

FY 2024-25

ANNUAL REPORT

“We believe in changing lives by empowering and caring for the underprivileged communities in India.”



**KAMALUDWADIA
FOUNDATION**



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KamalUdwadia Foundation is a not-for-profit organization registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013, in Mumbai. Established in early 2019, the Foundation began implementing its full-scale projects in the year 2020–21. Our primary focus areas are healthcare and education, and we primarily operate as a grant-making organization.

The Foundation was born out of a heartfelt vision shared by Dr. Anaita, her brother Navroz, and their parents, Nergis and Darius Udwadia — to honor the memory of their beloved sister and daughter, Kamal, by supporting children with neurological conditions. This vision laid the foundation for what KamalUdwadia Foundation (KUF) is today.

Dr. Anaita, her husband Dr. Hemanth, and their children Varun, Rohaan, and Anya, are all actively involved in the Foundation's work.

KUF is dedicated to uplifting communities by empowering them through meaningful, inclusive interventions. Our work spans across health, disability support, education, livelihood, water, and sanitation. By working closely with local communities, partner organizations, and government bodies, we strive to drive holistic and sustainable development.

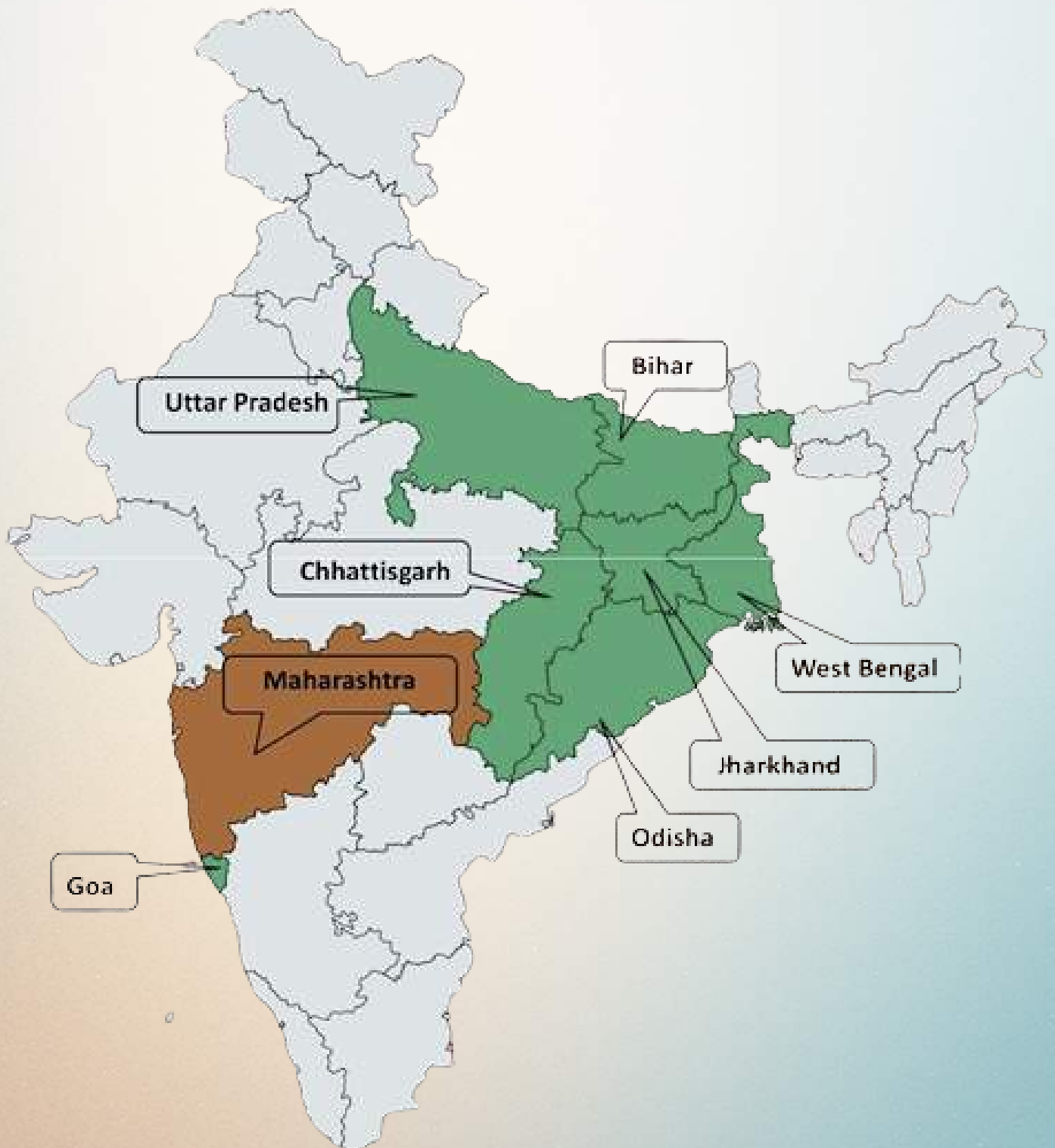
Vision: Our vision is to empower women and children by providing them healthcare, education, and livelihood opportunities. We aim to create an environmentally sustainable, equitable and inclusive society for all.

FY 2024–25: A Year in Review

FY 2024–25 marked a significant milestone as the KamalUdwadia Foundation completed five years of its journey. This year, the Foundation undertook a strategic reflection—reviewing its impact, sharpening its focus, and charting a strengthened path ahead. As an outcome, KUF has reaffirmed its commitment to three core pillars: Women Empowerment, Environment, and Disability.

Across the year, all ongoing projects advanced steadily, supported by continuous monitoring and evaluation to ensure measurable and meaningful outcomes. Building on its existing work, the Foundation also expanded the Waste Management initiative to an additional 24 villages in Loha, further deepening its footprint and amplifying environmental impact.

The geographical spread of KamalUdwadia Foundation's Projects



Areas of Intervention

KamalUdwadia Foundation works across 12 key areas of intervention to address critical rural development challenges. Each area reflects our commitment to inclusive growth, community empowerment, and sustainable impact.

Women Empowerment



Promoting leadership and self-reliance among rural women.

Digital Literacy



Bridging the digital divide through education and access.

Health



Ensuring preventive and curative healthcare in underserved regions.

