

CARING | SHARING | PREPARING
ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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“THE BEST WAY TO FIND YOURSELF IS TO
LOSE YOURSELF IN THE SERVICE OF OTHERS.”

...MAHATMA GANDHI

At Save the Children, we do not just believe in this ethos, we also live by it.

Imbued with the spirit of kindness, we are **committed to caring** for the most vulnerable of India's children, in the most impactful of ways.

Responding to their basic needs with a human touch, **we invest in sharing** their sorrows, to give them little joys that can make a difference to their lives.

We remain **focused on preparing** them, in small ways and big, to meet the challenges of today, in order to protect and nurture their future.

Amidst the COVID pandemic, we, at Save the Children, refreshed our strategic approach to further scale up our human response to the unprecedented crisis that brought lakhs of children across the country to the brink.

Read on to find out how we expanded our outreach to save and support children during the COVID disaster.



2020-21 IN NUMBERS



TOTAL DONATIONS COLLECTED INR 210 CRORE

Total Income (16% from 2019-20, a sizable portion towards the pandemic response)



BIG LEAPS

63 LAKH

People engaged on children's issue-based campaigns

>3000K

Beneficiaries provided life-saving Food & Non-Food items

63.05K

People aided with mental health & psycho-social support during the pandemic

1ST EVER

Pneumonia Skill Lab inaugurated to widen access to lifesaving assistance for children

21K

Children reached through 'Gulmohar' - an engaging learning module for toddlers suitable for remote learning with parents during pandemic times

DREAM ACCELERATOR

9 children completed their micro projects towards child rights issues

INVITED

As member of NITI Aayog's sub-group on Child Rights & Child Protection and Education

CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

A humanitarian crisis does not end with its root cause. Its impact is felt for years, sometimes generations. The COVID outbreak was one such crisis, which catalysed an unparalleled global threat whose repercussions will stay with the world for a long time. Needless to say, a global crisis of such magnitude necessitates a global response, as we all witnessed during Financial Year 2021, which demanded from all of us an exceptional collective effort. The unprecedented catastrophe stretched our limits to meet the urgent and critical needs of humanity, particularly children, for whom the Coronavirus outbreak has had devastating consequences.

Education was disrupted as schools were abruptly closed for prolonged periods, with the poor and the marginalised, in particular, deprived of access to online learning opportunities. Sliding economies thrust the vulnerable children into a web of poverty, triggering a sudden spurt in child trafficking, child labour and child marriage, especially in the world's poorest countries. Unfortunately, more than a year after the pandemic struck, the danger of the world seeing a reversal of the gains made over the last 20 years, along with destruction of the rights of children, continues to loom large. Globally, Save the Children launched a movement in 2020, calling for world leaders to #ProtectAGeneration, and avert what clearly appeared to be a foreseeable catastrophe. Having been part of the global research involving 46 countries on the impact of the pandemic on children, we, at Save the Children in India, focused our energies on addressing concerns that we had identified as vital to the protection of our future generation. From disease containment and mitigation, to generating resources and funds for supporting the healthcare systems and infrastructure, we invested our learnings from the research to prepare the community to cope with, and overcome, the unfolding health crisis. Concurrently, we realised the critical need for protecting children from abuse, exploitation and poverty, and for fulfilling their basic needs while ensuring learning continuity amid the pandemic, which has deepened inequalities across communities and borders.

It was, for us at Save the Children in India, a time to reorient our outlook, restructure our focus areas (Big Ideas) framework, and relook at priorities in alignment with the emergent needs triggered by the Coronavirus outbreak. I am happy to say that with the support of our employees, partners, volunteers, child champions, as also government bodies, corporates and the civil society, we succeeded in responding to the colossal crisis with exceptional speed and agility. Led by shared goals and powered by collective actions, we quickly scaled our humanitarian outreach to extend the highest level of care to children, share essentials with them, and prepare them to cope better with the immediate and long-term problems unleashed by the pandemic. Digging into the core of our resilience and deep-rooted strengths, we adapted with speed to the transforming external eco-system, as we pushed the bar of our human response to mitigate the sufferings of children and amplify the issues triggered by the humanitarian crisis. We did not succumb to the pressures of the complex new challenges thrust on the world by the pandemic. Rather, we realigned our agenda to the immediate requirements, not just of the children but also their families and others.

Our initial response, launched at the start of the pandemic in 2020, has already touched more than 13 lakh lives. We are now moving into the next phase of our targeted plans and interventions to address the immediate needs and foreseeable challenges of India's poorest and most vulnerable communities. I look forward to your continued trust and support in our efforts, which are steered by our value system that remains embedded in our organisational core. I am confident that

together, we shall not only successfully overcome the COVID induced challenges but go beyond, to ensure a safe and secure environment, with equal opportunities for our children to survive and prosper.

Thank you!



DEEPAK KAPOOR
Chairperson, Governing Council



CEO'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

For a person like me, who unlearns and learns constantly from others, 2020 was not only unprecedented but infinitely challenging. If remote working, social distancing, and a mammoth global crisis were not enough, I joined this family which invited me to constantly up my game every single day. I soon discovered I had joined a team of professionals who live and breathe their commitment for every last child. And the extended family of children, supporters, frontline workers who held the fort during one of the biggest humanitarian crises left me in awe of them. Save the Children, India exhibited agility and energy in not only their own delivery but also to whom they deliver for—the children. I am proud indeed to be a part of this extraordinary family, who have shown remarkable resilience and an exceptional ability to adapt to the emerging needs of the children amid the COVID-induced catastrophe.

That it was a gigantic crisis was patently evident from the start. Our own studies showed the grave extent of the damage, indicating that the pandemic could well reverse the gains made over the decades in the development sector and safeguarding of children. The FCRA amendment sought to bring in more transparency into the financial operations, but it impacted the day-to-day operations during a time when communities needed us the most during the pandemic. It also jeopardised the collaborative strength and architecture of the system that had, for years, upheld the rights of the people on the fringes. We quickly realised how vital it was to repurpose our strategic approach in response to the crisis, and to do it real fast. The children in need of help could not wait, all else could! Closure of learning facilities, increased vulnerability to abuse, violence and exploitation, the strain on mental health and loss of access to essential services and livelihoods have affected over 32 crore children, most significantly the most marginalised families and their children. We had to take a leap of faith – faith in our capability and capacity to weather the storm, and enable the disadvantaged communities to tide over. Without wasting any time, we moved with speed to put in place a new, game-changing strategy towards operational ease, human resource and capacity management as well as business continuity for ensuring non-stop service to every last child. SURVIVAL became the key to our outreach efforts, as we moved with alacrity to provide vulnerable children and their families in the remotest corners of India with access to basic health facilities and services, food, hygiene and COVID CARE kits, timely testing and detection, preventive and precautionary messages against COVID, myth-busting around COVID along with livelihood support to families who lost their sources of income. I am extremely happy to share that children and adolescents not only embraced the opportunity to explore alternative livelihood but many of them became partners in Save the Children's campaigns to bring about the radical change on the hidden fallouts of the pandemic like menstrual hygiene crisis, increase in cases of trafficking, labour, child marriage etc. The children and community coupled our initiatives on the ground. Over 10 Lakh children were reached through our humanitarian response interventions. As government and other systems were allocated to handle the health emergency at hand, the learning crisis continued to grow on the other hand, especially for the girls. 1 crore faced the risk of never returning to school. It was vital to ensure that children do not remain Out-of-School for long periods, as that inevitably reduces their chances of getting back into the learning circle. Apart from other innovative low-cost low-tech models, 'Gulmohar' became our most impactful platform to help children in the poorest of communities with access learning through parents and caregivers. Besides Karnataka, where the State Government adopted

this model, our other intervention states too have benefitted from the Gulmohar Early Childhood Development (ECD) curriculum for home-based learning. So far, we have reached out to 21,000 parents through this model, which we hope to scale up to expand our reach to more parents and their children. We also distributed self-learning kits and set up mobile and community libraries – a process that we continue to date to counter the learning void created due to extended school closures.

