



MASHAQ

The collage features two photographs. The left photograph shows a group of children and adults, some holding Indian flags, in front of a building. The right photograph shows a group of children holding up water conservation posters and a large banner for World Water Day. The banner includes the text 'WORLD WATER DAY', 'जल बचाएं, जीवन बचाएं' (Save Water, Save Life), and 'Love & Mashal, Sasaram'.

Message from the President's Desk



It gives me immense pleasure to present Mashal's Annual Report for 2025–26, reflecting another year of dedicated service, meaningful partnerships, and transformative impact in the lives of marginalized communities. This report is a testimony to our collective commitment to uphold human dignity, promote social justice, and create opportunities for those who continue to face poverty, exclusion, and inequality.

Throughout the year, Mashal continued to strengthen its integrated development approach by investing in education, healthcare, sustainable livelihoods, women's empowerment, disability inclusion, and child protection. Thousands of children, women, farmers, and persons with disabilities benefited from programmes that not only addressed immediate needs but also built long-term resilience, confidence, and self-reliance.

One of our greatest strengths has always been our belief that sustainable change begins within communities themselves. Whether it was supporting out-of-school children to continue their education, enabling women farmers to adopt climate-resilient and organic agriculture, strengthening Self-Help Groups as platforms for leadership and livelihoods, promoting inclusive education for children with disabilities, or providing a safe and nurturing environment for girls in need of care and protection, our efforts have consistently focused on empowering people to become active participants in their own development.

I am particularly encouraged by the growing confidence demonstrated by women leaders, adolescent girls, parents of children with disabilities, and community institutions. Their determination reminds us that lasting transformation is achieved not only through services but by creating opportunities for participation, leadership, and collective action.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the commitment of our Sisters, dedicated staff, volunteers, Board Members, and community leaders who continue to serve with compassion and professionalism. I also extend my heartfelt appreciation to our valued donors and partners, whose trust and continued support have enabled Mashal to expand its outreach and deepen its impact.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to strengthening partnerships, promoting innovation, and responding to emerging community needs while remaining faithful to our Vision of building an egalitarian society founded on justice, peace, and the integrity of creation.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I express my sincere gratitude to everyone who has journeyed with us. Together, let us continue building communities where every child learns, every woman leads, every person with a disability lives with dignity, and every family has the opportunity to thrive.

With gratitude and hope,

Sister Mary Alice

President Mashal

Message from the Secretary's Desk



It is with deep gratitude and renewed commitment that I present Mashal's Annual Report for 2025–26. Over the past year, our organisation has continued to respond to the aspirations of marginalized communities through integrated, people-centred development programmes that place dignity, participation, and inclusion at the heart of every intervention.

This year has been marked by significant progress across all our programme sectors. Our education initiatives enabled hundreds of children, particularly girls and children from deprived communities, to access quality learning opportunities, digital education, and life

skills that prepare them for a brighter future. Through Asha Kiran Home, vulnerable girls received not only protection and education but also the care, confidence, and opportunities needed to rebuild their lives.

Women remained at the centre of our development efforts. Through Self-Help Groups, leadership development, sustainable agriculture, organic farming, livestock promotion, and small enterprise development, women strengthened their livelihoods, enhanced household incomes, and assumed greater leadership roles within their families and communities. These initiatives also promoted climate-resilient farming practices that contribute to healthier ecosystems and improved food security.

Our commitment to persons with disabilities continued to grow stronger through rehabilitation services, home- and centre-based physiotherapy, inclusive education, caregiver training, access to assistive devices, and improved linkages with government welfare programmes. These interventions have enabled many children and families to experience greater independence, confidence, and social inclusion.

Our health programmes remained a vital bridge between vulnerable communities and essential healthcare services by promoting preventive, promotive, and curative healthcare, while strengthening collaboration with government health systems to improve access to quality health services.

Across every programme, we have witnessed encouraging examples of resilience, determination, and community ownership. Behind every statistic presented in this report is a story of hope: a child returning to school, a woman establishing a livelihood, a farmer adopting sustainable practices, a girl discovering her voice, or a child with a disability taking independent steps towards a more dignified future. These stories continue to inspire us and reaffirm the purpose of our mission.

I express my sincere appreciation to our Governing Body for their visionary guidance, to our generous donors and institutional partners for their unwavering trust, and to every Sister, staff member, volunteer, and community leader whose dedication has made these achievements possible. I also thank the government departments and local institutions that have partnered with us in creating sustainable and lasting impact.

As we move forward, Mashal remains committed to strengthening inclusive development, expanding community partnerships, and ensuring that the most vulnerable continue to experience hope, opportunity, and dignity. Together, we will continue to build a society where justice, peace, equality, and compassion become lived realities for every individual.

With sincere gratitude,

Chinnamma KC,

Secretary Mashal

MASHAL is a charitable social organization, registered under Societies Registration Act, 21, 1860 (Reg. No: 708/2000-01) and FCRA, 1976 (Reg.No:031170409). It has 12/A and 80G Certificates. Its registered office is in 20-C Patliputra Colony, P.O. Patliputra, Patna, Bihar, India.



VISION: An Egalitarian Society Based on the values of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation.



MISSION: Committed to accompany and to enable the marginalized communities to affirm and uphold their rights and dignity.



THRUST AREAS

- ❖ End poverty in all its forms everywhere (SDG 1)
- ❖ End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition & promote sustainable agriculture (SDG 2)
- ❖ Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all (SDG 3)
- ❖ Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education (SDG 4)
- ❖ Promote gender equality and empower all women and girls (SDG 5)
- ❖ Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic Growth (SDG 8)
- ❖ Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of ecosystems (SDG 13, 15)
- ❖ Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development (SDG 16)
- ❖ Revitalize partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17)



PRIORITY GROUPS

MASHAL primarily focuses on the following priority groups:

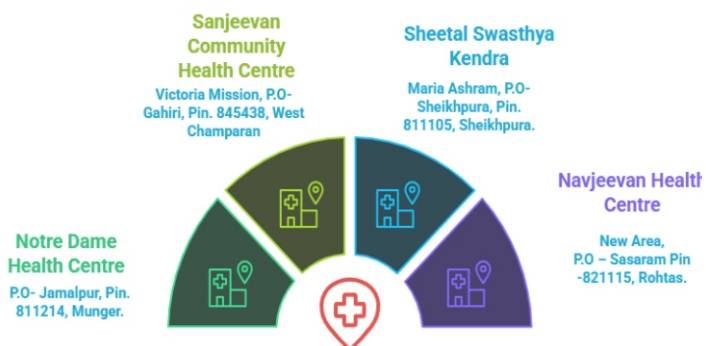
- ❖ **Women, children, and youth from vulnerable communities:** We work to empower these groups by providing support and opportunities for education, livelihood, and overall well-being.
- ❖ **Victims of natural calamities and disasters:** MASHAL responds to the needs of those affected by natural disasters, offering relief and rehabilitation efforts to help them recover and rebuild their lives.
- ❖ **Persons with disabilities:** The organization seeks to promote inclusivity and accessibility for persons with disabilities, ensuring they have equal opportunities and rights.

OUR STRATEGY



UNITS OF MASHAL

Our Health Centre Network



Mashal's Community Development Centers

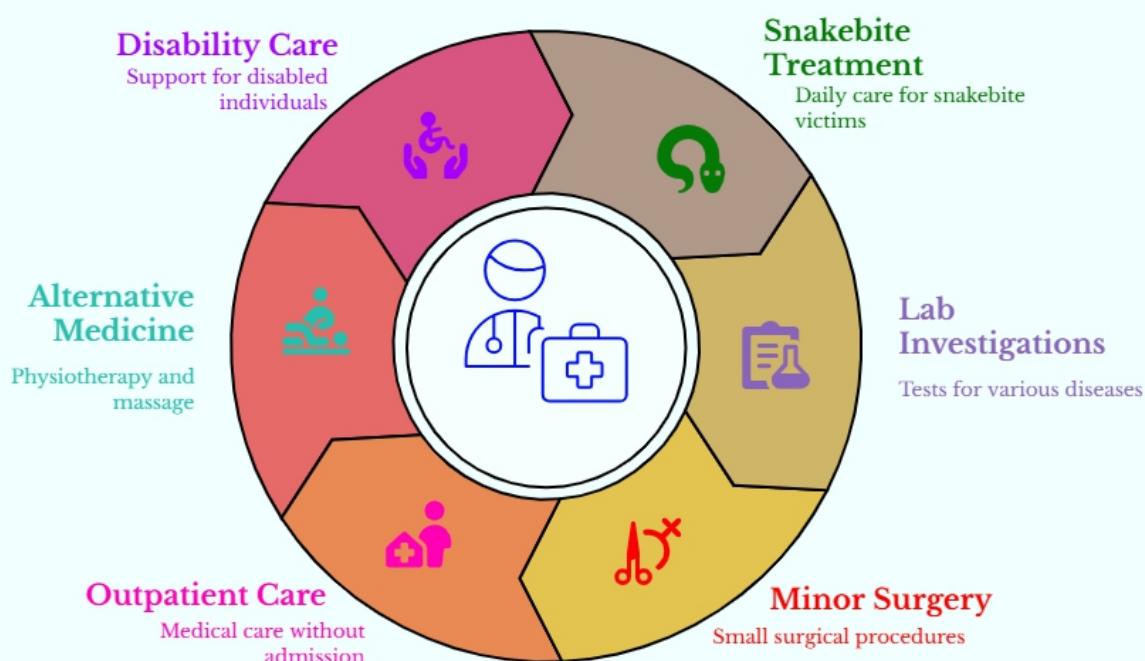


Report of Health Care Activities:

Access to quality healthcare remains fundamental to achieving healthy, resilient, and empowered communities. During the reporting period, MASHAL continued to strengthen community health services through its health units in Sasaram, Jamalpur, Gahiri, and Sheikhpura, ensuring affordable and accessible healthcare to 2,17,312 people from vulnerable and marginalized communities. The health centres provided 1,38,696 OPD consultations and conducted 73,073 laboratory investigations, while also supporting 3,570 antenatal care (ANC) services, 543 immunizations, and 767 cases of snake-bite treatment. These services contributed to improving timely access to essential healthcare and strengthening preventive and curative health support within the communities. The organisation adopted a holistic approach that integrated preventive, promotive, curative, and referral services, with particular emphasis on women, children, older persons, and underserved rural communities. Through close collaboration with government health systems, regular awareness programmes, disease prevention initiatives, immunization support, and maternal and child health interventions, Mashal contributed to improving community health outcomes while promoting equitable access to essential healthcare services. These efforts directly support Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 – Good Health and Well-being, while reinforcing partnerships with the National Health Mission and other public health programmes to build healthier and more resilient communities.



Curative Healthcare Services



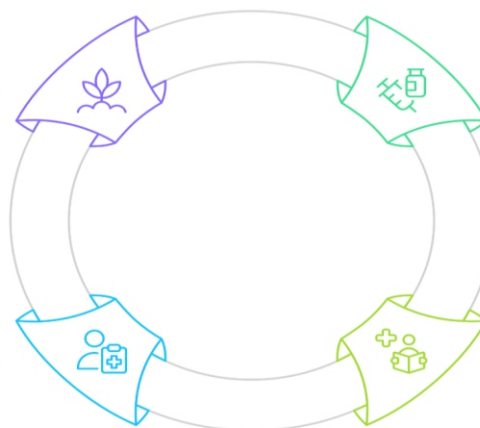
Preventive & Promotional Services

Herbal Garden Cultivation

Herbal garden cultivation to prepare traditional medicines for patients

Health Camps

Organizes camps organised for early diagnosis and treatment especially for TB patients



Immunization Services

Immunization services for children under five, covering various diseases like BCG, DPT, measles and Hepatitis.

Health Education Programs

Programs conducted for staff, patients and community members, focusing on communicable and non communicable diseases

Impact on Rural Communities:

- **Improved Access to Healthcare:** The presence of healthcare facilities in rural areas has increased access to quality healthcare for marginalized communities, especially women and children.
- **Reduction in Disease Burden:** Timely diagnosis and treatment through medical camps and village visits have contributed to reducing the burden of communicable diseases like TB and Malaria.
- **Enhanced Maternal and Child Health:** Immunization services and antenatal care have positively impacted maternal and child health, leading to reduced infant mortality rates.
- **Health Awareness:** Health education programs have raised awareness about hygiene, sanitation, and preventive measures, leading to a decline in waterborne diseases and improved overall health.
- **Improved Living Standards:** By catering to the poor and marginalized, the healthcare services provided by the ministry have contributed to uplifting living standards and socioeconomic well-being.



