



Seva Mandir

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 25

Seva Mandir

TRANSFORMING LIVES

OUR MISSION

Seva mandir's mission is to make real the idea of society consisting of free and equal citizens who are able to come together and solve the problems that affect them in their particular contexts. This commitment is to work for a paradigm of development and governance that is democratic and polyarchic.

Seva Mandir seeks to institutionalize the idea that development and governance should not just be left to the state and its formal bodies, such as the legislature and the bureaucracy, but that citizens and their associations should engage separately and jointly with the state.

The mission, briefly, is to construct the conditions in which citizens of plural backgrounds and perspectives can come together to benefit and empower the least advantaged in society.



FOUNDER

Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta

*Founder, Seva Mandir
(1895-1985)*



*Where there is sorrow,
where there is poverty and oppression,
where man is inhuman to man,
where there is darkness of ignorance,
it is here Seva Mandir must reach out.*

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President's Foreword

The year 2024–25 has been one of deep reflection, learning, and renewal for all of us at Seva Mandir. As I look back on the year, I am filled with a sense of gratitude — for the resilience of our communities, the dedication of our team, and the continued trust of our many well-wishers and partners.

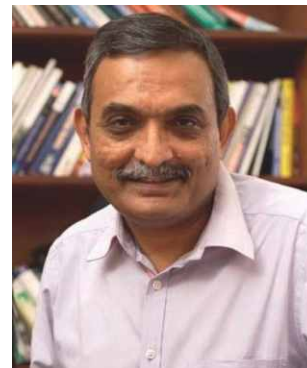
Across more than 1,700 villages of southern Rajasthan, Seva Mandir's work is now touching over 10 lakh people — children who now have stronger foundations for learning, women who are leading change through self-help groups, farmers who are embracing natural farming, and young people who are finding confidence and purpose through leadership and livelihood opportunities. Each of these stories reflects not only progress but also the quiet strength of communities taking charge of their own futures.

It is inspiring to see how Seva Mandir's philosophy — grounded in dialogue, collective action, and Gandhian values of self-reliance — continues to guide our work even in changing times. Our efforts to restore common lands, conserve water, and build resilient livelihoods have shown that sustainability is possible when people are at the centre of development. Equally heartening is the growing leadership of women and youth, who are redefining what participation and empowerment mean in their villages.

This year, we also invested deeply in learning and collaboration. New partnerships with research institutions, networks, and government bodies have expanded our reach and strengthened our impact. Within the organisation too, we focused on staff well-being, capacity-building, and reflection - recognising that the spirit of Seva Mandir lies as much in our people as in our programmes.

As we prepare our 11th Comprehensive Plan, we are once again reminded of the importance of listening — to our communities, to our colleagues, and to the world around us. The years ahead will bring both challenges and opportunities, but our direction is clear: to continue building a society where every person can live with dignity, equality, and hope.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to our staff, field teams, community members, donors, and partners — for walking alongside us with such trust and conviction. It is your belief in Seva Mandir's mission that makes all our work possible.



Janat Shah

Overview

The year 2024–25 has been a year of renewal, learning, and reaffirmation for Seva Mandir — a year that reminded us of the deep strength of our communities and the power of collective action in shaping a just, equitable, and sustainable future. As we complete another chapter in our journey, we take pride in having deepened our core programmes, strengthened community institutions, and expanded our partnerships and reach across southern Rajasthan.

Seva Mandir's work this year reached over one million people across 1,700+ villages, including children, youth, women, and farmers. We expanded our presence through new initiatives in Sanganer (Jaipur) and Mavli (Udaipur), and created a new sub-block in Khamnor (Rajsamand) to strengthen grassroots engagement and operations.



Work on the Comprehensive Plan began in August 2024. Through several rounds of discussions, inputs from diverse stakeholders helped shape one strategic goal and four strategic thrust areas. The Plan was shared with staff and community members to gather ideas for implementation. The process was participatory and inclusive, drawing on a wide range of perspectives to reflect the organization's evolving role in community development. The CP reaffirmed the core strategic goal: Strengthening the Ecosystem of Community Building—deepening democratic, participatory, and inclusive community processes and enabling people to take collective charge of their development with support from institutions, knowledge, and partnerships.

Our Early Childcare and Education programmes reached 112,000 children and 84,000 women through 101 Balwadis and 1,700+ Anganwadi Centres. The year's efforts focused on improving nutrition, preschool learning, and gender-sensitive practices in early child care, while introducing digital tools for better learning outcomes — ensuring that children are not only school-ready but also future-ready. A study titled, Transforming Anganwadis to bring quality Early Childcare and Education, was initiated in this period. The study will assess ECCE quality, identify learning gaps, evaluate teacher training needs, and examine technology use in AWCs.

Under our women's empowerment initiatives, we worked with 1,926 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) across 462 villages. Women's federations and collectives were strengthened to promote leadership and financial inclusion, and to enable collective action against early marriage, gender-based violence— with a focused effort on engaging men in addressing these issues— and trafficking.

The programmes under natural resources management continued to drive sustainable rural development, benefiting over 29,000 farmers through initiatives in natural farming, crop diversification, and improved livestock management. Afforestation efforts were strengthened through a revised plantation model that delivered better results, with increased community involvement in Community Forest Rights (CFR). At the same time, climate change posed new challenges, including forest fires, excessive rainfall, and rising heat, underscoring the need for adaptive and resilient approaches.

Livelihood initiatives focused on promoting micro-enterprises, alongside organisational capacity-building for

enterprise development, while work on millets was further expanded. In the WASH sector, solid waste management (SWM) interventions were initiated in villages, along with school-based WASH education and oral health programmes.

Our youth engagement programmes continued to inspire leadership and active social participation. Sports were further promoted as a cultural practice in villages, leading to the emergence of women athletes as role models. Through Yuva Manch platforms, young people raised and addressed a wide range of issues, including gender and caste discrimination, violence, education, early relationships, road safety, and other community concerns. In addition, a pilot initiative was launched to meaningfully engage urban youth.

Seva Mandir's strength continues to lie in its village institutions and federations, which are the foundation of community-led governance. During the year, 132 Village Groups were registered as Trusts, signaling growing community ownership. The Aravalli Lok Samiti Federation strengthened continuity of dialogue in older villages. Under the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), 237 community proposals were submitted, ensuring that people's voices and priorities remain central to local governance.

Throughout the year, collaboration and learning remained central to our approach. We strengthened partnerships with government departments and academic institutions, while also building collaborations with new networks. Through the SRCC consortium, a Water Security project was sanctioned by Tata Trusts, with Seva Mandir and three other organisations receiving support. The initiative focuses on climate-resilient water resource management in South Rajasthan.

During this period, we had the opportunity to interact with friends and other well-wishers in the United States. These interactions reflected a strong resonance with our community-building approach and the spirit of volunteering.

We focused on strengthening our internal culture through a range of staff capacity-building initiatives. Greater emphasis was placed on adopting technology, with increased efforts towards digital transformation across the organisation.

During the year, Seva Mandir was honoured with the Great Place to Work certification for 2025–26. This recognition is a testament to our commitment to creating an inclusive, engaging, and values-driven work environment.

The year reaffirmed a truth that defines Seva Mandir's journey—that lasting transformation emerges not from isolated efforts, but from the collective courage, compassion, and creativity of people working together towards a shared vision. During this period, we diversified our funding base by initiating relationships with three new foundations, while support from individual donors continued to grow.

I am deeply grateful to our community leaders, staff, trustees, donors, partners, volunteers, and supporters, whose trust, commitment, and partnership continue to sustain Seva Mandir's mission of building a just and humane society.

Ronak Shah
Chief Executive

Shared Natural Resources



From rejuvenating pastures and forestlands to reviving traditional water systems, communities have taken the lead in caring for what they collectively depend on. The year saw a strong push towards native seed collection and large-scale nursery development, ensuring local plant varieties thrive and biodiversity is strengthened. With active community governance of forest areas and efforts such as repairing anicuts and de-silting ponds, these initiatives are not just reviving ecosystems but renewing people's connection with nature.

Expansion of Vegetative Cover and Restoration of Common Lands

A. Plantation on Community and Private Pastures

3.07 lac saplings of native tree species were planted across 28 common pasturelands covering an area of 751 ha. These sites were from 28 villages of 23 panchayats spread across

different blocks. 23 (82%) sites were new. Encroachments were successfully vacated from 12.3 ha in pastures of 8 villages.

Bio-fencing (Thor and Jatropha cuttings) along with stone fencing and barbed wire in some areas, was used for protection. The use of bio-

fence supported biodiversity by facilitating the movement of wildlife and reptiles.

This year, along with planting saplings, large-scale direct seeding was done on pasturelands. 12 tons of high-quality native seeds, collected by Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and community members, were used. Locally gathered wild seeds demonstrated excellent germination rates. This approach ensured reliable supply of quality seeds and reduced dependency on external markets.

In two villages of Girwa block, a natural organic hydrogel Fasal Amrit was piloted to enhance moisture retention, soil nutrition and plant survival.

Decentralized forest nurseries managed by local entrepreneurs were revived and resumed after more than a decade, including some that had been inactive for a long time. 8 nurseries were established—2 managed by women and 6 by men entrepreneurs. Two types of nurseries were developed for 40,000 bamboo rhizomes and 1.2 lac annual saplings. Entrepreneurs contributed

35% of the nursery cost, along with labour for bed preparation and 50% cost of farmyard manure. Seva Mandir provided an advance to support the labour component. Saplings from these nurseries will be used for the plantation next year.

A new plantation model was designed on carbon forestry jointly with Udaipur Urja Initiatives (UII) for individual lands in two blocks of Udaipur District. Seva Mandir provided technical inputs in designing the plantation model. Furthermore, farmers were supported by UII to develop nurseries of native species. 18,500 saplings were procured by Seva Mandir from these nurseries and planted in 2 blocks.

On 8 pastures, panchayats supported boundary wall construction, soil water conservation, and plantation.

Invasive species of lantana are increasing in the region and causing ecological harm to natural vegetation. At 3 village pastures of the Rajsamand and Kumbhalgarh blocks, lantana was cleared from 44 out of 72 ha during this period.

Khedaliya Pastureland, in Kumbhalgarh block, is of 55 ha. About 5.6 ha of land was encroached by 13 families—10 Rajput and 3 tribal. Since their private lands adjoined the pasture, the families had extended their possession by fencing parts of the pastureland.

When the ad hoc village committee tried to initiate a dialogue with the encroachers, some abused them and refused to come to the village meeting. The tribal families gradually convinced, but the Rajput families were not ready to vacate. However, the village committee didn't give up. They invited committee members from neighbouring villages as well, and organised 3 to 4 meetings with the encroachers. The discussions finally led to the voluntary withdrawal of all encroachments.

Before initiating the restoration work, the village development committee (GVC) was formed. In a bold and strategic move, the most vocal and resistant Rajput encroacher was accepted as the committee President. The restoration work involved construction of a loose-stone boundary wall, soil water conservation work and plantation of 22,000 saplings. The community engaged families of encroachers in restoration work to acknowledge their efforts and enhance engagement.

Padasali Pastureland, in the Kumbhalgarh block, covers 46.8 ha. For 5 years, a poor tribal family had encroached on 6 ha of land, built a house and cultivated the area. GVC organized 4 to 5 community meetings involving the panchayat and other members. Through regular dialogue and persuasion, the family agreed to vacate the land. The panchayat allocated a piece of revenue land and relocated them. Community members helped in building a new house by transporting building materials, such as timber and roofing sheets, from the dismantled site.

The pasture was restored through the construction of a boundary wall, soil and water conservation, and the plantation of 18,000 saplings. The panchayat contributed 1,000 saplings and supported other activities through MGNREGA. The pastureland is now properly managed

B. Forest Protection and Development

In this period, 4 new applications for Community Forest Rights -CFRs were submitted from the Jhadol block. Discussions with these villages had been ongoing for several years to overcome the communities' hesitation.

Regular dialogue was held on CFR governance with 296 villages that had received CFR titles in earlier years. In 168 villages, meetings were conducted to educate people about the provision of CFR titles. In 95 villages, the CFR Management Committees (CFRMC) were formed, taking the total of villages with CFRMC to 114. Training of 68 CFRMCs was held, which saw the participation of 606 people.

Gram Sabhas of 3 villages submitted proposals to the forest department (FD), for the restoration

of CFR sites. In Ambavi village, the Gram Sabha successfully collaborated with the FD and initiated boundary wall construction. At 7 sites, communities did shramdaan for the repair of boundary walls. Additionally, the Gram Sabhas in 50 villages submitted proposals for CFR site development under MGNREGA.

During this period, 3 meetings were held with the Tribal Area Development Department (TADD) to discuss strategies for post-CFR implementation. Seva Mandir shared a draft training manual on CFR management. As a result of ongoing dialogue, TADD selected Seva Mandir as a nodal agency, along with another NGO, for CFR and post-CFR capacity building in Rajasthan. The finalization of an MoU between NGOs and the state government is in progress and will formalize the efforts to support CFR implementation across the state.

Land and Water Development

A. Land Development

During this reporting period, land treatment work covered an area of 1,410 ha. The activities spanned across 39 villages, targeting private and common lands, directly benefiting 1,637 households.

Farm bunding activities were carried out in 3 blocks to address soil erosion challenges. A new model, adapted from the traditional Choukha system, is also called the 30 feet by 40 feet model was introduced to enhance soil-moisture conservation in Rajsamand, as it has gentle sloping lands.

Increasing instances of land sales are leading to shifts in land use. The changes are negatively affecting natural drainage patterns, causing vegetation loss, declining soil fertility, shrinking grazing areas for livestock, reducing groundwater recharge zones, and threatening wildlife habitats.

B. Water Resources Development

This year, 11 anicuts were repaired, which will benefit 883 families with irrigation of 174 ha land and provide water for 4,003 animals. The panchayats provided NoCs for the sites. Many existing structures had leakage and seepage issues, hence foundation treatment through masonry and concrete technologies were carried out. Furthermore, partial apron work was done

along with cement plastering to reinforce the structures. The community played a vital role in monitoring the work at sites.

6 water bodies, including earthen embankment nadi, village ponds and anicuts were de-silted, excavating 38,727 cum of fertile silt. 60 farmers took silt at their own cost, which improved the soil quality of over 23 ha of land.

Monitoring of 215 selected wells in 36 villages across 6 blocks was done in the pre- and post-monsoon period. The data was collected by community workers. An increase (how much) in the water level was observed. This can be attributed to land development activities, construction and repair of water harvesting structures.





Before: The De-siltation activity

Dhanji ka Kheda

Dhanji ka Kheda village used to face a severe water shortage. The government installed 3 tube-wells and 3 handpumps, but all were dry. A local Bhamashah built a water tank, but its height and later a damaged pipeline left it unused. The village had 4 earthen ponds, but all were heavily silted. With these conditions, families had to rely on tankers for household water, and farming was only possible during the monsoon.

Between 2020 and 2022, Seva Mandir, with active participation from the local community, undertook the desilting of 2 ponds. Encouraged by the positive impact, the Village Development Committee mobilized the Gram Panchayat to de-silt 2 other ponds during 2023–24. They further made efforts to bring a pipeline from the Bagheri ka Naka dam for drinking water in the village. The committee leaders played a key role in overseeing the work

Altogether, the rejuvenation of 4 ponds has led to the annual replenishment of approximately 17 million litres of water. This has recharged 15 open wells and 11 bore wells, ensuring water security for 235 village families and their 600 livestock. The intervention has improved agricultural productivity through enhanced soil moisture and the availability of nutrient-rich silt.

Prem Singh, the Village Committee leader, shared, “With improved water availability, our village has come back to life.” The transformation in Dhanji ka Kheda is a strong example of how committed community leadership can enhance public initiatives and promote sustainable water management.

Capacity-Building

- 1 Training (2 days) was conducted with 18 Vanpals on the technique of direct seeding, method of plant survival assessment, and CFR governance.
- 267 Village-based orientation cum trainings were held with 6,367 community and panchayat members (3,618 women), focusing on site-specific restoration techniques, species selection, and plantation methods, including other associated conservation measures.
- With the purpose of continued learning and nurturing a new generation on the commons work, a team of 11 staff members from different functional levels has been formed. The members attended 3 trainings
- 23 Training sessions were conducted with 804 participants (429 women), to familiarize them with various techniques for land treatment.
- 340 Community members from 17 villages were trained on the management of anicuts and ponds.
- As part of the Environment Day celebration, shramdaan was done by the community and staff to revive a dried pond in Khamnor block. Community members from 5 nearby villages joined to excavate silt from the pond

Mangi Lal Kasota, member of NRD team in Kherwara block, was felicitated with the Change Maker Award 2025 by MakeMyTrip Foundation at the Annual CSR Rewards & Recognition Ceremony held on 19th March 2025 in Gurgaon. The felicitation was in recognition of his outstanding work on climate action and community empowerment.

Networking and Dissemination

Seva Mandir actively engaged in key state and national forums on land, forest, and commons governance. Staff participated in multiple workshops and conferences, sharing experiences on pastureland, CFR, water access, and women's roles in climate adaptation.

- Afforestation benefited 5,883 families with long-term livelihood opportunities, while generating 1.09 lacs person-days of wage earning. 95,758 bundles of grass worth ₹9.6 lacs were harvested from 17 new pasturelands, benefiting 1,545 households. A token of ₹95,780 was deposited across GVKs of these lands.
- This year plantation created a potential carbon sink of 3,239 tons of CO₂.
- The plant survival at 55 pasture sites developed in 2023 was 73%, higher than 62% of the plantation done in 2022.
- From 21 CFR sites, 10.95 lacs grass bundles worth ₹1 crore were harvested. Additionally, minor forest products like Mahua flowers and seeds, Honey, Amla, Sitafal, Jamun, Timru, Gond, etc. were collected by the community from 23 restored CFR sites.

- Land development activities helped recharge groundwater, leading to increased water levels in 772 wells. Additional recharge of 41.28 lacs litres of water started, and soil-moisture retention increased by 18 to 20%.
- Land Development work generated 35,865 person days of wage-earning opportunities for local families.
- Reduced run-off velocity through drainage treatment in 12 villages, protected erosion of 613 tons of topsoil.
- 23 anicuts and 4 ponds repaired in the last year replenished 6.9 crore litres, benefitting

1,296 families with irrigation of 467 ha of agricultural land.

- A total of ₹19 lacs was leveraged from the government under MGNREGA for the development of pasturelands and land and water resources. Communities contributed ₹11.6 lacs, including voluntary labour (shramdaan), to support these physical interventions.
- With community efforts, the Forest Department and Panchayats carried out restoration work worth ₹20.13 cr at 9 CFR sites covering 2,014 ha.

Key learnings

- Collecting local seeds is an effective strategy for enhancing plant survival and promoting biodiversity.
- New cost-effective ways for the removal of invasive species like Lantana and Jhuliflora and increased involvement of panchayats are required.
- During summer 2024, sudden heat waves resulted in high mortality of planted saplings in a short period. While this gap was filled with the active involvement of Gram Samuh, the impact indicated a major challenge for afforestation in future.
- The purpose of pastureland development is changing, driven by shifting community needs and ecological priorities. In villages where private pastures are there or livestock dependency is declining, the interest in

pastures is coming more for ecology, to prevent encroachment and increase greenery.

- This year, 17 old pastures reported forest fires, mainly due to lantana spread and uncut dry grass. In the context of the changing purpose of pastures, different plantation models need to be explored to balance ecological and livelihood needs.
- Construction of recharge pits of 2 m dimension on the drainage line, along with check dams and gully plugs, is impactful to check run-off and recharge groundwater.
- The 30'X40' models or Choukha system in flat terrain will be applicable for intercepting run-off, to create soil moisture and increase groundwater recharge.

Clean Water and Surroundings



No place too far for clean water

This year, efforts continued towards creating and upgrading infrastructure for safe drinking water and sanitation in both households and schools, strengthening eco-system for waste management in towns and rural areas, and influencing discourse on waste management.

Clean Drinking Water

1,413 households in 41 villages gained access to clean drinking water through the construction of tanks and the repair of handpumps. Construction of 8 decentralised drinking water systems benefited 205 families, while 21 school drinking water systems benefited 3,235 school children. The repair was carried out by the mechanics of the panchayats, and parts were provided by Seva Mandir.

451 community meetings on drinking water and tank management engaged 7,534 participants, including 4,800 women. To promote sustainable WASH practices, sessions were held with 10,100 school students, while School Management Committees were trained to manage new sanitation facilities. Regular dialogues with teachers, committees, and communities reinforced proper use of these facilities.

Activity	Systems (No.)	Families/ Children (No.)
Well Restoration and Tank Construction	6	140
Bore well with Tank Construction	2	65
Hand Pump Repair	92	1,208
School Drinking Water System	21	3,235

Children of the region face several oral health issues. Given this context, an oral health awareness program was initiated for school children. It reached 15,458 school children (7,719 girls) from 106 schools and 1,257 community members, led by trained community workers. Sessions covered brushing techniques, healthy eating habits, and included the distribution of dental kits.

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) played a crucial role in managing the village drinking water systems.

Members collected mutually agreed monthly contributions from households. Regular repair and maintenance of tanks remained challenging. The unavailability of essential spares, such as taps or valves, in villages often hindered their timely replacement.

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, while close-knit habitations received tap water, we focused on the uncovered remote hamlets, coordinating with panchayats and departments to avoid duplication of tank systems.

A hand-operated RO water filter, developed by Prof. Morinobu Endo's team at Shinshu University, Japan, was piloted in Jogioya ka Guda village for six months, in collaboration with Community Jameel. This innovative device operates without electricity, using a low-pressure hand pump and employs reverse osmosis (RO) technology to effectively remove total dissolved solids (TDS) from water. The device reduced TDS levels from 500–600 ppm to about 50 ppm (90% reduction), putting the TDS well below the recommended safe limit of 300 ppm. The household reported satisfaction with water quality. While effective, the filter requires 45–50 hand-pumps per litre and wastes the first litre at each new pumping, highlighting challenges of effort and water loss.

Access to Sanitation

During this period, 166 new household toilets were constructed, 55 non-functional household toilets were repaired, and construction and repair work was completed for 33 school toilets. The toilet repairs included minor structural fixes, routine maintenance, and awareness on regular and proper usage.