Along with the immediate emergency at hand, the emerging shadow pandemic that indicated a growing incidence of child violence, labour, trafficking, abuse, and sexual exploitation of children amid the lockdown restrictions and the increased economic distress also called for immediate action and intervention. This underscored the need for PROTECTION of vulnerable children by creating and advocating for safe spaces and also ensuring institutional care and psychosocial support for them. We also looked at the most vulnerable groups through launching a host of targeted campaigns and initiatives focused on Children in Street Situation (CiSS) and Girls, during the year. Our Telethon in collaboration with NDTV set the ball rolling to build up a much required public narrative for children in street situations. I am happy to share that 2.5 lakh such children were facilitated with identity documents in 10 cities across the country through our intervention for CiSS. But this, I believe, is just a small beginning. As we move forward, going beyond the pandemic, we shall continue to amplify the campaign until we make #TheInvisibles very much visible. At the same time, we shall strive to scale up the #AllyUpForHer campaign that we had launched to call for bystander action for girl's safety. Further the same campaign plugged in the growing gender gap amid the pandemic-induced closure of schools, which has pushed girls to some irreversible losses to their education. Amid the crisis, our children continued to shine with their efforts at the community level. Their exemplary work during the pandemic was recognised at various platforms including the International Children's Peace Prize and UN Volunteers (UNV) award. Five of our changemakers were nominated for the International Children's Peace Prize. I see the exemplary way in which our children have laid the right foundation blocks for what promises to be a powerful edifice of change. We are here to enable them to lead, and I promise we will support them in every possible way to steer the change for better, wider, and bigger. I am confident that with the sustained support of our employees, volunteers, donors, supporters, partners and others, we can, and we will do even better, going forward. We will not rest till we get every Indian to think of children. We will not stop with the response to the pandemic. We will recover, and we will rebuild!

So what are the lasting thoughts for the year that just went by? Resilience; Tenacity; Spunk and Never Say No are the words that define the community we are – the organisation, its donors and the children with their families all of us together. Thank you for believing in yourself; each other and providing us an opportunity to work with you all.


SUDARSHAN SUCHI
Chief Executive Office





SAFEGUARDING CHILDHOODS SINCE 1919

India's leading independent child rights' NGO, Save the Children is transforming the lives of lakhs of vulnerable children through targeted interventions on identified focus areas of Education, Health & Nutrition, Child Protection & Psychosocial, Poverty & Livelihood and Humanitarian response. Having embarked on our independent journey in India in 2008, when we registered as 'Bal Raksha Bharat', we committed ourselves to ensuring that children do not just survive but thrive. We work on the ground, among the most vulnerable communities, to reach out to children, including upholding their rights amid crisis situation.



OUR ETHOS

- Do what it takes to save and protect children
- Take on the toughest challenges
- Reach out to the hardest-to-reach children
- Give children a healthy start, with opportunity to learn
- Delivering lasting results to save our shared future

OUR KEY ENABLERS

- First to respond, and last to leave, in times of crisis
- Be the voice of children, ensuring they are heard and their issues are prioritised



1.1 CRORE
Children's lives changed



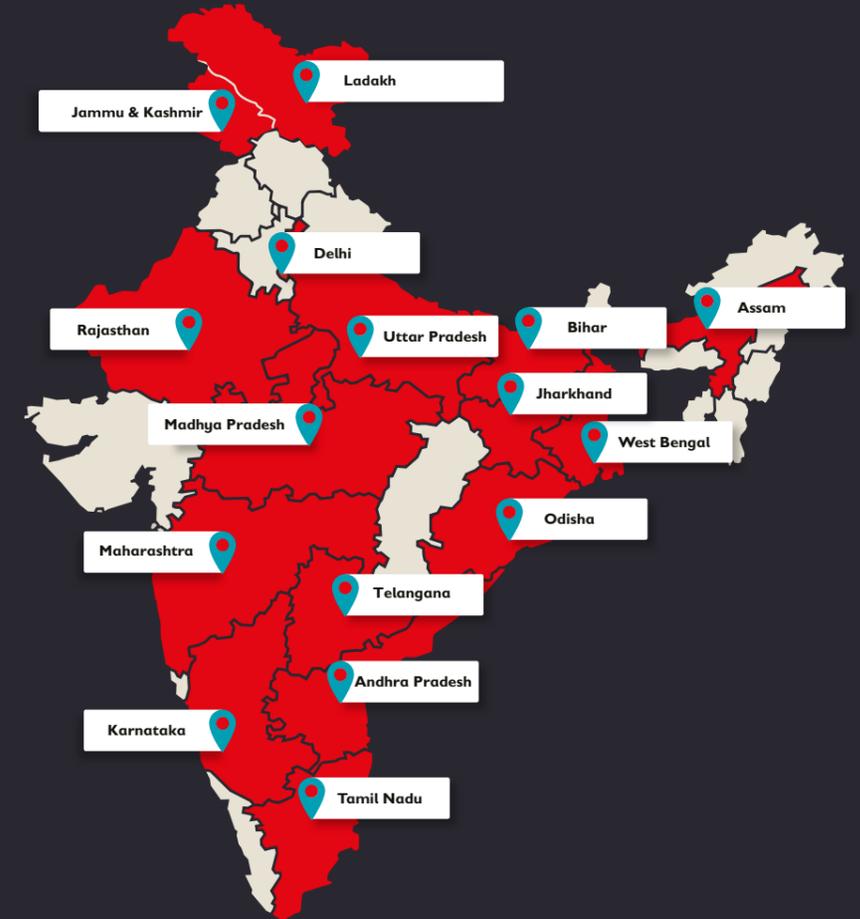
OUR CORE BELIEF
Every child deserves the best chance for a bright future

OUR STRATEGY ADAPTED TO COVID CRISIS AND EMERGENT NEEDS



WHERE WE WORK

Driven by a strong focus on protecting children from the pandemic-induced risks and problems, we worked on the ground in 56 districts across 16 States and Union Territories during 2020-21. Our presence in these areas was mapped by programs and initiatives aimed at risk communities and those vulnerable due to the economic setback. Creating large-scale awareness, promoting COVID appropriate behaviour, providing food and livelihood security, and extending psychosocial support for families and children on the brink along with long-term programmatic priorities are being focused.



OUR EXECUTION ROADMAP

We run a multitude of programs across India, working closely with various government agencies, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), communities, and of course, children. Tailored to fit the post-pandemic challenges faced by children and largely influenced by economic distress in families, successful implementation of Child Rights Programing is key to restoring the damages induced by the pandemic in the lives of children, and building forward better.

“ Underpinned by our Global Commitment to Quality, Accountability, and Partnership, We Strive to Build a World Where Every Child Attains the **Right to Survival, Protection, Development, and Participation** Despite The Unprecedented Challenges Induced By The Pandemic By Providing **Immediate Humanitarian Response And Sustained Impact Driven Interventions.** ”



**“BE KIND WHENEVER POSSIBLE.
IT’S ALWAYS POSSIBLE,”**

...DALAI LAMA

At Save the Children, we are imbued with the philosophy of being kind, always. We believe in protecting and spreading kindness among children, so that we can nurture and secure our children.



CARING DURING COVID

If there is one thing that the pandemic has taught us, it is the urgent need for mutual and collective support. It is the importance of enabling the most vulnerable and the worst affected communities to tide over one of the biggest humanitarian crisis.

Defining the impact

The COVID pandemic has unleashed an unprecedented humanitarian crisis, bringing a radical change in the future of our children. Besides severely disrupting (in some cases even eliminating) access to healthcare services, it has triggered the biggest learning crisis ever, with temporary closure of schools impacting a whopping 320 crore, including 1 crore in the 3-6 age group. Massive loss of income and livelihood has accentuated poverty, while the cost in terms of risk of neglect, abandonment, abuse, child labour and trafficking, cyber exploitation and psychosocial trauma is immeasurable.

Redefining the strategy

The pandemic crisis has underscored more sharply than before the importance of structured prioritisation of critical needs, supported by targeted interventions. At Save the Children, we have refreshed our strategic approach to focus more sharply than ever on

Preparedness, Response and Recovery among children.

