



JHARKHAND VIKAS PARISHAD

2024-2025

ANNUAL REPORT

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ABOUT JHARKHANDVIKAS PARISHAD

Jharkhand Vikas Parishad (JVP) is a development organization rooted in the belief that sustainable change begins at the grassroots. JVP is headquartered in Mandu Ramgarh, Jharkhand and have remained steadfast in its mission to empower marginalized communities—particularly women, children, and youth from Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)—through a holistic and participatory approach to development.

JVP leverages a strategic blend of social animation, awareness-building, and capacity enhancement to catalyze inclusive and sustainable development.

Poverty extends far beyond the absence of income—it is deeply rooted in social exclusion, cultural marginalization, and environmental vulnerabilities. In response, JVP's interventions take a multidimensional approach with a focus on education, access to government services, protection of vulnerable groups, and creation of sustainable livelihoods.

JVP's programs span a wide range of thematic areas including adolescent and women empowerment, skill development, livelihood promotion, natural resource management, and environmental sustainability. We place a strong emphasis on preventive action, such as raising awareness on health and education rights, and creating enabling environments that ensure the safety and well-being of vulnerable populations.

Through high-impact interventions in adolescent and women empowerment, sustainable livelihoods, and environmental resilience, we prioritize prevention, access to entitlements, and protection for vulnerable groups. JVP bridges the gap between community aspirations and systemic change by fostering collaborations between local communities, civil society organizations, government departments, and subject-matter experts and ensure that its initiatives are not only contextually relevant but also strategically aligned for long-term impact.

Since its inception, JVP has directly and indirectly reached approximately 2.51 million individuals across India, transforming lives through community-led development models that are scalable and sustainable.

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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

"The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members." – Mahatma Gandhi



At Jharkhand Vikas Parishad (JVP), this belief lies at the very heart of our work. Over the past year, we have continued to stand alongside marginalized communities—especially women, children, and youth from Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)—ensuring their voices are heard, their rights recognized, and their potential realized.

Rooted deeply in the soil of Pakur, Jharkhand and powered by a grassroots approach, JVP has steadfastly pursued inclusive development that is both participatory and sustainable. Our work is driven by the understanding that poverty is not merely a lack of income—it is a complex web of social exclusion, cultural marginalization, and environmental vulnerability. This year, we reaffirmed our commitment to dismantling those barriers through a multidimensional approach that integrates education, access to entitlements, livelihood promotion, and environmental resilience. With a reach of over 2.51 million individuals across India, our programs continue to leave a deep and lasting impact. From empowering adolescents and women with skills and voice, to strengthening natural resource management systems and promoting sustainable livelihoods, our efforts are designed to protect, prevent, and empower.

JVP's unique model—blending social animation, community capacity-building, and rights-based awareness, ensures that change is not only systemic but also rooted in local realities. We are proud to have fostered robust collaborations with civil society, government agencies, and domain experts, which has significantly amplified the scale and depth of our work.

As we look to the future, we remain anchored in our mission and inspired by the resilience of the communities we serve. Every intervention, every partnership, every step we take is a testament to our unwavering dedication to building a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society.

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On behalf of the entire team at JVP, I extend heartfelt gratitude to our partners, field teams, community leaders and stakeholders who continue to walk this journey with us. Together, we are not just delivering programs we are nurturing transformation.

Sincerely,

Subasini Soren
Secretary, Jharkhand Vikas Parishad Amarapara,
Pakur (Jharkhand)

गारुड सिंह

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JVP is striving its hard through its various integrated actions to attain an established, egalitarian, non-exploitative and socially just society with economic self-reliance.

Vision

Mission

Organizing people at grassroot level for the social, economic development and empowerment through identification of the need of the people and develop a process of people's empowerment as the owner of the creation.

Child Protection and Adolescent Empowerment
Education, Health and Nutrition
Skill Development and Sustainable Agriculture
Child Marriage and Human Trafficking

Focus Areas

Work

Community Engagement
Stakeholder Inclusivity
Capacity Building
Partnerships & Collaborations
Transparency
Tribal Empowerment
Child Protection & Social Justice

Child Protection

JVP's child protection and girls' empowerment program in Pakur district focuses on preventing child marriage, trafficking and exploitation while improving access to education, health and livelihoods. Key interventions include remedial classes, vocational training, kitchen gardening and community awareness. Meri Saheli leaders mentor girls on rights, leadership and reproductive health to prevent early marriage and economic independence.

Education

JVP is strengthening education and life skills among rural adolescents in Jharkhand through school re-enrolment drives, remedial learning support and life skill education. The program integrates sexual health awareness, kitchen gardening for nutrition and livelihood. Kishori Samuh meetings to foster leadership and career aspirations—empowering girls to stay in school, delay marriage and build self-reliant futures.

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Adolescent Empowerment

JVP through its *Meri Saheli* program empowers adolescent girls through initiatives involving rights awareness, leadership development and reproductive health education. It builds knowledge on child rights, gender equality and legal protections while boosting confidence and decision-making through leadership training. Girls receive life skills and vocational training in areas such as tailoring, kitchen gardening and digital literacy. A strong peer mentorship component enables girl leaders to support and guide others, preventing early marriage, informed choices and economic independence.

Healthcare and Nutrition

JVP's Adolescent Development Program in Amrapara promotes girls' education through Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) awareness, nutrition sessions and exposure visits to health facilities. Community activities like street plays and awareness drives reinforce the importance of education and informed choices, empowering 200 adolescent girls across 12 villages to pursue brighter, self-determined futures.

Tribal Empowerment

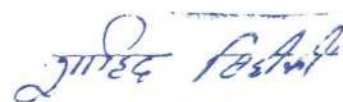
JVP equips tribal communities and smallholder farmers with practical training in advanced and organic farming techniques. The program promotes kitchen gardening and vegetable cultivation to enhance nutrition and income, while community meetings build awareness on government schemes and market access—fostering self-reliance and long-term resilience.

Sustainable Agriculture

JVP's watershed initiative uses a "Ridge to Valley" approach to combat soil erosion and water scarcity in rain-fed tribal regions. Key components include farm bunding, contour trenching, gully plugs, water harvesting structures, and tree plantation. The program builds community capacity in sustainable land and water management—boosting productivity, resilience and ecological balance.

Child Marriage and Trafficking

JVP combats child marriage and trafficking through awareness campaigns, education support, counseling, and vocational training. Working with village committees, women's groups and youth leaders, the program promotes child rights and gender equality. Initiatives like *Meri Saheli* empower girls with knowledge on reproductive health and financial independence, while collaboration with authorities ensures rescue and rehabilitation—building safer, more resilient communities.



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SUSTAINABLEGROWTHFORSUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENTPHASESUPPORTEDBYAIDINDIA

EnsuringFoodSecurityandCreativeEducation:APath towardstheWelfareofSmallFarmersand Adolescents

From July to December 2024, JVP strengthened livelihoods in 15 villages of Amrapara Block by training farmers in sustainable agriculture, organic practices, and collective marketing—raising incomes by Rs40,000–Rs50,000. Cluster meetings, access to government schemes, and peer mentoring boosted scalability and resilience. Simultaneously, 200 adolescent girls received life skills education, enabling them to prevent child marriage and pursue career goals—fostering confident, self-reliant communities.

KisanSamityMeetingsforstrengtheningsustainablelivelihoods

JVPconducted84KisanSamitymeetingswith1,094participants,focusingonvegetable farming,kitchengardening,organicfertilizers,governmentschemes,andmarketlinkages. These sessions boosted adoption of sustainable practices, reduced short-term migration and encouraged livelihood diversification, leading to increased incomes, environmental sustainability, and resilient rural economies.

KisanClusterMeetings

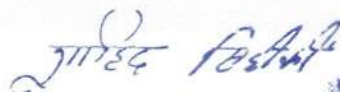
JVPheld11clustermeetingsatJarakiandSalpatrawith219participants,focusingon vegetable farming, kitchen gardening, LEPM engagement and government schemes. The sessions enhanced knowledge on crop production, branding, and marketing; promoted organic fertilizersandtreeplantation;andimprovedincomesthroughbetterpricingandscheme access—advancing sustainable farming and economic resilience.

FarmerTraining&ClusterStrengthening

On28thNov2024at Salpatra,atrainingssessionfor65 farmersledbytheBlockAgricultural OfficerandAssistantTechnicalManagerfocusedonrules,documentation,andgovernment linkages. Key outcomes included inclusive Farmer Cluster Group formation, bank linkages, collective produce aggregation, and plans for FPO formation—empowering small and marginal farmers through shared resources, collective action, and institutional support for improved income and livelihoods.

SmallholderFarmerTraining

Meetingsheldon 18th and19th ofDec2024at JarakiandSalpatrafor65farmers,thetraining focused on climate-responsive crop selection, mixed cropping, and market-driven planning. Farmers learned to optimize land use, enhance productivity, and diversify crops—reducing inputcosts,improvingincomestability,andpromotingsustainable,resilientfarmingpractices with stronger market linkages.



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Community Meetings for Social and Environmental Awareness

Through 85 meetings with 1,831 participants, JVP promoted awareness on child marriage, child labor, trafficking, girls' education, and sustainable livelihoods. Sessions covered organic farming, kitchen gardening, water conservation (soft pits), and government linkages—enhancing climate resilience, community engagement, and long-term grassroots-led development.