Toilet Construction	No.	Families/Schools (No.)
Construction of a new household toilet	175	166
Repair of existing household toilets	55	55
School Toilet Construction/ repair	33	6,865

Radha Bhil, 17, is a 10th-grade student. She lost both her parents at a young age and now lives with her brother and two younger siblings in Hatta Ji Ka Guda village in Kumbhalgarh block. Radha is physically disabled due to paralysis in both legs. Being differently abled, she faced many challenges in her daily life, especially in accessing sanitation facilities. The absence of a proper toilet at her home added to her struggles. Recognising her situation, the GVC prioritised her case, and with the support of Seva Mandir, a toilet was constructed at her home. This enabled her to manage her daily needs independently and with dignity.

The Government Upper Primary School in Jamun village (249 students) faced a sanitation crisis due to broken toilets, forcing children—especially girls—to use open spaces. With support from Seva Mandir, the SMC and GVC oversaw the construction of new toilets, while a community leader arranged a free water pipeline to complete the project. The new facilities have improved hygiene and safety, with SMC and GVC committing to long-term maintenance and cleaning.

The School WASH program improved hygiene education and infrastructure by constructing separate toilets, handwashing facilities, and training teachers and masons. A total of 72 community meetings and trainings engaged 4,385 people (2,571 women), while 54 SMC meetings and 38 training sessions promoted toilet usage, hygiene practices, and

management. These efforts focused on awareness, roles, and responsibilities in maintaining school sanitation. Despite these efforts, absence of personnel for regular cleaning of school toilets and consistent use of sanitary facilities remains major challenge, requiring continued dialogue with students, teachers, and SMCs.

Community-based Waste Management

During the reporting period, Seva Mandir deepened its community-based waste management work, including state-level advocacy. Waste management activities continued in Delwara and Kelwara, alongside

behaviour change efforts in four new peri-urban locations. Building on these learnings, the program expanded to 62 villages across nine panchayat samitis, while also leveraging support from Swachh Bharat Mission Phase 2.

Outreach	- 90,043 people (21,953 households), 1,783 shops
Locations	- 5 peri-urban towns and 62 villages
Waste collected	- 141.75 tons (excluding waste collection done by Panchayats/ other contractors)
User fees received	- ₹33,000; Community funds used - ₹1.43 lacs
Government Leverage	- ₹20.2 lacs (5.41 lacs Delwara, 0.24 lacs Kelwara, 5.55 lacs Khamnor, and 9 lacs Rishabhdev)

In Delwara, Aarogya Mitras led waste management with Panchayat support, community contributions of ₹56,000, and two shramdaan events, while Seva Mandir covered fuel costs.

In Kelwara, 10 Aarogya Mitras led cleaning activities. An increased honorarium for AMs was agreed upon, and the panchayat made contributions for garbage collection. Environment Day was celebrated with 57

children, with 20 SBM officials present for observation of waste management work.

In Khamnor and Rishabhdev, cleaning continued with government and community support. At Khamnor, Seva Mandir conducted 111 awareness sessions engaging 4,285 people. Seventy families were trained in in-situ composting, and an exposure visit to Indore helped local contractors and mobilisers learn improved waste management practices.

Khamnor, a peri-urban village with 450 households and 250 shops, has significantly improved its waste management system through a strong multi-stakeholder approach. This has led to the involvement of the Panchayat, Khamnor Vikas Samiti, consisting of the local youth, Arogya Mitras and Vyapar Mandal. Acting on persistent complaints, a new contractor was brought in.

Daily street cleaning has since improved, leading to greater public satisfaction. Drains were cleaned regularly by the contractor and community members.

Khamnor's Samiti removed roadside dustbins and eliminated dumping sites. It was interesting to see the youth actively participate in the cleaning drives and awareness campaigns. This multi-stakeholder approach has fostered accountability and strengthened community ownership in sanitation management.



In Rishabhdev, 410 people participated in an Environment Day cleanliness drive, prompting a community request to the SDM for cleaning the local river. Shramdaan activities continued at key public sites.

Intervention in Rural areas

In rural areas, waste management is emerging as a challenge due to changing lifestyles, increased use of non-biodegradable materials like polythene, and a lack of waste management systems. Seva Mandir expanded waste management to 62 villages across 19 Gram Panchayats, focusing on community engagement, behaviour change, and strengthening government services.

- 24 community Mobilisers and AMs visited Dungarpur to learn about Material Recovery

Facilities, composting, recycling units, and waste processing equipment.

- Three one-day trainings engaged 113 stakeholders on village-level waste management, health impacts, segregation, plastic reduction, disposal methods, and the roles of different actors.
- A total of 317 community meetings and street shows reached 25,363 people. This was complemented by an awareness campaign for 1,881 schoolchildren on reuse, upcycling, and hygiene
- Two health camps for 45 AMs provided check-ups, nutrition and hygiene sessions, and distributed safety equipment including goggles, masks, gloves, jackets, and gumboots.

A study was conducted in 11 villages of the Sevantri cluster in the Kumbhalgarh block to assess the use of WASH infrastructure. The study covered 88 households and 4 primary schools through surveys and focus group discussions. An assessment was done of facilities made in homes and schools during 2023-24.

- 88% of households regularly used toilets, while 12.5% did not due to water scarcity, habits, discomfort, or early cattle routines.
- 80% of households cleaned toilets regularly, 86% used soap for handwashing, with some schoolchildren helping promote hygiene at home.
- Families desired taps and lights in toilets for easier access, especially for older members and children. They also suggested the placement of water tanks on roofs to improve convenience and hygiene.
- All 4 primary schools reported full toilet usage, though some fixtures were difficult for young children. The teachers suggested child-friendly designs.

Staff capacity building & networking

- A 20-member internal water team workshop enhanced understanding of physical, chemical, and biological water quality. It included a visit to the Dewali government water treatment plant to understand purification methods.
- A visit to a community RO unit in Rajpur village offered insights into the benefits and challenges of community-based RO systems.
- Three staff attended a UNICEF workshop on sanitation worker safety, sharing Seva Mandir's initiatives and discussing fair honoraria through the Basic Schedule of Rates.
- With support from PRADAN, staff and community members in Khamnor and Kankroli were trained on the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) process. It led to the preparation of plans for 25 villages across 10 panchayats and uploads on the Government's eGramSwaraj portal.

Convergence

The funds leveraged from the government for clean drinking water, sanitation and waste management were ₹75.60 lacs, while the community contribution was ₹15 lacs.

Key learnings

- Regular use and maintenance of School WASH facilities remains a challenge due to limited funds, lack of sanitation workers, and low SMC ownership.
- Delayed appointment and payment of contractors has led to stalling of work. Lack of waste management infrastructure hampers sustained community Participation despite increased awareness.
- Engagement of the Pollution Control Board, Devasthan, and Tourism departments is crucial for effective waste management in peri-urban tourist areas.



Livelihoods & Value chains



The livelihood interventions focused on empowering farmers through an ecosystem approach, emphasizing crop diversification and improving livestock practices. Millet farming was further expanded this year. Integrated and natural farming practices, along with market linkages, were promoted to enhance income. This year, a total of 29,109 farmers were reached through training, exposure visits, and livelihood interventions.

Farm-based Agriculture

A. Grains, Pulses and Oilseeds

14,325 farmers were supported in cultivating pulses and oilseeds through quality seeds, training, and water-efficient technologies. The focus was also on conserving indigenous seeds and enabling farmers to use their own seeds for

cultivation. Their efforts yielded 210 tons of produce—green gram, black gram, groundnut, and pigeon pea—valued at ₹1.49 crore, with 22% retained for household consumption. This was achieved through convergence with the government and KVK.

Season	Name of Crop	Farmers supported (No.)	Production (qt.)	Value of Produce (in lacs)	Productivity (qt/ha.)		
					SM work area	Udaipur district *	Rajasthan *
Zaid 2024	Green Gram	431	301.34	23.38	4.87	4.21	5.59
	Groundnut	658	1,055.88	78.97	8.98	11.17	13.51
Kharif 2024	Black Gram	1,039	525.47	32.35	5.05	6	5.69
	Pigeon Pea	727	218.1	15.27	7.45	7	6.39

	Green Gram	Groundnut	Black Gram	Pigeon Pea
Income Range (₹)	Farmers (No.)			
< 5,000	134 (36%)	87 (18%)	714 (68%)	318 (44%)
5,001 - 15,000	222 (60%)	263 (54%)	203 (20%)	356 (49%)
Above 15,000	14 (4%)	136 (28%)	123 (12%)	53 (7%)
Total	370	486	1,039	727

Data from 2,622 farmers shows groundnut productivity was far higher in Kotra (8.98 qt/ha, 428 farmers) than Jhadol (1.2 qt/ha, 62 farmers), where the crop is new. In Kotra, groundnut is replacing BT Cotton as it needs less labour, avoids child labor, offers better prices, eliminates the need for middlemen, improves soil health, and gives quicker returns.

18 farmers in Girwa (12) and Jhadol (6) adopted pre-monsoon dry sowing (PMDS), sowing 11 crop types for soil health and higher Kharif yields. Girwa farmers used crops for green manuring,

while Jhadol farmers harvested 2.76 qt, reporting 10–20% yield gains in maize and wheat. Based on the results, 100 more farmers were trained on PMDS and other natural farming practices in Girwa-Badgaon block.

Yellow Vein Mosaic Virus continues to damage black gram and green gram, with black gram performing better on sloppy farms. Farmers on flat lands are shifting away from black gram during the Kharif season to soybean, a trend noted by Agriculture Department and KVK officials.

Two field studies highlighted key challenges and aspirations in agriculture. In Khamnor block, volunteers working with 8 farmers in two villages found heavy drudgery due to reliance on traditional tools, with farmers spending 2–3 hours on bed preparation and 1–2 days on weeding for just 0.5 bigha of land; recommendations included farmer-friendly tools, training, and financial support to improve efficiency. In Emdi Panchayat, Kankroli block, an intern surveyed 40 youth and 75 farmers, finding that 40% of youth were interested in farming, 30% were not, and 30% preferred education, factory work, or jobs outside the state. While 62.5% aspired to entrepreneurship and 52.5% to non-agricultural shops, 95% were unaware of government schemes or FPOs, indicating both a continuing interest in farming and a need for awareness, support, and opportunities for diverse career paths.

B. Millets

This year, 4,537 farmers, including 2,037 new ones across four blocks, cultivated Ragi, Kodo and Proso millets. To support millet cultivation, 2,037 new farmers were provided with Ragi and

Kodo seeds, while old farmers used their own seeds. They produced 242 tons of Ragi (₹1.21 cr.), 18.7 tons of Kodo (₹13 lacs) and 25.2 tons of Proso (₹15.17 lacs), with productivity at or above district/national averages.



Millets	Farmers (No.)	Area (ha)	Production (qt)	Average Productivity (qt/ha) SM area	Average Productivity (qt/ha) District *	Average Productivity (qt/ha) National **	Value of produce (₹ in lacs)
Ragi	3,725	199	2,421.25	12.17	12	16.61	121.06
Kodo	375	20	187.5	9.36	5	5.25	13.13
Proso	562	18	252.9	14.05	15	20	15.17
	4,662						149.36

* Source: www.nuscommunity.org; ** Source: www.milletstats.com

Seva Mandir held dialogues with the Tribal Area Development Department for financial support to expand millet cultivation in Jhadol, with a project under consideration. Alongside KVK, RRA Network, and MPUAT, a scientific package of practices is being developed, incorporating farmer inputs and Seva Mandir's chapter on millet revival in South Rajasthan.

C. Vegetables

We supported 6,744 farmers in commercial vegetable cultivation with training, seeds, and nursery techniques. From data of 3,548 farmers, cultivation on 568 ha yielded ₹2.43 crore in income, averaging ₹9,511 per farmer (highest ₹65,000), with sales of 10–15 kg vegetables on alternate days. The vegetables were selected based on the winner crop.

Vegetables were also grown in 13,146 nutrition gardens with 8,280 families in collaboration with early childcare & nutrition (ECCN) theme. Some families engaged both in nutritional and commercial farming of vegetables.



Vegetable cultivation	
Income Range (₹)	Farmers (No.)
< 5,000	741 (21%)
5,001 to 15,000	1,850 (52%)
Above 15,000	957 (27%)
Total	3,548

Pushpa Devi from Nogama village shifted from wheat and maize to vegetable cultivation and floriculture with Seva Mandir's support. Farming on 7 bighas (2 own + 5 leased), she now grows diverse crops and earns ₹2–2.5 lakh annually. Recently, she initiated a Bio-Input Resource Centre to promote and sell natural fertilizers and botanicals to local farmers.

D. Fruit Orchards

This year, 155 farmers from two blocks raised orchards with 4,950 fruit plants (lime, guava, papaya, mango, dragon fruit, and pomegranate) along with training and inputs. 41,400 fruit plants were grown in nutrition gardens. Dragon fruit was newly introduced with 10 farmers (600 saplings), and 212 earlier orchard farmers in Kumbhalgarh earned ₹12.25 lakh from fruit sales, with incomes ranging from ₹650 to ₹21,000 per

Income Range (₹)	Farmers (No.)
< 5000	66 (5.9%)
5001-15,000	489 (44%)
Above 15,000	556 (50.1%)
Total	1,111

E. Floriculture

A total of 1,111 farmers from four blocks cultivated flowers—1,027 grew marigolds and 84 grew roses—earning ₹59 lakh this year. Additionally, two farmers from Alsigarh sold 26,400 rose saplings for ₹3.3 lakh, while an entrepreneur from Kankroli expanded into selling flower seeds and drying vegetables.

F. Environment-Friendly & Cost-Effective Farming

During this period, 6,506 farmers adopted natural farming practices, saving ₹1,000–1,500 annually on chemical inputs and moving toward

sustainable cultivation. Ten new Bio-Input Resource Centres (bringing the total to 13) provided natural fertilizers and botanicals to 1,245 farmers, with 13 agri-entrepreneurs earning ₹43,820 from bio-products and ₹3.5 lakh from vegetable nurseries and bio-fertiliser sales.



Nakki Bai, an agri-preneur from Jhadol, received ₹1.5 lac fellowship from Peter Patel Next Step Fund to expand her Bio-resource Centre (BRC). She built a dedicated room for storing bio-fertilizers and botanicals, and for training farmers. She upgraded the nursery structure by replacing bamboo poles with iron angles and increasing the number of plants from 20,000 to 30,000. Earlier, limited space forced her to store materials outside. With the new facility, she manages the BRC more efficiently and in a larger capacity. In 2024–25, she earned ₹1.18 lacs by providing nursery and BRC services to over 500 farmers across 26 villages.

A total of 282 sprinkler and 65 drip irrigation systems were installed across 53 villages, with farmers contributing 30% of costs, saving water, labour, and energy. Additionally, six solar-

powered lift systems in Khamnor, Kotra, and Sarada will irrigate 46 ha for 128 families, saving ₹5 lakh annually in diesel or electricity.

Livestock Rearing

To help farmers diversify and sustain livelihoods amid climate uncertainty, Seva Mandir provides capacity building on livestock management, including feeding, marketing, infrastructure, and veterinary care.

Data from 556 farmers showed annual earnings of ₹33.7 lakh : ₹19.73 lakh from bird sales, ₹2.8 lakh from eggs, and ₹11.2 lakh from consumption - averaging ₹6,062 per farmer (highest ₹17,500).

A. Backyard Poultry

Backyard poultry was promoted as a key intervention to supplement income and nutrition.

5,548 households received support for backyard poultry, with flock sizes of 8–10 birds in three blocks, and 20–24 in two other blocks, alongside training and guidance. Vaccination of 11,619 birds was done through 26 entrepreneurs for whom a supply chain was created.

A total of 213 night shelters were built, with feeders and drinkers provided to 90 farmers for demonstration of improved poultry practices.



Poultry annual income (Rs)	Sample Farmers (No)
3,000 or less	98 (18%)
3,001-6,000	122 (22%)
Above 6,000	336 (60%)
Total	556

B. Goat Rearing

Seva Mandir supported 2,550 farmers in goat rearing with breeding, feeding, health, and management interventions, including buck

Value Chains and Farmers Collectives

The 12-member women's collective Gavri Millets in Jhadol sold ₹63,500 worth of millets and received a ₹2 lakh fellowship from Peter Patel Next Step Fund, which they used as working capital to expand their enterprise.

During this period, two volunteer studies supported Gavri Millets' enterprise: one from Esade Business School suggested reducing

Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO)

The Bhatoli Kisan Agro Producer Company Ltd., a FPO in Kankroli, was registered in February 2025 with 10 members and 5 directors (2 women). Three trainings for 55 participants and an exposure visit to Samriddhi APC, Pindwara, strengthened the understanding of FPO operations, governance, and management.

induction, vaccinations, and nutritional supplements. Data from 355 farmers of three blocks showed annual earnings of ₹27.2 lakh, averaging ₹7,659 per farmer (highest ₹30,000).

C. Cattle rearing

A total of 213 animal health camps treated 8,370 livestock of 1,860 families for diseases like foot-and-mouth and diarrhoea, with support from the Animal Husbandry department and active involvement of village groups.

procurement costs, setting up farmers' markets, a millet café, and partnering with restaurants, while sourcing from wholesalers if production was low. Another study by MLSU interns assessed millet cultivation in Jhadol, analysed adoption, market demand, and environmental benefits, and developed a business model promoting local livelihoods, sustainable farming, and rural economic development.

To improve access and promote women's entrepreneurship, SHGs in two villages (Kotra) were supported with oil expeller machines, solely operated by women entrepreneurs. During this period, 4.5 tons of mustard and groundnut were processed, generating ₹47,000 from oil, ₹32,000 from oilseed cake, and saving families an average of ₹240 annually in processing costs.

Sharmila Devi and Sangeeta are entrepreneurs from Jhadol block who have achieved notable success in paddy processing. In only 10 days, they processed 7.16 qt paddy, generating an income of ₹1,432. The paddy processing yielded 1.86 qt. of paddy husk as a byproduct, which was valued at ₹4,655. They plan to use this amount to cover electricity bills and other operational expenses.

A Van Dhan Centre in Medi village (Kotra) with 305 women from 24 SHGs was established under TRIFED for Non-Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) collection and marketing. During the year, 1.1 qtl of forest seeds and 7 kg of gum were collected, earning ₹10,000, alongside a 4-day training for 31 women and an exposure visit for 22 women to Panarva to learn millet cultivation.

Two team members joined an 18-month Sustainable Livelihood Development training by Grassroots and AKRSP, supported by Axis Bank Foundation, to strengthen non-farm livelihood and entrepreneurship skills. During this period, they supported 24 entrepreneurs (14 women, 10 men) in diverse businesses, providing training in marketing, bookkeeping, and bank linkages, including assisting one lemongrass entrepreneur secure an ₹8 lakh loan.

Baludas Vaishnav from Khatamala village, who began with marigold cultivation in 2019, diversified into broccoli, beetroot, and lemongrass, processing and selling products online to earn over ₹30,000 per month. With Seva Mandir's support, he secured an ₹8 lakh loan to scale operations with new equipment and solar power, aiming to raise income to ₹50,000 monthly while sourcing raw materials from local farmers to boost community livelihoods.



Capacity Building

They attended 5 trainings, given by Rajasthan Natural Farming Coalition (RNFC) and CSL, during the period.

A total of 2,507 farmer trainings reached 28,262 participants (17,477 women, 10,785 men) across all blocks, led by experts, community workers, Seva Mandir staff, and government officials, using Kisaan Pathshalas and CRP-led sessions. Trainings covered crop practices,

livestock management, and 16 exposure visits involved 378 farmers, while 30 women underwent five master trainer sessions on natural farming.

The livelihoods team of 25 members strengthened their understanding of farm-based interventions through CSL-supported capacity building, focusing on farmer well-being, efficiency, and integrated digital tools. During the

period, 26 staff attended 21 days of CSL training on agriculture, market analysis, and FPO development; 1 staff joined a seed systems training by RRA Network; 7 staff visited Gram

Vikas, Harsha Trust, and PRADAN in Odisha to study millet value chains and water initiatives; and 3 staff visited an FPO in Pindwara to learn about its operations.

Convergence

A total of ₹135.12lacs was leveraged for livelihood interventions: ₹48.75lacs from government (for trainings, seeds, animal health

camps, cattle sheds, micro-irrigation, and agriculture equipment) and ₹86.37 lacs from community contributions.

Key learnings

- Focusing on farmers' well-being and efficiency, along with strengthened team capacity, improves productivity and intervention outcomes.
- Youth interest in agriculture is declining; In Khamnor, the community shared that families avoided marrying their daughters to households where women were expected to work on farms or with livestock. As a result, the burden of agriculture work falls on the elderly.
- Promoting millet cultivation and its inclusion in diets can enhance production and benefits.



Women Empowerment



SHG Meeting Khamnaur

The program focused on strengthening women collectives, expanding financial digital literacy, supporting women facing violence, and sensitizing men. Efforts continued to address early marriage, domestic violence, and women trafficking. A pilot on women's literacy was tried, and an action-research on cancer awareness was initiated.

Women Collectives

During the reporting period, 1,926 SHGs across 462 villages continued operations, with membership rising to 28,605 women (up 12% from last year); 147 new SHGs were formed. 124 underperforming groups were closed, organized into 117 clusters and 7 federations. Six new federations were established in four blocks, with 441 federation leaders trained through 15 sessions, and exposure visits enabled 90 women to learn about cluster functioning and enterprise operations. The Urban Federation, with 2,883

members, held regular board and member meetings, implemented a 1% development assistance fee on loans, raising ₹1.87 lacs, and conducted a training to plan work on targeted issues.

- Total of 122 issues were raised by SHGs and clusters; 114 were resolved while 8 remained under process, with 33% related to MFI loans and 22% concerning gender-based violence (early marriage, Aata Sata, desertion).

Gender-based issues addressed by SHGs and clusters included trafficking, early marriage, young age relationships, domestic violence,

polygamy, and desertion, with community committees and government officials actively engaged in monitoring and resolution.