Sports



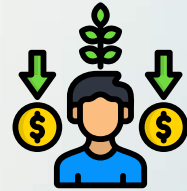
Engaging youth and children through structured sports programs.

Skilling



Building vocational capabilities for job readiness.

Livelihood



Supporting income-generating activities and self-employment.

Research



Generating evidence to inform rural development strategies.

Disability



Enabling inclusive growth for persons with disabilities.

Environment



Promoting sustainable practices for natural resource management.

Safe Drinking Water



Improving access to clean water through filter plants and awareness.

Waste Management



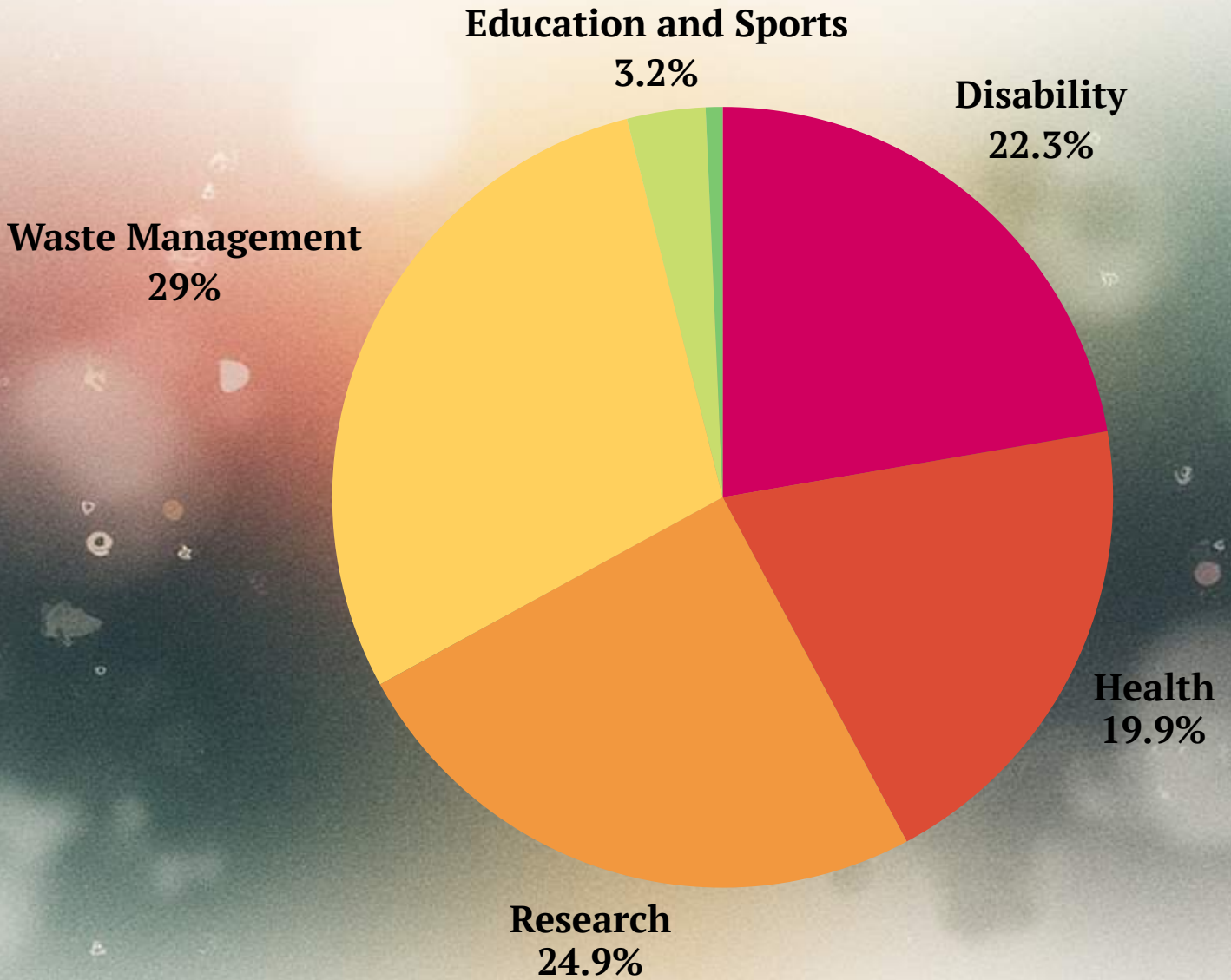
Establishing systems for rural solid waste segregation and disposal.

Health & Nutrition



Promoting holistic well-being through diet and health education.

Grants made in FY 2024-25



Disability



Health



Research



*Waste
Management*



*Education and
Sports*



Environment

Integrated Rural Development in 30 Villages in Loha Block, Nanded District, Maharashtra



KamalUdwadia Foundation identified Nanded district—specifically the Loha block—as a priority region for its social development initiatives. This focus stemmed from Dr. Anaita Udwadia Hegde’s long-standing connection with the area, where she has been conducting Pediatric Neurology camps twice a year.

To better understand the region’s needs and challenges, KUF partnered with Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP), a grassroots organization, which carried out a comprehensive needs assessment survey. This collaboration laid the foundation for integrated rural development efforts across 30 villages in the Loha block.

Laying the Foundation for Change: Insights from Loha Block

Addressing Malnutrition and Anemia in the Loha Block

Based on a thorough needs assessment, Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP) recognized the Loha block in Nanded district as a critical area due to rampant malnutrition and anemia issues. To tackle these pressing challenges, the KamalUdwadia Foundation (KUF) formed a partnership with SSP in mid-2019.

SSP chose 30 villages within the Loha block for targeted intervention. To adopt a data-driven strategy, an independent Impact Assessment Agency, Impactree, carried out an extensive baseline survey. The findings highlighted a combination of urgent problems and long-term systemic issues requiring attention.

Immediate priorities included:

1. High rates of anemia among women
2. Malnutrition in children over five years old
3. Malnutrition in pregnant and lactating women
4. Poor access to clean water and limited toilet facilities
5. Short intervals between pregnancies

Long-term challenges identified were:

1. Limited involvement of women in leadership positions
2. Heavy dependence on agriculture for livelihoods
3. Prevalence of early marriage and childbirth

Equipped with these insights, KUF commenced its integrated development initiatives across the 30 villages in the Loha block, dedicated to achieving both immediate relief and sustainable, long-lasting change.