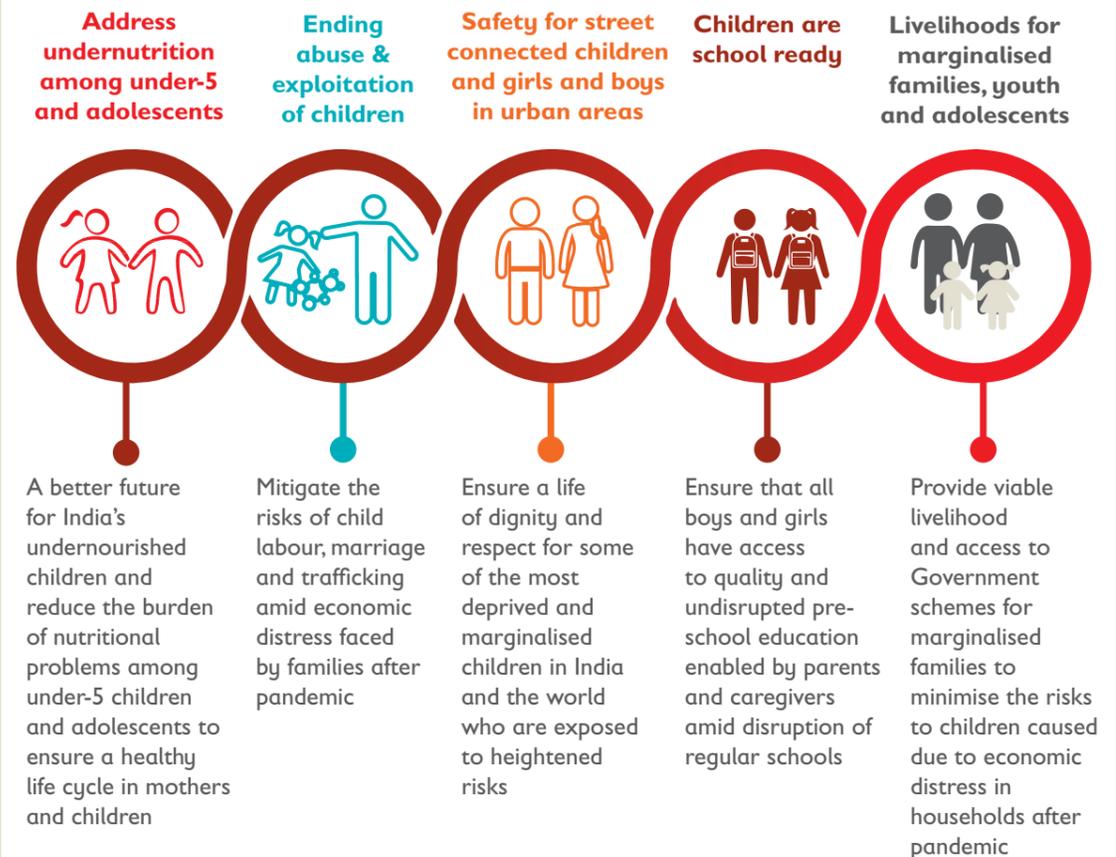
The overall strategic objective of this approach is

To design, raise resources for, and deliver a 'Non – Medical/Non-Pharmaceutical support for Basic Essential Package and Safeguard the Rights to Learn, Stay Healthy and Protected' for the most deprived and marginalised children (girls and boys), their families, and communities in India across the geographies where Save the Children, India has a footprint. In line with this approach, we have identified the need to especially address gender divide which has aggravated with the pandemic, including our response to the deadly disease outbreak. Gender sensitisation and gender transformative processes are incorporated in our strategic approach, with the overarching goal of ensuring that every child has equal right to survival, protection, development, and participation.

A STRATEGY DESIGNED TO COVID-FOCUSED ON BIG IDEAS

Our refreshed strategy is centered on being Agile, Bold and Connected, with focus on fewer Big Ideas, to counter the massive humanitarian crisis unleashed by the pandemic.

THE 5 FOCUS AREAS IN CONTEXT OF COVID





IMPACT UNDER FIVE FOCUS AREAS (FY 2021)

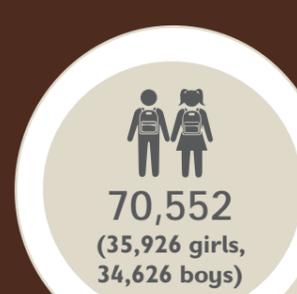
Addressing Undernutrition



Livelihoods for marginalised families & Adolescents



School ready children



IMPACT UNDER OUR KEY FOCUS AREAS (FY 2021)



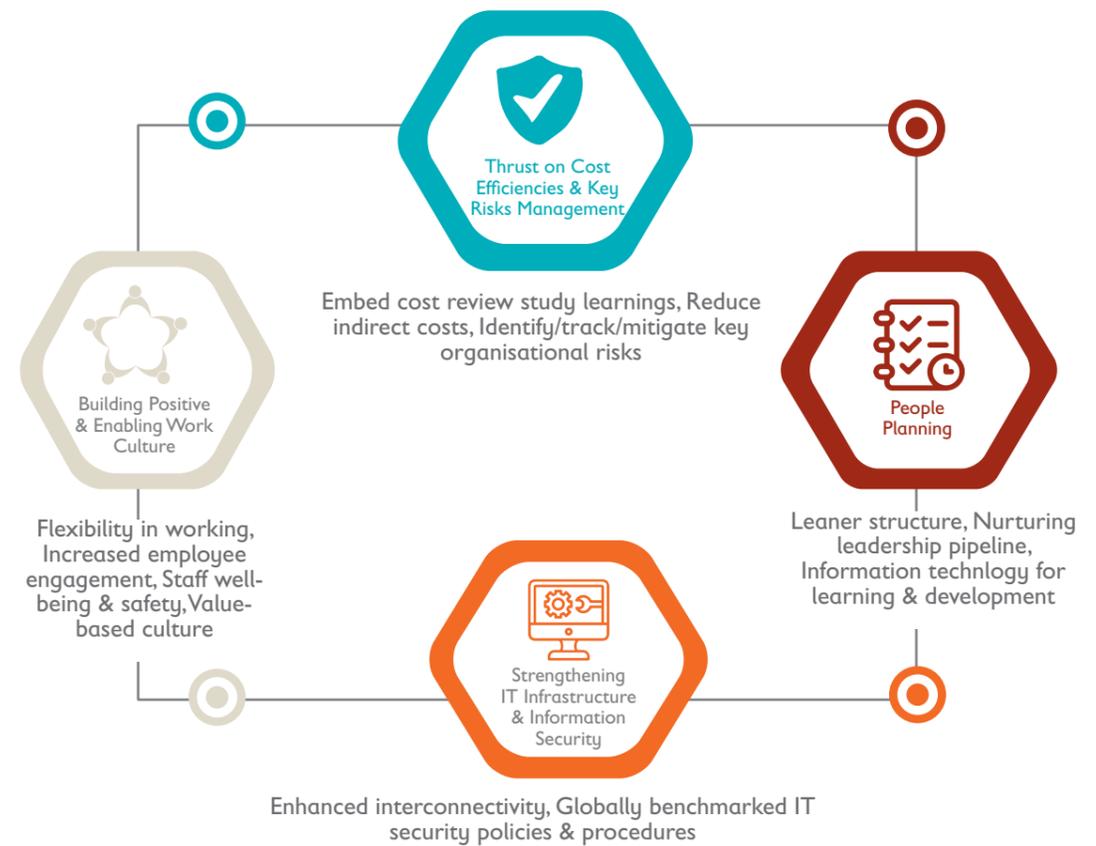
Total Reach



Ending Exploitation & Abuse

SCALING OUTREACH DURING PANDEMIC

Our COVID adapted program reached out to 35 lakh children supported by ambitious resource mobilisation goals revised from INR 500 crore to INR 600 crore. The organisational strategy was revised for holistic interventions in response to COVID and its collateral damages through a four-pronged approach:





Supporting Remotely with IVRS

With the deadly pandemic impacting lives in India's remote hinterlands and disrupting of access to all essential services, we activated distance support platforms through Interactive Voice Response Systems (IVRS) in Maharashtra, Bihar and Odisha. While COVID VANI in Odisha supported parents and Frontline Workers (FLWs) with COVID appropriate messaging relayed further to the community, the communities in Bihar could access any COVID related information via a missed call. The IVRS system in Nashik, in collaboration with the local municipal corporation, dedicatedly checked on home isolation cases. These initiatives enabled us to reach out to the remotest and the most vulnerable with crucial messaging and support during lockdowns.



#SavewithStories - Bringing solace through stories

Influencers joined hands with Save the Children to launch a global campaign to bring fun and education, through stories, to children stuck at home amid the pandemic. The campaign, which included fund-raising activities, was launched on Instagram and Facebook, and saw influencers reach out to children by reading out stories to educate, entertain and motivate them. Globally, it witnessed Hollywood celebrities like Jennifer Garner and Amy Adamson, while in India, artist ambassadors Dia Mirza, along with Soha Ali Khan, Ashish Singh, Tara Sharma and Huma Qureshi, joined the campaign by taking to their social media handles to read out their favourite children's stories.



#TheInvisibles become visible on primetime

Led by our commitment to give identity and social security to over two lakh children living on the streets under #TheInvisibles campaign, Save the Children joined hands with NDTV during the year, to raise funds and awareness about the vulnerabilities faced by these children in the face of the pandemic. The 2-hour long live telethon saw artists, corporates, policy makers, child champions and many others pledge their support to children on streets. The program, implemented across 10 cities in India, has supported around 2.5 lakh children in the 1-18 years age group.

Preparing for the Worst



When the dread of COVID-19 second wave swept through the country, from geographically inaccessible locations in Kargil to the remotest parts of tribal districts in Jharkhand and Karnataka, **Save the Children delivered 700 oxygen concentrators to 64 public hospitals in 11 states and Union Territories (UTs) in India.** These included **Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana and Karnataka.**

Many community health centres and tertiary care centres have also been provided **oxygen concentrators to ensure primary medical and oxygen support** at these centres.