Adolescent Girls' Life Skills Empowerment

By December 2024, JVP conducted sessions across Chhota Pahadpur, Bada Salghati, Chhota Salghati, Chhota Taldeh, Dumarchir, Tutra Pahad, Bhatikandar, Udlabani, Salpatra, Nipaniya, Gogajor, Jitko, Jaraki, Piparjoriya, Tileypada equipping 200 adolescent girls with life skills education. The program focused on informed career choices, child marriage prevention, and confidence-building through supportive, interactive learning—fostering empowered, self-reliant young women.

Adolescent Empowerment through Rights, Education & SRHR Awareness

JVP held 53 meetings with 667 adolescents and 10 Kishori Samooh meetings with 221 girls across villages, raising awareness on child rights, education, trafficking, and SRHR. Through interactive sessions, street plays, and sports, girls developed leadership, promoted education, and addressed child marriage and labor. Kishori-Abhibhawak meetings (82 sessions, 902 participants) deepened family engagement in education, nutrition, and safe migration, reducing domestic violence by 30%. Specialized trainings on RTE, NEP 2020, and SRHR empowered 119 adolescents with knowledge on rights, reproductive health, career planning, and leadership, driving social change and informed decision-making.



UDAAN—FYINGHIGH (QUARTERLY EVENT) 12TH & 30TH Dec 2024

Conducted at Jaraki and Salpatra with 65 participants, UDAN equipped adolescents with knowledge on gender equality, career exploration, and digital skills. Training in smartphone use, photography, and videography empowered youth to document issues and express their voices through media. The program fostered leadership, critical thinking, and confidence—encouraging informed choices and active community engagement.



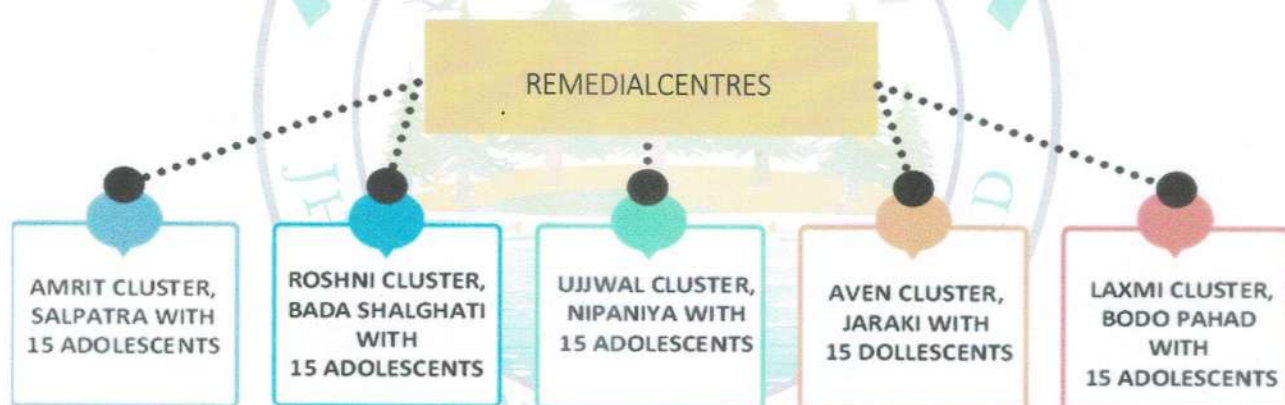


LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR ADOLESCENTS, 21ST DEC 2024

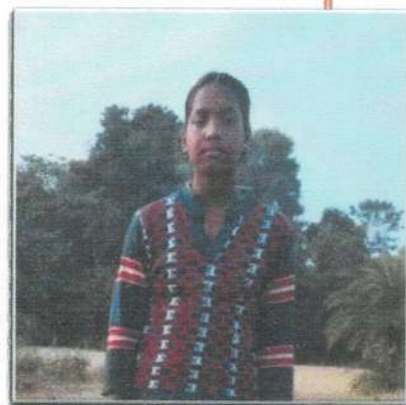
Held at Salpatra Health Sub-Centre with 45 participants, the initiative equipped adolescents with essential life skills in decision-making, communication and problem-solving through creative activities like life mirrors and story writing. It strengthened emotional well-being, built resilience, and empowered youth to face life's challenges with confidence.

Remedial Education and Life Skills Development Initiative – Amrapada Block, Pakur District

Implemented across five villages in Amrapara, this initiative supports 75 enrolled and 25 indirectly benefitted girls with remedial learning in Hindi, English, and Math using creative methods. It integrates SRHR awareness, life skills, and career guidance, fostering confidence, leadership, and informed decision-making. Weekly assessments, joyful learning, and parent-teacher meetings have led to the successful mainstreaming of seven dropout children and strengthened community awareness on girls' education and child rights.



Merila Besra, 16, from Gogajor village, was on the verge of dropping out due to poverty and her father's alcoholism. JVP's intervention through community meetings led to counseling, enrollment in a remedial center, and reconnection with school. Her family accessed government schemes and livelihood support, improving stability. With her father quitting alcohol, Merila resumed education, excelled academically, and now supports her siblings—showcasing the powerful impact of education, community support and timely intervention.



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Shilwanti Tudu, 56, from Jaraki village, transformed her life through JVP's community-based intervention. Linked to schemes like Abhua Awas Yojana, Maiya Samman Yojana, and PM Kisan Yojana, she secured housing and financial aid. Joining the farmers' committee empowered her with rights awareness and farmingsupport. With a new home under construction and improved livelihood, Shilwanti's story highlights how access to entitlements builds resilience and restores dignity for rural women.

At 14, Savitri Besra from Bada Salghati was on the verge of dropping out due to household burdens. JVP's intervention through its Remedial Center offered her counseling, academic support, and awareness on child rights, hygiene, and nutrition. She resumed school, started a kitchen garden, and became a peer influencer— motivating others to return to school and adopt healthier habits. Savitri's journey reflects how education and timely support can transform adolescents into confident change-makers.



Government Scheme Linkages—Empowering Rural Households

From July to December 2024, JVP has made significant strides in connecting community members with key government schemes facilitating access to government schemes for 396 beneficiaries across Pakur, enabling critical support in housing, financial aid, crop insurance, pensions, and social protection. Notable enrolments included 155 under Mukhyamantri Maiya Samman Yojana, 75 in Crop Insurance, and 45 in Abhua Awas Yojana. These linkages have strengthened economic stability, boosted agricultural resilience, and enhanced social security—laying the foundation for self-reliant, empowered communities.

The table below highlights the number of beneficiaries enrolled in each scheme:

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	No. of Beneficiaries
01	Abhua Awas Yojana	45
02	Mukhyamantri Maiya Samman Yojana	155
03	Savitri Bai Phule Samman Yojana	57
04	Crop Insurance Scheme	75
05	Registration in LAMPS	25
06	Public Pension Scheme	24
07	PM Kisan Samman Yojana	15
Total		396

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Events on significant days

- World Indigenous Day
- International Girl Child Day
- Global Handwashing Day
- National Children's Day
- Football Tournament Against Gender Based Violence



GLIMPSES OF THE ACTIVITIES DURING THE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION



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Building Access and Voice Governance for Tribal Communities and Adolescent Girls

Jharkhand, with its significant tribal population, faces persistent challenges in accessing government welfare schemes and participatory governance—especially in remote areas like Maheshpur block, Pakur. Despite the PESA Act (1996) mandating decentralized governance through empowered Gram Sabhas, community participation remains slow due to weak institutions and limited awareness among citizens and grassroots leadership.

Gram Sabhas, intended as the bedrock of self-governance—often remain underutilized or function merely as symbolic forums. As a result, tribal and marginalized communities, especially women and adolescents, struggle to access their rightful entitlements, voice local issues, or influence development decisions affecting their lives. To address weak community participation and poor access to welfare schemes in tribal areas of Maheshpur block, Pakur, the initiative targeted six Gram Panchayats within a span from 1st September 2024 to 28th February 2025—Teliyapokhar, Chandalmara, Patharia, Rolagram, Baliadangal, and Baskendri.

Key Activities undertaken during the project:

Staff Capacity Building on Gram Sabha and Governance Structures

One-day training was conducted on 10th February 2025 at Baliadangal Panchayat Bhavan to orient project staff on the importance of Gram Sabha, functions of Gram Panchayat, and relevant laws and guidelines. The session was led by the Project Director.

PRIMembers Training on Roles and Responsibilities

On 6th February 2025, a comprehensive training for Gram Pradhans and Ward Members from six villages was held at Rolagram Panchayat Bhavan. The training covered key topics including PESA Act, Gram Sabha functioning, meeting quorum, annual planning and budgeting, and Gram Sabha committees.

Training for Gram Sabha Standing Committees

Training sessions were conducted at Baliadangal Panchayat Bhavan for Gram Pradhans and standing committee members from three Panchayats. The sessions focused on committee roles, responsibilities, and collaborative planning.

Mass Awareness through Community Engagement

Extensive community outreach was undertaken across five Panchayats via Gram Sabha meetings, SHG interactions, and cultural formats such as *nukkad natak*, promoting awareness on Gram Sabha importance and welfare schemes. Emphasis was placed on women's participation and regular Gram Sabha convening.

