects of the Trust	0.35

ABRIDGED BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.3.2023

LIABILITIES	Rs. (In crores)
Corpus Funds	6.01
Income & Expenditure A/C	31.64
TOTAL	37.66
ASSETS	
Fixed Assets	0.14
Investments	17.08
NET CURRENT ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Less: Current Liabilities	20.44
TOTAL	37.66

Summarized from Financial statements audited by M/s. Y.K Bhagwagar & Co. Chartered Accountants
Dated : 18th September, 2023

THANK YOU

In 2022-2023, through the generosity of our funding partners, Concern India Foundation empowered and reached lakhs of children, adolescents, women and elderly. With gratitude, we thank all friends and partners who believe in our vision and stand by us.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

Amazon Web Services (AWS) | Cadence | Credit Suisse India Pvt Ltd | DCB Bank | Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) | Intel Technology India Pvt Ltd | LIC Housing Finance Ltd. | London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG) | M&G Global Services Private Limited (M&G) Marsh McLennan | Salesforce | SBI Capital Markets (SBICAPS) Shankara Building Products Ltd | Thomson Reuter International Service Pvt Ltd (TRISPL) | Western Digital

Alteryx | Atur Foundation | Barclays Global Services Centre Cotiviti India Pvt Ltd | Feroze Farms Rawalpindi Gera Developers | Global Foundries | Google India Private Limited | Indian Oil Corporation Ltd | Intuit | Linde India Ltd | Malhotra Weikfield Foundation | Netscribes | Statira Wadia



Corporate employees from across India, play their part

BANGALORE:

33 volunteers partook in a clean-up cum trekking expedition. In the midst of a hilly terrain, natural springs and local temples, they enthusiastically cleaned up the surroundings of the Nayakana Kere Lake.

25 volunteers gathered on a warm September morning at Jakkur lake to learn about their environment and how tree saplings could help nourish the environment. Accompanied by their children, these volunteers promised to continue this tradition.

DELHI:

Plastic is not fantastic, was the theme that engrossed 18 employees for 2 hours as they engaged with 25 children at Siksha School Gurgaon. Divided into teams to create posters to raise awareness on reusing plastic bottles as bird feeders, planters and pen stands, the day was charged with fun and games.

On the grounds of a school in Gurugram, there was a day filled with interactive activities for children and 15 employees. From a tree plantation drive to slogan making competition the children and employees teamed up to imbibe the spirit of 'save the environment'.

MUMBAI:

With a declining AQI across the city, 250 volunteers took to Powai Garden, Aarey Colony and Rabele School to plant 960 saplings hoping to attract more birds and build a healthy ecosystem.

On an early morning at Dadar beach, 80 volunteers came together with a mission to conserve the beach by clearing out the trash and litter, potentially affecting livelihood of people and tourism activity.

PUNE:

1 goal. 100 volunteers. 300 saplings.

With the objective to build a sustainable urban environment, to understand and act for soil conservation, rainwater harvesting and tree plantations, employees came together at Baner Tekdi.

"Plant a tree today; it will help us breathe tomorrow," was the theme that set the mood for 225 employees who volunteered at a forest over 5 days to build a clean and green Pune by planting saplings.

40 volunteers took the initiative to clean up the banks of Mula river, Pune. To prevent the river from being polluted any further, they gathered trash and promised to create awareness of keeping rivers clean.



HELPING PEOPLE HELP THEMSELVES

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