Sharing the pain of our colleagues

Unlike other humanitarian crisis, COVID struck our own people at personal level, and impacted more than 150 employees and their families. We launched an internal response team to help colleagues, their families, friends and acquaintances with medical and non-medical support. The teams, instituted at the national and state levels, reached out to all COVID positive patients on a daily basis, and to others twice a week to check on their well-being and facilitate hospitalisation, testing, food and medicine delivery, medical consultation etc., as needed. The teams included doctors for consultation and certified counsellors for psychosocial support. Around 1000 staff members have been reached through this mechanism, and 124 members have been provided with counselling support.

Our People

The COVID-19 pandemic made us innovate, adapt and work in ways that was never done before. A group of people who were used to thrive and ideate in a highly energised environment was forced to work from home, with their colleagues and friends reduced to a static image on a call. The desk banter moved on to WhatsApp groups and calls on Microsoft Teams became an opportunity to catch up. One kind of routine made way for another. Work from home also brought in its own set of challenges where people were managing work, home and in many cases parental duties. As the COVID cases soared, there were also the mounting worries of the well-being of family and friends. The kind voices of the internal response

team helped allay fears. Apart from physical health, the mental well-being of all colleagues became a priority so that they are able to manage a healthy work-life balance.

- Internal call tree initiated by HR for involving all managers to check on the well being of their teammates as many were stuck away from their homes coping with the fear of virus and work.
- Mera Mitra was a weekly free counseling session by certified Counselling Psychologist, Shweta Verma to ease anxiety, stress, and fear faced by many employees during pandemic and virtual work.
- Virtual hangouts and festivals were being celebrated by every department to connect

with their colleagues and teammates for fun, celebration, and more beyond work.

- An internal Response team was constituted at the National Support Office (NSO) and at states during COVID to support all employees with all medical needs ranging from doctor consultations, counseling, testing arrangements, oxygen support, hospitalization, medicines, and non-medical needs like food and overall well-being. Employees in need, identified via daily wellness calls were supported with information, logistic support, procedural formalities on a case-to-case basis. The team also included two in-house doctors for consultation and a counselor onboard for mental health support.

IN FOND MEMORY OF...



Umendra Verma

Umendra Verma succumbed to COVID-19 on the morning of 1 May 2021. He was a Fundraising Manager at Save the Children, working relentlessly to drive funds and support for the cause of India's most deprived children.

Umendra was known for his kindness and cheerful demeanour. He was a committed professional and was passionate for the noble cause he worked for, the cause of India's children. He understood the meaning of the word "team" and made valuable contributions to the organisation's work for children. His work at Save the Children will not be forgotten.



Dr Sudeep Singh Gadok

One of the cherished members of Save the Children family, Dr Sudeep Singh Gadok passed away on 8 June 2021. Till his last breath, he fought valiantly against COVID-19 and even kept everyone engaged from his ICU ward through social media. Dr Gadok served as Save the Children's Director of Programmes from 2013 to 2016.

He was an articulate Save the Children representative within India, our global movement as well as the external world. Under his leadership, Save the Children, India had positioned itself to receive global recognition. We cannot thank him enough for the valuable contribution he made to the organisation tirelessly.



Ambarish Rai

Ambarish Rai, the National Convener of The Right to Education Forum, passed away on 23 April, 2021. As an ardent advocate for the discriminated and marginalised sections, Ambarish played a vital role in demanding the fundamental Right to Education which led to the 86th Constitutional Amendment in 2002 making education a fundamental right in India. Since 2010, Ambarish has led the Right to Education Forum with the singular vision and commitment to work towards achieving the goal of equitable and quality education for all children through the realisation of the Right to Education Act, 2009.

Save the Children has had the privilege and opportunity to play a foundational and instrumental role in facilitating the formation of the Forum since 2010. Since then, Ambarish has been Save the Children's long-standing partner and supporter for the cause for children.

“

EMPLOYEE SPEAK

Caring from the Frontline

“After we received the clearances, we had 30 minutes to enter the red zone for distribution of essentials. On the one hand, I could see my one-year-old son and wife, and on the other, those helpless children and families who were waiting for us to come with rations after days of starvation. Along with the inner challenges, the mandatory Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits are external ones that you can't ignore. They make you feel extremely hot on the field and your movements are restricted. I had sweat trickling down my glasses, which made it difficult for me to see around. Despite these problems, of all my humanitarian experiences, I feel this is still the most unique.”

Rahul Raja Sharma, Jammu office

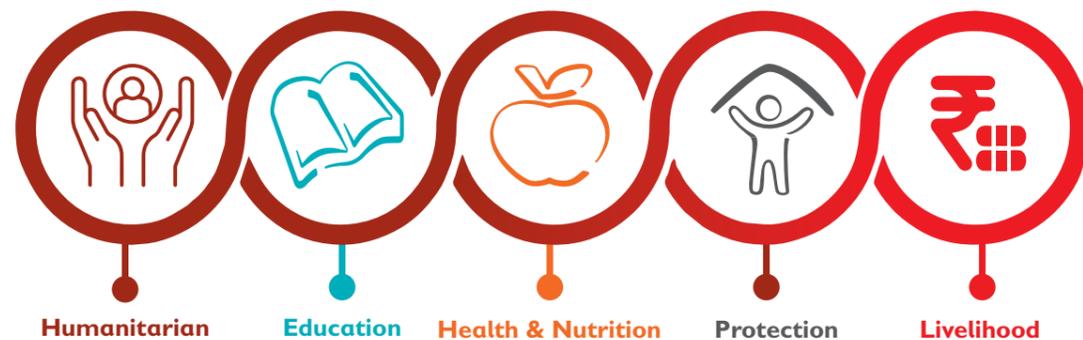
(He is leading the Save the Children on-ground response in Jammu and Kashmir)

”



OUR KEY FOCUS AREAS FOR CARING. SHARING. PREPARING

With the pandemic necessitating reprioritisation of goals and targets, we, at Save the Children, have identified the following key metrics for focused and timely intervention.



Driven by our shared goals, and led by our collective efforts, we adopted an Integrated and Innovative approach across each of these five key focus areas to help children overcome the physical, mental and emotional impact of the pandemic. Our approach is centered around:



Innovation

Embedding Artificial Intelligence, Behavioural Insights and Development Technology into programming and advocacy



Delivery Platform

Using technology-enabled, cost-efficient, information and communication led platforms for program delivery



Humanitarian Preparedness

Going in for investment in localisation, urban humanitarian response models, standard processes.



Evidence-based Quality Programing

Creating new knowledge for effective child rights programs amid COVID, backed by stronger in-house research capability



SHARING RESOURCES TOWARDS A HUMAN RESPONSE

Being humane is integral to Save the Children's ideology and an inherent component of its philosophy. The pandemic inspired us to further sharpen our humanitarian focus, causing us to strengthen our systems, processes and tools to help children alleviate their COVID-induced vulnerabilities and challenges. Concurrently, we further strengthened our thrust on facilitating children fight the effects of natural disasters such as floods and cyclones.

Going beyond humanitarian relief

As India remained morally committed to reduce the risk of the COVID infection, the humanitarian crisis that the deprivation wreaked continued to grow. The pandemic was much bigger than a health emergency - it resulted in the complete collapse of public systems, leading to suspension of nutrition, health and education services that are often the only hope for the ones living on the edge. People belonging to low socio-economic backgrounds, who were largely dependent upon Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Midday meals and Public Distribution System (PDS) for their nutrition, were left to fend for themselves.

In this backdrop, understanding children's rights became even more imperative, leading us to expand the horizons of our response beyond humanitarian relief. We adopted a multi-pronged strategy to strengthen the systems, and reached out directly to more than one lakh people with dry ration, milk, food and health items. At the same time, we focused our efforts towards strengthening of systems in the intervention areas by leveraging our relationships with key departments and community platforms. The interventions were focused on ensuring the continuation of services for vulnerable groups, including new and pregnant mothers, newborns, infants and adolescents.

SHARPENING OUR HUMAN RESPONSE IN CRISIS TIMES



Children Benefitted During Natural Disasters & Covid





Responding to the Food Crisis in Rural India

One of the fallouts of the COVID containment measures, including the closure of primary schools and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs), was that children in rural India were denied one guaranteed school meal, potentially worsening an already 'severe' malnutrition problem in the country. Though the central government had directed the states to make sure that children do not suffer from the lockdown, the ground reality was different. Families ran out of ration and groceries, and were left to fend for themselves, with no economic or livelihood support. Save the Children galvanised the supply and demand sides through close coordination with the ICDS departments in the intervention areas. We also mobilised communities to demand and advocate Take Home Ration (THR) services. Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) in Bihar, Jharkhand, Maharashtra distributed THR packets to households identified as priority by Save the Children.