QuarterlyCoordinationMeetings Six quarterly meetings were conducted across Baliadangal, Baskendri, Chandalmara, Patharia, Rolagram, and TeliyapokharPanchayats.Theseaimedto enhance collaboration between Gram Sabha,StandingCommitteesandPRI members,ensuringissuesraisedare effectively addressed.	EstablishmentofGSSecretariats Gram Sabha Secretariats were established in six Panchayats (Chandalmara,ChotaKokilapara, Radhaballpur, Patharia, Mandadangal, andDhabarna)tofunctionasgrievance redressalcells.Theseserveasplatforms for community members to report lapses in government scheme implementation and promote transparency.
BaselineSurveyandVulnerability Mapping Baselinedatacollectionandresource/ social mapping is underway in six Panchayats(Teliyapokhar,Chandalmara, Patharia, Rolagram, Baliadangal, and Baskendri).Outof9,033households, 5,217havebeensurveyedtoidentify entitlement gaps and linkvulnerable families to relevant schemes.	CommunityWatchGroupsonAnti-Trafficking On18thFebruary2025,aspecialized trainingforeightWatchGroupsfrom PathariaPanchayatwasconductedto buildcommunityvigilanceagainsthuman trafficking. Members were sensitized on identification, prevention, and linking at-riskindividualsandvictimswith government support systems.
MonthlyStaffReviewandPlanning Meetings Regular monthly review meetings are conducted to assess project progress, trackimplementationofactivities,and resolve emerging challenges collaboratively.	OfficeInfrastructureSetup To support effective implementation, essentialofficeequipmentincludingan HP Laptop, Brother Printer, and Pico Projector have been procured and are actively in use.


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Save Indian Farmers: Facilitating Agriculture Resilient Measures in Dumka Districts of Jharkhand

The Save Indian Farmers Initiative is a comprehensive program designed to build climate-resilient, eco-conscious, and sustainable farming systems among small and marginal farmers in tribal-dominated regions. Responding to challenges such as land degradation, erratic rainfall, and declining soil health, the initiative empowers rural communities, particularly women farmers through knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and integration of modern sustainable agricultural practices.

The initiative is fostering ecological balance, livelihood security and long-term resilience in vulnerable agrarian communities through;

- Focus on water conservation, soil health, forest preservation, and organic farming.
- Promotion of kitchen gardens and vegetable cultivation via Mahila Kisan and Farmers' Clubs to boost nutrition and income.
- Field-level meetings led to community-driven solutions for soil erosion, forest fire prevention, and land levelling.
- Encouraged weather-based farming, mixed cropping, and low-input techniques.



Between September 2024 and March 2025, a series of interactive sessions and field-level meetings in Pakur district, have resulted in community-driven plans for soil erosion control, flatland construction and forest fire mitigation. The following meetings encourages weather-based farming, mixed cropping, and low-input organic methods, fostering long-term agricultural resilience, ecological balance and farmer self-sufficiency.



Key Activities & Participation

- 5 Gram Sabha meetings with 373 participants (176 men, 197 women)
- 33 Mahila Kisan Club meetings with 561 women farmers engaged
- 5 Activism meetings with 125 women farmers (25 per village)

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- Block-level Kisan Mela | 7 exhibition stalls, inter-village exchange
- Empowerment Meeting (March 25, 2025, Dhoborna) | 50 participants

Focus Areas

- Kitchen gardening, organic farming, Burmese composting, and micro-drip irrigation
- Seasonal crop planning, mixed cropping, and weather-based farming
- Water, forest, and land conservation including a collective moringa plantation drive
- Market linkages, Kisan Credit Cards, and Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) formation
- Access to government schemes and awareness of Gram Sabha participation



Notable Outcomes

- 75 of 125 Mahila Kisan Club members adopted kitchen gardening and organic method
- 2,075 feet of stone fencing (Medbandi) constructed with 519 community members to prevent erosion and improve fertility
- Plantation of Bel, Tamarind, and Plum trees for eco-economic gains
- Clubs resolved to advance climate-resilient practices and nutritional security
- Identified challenges: water scarcity, limited scheme awareness, and need for regular follow-up

Impact

The initiative catalyzed women-led agricultural transformation, improved community participation, enhanced livelihood resilience, and laid the foundation for a sustainable, inclusive rural economy.

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PILOTING COMMUNITY-LED INITIATIVES TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE & TRAFFICKING 2022 – 2026

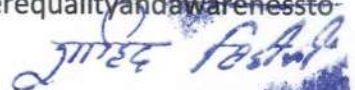
This initiative aims to combat child trafficking and sexual exploitation through a multi-pronged, community-driven approach. It focuses on empowering local institutions and community groups to take ownership of prevention efforts, while also strengthening service delivery and policy advocacy. The activities under the initiative aimed to inform and sensitize communities and key stakeholders on the critical issues surrounding child trafficking and abuse.

BRIEF OF THE ACTIVITIES FROM 1ST NOVEMBER 2024 – 31ST MARCH 2025

The project is grounded in a comprehensive, community-led approach with the following key objectives; Institutional Strengthening, Prevention, Provision, Advocacy & Evidence Generation and the activities were planned in alignment with the objectives

CAPACITY BUILDING OF COMMITTEES AND GROUPS FOR STRENGTHENING LOCAL INSTITUTIONS TO PROMOTE OWNERSHIP OF THE ACTION PLAN

1. 84 capacity-building sessions were conducted for various community-based groups and committees.
2. A total of 1,012 participants were trained, including children, youth, and adults (255 male children, 276 female children, 356 men, and 125 women).
3. Trainings focused on child protection, roles and responsibilities of committees, and community-based monitoring mechanisms.
4. Groups trained included VLCPCs, BLCPC, adolescent groups, youth groups, SMCs, Atobasi groups, and Children's Parliaments.
5. Advocacy meetings held with government stakeholders at the block level addressed:
 - Inadequate school infrastructure (libraries, sports materials, teachers).
 - Clean drinking water in schools.
 - Linkage of adolescent girls to relevant government schemes.
6. Key stakeholders engaged:
 - Block Development Officer, who emphasized gender equality and awareness to combat trafficking and violence.


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- PoliceStationIn-Charge,whoencouragedtimelyreportingofviolenceandassured protection.
- Women & Child Development Department, which highlighted ongoing efforts to ensure safety, education, and empowerment of women and children.

KeyAchievments

- 30adolescentsvisitedAmaraparaBlockOfficetounderstandgovernanceandschemes.
- 145 women linked to Mukhyamantri Maiya Samman Yojana, receiving Rs.10,000 (4 instalments),supporting children's highereducation—facilitated by Yuva Samitiand Child Protection Committees.
- 8 trafficked children rescued and re-enrolled in schools due to VLCPC DumarchirandTilypadavillageleadership.
- Amlapara Police Station conducted orientation for adolescent girls on the POCSOAct,2012,helplines(112/100),and legal protection.
- Village heads established local child protection rules against child marriage, trafficking, abuse, and substance use.
- SMCs inDumarchirand Malipada ensured out-of-school children were enrolled.
- Youth groups in Gogajor and Malipada patrolled unsafe areas, conducted awareness drives, and publicized helpline numbers (112, 100, 1098).
- Regular reporting of child exploitation cases to Police and AHTU by VLCPCs and Atobaisi groups ensured timely interventions.



COMMUNITY AWARENESS ON CHILD PROTECTION THROUGH LOCAL PLATFORMS FOR PREVENTION

To build awareness and increase community vigilance against child sexual abuse and human trafficking, five targeted awareness programs were organized between February and March 2025. These sessions were strategically conducted during community gatherings such as Gram Sabhas, local haats/hatias, traditional festivals (e.g., Magh Parab, Bandhana), melas and at public venues like Panchayat Bhawans and helipad grounds. A total of 543 community members participated

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1. Multi-platform outreach: Awareness sessions conducted at Gram Sabhas, local haats, cultural events (Magh Parab, Bandhana), and melas.
2. Active stakeholder engagement: Village heads, PRI members, JVP activists addressed issues like trafficking, child sexual abuse, early marriage, dropout, and substance abuse.
3. Effective communication: Used visual tools and local language to explain child rights, trafficking, and helpline numbers (112, 100, 1098).
4. Strong collaboration: Enhanced coordination between communities, leaders, and NGOs for grassroots child protection.
5. School-based interventions: Sessions in schools, including residential schools, raised awareness among children and adolescents.
6. Stakeholders sensitization: Trained Anganwadi workers, SHGs, PLVs, PRI and religious leaders on their role in child protection.
7. Teacher workshops: Equipped teachers to act as first responders for child safety issues.
8. Youth-led campaigns: Children and adolescents led child rights campaigns during public events like Republic Day.
9. Anonymous reporting: Installed complaint/suggestion boxes in schools and ICDS centres to report concerns safely.



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Significant progress was made in strengthening child protection systems and awareness across the project area. A total of 325 adolescents were sensitized on trafficking, child rights, and safety, while 254 children participated in Republic and Children's Day awareness sessions. Teachers began integrating protection topics into lessons, and the Children's Parliaments successfully advocated for fans in six schools and complaint box use. Youth leaders and local institutions actively raised issues at Panchayat and Block levels, supported by helpline awareness campaigns. Efforts also linked MNREGA with safe migration, highlighting strong community-driven commitment to child rights.