Type of Issues	
Burden of private and microfinance institution (MFI) loans	33%
Domestic violence, Early marriage, Aata Saata, and Desertion	22%
SHG norms and processes	15%
Adolescents and youth-related concerns (gaming, cyber fraud, etc.)	13%
Government services (Water issues, Anganwadi functioning, access to other govt. schemes)	17%

During a training session, the cluster leaders from Manoharpura in Udaipur spoke about caste-based discrimination faced by Kalbeliya community. After training, the leaders met with Kalbeliya families and encouraged women to form an SHG. The 15-woman group led to collaborative problem-solving, such as cleaning and repairing the temple area, demonstrating how SHGs can bridge social gaps and foster community cooperation.

Adult Literacy for Women

An adult literacy pilot for women aged 15 and above was implemented in 12 villages, with 13 centres and 12 Akshar Saathis (facilitators). Each centre conducted 60 one-hour classes. It enabled 600 women to attain reading and writing skills equivalent to 3rd grade, addressing the region's low female literacy rate of 52%.

Seva Mandir, in partnership with GBH Cancer Hospital, launched the Rural Outreach Program to raise cancer awareness and facilitate screening, diagnosis, and treatment for 4,000 women from 279 SHGs across three blocks. 15 trained Swasthya Mitras conducted awareness sessions, home visits, and referrals for free hospital care.

Financial Inclusion

A. Savings and Credit in SHGs

The members of all Self-Help Groups (SHGs) saved between ₹50 and to 1,000 per month. The total fund of SHGs was ₹20.66 cr by the end of this year, an increase of ₹1.5 cr (7.9%), from FY23-24.

SHGs continued to use their funds for credit to members at an affordable rate of interest, which helped in meeting their emergency and other needs. The old SHGs with large funds mostly used loans for the construction of houses, digging borewells, purchase of motorcycles/four-

wheelers, upgrading business, and higher education of children. The new SHGs and those with smaller funds used loans for repaying old debt, purchasing seeds, and meeting health expenses.

The accounts of SHGs were managed by 943 accountants, of whom 98% were women. Regular training and handholding of accountants was done to enhance the understanding of SHG bookkeeping. 11,359 SHG members were trained in SHG formation, norms and process of SHGs, leadership, cluster formation, and audit, through 545 campaigns and trainings. The old groups were trained on the concept, norms, roles, and responsibilities of cluster and federation, and on addressing social issues of women.

115 women from the Kelwara cluster of Kumbhalgarh block were trained with the support of Sadhna to enhance handicraft skills. Trained women artisans prepared different

products and earned ₹3,300-5,000 in 3-4 months. They were also provided training on gender and financial digital literacy.

During the year, SHG members saved ₹50-1,000 per month, bringing the total SHG fund to ₹20.66Cr, a 7.9% increase from FY 23-24, which was used to provide affordable credit for emergencies, business expansion, education, health, agricultural needs, and other household requirements. The accounts of SHGs were managed by 943 accountants, 98% women, who received regular training and handholding to strengthen bookkeeping. Additionally, 11,359 SHG members were trained through 545 campaigns on SHG formation, norms, leadership, cluster and federation responsibilities, and addressing social issues, while 115 women artisans from the Kelwara cluster enhanced their handicraft, gender, and financial-digital skills, earning ₹3,300-5,000 over 3-4 months.

Mithudi Bai, 37, from Negadiya village, struggled with poor health after two caesarean deliveries and rising medical costs. In order to manage expenses, she took a loan of ₹40,000 from a micro-finance company. Though she managed to repay the high-interest loan in instalments, she was trapped in a debt cycle. When she joined an SHG, she learnt about the risks of private loans and began repaying them through SHG support. Recognising her needs, SHG members informed her about a vacancy in Ananta Hospital and motivated her to join. Mithudi Bai now works there, earning ₹9,000 a month, while her husband has taken marble polishing work. With only a few instalments remaining, she vows not to borrow from private finance companies again.

Similarly, Premi Devi from Ghata village transformed her life through SHG support, using a ₹5,500 loan to start tailoring from home, gradually earning ₹2,500 per month and saving ₹35,000, becoming a role model for other women in her village.

A new SHG MIS software with a mobile app and web dashboard was rolled out last year, with 30 trainings conducted for 240 staff, accountants,

and data-entry operators. As of March, data for 1,132 of 1,926 SHGs have been updated.



B. Financial and Digital Literacy (FDL)

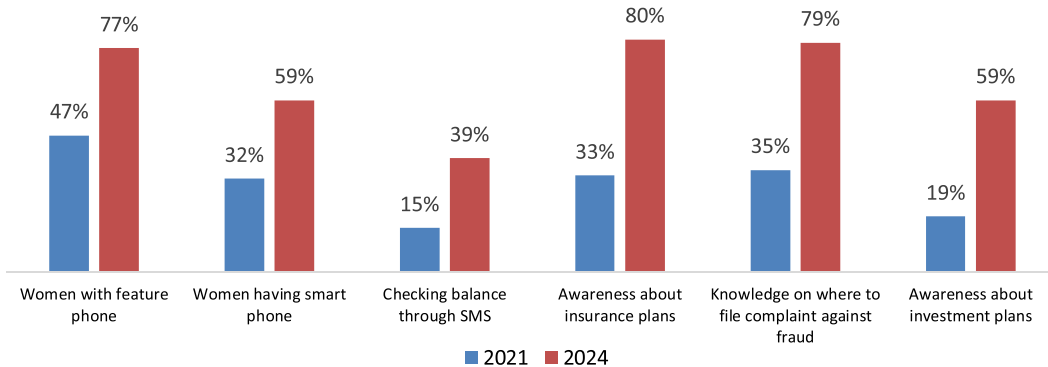
FDL was delivered in 3 phases via 12 modules by trained Digital Sakhis, with 403 trained and 134 actively engaged.

24,687 women (7,497 old, 17,190 new) were educated on FDL through 1,879 campaigns, including re-orientation on government schemes.

Six out of 12 FDL modules were digitized into animated stories for easier and engaging learning; the remaining will be digitized next year.

The FDL assessment with 2,247 women showed significant improvements since 2021, with increased mobile access, greater use of digital financial services, enhanced awareness of insurance and investments, and overall stronger financial decision-making and security.

FDL Impact



Women and their families were linked to government schemes, with high enrolment in PMSBY *Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana* (67%), *Mukhyamantri Aayushman Aarogya MAA* (65%), *Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana* PMJJBY (44%), and a notable 18% in *Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana* PMFBY, which is usually less preferred by communities.

Seva Mandir collaborated with Haqdarshak to build the capacity of Digital Sakhis on linking communities with government welfare schemes. For this, trained members used a mobile application to provide last-mile application support for a nominal fee. 12 Digital Sakhis were trained on using the Haqdarshak mobile app.

Address Gender Based Violence

A. Women Resource Centres (WRC)

10 WRCs functioned in 5 blocks, reaching out to about 169 villages to support women in distress and in accessing social security schemes. 39 trained women leaders operated WRCs and provided counselling and support to women facing violence and cost-effectively ensured timely justice. In 3 villages, 5 new young WRC leaders were appointed, as the old leaders were not working properly. Ten WRCs across 5 blocks covered 169 villages. 39 trained leaders provided counselling and support, and 5 new leaders were appointed in underperforming centres.

246 women approached WRCs during the period. Old pending cases were 37. Of 283 total cases (246 new + 37 pending), 77% were resolved, mostly spousal violence (77%), followed by eve-teasing/eloping (20%) and witch accusation/trafficking (3%).

1,514 women accessed government schemes with WRC support, including insurance, IDs, pensions, Palanhar, Sukanya Samridhi, and birth certificates

WRC leaders received training and review meetings to improve outreach, sustainability, and linkages, with exposure visits for sharing best practices

In Hevda village, a tribal woman, Harka Devi, was accused of witchcraft by her three step-sons, who held her responsible for the illness of their wives and children. Despite repeated appeals, the caste panchayat failed to resolve the matter. She approached the Panarwa Women's Resource Centre (WRC), which registered her case, issued formal notices, and convened a settlement meeting with family members and Panchayat leaders. The WRC leaders counselled the sons, highlighted the legal provisions against witch accusations, and facilitated a written agreement prohibiting further harassment, with a penalty of ₹11,000 for violations. Three follow-up visits were conducted, after which Harka Devi now lives peacefully with her family.

B. Shakti Sadan- Short Stay Home (SSH)

During the past year, 80 women approached SSH, of which 73 women and 45 children received shelter; most were young (18–35), rural, or from tribal communities.

In the last two years, shelter and counselling numbers have declined. Women seeking support at SSH are now required to first approach the Sakhi One Stop Centre (OSC) for counselling and stay there for up to 5 days. This approach and prioritization of family reunification have limited

access and effectiveness of SSH. Women stayed for 2–3 months on average. Majority faced domestic violence, depression, or abandonment.

78% of women were rehabilitated—through family reunification, return to parents, employment, or institutional referral. 12 women secured jobs in domestic work, data entry, tailoring, and self-employment; many also received vocational training. Women participated in sessions on yoga, gender, nutrition, and FDL, and joined exposure visits to Shilpgram, the police station, and attended a film screening.



Creating an Enabling Environment for Women

11 trainings engaged 366 men, focusing on gender, masculinity, violence, and men's role in addressing gender issues. 40 trainings reached 1,129 women leaders, emphasizing early

marriage and trafficking. 7 trainings and 53 meetings involved 1,036 adolescents, addressing gender, education, early marriage, and trafficking.

Community events

- The international fortnightly campaign on preventing violence against women was held in November to December. It saw 41 street plays, 287 village campaigns, and 8 block-level workshops, reaching 14,652 people.
- International Women's Day was celebrated in March with 8 block-level events on local women's issues, engaging 1,560 women.
- Staff participated in 2 monthly meetings of Saathin, organised by the Government Women and Child Development.
- In two blocks, efforts were made to establish linkages with the Mahila Salah Evam Suraksha Kendra (MSSK).

Kuldeep Sharma, Additional District Judge and Head, District Legal Services Authority, visited Seva Mandir to understand its work. During the visit, a discussion was held on how Seva Mandir could run MSSK and OSC.

Capacity building of staff

Seva Mandir staff participated in several important workshops and trainings across the year, focusing on land rights, gender, digital inclusion, and agroecology. These included sessions by WGWLO, Rajeevika, ISDM, Point of View India, NCF, MAKAM, RRAN, and Astha, helping strengthen the understanding of gender equality, eco-feminism, and inclusive development.

Learnings

- While many rural women are part of government SHGs, efforts are needed to reach women outside these groups, especially in remote areas.
- Transition to the new SHG software faces technical and adaptation challenges, requiring focused efforts to strengthen the MIS.
- Strengthening linkages with government institutions is essential to improve women's access to counseling, legal aid, medical care, and shelter.
- Continuous capacity building and handholding of Saathins is necessary to enhance their understanding and effectiveness.

Early Childcare and Nutrition



During the reporting period, early childcare and nutrition initiatives were expanded to 928 new villages across Udaipur, Salumber, and Sirohi districts, reaching 112,213 children and 84,160 women through 101 Balwadis, 1,734 Anganwadi Centres, and 4,040 community workers. Key activities included training 25 ICDS Lady Supervisors on play-based learning, nutrition, and digital tools; exposure visits for 27 Anganwadi Workers to enhance preschool engagement; development of nutrition gardens with 11,590 families, inspiring 3,340 families to replicate the practice; and increased community contributions to Balwadis and AWCs totalling ₹12.72 lacs, reflecting growing local ownership and accountability.

Education of Caregivers and Communities

Two trainings reached 153 village-based community workers on early childcare, mother counselling, anthropometric measurements, and community engagement. A one-day training

covered 378 ASHAs on maternal care, age-appropriate feeding, anthropometry, and their role in Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committees (VHSNCs).

During the year, 78,141 women were reached through 8,066 awareness meetings and 75,093 home visits on maternal and child health. Family members attended 64 Saas-Bahu Sammelans to

discuss nutrition and hygiene. 42 Traditional Birth Attendants in Kotra block were trained on safe delivery practices, institutional referrals, and post-natal care.

Lakshmi, 30 years, from Upli Katav was in her third pregnancy. In the third month, Bal Sakhi visited her and encouraged her to register at AWC. Lakshmi was feeling weak, breathless, dizzy, and often vomited. She had never gone for a check-up before. Bal Sakhi counselled on antenatal care and the dangers of anaemia. During the check-up, her haemoglobin came to just 7 g/dl, indicating severe anaemia. Lakshmi was advised to take iron and calcium supplements and to improve her diet. With regular supplements and a better diet, and Bal Sakhi's continued counselling, her haemoglobin rose to 11.7 g/dl by the eighth month. She felt stronger, and her symptoms eased. Lakshmi safely delivered a healthy 3 kg baby at the CHC. She remains grateful for Bal Sakhi's timely support.

Nutrition Garden

During the year, 11,590 families were motivated to grow nutrition gardens. 3,340 gardens were developed independently, while 8,250 received support from Seva Mandir. 782 recipe demonstrations reached 10,298 community members to promote nutritious diets using locally grown millets, fruits, and vegetables.

Positive Deviance Hearth (PDH)

141 PDH sessions were held with 2,604 children (775 MAM, 871 SAM and 958 normal) and their mothers, providing counselling on health, hygiene, and nutrition.

Out of 1,646 MAM and SAM children, 18% recovered, and 80% gained weight. Follow-up home visits ensured continued adoption of practices.

A volunteer-led study in 3 villages assessed the impact of PDH sessions through interviews with 24 caregivers and observation of ongoing sessions. Findings showed improved caregiver knowledge on nutrition and feeding. Challenges remained in replicating recipes at home due to workload and limited food availability. Attendance in observed sessions varied (13% full, 27% partial, majority irregular) due to household and livelihood pressures. Recommendations included shorter session duration, accessible venues, alignment with non-farming days, and recipes with local ingredients. Pilot trials with these adjustments led to better caregiver attendance and participation.

Community Engagement

1,182 peer leaders from 295 villages were trained on maternal and child health, nutrition, and related issues. They conducted 188 meetings with 2,940 community members. The low meeting numbers require steps for further motivation of inactive leaders. A GPDP campaign in 3 panchayats and a block-level meeting with 350 participants across 15 panchayats raised concerns around AWC infrastructure, childcare, and crèche needs. One panchayat successfully integrated these priorities into the e-GramSwaraj platform.

195 GVC members (58% women) in Kotra block were oriented on maternal and childcare services and their monitoring role. Similarly, 922 Village Health, Sanitation, and Nutrition Committee (VHNSC) members (70% women) from 149 panchayats received training on roles, responsibilities, and fund utilization. A total of 478 VHNSC meetings with 7,791 members were held to revive and strengthen committee functioning.

After training on maternal and child healthcare, Anita Devi, a GVC member in Kotra block, raised the absence of an ANM in her village. With persistent follow-up and collective action, a temporary ANM was appointed, ensuring antenatal check-ups, vaccinations, and essential healthcare for mothers and children.

During Breastfeeding Week and Poshan Month, 59 nukkad nataks, 1,468 community meetings, and 2 Poshan Melas were organised, reaching over 33,600 community members. The events promoted awareness on antenatal care, safe delivery, breastfeeding, complementary feeding,

and diet diversity through recipe demonstrations, IEC displays, games, quizzes, and street plays. Additionally, 55 nukkad nataks held during the year engaged nearly 7,000 people on nutrition and childcare practices.

Institutional Care

Balwadis

This year, Seva Mandir's 101 Balwadis nurtured the growth of 2,558 children (53% girls) and supported 2,012 mothers. Alongside early education, Balwadis play a crucial role in enabling mothers to work - nearly one-third participated in MGNREGA or other wage work, while others engaged in farming and household responsibilities.

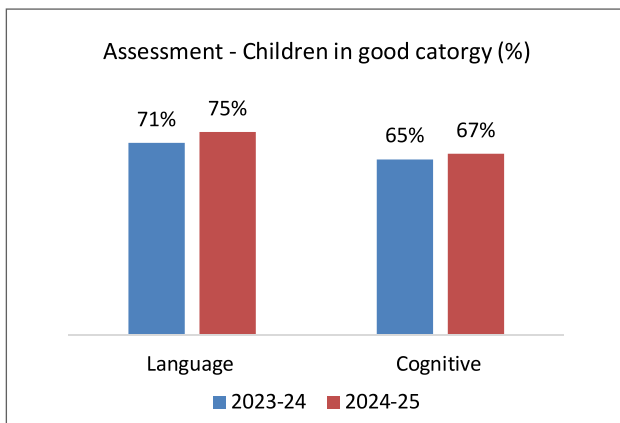
Health and Nutrition

Daily hot-cooked meals (Khichdi/Daliya) and fortified nutri-pops were provided to all Balwadi children, with extra nutrition for severely malnourished children. Ayurvedic iron supplements were given daily, while Vitamin A and deworming medicines were provided twice a year through the government. Growth monitoring of 2,428 children in December 2024 showed 80% normal, 16% moderately underweight, and

4% severely underweight, reflecting a 2% improvement since February 2024. Sanchalikas were trained to use growth monitoring charts and the Anthro Cal App to track nutritional status effectively.

Pre-School Education

Children were engaged through songs, poems, storytelling, and pre-number activities, with weekly video support for Sanchalikas. Assessment of 1,633 children across 101 Balwadis showed a 4% improvement in language development and 2% in cognitive skills, reflecting the positive impact of consistent preschool activities.



Community Engagement

1,159 monthly Balwadi meetings engaged 2,325 parents and caregivers, including 581 men, to discuss attendance, pre-school education, nutrition, and community participation. Parents contributed ₹4.13 lacs in fees and in-kind support worth ₹3.63 lacs, while Gram Samuhs provided ₹95,860 for 29 Balwadi Sanchalikas' honorarium, reflecting strong community ownership.

Capacity building of Sanchalikas

Grading of 100 Sanchalikas showed 36% of Sanchalikas were in A grade, 44% were B grade, and 20% in C grade, with a slight improvement in the B category over last year.

A two-day residential training for 98 Sanchalikas focused on creating low-cost teaching materials, complemented by monthly review meetings to enhance Balwadi functioning and address training needs.

Anganwadi Centres (AWC)

Seva Mandir supported 1,734 AWCs across four districts, resuming work in 929 centres post-Khushi project closure and adding 254 new ones. A total of 112,213 children (52% girls) benefited through focused efforts on AWW support, mother counselling, community engagement, and infrastructure improvement

Capacity building

trainings were conducted with 25 Lady Supervisors, 356 Anganwadi Workers, and 69 Helpers in collaboration with the ICDS department and Rocket Learning, under the flagship campaign of ICDS, Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi. It focused on play-based learning, use of digital tools, gender in childcare, nutrition and effective supervision.

An exposure visit for 27 AWWs enhanced their understanding of preschool engagement, community roles, and quality health services.

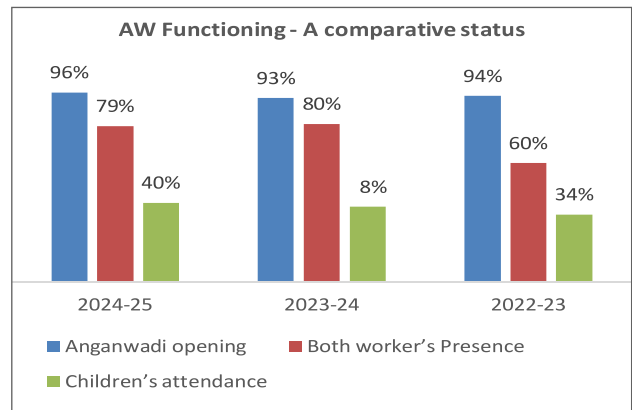
Handholding Support

Regular visits showed 96% AWCs functional and improved nutrition delivery. While attendance of children rose slightly to 40%, consistent

handholding of AWWs, home visits, and counselling sessions were undertaken to enhance preschool activities, maternal health awareness, and community participation. The provision of supplementary nutrition for mothers and children at AWCs has improved significantly.

Infrastructure Improvement

Renovation of 53 AWCs and 2 health sub-centres across six blocks improved safety and functionality through roof, floor, and wall repairs. Contributions worth ₹4.96 lakh were mobilised from communities, panchayats, and Gram Vikas Kosh, reflecting strong local participation in childcare infrastructure development.



Pal Sepur AWC in Sarada block had very low attendance of 8–9 children out of 42 enrolled daily. The centre was located near a steep drainage canal, was surrounded by overgrown bushes, and lacked proper stairs. Due to unsafe conditions, parents were reluctant to send children, and AWW and AWH had to physically carry children to the building. The issue was discussed in two village meetings and was raised 4–5 times with panchayat, but no action was taken. With Seva Mandir's intervention, community was motivated for shramdaan. Together, they cleared bushes, repaired steps, and laid gravel in the courtyard. Seva Mandir supported construction of proper stairs and railings to improve safety. AWC has become safe and enjoyable space and 15–20 children regularly attend the centre.

AWC in Gadavan village in Rishabhdev block, was in poor condition, with a leaking roof, cramped space, and very low attendance. When BalSakhi visited, only 1–2 children were present. She raised the issue in community meeting. With Seva Mandir's support, the centre was repaired. Even after renovation, issues of irregular functioning, lack of hot meals, and materials like toys and utensils, persisted. Seva Mandir provided necessary supplies, trained AWW, and motivated community to regularly monitor AWC's functioning. Today, AWC in Gadavan has transformed into a vibrant space for children, and 10–15 children regularly attending AWC.

At Sepur AWC (Sarada block), Seva Mandir and the community improved safety through shramdaan and construction support, raising daily attendance from 8–9 to 15–20 children. In Gadavan AWC (Rishabhdev block), repairs, provision of supplies, and community monitoring transformed an underperforming centre into a vibrant space, now attended by 10–15 children regularly.

New study

A study titled Transforming Anganwadis to bring Quality Early Childcare and Education was launched in October 2024 to assess ECCE quality, learning gaps, teacher training needs, and technology use across 8 tribal districts of South Rajasthan. In Phase 1, data were collected from 731 AWCs covering 5,625 children (3–6 years) using a mixed-methods approach. Phase 2, planned for the next period, will evaluate preschool quality using ECEQAS and assess children's learning levels through a school readiness tool. The final findings will be presented after completion of both phases.