Statistics:

Sl. No	Health Services	Jamalpur	Sasaram	Gahiri	Sheikhpura	Total
1	Patients	96,621	20,397	17,482	4,196	1,38,696
2	Immunization	464	0	53	26	543
3	Snake Bite Cases	0	0	742	25	767
4	Physiotherapy	0	409	26	0	435
5	SPM	0	128	0	0	128
6	BMD	0	100	0	0	100
7	Lab investigations	67,955	2,482	2,636	0	73,073
8	ANC	1,999	16	350	1,205	3,570
	Total	1,67,039	25,532	21,289	5,452	2,17,312

From Severe Illness to a New Beginning: Raju's Journey to Recovery

Raju Choudary, 40, Amra Talav, Sasaram

When Raju Choudary, 40, from Amra Talav village in Sasaram, was diagnosed with tuberculosis (TB), his condition was extremely critical. He began his treatment at MASHAL's Nav Jeevan Health Centre, Sasaram, on 14 May 2025. At the time, he was severely weak, unable to eat properly, and frequently vomited blood. His body had become very thin and weak, leaving him with little energy even to walk. His weight had fallen to just 33 kg.

Following his diagnosis, Raju was provided with the required treatment and medication and was supported to continue the prescribed treatment over the following nine months. Throughout this period, the doctor, nurses, and health centre staff maintained regular follow-up and encouraged him to remain committed to his treatment despite the difficulties he was experiencing.

Gradually, Raju's condition began to improve. He regained his appetite, the vomiting of blood stopped, and his strength slowly returned. With continued treatment and care, his weight increased from 33 kg to 44 kg.

Today, Raju has regained his health and confidence. He is able to walk, manage his daily activities independently, and run his small shop. His recovery has brought immense relief and happiness to his family.

Raju's journey demonstrates the importance of timely diagnosis, uninterrupted treatment, regular follow-up, and compassionate healthcare support. Through the Nav Jeevan Health Centre, MASHAL continues to reach vulnerable communities with accessible healthcare services and support individuals and families in their journey towards better health and a dignified life.

EDUCATION :



MASHAL continued its commitment to ensuring equitable and inclusive education for children from marginalized and disadvantaged communities across Bihar. During the year, more than 2,922 children (girls 2,054, boys 868) directly benefited from interventions implemented through 40 Flexible Learning Centres, 15 Bridge School Centres, Residential Education Programmes, Supplementary Education Centres, Digital Learning Centres, and educational support initiatives. These efforts strengthened foundational literacy, numeracy, and digital skills while promoting girls' education, school enrolment, retention, and successful reintegration into formal education. Through active engagement of parents, teachers, and communities, the programmes created inclusive learning environments that improved educational outcomes, built children's confidence, and expanded opportunities for a brighter future. Collectively, these interventions contributed towards advancing SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by ensuring that vulnerable children, particularly girls and those from marginalized communities, had greater access to quality and inclusive education.

Sl. No	Donor	Project Name	Target
1	Italian Bishop's Conference, Italy	Promotion of Basic Education of the Girl Children of the Deprived Communities in 120 hamlets of 4 districts of Bihar namely, Rohta's, Bhojpur, East Champaran, West Champaran	1000 Children
2	SND Congregational Fund	Education and Empowerment of 150 adolescent girls from deprived communities through short term (12 months)	150 girls
3	Kindermission swerk, Germany	To Promote Basic Learning Among the Children of Marginalised Communities of 15 villages in Munger District, Bihar	600 Children
4	Bhushancorp Private Limited, Patna	Promotion of Basic Education of the Children of the Deprived 36 Communities in Nehru Nagar, Patna	Children
5	SND Congregational Fund	Bridging the Digital Divide: Empowering Rural Students and Persons with Disabilities in Bihar	700
6	VEREIN SCHULKINDER SWITZERLAND	Education Support for Students from Poor Families in Sumbuck, Darjeeling	110

1. Promotion of Basic Education of the Girl Children of the Deprived Communities in 120 hamlets of 4 districts of Bihar namely, Rohtas, Bhojpur, East Champaran, West Champaran, Supported by Italian Bishop's Conference (IBC):

Introduction: Bihar continues to face challenges in ensuring equal access to education, especially for girls from rural and marginalized communities, where rural female literacy remains only 51.6%. Poverty, gender discrimination, poor infrastructure, and low awareness often lead to school dropouts. With support from the **Italian Bishop's Conference**, MASHAL implemented the project **"Promotion of Basic Education for Children of Deprived Communities in Bihar"** across 120 villages from 26 Panchayats in six blocks of four districts in Bihar-Rohtas (Sasaram & Chenari), Bhojpur (Piro), East Champaran (Raxaul), and West Champaran (Gahiri), reaching 1,169 children (348 boys and 821 girls) aged 6–18, benefited through academic support, leadership development, confidence building, and encouragement to pursue a better future.

The project also adopted a holistic approach by integrating gender sensitization, menstrual health awareness, and climate change education. By engaging girls, boys, mothers, teachers, community leaders, and local authorities, the initiative worked towards creating a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment where every child, especially girls, can learn and grow with dignity and equal opportunity.

Major activities and the achievements:

Objective-1: Enhanced Educational Attainment:

Outcome-1: 1000 children from marginalized communities successfully transition to higher grades.

Achieved verifiable indicators:

- 1,169 children (348 boys and 821 girls) were identified and subsequently enrolled in the Flexible Learning Centres.
- 40 FLCs are fully functional- 6 in Raxaul, 10 in Gahiri, 8 in Chenari, 8 in Piro, and 8 in Sasaram.
- 100% total children 1,169 children (348 boys and 821 girls) are enrolled in the school.

Orientation and Capacity Building Training

A three-day residential training at Sewa Kendra, Patna engaged 26 staff (20 females and 6 males), including field staff and Unit Coordinators from five project units. The training strengthened capacities on project objectives, monitoring, baseline assessment, data collection, and child-friendly teaching-learning methodologies, improving effective implementation of Flexible Learning Centres (FLCs), contributing towards improved educational support and learning outcomes for marginalized children.

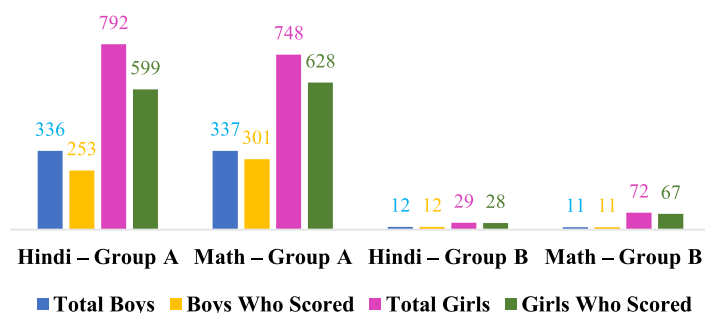
Flexible Learning Centres

A systematic household survey across 120 villages in 6 blocks identified out-of-school and dropout children from marginalized communities using assessment tools developed by the Language Learning Foundation in collaboration with UNICEF. Out of 1,197 children surveyed, 1,169 children (348 boys and 821 girls) were enrolled in 40 Flexible Learning Centres (FLCs) established across Raxaul, Gahiri, Chenari, Piro, and Sasaram. The centres were equipped with essential Teaching Learning Materials (TLMs) and provided child-friendly, level-based learning support in literacy and numeracy. Regular teaching-learning activities, weekly assessments, and continuous mentoring improved attendance, participation, academic performance, and children's continued engagement in education.



The final assessment results reflect significant progress in both Hindi and Mathematics among children enrolled in the Flexible Learning Centres. In Hindi Group A, where the benchmark was set at 50% (43 out of 86 marks), 599 girls and 253 boys successfully achieved the target. Similarly, in Math Group A, with a 50% benchmark of 15 out of 30 marks, 628 girls and 301 boys scored 15 and above. Progress was also recorded in Group B, where the Hindi benchmark was set at 20 out of 40 marks- 28 girls and 12 boys achieved the required score. In Math Group B, with the same benchmark of 15 out of 30, 67 girls and 11 boys were able to reach or exceed the criteria. These outcomes highlight the positive impact of the FLCs in strengthening foundational literacy and

Final Assessment Results- Hindi & Math



numeracy skills, particularly for children from marginalized communities who previously struggled with basic competencies.

For more detailed insights, including Unit-wise children's progress, a dashboard link is provided below for the reference. (**Ctrl + Click**) to open the dashboard:

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjojOTUwNzRiMjU0NjQ3NC00ZTM0LTgzN2EtNzYzMTAwNDdjZjc4IiwidCI6IjU5NWM5Y2UxLTMwMWMtNDZkYS1hYWRLThiNGYxY2YzMTk4ZSJ9>

Parent and Community Engagement Sessions

Regular awareness and motivational sessions were conducted with parents, caregivers, and community



members to strengthen support for children's education. A total of 1,366 parents, including 1,003 women and 363 men, participated in sessions on positive parenting, gender equality, girls' education, prevention of early marriage, and gender-based violence. The activity encouraged families to support continued schooling and personal development of children, especially girls. Increased community awareness and participation

helped create a more supportive environment for education, contributing towards improved enrolment, attendance, and retention of marginalized children in schools and Flexible Learning Centres.

Objective-2: Improve knowledge and practices of adolescent health and menstrual hygiene among girl children:

Outcome 2: Enhanced adolescent health and hygiene practices.

Achieved verifiable indicators:

1,014 Adolescent girls were have enhanced their knowledge and understanding on better practices of menstrual health and hygiene and reproductive health.

Menstrual Health and Hygiene Training to Staff:

A three-day training on Menstrual Health and Hygiene was conducted from 17–19 February 2024 to strengthen capacities of 26 staff (20 females and 6 males) on menstrual health, reproductive health, and community awareness. Sessions covered the menstrual cycle, hygiene management practices, common menstrual disorders, nutrition, psychological and social aspects of menstruation, family planning, and safe menstrual waste disposal. Through interactive discussions and practical learning, staff enhanced their understanding of adolescent health, stigma reduction, and eco-friendly hygiene practices. Participants also developed unit-wise action plans and training schedules to conduct awareness



sessions in communities, schools, and among adolescent girls, promoting menstrual dignity, health awareness, and supportive environments.

Adolescent Health Promotion and Menstrual Hygiene Initiative:

Training on adolescent health, menstrual hygiene, and reproductive health was conducted by the trained staff. The training was completed across 40 villages in Sasaram-8, Raxaul-6, Gahiri-10, Piro-8, and Chenari-8, reaching 1,014 participants, including 969 adolescent girls and 45 women caregivers. Using participatory methods such as group discussions, demonstrations, storytelling, peer learning, and visual tools, the sessions addressed menstrual hygiene management, reproductive health, emotional well-being, myths and taboos, and safe menstrual waste disposal. To support healthy practices, 900 hygiene kits were distributed to needy adolescent girls across all units. The initiative improved awareness, confidence, hygienic practices, and school attendance while promoting dignity and reducing stigma surrounding menstruation.

Objective-3: Fostered Community Awareness and Gender Equity:

Outcome 3: Increased community awareness and promotion of gender equity.

Achieved verifiable indicators:

Gender sensitization trainings conducted in 40 villages across four districts. A total of 1,668 adolescents participated, including 1,122 girls and 546 boys. These sessions helped girls build confidence in asserting their rights and encouraged boys to challenge gender biases, promoting shared respect and equal opportunities within families and communities.

Gender Sensitization Training:

Village-level Gender Sensitisation trainings were conducted across 40 villages in Gahiri, Sasaram, Piro, Chenari, and Raxaul, reaching 1,668 participants, including 546 boys and 1,122 girls, along with community members. Through discussions, role plays, storytelling, and group activities, adolescents were sensitized on gender equality, mutual respect, early marriage, gender-based violence, shared responsibilities, and equal opportunities in education and community participation. The sessions challenged harmful stereotypes, strengthened girls' confidence and leadership, and encouraged boys to become allies for gender justice. The initiative resulted in improved awareness, positive behavioural changes, supportive family attitudes, and greater commitment towards gender-equitable practices within communities.



International Women's Day 2025

International Women's Day 2025 was celebrated across 40 villages in five project units under the theme "All Women and Girls – Rights, Equalities, Empowerment," reaching 1,873 participants, including 1,833 women and girls and 40 men. Activities such as rallies, cultural performances, awareness meetings, and health sessions promoted women's rights, gender equality, education, health, livelihood opportunities, and government welfare schemes. Women and adolescent girls actively participated in songs, dances, skits, and discussions highlighting empowerment and equal opportunities. The celebrations strengthened community awareness, encouraged collective action for girls' education and gender justice, and reinforced solidarity, confidence, and leadership among women and girls.