From Food to Livelihood & More!

The image of a construction labourer sobbing uncontrollably by a roadside in Delhi, distraught at not being able to reach home to see his son before he died, became one of the defining images of the migrant exodus triggered by the nationwide lockdown imposed in the wake of the COVID outbreak. Rampukar Pandit's story was the story of lakhs of people who lost their food and livelihood sources during the pandemic.

We adopted a diversified but cohesive responsive approach to help people cope, recover and rebuild from the pandemic. The strategy focused on food security and livelihood support through direct distribution of relief, and through system strengthening to ensure continuity of essential services at the community level. The immediate challenges varied from one state to another, ranging from lack of food security and need for livelihood support, to protection issues for children with a high incidence of child labour, trafficking and child marriage. The migrant families were thrown off the social security net due to lack of identity documents, etc. Many of the families did not have cash to sustain themselves beyond a day.

 **90,000**
Families supported with food and non-food items



Save the Children's **hundred years of global humanitarian commitment** and expertise was put to test as the frontline staff battled the fear of contracting the virus while responding to the call of duty.



A 360-degree approach towards service continuation was ensured through appropriate alternative support systems.

- In Telangana, tie-ups with the local auto drivers were consolidated to ensure safe institutional delivery for the women among the migrant community, Internally Displaced Person (IDPs) and the target communities. These auto drivers were given special permission to ferry women to health

centres for safe delivery, anti-natal and pre-natal check-up etc. We also deployed local mobilisers or attendees, identified from the community, to accompany the women to the healthcare centres.

- In Badwani district of Madhya Pradesh, we supported local and district administrations for centralised door-to-door supply of food grains through technical support at the COVID control room, where food packets and dry rations were collected from volunteers and distributed to needy families.
- In Bihar and Jharkhand, regular follow-up, advocacy and consultation with the ICDS departments ensured door-to-door immunisation, and we ensured visits by



Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANMs) and Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) workers to continue immunisation support package for new mothers and infants in households. As a result of our constant advocacy with the ICDS, Bihar, for integration of migrant children under ICDS, the state government's Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) core committee notified inclusion of migrant children in AWCs in August 2020.

- In Gumla, Jharkhand, we mounted an exclusive response for migrants on the move by installing distribution kiosks along the Jharkhand-Chhattisgarh border. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with the Jharkhand government to support migrants stuck across Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal with food, shelter, medicines and other essentials from the state.
- In Maharashtra, through collaboration with ICDS, our team organised THR distribution for pregnant women, lactating mothers and adolescents.
- In Rajasthan, during a meeting with Chief Minister in June 2020, we advocated livelihood for migrant workers, as well as education and nutrition of migrant children, along with safe crèche facilities for children of Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) workers. It resulted in clearance of social protection scheme backlog, and consideration of more work opportunities for MGNREGS workers.

- We launched mental health, psychosocial support and general wellbeing checks for the community through tele-calling in states like Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh. These platforms were also used for creating awareness on respiratory hygiene, handwashing and social distancing among the community. The service was extended for FLWs like ASHA, ANMs, AWWs and Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members, to help them continue delivery of essential services to the community.
- Our psychosocial helpline 'Ummeed', launched in collaboration with Rajasthan State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (RSCPCR), received an average of 80 anxious calls per day.
- At the national level, we submitted recommendations to the Parliament Standing Committee on Labour Law on the Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code, which was tabled in the Monsoon Session of the Parliament in June 2020. One key recommendation was the inclusion of a separate section on interstate migrant workers.
- In addition to Government players, our human response received support from various private entities such as ITC Foods Limited, which supported distribution of fortified milk packets for a month during lockdown in the urban slums of Kolkata. A total of 16,500 packets of milk were distributed

Preparing Communities To Combat Collateral Damage

COVID, that seemed like a health emergency initially, reversed all progress we had made over the years in critical areas like menstrual health, access to nutritional meals, access to safety nets, etc. Women and girls across India found it difficult to manage their periods, as supplies ceased soon after the lockdown. As sanitary pads were not included in the government's list of essential items, pharmacies began to quickly run out of stocks. Schools that play a central role in distributing pads to young girls remained shut and on-and-off lockdowns made it difficult for those outside cities to stock up on pads. Rural women, who often have to travel to the nearest town to purchase sanitary products, had to switch to homemade unhygienic solutions such as cloth rags.

Save the Children activated community groups to push for, and demand what they rightly deserve. At the same time, women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and Girls' Federations were activated to produce sanitary pads. Besides handling the crisis, this also created livelihood opportunities through market linkages. Partnerships were forged with statutory bodies, such as Uttar Pradesh SCPCR and Delhi SCPCR, for reaching out to more than a lakh girls with sanitary napkins and hygiene kits. Hygiene and



2,000

Girls trained in pad-making in Bihar, Odisha, Assam, Rajasthan



50

Intervention districts where sanitary pads were distributed

dignity kits were also distributed in Maharashtra. To ensure access to sanitary pads, two sanitary napkin banks were created in Bihar.

Along with ground activations, a digital movement was built on menstrual hygiene to draw attention and action for this unnoticed fallout. The movement online was joined by artist ambassadors like **Dia Mirza, Twinkle Khanna**, and celebrities like **Neha Dhupia, Shehnaz Treasury** and **Soha Ali Khan**. Youth advocate from Odisha, Shalini Sahu, launched a social media movement to challenge the stigma around menstrual hygiene through poetry. Campaign partners YUVA, a socially conscious youth media and community engagement organisation that aims to empower young Indians, and Youth Ki Awaaz - a user-generated media platform on social justice issues, joined the call for challenging the taboo.



VOLUNTEER SPEAK

Going extra miles

“That night I was so disturbed when one of the girls, with whom I have been working under ‘Marriage No Child’s Play’ project of Save the Children, called me. She was complaining of severe complications due to non-availability of sanitary pads amid lockdown. The very next morning, I contacted several AWWs to check if they had stocks of sanitary napkins. They all answered in the negative. **I was really upset, thinking about the 300 girls belonging to that village.** I put on my mask and gloves, and carried a pack of sanitizers to the village where I got the girls to sign an application addressed to the Sub-divisional Magistrate (SDM). Thereafter, I approached the SDM but, to my disappointment, he refused to help us. I then met the Community Health Centre (CHC) head of Osian village. It took a few hours of negotiation to persuade him to give a carton of sanitary napkins, but there was no vehicle to dispatch them. **I decided to use my scooty, driving 28 kms. to collect the pads and hand them over to the needy girls.**”

....Renu

(She works as Cluster Coordinator under Marriage No Childs Play Project run by Save the Children and the Urmul Trust in Osian block, Jodhpur, Rajasthan. She works with our partner NGO to support community and adolescents through training to girls on their health rights, mobilisation around menstrual hygiene, and other critical issues.)



Battling Natural Disasters

Aggravating the crisis triggered by COVID was a spate of climate emergencies that struck the states of West Bengal, Odisha, Maharashtra, Assam and Bihar during the year. While Assam and Bihar faced annual floods, states like West Bengal, Odisha and Maharashtra were deluged by the impact of Cyclone Amphan and Nisarga respectively.

Metropolitan cities like Kolkata (West Bengal) and Mumbai (Maharashtra), housing a large population of street children, saw such children rendered homeless overnight, and also pushed back to face the reasons that had forced them to leave their homes in the first place.

In West Bengal, the districts of South 24 and North 24 Paraganas -- two of the worst cyclone-hit districts, are hotspots of trafficking. With all the resources dedicated towards saving lives and livelihood, children were left exposed to predators looking for opportunities to exploit their economic adversity. Our



3,50,838

Girls directly reached through Humanitarian interventions



3,37,582

Boys directly reached through Humanitarian interventions



+11K

Households reached with Humanitarian support for Amphan and COVID



15,120

Families in WB reached during Cyclone Amphan



35K

Reached (directly/indirectly) with Livelihood for cyclone-hit community



humanitarian response team in West Bengal reached the most affected districts (North and South 24 Paraganas, including the areas around Sunderbans) in a record 72 hours. A need assessment was undertaken, followed by immediate distribution of food and hygiene kits. The response was led by our local partners along with community support, spearheaded by our firebrand youth and child champions Mamata Sardar and Anoyara Khatun.

In Mumbai, flooding aggravated the living conditions of lakhs of slum-dwellers who were already enduring the convulsions of the pandemic. The children not only needed food but support in the form of security, empowerment and psychosocial first-aid, among others.

With every humanitarian challenge, Save the Children's commitment to the last child has emerged stronger. Guided by children and a team of true humanitarians, we remain dedicated to recover and rebuild stronger.