Treatment and Referral of Malnourished Children

Anthropometric measurement of 16,035 children (6 months–5 years) showed 83% normal, 11% moderately acutely malnourished (MAM), and 6% severely acutely malnourished (SAM), reflecting a 3% reduction in wasting from last year. During this period, 221 Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition CMAM camps treated 876 malnourished children (265 SAM, 603 MAM), with 77% SAM and 82% MAM children recovering. Additionally, 338 children were referred to government health facilities or Amrit Clinics for treatment, of whom 307 have recovered, while follow-up continues for the rest.

Anu, a 2-year-old girl from Palesar, a tribal village, was severely malnourished, weighing only 5.1 kg. She was very weak, had boils on her body, and had lost her appetite. Her family was initially hesitant to seek medical help, but after repeated visits and counselling by a community worker, they agreed to get her treated. Anu was first taken to CHC in Kotda, from where she was referred to the district hospital in Udaipur. She spent 3 days in the ICU and 10 days in the Malnutrition Treatment Centre (MTC). Although the doctor advised a 14-day stay, her parents left early, fearing wage loss. They could not receive the daily allowance of ₹225 for caregivers by the government as they left early. After returning home, the family was upset about not receiving the allowance. The community worker visited and explained the situation. Over 2 months, the worker continued home visits, counselled the family on proper nutrition and care and helped obtain additional take-home rations from AWC. Anu's condition has gradually improved, and her weight has increased to 7.4 kg. She is healthy, and her parents are happy.

Seva Mandir Amrit Clinic



The Kojawada Clinic, jointly run by Seva Mandir and Basic Healthcare Services (BHS), serves over 40 remote villages in two blocks. During the year,

7,447 people received treatment, a 20% increase from last year, with 55% women and 14% children. 164 outreach sessions reached

2,422 community members on maternal and child health, nutrition, malaria, diarrhoea, and non-communicable diseases, along with follow-up support for tuberculosis, severe malnutrition, diabetes, and hypertension.

Maternal and child health services included 240 antenatal, 150 postnatal, 56 safe deliveries, and 64 safe abortions, with 96 high-risk pregnancies managed. 153 SAM children were treated, with

18 recovering. An analysis of 59 deliveries showed 75% women anaemic and 38% low birth weight newborns, highlighting the need for focused interventions. The clinic also treated 338 tuberculosis, 1,165 malaria, 536 hypertension, and 335 diabetes patients. Regular capacity-building, monthly reviews, and active community engagement ensured improved service delivery, awareness on health, and better maternal and child care outcomes.

Manish, a 20-year-old from Paderi village, had to discontinue his ITI studies due to severe illness and weight loss (33 kg). After ineffective treatment by a traditional healer, he was diagnosed with tuberculosis at the Seva Mandir Amrit Clinic. Immediate treatment, counselling for his family, regular home visits, and dietary support helped him regain his health and increase his weight to 43 kg. Manish is now fully recovered and planning to resume his studies.

Influence External Agencies for Effective Childcare Interface with Government

Several meetings with state ICDS officials, district and block ICDS and Health officials were organized. The meetings were held to seek approval of interventions, share progress of activities, and share concerns. Field staff participated in sector-level meetings of the ICDS department.

Seva Mandir engaged with state, district, and block ICDS and Health officials to approve interventions, share progress, and raise concerns. Collaboration was done with RBSK of Udaipur District for treatment of malnourished children. Team members participated in Rajasthan Mission 2030, recommending MTC-like facilities at blocks, availability of gynaecologists and paediatricians at CHCs, and inclusion of HPV vaccination.

Interface with Other Organizations

Two staff and 16 Phulwari workers from Basic Healthcare Services (BHS) visited Dholi Ghati Balwadi to observe best practices in nutrition, early education, and community engagement.

Nine members from SEWA Rural, Gujarat visited Seva Mandir to learn the community-led childcare approach, expressing particular appreciation for Seva Mandir's model of community engagement.

Networking on Early Childcare

Seva Mandir, as Convener of Rajasthan FORCES, held partner and virtual meetings to review progress and plan a children's education manifesto. It also organized a state-level consultation in Jaipur with 50 stakeholders to discuss childcare access, governance, and crèche policy, resulting in key recommendations on coordination, support for migrant children, fund use, and capacity building.

Capacity Building of Staff

A 2-day training was held for 29 block, zonal, and unit staff on ECCN vision, 1000-day concept, integrated nutrition, institutional care, monitoring, and roles. 2 staff attended an OakNorth Global Partner meet in Bengaluru for experience sharing.

Learnings

- Community contributions and children's attendance at AWCs remain low due to accessibility issues.
- AWWs spend less time on pre-school activities because of extensive record-keeping in Poshan Tracker and registers, highlighting the need for support in managing MIS.
- AWC and health centre infrastructure continue to be a challenge despite government and NGO efforts.



Quality Education



The Quality Education program focused on ensuring inclusive and meaningful learning opportunities for children aged 6–14 years, both in and out of school. Through Shiksha Kendras, Residential Learning Camps, and partnerships with government schools, the program expanded its reach across two blocks and introduced a new pilot in another block of Jaipur district.

Key Highlights:

- Reached 23,099 children (43% girls) across 122 villages through Shiksha Kendras (SKs), Residential Learning Camps (RLCs), and collaborations with 82 government schools.
- 1,572 children (46% girls) were mainstreamed into government and private schools, including those from closed SKs, RLCs, and school dropouts.
- A Community Learning Centre (CLC) in Delwara addressed learning gaps in Science and Math for 94 children (49% girls) using activity-based learning methods.
- A CLC in Udaipur supported 38 children (34% girls) from De-notified Tribes, in partnership with the Urban SHG Federation.

- Digital learning tools were introduced in 79 schools (38 SKs, 41 government schools) and RLCs to enhance classroom engagement.
- 10 girls received scholarship support to pursue higher studies in Science and Agriculture at Vidya Bhawan School.

Quality Education for out-of-school children

A. Shiksha Kendras (SK)

89 Shiksha Kendras supported 2,808 children (1,376 girls). 80 SKs remained functional, reaching 2,492 children (48% girls), run by 90 Anudeshaks (14 female) with a 28:1 student-teacher ratio, same as last year. 767 new children (43% girls) were enrolled—31% of total enrolment, marking a 5% increase over 2023. Average daily attendance reached 72% (24

children per SK)—a 6% rise from last year. Teaching materials like puzzles, flashcards, story charts, and games were locally developed using cloth, paper, stones, and sticks. These low-cost, reusable tools made learning practical, contextual, and inclusive. 38 SKs used tablets to teach English, benefiting 726 children, making classes more engaging for both instructors and students.

A new initiative, Tablets for Kids, was piloted for children aged 9 to 15 to build essential digital skills and life skills like creativity, communication and problem-solving through tablet-based learning. The curriculum covered basic and advanced skills such as digital drawing, typing, photography, video creation, internet searching, and calculations. Children also learned how to plan simple events (e.g. birthday party), make a list of required items and design digital invitation cards, which helped build organisational and communication skills practically and creatively.

The initiative was implemented in 8 SKs of Jhadol and Girwa-Badgaon blocks. Anudeshaks were trained in teaching digital skills. The pilot covered all children in the village. SK children were taught at the centre during teaching hours, while non-SK children were reached after SK hours. 394 children—326 non-SK and 68 SK, benefited from the pilot. Assessment of children who completed the course showed that 71% children in Jhadol improved digital skills, while 55% in Badgaon-Girwa.

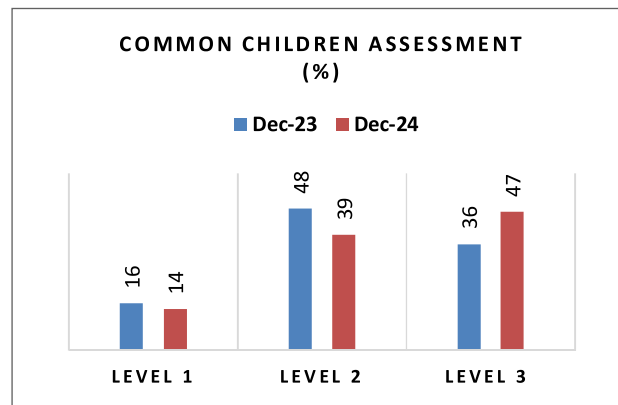
Saturday sessions focused on life skills and environmental learning. 513 SK alumni (297 girls) interacted with current students, inspiring them through art and music. Two alumni meets in

Kotra brought together 115 alumni (48 girls)—with 19% employed and 41% pursuing higher studies—highlighting the need for career guidance and sustainable livelihood support.

Rakesh Pargi, from a tribal family in Kotra block, missed school to helping his family with household work and cattle grazing. With counselling from a Shiksha Kendra instructor, he enrolled at age 10, later completing his education up to graduation in Arts. After a computer course, he opened an e-Mitra centre and now earns around ₹15,000 per month, supporting his family and setting an inspiring example of perseverance and progress.

An annual assessment of 2,213 children (45% girls) showed an 11% increase in students achieving the highest learning level (Level 3). Two 3-day trainings were held for 90 Anudeshaks, covering child-centred learning, low-cost materials, health, digital tools, and community engagement. 1,263 parent-teacher meetings (with 1,784 parents) and 431 community meetings were conducted to discuss attendance,

enrolment, and mainstreaming of out-of-school children. Events like Pravesh Utsav, International Literacy Day, World Environment Day, and Bal Mela engaged 1,926 children, 1,830 parents, and 3,623 community members. Parents contributed ₹8.66 lakhs (80% of the annual target) across 70 SKs, supporting rent, maintenance, and supplies for children.



The Rohimala SK, started in 2010, became a symbol of community determination. When Seva Mandir ended direct support in 2022, villagers chose to keep the centre alive, contributing ₹3,600 per child and even hosting it rent-free. In 2024, after the passing of a beloved instructor, the community honoured his wish by enrolling all SK children in the nearby government school - marking not just an end, but a heartfelt transition from non-formal to formal education, rooted in collective care and commitment.

B. Residential Learning Camps (RLC)

During the year, 188 out-of-school children (48% girls) attended Residential Learning Camps (RLCs) held in two batches across four blocks. Children were taught Hindi, Math, English, and Computer, using low-cost teaching aids. Alongside academics, they participated in physical activities, self-defence training, and sessions on hygiene and environment. Creative and experiential learning was encouraged.

Zero out-of-school children - With the goal of ensuring every child is in school, focused interventions were carried out in 11 villages of Kherwara where SKs had closed in the past two years. A survey of 1,095 households identified 100 out-of-school children (58 girls), including 57 who had never attended school. Former instructors and Shiksha Sahayaks mobilized communities to enrol these children, counselling families to overcome social barriers such as early marriage, migration, and gender bias. As a result, 57 children were first enrolled in Residential

Learning Camps and later mainstreamed into government schools.

C. Impacts

- 1,231 children (46% girls) from SKs were enrolled in government schools. This included 316 (54% girls) from 10 closed SKs and 915 (44% girls) from 80 continuing SKs. 98% children joined primary grades.
- With close attendance monitoring, average daily attendance in 80 SKs reached 72%, marking a 6% increase from the previous year, despite weather-related disruptions.
- All 128 children (40% girls) from 2023-24 batch of RLC were enrolled in schools for further education. 80% joined primary grades and 20% upper primary grades.
- Parents' annual contribution increased from last year in 60 SKs, showing enhanced community ownership.

Quality education for In-school children

A. Scholarship

A study in two villages of Khamnor Tehsil surveyed 326 respondents under 18 to understand education challenges. Overall, 42% had dropped out, with boys (52%) more affected than girls (32%). Key reasons included lack of interest, family responsibilities, financial needs, and early marriage. Boys were influenced by peer pressure and work migration, while girls left school mainly for domestic duties, marriage, or due to parental and social pressures. After dropping out, boys mostly joined factory work or migrated for employment, whereas girls took up domestic work or marital responsibilities.

Most rural schools lack Science and Agriculture streams after Grade 10, limiting students' higher

education options. To address this, a scholarship pilot was launched to support girls pursuing these subjects in Grades 11–12.

This year, 10 girls from 5 blocks enrolled in Vidya Bhawan School, choosing Agriculture (5), Science-PCMB (3), and Science-PCM (2). The support covered tuition, residence, uniforms, books, and coaching. Bridge classes helped fill learning gaps, while workshops on health, hygiene, and safety promoted overall well-being.

Career counselling and coaching were provided for JET and NEET exams. All 10 girls passed Grade 11 — one topped the school with 75%, and another secured second place with 73%, marking a strong start for the pilot initiative.

Bhavna, a 15-year-old from Kotra block, faced a difficult childhood, losing her mother at seven and growing up with a father struggling with alcohol and violence. Supported by her stepmother, she remained determined to continue her education. Though passionate about Science and Agriculture, her village and block schools offered limited options. Her opportunity came when an SK Anudeshak introduced her to the Peter Patel Scholarship. With guidance from the instructor and Seva Mandir staff, Bhavna secured the scholarship to study in Udaipur, pursuing Agriculture and preparing for competitive exams through JET coaching. She scored 71% in her Class 11 exams and actively engages in extracurricular activities.

B. Quality education in government schools

The program reached 82 government schools across 56 villages, supporting 6,412 primary-grade children (50% girls) through 74 Shiksha Sahayaks using activity-based learning. New

initiatives in 27 schools benefited 13,603 upper-primary and secondary students with digital learning, improved water and sanitation, and 22 Resource Rooms equipped with TLMs, experiments, libraries, and digital tools.

Block	District	Village	School
Kumbhalgarh	Rajsamand	18	34
Khamnor, Delwara	Rajsamand	8	9
Kherwara, Rishabhdev	Udaipur	10	14
Jhadol	Udaipur	10	10
Kotda	Udaipur	5	10
Sanganer (rural)	Jaipur	5	5
Total		56	82

Capacity building included 171 Shiksha Sahayaks trained in ABL, low-cost teaching materials, science and math kits, storytelling, and community engagement. Focused sessions and exposure visits enhanced WASH awareness, career guidance, and environmental education. These efforts strengthened classroom practices and introduced innovative, subject-integrated learning approaches across all grades.

In 62 schools, interventions focused on activity-based learning, community engagement, and improving WASH, while 20 schools in two blocks prioritized WASH and community participation. Across these schools, 6,121 students (56% girls) attended remedial classes during summer and winter breaks, 454 Bal Manch meetings engaged

8,923 children (68% girls), and 328 School Management Committee meetings involved 3,212 members (53% women) to strengthen school governance. Irregular and out-of-school children—780 in total—were counselled, supported through 13,143 home visits, 373 parent meetings, and 349 community meetings involving over 7,300 parents and 7,600 community members.

In Bhopa Basti, Rampura village (Sanganer block), 16 children from de-notified tribes had never attended school; four with complete documents were enrolled in government schools, while a Shiksha Kendra will be opened to support the remaining children until they are formally enrolled.

In Delwara town, 1st to 8th grade students in two schools were taught Science and Math through games and experiments to simplify concepts and boost interest. Local schools lack full science and agriculture streams, limiting options, particularly for girls who face additional barriers to traveling for education. Discussions with school principals and Nagrik Vikas Manch (NVM) led to plans for using smart classrooms, partnering with nearby colleges, and leveraging online platforms to provide local access to science education, including practicals in nearby government school labs.

C. Enabling Environment for Girls Education

A pilot initiative in 12 schools of Kumbhalgarh block focused on improving attendance, retention, and learning for girls in grades 1–8. Of 1,383 enrolled children, 51% were girls. Twelve Shiksha Sahayaks mentored girls, engaged parents and communities, and promoted activity-based learning. As a result, 91% of irregular girls and 79% of dropouts were supported back into school. An endline survey in 8 villages showed significant progress: enrolment of girls aged 11–14 rose from 92% to 97.6% and for 15–18 years from 66% to 76%; dropouts declined sharply; and foundational learning in grades 1–5 improved from 31% to 52%, with stronger competencies in Hindi, English, and Math.

D. Capacity Building of Government School Teachers

Capacity-building workshops were conducted with 160 government school teachers (54 female) across multiple blocks, focusing on activity-based learning (ABL), subject-specific topics in Hindi, English, Math, and Science, low-cost teaching-learning materials, and the use of government-provided Science and Math kits. The sessions also included storytelling techniques and strategies for community engagement. Among these, 77 teachers attended ABL-focused trainings in four blocks, while specialized workshops included Experiential Learning in Delwara for 49 participants (including 34

principals), Gender Sensitization in Kotra (10 participants), and WASH, career counselling, and environmental education orientation in Jhadol (24 participants).

E. Community learning centre (CLC)

Delwara :

A pilot Community Learning Centre (CLC) in Delwara taught Science and Math concepts to 94 children (46 girls) using ABL activity-based learning (games, experiments, videos, nature walks). The centre operated 3 hours daily, 6 days a week, and was facilitated by 2 female Shiksha Sahayaks from the community. Parents were engaged through 490 home visits and 4 meetings, contributing ₹12,000, while children participated in winter camp, farm visits, and World Environment Day activities. A Community Science Fair showcased students' projects to 50 community members, promoting learning, community involvement, and higher academic aspirations.



Geeta Bhil, a 12-year-old from Bhil Basti and a 6th-grade student of Mahatma Gandhi Government School of Delwara, joined CLC in May 2024. Her exposure to Science and Math was limited. Through experiments, she explored the concepts of buoyancy, electric circuits, and gravity. She built a telescope, an air pump, and an electric circuit, which boosted her confidence. She won first place in the School Science Fair and second place in the Nipun Mela for her Mathematics model. Geeta's transformation highlighted the impact of experiential learning in building curiosity and confidence.

Ramnagar, Udaipur :

Seva Mandir opened a Community Learning Centre (CLC) in February 2024 for the Gadulia Lohar and other marginalized communities in Ramnagar Basti, Udaipur, addressing barriers of poverty, social stigma, and limited access to education. Despite challenges in finding a space, retaining instructors, and conducting surveys, the centre now serves 38 children (13 girls), including five out-of-school children. A local female Shiksha Sahayak, trained in activity-based learning, runs the CLC six days a week, with Sundays for celebrations and parent engagement. Children learn Hindi, English, and Math, and participate in arts, crafts, dance, and music activities. Families contribute ₹100 per

month, and the SHG federation provides ongoing monitoring and support, creating a safe and inclusive learning space.

Magnetic Fields, an annual music festival in Alsisar, Jhunjhanu, approached Seva Mandir to support local education initiatives. After visits and nine virtual meetings, Seva Mandir proposed interventions including teacher capacity building, classroom redesign, community library set-up, and improvement of sanitation and water facilities. This year, support began with guidance for procuring a printer, inverter, and solar RO system, with further plans to strengthen SMCs, enhance community involvement, and establish a resource room.

Impacts

- 153 children (87 girls) who had dropped out of grades 1–8 were re-enrolled, and 560 children (192 girls) improved attendance to 81% regularity.
- Science and Math scores rose significantly: primary grades – Science 48%→72%, Math 56%→75%; upper-primary – Science 50%→75%, Math 60%→80%.
- Community contributed ₹5.41 lakh towards sanitation, school security, teacher honorarium, and sports.

Capacity building

Throughout the year, Seva Mandir staff participated in diverse national, regional, and virtual workshops focusing on education, gender equity, technology, communication, and community engagement. These included dialogues by UNESCO, UNICEF, ASPBAE, and CRY, as well as exposure visits and storytelling trainings, enhancing staff capacity, collaboration, and innovative learning approaches.

Rafe Bullick Memorial Foundation

This year, 70 applications were received for educational support, and of them, 40 students were supported by RBMF. 28 recipients were girls, marking a continued emphasis on supporting female children. The students received scholarships of ₹6.34 lacs.

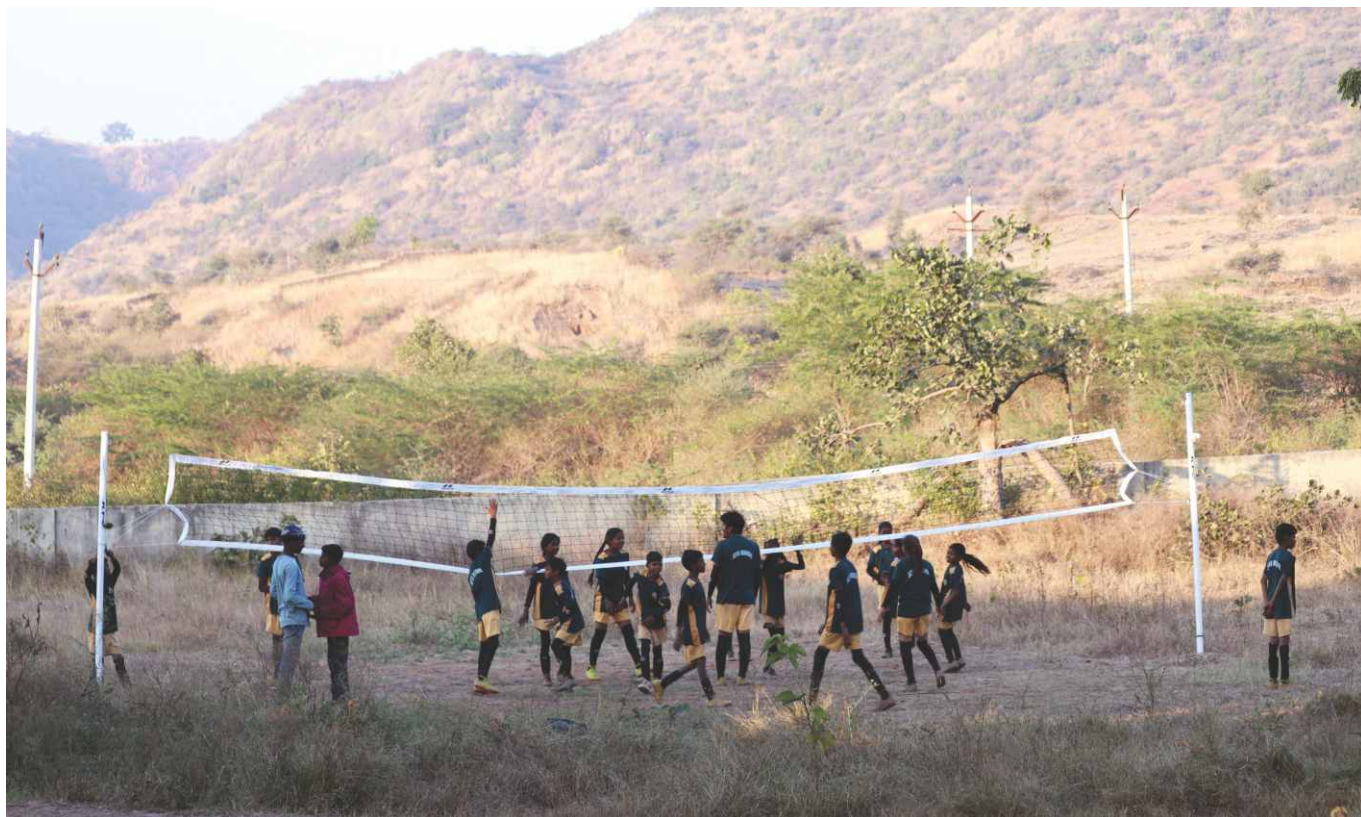
The benefited students included 8 school-going, 7 in graduation, and 35 in professional courses. 30 (18 girls) students were from outside Seva Mandir, and 20 (10 girls) were children of Seva Mandir staff. Additionally, RBMF provided an education loan worth ₹5.5 lacs to 3 staff members to support their children's higher studies.