International Day of the Girl Child 2025

The International Day of the Girl Child 2025 was celebrated across 40 villages under the theme “The girl I am, the change I lead: Girls on the frontlines of crisis,” reaching 1,337 participants, including 1,151 girls and 186 boys. Through rallies, cultural programs, speeches, competitions, and awareness sessions, the event promoted girls’ education, leadership, rights, confidence, and gender equality while strengthening community support for adolescent empowerment.



Objective-4: Raise awareness among adolescents about climate change and its impacts:

Outcome 4: Increased awareness and readiness to address climate change issues among adolescents.

Achieved verifiable indicators:

1775 (1318 Girls and 457 Boys) have increased their knowledge and understanding of climate change concepts as result of 2 days exclusive training.

Orientation and Capacity Building Training on Climate Change:

A two-day residential training on climate change was conducted at Sewa Kendra, Patna on 20–21 February 2025 for 26 participants (20 females and 6 males), including consultants, unit staff, and head office staff from Gahiri, Raxaul, Chenari, Sasaram, and Piro. The training enhanced participants’ understanding of climate change, its causes, impacts, adaptation and mitigation measures, pollution, natural resource conservation, and environmental sustainability. Through interactive discussions, group exercises, problem-solution mapping, and awareness skits, participants explored local climate challenges and practical solutions such as tree plantation, rainwater harvesting, sustainable farming, and waste management. The training strengthened staff capacity to educate adolescents and communities, laying the foundation for promoting climate awareness and resilience at the grassroots level.

Community Climate Change Awareness Training:

Climate Change Awareness Training sessions were conducted across 40 villages in five project units, reaching 1,775 participants, including 481 males and 1,294 females. The sessions enhanced understanding of climate change, weather and climate patterns, greenhouse gases, environmental degradation, pollution, natural resource conservation, and the impact of climate change on health, agriculture, and livelihoods. Through group discussions, cultural activities, songs, slogans, and interactive learning methods, participants explored practical solutions such as tree plantation, water and energy conservation, waste segregation, composting, and reduced plastic use. The initiative strengthened environmental awareness, encouraged sustainable practices, and motivated communities to take collective action towards building climate-resilient and environmentally responsible villages.



World Water Day 2025:



World Water Day 2025 was observed across 40

“Glacier Preservation”, engaging 1,601 participants (436 males and 1,165 females). Through rallies, discussions, creative activities, and community pledges, participants learned about water scarcity, conservation,

rainwater harvesting, and sustainable water use. The initiative strengthened awareness and encouraged collective responsibility for protecting local water resources.

World Earth Day 2025:

World Earth Day 2025 was celebrated across 40 villages under the theme “Our Power, Our Planet”, engaging 1,574 participants (429 males and 1,145 females). Activities included tree plantation, rallies, awareness sessions, competitions, and community pledges promoting renewable energy, resource conservation, climate action, and sustainable living. The event strengthened environmental awareness and community commitment to protecting natural resources.

World Environment Day 2025:

World Environment Day 2025 was observed across 40 villages under the theme “Beat Plastic Pollution”, engaging 1,270 participants (373 males and 897 females). Activities included plantation of over 430 saplings, awareness rallies, cleanliness drives, street plays, and environmental competitions. The campaign promoted plastic reduction, waste management, tree plantation, and sustainable practices, encouraging collective environmental responsibility.

2. Education and Empowerment of 150 adolescent girls from deprived communities through short term (12 months) Residential Education, supported by SND Congregational Fund:

Introduction:

Building on the success of its Residential Bridge Course initiative, MASHAL continued to support some of the most vulnerable adolescent girls through the Residential Special Training Program at Mahila Shikshan Kendra, Sheikhpura. The program serves 150 out-of-school, dropout, and irregularly attending girls aged 9–14 years from Maha Dalit and Dalit communities, providing them with a safe and nurturing residential learning environment. All enrolled girls reside and study at the Mahila Shikshan Kendra, Sheikhpura unit of MASHAL. The centre is designed to be child-friendly and secure, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for learning and overall development. Through ageappropriate education, life skills development, leadership building, and psycho-social support, the program helps bridge learning gaps and strengthen confidence, decision-making, and aspirations among the girls. The initiative aims to prepare them for successful reintegration into formal schools while empowering them to pursue a brighter and more dignified future.

Major activities and the achievements:

Residential Bridge Course:

A total of 150 girls enrolled in the Residential Special Training Program received level-based academic support in Hindi, Mathematics, and Social Science according to their learning abilities. Through child-friendly and interactive teaching methods, supported by a variety of learning materials, the girls strengthened their foundational literacy and numeracy skills in a supportive learning environment. As a result, girls who previously struggled with basic reading, writing, and arithmetic are now able to read simple texts, construct sentences, and solve foundational mathematical problems. Beyond academic improvement, the program has enhanced their confidence, self-esteem, and motivation to continue their education and pursue future opportunities.



A major achievement of the Residential Special Training Program was the successful mainstreaming of 150 girls into formal education. More than 93% of enrolled girls reached age-appropriate learning levels, enabling their transition to government schools. Among them, 49 girls were admitted to Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) and 101 girls to Government Middle Schools, including 40 in Class V and 61 in Class VI. In addition

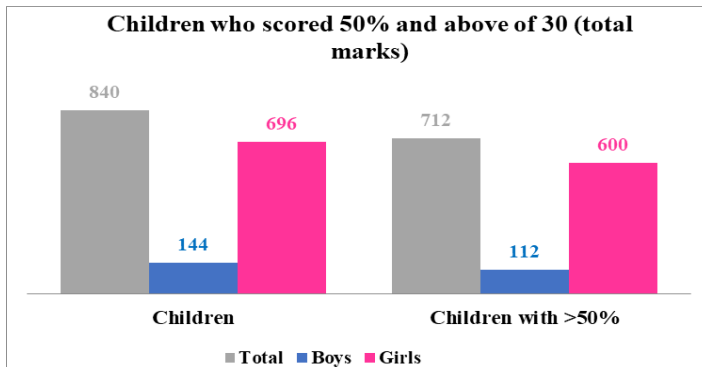
to academic gains, the girls developed confidence, communication skills, classroom discipline, and positive study habits. This milestone reflects the program's contribution to reducing school dropout and creating educational opportunities for marginalized girls.

Life School and Extra Co- curricular Activity: Beyond academic support, the program promoted the holistic development of girls through co-curricular activities, national celebrations, and educational exposure visits. Participation in events such as Independence Day, National Girl Child Day, and Children's Day, along with activities including yoga, sports, drawing, storytelling, and Taekwondo, helped strengthen confidence, leadership, creativity, discipline, and communication skills. Exposure visits to the Sheikhpura Police Station and Railway Control Room broadened their understanding of public institutions, legal rights, and career opportunities. These experiences enhanced self-esteem, encouraged active participation in society, and inspired the girls to envision a future filled with dignity, confidence, and greater opportunities.



3. Promote Basic Learning Among the Children of Marginalised Communities of 15 villages in Munger District, Bihar Supported by, Kindermissionswerk, Germany:

- 436 children (boys 224 & girls 212) (aged 7–12) are able to read and write Hindi consonants and vowels.
- 481 children (boys 249 & girls 232) (aged 7–12) are able to read and write numbers.
- 341 children (boys 179 & girls 162) are able to solve basic math problem (add & subtraction).

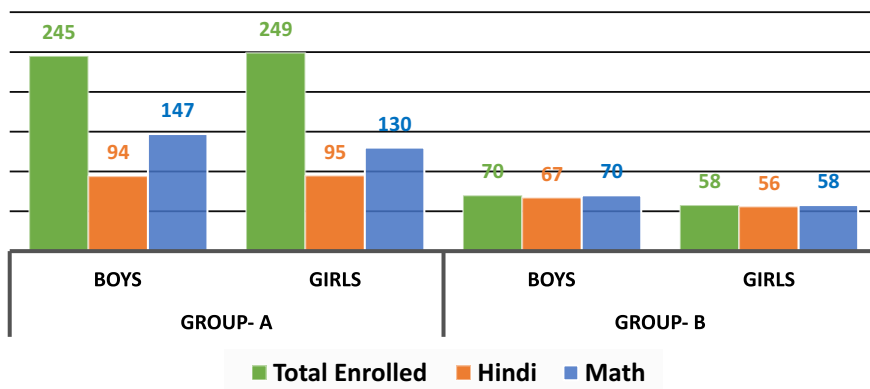


Assessment findings indicate significant improvement in learning outcomes, particularly among 494 children in Group A (requiring additional support).

50% and above. In Mathematics, 277 children were able to score 50% and above, demonstrating strong gains in literacy and numeracy skills among children receiving targeted support.

Similarly, for 128 children in Group B (children requiring comparatively less support), performance remained consistently high. 123 children scored 50% and above in Hindi, and reaching 100% achievement (128 out of 128 children) in Mathematics. Overall, the data highlights that structured grouping, regular assessments, and focused teaching approaches

Learning Achievement: Group-A & B Children Scoring Above 50%



Under Outcome-2: Cultivate strong leadership skills among students, fostering their personal growth and empowerment.

Achieved verifiable indicators:

The project has achieved notable gains exceeding initial expectations. The number of children demonstrating leadership skills increased from 176 at baseline to reaching 366 (177 boys, 189 girls). In parallel, children expressing interest in pursuing higher education and career aspirations increased significantly from 348 at baseline to 622 (315 boys, 307 girls), reflecting enhanced motivation, confidence, and future orientation among participants.

- **Life skills and leadership training for adolescents:** The project successfully conducted life

Introduction:

The project “Promotion of Basic Learning among Children of Marginalized Communities in Munger District, Bihar” continued to improve educational opportunities for tribal children in Kharagpur Block by addressing foundational learning gaps and supporting school readiness. During the reporting period, 622 children (315 boys and 307 girls) benefited from bridge schools and structured learning support focused on Hindi and numeracy skills. The initiative also promoted life skills, social-emotional development, and practical competencies to support holistic growth. Active engagement of parents and communities through regular awareness activities and meetings strengthened support for children’s education, contributing to improved learning outcomes and successful reintegration into formal schooling.

Major activities and the achievements:

Bridge School Centres:

Outcome- 1: To enable children aged 07-12 in 15 hamlets to acquire age-appropriate proficiency in language (Hindi) and numeracy skills within the project's two-year timeframe.

Achieved verifiable indicators:

There has been a clear improvement in children’s literacy and numeracy competencies. The proportion of children demonstrating foundational literacy increased from 36.57% (252 children) at baseline to 50.16% (312 children 161 boys, 151 girls). Foundational numeracy improved from 50.36% (347 children) at baseline to 65.11% (405 children; 217 boys, 188 girls) in Year 2.

- **Establishment and operationalization of learning centres, and enrolment of 622 children in Year 2:** The project successfully established and operationalized 15 Bridge School Centres across target villages, through the use of school premises, community areas, and open spaces where required. All centres were equipped with essential facilities, including carpets, writing boards, Teaching-Learning Materials (TLM), and sports equipment, creating a conducive learning environment.

Through door-to-door surveys and community consultations, 622 children (315 boys and 307 girls), including out-of-school and irregularly attending learners, were enrolled. This approach enabled improved access to education and supported children continued learning in a structured

- **Regular academic sessions were complemented by structured co-curricular activities, including competitions and observance of national days:** Regular learning and co-curricular activities formed the core of the Bridge School Centres, conducted daily before and after school hours to strengthen children’s foundational literacy and numeracy. Based on baseline assessments, children were grouped into Group A (requiring more support) and Group B (requiring less support). During the reporting period 494 children (245 boys, 249 girls), while Group B included 128 children (70 boys, 58 girls). Trained tutors used play-based methods and Teaching-Learning Materials (TLM) to make learning engaging and effective, supported by regular weekly assessments to track progress. This structured and child-centric approach has contributed to improved learning outcomes and sustained participation, creating a positive and supportive learning environment for all children.



These interventions have resulted in quantifiable improvements in key output indicators.

skills and leadership training for children enrolled in Bridge School Centres, reaching 366 students (189 girls, 177 boys) in 10–12 years. The training focused on building essential competencies such as communication, decision-making, problem-solving, and teamwork, while also nurturing leadership qualities and a sense of responsibility. As a result, children demonstrated increased confidence, improved communication, and greater participation in both classroom and community activities. Many children showed enhanced ability to express themselves, take initiative, and work collaboratively, contributing to a more inclusive and supportive learning environment. These improvements have had a positive impact on their overall personal development and readiness to engage in education and social settings.



storytelling, spell B, and national events and special days celebrations, demonstrating improved self-confidence and teamwork.