MAKING PROVISIONS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBLE SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OR POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE BY STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF SERVICE PROVIDERS AND KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Conducted district-level training for key duty bearers (Police, AHTUs, SJPU, Women Police, DLSA, prosecutors, Labour Dept., CWC, JJB) to build survivor-centric, legally sound, and coordinated responses to trafficking and child sexual abuse.
- Trained frontline service providers (DCPU, CHILDLINE, DSWO, NGOs, Shelter Homes) on survivor care, case management, legal protocols, and inter-agency coordination for effective protection and rehabilitation.
- Organized advocacy meetings with stakeholders to identify service delivery gaps and strengthen district-level child protection mechanisms through collaborative solutions.



vulnerable children and survivors now have improved access to timely care, legal aid, and rehabilitation support.

District-level interventions significantly enhanced the local response to human trafficking and child sexual abuse by equipping duty bearers and service providers with survivor-centric, rights-based approaches. These trainings improved case identification, timely referrals, and coordination. Inter-agency collaboration was strengthened through cross-sector engagement, while advocacy forums identified service delivery gaps, leading to actionable solutions. As a result,

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PROTECTION OF AT-RISK INDIVIDUALS THROUGH SUPPORT SERVICES FACILITATED BY THE LOCAL INSTITUTIONS

JVP facilitated regular interactions between village- and block-level committees and key departments such as Police and Social Welfare to strengthen coordination, streamline referrals, and improve community-level response mechanisms for protection and service delivery.

The initiative strengthened coordination with ICDS and Police departments has enhanced convergence and institutional support, contributing significantly toward the project's objectives. Additionally, 10 adolescent girls were successfully linked to the Savitri Bai Phule Yojana, improving their access to entitlements and support services.

Community Action Rescues 7 Girls from Trafficking— A Breakthrough under the Damin Initiative for a Protected Childhood

In Dumerchir village, Pakur, the Damin Initiative led to the rescue of seven adolescent girls from child trafficking through a strong community-led response. Triggered by awareness from the Aato Baisi Samiti and Mother's Awareness Program, a father became actively involved, helping expose the trafficker. Led by Raisin Marandi and the village child protection committee, the community ensured the trafficker's arrest and recovered ₹30,000 in unpaid wages. This intervention raised awareness among local youth and highlighted how grassroots mobilization can combat exploitation and safeguard childhoods, despite ongoing challenges like poverty and limited access to government schemes.

Reconnecting Chand Hembram to Education A Step Toward a Brighter Future

Under the Damin Initiative, Jharkhand Vikas Parishad (JVP) helped 13-year-old Chand Hembram from Kamariya village return to school after dropping out due to poverty and lack of awareness. With support from the Atabasi Committee, SMC, and village head Mr. Benajar Murmu, Chand was re-enrolled in Class VII at Middle School Jitko. The initiative not only reconnected the family with education but also inspired Chand to pursue his dream of becoming a police officer. JVP continues to support the family in accessing government schemes, ensuring Chand's continued journey toward empowerment.



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MUKTISOUTHASIA JANUARY2025&MARCH2025

The MuktiSouthAsia project funded by J/TIP focuses on a comprehensive approach to addressing human trafficking. Its core objectives are to prevent trafficking, protect victims, prosecute traffickers, and promote partnerships for sustained impact. JVP as an implementing partner carried out several initiatives in Sahibganj district of Jharkhand to address human trafficking with a focus on prevention, protection and partnerships. The initiatives focused on combating both sex and labour trafficking.

DISTRICT-LEVEL ADVOCACY FOR VICTIM-CENTRIC SERVICES IN SAHIBGANJ, JHARKHAND

Location: Sahibganj, Jharkhand

Date: 7th January 2025

Organized by: JVP under the MuktiSouthAsia (MSA) Project

Participants: 27 stakeholders (11 male, 16 female—all above 25) from government departments and NGOs

On 7th January 2025, JVP convened a district-level advocacy meeting in Sahibganj, bringing together 27 key stakeholders from government bodies and civil society. Participants included officials from the Social Welfare Department, CWC, DCPO, JJB, LPO, PO, Childline, PCI India, and UNICEF. The key highlights include;

- JVP presented MSA's mandate and field learnings.
- Highlighted systemic gaps in rescue, rehabilitation, and reintegration.
- Advocated for improved compensation delivery, psychosocial support, and educational reintegration.
- Recommended strengthened linkages with government schemes such as the Child Sponsorship Scheme.
- Facilitated open dialogue for experience sharing and solution-building.
- Initiated post-meeting follow-ups with minutes and advocacy resources

This first-quarter advocacy effort laid the foundation for systemic change in Sahibganj's anti-trafficking response. By aligning stakeholders on a unified, victim-centric approach, the meeting catalyzed collaborative action and promoted a culture of accountability. The platform helped normalize survivor reintegration discourse among institutional actors, paving the way for more empathetic, coordinated, and effective interventions.

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AWARENESSPROGRAMONCHILDPROTECTIONANDTRAFFICKING

Location: Kesro and Pathna, Sahibganj District, Jharkhand Date:
Between January- March 2025 (Q1)
Organized by: JVP under the Mukti South Asia (MSA) Project
Participants: Total 56 (Children and Adolescents under 18: 28 male, 28 female
School Staff above 25: 1 male, 1 female)

JVP conducted focused awareness programs aimed at educating school-age children and their communities on child rights, safeguarding and protective mechanisms. JVP organized two awareness sessions in Kesro and Pathna schools (Patna block, Sahibganj district) in collaboration with school authorities. The sessions were designed and delivered by trained JVP social workers and covered agendas as follows;

- Child rights and protection
- Child trafficking and domestic violence
- Safeguarding policies and redress mechanisms
- Gender equality and the importance of education
- Identification of abuse, neglect and learning barriers.
- Inclusivity, participation and social engagement for children



The awareness programs built crucial understanding among children and school staff on child protection, fostering open dialogue and safer school environments. They enabled early risk identification, better access to support services, and stronger advocacy for marginalized children's rights and inclusion.

SENSITIZATIONPROGRAMSWITHRELIGIOUSANDTRADITIONALLEADERS

Location: Batail and Baragaram villages, Sahibganj District, Jharkhand Date:
Between January- March 2025 (Q1)
Organized by: JVP under the Mukti South Asia (MSA) Project
Participants: Total 40 (Male above 25 years-22, Female above 25 years-8, participants included religious leaders, traditional leaders, and representatives of community institutions)

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JVP conducted sensitization programs to strengthen their awareness and mobilize religious and traditional leadership for child protection. JVP facilitated two sensitization sessions in Batail and Baragargram villages, engaging 40 leaders and institutional representatives from religious and traditional structures. The sessions aimed to deepen their understanding of the following topics;

- Prevalence, causes, and consequences of child trafficking
- Debunking myths and harmful cultural norms
- Legal frameworks and reporting mechanisms
- Ethical responsibility in protecting children
- Practical ways to integrate anti-trafficking advocacy in religious/traditional platforms

The awareness programs equipped children and school staff with essential knowledge on safeguarding, fostering dialogue and safer environments. This led to early risk identification, improved access to protection services, and stronger advocacy for marginalized children's rights.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS PROGRAMS ON CHILDREN PROTECTION ISSUES IN THE COMMUNITY

Location: Multiple villages in Sahibganj District, Jharkhand Date:

Between January- March 2025 (Q1)

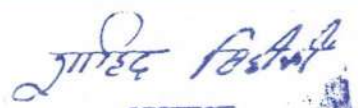
Organized by: JVP under the Mukti South Asia (MSA) Project

Participants: Total 184 (Male under 18-17, Female under 18-17, Male (18-25)-3, Female (18-25)-19, Male (above 25)-36, Female (above 25)-92)

JVP organized 6 community meetings across multiple villages in Sahibganj district. These sessions were designed to engage diverse community members including youth, adults and women on key child protection concerns and to build a proactive local safety net for children. The agenda included;

- Identifying and protecting vulnerable children
- Preventing child trafficking, child marriage, child labour, and abuse
- Promoting access to government support schemes
- Developing child protection plans and registers for at-risk children
- Monitoring migrant children and ensuring safe migration practices
- Strengthening collaboration with Panchayati Raj Institutions

These awareness meetings strengthened community child protection, fostering vigilance, coordination with local governance, and increased use of formal protection systems, making communities the first line of defence against trafficking and child rights violations.


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ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING CLUB (AHTC) FOR ADOLESCENT MEETINGS

Location: Multiple villages in Sahibganj District, Jharkhand Date:

Between January- March 2025 (Q1)

Organized by: JVP under the Mukti South Asia (MSA) Project

Participants: Total 400 (Adolescent members of Anti-Human Trafficking Clubs, majority under 18)

In Q1 2025, JVP organized 21 Anti-Human Trafficking Club (AHTC) meetings in Sahibganj district, empowering adolescent members to lead awareness, prevention, and survivor reintegration efforts. These sessions strengthened community-based vigilance and fostered peer-driven protection networks



- Preventing relapse among rescued survivors through sustained awareness
- Building leadership among adolescents to become peer educators and watchdogs
- Promoting community dialogue on social media safety and trafficking red flags
- Encouraging proactive engagement with migration tracking and victim support service

These meetings have significantly strengthened grassroots resistance to human trafficking. Adolescent leaders are now recognized as informed community advocates, actively preventing trafficking and promoting child safety. Their involvement has helped establish early warning systems, promote safe migration, and foster a culture of accountability and inclusion.