Seeing New Opportunities in FCRA Amendment 2020

"We did not know what we were doing the next day. We were rendered jobless overnight," said Ashutosh (name changed), a community worker from Bihar. He and many like him had

been toiling for decades in the community to see the change that bigger NGOs like Save the Children aspire for. However, overnight, the FCRA Amendment 2020 jolted this family of more than 70 partners spread across 12 states, without whom the smaller NGOs were non-existent. The FCRA Bill, introduced in Lok Sabha on September 2020, severely impacted collaborative work in critical fields in India, as organisations receiving foreign funds were no longer able to transfer them to small implementing NGOs working at the grassroots level. Our ongoing foreign-funded projects had to be paused on disbursal, despite the best efforts of our own and partner staff. But the ongoing COVID response could not have waited, as the communities were already on the brink. "It's the faith that this on-ground workforce had in us which kept us afloat. Our compliances took time and we could not credit their salaries for two months, and yet they stood by us," said Neeti Singh, HR, Save the Children.

To an employee strength of 350, another 700 people were added over three months, through partners and external hiring, to keep the programs going. The challenges were galore, including documentation, reference checks of each individual, paper work that included contracts and offer letters, among others. The organisational commitment to ensure the wellbeing of every member, however, continued to be non-negotiable. All these new employees, along with their families, were insured to make

sure that their medical care is covered in case they contract the virus.

All the partner staff were oriented and trained, through the child safeguarding protocols, to ensure due diligence. "The interest of every child that the on-ground staff was interacting with was paramount," said Smitha Vadakath, national focal point, Child Safeguarding, Save the Children.

At the same time, the continuously unfolding day-to-day operational challenges added

to the organisational burden. "With the FCRA amendment, all the business relationships ceased; what existed and continued is the interpersonal relationship that we had built over the last decade," said Santanu Chakraborty, Director, Program Implementation. "Internal committees and a core committee were formed within the organisation to look at all aspects of the Act, including implementation, HR issues, donor communication and approvals, finance etc.," said Avinash Singh, Head, Program Management, Save the Children.

The humanitarian relief operations for COVID and Cyclone Amphan, which devastated parts of West Bengal and Odisha in 2020, were in full swing when the FCRA amendment came in.

The police, the community, and partner representatives helped us in transferring our distribution sites to police stations in West Bengal. Crowd management and registrations were facilitated by the entire community, which ensured that we could continue food and ration supply to the most needy despite operational challenges.



“THE CHILDREN OF TODAY WILL MAKE THE INDIA OF TOMORROW. THE WAY WE BRING THEM UP WILL DETERMINE THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY.”

...JAWAHARLAL NEHRU, THE FIRST PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

We, at Save the Children, believe in upholding this ideology and are committed to ensuring the best protection and care for India's marginalised children.



PREPARING THE SOCIETY TO PROTECT ITS CHILDREN

Already vulnerable to abuse, violence and abandonment, India's children faced enhanced risks amid the pandemic crisis, with our rapid assessment showing increase in child sexual abuse, child labour and trafficking, cyber exploitation, forced marriages among young girls etc. Responding with agility to this emerging new crisis, we, at Save the Children, leveraged our understanding and experience in child protection to initiate more targeted interventions in this area.



Psychosocial Support and Case Management
approach customised for training of community cadre in West Bengal and Jharkhand, along with remote guidelines

SOPs developed for Child Care Institutions of Jharkhand on *Testing, Infection, Prevention & Management of Children amid COVID*

Innovative programming amid COVID, with launch of 1st ever UMMEED Helpline in Rajasthan to provide mental health & psycho-social counselling to children

Social Media Campaign on Ending Violence Against Children launched, along with Joining Forces, to amplify public awareness & action - 120 lakh impressions garnered & 70 lakh people reached



31,908
Girls benefitted directly

31,223
Boys benefitted directly

63,131
Total Child Protection Program Reach

Caring through Advocacy



Structured advocacy against **child labour & labour laws relaxation** contributed to roll-back in three states (Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka) and inclusion of technical inputs in NCPCR's guidelines "Prevention of Child trafficking due to COVID-19"



Recommendations included in **Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code, 2020**



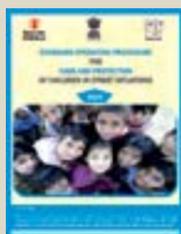
Submitted key recommendations to strengthen implementation of **Mission Vatsalya & Mission POSHAN 2.0** at a ministry level virtual consultation



Invited as member of **NITI Aayog's sub-group** on Child Rights and Child Protection



Child-led advocacy for #Vote4Children with **children manifestoes** submitted to representatives prior to Bihar elections



Released **SoP (2.0) for CiSS**, with NCPCR and SoP shared with PMO as requested, to ensure interventions to address child protection issues in 50 religious towns of India



Photo from pre COVID time

STRONGER COMMUNITY MEANS PROTECTED CHILDREN

Amina (name changed) from West Bengal's South 24 Paraganas hoped to become a fashion designer one day. But her dreams were shattered as a result of the financial crisis that hit her family during the COVID first wave. The Class 8 student dropped out of school to do household chores, and to look after her two brothers and a sister. And when her father, Karim, received a marriage proposal for her, he consented without consulting his wife, Kulsunara Bibi, who happened to be a member of Save the Children initiated Village-Level Child Protection Committee. Kulsunara spoke to Jayanti, a frontline worker associated with Save the Children. Jayanti, along with the village headman, went to Karim and assured him that he would get work when the lockdown ends. He agreed then to not marry off his daughter till she turns 18. Amina, meanwhile, was also counselled on continuing her education and has been engaged in the government's skills development scheme to learn stitching.

Amina's story is not unique. The pandemic has impacted children of all ages, especially those from the poorest regions and those in disadvantaged or vulnerable situations. Stress over unpredictable restrictions, health, food security and income are pushing parents and caregivers to take drastic decisions about their children's future.

the District Administrations and ICPSs in its intervention areas, we, at Save the Children, continue to ensure protection of children, especially those in distress due to the COVID situation. The community cadre is one such human resource that acts as a bridge between the Village-Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPCs) and other relevant stakeholders at the sub-district and district levels to amplify issues of child protection. These cadres are identified and capacitated to work at community level, to organise regular meetings and to ensure child safety and protection.



In Banswara district of Rajasthan, **E-Mitra, Aapke Dwar** – an initiative under Child Rights for Change (CRC 2.0) project, is a

mobile social protection camp to link eligible and potential families with Social Protection Schemes through door-to-door campaigns. A joint venture of the district administration and Save the Children, it facilitated a monitoring mechanism from district to the village levels, and covered 674 villages, reached 13,000 direct and 1 lakh indirect beneficiaries, raising awareness on child rights issues and ways to mitigate them.

Working in close coordination with the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights,

Strengthening community-based child protection mechanisms helps to identify vulnerable children who are either out of school or are on the verge of dropping out, and report these cases safely. These platforms also identify vulnerable cases (orphan, child-led households other reported vulnerabilities) and refer them to statutory bodies at village, district or state levels.



Predators on the prowl

The pandemic and cyclone made the southern part of West Bengal a source of child trafficking. Take the case of 15-year-old Shahida (name changed). Her father's long stretches of unemployment pushed the family to extreme poverty. Away from school, Shahida began spending more time online, where she came in contact with a 24-year-old youth who promised her that he would send her to a good school and persuaded her to elope with him. With the timely intervention of Save the Children's frontline child protection, the "wedding" was stopped and the parents were warned. Girls like Shahida, who are living in extreme poverty, are becoming soft targets for predators online.



Nandana Dev Sen, actor and child rights activist joined as Child Protection ambassador



CHAMPIONS SPEAK

A child's 'tarkeeb'



"I was in fifth standard when I learnt from my friend that she was getting married, her family had convinced her that this was the right thing for her. This made me realise that we needed a mindset shift to discourage such practices against children. In due course, I was invited to meetings conducted by Save the Children, which was working with the children of my community to propel education. I started working with my army of children, and we named ourselves *Tarkeeb* (meaning thought process in Urdu) groups. We would go to households whose children were not going to school. We had multiple counselling sessions with parents, which slowly started yielding results. The children from those families were admitted to schools. From 25 to 50, the journey was a roller coaster, but I knew this was just the beginning. Since then our peer groups, with majority being girls, have been instrumental in motivating parents to send their children to school. **Save the Children have been a supporter, they have enabled us to lead our own causes, and now we are proud to do so.**

...Farhana

(She has been recently featured on the 2021 India Cohort of Ashoka Young Changemakers. Ashoka Young Changemakers is a carefully selected network of young people who have found their power to create change for the good of all and are ready to take on their next big role at a global level.)