KamalUdwadia Foundation's partnership with Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP) began in November 2019, with the aim of addressing critical health and nutrition challenges in rural communities. What makes this initiative unique is the active participation of women—specially trained community leaders known as Arogya Sakhis—who serve as the frontline change agents.

Empowering Women as Health Leaders

Arogya Sakhis are local women trained to lead health awareness, monitor nutrition indicators, and facilitate behavior change within their communities. Over the years, they have become respected leaders, playing a key role in building trust and ensuring that interventions reach even the most vulnerable families.

Key Focus Areas in FY 2024–25:

- **Expansion** of activities and services from 3000 HH entire population of 30 villages which comes to ~ 6200 HH.
- Focusing to address social issues by introducing Mahila Mahiti Kendra set ups in all 30 villages.
- Strengthening of the Farmers Producers Organisation called as "Prema Sakhi Farmers Producers Company".

Impact Snapshot (FY 2024–25)

Women's Health, Nutrition & Social Well-being Health Sakhis and Village Action Groups made notable strides in 30 villages:

- 6,884 households received health awareness visits.
 - 184 pregnant women underwent HB testing, improving care and nutrition.
 - Women and adolescent girls were trained on menstrual hygiene, sexual health, clean water, and nutrition, leading to improved hygiene habits.
-
- **Economic Empowerment & Decision-Making**
 - 700 women joined self-help and savings groups, accessing ₹7,00,000 in loans.
 - 100 female farmers received training and financial support for organic farming.
 - Plans were developed to establish local sales outlets for women's produce.
 - Women's participation in Gram Sabha's and community decision-making increased significantly.

Organic Farming & Agri-Enterprise Development

- 100 farmers trained in organic farming and linked to FPOs.
- Plans launched to process and market turmeric, pulses, grains, and vegetables.
- Turmeric processing machines and transport vehicles will be provided on a rental basis.
- Kitchen gardens in 30 villages boosted local organic food production.

Sanitation & Infrastructure Improvements

- Hygiene campaigns promoting the 7-Star concept were conducted in 30 villages.
- Toilets built or repaired in 13 school campuses under District Council support.
- Training sessions covered wastewater and waste management.
- Hygiene and cleanliness awareness was reinforced at household and community levels.

Women's Information & Counseling Centers (MMKs)

- MMKs established in 30 villages offered guidance on health, welfare schemes, and gender-based issues.
- Monthly meetings with Village Action Groups and Health Sakhis addressed women's needs.
- The centers served as key platforms to connect women with government schemes.

Access to Government Schemes

- 533 individuals accessed various schemes; over 300 homes approved under PMAY.
- Women benefited from 17 schemes including Crop Insurance, Organic Farming Subsidies, and Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana.
- Health Sakhis supported application processes for direct benefit access.

Gender Equality & WASH in Schools

- 3,479 students received training on gender equality and hygiene.
- Separate toilets and drinking water facilities were set up in 30 village schools.

Exposure Visit & New Planning Initiatives

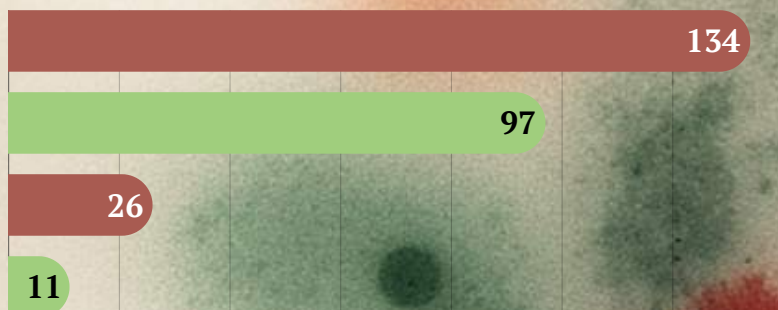
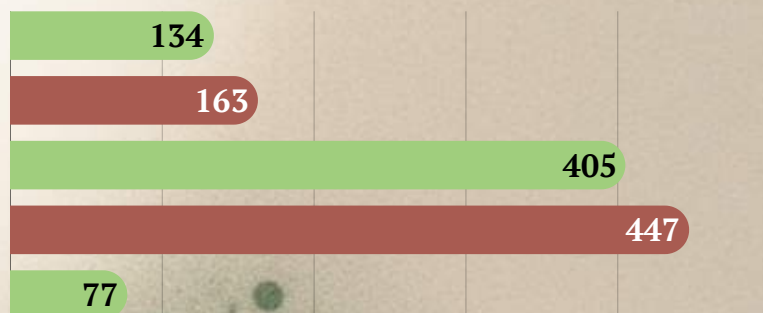
- 50 Gram Panchayat members and Health Sakhis visited a model village in Telangana.
- Inspired plans include improved sanitation, 100% toilet and bathing facility use, RO water access, and enhanced women's participation in agriculture and enterprises.

PROJECT OUTREACH AND OUTCOMES

SSP - Health & Nutrition Project



Household Reached
6,286



Total HB Testing done
134



Male Sensitization Meetings Conducted **30**



School Children trained on Gender Equality and WASH Practices **3479**



Adolescent Girls & Boys Part of Youth Hygiene Group **343**

[KUF - SSP Impact Video](#)



Project Kaushalya – Digital Literacy & Sports with Sanskruti Samvardhan Mandal

Program Overview

During one of their visits to Loha, Dr. Anaita and Dr. Hemanth from the KamalUdwadia Foundation had a heartfelt interaction with local women and children. When asked what they wished for, the children gave a simple yet powerful answer:

"A place to play and computers to learn."

This moment sparked the creation of Project Kaushalya, launched in January 2023, with a clear goal—to provide every child, especially adolescent girls, equal access to learning and play.

In many of these villages, girls rarely have the chance to participate in outdoor games or digital learning. Project Kaushalya addresses this gap by integrating sports and digital literacy into rural life—building confidence, skills, and community engagement.