MOBILIZATION OF ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING CLUB (AHTC) FOR OUTREACH CAMPAIGNS

Location: 16 villages in Sahibganj District, Jharkhand Date:

Between January- March 2025 (Q1)

Organized by: JVP under the Mukti South Asia (MSA) Project

Participants: Total 691, Male under 18-301, Female under 18-360, Female between 18-25-3, Male above 25-4, Female above 25-23



JVP empowered AHT Club adolescents to lead 26 outreach programs under the Mukti South Asia Project, raising awareness on trafficking, child marriage, abuse, and education rights. The initiative strengthened peer leadership and built a proactive youth front for community protection.

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The mobilization transformed adolescents into confident advocates, challenging harmful practices, promoting safe migration, and encouraging schooling—reducing trafficking risks and strengthening grassroots protection systems.

STRENGTHENING OF VILLAGE LEVEL CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEES (VLCPC)

Location: Multiple villages in Sahibganj District, Jharkhand Date:

Between January- March 2025 (Q1)

Organized by: JVP under the Mukti South Asia (MSA) Project

Participants: Total 198 (Male under 18-19, Female under 18-40, Male between 18-25: 1, Female between 18-25: 6, Male above 25: 33, Female above 25: 99)



In Q1 2025, JVP held 16 VLCPC meetings across Sahibganj, strengthening grassroots child protection. These monthly forums now proactively address trafficking, child marriage, labour, and unsafe migration. All 16 villages adopted a migration register and communities were sensitized on using complaint boxes for confidential reporting marking a key shift toward accountable, community-led child safeguarding.

JVP has transformed VLCPCs into active child protection bodies—now serving as frontline defenders against trafficking, abuse, and neglect. Members are monitoring risks, linking families to schemes, and supporting orphaned, out-of-school, and vulnerable children.

FORMATION OF CHILD FRIENDLY CENTRES (BAL MITRA KENDRA)

Location: Villages of Khairbani, Chadijhopriya, Dulumpur, Banjhikendra, Srirampur and Sitapahar of Sahibganj District, Jharkhand.

Date: Between January-March 2025 (Q1)

Organized by: JVP under the Mukti South Asia (MSA) Project

Participants: Total 198 (Male under 18: 12, Female under 18: 46, Female 18-25: 8, Male above 25: 40, Female above 25: 68)

Child-Friendly Centres (Bal Mitra Kendras) were established in safe ICDS spaces to promote child participation and protection. JVP engaged community leaders, AHT Club members, and VLCPCs in awareness campaigns and formed support committees. Trained peer leaders facilitated child-

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centered activities, while feedback from children and parents guided improvements. These centers linked families to schemes like Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, Mission Vatsalya, and PM-JAY, and provided access to legal aid, helplines, counselling, and referral services through ICDS, DCPU, and other protection systems.

Child-centric spaces provided emotional safety, learning, and support, while empowering VLCPCs, PRI members, and youth to lead protection efforts. They improved early access to entitlements, reduced trafficking risks, and fostered children's resilience, awareness, and active participation in rights-based initiatives.

ENGAGEMENT WITH ATO BAISI TRADITIONAL SANTHALI SELF-GOVERNANCE INSTITUTION

Location: 10 Santhali villages across Sahibganj District, Jharkhand Date:

Between January- March 2025 (Q1)

Organized by: JVP under the Mukti South Asia (MSA) Project

Participants: Total 54 (Male above 25: 43, Female above 25: 10, Female between 18-25: 1)



Engagement with Ato Baisi strengthened traditional Santhali governance to address child protection, integrating child rights and education into customary forums. Focused sessions built members' capacity to prevent trafficking, child labour, and early marriage, while fostering community-led monitoring and referral systems aligned with formal protection mechanisms. Capacity Built through oriented members on risks of trafficking, early marriage, child labour, and importance of schooling and child safety.

Effectively bridged traditional governance with child rights, positioning Ato Baisi as active protectors of children. Strengthened culturally rooted vigilance, fostered intergenerational accountability, and laid the groundwork for sustainable, community-led protection systems within Santhali communities.

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STRENGTHINSYNERGY EMPOWERINGVILLAGESTHROUGHJVPGOONJ COLLABORATION

In Amdapada block, JVP and Goonj's *Cloth for Work* initiative empowered communities to drive local development through voluntary labour (Shramdaan), transforming neglected areas into functional spaces. Villagers identified and addressed issues like damaged roads, defunct water bodies, and infrastructure gaps using local resources. In return, they received dignity kits—essentials that reinforced a non-monetary, respect-based reward system.

Phase	Duration	Activities	No. offamilies targeted	Total Beneficiaries
Phase1(CFWKit)	25 th Dec2023–25 th Aug 2024	21	500	420
Phase 2(CFW, AWC &SOSKit)	30 th Sep2024–30 th Dec 2024	20	500CFW 2 AWC 10 School	200 2 Complete 2Complete(08 SOS work in progress)

CHABUTARA CONSTRUCTION AT BADASAL GHAT VILLAGE, AMARAPARA IN PAKUR DISTRICT



Before



After

BAMBOO STICK FENCING IN PRIMARY SCHOOL AT CHHOTATADIH FOR KITCHEN GARDEN



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CONSTRUCTION OF CHABUTARA AND CAMPAT VILLAGE DUMERCHIR, AMRAPARA IN PAKUR DISTRICT



Before



After

FENCING OF FANGANWADI CENTREAT GOGAJOR VILLAGE, AMRAPARA IN PAKUR DISTRICT



Before



After

JARAKI, TALIDIH VILLAGE



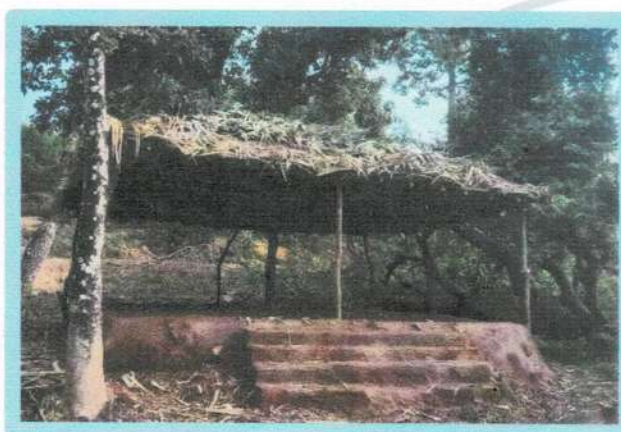
ROADS REPAIRED UNDER SHRAM DAAN INITIATIVE



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SHRAMDAAN IN ACTION: BADA SHALGHATI'S STORY OF RECLAIMING DIGNITY THROUGH COLLECTIVE EFFORT

In Bada Shalghati, Jharkhand, the Cloth for Work initiative by JVP and Goonj sparked a powerful community transformation. Responding to the lack of a common meeting space, villagers united in *Shramdaan* to rebuild an abandoned mud platform into a functional *chabutara* and camp using locally sourced materials. Women led the cleanup; men levelled the site and constructed the shelter with bamboo and palm thatch. This space now hosts Gram Sabhas, Kishori baithaks, and community group meetings—becoming a symbol of self-reliance, dignity, and collective action. What began as a simple idea is now a proud model of participatory development.



BUILT BY HANDS AND DRIVEN BY HEART—THE ROAD REVIVAL



In Jitko village, Amdapada Block, the *Cloth for Work* initiative by JVP and Goonj brought about a significant change by repairing a 900-meter kaccha road. Previously unsafe due to sharp stones and erosion, the road hindered access to the Anganwadi Centre and community pond, especially for children. The community, recognizing the need, came together in a collective effort, using voluntary labour to clear debris, level the terrain, and create a safe, walkable path. This transformation now ensures easier access to essential services, demonstrating the power of community-driven development.

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GIRLSFIRSTFUND2024-2026

The initiative has made significant strides in empowering vulnerable girls through education, health, and protection interventions:

Awareness Meetings:	Seven sessions were held across schools, sensitizing 210 My Support Leaders and 12 teachers on child rights, gender equality, and social issues, empowering girls to voice their thoughts and engage in meaningful dialogue.
Football for Awareness	Two football sessions with 90 girls promoted education and gender equality, breaking barriers and building life skills.
Legal Awareness	40 girls were trained on social protection schemes, empowering them with knowledge on financial support for education.
Stakeholder Engagement	Interface meetings with media, police, and teachers mobilized support for girls' education and protection, ensuring access to government schemes.
Community Child Protection	30 members of Village-Level Child Protection Committees were trained to address child labour, trafficking, and child marriage, strengthening local safeguarding mechanisms.
Government Scheme Awareness	Block and Panchayat-level visits educated 70 participants, including child labourers, about entitlements, improving their access to education and social services.
International Girl Child Day	The event celebrated girls' rights with 100 participants, raising awareness through rallies, street plays, and speeches.

Significant Impact of the initiatives;

- Child Marriage Prevention: Six child marriages were averted.
- Education Access: 250 girls are receiving education, with 200 attending school regularly.
- Health Scheme Support: 145 girls are linked to government health schemes.
- Counselling: 35 girls facing challenges like child marriage and violence have received support.