Under Outcome- 3: Raise parental awareness about the fundamental right to education for children and advocate for the significance of higher education, particularly for girls, throughout the project's duration.

Achieved verifiable indicators:

The project has contributed to positive shifts in community attitudes and strengthened local ownership mechanisms. The number of parents reporting a positive attitude towards girls' education increased from 175 at baseline to 305. Engagement of Bridge School Management Committees (BSMCs) improved from 46% at baseline to 86%, indicating strengthened governance and participation.

In addition, partnerships with local government schools increased and sustained from 2 at baseline to 5, with continued cooperation from government school teachers who provide space within school premises for Bridge School classes. This sustained collaboration is a strong indicator of institutional support and long-term sustainability.

- **Parenting sessions on the importance of education:** Parental engagement was a key component of the project, with motivational seminars and capacity-building sessions on Parenting skills conducted to strengthen parents' role in supporting children's education. During the reporting period, 15 Mata Samiti (Mothers' Committees) were formed and trained on good parenting practices. A total of 510 mothers/caregivers participated in these sessions. The training focused on positive parenting, gender equality, and the importance of education, enabling parents to create a supportive learning environment at home. As a result,



there has been improved parental involvement, stronger parent-child relationships, and increased support for children's education, contributing to sustained learning and development outcomes.

- **Monthly meetings with Bridge School Management Committees (BSMCs):** Monthly Bridge School Management Committee (BSMC)



meetings were conducted across all 15 hamlets, bringing together parents, tutors, local leaders, and project staff to regularly review children's progress. Discussions focused on learning outcomes, school attendance, regularity, and hygiene practices, ensuring continuous monitoring and support.

These meetings strengthened community participation and shared responsibility for children's education and well-being. Despite minor interruptions during festival periods, meetings were held consistently, contributing to a more collaborative and supportive learning environment.

- **Active networking with government schools and local leaders:** Over the project period, active networking with government schools and local leaders was consistently strengthened to support implementation and sustainability. As a result, five government schools provided their premises for the operation of Bridge School Centres, ensuring improved access to learning spaces. The project interventions have been widely appreciated by teachers across all 15 centres, reflecting strong collaboration and institutional support. This sustained engagement has contributed to enhanced coordination, improved learning outcomes, and strengthened community ownership.

4. Promotion of Basic Education of the Children of the Deprived Communities in Nehru Nagar, Patna, Bihar Supported by Bhushancorp Private Limited, Patna:

Supplementary Education Centre for Marginalized Children:

Mashal in order to support vulnerable children from slum communities and reduce school dropout, a Supplementary Education Centre was initiated benefiting 31 children (16 boys and 15 girls) aged 7–12 years. The centre provided foundational learning support in Hindi and numeracy, helping children strengthen their academic skills and regain interest in education. Many of the children were previously engaged in child labour and had limited access to learning opportunities. Regular engagement with parents promoted awareness of children's right to education and the importance of continued schooling. As a result, 10 children (girls) were successfully enrolled in Government schools, paving the way for their educational and social inclusion.



5. Bridging the Digital Divide: Empowering Rural Students and Persons with Disabilities in Bihar, supported by SND Congregational Fund:

Mashal with intention to bridge the digital divide among children from marginalized Musahar communities, implemented a Digital Literacy Initiative across 40 villages in Rohtas, Bhojpur, East Champaran, and West Champaran districts of Bihar. The project aimed to equip students from Classes 6–10 with essential digital skills and improve their access to technology-based learning opportunities.

A network of 40 Digital Learning Centres was established, supported by 45 tablets and trained community educators. Through structured, child-friendly sessions, children learned basic tablet operations, digital navigation, document creation, data entry, and spreadsheet applications using WPS Office tools. The centres provided hands-on learning opportunities for students who otherwise had limited or no access to digital devices.



The initiative reached 840 children, including 696 girls and 144 boys. Assessment results demonstrated significant progress in digital competency, with 712 children achieving scores of 50% or above. Many participants who had never previously used digital devices are now able to

independently operate tablets, create documents, manage files, and use spreadsheets, enhancing their confidence, learning opportunities, and preparedness for an increasingly digital world.

6. Education Support for Students from Poor Families in Sumbuck, Darjeeling, Supported by Verein Schulkinder Switzerland Fund:

The project continued to support the education of 110 children (45 boys and 65 girls) from economically disadvantaged families in Sumbuck by providing assistance with tuition fees, school uniforms, books, and stationery. In addition, 22 children from remote villages studying at Notre Dame Academy received hostel accommodation, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for learning.

The intervention helped reduce financial barriers to education, enabling children to continue their studies with confidence and regular attendance. Many beneficiaries, including first-generation learners, demonstrated improved academic performance, greater participation in school activities, enhanced discipline, and higher educational aspirations, contributing to their overall growth and future opportunities.



AGRICULTURE :



Agriculture remains the backbone of rural livelihoods in the communities served by MASHAL, where most families depend on small and marginal farming for their income and food security. Recognising the growing challenges posed by climate change, declining soil fertility, and limited livelihood opportunities, MASHAL continued to promote sustainable, climate-resilient, and scientific agriculture through strong partnerships with organisations such as NABARD, German Doctors, KFB Austria, and Manos Unidas. During the reporting period, the organisation reached over 2,424 farmers (male 500, female 1,924) as direct beneficiaries. The organisation strengthened the capacities of women farmers, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Women Producer Groups (WPGs), and community institutions through training on organic farming, climate-smart agriculture, soil health management, horticulture, demonstration farms, value addition, and collective enterprises. These interventions enabled farming families to improve agricultural productivity, diversify livelihoods, adopt eco-friendly cultivation practices, and enhance household incomes while conserving natural resources. By placing women at the centre of agricultural development, the initiatives strengthened their leadership, economic participation, and decision-making, contributing to more resilient rural communities. Collectively, these efforts advanced the achievement of SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

Sl. No.	Donor	Project Name	Target
1	NABARD	Integrated Tribal Development Programme (TDF1)	200 families
2	NABARD	Integrated Tribal Development Programme (TDF2)	300 families
3	German Doctor, Mashal & SND Congregational Fund	Promoting Sustainable Scientific Agriculture Systems Among Small & Marginal Women Farmers	300 women farmers
4	KFB, Austria	Integrated community empowerment program / 600 women Sustainable Scientific Agriculture Systems farmers (PSAS)	Promoting
5	Manos Unidas	Empowerment of CBO Women and Adolescents Girls of Dalit and Backward Communities of Sheikhpura District	1000 women from 100 SHGs

1. Integrated Tribal Development Program- 1, Haveli Kharagpur Block, Munger- District, Supported by NABARD:

Introduction: With the generous support of NABARD, MASHAL continued implementing the (Integrated Tribal Development Project- ITDP-27) project in Haveli Kharagpur and Jamalpur Blocks of Munger District, Bihar. Now in its fifth year of implementation, the project is strengthening sustainable livelihoods and improving the quality of life of tribal communities through climate-resilient agriculture and integrated rural development. During the year, 200 families benefited from the initiative, including 160 tribal farming households supported through 160 acres of WADI horticulture plantations and 40 landless families through livelihood interventions. Complemented by nutrition, health, women's empowerment, and community institution strengthening, the project continues to enhance household income, food security, environmental sustainability, and community resilience.

WADI Development and Horticulture Management

The project continued to strengthen the livelihoods of tribal farming families through the maintenance and improvement of 160 acres of WADI plantations. Key activities included gap filling with horticulture and timber saplings, fertilizer and compost application across 180 acres, insecticide application and protective stem coating on 160 acres, and weeding and ring preparation on 120 acres to enhance plant survival and productivity. In addition, 88 acres of WADI land were utilized for intercropping with vegetables and paddy, enabling farmers to generate seasonal income while the fruit trees matured. These interventions improved plantation health, enhanced soil fertility, and strengthened long-term livelihood security for participating families.



Soil and Water Conservation

To improve soil health and moisture retention, soil conservation measures were implemented across 60 acres of WADI plantations. Activities such as basin weeding and mulching helped reduce soil erosion, conserve moisture, suppress weed growth, and improve growing conditions for horticulture crops. These climate-resilient practices strengthened plantation sustainability, enhanced water-use efficiency, and supported healthier crop growth, contributing to improved productivity and long-term environmental conservation.

Health and Nutrition Promotion

The project promoted improved health and nutrition through community awareness and capacitybuilding activities. A total of 85 community members (45 men and 40 women) participated in health awareness training covering hygiene, nutrition, disease prevention, and healthy lifestyle practices. In addition, 22 women received practical training on establishing kitchen gardens to improve household nutrition through the cultivation of fresh vegetables. These interventions strengthened community awareness on preventive healthcare, encouraged nutritious food consumption, and promoted healthier living practices among participating families.

Strengthening Community Institutions

Capacity-building programmes were organized for 45 members (16 men and 29 women) of Village Planning Committees (VPCs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) to strengthen community leadership and local governance. The project continued to strengthen the Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) as a community-owned institution for improving farmers' livelihoods and market access. During the reporting period, the FPO had 150 active shareholder members (76 women and 74 men), of whom 95 farmers (55 women and 40 men) regularly accessed its services, while 55 members received capacity-building training. In its initial phase of enterprise development, the FPO commenced business activities in the production and marketing of soap, detergent, and pig feed, laying the foundation for sustainable income generation. The FPO has a corpus of ₹2,01,000 maintained in its bank account, reflecting growing member participation and institutional sustainability. The training enhanced



participants' knowledge of institutional management, participatory planning, sustainable agriculture, and collective decision-making. Strengthened community institutions are now better equipped to coordinate development initiatives, support farmers, promote sustainable livelihood practices, and ensure greater community ownership and sustainability of project interventions.

2. Integrated Tribal Development Program- 2, Haveli Kharagpur Block, Munger- District, Supported by NABARD:

Introduction: Supported by NABARD, the Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP-30) project continued its third year of implementation in Haveli Kharagpur and Jamalpur Blocks of Munger District, Bihar, promoting sustainable livelihoods and inclusive development among tribal communities. During the reporting year, the project reached 300 families, including 240 tribal farming households supported through 240 acres of WADI horticulture plantations and 60 landless families provided with diversified livelihood opportunities. Alongside sustainable agriculture, the project promoted soil and water conservation, nutrition, women's empowerment, and community capacity building, contributing to improved livelihood security, environmental conservation, and long-term resilience of tribal households.

WADI Development and Sustainable Agriculture

The project strengthened sustainable livelihoods through the establishment and maintenance of 240 acres of WADI plantations. During the year, new horticulture plantations of mango, guava, and lemon were developed across 65 acres, while fertilizer and compost were applied to 150 acres and insecticide treatment with protective clay coating was carried out on 240 acres to improve plant health. Farmers also cultivated mustard, wheat, pulses, and vegetables on 55 acres through intercropping, generating seasonal income while the orchards matured. These interventions enhanced plantation productivity, improved household food security, and strengthened the long-term livelihood resilience of tribal farming families.

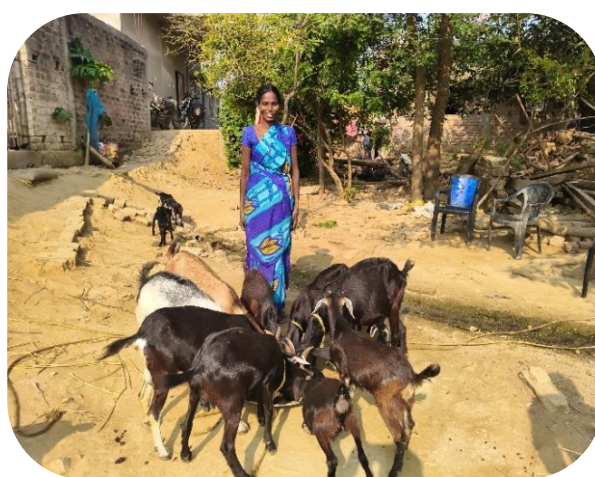


Soil and Water Conservation

To improve the sustainability of WADI plantations, soil and water conservation measures were strengthened through the plantation of timber species on 65 acres and installation of barbed wire fencing around the same area to protect young plantations from grazing and other damage. In addition, five bore wells with hand pumps were established to improve irrigation access, ensuring reliable water availability during dry periods. These interventions enhanced plantation survival, promoted efficient resource management, and strengthened climate resilience among participating tribal farmers.