Key Objectives

- Promote digital literacy among children and adolescents
- Create safe and inclusive spaces for girls and boys to play
- Encourage life skills through sports, teamwork, and discipline
- Build confidence in adolescent girls to step out, learn, and lead

Impact Snapshot (FY 2024–25)

- In FY 2024–25, the program has fostered significant changes across five Zilla Parishad Schools. Students, who previously lacked digital access, are now adept at using Microsoft Office tools. Additionally, regular training in local sports such as Kho Kho, Kabaddi, and Volleyball has nurtured teamwork and enthusiasm among the students.
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- A village-level tournament ignited community pride, with parents and the Gram Panchayat providing active support.
- Notably, girls have started participating in sports for the first time, highlighting a positive shift in social attitudes and an increasing sense of community ownership of the initiative.



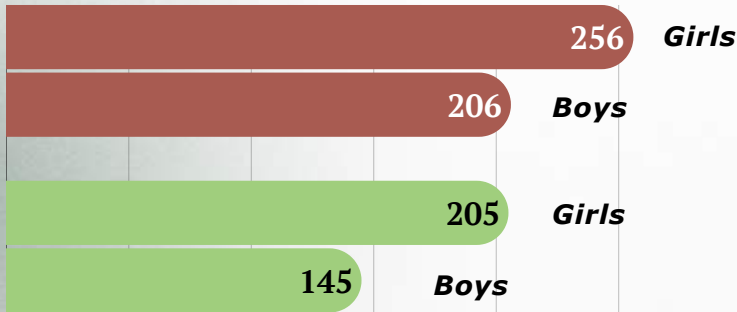
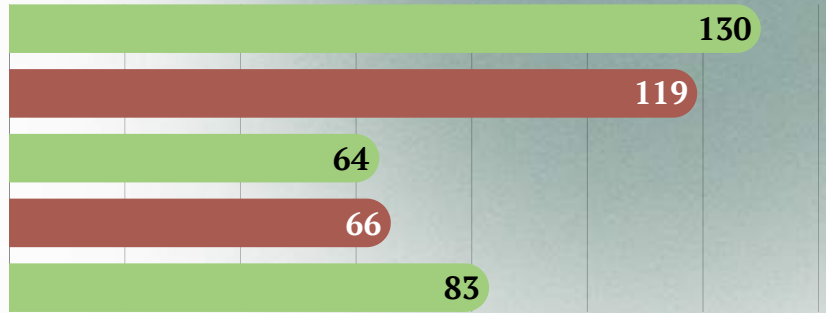
[KUF - SSM Impact Video](#)

PROJECT OUTREACH AND OUTCOMES

SSM - Kaushalya Project



Schools Covered **5**
(**462 Students**)



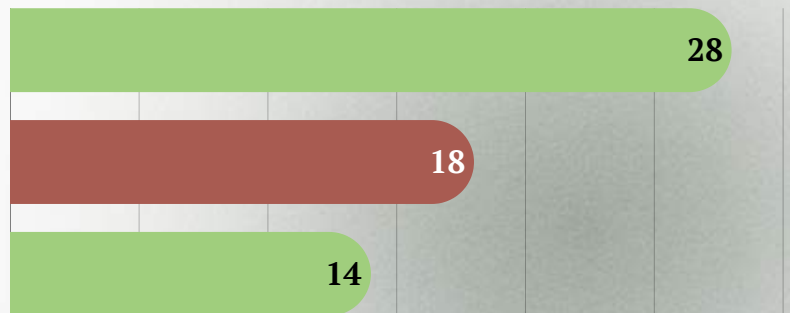
Enrolled in
Digital Class **462**



Enrolled in
Sports activities **350**



Various sports
teams formed **60**
across all schools



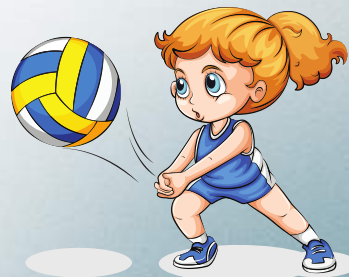
Students engaged in
100 m running
Girls - 65
Boys - 55



Students examined
for Dental health
through Dental
camp **480**

Overall
participation of
Girls in Sports
and Computer
Programme

60%





⚽ "A Sporting Dream Takes Flight" – Vaishnavi's Journey

"I am Vaishnavi Suryakant Tonge, a 7th-grade student at Zilla Parishad Primary School, Dapshed. This year, in January, I was honored as the Best Kho-Kho Player at the inter-school sports competition held in Dagadgaon. I am extremely happy about this because I come from a rural background. Earlier, I never used to get opportunities to play. But for the past two years, due to the Skill Development Project under Sanskriti Samvardhan Mandal, Sagroli and Kamal Udwadia Foundation, Mumbai, we are now getting opportunities to participate in sports. It is because our sports teachers trained us regularly that I have received this recognition today. In the future, I will work very hard to become an excellent sportsperson and pursue a career in sports. The Skill Development Project has given direction to my sporting spirit!"

– Vaishnavi Tonge, Project Kaushalya Participant



"Learning Computers Changed Everything" – Samarth's Journey

"At our school, we are getting the opportunity to learn computers every day through the Skill Development Project supported by Kamal Udwadia Foundation, Mumbai and Sanskriti Samvardhan Mandal, Sagroli.

We have been working on computers for the past two years. Honestly, two years ago, we didn't know anything about computers. But now, we are able to do so many things on them—such as various types of painting, creating applications, preparing reports, making mark sheets, designing logos, compiling student lists, and even browsing different tools and content on the internet.

This makes me really happy. I feel I don't even need to do MS-CIT now, because everything taught in that course has already been covered in our training. I still want to keep learning many more things in computers.

We, all the students, are very grateful to Kamal Udwadia Foundation and Sanskriti Samvardhan Mandal, Sagroli for giving us this opportunity!"

– Samarth Sainath More, Project Kaushalya Participant

Photo Gallery

Before



After



Sustainable Solid Waste Management In partnership with CARPE



The Solid Waste Management (SWM) initiative was launched in 2023 as a pilot project across six villages with the objective of introducing sustainable waste disposal practices at the community level. The pilot phase focused on building awareness, establishing village-level waste segregation systems, training local volunteers, and setting up collection and disposal mechanisms tailored to rural contexts.