When streets became danger zones

With the pandemic necessitating social distancing and people locking themselves indoors for fear of infection, Delhi's bustling roads were suddenly desolate in the lockdown period. Children living on the streets became even more vulnerable to child labour, sexual abuse and trafficking. To tackle the crisis, Save the Children launched SOPs for Children in Street Situations (CISS), in collaboration with the NCPCR, to encourage family as a safety net for a child. Reintegration of children with families, and providing assistance to the families through social protection schemes, is the core agenda of the program, which also strongly advocates convergence of functionaries, institutions/ agencies, as well as the multifarious government

schemes and policies for reintegrating a child into a safe family.

Amplifying the cause further, we launched the first-ever digital exhibition - **Streets to Screen** - to showcase the lives, challenges and solutions for street-connected children. The exhibition depicted stories of 10 children, captured from across the country by former street-connected child and now a world renowned photographer, Vicky Roy. We also partnered with two prominent platforms—Inspiria knowledge campus (an educational institute), and Chennai photo Biennale (a public arts collective), to call the youth to act for children living on the streets.



Recognition through sports

Furthering our commitment to street-connected children, we are getting ready to bring a global platform to India - **The Street Child Cricket World Cup**. In 2023, ahead of the main ICC Cricket World Cup in India, Save the Children, in partnership with Street Child United, will bring teams from 16 countries to participate in the Street Child Cricket World Cup. The inaugural season was played in London in 2019, where Team India South picked up the winning trophy. A partnership with Fitket app also raised awareness on using sports as a medium to mainstream the children on the fringes ahead of the Street Children Cricket World Cup. Going forward, this partnership will release edutainment content like rap song and a walkathon.

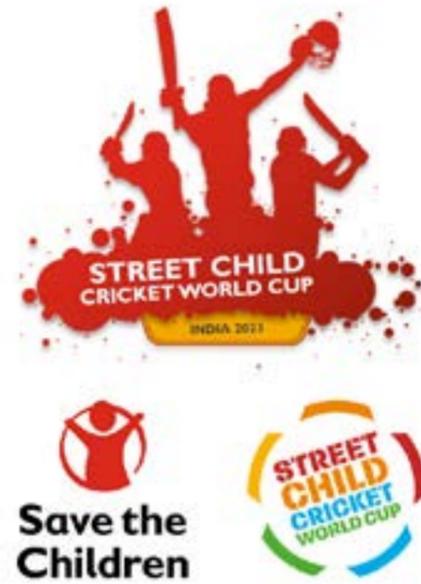


Photo from pre COVID time

Nearly 20 lakh children live on the streets of India. They do not have an identity, a name to call their own, a place to call home; they sleep on empty stomachs for days and for nights. Save the Children, under **#TheInvisibles campaign**, created a dashboard for tracking of street connected children. The dashboard has been adopted by the NCPCR for linking the children living on streets to the social protection schemes. These children have been ensured one legal identity document (Aadhar Card, PAN card, birth certificate etc.), which has enabled them access the social protection net.



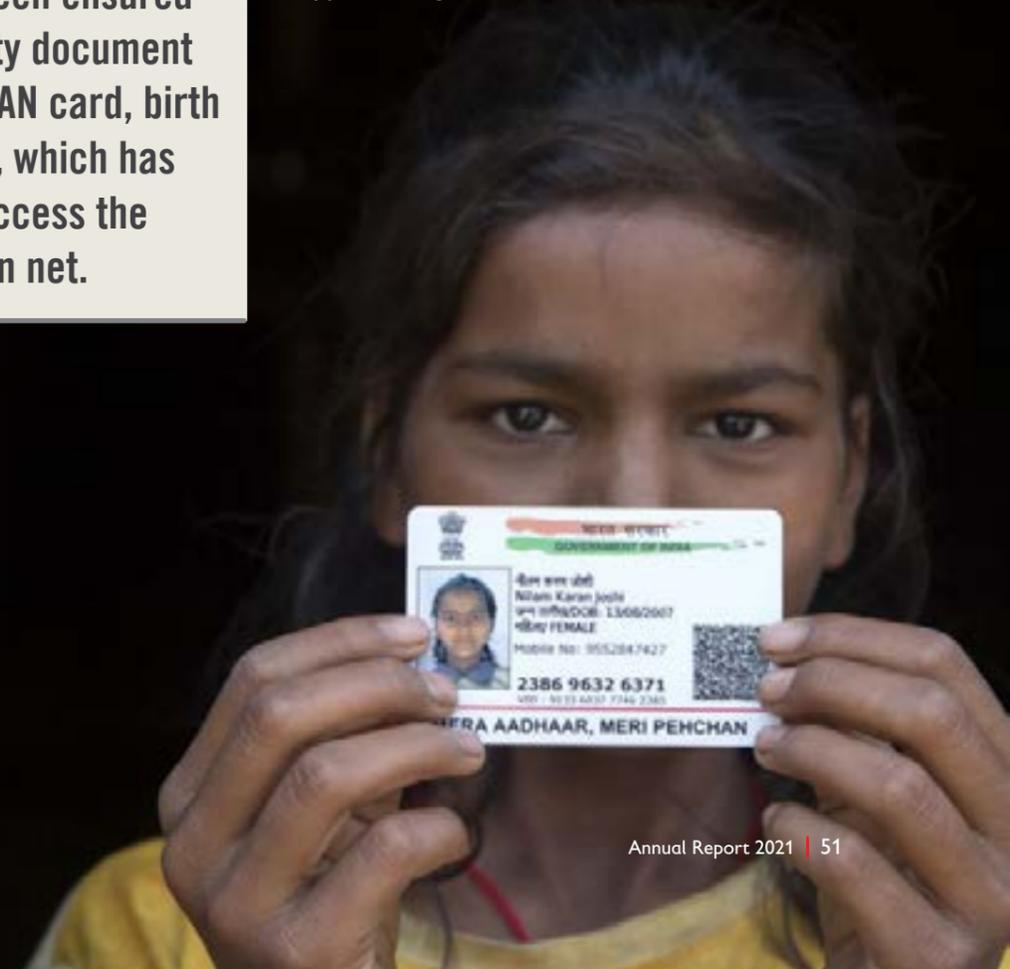
2.5 lakh
Street children facilitated for legal identity



31,223
Children enrolled under social protection

Empowering children-led bodies against child abuse

Save the Children strengthens the VLCPCs at local level by engaging with trained community cadres, gram panchayats, AWWs and children. Most members of these committees are our Child Champions, who actively amplify the security challenges faced by the children of the community to the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU). The children are constantly engaged in platforms like 'Lalita & Babu' sessions, where they are taught to reason, debate and negotiate for their rights, and given life skill trainings which empower them to know and approach legal bodies in case of crisis.



UNSHACKLING CHILDHOOD

Asaad and Firdausi, who worked as seasonal daily labourers in agricultural fields, had always dreamt of educating their children. But financial problems forced their 13-year-old son, Habibullah, a Class 5 student from West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district, to toil in a tailoring shop, away from his books and playmates, in the post lockdown period.

Sima Mal, one of Save the Children's community frontline workers who worked in the same locality, learnt about Habibullah, and immediately reached out to his parents. She counselled the parents and the child on child labour laws and school facilities available to ensure learning continuity. She also accompanied Habibullah to meet his school teacher to ensure that his education doesn't get disrupted. She met his employer, and discussed child protection issues and the child labour law. The village Panchayat was informed, and the VLCPC was requested to keep a vigil on every family where children are vulnerable. Habib is now attending his online classes with the help of his neighbour. "As VLCPC members, we are duty-bound to ensure that every child is safe in the village. I am also trying to ensure work for Habib's elder brother under MGNREGA so that he doesn't have to work as he is still a child," said Swaroop Naskar, Village Headman.

Like Habib, lakhs of children became vulnerable to child labour due to the pandemic. We are working in close coordination with the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, the District Administration and the ICPS to ensure the protection of such children. To ensure and strengthen case management for children in need of care and protection, the intervention areas have community cadres to support, strengthen and ensure the functionality of the VLCPCs. The community cadre acts as a bridge between the VLCPC and other relevant stakeholders at the sub-district and district level to amplify child protection issues. These cadres have been formed at hyper local levels, including panchayats, in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Other initiatives



- To strengthen the community based vigilance system, we collaborated with Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL), a civil society coalition against child labour, in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Delhi.



- In Bihar and Delhi, a joint appeal was made to the state governments for action to prevent and mitigate risks of child labour. After the Uttar Pradesh Government suspended the applicability of labour law in May 2020, we also shared a position paper through CACL, highlighting the possible impact of such a move on children.



- In Banswara, Dungarpur and Udaipur districts of Rajasthan, around 3.6 lakh people in more than 700 villages were covered, under a massive awareness campaign, on the risks of child labour emerging as fallouts of the pandemic. A child-friendly police station was launched in the district.