Livelihood Promotion for Landless Families

The project supported livelihood diversification for landless households through skill development and livestock promotion. A total of 27 beneficiaries (26 women and 1 man) received training on improved goat rearing and animal healthcare, along with veterinary medicine support to enhance livestock productivity. These interventions strengthened beneficiaries' knowledge of scientific livestock management, reduced animal health risks, and improved opportunities for sustainable income generation, contributing to greater economic security for vulnerable families.



Health and Nutrition Promotion

The project promoted healthier communities through preventive healthcare and nutrition interventions. A health camp benefited 71 community members (32 men and 39 women) by providing health consultations, awareness, and basic medical services. To improve household nutrition, 120 nutrition gardens were established, enabling families to cultivate fresh vegetables for regular consumption. These initiatives enhanced access to nutritious food, strengthened awareness of healthy practices, and contributed to improved nutrition and well-being among tribal households.

Women's Empowerment

Women's leadership and economic participation were strengthened through the formation of 22 SelfHelp Groups (SHGs) actively engaging 283 women. Capacity-building initiatives included orientation for 10 Board of Directors members (7 men and 3 women) and income-generation training for 31 women, enhancing their financial literacy, leadership, and entrepreneurship skills. These interventions strengthened women's collective action, promoted savings and livelihood opportunities, and increased their participation in community decision-making and local development processes.

Capacity Building and Community Institution Strengthening

The project strengthened community institutions through capacity-building and awareness programmes. A total of 40 participants (11 men and 29 women) attended programme



promotion and community mobilization training, while 27 Village Planning Committee (VPC)/PTDC members enhanced their knowledge of participatory planning and local governance. Additionally, 35 community members participated in a financial inclusion awareness programme, improving their understanding of banking services and financial management. These initiatives enhanced community leadership, strengthened institutional capacity, and promoted greater ownership and sustainability of project interventions.

3. Promoting Sustainable Scientific Agriculture Systems Among Small & Marginal Women Farmers in Bhojpur Dt. of Bihar, India supported by German Doctors, Mashal & SND Congregational Fund:

The project “Promoting Sustainable Scientific Agriculture Systems Among Small and Marginal Women Farmers in Bhojpur District, Bihar” continued to strengthen the livelihoods of women farmers by promoting sustainable agriculture and building a vibrant Farmer Producer Organization (FPO). Initially supported by German Doctors for three years, the project concluded in June 2025. To ensure continuity of the FPO’s operations, including fertilizer and seed sales and the Food Processing Unit, MASHAL extended financial support from July to December 2025. Since January 2026, the project has been supported by the SND Congregational Fund, during the year, the project focused on strengthening SHGs and the FPO, expanding access to quality agricultural inputs, building farmers’ technical capacities through trainings and exposure visits, promoting market linkages, and enhancing the FPO’s business operations through improved licensing, input sales, and value addition. These efforts have contributed to stronger community institutions, improved agricultural services, and enhanced livelihood opportunities for small and marginal women farmers.

Strengthening Farmer Producer Organization (FPO)



The project continued to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) and women's collectives through regular governance and capacity-building initiatives. 32 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) held monthly meetings with the participation of 400 women, while three Federation meetings engaged 21 members in collective planning and decision-making. Financial inclusion was strengthened through Bank KYC completion for 32 SHGs. Membership of the FPO expanded to 195 shareholders (190 women & 5 men), while 52 participants (40 men and 12 women) attended FPO management training organized by ATMA, enhancing their knowledge of collective enterprise development and institutional management.

Promoting Sustainable Agriculture and Farmer Capacity

The project enhanced farmers' access to improved agricultural technologies, quality inputs, and technical knowledge. Twenty women farmers received paddy seeds through the Block Agriculture Office, while 45 women farmers participated in the Kharif Mahotsav organized by ATMA. Exposure to improved farming practices was further strengthened through participation of 35 farmers (33 women and 2 men) in the State-level Horticulture Exposure Programme and 30 farmers (28 women and 2 men) in the District Farmers' Fair. In addition, FPO representatives participated in organic fertilizer workshops and initiated the process for fertilizer and pesticide licensing to expand agricultural services for members.



Strengthening FPO Business and Market Linkages



The project continued to strengthen the FPO as a sustainable community enterprise by expanding its agricultural input and marketing services. The FPO procured a Point of Sale (POS) machine, purchased a sealing and sewing machine for value addition, and secured fertilizer shop verification and licensing, while initiating the process for FSSAI and pesticide licences. During the year, the FPO sold 1,367 kg of paddy seed and 80 kg of organic fertilizer to member farmers. Members also showcased value-added products at the Notre Dame School and Akanksha Haat Fair organized by NITI Aayog, where they secured second prize for highest product sales, strengthening market visibility and business growth.

4. Promoting Scientific Agricultural Systems (PSAS) supported by DKA Austria:

With the support of DKA Austria, MASHAL, through its Integrated Community Empowerment Centre (ICEC), Jamalpur, continued implementing the Promoting Scientific Agricultural Systems (PSAS) project across 30 villages in Munger District, Bihar. The project aims to strengthen sustainable livelihoods, food and nutrition security, and climate-resilient agriculture among marginalized tribal and Scheduled Caste communities. During the year, the initiative benefited 500 women farmers by promoting scientific cultivation of paddy, wheat, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, and fruit crops using sustainable farming practices. The project strengthened community institutions through 61 functional Self-Help Groups (SHGs) with 689 active women members, promoting savings, collective decisionmaking, and economic empowerment. Alongside agricultural development, the project empowered 300 adolescent girls through education and life skills while supporting youth with vocational skills and strengthening women's participation in community leadership and local decision-making, fostering inclusive and sustainable rural development.

Key Project Interventions and Achievements

Strengthening Sustainable Agriculture and Women Producer Groups (WPGs):

The project strengthened the capacities of staff and Women Producer Groups (WPGs) to promote climate-resilient and scientific agriculture. A planning workshop for 6 female staff, followed by two-day trainings on Results-Based Management (RBM), community mobilization, and FPO formation, ensured systematic project implementation. During the year, 30 village-level trainings equipped 453



women farmers with practical skills on climate-resilient agriculture, organic farming, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and improved cultivation practices for paddy, millets, wheat, pulses, and oilseeds. Training topics included organic paddy nursery preparation, use of farmyard manure, biochar, organic ash and botanical pesticides for pest control, application of mustard flakes and paddy husks in nurseries, and improved vegetable cultivation techniques. An additional 60 farmers received technical guidance from scientists of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Munger.

To promote sustainable and low-cost farming practices, the project organized practical training-cum-demonstration sessions on the preparation and use of Jeeva Amruth, leaf compost, bamboo biochar, vermicompost, liquid organic manure (Liquid Khad), organic ash, and Agni Astra as natural fertilizers and pest-control solutions. A total of 498 Women Producer Group (WPG) members from 30 villages actively participated in these hands-on sessions. Following the training, participants adopted these organic inputs in their fields, resulting in improved soil fertility, healthier crops, reduced dependence on chemical inputs, and increased agricultural productivity. The visible improvement in crop yields also encouraged many non-WPG women farmers to prepare and use these organic formulations, demonstrating the growing acceptance of sustainable farming practices within the wider community.

Horticulture, Demonstration Farms and Livelihood Enhancement:

To diversify livelihoods and improve household nutrition, the project promoted horticulture development and scientific farming practices across the intervention villages. One hundred families established fruit plantations on 50 acres, while 30 WPGs planted 393 fruit saplings (342 mango, 26 jackfruits, and 25 guava), supported by regular technical guidance on pest management and organic manure application. Additionally, 12 WPG members planted 260 timber trees (125 mahogany and 135 teak) as border plantations, contributing to long-term environmental conservation and future income generation. The project established 15 model paddy demonstration plots, each covering one katha and managed by individual farmers. These demonstration plots produced 630 kg of paddy, compared to 519 kg in the previous year, showcasing the benefits of improved cultivation practices. Similarly, 7 WPGs cultivated millets on 8.5 kathas, producing 68.5 kg, almost doubling the previous year's production of 35 kg. The project also supported 17 organic vegetable demonstration plots covering 19 kathas,



generating an income of ₹24,360. In addition, 9 WPGs produced 193 kg of mushrooms, earning ₹46,400, while 48 WPGs cultivated vegetables on 51 kathas, generating ₹54,790. Furthermore, 50 WPGs cultivated paddy on 893 kathas, producing 12,728 kg, a notable increase from 10,763 kg in the previous year, and earned ₹2,61,578. Another 113 WPGs adopted improved varieties of wheat, mustard, gram, and lentils using scientific and organic farming methods. These interventions significantly enhanced crop productivity, diversified farm income, strengthened household food security, and

demonstrated the effectiveness of sustainable agricultural practices.

Market Linkages, Government Entitlements and Collective Institutions:

The project strengthened collective institutions and improved market access for women farmers. Twelve Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) functionaries participated in an exposure visit to a mushroom farm in Nawada, enhancing their knowledge of enterprise development and value addition. Women producers showcased and marketed their agricultural products at the State-level Gramin Mela organized by NABARD and the District Horticulture Fair in Munger, expanding market exposure and business opportunities. A collection centre was also established to facilitate aggregation and marketing of produce. Through convergence with government departments, 97 WPG members accessed benefits worth ₹58,83,695 under housing schemes, MGNREGA, agriculture inputs, seeds, and fertilizers, significantly strengthening household livelihoods and improving access to public welfare programmes.



To strengthen women's livelihoods through value addition, Women Producer Group (WPG) members processed locally grown agricultural produce into products such as yam pickles, gooseberry pickles, gooseberry juice, roasted gram flour (sattu), and herbal oil. Prepared using locally sourced and organically produced raw materials, these products were marketed in Patna and Munger, expanding their market reach beyond the villages. During the reporting period, the enterprise generated a total income of ₹17,661, providing women with an additional source of livelihood while enhancing their entrepreneurial skills, promoting local products, and encouraging sustainable rural enterprises.

Empowering Adolescent Girls through Education, Life Skills and Livelihoods:

The project continued to empower adolescent girls through education, leadership development, and livelihood opportunities. Monthly meetings of 30 adolescent groups strengthened the knowledge and leadership of 304 girls on education, health, nutrition, legal rights, and child protection. The meetings also facilitated access to government entitlements, enabling 30 adolescent girls to receive scholarships and educational benefits worth ₹5,31,000 to support their higher education, thereby encouraging continued learning and reducing the risk of school dropout. A five-day Life Skills Training equipped 206 girls (11–18 years) with knowledge on education, health, nutrition, legal rights, and future planning, motivating 20 girls to continue higher studies. To enhance employability, 10 youth completed an Advanced Diploma in



Computer Applications (ADCA), while 15 adolescent girls successfully completed a six-month tailoring course. As a result, 5 girls secured employment, 2 young women found jobs in hospital administration, 1 youth was employed as a data operator in an NGO, 3 girls established tailoring services in their villages, and 4 girls started earning through beauty culture, demonstrating the project's contribution to improving economic opportunities for rural youth.

5. Empowerment of Adolescent Girls and CBO women of Dalit and Backward Communities of Sheikhpura District, Supported by Manos Unidas:

Supported by Manos Unidas, the project continued to strengthen the socio-economic empowerment of marginalized women and adolescent girls across 20 villages through an integrated approach combining sustainable livelihoods, women's leadership, health and nutrition, and gender equality. Working with 100 Self-Help Groups (SHGs) under the Chaithanya Jan Vikas Sangh Federation, the project empowered more than 1,024 women through agriculture and income-generation initiatives while building the capacities of over 600 adolescent girls on health, life skills, reproductive rights, and protection. By strengthening community institutions and promoting sustainable livelihoods, the project contributed to enhanced household resilience, women's leadership, and the creation of healthier, more gender-equitable communities.