Following the successful implementation and positive community response in these initial six villages, the project was scaled up in May 2024 to cover the remaining 24 villages within the target region. This expansion phase is currently in progress, with ongoing efforts to replicate the best practices from the pilot, strengthen community engagement, and institutionalize the SWM systems for long-term impact.

Project Goals

- Promote segregation at source (wet, dry, and hazardous waste)
- Build local systems for waste collection, recycling, and safe disposal
- Eliminate harmful practices such as open dumping and plastic burning
- Create awareness on the environmental and health impacts of improper waste handling

Key Activities

- 5 villages engaged in Phase I & 12 villages in Phase II
- Baseline survey completed across all sites
- Community workshops and training sessions conducted on waste segregation
- Identification of local youth and volunteers to lead village-level initiatives

Door-to-Door Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) and Demonstrations

Conducting door-to-door interactions focusing on educating households on the importance of waste segregation, the distinction between wet and dry waste, and the environmental benefits of consistent disposal practices. Distributed visual IEC materials in local languages to reinforce messaging and address common misconceptions about waste handling.

Swachhta Cards used to monitor compliance levels and encourage regular waste disposal. Using the data collected to track households participating in consistent segregated waste disposal vs those who are non-compliant - By tracking households giving their waste consistently and to identify attributes contributing to positive behaviour, enabling tailored outreach to encourage participation among non-compliant households. Evaluate Segregation Efficiencies and Quality of Collected Waste.

“My Shevdi, Clean Shevdi”

In the village of Shevdi, waste was once a common sight. People had little awareness about cleanliness and environmental care. With no proper system or tools for waste collection, garbage was often thrown in open spaces, rivers, streams, or dumped on heaps. To change this situation, the Kamal Udwadia Foundation, the Shevdi Gram Panchayat, and Karpe Sanstha came together to launch the campaign “My Shevdi, Clean Shevdi.” The first step was a baseline survey. Using a digital app, locations of open waste were recorded, people’s awareness about waste management was studied, and the availability of waste storage tools was assessed. Based on this survey, a clear action plan was designed in consultation with the Gram Panchayat.

The campaign began with the inauguration of a special waste collection vehicle (called Ghantagadi – the bell-ringing cart) by Kamal Udwadia Foundation and Karpe Sanstha. During this program, attended by the Sarpanch, Gram Vikas officers, members, and citizens, households were given waste collection bags and cleanliness cards. It was explained that the Ghantagadi would visit the village every Friday and Saturday to collect only dry waste such as paper, plastic, glass, and scrap. Villagers were also guided to use wet waste in farming by converting it into organic fertilizer.

Volunteers went door to door, conducting awareness sessions, demonstrations, and events on waste segregation. Slowly, people began to understand the importance of cleanliness and responded positively.

After eight months of continuous effort, the Gram Panchayat itself took the lead. In the village general assembly, a resolution was passed to purchase their own Ghantagadi and formally start waste collection. With support and training from Karpe Sanstha, citizens were educated to separate waste into wet, dry, and hazardous categories. The driver and staff of the Ghantagadi were trained in safe waste handling, communication with citizens, and proper use of protective equipment.

Today, thanks to this campaign, the vision of “My Shevdi, Clean Shevdi” has become a reality. The village is cleaner, healthier, and more environmentally friendly. Continuous efforts by the Foundation, Karpe Sanstha, and the Gram Panchayat are ensuring that this work remains sustainable.

The people of Shevdi are grateful to the Kamal Udwadia Foundation and Karpe Sanstha for their technical guidance and awareness efforts, and they look forward to such meaningful collaborations in the future as well.



Photo Gallery



Before

GVP's (Garbage Vulnerable Points)

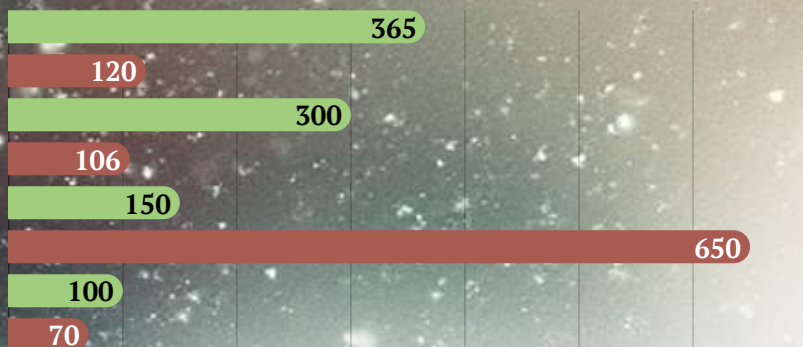
After



PROJECT OUTREACH AND OUTCOMES

CARPE - Solid Waste Management

[KUF - CARPE Impact Video](#)

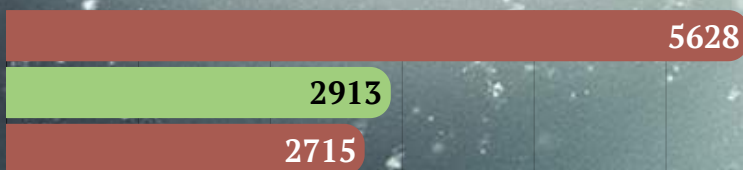


Households Mapped
in Phase II

1,861



Garbage
Vulnerable Points
identified &
Reclaimed
39



Waste Collection
5628 Kg

In Kgs

Community Water Purification Plant with Bala Vikasa



The Water Filter Plant initiative was launched in 2023 with a pilot program across five villages, addressing the pressing need for safe and affordable drinking water in rural areas. The initiative aimed to improve community health and well-being by installing community-managed filtration systems that could provide purified water at the village level.

During the pilot, the project team conducted water quality assessments, engaged with community members to understand their needs, and introduced filtration technologies tailored to rural contexts. Community awareness campaigns and training programs were also organized to ensure that people understood the importance of safe drinking water and actively participated in managing the plants.

The pilot demonstrated significant success: water quality improved, villagers reported better health outcomes, and there was strong ownership and positive feedback from the community. Local water committees took responsibility for daily operations, ensuring proper maintenance and sustainability of the plants.

Encouraged by these results, the initiative is now planned to expand from 5 villages to 16 by 2025, bringing safe drinking water to many more families, strengthening local governance around water management, and setting a model for scalable, community-driven solutions to rural water challenges.