Efforts continued to improve the eligibility criteria and selection process for the RBMF aid. The updated guidelines helped ensure consistency and fairness.

On October 14th, Rafe Bullick's death anniversary, a blood donation camp was organised for Seva Mandir staff and volunteers at RNT Medical College. 13 team members volunteered for the donation.

Varaju Kumari Bheel, 27, is in her first year of B.Ed. course and a mother of two children, who live with her husband and in-laws while she studies in a different village. After completing Class 12, she began her graduation through distance learning but paused her studies following the birth of her first child. She later taught out-of-school children at a Seva Mandir-supported education centre, and had her second child in 2021, which delayed her participation in a teacher training course in 2022. In 2024, she joined a regular B.Ed. program, living near the college with her husband's encouragement. The RBMF grant helped her repay part of the loan taken to cover increased expenses. Motivated by her internship at a village school, where she encountered students struggling with basic reading, Varaju is determined to complete her degree and pursue a teaching career to support her family.

Youth Empowerment



Sports ground at Rama village in Girwa - Badgaon Block

Under this theme, the focus was on Youth platforms, Sports and Life skills, to engage youth aged between 12 to 18 years. The youth were educated in sexual and reproductive health, financial digital literacy, and gender sensitisation, and were engaged constructively through different sports. The theme facilitated community engagement on youth-related issues, fostering a supportive and enabling environment. A pilot was also launched to engage urban youth meaningfully. Discussion and pilot training were held for establishing a life skill academy.

Key Highlights

- 9,950 youth (of which 51% were girls) aged 12 to 18 from 60 villages were reached out to.
- 185 Yuva Manch (youth platforms) raised 379 youth issues, of which 283 were addressed.
- 3,419 youth (of which 39% were girls) were engaged in sports. They played football, volleyball and kho-kho on 86 sports grounds, including those that were developed last year.
- 305 youth (of which 37% were girls) participated in school-level tournaments, 16 players (5 girls) represented their district in football and volleyball. 9 players (2 girls) represented the state in kho-kho and football.

- 9,950 youth (51% girls) attended life skills sessions. Of them, ₹4,655 youth (51% girls) attended on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH), 7,938 youth (38% girls) on Financial

Digital Literacy (FDL), and 4,063 youth (49% girls) on Gender Sensitisation. The sessions were facilitated by 120 trained peer leaders (1 male and 1 female from each village).

Yuva Platforms (Yuva Manch)

185 Yuva Manch were established this year, engaging a total of 7,139 youths (44% girls) aged 12 to 18, with 30 to 40 members per Manch. During the year, 5 new platforms were formed. 2,345 new youth joined different platforms, increasing membership from 4,794 to 7,139, witnessing a growth of 49%. While some youths do become irregular in their participation over time, they do not leave the Manch entirely. Efforts continued to encourage their regular involvement.

1,850 monthly meetings of Yuva Manch were held. During the meetings, conversations on diverse topics such as role of education, crime, relationships, discrimination etc were conducted. These were facilitated through activities such as storytelling, games and songs. 12 Yuva Mitras (6 females) facilitated the meetings.

Themes	Issues (No.)
School dropout, enrolment, open schooling	85
Theft, violence, harassment, DJ conflicts	70
Love affairs, elopement	65
Gender and caste-based discrimination and violence	64
Substance abuse	35
Early marriage	25
Lack of information on Sexual and reproductive health	11
Witch accusation	10
Road accidents	8
Misuse of social media	4
Suicide	2
Total	379

1,864 home visits were conducted by Yuva Mitras to emphasize the importance of sports and life skills, and discuss youth-related challenges.

379 issues were raised, and from them, 283 issues were resolved through Yuva Manch and community meetings. The issues ranged from gender, caste discrimination, violence, education, early relationships, road safety, and

others. Yuva Mitras helped in discussion and redressal of the issues. The community institutions supported the Manch to address challenging issues, such as harassment of girls, girl participation in sports, violence, misuse of social media etc.

24 WhatsApp groups were used to actively engage 2,500 youth (very few youths have phones, and most girls do not have their own phones), serving as a platform to share information on various topics of life skills, inspirational stories, career guidance, and agriculture. The groups played a vital role in connecting with young people. The platforms enabled youth to learn, report local issues, and strengthen their connection with their peers and community leaders.

This year, storybooks were introduced in Yuva Manch to make the meetings more engaging and inspiring. Each Manch received a set of 25 books covering topics of environment, gender sensitivity, body changes, menstruation, financial literacy, sports, etc., through inspiring stories in simple Hindi and English. Youth Mitras were trained on using these books by 2 resource persons from Curious Cocoon. Youth showed high interest in motivational and relatable books like Kyun Kyun Ladki, Hauslon Ki Udaan and Daro Mat Halla Machao. They engaged enthusiastically with the books and often asked for new ones.

World Youth Day, Yoga Day and Environment Day were celebrated across all clusters. 7,694 youth (46% girls) participated along with 5,212 community members.

A dialogue was held in Bhamti village with 40 participants, including parents, community members, and youth, aimed at exploring generational differences and fostering mutual understanding. Parents expressed concerns about youth behavior, such as impatience, excessive mobile phone use, alcohol consumption, disturbances at home, use of gutkha and bidi, irregular school attendance, preference for migration, and demands for expensive bikes and phones. On the other hand, youth emphasised their desire for independence, modern lifestyles, and open communication. The discussion revealed a clear gap in expectations and communication between the two generations. The meeting concluded with a shared understanding that respectful dialogue and mutual support were essential for the positive development of young people.

10 review meetings with 12 Yuva Mitras were held to discuss program strategy, planning, and progress. The focus was on counselling, life skill

education, community engagement and record keeping.



Savita Kumari, from Saradit village, dropped out of school in 9th grade due to family responsibilities. Eldest in 7 siblings, with a specially-abled father and mother engaged in labour work, she had to manage both household chores and farming. After a year, she shared her concerns during a Yuva Manch meeting. A Yuva Mitra visited her home and convinced her parents to support her return to education. Savita enrolled in 10th grade through open schooling, which allowed her to balance studies and home responsibilities. Her results are awaited, and she plans to continue her education. She is a regular attendee of Yuva Manch meetings.

Anil, from Som village, is a 9th grade student. He used to smoke frequently. The habit affected his studies as well as influenced other boys. During one conversation, Yuva Mitra discovered that peer pressure led to this habit. Over the next few weeks, Yuva Mitra showed him videos of the harmful effects of smoking and continuously talked to him. Eventually, Anil quit smoking. He now regularly attends Yuva Manch meetings and encourages others to make healthier choices.

Sports

Members of all Yuva Manch were encouraged to engage in sports to promote physical and mental well-being, boost self-esteem, and enhance confidence. 3,419 youth (39% girls) participated—an increase of 1,145 youth (50% girls) in this year. 15 Yuva Coaches (1 female) and 12 Yuva Mitras facilitated the sports activities.

Sports kits were provided to ensure both safety and performance. Parents contributed between ₹150 to ₹250 per kit, amounting to a total ₹2.72 lacs. Some funds were used for ground maintenance, repairing sports gear, and providing snacks to players during tournaments.

The youth are presently using 86 playgrounds – 57 developed last year and 29 existing grounds. They have shown more interest in football and volleyball, while fewer youth prefer Kho-Kho. This year, they played every day for 3 hours under the guidance of coaches. Both boys and girls played in their jerseys, and in most villages, they played together. Community members came in the evening to watch them play. To create a

comfortable and eco-friendly environment around the grounds, the youth planted 1,779 saplings, of which 1,497 were provided by the panchayats, and 282 by Seva Mandir.

During the cool-down sessions, discussions were held on the important sports values of teamwork, discipline, resilience, respect, and fair play. The sessions also addressed issues faced by youth, such as girls' harassment, parental restrictions on sports participation, and the use of abusive language on the grounds.

The inter-cluster football tournaments were organised, wherein 2,104 youth (43% girls) and 888 community members participated. The communities contributed meals and prizes to encourage participation. Further, 305 youth (37% girls) participated in school tournaments; of them, 16 players (5 girls) represented their district, and 9 players (2 girls) represented the state. The grounds are becoming stronger as new commons in villages.



Tara (15) and Manju (17) defied norms that once said, “girls don't play football.” Despite facing taunts and restrictions, they practised with borrowed shoes and unshakable determination. Their talent led them to the state level and earned them spots at the Hindustan Zinc Football Academy. They are regularly invited to trials and camps organised by the academy. Tara has been offered a full scholarship from the academy, which includes free training, accommodation, and education. She is now preparing to represent Rajasthan for Under-15 Nationals, while Manju has been selected for national-level training. Once doubted, they are now village heroes, and symbols of how girls can perform when given a chance.

Sunita Kumari from Guda village overcame family opposition and social pressure to pursue sports. Walking five kilometres daily to train in Kho-Kho and football, her efforts paid off when her team won an inter-block tournament under her leadership. Once doubtful, her parents now beam with pride. Sunita's journey is inspiring other girls to dream big.

Jaya from Jhunthri village, always loved sports but lacked support. Her school had no playground, and girls weren't encouraged to play. When sports activities started in her village, Jaya wanted to join, but her parents were against it because she had household chores. With help from friends, she convinced them. Despite restrictions, Jaya practised daily. Her dedication led her to become our program's and Jhunthri's first female coach, now training 15–20 girls and boys in Football, Kho-kho, and Volleyball. Jaya has completed her B.Sc. and is preparing for the police constable exam. She says, “Where I once stood alone, now many girls stand with me. I want to give them the space I never had, so they can change their lives through sports, just like I did.”

During this year, activities on the grounds increased, with participation from both youth and adults. For example, in Delwara and Sagwada, adults play volleyball late evening. Villagers from neighbouring areas also come occasionally and play volleyball. Further, communities started coming forward for ground maintenance and organising sports tournaments. The token amount collected from players was used for arrangements for players during tournaments in Patiya, repairing punctures in footballs across clusters, and levelling the ground in Birothi.

2 trainings and 6 review meetings were held with Yuva Coaches. A residential training (7 days) was facilitated by 2 Physical Training Instructors from Kaya government school, and 1 sports coach from Udaipur. Training had theoretical and practical sessions related to sports.

Sports Initiative in Udaipur city: This year, conversations were held with SHG clusters in Udaipur to understand the challenges of youth in marginalized areas of the city. Urban youth face several challenges, such as early marriage, discrimination, violence, lack of interest in education, substance abuse, overuse of mobile phones, and lethargy.

A pilot was started to engage youth through sports in Mullatalai area of Udaipur. A Yuva Mitra was appointed to mobilise youth. 2 Yuva Manch were formed, with a membership of 18 boys and 22 girls. They were provided with sports materials. A piece of common land was identified for a sports ground; however, government approval was not granted as the area was demarcated as a public garden in their records. Despite this, youth have started to come out of

their homes, and girls have also joined in playing. Around 12–15 youth were active in cricket, badminton and carrom in small open available

spaces. Regular meetings of Yuva Manch will start from next year, and gradually, more activities will be initiated.

Life Skill

This involved educating youth on Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) and Financial Digital Literacy (FDL) and Gender Sensitisation.

After sessions, young girls started openly discussing menstruation, pregnancy, abortion and anaemia on Yuva Manch. Cases related to these issues surfaced during the conversations. 2 cases of girls experiencing thoughts of suicide and 1 case of a suicide attempt came to the notice of Yuva Mitras. These situations were linked to unplanned pregnancies resulting from sexual relationships, compounded by incidents of online blackmail involving shared photographs. With the timely intervention of Yuva Manch and community leaders, girls were supported.

Further, the youth attending FDL sessions started to assist their parents in banking tasks and protection from fraud. A new Gender Sensitivity module was developed and introduced in this period. It covered topics of gender, socialization, violence, masculinity, child protection, and the basic life skills of self-awareness, empathy, communication, interpersonal relationships, creative thinking, problem-solving and emotional management.

The sessions of life skills were conducted by 120 peer leaders (1 man and 1 woman from 60 villages) trained by Seva Mandir. The peer leaders educated 9,950 youth (51% girls) on SRH, FDL and Gender. The topics discussed in sessions were revisited in the monthly meetings of Yuva Manch.

16-year-old Raju, a tribal boy, regularly attended sessions on sexual and reproductive health. Though he rarely spoke, one day he finally opened up and shared that his marriage was being planned, but he didn't want to get married. He wanted to study. Yuva Mitra and Peer Leaders stepped in and visited his parents, who initially resisted, citing tradition. Through long and multiple conversations about the harms of child marriage, laws and Raju's aspirations, they changed their minds. The marriage was called off. Raju was re-enrolled in school and filled out his Class 10 form. He continues to attend Yuva Manch meetings.

Life Skills Academy

A concept of a Life Skills Academy is being developed to enable youth development and foster responsible citizenship for an inclusive, peaceful and harmonious society. This initiative will focus on self-awareness and values of non-violence, compassion, self-reliance, empathy, fraternity, and respect for oneself, others, and the environment.

During this period, internal discussions and consultations with organisations - We the People, Oasis, and Shanti Sahyog- were held. A module of 3-day training was prepared, and a pilot training with 120 peer leaders, 12 Yuva Mitras and 10 staff members was

organised. The training was organised in phases and focused on self-awareness, communication, controlling emotions, decision-making, teamwork, entrepreneurship, and civic leadership.

Following the training, new issues of seating mats in schools, water issues, road safety, early marriage, and girls' participation in sports on village grounds were brought out, and actions were initiated. Moving forward, these youth-led projects will be assessed for learning. Based on feedback, the training content will be updated, and more training sessions will be conducted.

Capacity building

- 2 staff members attended the conference of Peoples Forum for Rise of South Asia (PFFROSA), organized by Yuva Satta in Delhi, focusing on youth and environmental issues, where Seva Mandir shared youth-focused efforts.
- 1 staff member participated in the Cities for Youth Network review meeting in Jaipur, discussing strategies for creating safer cities for youth.
- 2 staff members participated in Global Youth Fest held in Chandigarh, focused on internationalism, gender equity, sustainable living and youth leadership for transformative change.
- 6 staff members and 24 Yuva Mitras and coaches watched Maidaan film made on the life of an Indian footballer, Syed Abdul Rahim. They visited "Third Space" and participated in 2 panel discussions with national and international coaches and athletes during the Olympics.
- 9 staff members and 12 Yuva coaches visited the work of Magic Bus on life skills and Gandhi Museum in Jaipur. 2 staff members and 4 Yuva coaches visited the Hindustan Zinc Academy in Udaipur to learn about their football initiative and youth engagement programs.
- 1 staff member completed Levels 1 and 2 of Pro-Sport Development's 'Sport for Change' Certification Program.

Learnings

Retention of peer leaders handling life skill education has been challenging. The dropout was due to migration, hesitation in conducting SRH (Sexual and Reproductive Health) sessions, and less interest in activities and school exams.

- Playgrounds are evolving into community spaces, fostering community engagement and solidarity through
- collective activities. More efforts are needed to strengthen ownership in communities and panchayats, supporting maintenance and regular use.
- There is a need to engage parents to help them understand youth better. This will encourage supportive guidance and a positive environment for young people.



Community Institutions



Community Institutions continued to work on development and social issues, with active community participation at the core. The usage of village funds was given more attention. Federations facilitated work on road safety and microfinance. This year, training sessions strengthened community groups, improved coordination with panchayats, and promoted collective resource management. Community leaders continued in active sharing of information about government welfare schemes.

In peri-urban locations, key activities were local committee elections. New community groups were formed and elected in several areas, with a focus on village development and waste management. Efforts were made for the mobilisation of government funds for Resource Recovery Centres.

Community Institutions

A. Gram Samuhs (Village Groups)

This year, Gram Samuhs were formed in new blocks, and uncovered areas of old blocks. The village groups increased from 1,014 to 1,050, with 36 new groups formed.

3,203 new families became members of the groups, raising the overall membership to 95,255 families. Additionally, 7,515 members renewed their membership.

Block	New Groups (No.)	Total Groups (No.)
Sarada	3	66
Kotra	7	181
Kankroli	7	62
Jhadol	3	246
Girwa/Badgaon	1	206
Kherwara	5	156
Khamnor	4	51
Kumbhalgarh	6	82
Total	36	1050

3,618 community meetings were held in around 888 village groups. 1,00,500 people (52% women, 40% men, 5% girls, 5% boys) participated in them. The meetings had average participation of 27-30 people. This year, group meetings were also held in many old groups, where active interventions are not there.

Meetings covered wide range of issues and interventions of village development. Key topics of the meetings were the usage of village funds, GVK registration, record-keeping, government schemes, and management of common resources. Discussions also addressed new concerns of groundwater conservation, natural farming, and the sustainability of Balwadis.

B. Village Development Committees (GVC)

GVCs increased from 884 to 920. 36 new GVCs were elected, while 117 GVCs were re-elected. Re-elections were done with support from federation leaders. This year, out of 1,831 members elected in old and new GVCs, 39% were women, 46% were men, and 15% were youth of 14 to 18 years.

In new GVCs, from 108 elected office bearers, 39 (36%) were women, which was similar to last year. Of them, 3 were Presidents, 17 Secretaries and 19 Treasurers. The trend was similar in re-elected GVCs, in which 127 out of 351 office bearers (36%) were women. Among them, 3 were Presidents, 48 Secretaries and 76 Treasurers.

The underrepresentation of women in GVCs and in key leadership roles was actively discussed. A key barrier to women's participation was the mindset of men to retain these positions and resist relinquishing them. Discussions were held to introduce measures like reservation for women or rotational leadership. Women often face challenges in contesting elections due to societal, family or personal inhibitions, and they hesitate.

C. Village Cohesion Index (VCI)

VCI is a self-assessment tool designed to assess the performance of GVCs on parameters of participation, leadership, state of commons and management of resources. This year, VCI assessments were conducted in 240 village groups.

Block	VCI done	A++	A+	A	B	C	D
Jhadol	60	0	6	26	17	10	1
Kankroli	18	0	1	4	6	6	1
Sarada	5	0	1	1	2	1	0
Girwa/ Badgaon	39	0	0	10	18	8	3
Kotra	84	0	2	14	40	22	6
Kherwara	34	0	6	15	9	4	0
Total	240	0	16	70	92	51	11

- Grade D groups failed to have timely re-elections and were weak in resource management, communication, and record-keeping.
- Among Grade C groups, 39 missed re-elections and 16 lagged in members participation. These groups need to strengthen participation, improve meeting regularity, and upgrade resource and record management.
- Among 92 Grade B groups, only 24 conducted timely re-elections, while 31 needed improvements in managing resources and records, 21 groups lacked in participation, and 1 group in leadership.
- Among 70 Grade A groups, 21 held re-elections on time, while 13 required better resource and record management, and 8 needed to boost participation.
- In 16 Grade A+ groups, 14 conducted timely re-elections, though a few still need to focus on strengthening member participation.

Overall, there is a need to prioritise timely re-elections. The primary reason for the delay was insufficient turnout of members, and as per the rules, at least 60% members must participate in

election process. In old groups without activities, maintaining contact is difficult due to infrequent visits, leading to decline in participation of members.

D. Village Groups Registration

The registrations of Village Groups were attempted both as public and private trusts, according to the urgency. Till date, 132 groups have been registered as Private Trusts, while applications of 79 groups have been submitted for Public Trust. This year, 27 groups were registered for Private Trust at tehsil and 74 were under process for Public Trust through the Devasthan department. The application process for Public Trust shifted online, which slowed the process because of software glitches.

After registration, the records of all groups were updated and digitalised by Aravali Lok Samiti Federation. From this year, the records of 85 GVKs have been entered in Tally and were audited by a Chartered Accountant.

Post registration, 115 accounts were linked with banks after obtaining PAN records and submitting applications along with resolutions. Additionally, some accounts were linked through KYC as well.

Federations

A. Zone and Block federations

Village groups were organized at zone and block levels in 37 zonal federations and 4 block federations. This year, re-elections were conducted of 4 zonal federations of Parsad, Bagdunda, Kadiya and Suro Ka Guda. The federations continued to raise community needs and development issues with local administration, engaged with panchayats, and supported weak village groups.

162 federation meetings (10 of block federations and 152 of zonal federations) were held, attended by 4,738 federation members, including 1,901 (40%) women. Categories Issues (No.) Social customs 13 Gender Youth and children 5 Govt. schemes 0 Registration of GVK and commons Agriculture 7 Federation leaders discussed and took action on issues of

commons, electricity, participation in Gram Sabhas, high wedding expenses, and access to government welfare schemes.

Federation leaders supported re-elections, tackled 41 key issues, and participated in around 550 village group meetings. Federations leaders provided assistance in preparation for registration.