Key Project Interventions and Achievements

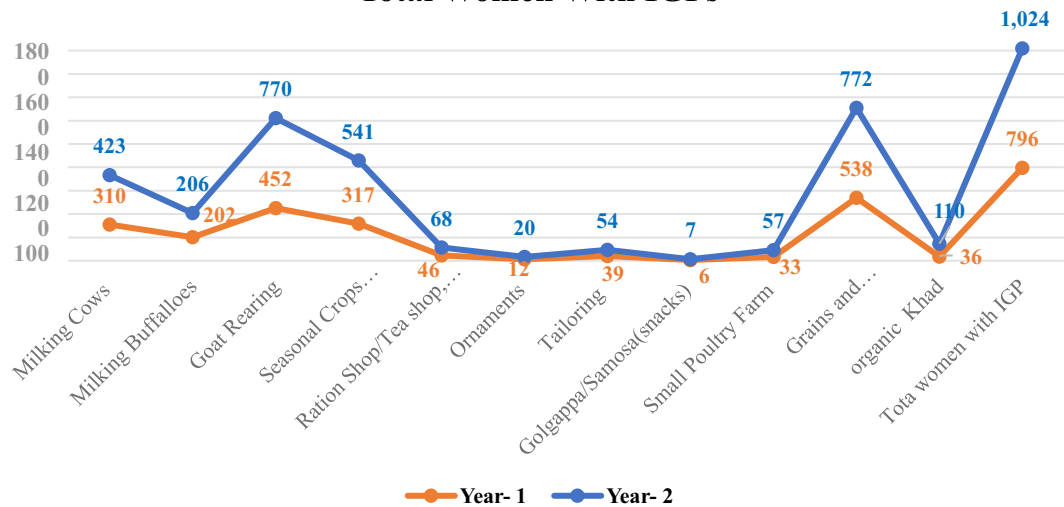
Result 1: Promotion of Livelihood of women through Income Generation Activities and Strengthening of SHG Federation:

The project made significant progress in strengthening women's collectives and sustainable livelihoods during the reporting period. Around 90% of SHGs conducted regular meetings and maintained updated



records, exceeding the target of 85%, reflecting improved governance and accountability. Women's leadership continued to expand, with 280 women actively leading SHGs and Federation activities, surpassing the target of 250. Livelihood interventions also exceeded expectations, with 1,024 women engaged in agriculture, livestock rearing, vegetable cultivation, dairy farming, and other income-generating activities, resulting in improved household incomes and greater financial independence. Furthermore, nearly 300 women adopted vermicompost production and organic farming practices, contributing to improved soil fertility, reduced dependence on chemical fertilizers by 30–35%, and enhanced agricultural productivity.

Total Women With IGPs



During the reporting year, the project strengthened women's leadership, livelihoods, and collective institutions through targeted capacity-building initiatives. Nine leadership training programmes empowered 400 SHG Federation members with leadership, communication, financial management, and decision-making skills, resulting in greater confidence and active participation in SHG Federation governance. To promote sustainable livelihoods, 201 SHG women received practical training from Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) experts on vegetable cultivation, seasonal crop production, kitchen gardening, dairy farming, and organic agriculture, while 102 women enhanced their knowledge of dairy enterprise management, animal health, fodder cultivation, and low-cost feeding practices. Additionally, 206 SHG women were trained in organic farming and vermicompost preparation, encouraging the adoption of eco-friendly cultivation methods that improve soil fertility and reduce dependence on chemical inputs.



The project further expanded women farmers' exposure to improved agricultural technologies by facilitating an exposure visit for 102 SHG women to Bihar Agricultural University (BAU), Sabour, and 84 SHG women to Pusa, Samastipur where they interacted with agricultural scientists, experts and observed innovative farming practices, value addition, and market linkages. These interventions



Figure 42



strengthened the capacities of women farmers to adopt sustainable agricultural practices, diversify livelihoods, improve household nutrition, and enhance farm productivity. The project also reinforced the role of 100 SHGs under the Chaithanya Jan Vikas Sangh Federation, enabling women to access internal credit, strengthen collective decision-making, and build resilient, self-reliant livelihood systems.

Result 2: Improvement of Awareness among Women and Adolescent Girls in Gender Rights, Health and Nutrition:

The project achieved substantial progress in empowering women and adolescent girls with knowledge, confidence, and life skills. A total of 303 women developed greater awareness of gender equality, legal rights, and available support mechanisms, enabling them to address gender-based issues with increased confidence. Health and nutrition interventions reached 300 women and 300 adolescent girls during the year, contributing to an overall 1,010 women and girls adopting healthier practices related to nutrition, hygiene, menstrual health, and sanitation. In addition, through life skills and reproductive health education, 600 adolescent girls are now better equipped to make informed decisions regarding early marriage, reproductive health, personal safety, child abuse, and sexual violence, strengthening their ability to protect their rights and shape a more secure future.



The project continued to strengthen the knowledge, confidence, and well-being of women and adolescent girls through comprehensive awareness and capacity-building programmes. During the reporting year, 153 women participated in a three-day gender equality and legal rights training, improving their understanding of gender justice, women's rights, and key legal protections, while encouraging them to challenge discriminatory social norms and advocate for equality within their families and communities.

To improve health and nutrition practices, 300 SHG women received training on balanced diets, nutrition, hygiene, WASH practices, and kitchen gardening, enabling them to make informed decisions for healthier households. Similarly, 300 adolescent girls participated in health, nutrition, and hygiene education sessions covering puberty, menstrual hygiene management, anaemia prevention, balanced diets, and personal hygiene.



Complementing these efforts, 252 adolescent girls received age-appropriate reproductive health education, enhancing their understanding of menstruation, reproductive health, nutrition, and healthy lifestyle practices while dispelling myths and misconceptions. Regular Meena Manch meetings continued to reinforce these messages through peer learning, open discussions, and leadership-building activities.

Community mobilization was further strengthened through the celebration of International Women's Day, which brought together 1,028 women, and International Girl Child Day, engaging 400 adolescent girls. These events provided vibrant platforms to promote gender equality, celebrate women's and girls'

achievements, encourage leadership, and reinforce the importance of education, rights, and equal opportunities. Collectively, these interventions contributed to increased awareness, improved health-seeking behaviour, enhanced self-confidence, and stronger community support for women's empowerment and girls' education.

Enhance Inclusive Empowerment and Participation:

Mashal continued to promote inclusion, dignity, and active participation of vulnerable children, women, and persons with disabilities through integrated community-based interventions. During the reporting period, the organisation reached over 994 direct beneficiaries (524 girls, 470 boys), including girls in need of care and protection, children with disabilities, women, parents, and caregivers. Key interventions included institutional care, rehabilitation services, inclusive education, community-based rehabilitation, Self-Help Groups, livelihood promotion, and linkage with government entitlements.

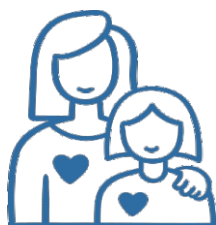
These initiatives strengthened self-reliance, participation, and social inclusion while contributing to SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

Sl. No.	Donor	Project Name	Target
1	DCPU, Social Welfare Department, Govt. of Bihar	Home for Girls, Patna (Asha Kiran)	146 Girls
2	Aktion Arme Welt Stiftung, Germany	Promote Integrated Living of Persons with Disabilities	500 Children 1000 Parents
3	Azim Premji Foundation	SHINE- (Support and Holistic Integration for Nurturing Empowerment of CP Children)	50 Children with Cerebral Palsy, Raxaul
4	SND Congregational Fund	Quality Integral care of the Persons with Disability in Gahiri, Raxaul, Sumbuck and feasibility study and maintenance of Maria Bhawan to suit the needs of the Persons with Disability in Jamalpur area.	80 Children with disability, Jamalpur.
5	Kindermissionswerk Germany	Empowering Children with Disabilities and Communities for Inclusive Development, Ramgharwa Block, Bihar	200 Children with Disability
6	MASHAL	Project Title- Empowering Rural Women through Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Chenari, Rohtas District, Bihar- Mashal	350 Women Chenari

1. Home for girls in need of care and protection, Patna, supported by the Social Welfare Department, Bihar:

Introduction:

Asha Kiran Home, implemented in partnership with the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Patna, under the Social Welfare Department, Government of Bihar, continued to serve as a safe and supportive residential home for girls in need of care and protection. Through a holistic package of care including formal education, healthcare, psychosocial support, life skills education, recreation, vocational training, and family reintegration, the Home enabled girls to recover from difficult circumstances and pursue



**Children Admitted-
134**



**Children Restored
to Family- 84**



**Children transferred to
another Home- 09**



**Vocational
training- 02**



**Children enrolled to
school- 20 (Secondary)**



**Children residing as on
31st March 2026- 41**

opportunities for a brighter future. During the reporting year, continued collaboration with child protection authorities and regular monitoring further strengthened the quality of care, rehabilitation, and child-centred services, ensuring that every girl received the protection, guidance, and support needed to live with dignity and confidence.

Key Events and Initiatives

- School Enrolment and Educational Continuity (April 2025): At the beginning of the academic year, 20 girls were enrolled in formal schools (5 in Hartmann Girls High School, 14 in Julie School, and 1 in Notre Dame Academy), including 6 girls attending school for the first time, strengthening their access to quality education.
- Government Inspections and Monitoring (April, August, September & December 2025): The Home received regular monitoring visits from the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), State Child Protection Society (SCPS), and District Inspection Committee (DIC), ensuring compliance with child protection standards and quality care.
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Jayanti Celebration (April 2025): Five girls participated in a painting competition organised by Ganga Vihar Civil Society, where three girls won prizes, while all participants received certificates of appreciation.
- Aadhaar Enrolment Camp (April 2025): An Aadhaar camp organised by UIDAI, under the guidance of DCPU, enabled 15 girls to obtain or update their Aadhaar cards, strengthening their access to government services and entitlements.
- 7th Foundation Day of Asha Kiran (May 2025): The Home celebrated its 7th Anniversary with 49 participants, including senior officials from the Social Welfare Department, SCPS, DCPU, CWC, and Mashal, reaffirming collaborative efforts towards child protection and rehabilitation.
- Health, Hygiene and Well-being Promotion (May-June & September 2025): Girls actively participated in World Menstrual Hygiene Day, Health and Hygiene Week, World Environment

Day, and International Yoga Day, promoting healthy lifestyles, personal hygiene, and environmental awareness.

- National and International Day Celebrations (August 2025–January 2026): Children enthusiastically observed Independence Day, Gandhi Jayanti, International Day of the Girl Child, Children's Day, Constitution Day, Veer Bal Diwas, Christmas, New Year's Day, Saraswati Puja, and Republic Day, building civic values, cultural awareness, and selfconfidence through competitions, cultural programmes, debates, quizzes, and creative activities.
- Educational, Recreational and Sports Activities (August–December 2025 & February 2026): Children celebrated Sports Day, Teachers' Day, participated in an outing to P&M Mall, attended the Notre Dame Academy School Fete, and enjoyed community events that promoted recreation, confidence, and social interaction.
- Vocational Skill Development (September 2025): Two girls enrolled in Diploma courses in Hotel Management and Computer Education, strengthening their employability and preparing them for independent living.
- Family Reintegration and Child Care Planning (July–December 2025): With the support of the Child Welfare Committee, 84 girls were successfully restored to their families, while 9 girls were transferred to Mokama Balika Griha based on individual care plans and official directives.
- Child Rights, Life Skills and Gender Awareness (October 2025–February 2026): Children participated in sessions on child rights, aftercare, gender sensitisation, social media safety, and the POCSO Act, facilitated by Udayan Care, SCPCR, and other resource persons, strengthening their awareness, confidence, and life skills.
- Inspiring Alumni Engagement (November 2025): A former resident, now successfully employed after completing a Hotel Management Diploma, visited Asha Kiran to share her journey, motivating the girls through her inspiring experience of education, rehabilitation, and self-reliance.
- Capacity Building of Staff (January 2026): The Superintendent participated in a CARA (Central Adoption Resource Authority) training programme, strengthening institutional capacity and ensuring continued adherence to national child care and adoption guidelines.

Key Impacts

- Improved Access to Quality Education: Twenty girls continued their formal education, including six first-generation learners who were enrolled in school for the first time, ensuring their right to education and creating opportunities for a brighter future.
- Strengthened Child Protection and Quality of Care: Regular inspections and guidance from CWC, DCPU, SCPS, and the District Inspection Committee ensured compliance with child protection standards and continuously improved the quality of institutional care.
- Enhanced Identity and Social Protection: Aadhaar enrolment and documentation support strengthened children's legal identity and improved their access to government services, education, and social welfare benefits.
- Improved Health, Hygiene and Well-being: Awareness programmes on menstrual hygiene, health, nutrition, yoga, and environmental responsibility encouraged healthier lifestyles, improved personal hygiene practices, and promoted the overall physical and emotional wellbeing of the girls.
- Greater Confidence, Life Skills and Leadership: Participation in cultural programmes, sports, debates, painting competitions, and child rights activities enhanced children's self-confidence, communication skills, creativity, leadership, and decision-making abilities.
- Successful Family Reintegration and Future Readiness: Eighty-four girls were safely restored to their families, while vocational education and aftercare orientation equipped older girls with skills, career pathways, and confidence for independent living and successful community reintegration.