Goals & Features

- Provide safe drinking water at a nominal cost
- Promote community ownership and local management of the plant
- Reduce the burden of waterborne diseases in rural areas
- Raise awareness on health and hygiene practices

Outcome of the project

The safe drinking water initiative has transformed lives in the target communities by building awareness, strengthening local leadership, and ensuring sustainable access to clean water.

Through village-level meetings, household campaigns, and posters, over 1,100 people gained knowledge on safe water practices. This awareness translated into action, with more than 80% of families enrolling as plant members.

Village-level Safe Water Committees were formed with committed community members who received training and ongoing guidance. They now monitor water quality, oversee operators, and ensure hygienic maintenance of plants. Trained operators, equipped with the necessary skills, manage records and operations effectively, resulting in fewer breakdowns and reliable water supply.

The project also fostered unity and leadership, bringing community members together to solve issues collectively and strengthening their capacity to take on future development initiatives.

Today, 1,200 families across five villages have access to purified RO-treated water at just ₹5 per 20 litres, backed by continuous monitoring and accountable local institutions. This has not only improved health and trust in safe water systems but also laid the foundation for long-term sustainability and community-driven development.

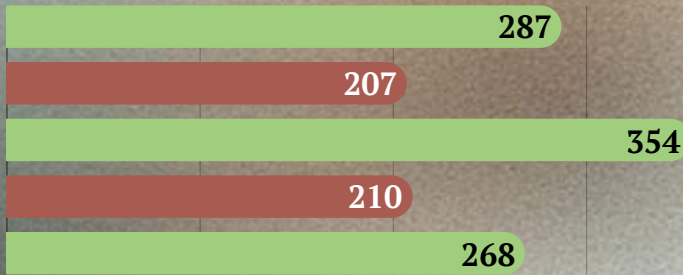
Photo Gallery



PROJECT OUTREACH AND OUTCOMES

Bala Vikasa - Community Water Filter Project

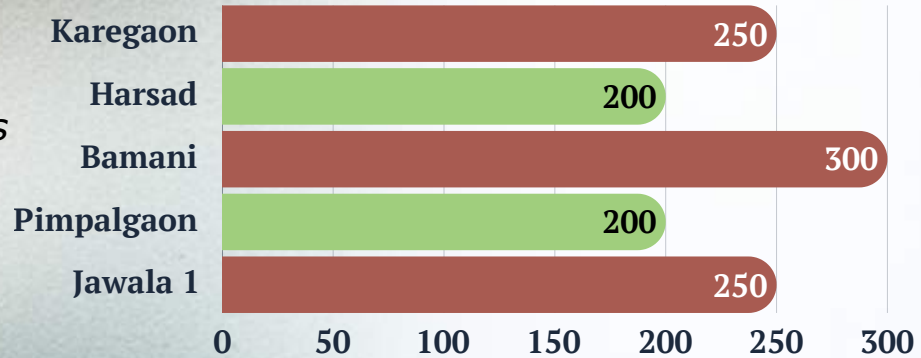
[KUF - Bala Vikasa Impact Video](#)



Households Covered in Phase I
1,326



Memberships
1,200



Households using filtered water
701

Pediatric Neurology Outreach Programme

Over the last 15 years, the programme has reached 26,000+ children in underserved districts of Maharashtra, providing free diagnosis, early intervention, and referrals for neurological conditions like epilepsy, cerebral palsy, developmental delays, and intellectual disabilities.

Started in 2010 by Jai Vakeel Foundation and B.J. Wadia Hospital for Children under Dr. Anaita Udwadia Hegde, the initiative has since expanded through partnerships with the Kamal Udwadia Foundation and other local institutions.

In 2024–25, with support from SRCC Children’s Hospital, Annam, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Rotary & Rotaract Club of Dhule, and the Rajasthani Education Society, four medical camps were conducted. A key milestone was a June 2024 workshop in Dhule that trained 448 frontline workers to identify developmental delays and neurodivergent conditions—extending the programme’s impact well beyond the camps.

KUF - Neurology Outreach Programme Impact Video

Month	Location	New Patients	Follow-ups	Total
June 2024	Dhule	178	283	461
Sep 2024	Nanded	236	501	737
Nov 2024	Dhule	176	280	456
Mar 2025	Nanded	184	395	579
Total		774	1459	2233

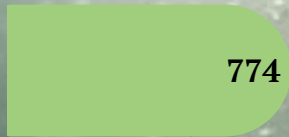
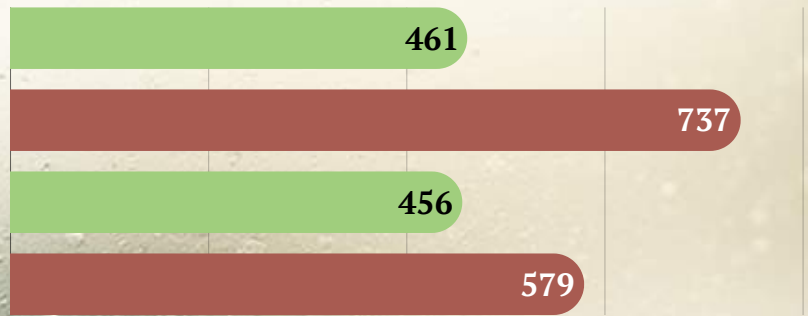
[KUF - Neurology Outreach Programme Impact Video](#)