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JVP Check Dam Project

A Community-Led Water Solution

In May 2023, Jharkhand Vikas Parishad (JVP) and the local community addressed severe water scarcity by constructing a check dam at 900 feet in a remote, resource-poor area. Despite the steep terrain and lack of natural water sources, the community united to transport materials and water via tankers, with local volunteers managing daily logistics. The dam now stands as a powerful symbol of collective resilience and has already begun easing water shortages—marking a milestone in community-driven water conservation.

Aapki Yojana, Aapki Sarkar, Aapke Dwar

“Aapki Yojana, Aapki Sarkar, Aapke Dwar” outreach at Jaraki Panchayat Bhavan, connecting rural citizens with essential government services. JVP assisted hundreds with form filling, documentation, and awareness, ensuring inclusive participation especially from vulnerable families.

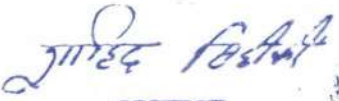


Key Applications Facilitated:

- Housing: 357
- Mayya Samman Yojana: 83
- Ration Corrections: 18
- Job Cards: 25
- Crop Insurance: 12
- Migrant Worker & Revenue Services: Over 20

The high turnout reflected strong demand. JVP's support improved last-mile service delivery, empowered citizens, and reinforced its commitment to inclusive, people-first development.

JVP remains committed to facilitating access to government schemes and improving service delivery at the last mile. The success of this program underscores JVP's dedication to community-centered development and inclusive growth.


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CASE STUDY

THE JOURNEY OF A LEADER—HOPENMOY KISKU

Name: Hopenmoy Kisku

Age: 45

Location: Jitko village, Pakur District, Jharkhand

Community: Santhal Tribe

Family: Husband and four children

Initial Livelihood: Domestic helper, daily wage labor

Jitko village, located in the Paderkola Panchayat of Pakur district, Jharkhand, is a small tribal settlement inhabited by 650 members of the Santhal Tribe. The community primarily depends on subsistence farming, daily wage labour, and sale of forest produce for survival.

CHALLENGES

The community people suffered from economic hardships due to no steady source of income, leading to food insecurity and persistent poverty. Lack of sustainable income opportunities have long plagued the area, especially for women. Women's role to the domestic spheres were limited and social barriers silenced their aspirations. They had minimal exposure to leadership or entrepreneurship due to scarcity of training, resources, and platforms for women to earn or lead.

Hopenmoy Kisku, a 45-year-old woman whose life once mirrored the hardships of many others in her village. She lived with her husband and four children with no stable source of income. To make ends meet, Hopenmoy worked as a domestic helper in nearby households—her strength hidden behind the weight of poverty and quiet determination.

APPROACH THAT CHANGED HOPENMOY'S LIFE

In response to the economic challenges in Jitko, Jharkhand Vikas Parishad (JVP) launched the AID (Action for Inclusion and Development) program with a focus on empowering women through skill-building, livelihood generation, and leadership development. The initiative provided training in organic farming, vermicomposting, snack preparation, gender equity, leadership development and community engagement through Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Women were motivated and exposed to group dynamics and panchayat-level governance.

The program, designed to uplift individuals facing economic and social marginalization, reached out to women like Hopenmoy. With courage, she stepped forward and joined a Self-Help Group (SHG). What followed was a series of small but powerful steps—training in organic farming,

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vermicomposting, snack preparation, and leadership rooted in gender equity. For the first time, Hopenmoy wasn't just learning skills—she was discovering her voice.

ATRUE TRANSFORMATION BEGINS WHEN VOICES LONG UNHEARD ARE GIVEN SPACE TO RISE

Hopenmoy began participating in SHG meetings and slowly found the confidence to speak up in village and panchayat forums, something she never imagined doing before. Her transformation wasn't just internal, it reshaped her future.



Equipped with new skills and a newfound belief in herself, Hopenmoy started a small snack shop, offering home-cooked treats to her village. It brought in a steady income of Rs. 3500–4000 every month, which was enough to bring dignity and relief to her family. Not stopping there, she turned part of her land into a kitchen garden, growing seasonal vegetables that ensured food for her children and added to the family's income.

Today, Hopenmoy is no longer just a domestic helper, she is a respected entrepreneur, a community voice, and a role model for women in Jitko. Her journey from silent hardship to empowered leadership is a testament to what is possible when support meets courage.

KEY LEARNINGS

Community-based training and SHG engagement can dramatically improve the self-confidence and livelihood opportunities for rural women. Interventions providing leadership training and participation in governance promote sustainable, grassroots-level development. Integrated livelihood support leads to long-term financial stability and social empowerment.

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CASE STUDY

ROOTED IN COURAGE—SHANTI'S JOURNEY TO SELF-RELIANCE

Name: Shanti Murmu

Location: Jaraki Village

Education: Completed 9th Standard

Family: Husband and daughter

Initial Livelihood: Subsistence farming (paddy cultivation) Aspiration:

Self-employment and community leadership

Jaraki, a small rural village, is home to Shanti Murmu. Her family includes her husband and their 10-year-old daughter, Minati. Like many in her community, Shanti's family relied solely on paddy cultivation, a livelihood that offered limited income and little economic security.

CHALLENGES

The villagers suffered from inadequate income from farming and had limited access to entitlements and livelihood options. Women population in the village hesitated to speak up in community governance spaces. In the quiet village of Jaraki lives Shanti Murmu, a woman whose journey is a shining example of what happens when determination meets opportunity. Shanti's life was once marked by quiet struggle. Despite completing her education up to the 9th standard, something many women in her village had not been able to do, she faced the same harsh realities as others. Her family's only source of income came from cultivating paddy, barely enough to support her, her husband and their 10-year-old daughter, Minati.

APPROACH TOWARDS FEARLESS FUTURES

JVP through its Jitko Village Program women were provided skill development trainings which included enlightening orientation sessions on women rights and entitlements, combined with various livelihood enhancement programs like backyard poultry and organic farming. Shanti dreamed of being self-employed, of building something her own—but dreams like hers often remained just that in places like Jaraki. With no financial backing and limited support, she kept her aspirations close to her heart. Through JVP, Shanti found not just support, but a space where her potential could flourish. She joined the Joba Baha Self-Help Group (SHG) and quickly emerged as a leader, eventually becoming its President. She also became a member of the Dari Kishan Samity, where she was introduced to training sessions on rights, entitlements and livelihood enhancement.


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TRANSITION INTO A REDEFINED FUTURE

Shanti confidently advocated for her entitlements during the Gram Sabha meetings, a feat she had previously been unable to accomplish. One particular training on backyard poultry farming sparked something in her and she discovered the path to financial stability for her family. Armed with knowledge and the courage to act, Shanti and her husband started a small poultry unit, raising 50 birds. Their hard work soon paid off, bringing in an additional income of Rs.13,000 per year, a game-changer for their household. With this income, Shanti was finally able to afford quality education for Minati and meet essential family needs without fear or compromise. But she didn't stop there. With her confidence growing, she diversified their livelihood by starting a kitchen garden, growing vegetables for both home use and local sale further strengthening the family's food security and income.



Shanti's transformation didn't go unnoticed. From being a quiet presence in her community, she became a confident voice at Gram Sabha meetings, advocating for the rights and entitlements of others. Today, she not only supports her family, but also inspires women in her village to pursue their own dreams—to overcome fear, just as she did.

KEY LEARNINGS

Her story is a powerful reminder that change begins with belief and grows with the rights support. Through her courage and the foundation laid by JVP, Shanti has redefined what's possible for women in her village and has lit a path for many more to follow.



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CASE STUDY

HARVESTING HOPE-SARITA'S STORY

Name: Sarita Marandi

Age: 18

Village: Jitko

Family: Parents and two younger brothers

Group Affiliation: Leader, Liliful Kishori Samuh (Adolescent Girls' Group)

Educational Status: First Division in Class 10 & Intermediate; currently pursuing graduation

Sarita Marandi, an 18-year-old tribal girl from Jharkhand, lives with her parents and two younger brothers in a small village supported by the Jitko Village Program (JVP). Her father is a farmer, and her mother juggles domestic responsibilities with hard labour during the harvesting season. Despite their tireless efforts, the family's income from paddy cultivation was never enough. Erratic rainfall and shrinking yields only made things worse, forcing them to rely on daily wage work to survive. In the heart of rural Jharkhand, where daily life is shaped by the rhythm of the land, Sarita Marandi's story began - rooted in struggle, but blooming with possibility.

CHALLENGES

Amid financial instability due to poor harvests and irregular income and inability to afford school supplies, clothes and tuition, Sarita's dreams of education flickered, often at risk of being extinguished by financial reality. Limited opportunities for adolescent girls in rural tribal communities hinder their potential for personal growth and empowerment.

APPROACH THAT CULTIVATES CONFIDENCE

Sarita's life changed when she joined *Liliful Kishori Samuh*, an adolescent girls' group formed through the Jitko Village Program (JVP), under the AID Programs supported by Girls First Fund (GFF). The AID Program supported by Girls First Fund (GFF), conducted capacity-building programs on leadership, gender sensitization and adolescent rights. Village girls could access livelihood training in organic farming, mixed cropping, vermicomposting, scholarship support of Rs. 2500 from GFF for continuing education. They were benefitted from the mentorship received through community learning spaces including teaching remedial classes.