Categories	Issues (No.)
Social customs	13
Gender	3
Youth and children	5
Govt. schemes	5
Registration of GVK and commons	8
Agriculture	7

During a Kotra block federation meeting, a pressing issue of shortage of Aadhar card machines in Kotra came up. Aadhar cards are essential for accessing various government services and this shortage had wide impact. Residents seeking to create or update their Aadhar cards often returned without completing work after a full day's wait, incurring time and travel costs.

Recognising severity of the issue, especially on students affected due to new Unique ID system introduced in education, the Federation decided to intervene. From the Block Education Office, it was found that out of 35,000 students enrolled across 354 schools in the block, only 8,000 had obtained their Unique IDs. The primary reason for this gap was inability to generate or update Aadhar cards due to limited machines.

The Federation submitted a formal request letter to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) in December, detailing the challenges faced by students and larger community. This proactive step led to positive outcomes, with measures taken to address the machine shortage. Through this initiative, the Federation demonstrated its critical role in addressing grassroots issues collectively. This case stands as a strong example of how community-led action can lead to meaningful change.

B. Aravalli Lok Samiti Federation

This year, Aravalli Lok Samiti Federation (ALSF) focused on raising awareness about ALSF in all federations and explaining to members the purpose of annual contribution for ALSF. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of ALSF was held in September with 85 participants, in which progress was reviewed and strategies were discussed on ties with Gram Panchayats.

3,168 village group meetings were facilitated by ALSF, of which 1,342 meetings were held in 300 old groups. ALSF and federation leaders supported in registration of village groups and helped in completing KYC of bank accounts of 40 groups. The leaders guided 55 zone meetings, 12 block meetings, and facilitated re-elections in 29 village groups.

3 training sessions were held with 71 office bearers of 22 re-elected GVCs. The trainings covered agendas on leadership capacity, sustaining existing community initiatives and resources and coordination with Gram Panchayats.

ALSF worked on community issues, and facilitated discussions on sustaining community assets, Community Forest Rights (CFR) proposals, and strategic use of village development funds.

C. Capacity-building

- Training of community leaders and accountants in record-keeping and effective liaison with panchayats and GPDP.
- 237 proposals were submitted to Gram Sabhas under the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), and women entrepreneurs from Urja received training on community participation and monitoring in Kotra and Badgaon.
- Village and federation leaders were guided in creating village development plans, drafting and submitting proposals to the Gram Sabha.

Self-reliance and sustainability

A. Village Development Fund (GVK)

The GVK (Village Development Fund) across the groups increased from ₹11.96 cr (23-24) to ₹12.65 cr (including NVM Delwara fund of ₹42 lacs). Most of this increase came from contributions made by people from wages earned in natural resources and livelihood activities. Other sources of income included interest on fixed deposits, token money, and contributions for membership in new groups.

₹24.02 lacs were used by 172 village groups from their GVKs (was 18.56 lacs in 23-24). The funds were primarily used for community building

repairs, pastureland maintenance, accountant allowances, GVK registration, SK and Balwadi rent, solar lift repairs, AWC repairs, tree guards, playgrounds, ALSF annual contribution, audit fees and water tank repairs. Internal audits were conducted in 145 GVKs. 85 registered Village Development Funds were audited by a Chartered Accountant.

B. Community Contribution and Leveraging

In 67 villages, 2,837 villagers contributed ₹13.69 lacs through shramdaan for repair of pastures and village cleaning.

In leverage from the government,

- Federation and GVC leaders helped 13,903 beneficiaries in accessing government welfare schemes, amounting to ₹14.01 crore in benefits. These included pensions for widows, old-age, disabled and orphan children, as well as MGNREGA works, solar pumps, LPG connections, construction of new and repair of anicuts and ponds, housing, road construction, and toilets.
- 8,895 people benefited by obtaining marriage certificates, water and electricity connections, job cards, Aadhaar cards, Ayushman cards, insurance, death certificates, birth certificates, caste certificates, new bank accounts, Jan Aadhar, Sukanya Samridhi Scheme, farmer ID and various KYC process.

In Ummedpura village of Kankroli block, monthly village group meetings were held regularly to discuss local issues and interventions. In a meeting, the residents raised concerns about a new building constructed near a temple in the village. Post-construction, the site remained cluttered with waste and a blocked drain accumulated water in the surrounding area, both posing a serious risk of water-borne diseases.

The community approached the panchayat and requested support under MGNREGA to clean the area; however, no action was taken. Later, the village youth group decided to take up the work. Around 19 young people and 42 women from the village came together to clean the site. The entire team worked tirelessly throughout the day. One young volunteer contributed his tractor to carry and dispose of two full loads of garbage.

This initiative was not a one-time event. During Navratri festival, the topic of cleanliness was again raised by the youths in the village meeting. This sparked a broader movement, and the entire community, including women and youth, took collective responsibility for cleaning their homes, streets, and drains. The meeting concluded with a set of shared commitments:

- No one will dispose of garbage on the roads.
- Waste will be thrown only at designated locations.
- Every household will clean the road and drain in front of their house.
- Public areas like platforms and temples will be cleaned collectively.

Since Navratri, this system has been consistently maintained. The village now appears visibly clean, and a sense of shared ownership and responsibility has taken root. The village committee, youth, and local representatives continue to monitor the cleanliness and provide guidance when needed.

Capacity building

During this period, 140 training sessions were organised, with participation from 3,129 women, 2,851 men, and 533 children. The main

discussions were social rituals, GVC participation and responsibilities, village funds use, registration, and government welfare schemes.

In Shyampura village of Kherwara block, a microfinance company based in Dungarpur formed 3 women self-help groups and provided them with loans. The groups meet every Thursday to submit their loan instalments and interest payments.

In June, one such group meeting was held, and as routine, the worker from the microfinance company collected the money and left. Later that evening, the same worker returned and began exhibiting suspicious behaviour by loitering around a woman's house and peeping in.

Sensing the inappropriate intentions of field worker, woman quickly contacted Hanju Devi, treasurer of the GVC and member of the zonal federation. Another committee member Bindu Devi also promptly arrived at the scene, and a leader of Women Resource Centre (WRC) was informed by phone.

Demonstrating unity and courage, women confronted the worker, reprimanded for his behaviour and informed the police. The police spoke with the parties involved, and took the worker and his motorcycle to police station. Many villagers gathered at the station to ensure that the matter was handled appropriately. The worker was released with a strict warning that any future misconduct will lead to legal action.

This incident sheds light on a broader issue. Numerous families in the area have reported facing undue pressure from private microfinance companies for loan repayments. Some families have even migrated due to their inability to repay loans, and there have been accounts of women being harassed and threatened.

In this case, the swift and united action of the community protected a woman from potential harm and gave strong message against misuse of power by microfinance representatives. It highlighted importance of collective vigilance and role of community institutions in safeguarding women.

Community Institutions in peri-urban settlements

A. Delwara

The key activities in Delwara were Nagrik Vikas Manch (NVM) elections and the registration of NVM. The 3-year term of the previous NVM committee ended in October 2021. Due to the pandemic, elections were delayed, and before the elections happened, the registration of NVM

was initiated. Some members of NVM preferred to conduct elections after registration was completed. In August 2023, the registration process started with the submission of documents to the Devasthan Department. The process was hindered by objections raised by a few citizens from Delwara.



Meanwhile, the mohalla elections commenced in September 2023. While 17 mohalla samitis were elected before March 2024, despite repeated efforts the election in Naya Bazaar did not happen. This election was held in this reporting period.

Before the NVM Karyakarni election, 4 meetings were held for preparation which had participation from former Karyakarni members and other key village leaders. Detailed discussions were held on election procedures and appointment of the election officials. 2 special meetings were organised with the election officials on their roles and responsibilities. On September 1, 2024, the election for NVM was conducted peacefully. Voting took place for 5 office bearers, for which 13 candidates had filed nominations. Out of 90 eligible voters, 88 cast their votes.

During this period, 5 meetings of NVM were held with the participation of 310 people. Further, 3 Aam Sabhas were organised, and a total of 480 villagers participated to discuss various village development issues. A recurring issue discussed in these meetings was the objections raised by

fellow citizens to the registration of NVM, and it remained a concern. Other significant issues included improving the drainage system and addressing contributions for the repair and maintenance of garbage collection vehicles.

Further, 9 karyakarni meetings (268 participants) were held in which the cleaning system, new Homestay initiative, NVM election and handing over of records to new karyakarni were discussed. To strengthen government collaboration, NVM held 7 meetings with the panchayat. These efforts encouraged the panchayat to provide financial support under SBM scheme and initiated the tendering process for cleaning, which was underway.

In mohalla meetings, special attention was given to regular cleaning of drains. A community event was organised for cleaning and maintenance of the village stepwells, where community members contributed voluntary labour. As part of the Maharana Pratap Jayanti celebrations, a cleaning drive was held at Indrakund stepwell, with active participation from youth, adults and elders of Delwara.

B. Kelwara

3 meetings were organised with Aarogya Mitras and Kelwara Vikas Samiti (KVS). 1 training of the new KVS members was held. KVS sent a letter to the district officials of Rajsamand, requesting financial assistance for solid waste management. Consequently, the driver's salary and fuel-related expenses were leveraged through Panchayat.

C. Other locations

Khamnor Vikas Samiti was formed with 11 members (6 women) this year to work on village development. The samiti primarily focused on waste management, for which they closely liaison with the panchayat. Under the village-level strengthening efforts, 56 village representatives across 17 villages in the Khamnor block continued to play an active role in local governance and service delivery. As part of the

sanitation management initiative, 12 on-ground development committees were formed. These committees strengthen grassroots-level institutions and work in alignment with local needs and priorities.

Dhulev Vikas Samiti was elected in Rishabhdev town and has been actively working, especially focusing on waste management issues. Women's participation in these activities has increased significantly. The initiative received support from the local administration, the ward councillor (Parshad), and a few donors. 2 trainings of Dhulev Vikas Samiti (18 committee members) on roles and responsibilities and government liaison were held. 9 other meetings were held this year to plan and review ongoing efforts.

In Charbhujia town, considerable efforts were made to obtain government support for establishing a Resource Recovery Centre (RRC).

Learnings

Concerted efforts are needed to enhance participation of women and youth in village meetings, which remained a critical gap. Timely re-elections of GVCs must be prioritized to keep the groups active. Maintaining engagement with old groups was important, though their demands for new activities often pose challenges. While communities from old groups tend to prioritise physical projects, it was encouraging they continue to stay connected and actively participate in local events.

The challenges faced in this period included gaps in GVK records as updation locally by GVCs was difficult due to low skills. The delay in GVK registrations happened due to various steps and discrepancies in KYC of leaders, which delayed in operating bank accounts and many accounts remained dormant. Moving forward, the focus will be given on creating village plans and strengthening linkages with panchayats under GPDP.

Research and Learnings



Cohort 2025, Development Course - "Development Challenges in Rural India", Norwegian University of Life Sciences

This year, major highlights included the preparation of the 11th Comprehensive Plan (CP) to strategize for the next 3 years, and the pilot of Peter Patel Next Step fellowship.. The alumni network of Kunzru Library was strengthened. The Rural Development Course for students from Norway became an annual activity, while a new idea of Junior Volunteering was explored. The USA and UK volunteer networks were reactivated to engage alumni as ambassadors and potential donors.

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

A. Research

Study on De-notified tribes: The research findings on socio-economic status and challenges of the Gadia (Gaduliya) Lohars were finalised. They were shared internally and with external experts – Mr. Madan Meena and Ms. Aditi Mehta. A further study is planned with other

Seva Mandir's outreach was updated, and work on designing an organizational MIS was undertaken. In research, a large study on Anganwadi was initiated. Notably, we also earned Great Place to Work (GPTW) certification and engaged in several film collaborations during the year.

DNT groups of Kalbeliya, Nat, Rangaswami and Banjara in 4 neighbourhoods in Udaipur city. Following the study, educational activities were initiated in one locality.

The study adopted a mixed-method approach, combining field engagements (FGD, PI), institutional consultations, and quantitative

surveys. 100 Gaduliya Lohar households were surveyed in 3 locations in outer of Udaipur city. The study showed the current socio-economic challenges of Gadia Lohar community.

A major issue continues to be the social stigma that the community has to endure from the identity given by the now-repealed Criminal Tribes Act, 1904. The cause of their poverty lies in the limited economic opportunities and declining traditional livelihoods. Education remained low as 54% children stayed home to help with household responsibilities, and 17% accompanied their parents to work. Community feedback highlighted critical needs of water access, with 49% used for non-drinking purposes from water tankers, and 87% had no land ownership. Another major concern was sanitation as 69% reported unavailability of toilets and prevalence of open defecation. Broader systemic issues, such as insufficient welfare programs and a lack of policy support, continued to marginalise DNTs, underscoring the need for targeted interventions and social inclusion efforts.

Local Institutional development and Covid -19 resilience in rural India: Prof. Raj Desai visited Seva Mandir in June to share findings of the study conducted to assess resilience of communities with institutions during Covid-19.

The study focused on the influence of cooperation built through Community Institutions on the ability to cope with the pandemic. The study was conducted in 200 villages, including 100 Seva Mandir villages and 100 control villages. The sample was carefully selected from Girwa and Kherwara blocks to enable a balanced comparison of Seva Mandir and non-Seva Mandir communities.

The findings showed that institutions influenced and facilitated collective action, better resource

management, health awareness, and support for vulnerable groups. The study on resilience emphasised the role of commons as vital for fostering resilience and community solidarity, with villages with better commons showing more cohesion.

- A paper on Reclaiming Dignity: Women Resource Centres and Gender Justice in Rural Rajasthan was presented by Laxmi Thakur at the 8th International Conference, titled Re-grounding Feminisms: Theory and Praxis. The paper examined the role of WRCs in empowering women facing domestic abuse through support, mediation, and legal resources. Rishabh Chopra from the Women Empowerment team contributed in writing the paper.
- New research proposals were prepared and submitted on AWCs (Anganwadi Centres), Tuberculosis (with Stop TB), and Education in upper primary with Vidya Bhawan. The proposal from Echidna got approved.
- Collaboration started with Princeton University Economic Development Organization (PUEDO) to help in conducting secondary research by students. One study was conducted on the Potential of Bio-Input Resource Centres (BRCs) in Enhancing Climate Adaptation & Mitigation Capacity of Marginal Tribal Farmers.

B. Monitoring & Evaluation

Assessments were conducted for multiple projects involving baseline, endline and rapid assessments. 18,360 households were surveyed across 340 villages. The studies covered need assessments, regular monitoring, and impact evaluation. The team worked on enhancing digital data management and GIS mapping.

18 trainings were organised with community workers on data collection and mobile apps. Regular training was held with external surveyors

to improve quality and keep standardisation in the data collection process.

Workshops and Trainings

A. Internal Training

The following trainings were conducted internally with internal and external resource persons.

Title of Training	Facilitator(s)	Participants	Focus / Objective
Block Coordinator Induction Program	Internal Resource Persons	7 new and slightly old block Coordinators (all men)	Orientation on roles and responsibilities; knowledge sharing; responsiveness to changing conditions. Interactive format for deeper engagement & discussion between new and experienced leadership.
Cloud Storage and File Management	Mr. Arun Shrimali (from Seniors in Seva) & Internal Team	40 staff (25 women)	Skills in file organisation, collaboration, and enhanced data security through cloud tools.
Comparative Case Study & Qualitative Comparative Analysis	Dr. Srikrishna Ayyangar (Azim Premji University)	Staff	Understanding limitations of quantitative methods; exploring comparative analysis for program evaluation and identifying effective intervention combinations.
New staff Induction	HR & PMS	19 staff (11 women)	Orientation to Seva Mandir's values, policies, and organizational culture.
Program Design & Evaluation Online Course	Mr. Suraj Jacob	12 staff	Course organised by MSMMT on designing and evaluating programs effectively.
True Cost Computation and Communication Workshop	ARIA CFO Services	Participants from 5 NGOs including Seva Mandir	Practical skills to assess real program costs, promote financial transparency and equitable funding.

B. External Training

The team attended trainings, visits and courses in external organisations. The subject trainings are shared in respective thematic chapters.

Title of Training Visit	Host Org	Participants	Location / Mode	Focus / Objective
Data Management Exposure Visit	Sewa Rural, Gujarat	1 M&E team member, with ECCN team	On-site visit	Data management mechanisms.
Research Workshop on Training Design	Sambodhi	1 M&E team member	Delhi	Design effective training programs.
Digital Transformation Exposure Visit	Aga Khan Foundation, Gujarat	5 members of Digital Transformation team	Ahmedabad	Understanding data management systems.
Digital Transformation for Social Sector Course	ILSS	Ronak Shah	Delhi & Virtual	10-week course with 6-month mentorship from 2 sector experts.
Social Impact Leadership Program 2024-25	Dasra (DSI – Impact Foundation India)	Rimjhim Pandey	Mumbai	6-month leadership development program for social sector professionals.

Networking and Dialogue

A. Networking in the Sector

Seva Mandir is part of 11 different networks, focused on specific themes or the general sector. These networks helped knowledge exchange, building skills, and creating stronger links with the government and other groups. They also helped to open spaces for discussion and collaboration.

- **South Rajasthan Coalition of CSOs (SRCC)-** The consortium submitted a proposal on Water Security to Tata Trusts, and Seva Mandir and 3 other organizations received funding in the first phase. The initiative focuses on

Climate-Resilient Water Resource Management in South Rajasthan. Representatives from Tata Trusts visited Seva Mandir to understand our approach and efforts towards convergence. As part of the network's activities, a training session was organized for member organizations on two water-related data tools: a GIS-based well monitoring application and a crop water budgeting tool. 4 meetings were held to discuss progress and coordination under the sanctioned water security proposal.

- A session on Carbon markets was organised to understand how they work and how projects

ought to be developed. Mr. Pradyot Porwal from Medius Earth gave a talk and shared details of successful projects in India. He shared about investment sources, responsibilities of involved parties, and how carbon credit benefits reach farmers.

- **Responsible Coalition for Resilient Communities (RCRC)** – 2 leaders attended AGM (Annual General Meeting) in May. Seva Mandir will extend support for upcoming research on Livelihoods. On RCRC's 5th anniversary in March, members reflected on shared journey and meaningful progress made in strengthening community resilience.
- **VANI** – Seva Mandir was included in VANI's compendium Contribution of Civil Society Organizations in Rajasthan, on a comprehensive picture of civil society's impact in the state. Laxmi Thakur spoke in a podcast, named She Leads the Way, focused on girls and women development.
- **Community Conserved Area (CCA) portal** - Details of 84 pastures and forest sites were uploaded on the portal. 100 more sites are being documented and will be uploaded.
- **NTFP-EP** – 2 leaders attended a cross-learning workshop on strengthening forest-based communities in sustainable management of natural resources. 1 leader attended a workshop on Sustainable Forest Management with focus on post-CFR management.
- **Revitalizing Rainfed Agriculture Network (RRA-N)** - In partnership with KVK, RRA Network and MPUAT, a scientific document on the package of practices (PoP) for millet cultivation is being developed. A chapter on the revival of millets in South Rajasthan was shared by Seva Mandir for this document. 1

staff attended a 1-day training on seed systems organized by RRA network.

- **Rajasthan Natural Farming Coalition (RNFC)** - Seva Mandir contributed designing a research study, in progress, to understand the impact of natural farming on women. A group of women Master Trainers on natural farming practices are being prepared. Seva Mandir also facilitated a session and contributed to the development of a module on Gender Transformative Agroecology. The team participated in consultation on drafting a vision document on agroecology.
- **Consortium for Agroecological Transformations (CAT)** – Seva Mandir joined this new network in this period, which aims to strengthen the ecosystem of agro-ecology involving Impactors, CSOs, Enablers, Market players and Funders. A member of the Livelihoods team participated in a regional convention on Strengthening Community Institutions for Agroecological Landscape Transformation. The event brought together partners from Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, and Rajasthan.
- **FORCES** – Seva Mandir continued as the Convener of the Rajasthan FORCES network, facilitating 1 partner meet and 3 virtual review meetings. A state-level consultation was held in Jaipur.
- **Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE)** - The network operates across 26 countries, and there are 19 members from India. Seva Mandir has been a member for 38 years, though we had been inactive in recent years. The active participation was resumed. 2 leaders attended a national consultation on innovations in education.

- Seva Mandir became an institutional member of **IASC- International Association for the Study on Commons**, a renowned platform on the commons at the international level. IASC hosts the Elinor Ostrom Award.

B. Liaison with the Government

During this period, sustained efforts were made to strengthen liaison with government officials at the state, district, and block levels. Regular meetings were held with key departments and officials to share updates on Seva Mandir's work, seek support, and offer relevant inputs. Significant engagement took place with District Collectors, Zila Parishad CEOs, the Commissioner of Tribal Area Development (TAD), and departments of Agriculture and ICDS. Interaction with elected representatives, particularly at the block level, also increased notably during this time.

Seva Mandir's government partnerships have spanned multiple programmes through collaborations across all administrative levels. These engagements have included both grassroots programmatic efforts (e.g., with ICDS, NREGA, and Forest and Agriculture Departments) and contributions at the policy level, such as participating in state workshops and offering feedback on guidelines. However, challenges remain, particularly slow approval process and frequent transfers of government officials, which often disrupt continuity and progress.

C. Dialogue

Various opportunities were held to encourage open discussion on collective, participatory and inclusive development. The efforts supported expansion of democratic spaces for learning and discussion in the organisation and in public. Some key discussions are shared below.

- Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta Memorial Lecture- Ms. Sharanya Bhattacharya graced the occasion as the keynote speaker. She shared thoughts on Empathy in Economics: Reflections from Research on Women's Labour and Leisure.
- On Sanstha Diwas 2024, a reading session on Bhai Saheb Patra, a letter titled "Gavaau Kaam aur Vanari Mahima" was held. Two retired staff members were invited to share reflections, while current team members shared contemporary perspectives.
- A conversation was held with Ms. Rajni Bakshi समाज के बदलते परिपेक्ष was held with Sanchalak Mandal and some program leaders. Emphasizing self-discipline and mindfulness, she highlighted the need for open dialogue spaces. The session concluded with reflections on resilience and unity.
- Film Screening and discussion was organised on Conversations Matter by Mr. Nelson Deb founder of Bodhana and EcoHub. The impact docu-feature on his work brings out the issue of gender inequities, toxic masculinity, patriarchal mindsets and stereotyped gender roles.
- A discussion on the POSH Act was organised with 8 female staff who are members off ICC (Internal Complaints Committee) of other organisations. The participants were oriented on the Act, and discussion was held on common challenges and practices in handling cases.
- The 26th Ummedmal Lodha Environmental Award Ceremony was held with great enthusiasm, attended by over 200 participants including community leaders, environmentalists, and supporters from

across the region. The event was graced by Shri. Nilesh Desai and Shri. Devaji Tofa, both renowned for their work in grassroots environmental efforts. 7 awards were presented— 2 Gram Samuh, 2 Forest Protection Committee, 4 Individuals, and 1 scholarship under the Sayar Kunwar Memorial Fund. The ceremony honoured and celebrated the inspiring contributions of individuals and groups dedicated to conservation and sustainable community development.

Seva Mandir supported in organizing the following dialogues.

- Felicitation ceremony of Dr. Regi George and Dr. Lalitha Regi for their outstanding work through their organisation Tribal Health Initiative in Sittilingi Valley, Tamil Nadu. The felicitation was done by Jeevan Rakshak Charitable Trust.
- Seva Mandir partnered in organising the Rama Mehta Trust Awards 2024 ceremony, and in organising two conversations, Love in the time of Hate by Ms. Rakhshanda Jalil and Not Long Enough to Love by Ms. Mira Nair.

D. 11th Comprehensive Plan

An exercise to prepare the 11th Comprehensive Plan of Seva Mandir was undertaken in second half of this year. A participatory and inclusive process was designed to bring in diverse voices and perspectives. The process helped to reflect on a collective vision, aspirations and expectations of stakeholders from within and outside the organisation.

Communications

A. Digital Engagement

Our social media handles on Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn were active throughout

The process actively engaged community members across gender, caste, and age groups, leadership of Seva Mandir, team members across functions and roles, Trustees and Board committee members, donors, Seva Mandir alumni, FSM chapters, civil society organisations, and social thinkers.

Two consultants, Ms. Amrita Sharma and Ms. Rukmini Datta facilitated the process and anchored discussions with internal and external members.

The exercise was started in October 2024 and is planned to complete in June 2025. Key steps of the exercise involved:

- Desk Review and Tool Design
- Visioning Workshop with Leadership
- Community Interactions, including a Photo Voices exhibition
- Visioning and Opportunity Mapping in internal teams, and with external stakeholders
- Analysis and Synthesis of all insights gathered, through two 2-days deliberations collectively of entire organisation
- Consensus building on thrust areas with Leadership
- Consolidation of 11th Comprehensive Plan, and writing the document

the year. LinkedIn garnered highest engagement. Till March, social media followers were: LinkedIn – 7.1K | Instagram – 2.0K | Facebook – 6.6K |

YouTube – 0.9K | X – 1.2K. This year, 47 unique posts (15 donor posts and 32 Seva Mandir's post) were shared across three different platforms, resulting in a total of 147 posts.

A website audit was done with the help of Saevah (a digital marketing and ecommerce company). A LinkedIn page was created and developed for FSM USA, which will play a significant role in building Seva Mandir community in USA.

2 WhatsApp groups were established with specific donors for exchange of information and updates. The other WhatsApp groups have been moved to respective donor web-portals for reporting.

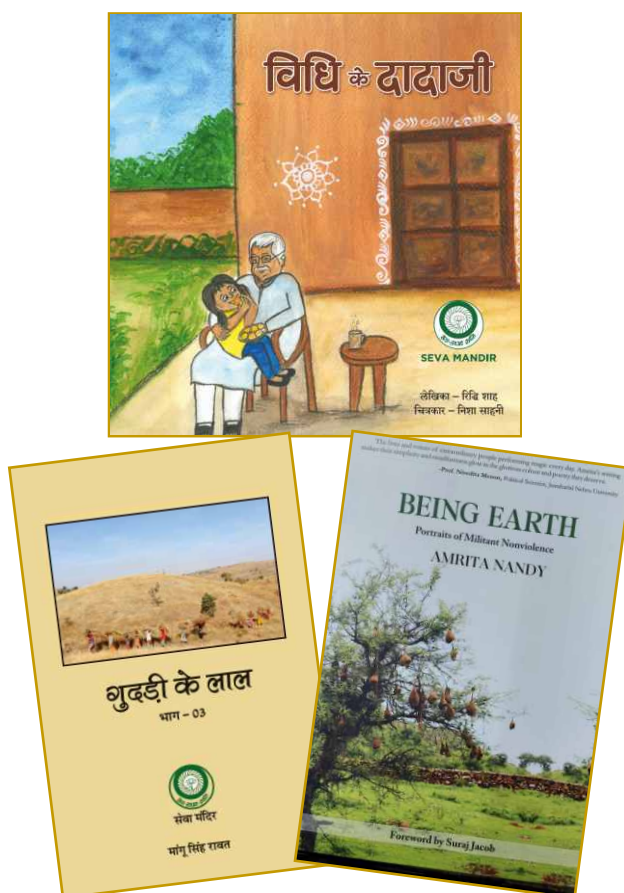
150 photo shoots, including 10 Drone shoots, were done. Collaboration with new experts happened through donor shoots of MakeMyTrip and Colgate. 5 new films were made, of which 3 with external movie makers and 2 by internal team. A shared photo bank was created to ease internal photo sharing.

This year, the photo and video consent practices were revisited and emphasized. When dealing with youth and children, as per child protection policies, parental or guardian consent was obtained in advance, and their privacy and well-being were always prioritised. With adult individuals, they were informed about the intended use, and written consent was obtained. Participants were clearly made aware of their right to decline. A formal consent form was developed, and during each visit, the form was signed by the individual or a parent or guardian. The forms were filed for records. This process was consistently communicated during workshops, programmes, and field visits.

B. Print Publications

3 new books - Vidhi ke Dadaji and Gudri Ke Laal 3 (Hindi), and Being Earth (English), were published this year. The regular Hindi newsletters- Saksharta Sandesh, Seva Sadhna Kranti and Gatibimb, were published as scheduled.

2 case studies of women farmers documented by Seva Mandir staff were published in Village Square. Flyers and posters were designed for various activities. Efforts were made to make materials from biodegradable materials.



Awards and Fellowships

Peter Patel Next Step Fellowship – A new initiative was started in memory of a long-time supporter of Seva Mandir, Mr. Peter Patel. Under this, fellowships were given in 3 categories - Women Education, Women Livelihood and Entrepreneurship, and Empowered Communities, to individuals and groups to overcome barriers to achieve their dreams. The fellowship distribution ceremony was held on September 10th.

Ms. Vimla Chouhan, a dedicated woman leader of Seva Mandir, was bestowed with Justice Kanta Bhatnagar Award for her personal growth in struggles and contribution for women empowerment.

Ravi Bhandari Awards 2024 for Responsible Citizenship and Volunteerism were given on 25th June. Shri Mohd. Shahid Sheikh and Shri Mukesh Khokhariya were felicitated in Staff Category and Shri Ganpat Lohar from Kankroli block in Paraworker Category.



Ravi Bhandari Awards 2024, Awardees (Centre)

Volunteers and Visitors

A. Volunteers

140 volunteers (60 male, 80 female) were hosted. Among them were 7 SBI Youth for India Fellows, 26 students from Norway University for Norwegian Course, and 106 interns from various universities, including TISS, IRMA, Krea, Manipal University, IIM Ahmedabad, IIT Tirupati, NMIMS and Princeton University. 9 Khula Manch, 1 first review for SBI YFI Fellows, and 1 Rural Norwegian course's presentation were conducted in this period.

Starting this year, the course for Norway students became annual from the earlier alternate year. This time, a few sessions were organised in villages, which were highly engaging and enriching learning experience for us. Groundwork was started for initiating a similar course in collaboration with Indian institutes.

New collaborations were initiated with Princeton University for knowledge exchange and collaborative development initiatives, with Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), and Bennett University in Noida.

We worked with FSM USA to set up an alumni network with former volunteers and staff based in the USA. The exercise revived communication with them after a long time, and activities will be done to enhance their engagement and support.

2 members participated in the NGO Round Table and YFI Conclave, hosted by SBI Foundation in April in Bengaluru. The discussions centred on improving the quality of fellows and refining the structure of the fellowship program. The event also marked the celebration of 10th anniversary of the Youth for India Fellowship.

On corporate volunteering, Sole for a Soul Initiative was organised for the staff of MakeMyTrip Foundation in Udaipur. Over 300 women staff participated in a Shoe Painting

activity in this creative event. The beautifully hand-painted shoes were distributed to children in Shiksha Kendras and Residential Learning Camps. In another activity with MakeMyTrip Foundation, a wall painting activity was organised at Kaya with 60 staff of the company. The activities introduced the idea of voluntary contribution among participants and gave more information about Seva Mandir.

B. Visitors

This year, 37 visitors from academic institutions, foundations, and international organizations visited Seva Mandir to engage with various programmes, explore collaborations, and observe field-level interventions.

Organization	Visitors (No.)	Purpose
Princeton University	2	Sustainable Development & Collaboration
Monash University, Australia	2	Cross-Cultural Learning
Bennett University	3	Livelihood & Academic Exchange
Medha Foundation (Rubaroo Programme)	1	Youth Exposure & Leadership
Mira Nair	1	Community Education & Women Empowerment
Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology	21	Student Exposure Visit
Friends of Seva Mandir USA	2	Field Observation & Programme Insights
Women on Wings	1	Livelihood & Resource Management
Community Jameel, UK & Shinshu University, Japan	4	Water Purification Technology Installation
Students from Delhi Public School, Udaipur	50	Exposure visit

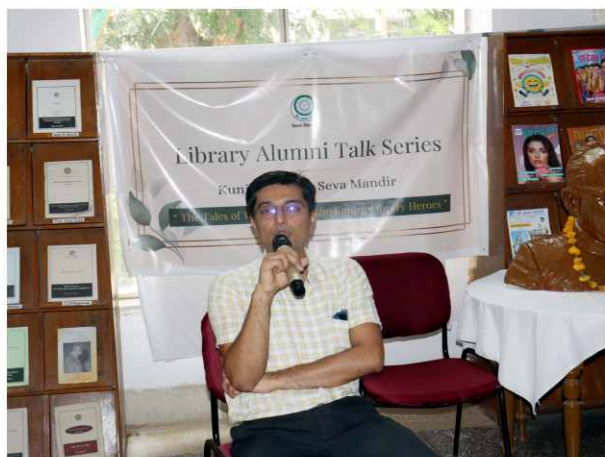
Kunzru Library and Documentation Centre

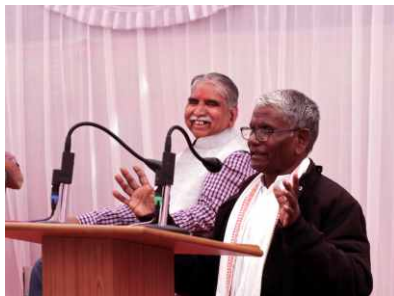
Library actively served 310 members (40% women) and 249 readers. In the year, the average daily footfall was of 140 visitors. The library housed 10,280 books and 5,500 reports, and 47 new books and 27 reports were added this year. 416 books and 194 magazines/journals were issued. 2 WhatsApp groups—one for readers (217 members) and one for library members (66), were made to facilitate communication and information sharing.

Alumni talk was organized for library users, in which Mr. Bhanu Pratap Singh Ranawat, RAS, who was a user of the library for long-time shared his exam preparation journey. A new initiative was

started with Azim Premji University to digitize and archive Seva Mandir literature, which will be stored in the university library. A Book Club, started by our library member Mr. Anuresh Kothari, held its 25th session at Kunzru Library. It is organised on 3rd Sunday of every month. It focuses on fiction and has participation of around 20 book lovers.

The Kunzru Library Fund was started to raise support for the library. Information about the fund is displayed in the library and shared among the alumni of library. This year, donation of ₹50,000 was received for the library.





26th Ummedmal Lodha Awards



Felicitations ceremony of Dr. Lalitha & Dr. Regi George



Sole for a Soul Initiative with Make My Trip Foundation



Rama Mehta Awards Lecture - Ms. Mira Nair



Dr. Mohan Sinha Mehta Memorial Lecture-
Ms. Sharanya Bhattacharya



Field session NMBU 2025 Class



Seva Mandir Team at ILD Conference

Human Resources



Employees, including consultants, as on March 2025 were 244. This year, 51 employees were recruited, of whom 30 were block staff who joined under a new project in ECCN, 14 in Programs, 3 other block staff, and 4 admin staff.

32 employees, including 02 consultants, got separated. Out of them, 10 were superannuated on attaining 58 years of age, and 20 resigned. During this period, Seva Mandir mourned the loss of two valued employees—one who bravely battled a prolonged illness and the other who lost his life tragically in a road accident.

Key Activities

A. Staff composition:

The organisation maintained the focus on diversity in staff composition. Efforts were made to increase diversity in gender, cultural

background, and education. The composition, at the end of this period, is shared below.

Diversity in Staff	Numbers
Gender Ratio	Women / Men - 40 / 60
State	09
Institutes	31
Qualification	Doctor-01, PhD-05, Graduate-57, PG-91, Technical-19, Under Graduate-71

Regarding age diversity, 41% of employees were below 40 years, while 59% were above 40. There is a good presence of experienced members, but fewer young members. There is a need to recruit young members to have new perspectives and a dynamic workplace culture.

Apart from the above, 43 employees were given a financial hike by grade promotion and additional increments. 29 project employees who fulfilled the eligibility criteria and performed well were mainstreamed against the vacancy.

B. Recruitments

3 campus recruitments were done at TISS-Tuljapur, APU and ISDM-Noida. Additionally, 26 separate interviews were conducted. 21 new employees were selected.

A staff induction was conducted with 12 new team members. They were introduced to the organization's mission, values, systems, policies, and procedures, along with an overview of various programs.

This year, Seva Mandir was honoured with the Great Place to Work certification for 2025-26. This recognition is a testament to our commitment for creating inclusive, engaging and value-driven work environment.

C. Staff Welfare

- Financial assistance of ₹3.41 lacs was extended to the family of an employee who tragically lost their life in a road traffic accident. In this aid, ₹1.88 lacs were contributed by current employees, and the remaining by trustees, past employees & volunteers, contractor & associate organization of Seva Mandir. Apart from this, the family received ₹29 lacs from insurance and other statutory benefits.
- 19 employees received aid of around ₹2.91 lacs.
- Nominations of all staff were updated under the Gratuity Policy. PF pensions were started

for 8 retired employees during this reporting period.

- To support employees' children's education, ₹5.78 lacs were given in education allowance, benefiting 129 children and 95 employees.
- At Udaipur and the block campus, the accommodation facility for staff was improved.
- Palnaghar continued to provide a secure environment for the children of staff.

D. HR Review

Over the past decade, significant changes in programs, geographic reach, funding, and

government policies have led to shifts in staff roles, skills, remuneration, and growth. While the organization has adjusted within existing systems, the pace of sector-wide changes has highlighted the need for a comprehensive review and redesign of HR systems. Proposals were invited from HR consultants, and one has been shortlisted. The review is expected to begin in July 2025.

E. Geography

A new sub-block at Khamnor was formed, which has 40 villages from the Delwara and Khamnor panchayat samitis. The purpose of this new location was to ease the administration of the large Badgaon-Girwa block and enhance liaison with the Rajsamand district.

A new project was started in the Sanganer block of Jaipur district, with a program focused on supporting education. Another project started in January 2025, extended work in Mavli and Gogunda panchayat samitis of Udaipur district.

F. Seva Mandir Samuday

This year, Samuday continued to undertake activities to meet the requirements of staff and their families. The new Samuday Committee was formed for 2024 to 2027. The committee, representing units, blocks, and administration, consists of 24 members (50% women). Bhimraj Suthar is the President of Samuday, Preeti Panwar is the Secretary, and Harsha Chauhan is the Treasurer.

A Samuday Meeting was held on April 20 to share progress and plans, and discuss new points. This time, change in retirement age, staff well-being, and involvement of families in organization's activities were the major points.

Retirement programs were organized for 13 colleagues. Families participated warmly, and hybrid formats ensured all blocks were included.

- Hariyali Amawas was celebrated as Green Day, where everyone wore green attire and enjoyed fun activities. This refreshing break brought joy.
- A picnic was organised at Chittorgarh Fort. 147 staff members, and their 55 children and family members joined.
- Over 180 staff participated across zones and block offices on January 1st for New Year celebrations.
- Sports and Cultural activity competitions were organised in the week of Makar Sankranti. Activities had enthusiastic participation from 180+ staff and children.
- 50+ staff celebrated together with vibrant Garba and group dances during Navratri.
- Blood Donation camps: 18 staff members came forward, and 11 staff + 2 library members successfully donated blood.
- Financial Literacy Session was conducted by Mr. Vikash Talesara, with active participation from 40+ staff members. Special focus was on investments that are small and benefit after retirement.
- Knee Health Session was led by Dr. Hemant Khajja, in which 40 participants attended.

Grief and Solidarity:

Bhagirath Meena tragically passed away in a road accident. He is remembered by colleagues and community members for his commitment towards rural development. Staff came together to support his family and collected contributions.

Samuday raised additional contributions from trustees, former staff and volunteers, and Seva Mandir supporters. We are in communication with his family, discussing further help for his wife and daughters.

Kiran Pandey lost her life to cancer after a long fight. We remember her for determination and courage. Many staff members lost their family members. In those moments of loss, Samuday stood united, offering support and care.



Seva Mandir Sports Day Celebrations

Administration



A. Kaya Training Centre

During this period, the centre was occupied for 298 days (281 days in 23-24). A total of 255 trainings were conducted, of which 249 trainings were of Seva Mandir, in which 8,477 persons participated. Seva Mandir obtained GST registration for the Kaya training centre this year, allowing use of the training centre for 6 external trainings.

Some renovation and painting were done. The mesh and glasswork of doors and windows were done. Garden maintenance was done near the Mohan Kunj.

B. Offices

In 2024-25, various repair and maintenance works were carried out at Udaipur and block offices.

At Udaipur office, key improvements included plastering, painting, plumbing, tile and furniture repairs, inverter installation, and repairs in the library, RMU, CE quarter and the President's room. At Jhadol and Kotra campuses, electrical and structural repairs were completed. In Kherwara, kitchen repair was done, and the solar system was upgraded with new batteries and inverters.

The solar power systems across Seva Mandir saved an estimated 139 tons of carbon a year.

Currently, there are a total of 18 offices on rent in field locations.

C. Information Technology

During this period, IT team played a key role in strengthening digital capabilities across the organization through a range of targeted trainings and initiatives. Hands-on trainings were organized on Microsoft tools such as Teams, Calendars, OneNote, Outlook, and OneDrive, improving daily productivity and encouraging better digital practices. Field-level training bridged digital gaps through practical sessions on file sharing, calendar use, and data organization.

The SOP has been designed to guide all team members at Seva Mandir on the proper use of IT systems, hardware, and software. It outlines clear steps for onboarding and exiting employees, hardware lifecycle, data security, backup procedures, and general IT usage policies. The goal is to ensure smooth operations, timely support, and secure data management across the organization.

As Seva Mandir shifts to digital systems, strong document practices will support better coordination. Document management sessions were held with the support of Mr. Arun Shrimali, a volunteer from Seniors in Seva. That focused on proper file naming, tagging, and version control. The training aimed to improve the digital organization of data and files, reduce duplication, and ensure consistent data usage. Plans include developing a centralized digital repository, providing follow-up training, and integrating document management protocols into daily operations to ensure long-term sustainability.

The use of AI tools was initiated and supported in the organisation. These tools made transcribing reports in both Hindi and English easier. It has simplified note-taking, reduced manual effort, and ensured that important points are not missed during meetings.

A new Digital Transformation Team was formed to assess organizational digital needs and implement effective strategies. The team started working with guidance from external mentors on key data formats to streamline data collection. The aimed MIS systems will be better aligned with program needs and enable more efficient data management and monitoring.

The IT team also studied the tools and practices of other NGOs on MIS systems. Participation in webinars and strategic planning enhanced alignment of technology with Seva Mandir's broader goals.

Several key software systems at Seva Mandir have seen major progress over the past year.

- Muster Roll software, launched in April 2024, moved fully online by September after training and improvements. It reduced wage payment cycles from 27 to 8–10 days in some blocks.
- The SHG software, launched in 2021, now covers 1,440 out of 1,916 SHGs. It provides the facility of instant data updates, replacing month-long manual entry. The next phase includes onboarding SHG accountants and introducing SMS-based savings updates.
- The Store software was successfully transitioned this year and managed both fixed assets and consumables with real-time access, improving block-level efficiency.
- A Power BI dashboard for vehicle booking was developed to enhance planning and

transparency and was reviewed in management meetings.

- Work on a new Donor Management System through a third party began in October 2024. Changes were made in hardware upgrades, like the local server and Linux installation. The system will automate donor communications and tax receipts.
- For camera monitoring, smartphones with timestamp apps replaced digital cameras in Balwadis and SKs. Hindi manuals and training enabled smooth adaptation, and technical issues with stipend generation were addressed through updated manuals.

Several key hardware upgrades were made to strengthen digital infrastructure across organization. Smart televisions were installed at Kotra and Kherwara to support training, online meetings, and community engagement.

At Kaya Training Centre, a desktop system with sound and display equipment was set up to facilitate hybrid sessions and digital learning during capacity-building programs. Across campuses, UPS and power backup systems were upgraded, ensuring uninterrupted power for servers and reducing downtime.