- **Strengthened Awareness of Rights and Protection:** Continuous orientation on child rights, gender equality, the POCSO Act, constitutional values, and social media safety empowered girls to better understand their rights, seek support when required, and protect themselves from abuse and exploitation.

2. To Promote Integrated Living of Persons with Disabilities Supported by Aktion Arme Welt Stiftung, Germany:

The Integrated Living of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) project, implemented in partnership with AKTION ARME WELT STIFTUNG, continued to promote the rights, inclusion, and holistic development of children with disabilities and their families across Gahiri (West Champaran), Raxaul (East Champaran), and Sumbuck (Darjeeling). Adopting a Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) approach, the project combined therapeutic care, medical and assistive support, inclusive education, family capacity building, disability prevention, and community empowerment to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities. During the year, the project provided regular rehabilitation services to over 400 children with disabilities, supported 204 children to continue their education, facilitated access to government-supported assistive devices for 252 children, and strengthened the capacities of parents, frontline workers, and Disabled Persons' Organisations (DPOs). By fostering stronger community systems, improving access to essential services and entitlements, and promoting inclusion at family, school, and community levels, the project contributed to building a more inclusive, dignified, and enabling environment where persons with disabilities can realise their full potential and participate actively in society.

Objective-1, To facilitate rehabilitation of 500 persons with disabilities through regular therapeutic care both at home and Day Care Centers, and with assistive devices:

The project continued to improve the quality of life of children with disabilities through regular centre-based and home-based rehabilitation services.



During the year, 212 children with disabilities received regular physiotherapy at the centres in Gahiri, Raxaul, and Sumbuck, while Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) teams extended home-based therapeutic care to 400 children (Gahiri 134, Raxaul 225 & Sumbuck 41) across 119 villages (Gahiri 59, Raxaul- 25 &

Sumbuck 35). Individual therapy plans, continuous follow-up, and parent-guided home exercises resulted in noticeable improvements in mobility, posture, motor coordination, and functional independence among many children. To further enhance mobility and inclusion, 19 children with Cerebral Palsy received specially designed wheelchairs through the initiative, significantly improving their mobility, independence, and participation in daily life.



Objective- 2, To promote health and prevent further disabilities of PwDs through medical and surgical interventions:

The project strengthened access to specialized healthcare through regular medical consultations, corrective interventions, and referral services. During the reporting period, 48 children underwent comprehensive medical assessments, enabling timely diagnosis and individualized rehabilitation planning. 12 children received corrective surgeries, while 05 children from the Sumbuck unit underwent specialized orthopaedic treatment at Sanjay Anand Viklang Hospital, Patna, resulting in significant improvements in mobility and functional abilities. These interventions, complemented by regular follow-up and referral support, contributed to early intervention, disability prevention, and improved overall well-being.



Objective- 3, To capacitate the skills of 500 families for holistic care (physical, social and spiritual) of the persons with disabilities:



Recognizing families as the primary caregivers, the project strengthened their capacities to provide quality homebased care and promote disability prevention. During the year, 152 parents and caregivers received practical training on Activities of Daily Living (ADL), enabling them to better support children's mobility, self-care, feeding, and daily routines. Awareness sessions on disability prevention reached 115 young couples and 140 pregnant women, improving knowledge on antenatal care, maternal nutrition, early identification of developmental delays, and preventive health practices.

Objective-4, To promote inclusive education and the rights of the children with disabilities for a dignified living:

The project continued to promote the right to education for children with disabilities through close collaboration with schools, parents, and local communities. During the project period, 204 children (128 boys and 76 girls) Gahiri (32 girls, 57 boys), Raxaul (35 girls, 65 boys), and Sumbuck (9 girls, 6 boys) with disabilities continued their education with project support, including school fees, uniforms, school bags, and learning materials. The "We Ring the Bell" campaign further strengthened awareness on inclusive education, reaching approximately 3,840 school children across Raxaul and Gahiri through school rallies and awareness programmes advocating that "No Child Should Be Out of School." Regular engagement with teachers, School Management Committees, and education authorities also strengthened access to government educational entitlements and fostered more inclusive learning environments.

Objective- 5, To enhance the socio economic and enabling environment of the PwDs for selfreliance and sustainability.

The project continued to build an enabling environment for the inclusion and empowerment of Persons with Disabilities through institutional strengthening and community partnerships. During the reporting period, 50 Disabled Persons' Organisations (DPOs) remained active, while frontline service providers, including 36 ANMs, 144 ASHAs, ANMs, and mothers, and 14 project consultants and volunteers, enhanced their knowledge on disability prevention, government schemes, and safeguarding. Advocacy efforts also facilitated the reopening of the UDID registration portal, enabling 250 persons with disabilities to receive direct support for disability certification and nearly 300 others through counselling and facilitation services. The project continued to strengthen the social inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) by facilitating access to essential identity documents and government welfare schemes across the three project units. During the reporting year, 182 beneficiaries obtained Aadhaar Cards (Gahiri-70, Raxaul-65, Sumbuck-47), 204 received UDID Cards along with



Disability Certificates (Gahiri-56, Raxaul-100, Sumbuck-48), 168 secured Birth Certificates (Gahiri-83, Raxaul-35, Sumbuck-50), and 100 Persons with Disabilities were linked to Disability Pension schemes (Gahiri-7, Raxaul-45, Sumbuck-48). These interventions significantly improved beneficiaries' access to healthcare, education, rehabilitation services, and social protection programmes while empowering families to claim their rights and reducing barriers to accessing government services. World Disability Day was celebrated across all three project locations with the participation of 1,028 community members 526 in Gahiri, 402 in Raxaul, and 100 in Sumbuck, promoting awareness, dignity, inclusion, and access to government support services for persons with disabilities.

3. SHINE- (Support and Holistic Integration for Nurturing Empowerment of CP Children) Supported by Azim Premji Foundation:

With the support of the Azim Premji Foundation, MASHAL launched the SHINE (Support and Holistic Integration for Nurturing Empowerment of Children with Cerebral Palsy) project to strengthen early intervention and rehabilitation services for young children with Cerebral Palsy in Raxaul Block, East Champaran, Bihar. During its first year, the project reached 50 children (31 boys and 19 girls), aged 0–8 years, across 21 villages in 8 Gram Panchayats, establishing a comprehensive model of centre-based and home-based rehabilitation. By combining physiotherapy, medical referrals, caregiver capacity building, frontline health worker engagement, and access to government entitlements, the project has laid a strong foundation for improving children's functional abilities, promoting family participation, and strengthening community-based systems for early identification, rehabilitation, and inclusion.

Key Project Interventions and Achievements

Strengthening Rehabilitation through Centre and Home-Based Physiotherapy

Recognising the importance of early intervention, the project strengthened collaboration with the public



health system through two capacity-building programmes involving 126 frontline health workers, including ASHAs, ANMs, Anganwadi Workers, nurses, and labour room staff. The sessions enhanced participants' capacity to identify developmental delays, promote safe maternal and newborn care, facilitate timely referrals, and prevent avoidable causes of Cerebral Palsy. In addition, awareness sessions reached 73 newly married couples and pregnant women, promoting healthy

pregnancy practices, institutional deliveries, timely immunisation, and early developmental screening, thereby reinforcing disability prevention at the community level.

Promoting Inclusion through Government Entitlements and Family Empowerment

The project placed strong emphasis on empowering families while improving children's access to essential government services. Through continuous counselling and facilitation, 44 children obtained birth certificates, 41 Aadhaar cards, 35 UDID cards, 32 opened bank accounts, 32 were linked to disability pension schemes, and 9 children were enrolled in schools. These efforts significantly strengthened children's access to rehabilitation, education, and social protection while enabling caregivers to independently access government schemes and services. Together, these interventions have laid a strong foundation for improving the quality of life, functional independence, and social inclusion of children with Cerebral Palsy and their families.

4. Quality Integral care of the Persons with Disability in Gahiri, Raxaul, Sumbuck and feasibility study and maintenance of Maria Bhawan to suit the needs of the Persons with Disability in Jamalpur area Supported by SND Congregational Fund:

The Integral care of the Persons with Disabilities project is implemented in Jamalpur Block, Munger District, Bihar, to improve the rehabilitation, inclusion, and quality of life of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). During the reporting year, a baseline survey across 30 villages in seven Gram Panchayats identified 150 Persons with Disabilities, of whom 80 of the most vulnerable children and young adults (0–31 years) were selected for intensive home- and centre-based rehabilitation. Through accessible therapy services, caregiver capacity building, disability-friendly infrastructure, and linkages to government entitlements, the project is strengthening community-based rehabilitation and enabling Persons with Disabilities to lead more independent, dignified, and inclusive lives.

Key Project Interventions and Achievements

Building Capacity for Inclusive Rehabilitation and Community-Based Care

To strengthen the quality and sustainability of disability services, the project invested in developing the capacities of staff, community workers, and caregivers. A Training of Trainers (ToT) was organised to strengthen the capacities of 17 project personnel drawn from the four project units- Sumbuck (3 participants: 2 female, 1 male), Gahiri (5 participants: 1 female staff, 3 male staff, and 1 Sister), Raxaul (6 participants: 5 male staff and 1 Sister), and Jamalpur (3 participants: 1 male staff, 1 female staff, and 1 Sister). The training enhanced participants' competencies in disability identification and assessment, individualized rehabilitation planning, home-based physiotherapy, caregiver counselling, and community-based rehabilitation approaches, creating a skilled team capable of delivering quality

The project established a fully equipped physiotherapy centre and strengthened home-based rehabilitation through specialised therapy kits provided to Community-Based Rehabilitation Workers (CBRWs). Throughout the year, 256 centre-based physiotherapy sessions and 249 home-based therapy



sessions were conducted, ensuring continuous rehabilitation support tailored to each child's individual needs. Regular physiotherapy, complemented by structured caregiver guidance, resulted in encouraging improvements in children's mobility, posture, muscle control, and participation in daily activities. All 50 enrolled children also received medical consultations at Duncan Hospital, Raxaul, enabling timely clinical assessment and follow-up care.



Recognising that sustained rehabilitation depends on active family participation, the project organised monthly training and counselling sessions for parents and caregivers throughout the year. These sessions focused on understanding Cerebral Palsy, correct positioning and handling techniques, feeding practices, home-based exercises, activities of daily living, prevention of secondary complications, and the importance of regular therapy. Practical demonstrations and peer learning enabled caregivers to confidently continue therapy at home, resulting in improved adherence to prescribed exercises, greater caregiver confidence, and observable functional progress among children.

To complement therapy with psychosocial support, the project also organised quarterly recreational and therapeutic activities for children with Cerebral Palsy and their families. Through inclusive games,



music, group exercises, and fun-based movement activities adapted to each child's abilities, children were encouraged to develop confidence, social interaction, communication, and physical coordination in a joyful environment. Parents actively participated alongside their children, strengthening family bonding while reinforcing therapeutic practices in a relaxed setting. These activities not

only enhanced children's emotional well being and motivation but also provided caregivers with opportunities for peer interaction, experience sharing, and mutual support, contributing to a more positive and inclusive rehabilitation process.

Strengthening Early Identification and Disability Prevention

rehabilitation services across the project areas. The programme was further enriched through motivation and value-based sessions on compassionate service, teamwork, and community engagement, creating a skilled pool of trainers capable of extending quality rehabilitation support to over 1,165 Persons with Disabilities across the project locations.

Complementing this effort, two Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Workers in Jamalpur provided regular home visits across 25 villages, supporting 80 Persons with Disabilities (44 males and 36 females) through home-based physiotherapy, Activities of Daily Living (ADL) training, caregiver counselling, and referrals to the Anugrahalay Physiotherapy Centre. Parents and caregivers demonstrated increased confidence in providing daily therapeutic support, creating more enabling home environments and ensuring continuity of rehabilitation beyond the therapy centre.



Strengthening Disability Rehabilitation Services and Accessible Infrastructure

A comprehensive baseline survey conducted across 30 villages in seven Gram Panchayats of Jamalpur Block identified 150 Persons with Disabilities (100 males and 50 females) aged 0–35 years, providing critical evidence for planning targeted interventions. Based on vulnerability and rehabilitation needs, 80 Persons with Disabilities from 25 villages were selected for intensive home-based and centre-based rehabilitation services. The assessment also revealed significant gaps in access to social protection, with only 32 persons possessing UDID cards, 47 holding Aadhaar cards, and 27 receiving disability pensions, highlighting the need for stronger linkage to government entitlements.