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ASmallStepTurnedIntoAGiantLeapTowardTransformation

As part of the group, Sarita received leadership training, gender sensitization workshops, and livelihood skill-building in organic farming, vermicomposting, and mixed agriculture. She wasn't just learning, she was leading also. Sarita quickly rose to become the group's leader, inspiring her peers while becoming a stronger version of herself.



Together with her mother, she applied her new knowledge to begin cultivating vegetables. A steady weekly income of Rs. 400, which brought both financial relief and food security to her family. For the first time, Sarita could buy school supplies and clothes for her siblings.

Education remained her true passion. In 2020, Sarita passed her Class 10 exams with First Division, and later repeated the feat in her Intermediate Examination. Thanks to a Rs. 2500 scholarship from the Girls First Fund, she could continue her studies without interruption. Today, Sarita is pursuing her graduation undaunted, determined, and driven. Sarita now teaches younger children in a remedial learning center run by JVP, becoming both a student and a teacher—both a dreamer and a doer.

KEY LEARNINGS

Sarita Marandi's journey reflects not just the impact of a well-designed adolescent development program but the resilience of a girl who refused to let circumstance write her story. An integrated program with a blend of education, livelihood training, and leadership opportunities has not only uplifted families but also helped girls become role models for girls in her village. Her story affirms that when young eyes dare to dream and if given the right tools, they can inspire change for generations to come.



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CASE STUDY

LEARNING AGAINST THE ODDS—SONET'S STORY

Name: Sonet Hansda Age:

15

Village: Amrapara Block, Jharkhand Tribe:

Santhal

Family: Lives with parents and two youngersiblings

Current Education: Enrolled in Grade 6 at Kanaya Madhya Vidyalaya Aspirations:

Dreams of becoming a nurse

Sonet Hansda, a bright 15-year-old tribal girl, lives with her parents and two youngersiblings in a remote village. Her family's limited resources, dependent on small-scale agriculture and manual labor, made education a distant dream especially for a girl. Life was simple, but not easy especially for a young girl with a burning desire to learn.

CHALLENGES

Social barriers and parental hesitation towards girls' education hindered the development of the girls in the village. The village lacked access to formal education and students had to commute 20km to reach out to the nearest school. Sonet had dropped out of school early but she never stopped yearning for the classroom. Her family's financial struggles coupled with deeply rooted gender norms meant that education was rarely prioritized for girls. Instead, Sonet spent her days helping her mother at home, occasionally glancing at books that once promised a different life.

AN EMPOWERING APPROACH

Sonet's life changed when she became a part of the "Pari Kishori Samooh", an adolescent girls' group formed under the AID Program, implemented by the Jitko Village Program (JVP) with support from the Girls First Fund. Through this group, Sonet participated in sessions on gender equity, child protection, health rights, and leadership. For the first time, she began to understand not only her



rights but her potential. Encouraged by the community motivators, her parents gradually embraced the idea of giving education another chance. Sonet was enrolled in JVP's remedial learning center, and within just six months, she blossomed mastering basic literacy, mathematics,

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and even learning how to write letters. With renewed confidence, she was admitted to Grade 6 at Kanaya Madhya Vidyalaya, located a staggering 20 kilometres away. And yet, every day Sonet made the journey on foot or by any means available just to sit in a classroom again.

FROM DROPOUT TO ROLE MODEL

Today, Sonet not only excels in her studies but also takes on responsibilities in her school. As a school monitor, she helps younger girls settle into learning and is an active participant in after-school remedial sessions. Her teachers praise her determination; her peers look up to her. Her parents now proudly stand by her side, supporting her goal to become a nurse—a dream once buried by circumstance, now reignited with purpose.



Sonet's journey is a testament to what happens when a girl is given the tools to believe in herself. Through community support, education, and her own unshakable resolve, she is rewriting her story and lighting the way for others like her.

KEY LEARNINGS

Sonet's story showcases the transformative power of education and consistent community support. With determination, proper guidance, and family encouragement, even the most disadvantaged girls can reclaim their right to learn, lead, and dream. Interventions focusing on academic reintegration and literacy improvement paved ways for village girls with minimal opportunities and increased parental support and recognition of girls' education. Sonet's journey is a testament to what happens when a girl is given the tools to believe in herself. Through community support, education, and her own unshakable resolve, she is rewriting her story and lighting the way for others like her.

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CASE STUDY

DREAMS REWRITTEN—SUBHODINI'S RISING BEYOND LIMITS

Name: Subhodini Murmu Age:

35

Occupation: Livestock rearer, vegetable farmer

Family: Husband and three children

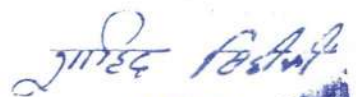
Location: Tribal village (supported under the AID Program by JVP) Educational

Background: Minimal formal education

The tribal community in Subhodini Murmu's village faces a complex web of socio-economic challenges. The tribal community faces seasonal farming dependency, leading to unstable incomes and forced migration for work. This leads to economic insecurity, disrupted family structures, and restricted access to consistent education and healthcare. Poverty, food insecurity, and lack of awareness about entitlements deepen their challenges, making it essential to introduce livelihood training and empowerment programs. Women, despite being central to household management, face additional barriers due to low literacy levels, limited access to livelihood skills, and traditional gender norms that curb their participation in economic or leadership activities. The lack of diversified income sources and insufficient knowledge of government entitlements further deepens the cycle of poverty and food insecurity.

CHALLENGES

35-year-old Subhodini Murmu lived a life of quiet determination. With her husband, Joseph Hembrom, and their three children, she faced the daily challenges of survival, a home where dreams were often delayed by poverty. Their small patch of land yielded a single paddy harvest each year. The income was never enough. To support the family, Joseph would leave the village for months at a time, working as a laborer in distant cities. The weight of running the household, caring for children, and making ends meet rested heavily on Subhodini's shoulders. Despite all these challenges Subhodini held on to a quiet dream to become financially independent, to educate her children, and to keep her family together.


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AN APPROACH THAT TURNED HOPE INTO ACTION

The Association for India's Development (AID) program, implemented by Jitko Village Program (JVP), adopted a community-based approach focusing on livelihood diversification, capacity building, and women's empowerment. The program focused on mobilizing women into Self-Help

Groups (SHGs), delivering targeted training on livestock rearing (goat and poultry), introducing kitchen gardening and organic farming techniques, ensuring handholding support and follow-up visits by trained facilitators

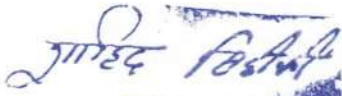
FROM ROOTS TO RESILIENCE

The program sparked new conversations around women's self-help groups and introduced skill-building workshops. Subhodini was drawn to the idea of learning something that could change her circumstances. She joined an SHG, choosing to train in livestock rearing specifically, backyard poultry and goat farming. The training was more than just practical knowledge, it was a spark of confidence. Alongside her husband, she began rearing goats. It was hard work feeding, caring, learning the rhythm of livestock but the returns were real. In a year, they earned Rs. 23,000 from the goats alone, money that no longer came from distant cities, but from their own backyard.

Subhodini didn't stop there. Using the knowledge, she gained from the project she began cultivating vegetables in her kitchen garden adding both nutrition and another source of income to their home. For the first time, her children could go to school without worry. Her husband no longer needed to migrate. And Subhodini once unsure, once struggling — now stood tall as the backbone of her household. Today, she is more than a mother and a wife. She is a farmer, an entrepreneur, and a role model.

KEY LEARNINGS

Subhodini's story illustrates how access to training, mentorship, and community support can spark transformation. From a struggling farmer's wife to a confident income-generating woman, she now leads her family toward stability and growth. Her journey underscores the power of grassroots interventions in enabling self-reliance and dignity for women in rural India. Well-structured and targeted livelihood interventions, gender-sensitive capacity building, and strong community support mechanisms unlock sustainable development and empower women like Subhodini to turn struggle into strength and dreams into reality.


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CASE STUDY

A SECOND CHANCE—MALOTI'S JOURNEY FROM CHILD BRIDE TO STUDENT

Age: 15

Location: Jharkhand

Family: Lives with her parents, Chunda Marandi and Dular Murmu

Educational Background: Dropped out after Grade 4; re-enrolled in Grade 5

Program: Damin Initiative for Safe Childhood

Facilitated by: Jharkhand Vikas Parishad

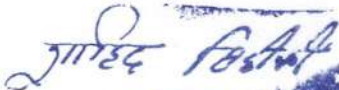
In many tribal regions of Jharkhand, child marriage remains a deeply entrenched practice driven by poverty, traditional norms, and limited access to education. Girls are often pulled out of school early and burdened with domestic responsibilities, making them vulnerable to early marriage and lifelong disempowerment. These communities face systemic challenges; minimal awareness about child rights, inadequate adolescent support systems, and weak institutional safeguards—all of which contribute to a cycle of gender inequality and lost potential. Girls are particularly at risk, as their voices are seldom heard and their futures often decided for them.