Mohan Sinha Mehta Training Centre, Kaya, nestled among the Aravali range

Appendix



- Credibility Alliance Norm Compliance Report
- Members of Different Bodies 2023-24
- Our Donors And Supporters
- Auditor's Report

Credibility Alliance Norm Compliance Report

2024-25

- Seva Mandir is a Voluntary Organization registered under the Rajasthan Public Trust Act 1959 (42 of 1959), (Reg. No. 203 dated 27.02.1973).
- Seva Mandir's Constitution is available on request.
- Seva Mandir's mission is to make real the idea of a society consisting of free and equal citizens who can come together and solve the problem that affect them in their particular contexts. The commitment is to work for a paradigm of development and governance

that is democratic and polyarchic. Seva Mandir seeks to institutionalise the idea that development and governance should not just be left to the state and its formal bodies, such as the legislature and the bureaucracy, but that citizens and their associations should engage separately and jointly with the state. The mission, briefly, is to construct the conditions in which citizens of plural backgrounds and perspectives can work together to benefit and empower the least advantaged in society.

Identity

Particular's	Identity/Registration No.	Date of Registration	Validity
PAN	AACT5435R	15.05.1960	N/A
Rajasthan Public Trust Act 1959	203	27.02.1973	N/A
Section 12A	AACT5435RE20214	28.05.2021	Up to FY 2025-26
Section 80G	AACT5435RE20214	14.03.2011	Up to FY 2025-26
FCRA	125690002	11.02.1985	Up to 31.12.2029

Details of Banking Partners

S. No.	Bank Name
1	Union Bank of India
2	ICICI Bank Ltd.
3	State Bank of India (FCRA account)
4	Punjab National Bank
5	State Bank of India
6	Axis Bank Ltd.
7	HDFC Bank Ltd.
8	Kotak Mahindra Bank
9	Yes Bank Ltd.
10	Equitas Small Finance Bank
11	AU Small Finance Bank
12	Bank of Baroda

Name and Address of Auditors

- **Statutory Auditor :**

M/s B. L. Pagaria & Co., Chartered Accountants

- **Internal Auditor :**

M/s Sangeeta Sanjay & Associates, Chartered Accountants

Governance

Details of Board Members: (as on 31 March 2025)

Name	Sex	Age	Position on Board	Occupation	Meetings attended
Janat Shah	M	66	President	Former Director & Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Udaipur.	2/2
Ajay S. Mehta	M	71	Member	Retired as Executive Director, NFI. Social Sector Expert	2/2
Neelima Khetan	F	63	Member	Senior CSR and Social Sector Expert	2/2
Pamela Philipose	F	71	Member	Director, Women's Feature Service.	2/2
Suraj Jacob	M	51	Member	Faculty at Azim Premji University Bengaluru.	2/2
Sara Rai*	F	69	Co-opted Member	Distinguished bilingual writer and translator.	2/2
Laxmi Jhala*	F	52	Co-opted Member	Managing Trustee, Alakh Nayan Mandir Eye Institute, Udaipur.	2/2

* Co-opted Members are appointed for a term of 2 years.

- The Board of Trustee met twice in the Financial Year 2024-25, on 15th May 2024 and on 29rd November 2024.
- Minutes of Board Meetings are documented and circulated.

Accountability and Transparency

- No remuneration, sitting fees, or any other form of compensation was paid to any Trustees or Board committee members.
- The following reimbursements have been made to Board Members:

Travelling expenses Domestic	:	Nil
Travelling expenses International	:	Nil
Total expenses	:	Nil
- Chief Executive's remuneration (per annum): Rs. 28.8 Lakhs
- Remuneration of three highest paid staff members (per annum): Rs 14.43 lakhs, Rs 13.80 lakhs & Rs. 12.26 lakhs
- Remuneration of lowest paid staff member (per annum): Rs 1.17 lakh
- Rs. 2,06,457 was paid by the organisation for International travel by staff during the year.

Total Cost of International Travel by Staff during the Year (March 31st 2025)

S.No.	Name	Designation	Destination	Purpose	Sponsored
1.	Ronak Shah	Chief Executive	USA, UK and Ireland	Networking	No

Staff details (as on 31 March 2025)

Gender	Paid Full-Time	Paid Part-Time	Paid Consultants	Paid Volunteers	Unpaid Volunteers
Male	135	0	9	0	0
Female	96	0	4	0	0
Total	231	0	13	0	0

Distribution of Staff According to Salary Levels (as on 31 March 2025)

Slab of gross salary (in Rs) plus benefits paid to staff (per month)	Male staff	Female staff	Total staff
5,000 – 10,000	0	2	2
10,000 – 25,000	56	41	97
25,000 – 50,000	73	44	117
50,000 – 1,00,000	12	12	24
Greater than 100,000	3	1	4

Members of Different Bodies 2023-24

President : Prof. Janat Shah
Chief Executive : Ronak Shah
General Secretary : Narendra Jain

Board of Trustees

1. Janat Shah
2. Ajay S Mehta
3. Pamela Philipose
4. Suraj Jacob
5. Neelima Khetan
6. Sara Rai (Co-opted)
7. Laxmi Jhala (Co-opted)

Finance Committee

1. Ronak Shah
2. Suraj Jacob
3. Anubhav Ladia
4. Raminder Singh Rekhi
5. Manish Godha
6. Namrata Kaul
7. Narendra Jain
8. Shashank Rastogi

Executive Council

1. Janat Shah
2. Ajay S. Mehta
3. Neelima Khetan
4. Pamela Philipose
5. Suraj Jacob
6. Sara Rai
7. Laxmi Jhala
8. Ronak Shah
9. Narendra Jain
10. Anubhav Ladia
11. Fatima Radiowala
12. Bajrang Lal Sharma

13. G.L. Maheshwari
14. Shakuntala Choudhary
15. Narendra Thakur
16. Vimal Agarwal
17. Bhupendra Sharma
18. Nisha Field

Advisory Committee

1. Janat Shah
2. Ajay S Mehta
3. Abhijeet Karva
4. Fatima Radiowala
5. Isha Sayed
6. Madan Meena
7. Rajni Bakshi
8. Sanjana Brahmawar Mohan
9. Gharilal Mala Ji Suthar
10. Hemleta Yadav Chandra Prakash Yadav
11. Lakmaram Meena
12. Magan Lal Galla ji
13. Maya/Arun Yadav
14. Movani Bai Gamate Bhanwar ji
15. Narbhada Devi Laxman Lal Meena
16. Partabi Bai/Sohan Singh
17. Santu Yadav Sudharam
18. Sumidevi Mazid Pargi
19. Aarti Shah
20. Amit Verma
21. Angela Jacob
22. Arun Maheshwari
23. Bhimraj Suthar
24. Chavi Gupta
25. Deepika Oswal
26. Himmat Shrimali
27. Kavita Shekhawat
28. Laxmi Thakur

29. Manjula Singh
30. Narendra Jain
31. Niranjan Ameta
32. Preeti Panwar
33. Preeti Shaktawat
34. Pushpa Jhala
35. Ratna Jain
36. Renu Tiwari
37. Rimjhim Pandey

38. Ronak Shah
39. Sanjeev Jain
40. Sanjiv Jain
41. Soumyajit Auddy
42. Sunita Jain
43. Tulsiram Suthar
44. Varsha Rathore
45. Vikas Bhatt

Programme Expenditure Statement 2024-25

Programme	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total
Natural Resource Development	21,25,43,338	18,28,91,768	15,76,77,063	55,31,12,169
Quality Education	2,93,70,329	4,90,40,001	7,27,03,936	15,11,14,266
Women Empowerment	2,03,76,115	1,59,05,888	1,85,82,186	5,48,64,189
Early Childcare and Nutrition	8,57,74,723	5,80,46,745	6,96,48,939	21,34,70,407
Community Institution	53,71,965	51,24,724	53,73,450	1,58,70,139
Peri Urban	34,64,907	27,40,563	68,45,476	1,30,50,946
Research & Learning	97,93,198	1,08,19,476	1,27,21,049	3,33,33,723
Youth Empowerment	19,70,407	1,12,26,505	73,43,745	2,05,40,657
Seva Mandir Core	56,39,803	17,55,381	85,23,423	1,59,18,607
Resource Mobilization	7,86,743	18,23,553	18,15,611	44,25,907
Field Support	2,06,94,686	2,10,48,108	2,76,45,945	6,93,88,739
Other Programme	5,02,810	4,22,910	7,37,258	16,62,978
Total Expenditure	39,62,89,024	36,08,45,623	38,96,18,081	1,14,67,52,727

Our Donors And Supporters

Institutional Donors (Foreign)

1. Afshan & Barac Bieri Foundation, Switzerland
2. Asha for Education, USA
3. Benevity – The UK Online Giving Foundation
4. Charities Aid Foundation India (CAF India), UK
5. Friends of Seva Mandir – UK
6. Friends of Seva Mandir – USA
7. Give Foundation Inc, USA
8. Jameel CSR Limited , UK
9. Krishna Somers Charitable Trust, Australia
10. Myriad USA
11. The Hans Foundation, USA
12. Yatra Foundation, Australia

Individual Donor (Foreign)

1. Dr Mandawat, USA

Institutional Donors (Indian)

1. Axis Bank
2. Axis Bank Foundation
3. Caring Friends
4. Center Social Welfare Board, New Delhi
5. Colgate Palmolive India
6. D-Mart Foundation
7. General Insurance Co. Ltd.
8. Give India
9. G G Valves Pvt Ltd
10. Godha Foundation
11. HDB Financial Services Limited
12. HDFC Bank Limited
13. Hindustan Zinc Ltd
14. Inter-Globe Foundation
15. IRIS Software Technologies Pvt Ltd
16. JK Tyre & Industries Ltd

17. KS Automobiles Pvt Ltd
18. Larsen & Toubro Limited
19. LIC Housing Finance Ltd
20. Mahindra World City Jaipur
21. Make-My-Trip Foundation
22. New Space India Ltd
23. OakNorth Global India (P) Ltd
24. Oracle India Pvt Ltd
25. Saathire Social Impact Solution Pvt Ltd
26. SBI Foundation
27. Sneha and Sanaa Foundation
28. The Habitats Trust
29. The JRD Tata Trust
30. The Microelectronics Foundation
31. The Online Giving Foundation
32. Udaipur Urja Initiatives Producer Co.Ltd

Individual Donor (Indian)

1. Amina Devi
2. Anil Jain
3. Ankur Dangi
4. Anu Mishra
5. Ashok Kumar Agrawal
6. Bakhtaver Suresh Mahajan
7. Bandhumati Mukesh Hiwarkar
8. Deepika Oswal
9. Dhanraj Garasia
10. Dharmendra Bhakat
11. Dilip Kumar Das
12. Elizabeth L Rose
13. Haresh Shamdassani
14. Hemraj Bhati
15. Himanshu Shekhar
16. Jamna Bagora
17. Janat Shah
18. Jignasa Jaykumar Macwan
19. Laxmi Thakur

-
- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 20. Lokendra Singh Rathore | 35. Rishabh Jaggi |
| 21. Manik Chand Garg | 36. Ronak Shah |
| 22. Manoj Kumar Jain | 37. Rudrakshina Banerjee |
| 23. Mohammed Shahnaj Makrani | 38. S Rasiga |
| 24. Mukesh Kumar Sharma | 39. Sandeep Konda |
| 25. Mukund B | 40. Sasikala Gouravaram |
| 26. Narendra Kumar | 41. Shailendra Tiwari |
| 27. Neelima Khetan | 42. Shakti Singh Padmat |
| 28. Padmini Selvaganesan | 43. Shankar Khatik |
| 29. Perun Lodha | 44. Suma R Yadav |
| 30. Pratik Nagori | 45. Sunil Baid |
| 31. Priyanka Singh | 46. Swarnendu Banerjee |
| 32. Ratan Paliwal | 47. Tania Bhattacharya |
| 33. Ravi Viswanathan Periyakulam | 48. Tutul Shaikh |
| 34. Riddhi Shah | 49. Vivek Kumar Chouhan |



B.L. Pagaria B.Com., LL.B., FCA
Dinesh Pagaria B.Com. (Hons.), FCA, FCS
Chittranjan Pagaria B.Com., FCA
Anand Pagaria B.Com., LL.B., FCA

B. L. PAGARIA & Co.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

B-4, 1st Floor, Bapu Bazar
Udaipur-313 001 RAJASTHAN INDIA
Tel : 0294 - 2525649 (O), 2583020 (R)
E-mail : pagariaca@yahoo.in

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

*The Board of Seva Mandir
Seva Mandir
Udaipur (Raj.)*

Report on the financial statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **SEVA MANDIR, Regd. Office: Old Fatehpura, Udaipur (Raj.) 313004, India** which comprises of the Balance Sheet as at **31st March, 2025**, the statement Income & Expenditure Account and Receipts and Payment statement for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the entity as at **March 31, 2025**, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing (SAs) issued by ICAI. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the aforesaid Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.



(In Lacs)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS ON MARCH 31,		2025	2024
SOURCES OF FUNDS			
Corpus and Endowment Funds		1,477	1,472
Reserves Fund		908	784
Capital Fund		943	959
Specified Funds		666	601
Total		3,994	3,816
APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
Fixed Assets		943	959
Investments		2,961	2,758
Net Current Assets		90	99
Total		3,994	3,816
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING ON MARCH 31,		2025	2024
INCOME			
Grants and Donations			
A. Grants		4,170	3,637
B. Donations		28	15
Interest Income		225	186
Research & Other Income		24	4
Total		4,447	3,842
EXPENDITURE			
Development Program Expenditure		3,532	3,303
Development Support Expenditure		270	269
Total		3,802	3,572
Excess of (Expenditure) over Income		645	270
Net excess of unspent/overspent balances carried to Balance Sheet - Difference over last year balances		464	133
Reserve Fund Transferred from Sadhna		-	-
Allocable surplus		181	137
ALLOCATION			
Transfer & Charged of interest earned/Utilization to various Funds		38	46
Capital Fund (Acquisition of Fixed Assets)		14	38
Transfers to Corpus Fund		-	-
General Reserve (Balance)		129	53

All amounts in Indian Rupees

Previous year figures regrouped and rearranged correspond to the current year figures.

Contact Information:

Chief Functionary:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Auditors:

Phone:

Ronak Shah

Seva Mandir, Old Fatehpura, Udaipur, Rajasthan.

0294-2541041, 2450960, 2452001

ronak.shah@sevamandir.org / info@sevamandir.org

M/s B.L. Pagaria & Co., Bapu Bazar, Udaipur, Rajasthan

0294-2525649



B.L. Pagaria B.Com., LL.B., FCA
Dinesh Pagaria B.Com. (Hons.), FCA, FCS
Chittranjan Pagaria B.Com., FCA
Anand Pagaria B.Com., LL.B., FCA

B. L. PAGARIA & Co.
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E-mail : pagariaca@yahoo.in

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Trust's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

FOR B.L. PAGARIA & CO.
Chartered Accountants
FRN: 001821C

Place : Udaipur
Date : 19th June, 2025


(CHITTRANJAN PAGARIA)
Partner
M.No. 078977
UDIN: 250789776MTAVY9699


**SCHEDULE-12: ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES ON
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2025**

A Significant Accounting Policies:

(Followed in framing the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2025)

Accounting Policies on Development Activities:

1. In consonance with the aims and objects of the Seva Mandir-
 - a. takes up rural development projects to promote:
 - i Capital formation in the rural societies by creating basic infrastructure which could lead to improvement and sustaining their livelihood activities, such as land improvement, water supply for irrigation, water table management through water shed programs, other natural resource management activities, afforestation etc.
 - ii Human development activities which result in living standards such primary education, non-formal education, health care, Women and Child Development program etc.
 - iii Income generation programs for increase in the levels of income to the poor.
 - b. Promotes
 - i People's Organization in the form of Community Based Development Institutions to manage their own economic activities and maintenance of community assets built by the Trust.
 - ii Women's mutual credit and savings groups, associations of such groups and federations to enhance the savings and borrowing power of the rural poor women with a aim to mobilize these funds for their income generation activities and to substitute their other credit needs from the local money lenders.
 - c. Works with the poor through these locally active Institutions and groups whether formally recognized under any law or not, in the accomplishment of its mission.
2. Of the above activities carried on the Trust
 - a. All expenses incurred whether for village infrastructure or for human development, in the services rendered to the rural poor have been treated as Development Program Expenditure and are so stated in the accounts.
 - b. In the case of rural development projects, which are in the nature of creation of capital assets for the rural communities, they are also written off as Development Program Expenditure. The community assets so created are handed over the village communities, which are organized as Gram Vikas Kosh in each of villages, where developmental activities are undertaken by the Trust.
 - c. In the case of development expenditure not resulting in creation of any community assets but result in the general improvement in the livelihood or living standards, such as health care, family planning, women development, education etc. they same is charged off a revenue expenditure in the books of the Trust.
3. Wherever any of the above services results income generation to the community as a whole, the Trust plays a role of intermediary catalyst and institutes separate fund. This fund is treated as a separate entity with a view to transfer the same to the community at appropriate time of their maturity. Though this forms part of the Trust's

operations for the time being they are more in the nature of cooperatives and hence the surplus or deficit are retained in the books of the entity, though the initial funds and subsidies provided are treated as liability in the books of the Trust.

4. The Trust has formed several Gram Vikas Kosh i.e. Community Based Developmental Institutions, as an entry point for directing its developmental efforts in villages or area where the Trust has chosen to work with. Most of the expenditure for creation of such village level community infrastructure are incurred in consultation with the Community and a portion of the cost of labor for such efforts by the community is directed towards the Kosh to enable to them to become sustainable in future for maintenance of such infrastructure created.
5. The Trust has also been actively promoting women's self-help groups to promote savings and thrift among the poor. The groups are promoted and supported by the Trust but essentially managed by the groups themselves. The external financial assistance for the groups to meet their immediate financial needs are directly secured by the groups with the assistance of the Trust, though the Trust does not financially involve in these transactions nor provides any financial or operational guarantees to lenders of the SHGs.
6. The expenditure on projects taken up with the support of donor agencies is, as far as possible, incurred according to the plans and budgets agreed upon. However, deviations do occur sometimes at the time of project execution depending upon the circumstances, location, awareness among the beneficiaries, local customs, availability of inputs, legal restrictions etc. Such variations monitored regularly are generally intimated to the donor agencies in advance.

Financial Accounting Policies:

1. The Trust follows accrual basis of accounting for all expenses (to the extent known) and cash basis for grants and donations except to the extent otherwise stated. Interests on investments are also accounted for on accrual basis.
2. All the accounting standards as applicable to the operations of the trust are being followed.
3. The books are drawn up on historical cost convention method based on the concept of going concern.

B: Notes on Accounts:

1. Fixed Assets:
 - a. All fixed assets are stated at cost.
 - b. No depreciation is charged on the assets.
 - c. Whenever the assets are sold the sale proceeds are transferred to Income and Expenditure Account as profit on sale of assets.
 - d. Except Land and Buildings, the Trust does not estimate any significant realizable value of the other assets held.
2. Method of Accounting:
 - a. All the grants and donations received, other than for corpus, on execution of rural development projects are taken as income and all expenses incurred on these projects are taken as expenditure. The unspent balance of funding agencies shown under current liabilities and overspent balance of funding agencies shown under current assets at the end of the financial year.

- b. Funding wise project wise receipts and payments are individually prepared and annexed to the main accounts in Schedule 11, which are co related to the consolidated main accounts.
3. Corpus Grants: Donations, grants and legacies received specially for the purposes of Corpus are credited to the Corpus accounts and principal grant is not utilized, but for the earnings on the investments of these grants.
4. Development Program Expenditure: The Trust is engaged in building its internal control systems to account for the Development Program Expenditure through appropriate ascertainment of utilization of material, labor and other efforts in respect of each of the micro projects undertaken, which results in community assets.
5. Expenditure incurred by the Governing Board Members Travel: Rs. NIL
6. Auditor Remuneration includes: -
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Audit Fee (including service tax) | 1,50,000. |
| Income Tax | 70,000 |
| Verification of FCRA Return & UC | 30,000 |
| GST | 45,000 |
| Total | <u>2,95,000</u> |
7. Contingent liabilities: -
- (a) In respect of liabilities of peoples' organizations and trusts where the trust is involved in the promotion and management of the same. - Not ascertainable.

(b) The Employees Provident Fund & Misc. Provisions Act, 1952 applies to Seva Mandir and assessments of Seva Mandir have been completed up to Financial Year 2007-08. The disputed demand outstanding up to the said financial year is Rs. 49.67 lacs (under section 14-B and 7-Q of Employees Provident Act, 1952) out of which whole amount of Rs. 49.67 lacs has been deposited by the Seva Mandir under protest after lose the case from Appellate authority. Now the said appeal has been placed before the Hon able High Court, Jodhpur, Rajasthan. The advance deposit balance of Rs. 49.67 lacs are shown under Loans and advances in Balance Sheet. The Raj. High court, Jodhpur has accepted our writ petition No.6631/10. The Honourable Judge was of the opinion that the interest/damages levied vide order no-RJ/UDR/DAMAGES/8350/56/7613 dated-15-09-2008 is unjust and the case has been remanded for review the order to concerned authority (RPF Commissioner) and the decision given in favour of Seva Mandir by the concerned authority subject to appealable by PF Dept. within stipulated time limit under the court of law. The PF tribunal has reduced the penalty to 50%. We had filed the writ petition in the Rajasthan High Court for 100% waiver. Based on the case file to the Honourable High Court and decision given by the RPF commissioner and the interpretations of other relevant provisions, the management has decided that the demand is likely to be either deleted or substantially reduced and accordingly no provision has been made.

Seva Mandir

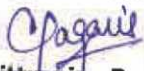
8. Previous year figures have been regrouped and rearranged wherever necessary to correspond to the current year's figures.

At Udaipur, dated: June 19, 2025

For **B.L.PAGARIA & CO.,,**

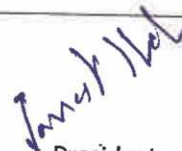
FRN NO. - **001821C**

Chartered Accountants


(**Chittaranjan Pagaria**)
(Partner)

M.No. **078977**




President


Chief Executive



Scan to Visit the Website



This Report is published to inform our stakeholders about Seva Mandir's initiatives, activities and impact across its areas of work.

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Editor	:	Varsha Rathore, Charu Paliwal
Design & Layout	:	Kavita Shekhawat
Photography	:	Shambhu Tanwar



Seva Mandir

Seva Mandir, Old Fatehpura, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India

TEL : +91 294 2451041/2452001

www.sevamandir.org | info@sevamandir.org