KUF - Pediatric Neurology Outreach Programme



Children diagnosed
2233



New Patients **774**



FOLLOW UP

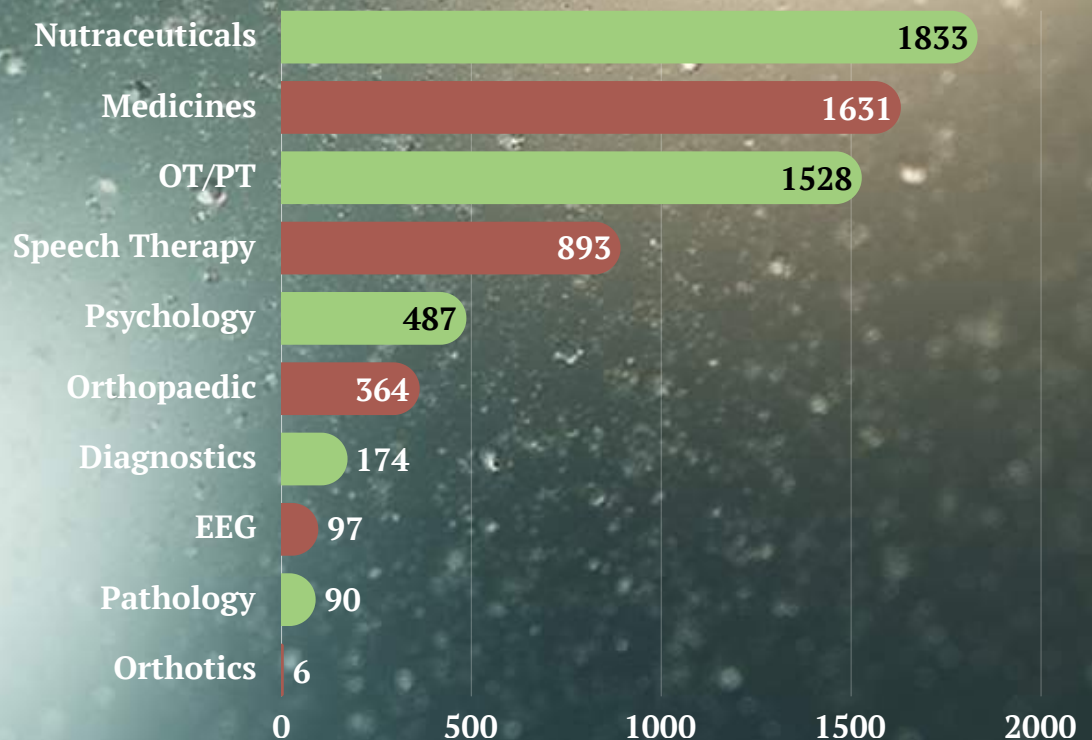


Follow-ups **1459**



Specialized services provided in camp

7103



Deafblind Services in East India with Sense International India

The project aims to impact the lives of persons with deafblindness and multiple disabilities and their families living in eastern India through strengthening Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), capacity building of parents and teachers, advocacy with local government and setting-up model centers in each of the six states - UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and West Bengal.

Project Goals

- Early Identification & Intervention | Education | Rehabilitation & Vocational training
- Capacity building of partner organisations
- Training & sensitisation of parents, teachers and govt. officials

Story of Change

“A Journey Towards Communication and Self-Reliance” – Badal's Story

"22-year-old Badal is an adult with total deafblindness. He lives with his parents, Chanda and Prakash, and siblings in a small village in Odisha. The family lives in extreme poverty where affording a meal have been a struggle for the family and lived in a house made of tarpaulin. Badal's early years were very difficult due to their financial constraints. His father works as a daily labourer, and his mother, a housekeeper, has been his primary caregiver. The parents left him locked at home throughout the day as they had to leave for work."



Badal's journey of transformation has been truly inspiring. Once confined to his room, resorting to self-harm as a way to express his feelings, he now finds joy and accomplishment in water-related tasks like filling pots and watering plants. These activities not only bring him happiness but also serve as evidences to his growing independence and enthusiasm. His active participation in household chores has become a source of pride for his family.

The support of his mother, Chanda, has played an important role in his transformation. She learned sign language to communicate better with him and actively participates in parent meetings to ensure his progress. Chanda reflects on his growth with pride, saying: "Earlier, Badal would isolate himself and resort to self-harm. Now, he helps with chores, recognizes his belongings, and engages with others. I see a brighter future for him." With improved behaviour and stronger connections to his surroundings, Badal has moved beyond isolation to embrace a more engaged and active life.

Deafblind Services in East India with Sense International India.....

“From Silence to Smiles: Himansi’s Heart-warming Progress” – Himansi's Story



"Himansi is a naughty yet diligent child who enjoys playing ball with her siblings. But she wasn't as active as this when she was born. She was born to Damodar who works in a private job, and Rukmani who is a housewife and looks after the household and the children. When Himansi was just six months old, her parents noticed that she had certain difficulties. She was diagnosed as a child with deafblindness (low vision with moderate to profound hearing loss), had a speech problem, and cerebral palsy. Despite the challenges, the family was determined to support her in every way possible. However, initially, they struggled to provide the specialized care she needed. Himansi would often lie in bed all day, as her parents, overwhelmed and unsure of how to help, could not take adequate care of her."

Her educator, is optimistic about Himansi's future. She believes that with regular intervention, Himansi will become independent and capable of handling her daily routine tasks. She has set clear goals for her progress. In the next three months, the focus will be on helping Himansi identify vegetables like chili, potato, onion, and brinjal, and perform expressive communication such as expressing her needs for food, water, or play. They also aim to teach her to drink water independently when given a glass.



The family's active involvement has been crucial to Himansi's development. "Now Himansi stays engaged with her work and plays with her siblings. She has learned to use her residual vision and hearing more effectively. I'm very happy to see her sit with minimal support for 4-5 minutes." says her mother, reflecting on the significant progress Himansi has made.

While Himansi herself cannot yet express her aspirations, her parents dream of her leading an independent life, capable of performing her daily tasks without assistance. They have had a positive experience with the home-based programme and are hopeful about the future.

Additionally, the family has received support in the form of a BPL card and a disability certificate, with the process for a disability pension currently underway. This comprehensive support system has been instrumental in improving Himansi's quality of life and ensuring she has the resources she needs to thrive.

SENSE - East India Project



*Children enrolled
in the programme*

400+



*Parents
enrolled in the
local network*

200+



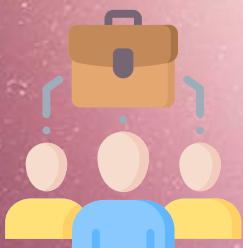
*Samagra Shiksha
Abhiyan (SSA) Teachers
trained on disability*

900+



*Network built of NGOs
working on disability*

20



*Employees of the
NGO/Organizations
trained*

50+

Deafblind Services in Goa with Sense International India

SII started services for persons with deafblindness and MD in both North & South districts of Goa in partnership with Caritas Goa in the year 2012 who is now recognised as a state centre on deafblindness represented on various committees by Goa State Govt.