CHALLENGES

In a quiet village tucked deep in Jharkhand, a 15-year-old girl named Maloti Marandi spent her days in silence cooking, cleaning, and caring for her young siblings. School had become a distant memory, and dreams were a luxury she could not afford. While other girls her age carried books, Maloti carried burdens far heavier. Her future was quietly being written for her; one of early marriage, lost potential, and stifled independence.

AN APPROACH THAT CHANGED THE CHAIN OF CHILD MARRIAGE

The Damin Initiative implemented by Jharkhand Vikas Parishad (JVP), is dedicated to protecting children from early marriage and empowering adolescent girls through education and collective action. Under the leadership of children's rights activist Martina Hembrom, the project established a Kishori Samooch, a peer support and awareness group aimed at connecting with vulnerable girls and introducing them to the project's safe childhood framework.


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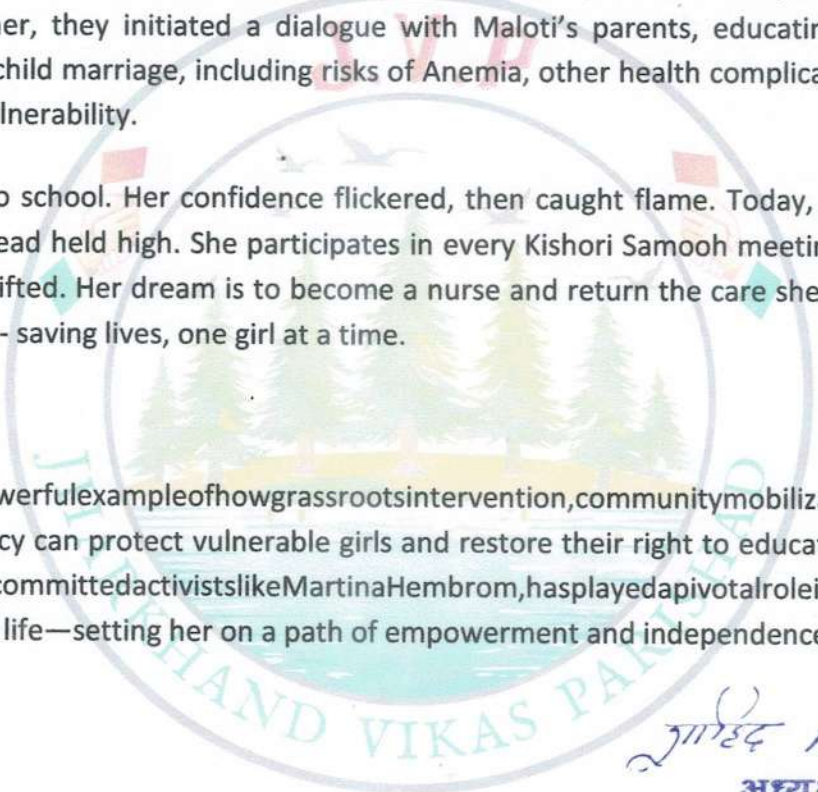
A turning point came when a friend from the Kishori Samooch, Jyotika Marandi, disclosed that Maloti was frequently absent because her parents were planning her marriage. This revelation posed a serious threat to Maloti's future, as she risked being withdrawn from school permanently.

Through the Damin Initiative for Safe Childhood, Maloti was introduced to the Kishori Samooch, a peer support group formed by activist Martina Hembrom. The group helped her reconnect with education and gave her a safe space to express her aspirations. The news of her impending marriage surfaced and the project team mobilized community leaders and youth advocates to intervene. Together, they initiated a dialogue with Maloti's parents, educating them on the consequences of child marriage, including risks of Anemia, other health complications, and long-term economic vulnerability.

Maloti returned to school. Her confidence flickered, then caught flame. Today, Maloti walks to school with her head held high. She participates in every Kishori Samooch meeting, lifting others the way she was lifted. Her dream is to become a nurse and return the care she received to the girls of her village - saving lives, one girl at a time.

KEY LEARNINGS

Maloti's case is a powerful example of how grassroots intervention, community mobilization, and consistent advocacy can protect vulnerable girls and restore their right to education. The Damin Initiative, through committed activists like Martina Hembrom, has played a pivotal role in altering the course of Maloti's life—setting her on a path of empowerment and independence.


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CASE STUDY

FROM LABOUR TO LEARNING-ALBINUSH'S JOURNEY FROM FIELD TO SCHOOL

Name: Albinush Hansda

Age: 11

Location: Kamardiha, Jharkhand

Family: Father-Rajesh Hansda, Mother-[Name], Younger siblings Educational

Background: Dropped out of school in 2021 (Grade 5)

Program: FXB International Project (Bal Sansad-Children's Parliament)

Facilitated by: Jharkhand Vikas Parishad (JVP)

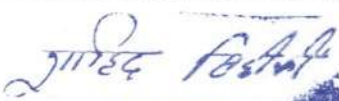
In rural areas like Kamardiha, child labour and seasonal migration for work are common practices due to economic hardships. Education often takes a backseat as children are expected to contribute to household chores, farming and labour. For families like Albinush's, the need for extra hands to support livelihood often results in children abandoning education to work at a young age, perpetuating the cycle of poverty. The community's deep-rooted reliance on child labor for economic survival hindered educational aspirations.

CHALLENGES

Albinush was forced to leave school and was pulled into seasonal migration for labor, depriving him of his right to education. He had to migrate to West Bengal for seasonal labour. At just 11 years old, he took on heavy responsibilities like shepherding, working as an agricultural labourer and caring for his younger siblings. His potential for education was severely limited and he faced the threat of a life entrenched in manual labour. The family had limited understanding of the long-term benefits of education for Albinush's future.

A TARGETED APPROACH TO ENDING CHILD LABOUR

The Bal Sansad (Children's Parliament) under the FXB International Project played a key role in advocating for education. The Children's Parliament members reached out to Albinush's parents, emphasizing the importance of his education and his role as the Prime Minister of the Children's


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Parliament. Through consistent counselling, they highlighted the potential of education in shaping Albinush's future and how re-enrolment in school would benefit his long-term prospects. Teachers, alongside the BalSansad offered constant guidance and motivation, creating a supportive environment for Albinush to pursue his academic goals.

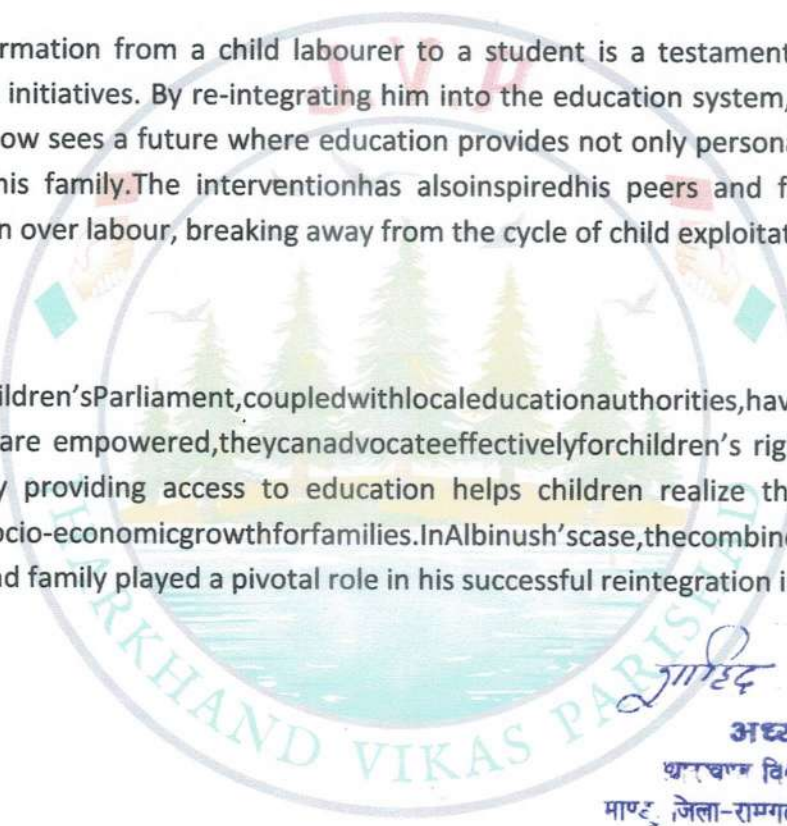
THE BALSANSAD THAT CHANGED A LIFE

Albinush was re-enrolled in Grade 6 at Model School, Kamardiha. He was able to transition from a labourer to a student, with the guidance and encouragement of his teachers and peers. Albinush passed the entrance examination and secured admission to Model School. He is now a motivated and committed student, showing significant progress in his academic pursuits.

Albinush's transformation from a child labourer to a student is a testament to the power of community-driven initiatives. By re-integrating him into the education system, his life trajectory has changed. He now sees a future where education provides not only personal growth but also the ability to uplift his family. The intervention has also inspired his peers and family members to prioritize education over labour, breaking away from the cycle of child exploitation.

KEY LEARNINGS

The efforts of the Children's Parliament, coupled with local education authorities, have shown that when communities are empowered, they can advocate effectively for children's rights. Education is a Game-Changer, by providing access to education helps children realize their potential and fosters long-term socio-economic growth for families. In Albinush's case, the combined support of his peers, teachers, and family played a pivotal role in his successful reintegration into school.


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