To provide quality rehabilitation services, the project upgraded the Anugrahalay Centre at Maria Bhawan by constructing a disability-

friendly ramp and improving accessibility throughout the facility. Essential physiotherapy equipment and assistive devices were also procured, significantly enhancing the quality of centre-based rehabilitation. Combined with regular home-based interventions, these services have already contributed to noticeable improvements in beneficiaries' mobility, posture, muscle strength, and ability to perform daily activities. At the same time, continuous support in securing Aadhaar cards, UDID cards, and disability pensions has strengthened access to government welfare programmes, promoting greater independence, dignity, and social inclusion for Persons with Disabilities and their families.



5. Empowering Children with Disabilities and Communities for Inclusive Development, Ramgarhwa Block, Bihar- Kindermissionswerk Germany:

With the support of Kindermissionswerk Germany, the project continued to strengthen community-based rehabilitation for children with disabilities across 33 villages in 10 Panchayats of Ramgarhwa Block, East Champaran, Bihar. During the reporting period, the project reached 200 children with

disabilities (130 boys and 70 girls) through integrated rehabilitation services aimed at improving their health, mobility, inclusion, and overall quality of life.

Key Project Interventions and Achievements

Timely and Regular Therapeutic Care for 200 Children with Disabilities:

Regular centre-based and home-based physiotherapy formed the core of the rehabilitation programme for 200 children with disabilities (130 boys and 70 girls).



To improve accessibility, the project established a physiotherapy centre in Ramgarhwa Block, supported by one physiotherapist, three Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) workers, and one Sister, ensuring regular therapy through individualized weekly rehabilitation plans and home visits. Alongside physiotherapy and special education, parents received continuous counselling on home-based care, activities of daily living (ADL), and disability management, while families were supported to access government entitlements. The project also provided nutritional support to all

200 children (130 boys and 70 girls) through nutrition kits and caregiver counselling to promote healthy growth and rehabilitation. To strengthen access to specialised healthcare, 115 children (80 boys and 35 girls) received comprehensive medical assessments and treatment through specialist consultation camps organised in collaboration with Duncan Hospital, Raxaul, facilitating early diagnosis, timely treatment, corrective referrals, and individualized rehabilitation plans. These integrated interventions enabled all 200 children to demonstrate improvements in their functional abilities, mobility, health, and participation in daily life. Additionally, 22 children (18 boys and 4 girls) received customised assistive devices, while 65 children (45 boys and 20 girls) benefited from tele services and improved nutritional outcomes through sustained dietary support.



Enhance the Skills of Families and Communities on Home-Based Care and Early Identification of Disabilities

Recognising the central role of families and communities, the project invested significantly in strengthening local capacity for disability care and early identification. Two hundred mothers were trained in home-based therapeutic care, activities of daily living (ADL), nutrition, and timely healthcare seeking, enabling them to provide sustained rehabilitation support within their homes.



In addition, 20 community awareness sessions reached 675 participants (269 men and 406 women), promoting disability inclusion and shared community responsibility for the well-being of children with disabilities. Two community-based caregiver training programmes further equipped 132 participants (86 men and 46 women) with

based physiotherapy, positioning, mobility exercises, and daily care. To strengthen early identification and referral systems, 79 frontline health workers (ASHAs, ANMs, and

Anganwadi Workers) participated in three sensitisation programmes on disability prevention, developmental delays, and referral mechanisms. The project also strengthened inclusive education by orienting 288 teachers (211 men and 77 women) from 24 government schools on early identification, inclusive classroom practices, and the rights of children with disabilities. These combined interventions strengthened community awareness, improved early identification and referral of children with disabilities, and created a stronger network of families, schools, health workers, and local institutions committed to inclusive rehabilitation and care.

Build Partnership by Strengthening Disabled Children's Parents' Association (DPA) and Create Livelihood Options for Support Base and Sustainability

To strengthen long-term sustainability and community ownership, the project built the capacity of 200 parents and caregivers (21 men and 179 women) through training programmes on disability care, rights, leadership, and advocacy, while strengthening 10 Disabled Parents' Associations (DPAs) with 120 members. These initiatives empowered families to actively promote inclusive education, access government services, and advocate for the rights and dignity of children with disabilities. The project also facilitated social protection by linking 75 children (48 boys and 27 girls) to government welfare schemes and supported the enrolment and retention of 35 children (23 boys and 12 girls) in formal schools. Furthermore, 70 families accessed livelihood opportunities through MGNREGA, strengthening household resilience and economic security.

Engage Effectively through Research, Promotive and Preventive options, Joining with Likeminded Organizations

The project also reinforced collaboration with key institutions to create an enabling environment for disability inclusion. Partnerships were strengthened with 24 government schools, two healthcare



institutions (Community Health Centre and Duncan Hospital, Raxaul), one Buniyad Centre, and the Block Development Office, improving referral systems, rehabilitation services, inclusive education, and access to government entitlements. As part of its advocacy efforts, the project implemented the "We Ring the Bell" Campaign across 20 schools, reaching 4,886 participants (3,201 boys and

1,685 girls) and promoting the rights of children with disabilities and inclusive learning environments. Additionally, two interface meetings brought together 200 participants (103 men and 97 women), including government officials, families, and community representatives, strengthening convergence between service providers and persons with disabilities. These collaborative initiatives have fostered greater community awareness, institutional coordination, and a more inclusive environment where children with disabilities can access opportunities, exercise their rights, and participate with dignity in community life.

6. Empowering Rural Women through Self Help Groups (SHGs):

The project continued to strengthen women's social and economic empowerment through community-based Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Chenari Block, Rohtas District. During the year, 71 SHGs were established, of which 56 groups remained actively functional, engaging 667 women, while 15 SHGs successfully opened bank accounts, strengthening their financial inclusion. Regular monthly SHG meetings, leadership training for office bearers, and capacity-building programmes enhanced group governance, record keeping, and collective decision-making. SHG members also participated in capacity-building sessions on alternative livelihood opportunities, livestock management, children's education, and gender equality, enabling them to make informed economic and social decisions. The training encouraged women to utilize internal SHG loans to establish income-generating activities. During the reporting period, 73 women initiated or strengthened livelihoods through rice and mustard oil mills (2), buffalo rearing (23), dairy farming (11), goat rearing (8), poultry farming (2),

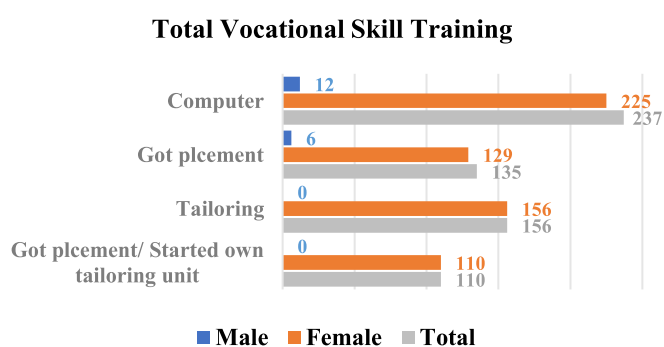
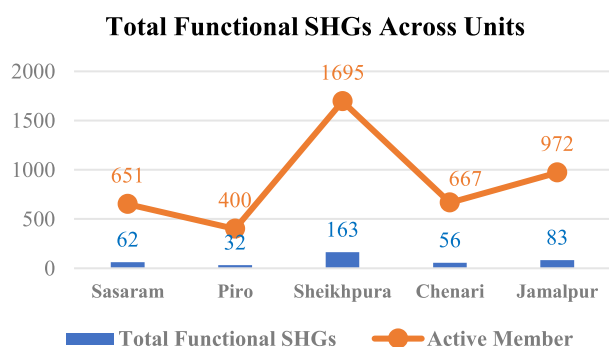


tenant farming of rice, wheat, and vegetables (12), and petty businesses such as grocery and stationery shops (15). These livelihood initiatives have enhanced household income, strengthened economic resilience, and increased women's financial independence and decision-making within their families.

In addition, 39 grandparents (34 women and 5 men) participated in intergenerational meetings, promoting greater family support for children's education, women's empowerment, and community development.

Overall Self Help Groups and Vocational Skill Details:

Beyond project-supported interventions, Mashal's units continued to strengthen community institutions by facilitating village-level Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and expanding livelihood opportunities for rural youth. During the reporting period, 237 youth (12 male and 225 female) received market-oriented vocational training in computer applications (Customer Care Executive – Domestic Non-Voice, ADCA and DCA) and 156 females engaged in tailoring training across Sasaram, Gahiri, Sheikhpura, and Jamalpur. As a result, 245 youth (6 male and 239 female) (Computer- 6 male, 129 female & Tailoring- 110 females) either secured employment or established their own tailoring enterprises, enhancing their



employability, financial independence, and contributing to the economic development of their families and communities.

Conclusion:

The achievements highlighted in this Annual Report reflect Mashal's continued commitment to empowering marginalized communities through integrated interventions in education, health, sustainable agriculture, women's empowerment, disability inclusion, and child protection. By strengthening community institutions, promoting sustainable livelihoods, improving access to quality services, and fostering inclusive development, the organisation has helped individuals and families build resilience, dignity, and self-reliance. These efforts contribute meaningfully to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to quality education, good health and well-being, gender equality, reduced inequalities, decent work, Climate Action and sustainable communities. These accomplishments were made possible through the dedication of our staff, Sisters, community members, government departments, and valued development partners. As we move forward, Mashal remains committed to creating lasting, inclusive, and sustainable change, ensuring that no one is left behind.

“From Darkness to Dignity: A Child’s Journey Back to Hope”

Mangal Hansda (*named changed*), and his sister Ruby Hansda (*named changed*) belongs to a tribal village in Haveli Kharagpur block of Munger district.

Mangal’s life was marked by hardship from a very early age. He lost his mother when he was just four years old, and he and his siblings were raised by their grandmother. Life was difficult, but things began to change when a learning centre was established in their village.

A tutor from the centre reached out to Mangal’s family and encouraged his grandmother to enroll the children. With hope for a better future, she enrolled Mangal, his brother, and his sister. At that time, Mangal could not even recognize numbers, but through regular attendance and dedicated support, he gradually learned to identify numbers, letters, form words, and eventually began reading books.



However, tragedy struck again. Mangal’s brother passed away due to illness, and soon after, his grandmother also passed away, unable to cope with the loss. Left without support, Mangal and Ruby’s situation worsened. Their father, struggling with alcoholism, was unable to care for them. The siblings often went hungry and were left without protection.

In a desperate situation, Mangal was sent to work as a child labourer nearly 10 km away from his village, for a small monthly wage of Rs. 2000/-. There, he was forced to tend cattle and do household chores, receiving only two meals in 24 hours. He recalls feeling helpless and distressed, with no way to escape.

This situation came to light when the project team intervened. Through timely identification and community engagement, the team, along with local partners, approached Mangal’s father and negotiated his release from child labour. Mangal was safely brought back home- marking a critical step in ensuring his protection and rights as a child.

Following this, immediate support was extended to the siblings, including provision of food and regular follow-up visits. Mangal and Ruby were re-enrolled in the learning centre, where they resumed their education. Recognizing their vulnerability, the project team facilitated their admission into a residential hostel, ensuring a safe and supportive environment for their continued learning.

Today, both Mangal and Ruby are living in the Bariapur hostel, attending school regularly, and continuing their education with full support. They are safe, happy, and hopeful about their future.

Mangal shares with gratitude:

“Now we are studying well and living happily. Because of the support we received, we have got a new life. We are very thankful to everyone who helped us continue our education.”

From Dependency to Determination – Pawan Kumar’s Journey

Pawan Kumar, a young child from Raxaul, comes from a family facing significant financial constraints, where accessing specialized care and regular medical support was a major challenge. At the time of enrolment, he was unable to sit, stand, or walk independently, and his communication abilities were very limited. His caregiver, Poonam Devi, like many families in similar situations, lacked awareness, guidance and resources on how to support his development.



With the support of the SHINE project funded by Azim Premji Foundation implemented by Mashal, Pawan received regular physiotherapy sessions complemented by structured parent training. His caregiver was guided on home-based exercises, proper positioning, and daily care practices, ensuring that therapy continued beyond the centre. In addition, the project facilitated medical consultations to address his overall well-being.

Over the course of one year, Pawan has shown encouraging progress. He has developed improved mobility, with better control in sitting and standing, and his communication has become more responsive. Alongside these physical improvements, his confidence has grown, allowing him to engage more actively with his surroundings.

The transformation extends beyond Pawan. His family is now more informed, confident, and actively involved in his care, while the community’s perception has also shifted towards greater acceptance and support. Pawan’s journey highlights how consistent intervention, caregiver empowerment, and holistic support can bring meaningful and lasting change in the lives of children with disabilities.

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