In the last ten 10 years, they have reached out to 118 children and adults with deafblindness and MD, trained and sensitized NGO professionals, disability organizations, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan teachers, govt. officials and parents.

During the course of their work, SII realized that there is a lack of organizations that cater to the needs of children and adults with ID, CP and autism at community level. A large population of persons with deafblindness, MD, autism, CP and ID is still to be reached.

Project Goals

- Early Identification & Intervention | Education | Rehabilitation & Vocational training
- Capacity building of partner organisations
- Sensitisation of parents, teachers and govt. officials

Story of Change

“A Story of development and perseverance” – Omkar's Story



Omkar Gajanand, a lively and determined 15-year-old boy from Pernem, North Goa, is an inspiring example of resilience and transformation. Born with Quadriplegic cerebral palsy, microcephaly and intellectual disability, Omkar's journey has been one of immense challenges. Despite these hurdles, his positive energy and unwavering spirit have set him apart. With the devoted support of his parents and the consistent efforts of the team at the Caritas centre for deafblind, Omkar has made remarkable strides, not just in his physical and academic abilities but also in his emotional growth. His story is a celebration of the power of love, perseverance and tailored interventions.

Omkar's parents are overjoyed with the progress he has made. His mother proudly shares "I am incredibly happy to see his progress, especially in terms of his improved balance and coordination, as he now walks with greater stability and rides his cycle confidently. It's also wonderful to see him excelling in school. I am equally delighted to see him actively involved in our family business, working alongside his father. His growing independence and responsibility in both his personal and academic life are truly fulfilling"

The educators at Caritas centre for deafblind are equally impressed by Omkar's transformation. His special educator shares "I am very pleased with the significant progress Omkar has made and how well he has adjusted and become comfortable with me after the change in educator. Additionally, I am happy that I was able to assist them in utilizing the IGA funds for their current business."

Deafblind Services in Goa with Sense International India.....

Omkar's journey is a testament to the power of persistence and personalized care. With the continued support of his family, educators, and community, the future holds immense promise for this incredible young man. His story inspires hope and underscores the limitless potential of individuals with disabilities when provided with the right opportunities and environment.

"A Story of development and perseverance" – Anaya's Story

Anaya, a spirited girl lovingly referred to as Anaya, born on September 25, 2018. She lives in Old Goa with her supportive parents, Sabaira, a teacher and Oliver who works in a private company. She faces unique challenges due to her disabilities. She was diagnosed with bilateral visual impairment and autism spectrum disorder because of retinopathy of prematurity stage 5, identified at birth. Key to her progress has been the dedicated support of special educator Anu Rachel Mathew and the Caritas team.

Jeryl Braganza, Anaya's physiotherapist, says of her journey: "Witnessing her transformation is truly heart-warming. Like drops of water forming an ocean, the collective support from her family, educators and community has made a significant impact."



Anaya's parents, especially her mother Sabira, are actively involved in her care and development, following a structured timetable of activities and goals for the home. This reinforces the progress she is making at the centre which promotes her overall growth. The family has had a positive experience with Anaya's educators, appreciating the convenience of home visits and centre-based services.

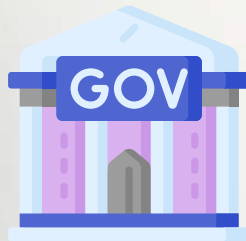
Sabira shares, "I am very happy with the facilities provided by the project, as I've seen significant improvement in my child." They want Anaya to be independent and participate fully in family and community life.

SENSE - Caritas Goa Project



Children with deafblindness and Multiple disabilities received services through the programme

300+



Government officials trained/sensitized

400+



Parents part of the Parents Network group

191



Teachers trained and sensitized for deafblindness, MD, CP, ID and Autism

150+

Research project - Phase 3 randomized study for evaluation of addition of Pembrolizumab immunotherapy to palliative therapy in NSCLC



Project Overview

Immunotherapy has transformed treatment outcomes for advanced cancers such as lung, head & neck, and renal cell carcinoma. In particular, Pembrolizumab—a leading immunotherapy drug—has become a standard addition to palliative chemotherapy for stage IV NSCLC (non-small cell lung cancer) in cases without targetable mutations. However, for patients in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), the high cost of such therapies puts them out of reach.

A New Hope Through Low-Dose Immunotherapy

In an effort to develop a cost-effective and accessible treatment regimen, Tata Memorial Hospital—with support from KUF's partner donors—has launched a Phase 3 randomized clinical trial. This study evaluates whether low-dose Pembrolizumab can be effectively added to standard palliative chemotherapy.

Why It Matters

If successful, the study could:

Reduce treatment costs by up to 75%

(from ₹2–2.5 lakh/month to approximately ₹50,000/month)

Make lifesaving immunotherapy accessible to thousands of patients across India and similar settings

Set a global precedent for low-dose immunotherapy in resource-limited environments

Key Message

“We are not only testing a drug—we are testing equity, affordability, and the right to life-saving care for all.”

Looking Ahead: Plans for FY 2025–26

Scaling Rural Development in Loha, Nanded

Building on the successful pilot initiatives of last year, KamalUdwadia Foundation aims to expand its Integrated Rural Development Program to reach additional villages in the Loha block.

This year's focus will be two-fold:

- **Scale and Replication:** Extend proven interventions to more communities.
- **Sustainability:** Embed long-term viability in ongoing projects by strengthening local ownership and governance.

KUF will also actively pursue partnerships to align with government schemes and collaborate with like-minded organizations to amplify impact across sectors.

New Initiative: Multi-Disability Rehabilitation in Dhule

In a significant step forward, KUF has initiated an exciting collaboration with the Rotary Club and Matruseva Sangh Trust in Dhule to establish a Multi-Disability Rehabilitation Center.

- **Expected Launch:** End of FY 2024–25
- **Objective:** Provide comprehensive rehabilitation services for children and adults with multiple disabilities
- **Beneficiaries:** Underserved and economically disadvantaged families
- **Services Offered:** Physical, occupational, and speech therapy, along with psychological and educational support
- **Affordability:** Services will be delivered free or at highly subsidized rates

This initiative reflects KUF's continued commitment to inclusive healthcare access and disability empowerment in underserved regions.



Our Partners



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Managed by Narayana Health



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