- The anti-child labour campaign was also extended to the most vulnerable groups, including CiSS. In collaboration with NCPCR, we launched SOP 2.0 for addressing the challenges faced by children living on the streets, aggravated by COVID, in November 2020.



How we created public narratives

The COVID crisis caused children on the streets, children of sex workers, and child abuse survivors to become invisible and forgotten as we remained home. We activated our platforms to remind people of the plight of such children in these difficult times. With a series of webinars, campaigns, innovative storytelling, digital photo exhibition, prime time telethons, social media and digital space, as well as partnerships with content platforms, corporates, media and influencers, we reminded people that this is the time to act.

With COVID lockdown and the migrant crisis taking over national headlines, Save the Children stirred conversation for street children by joining hands with NDTV through a 2-hour telethon to raise funds and awareness on the vulnerabilities being faced by them in the face of the pandemic. Celebrities like Dia Mirza, Neha Dhupia, Konkona Sen Sharma, Huma Qureshi, Tahira Kashyap, Boxer Vijender Singh, Rahul Ram, Captain of India Women's cricket team Mithali Raj, regional actors and artists,



corporates like Nokia, Hewlett Packard, Tata trusts, policymakers, influencers like economist Shiv Kumar, and child champions Nisha, Salman, Lucy, along with many more, pledged their support to children on the streets, who were the most vulnerable and yet remained unnoticed.

₹ 3,00,00,000+
Funds raised through campaign with NDTV

How we made collective accountability count

We collectivised actions through strategic collaboration with CSO coalitions, such as CACL in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi and Shehri Gareeb Vikaas Sangathan in Bihar, to formulate focused action plans against trafficking. The CSO network Shehri Gareeb Vikaas Sangathan, formed as part of Save the Children's Urban Resilience Program in Patna, acted as a strong vigilance platform, with support for key authorities to amplify stories of distress, check misinformation, facilitate easy relief operations, and track cases of black marketing that saw an uncontrolled rise amid lockdown.





“CHILDREN ARE LIVING BEINGS — MORE LIVING THAN GROWN-UP PEOPLE WHO HAVE BUILT SHELLS OF HABIT AROUND THEMSELVES. THEREFORE, IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY FOR THEIR MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT THAT THEY SHOULD NOT HAVE MERE SCHOOLS FOR THEIR LESSONS, BUT A WORLD WHOSE GUIDING SPIRIT IS PERSONAL LOVE.”

**...RABINDRANATH TAGORE, POET,
WRITER & SOCIAL REFORMER**

The need for nurturing the mental health and development of children, along with their education, became more imperative during the pandemic. In response, we, at Save the Children, raised the bar of our intervention even higher, to ensure the best possible healthcare and learning continuity beyond schools for India's children.

ENSURING LEARNING CONTINUITY

Our internal and external assessments showed us the extent of devastation caused to children as a result of the unexpected disaster unleashed by COVID. Education became a critical area requiring urgent and impactful intervention. Based on our rapid assessment, we found that discontinuation of children's education was reported by three-fifth (62 percent) of the surveyed households, with the highest number recorded in north India at 64 percent and the least in south India at 48 percent. At Save the Children, we reached out to the most vulnerable of children across the country through targeted programs.

The programs included

- *Gulmohar* ECD curriculum developed for home-based learning during COVID, formally vetted through peer review process, and implemented in 5 intervention states, reaching more than 6000 parents till date.
- Ensured safe return to AWCs & schools through enrollment of 12000 children & by providing learning continuity support for 32000 children during school closure across 10 program states.
- Shiksha Baithak converted into a virtual platform for academic support for teacher professional development and learning

support to children.

Educating through Advocacy

- Advocated successfully for government order issued in Bihar for **enrollment of children** who have returned to villages, and influenced advisory of SCPCR on online teaching for children not having technology access in Rajasthan.
- Guidelines on **safe re-opening of schools and AWCs** shared with the Ministry of Education (MoE), Women and Child

Development (WCD) Dept., NCPCR and SCPCRs.

- Advocated for inclusion of **children of migrant families** in ICDS services at ECCE Core Committee in Bihar.
- Director WCD, Karnataka, launched Save the Children's "**Gulmohar**" curriculum & guidelines on safe return of children to AWCs.



70,382

Girls benefitted directly



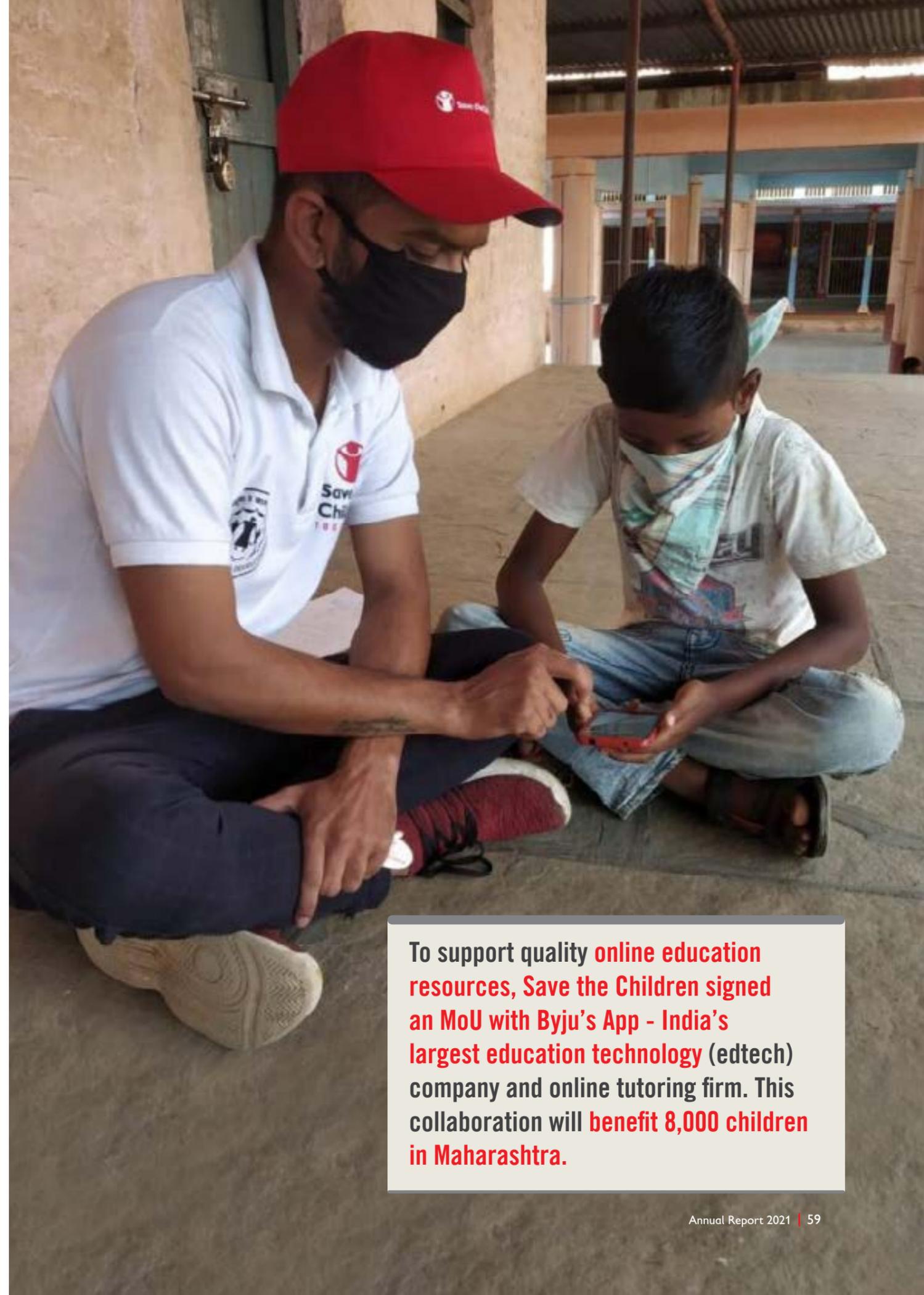
66,062

Boys directly benefitted



1,36,444

Children reached through Education programs



To support quality online education resources, Save the Children signed an MoU with Byju's App - India's largest education technology (edtech) company and online tutoring firm. This collaboration will benefit 8,000 children in Maharashtra.



Photo from pre COVID time

Sharing community learning opportunities

With the COVID scare bringing school education to a grinding halt, ensuring learning continuity for those with little or no access to digital education became a massive challenge. Our Rapid Needs Assessment study, conducted in 2020 to understand the challenges on the priority areas in view of COVID across 15 states, showed that children in about 62 percent households discontinued their education amid the Coronavirus outbreak.

To plug the gap, we initiated a unique program involving the development of Save the Children Learning Resource Centres, to bring learning to the doorsteps of such children. There are seven such learning centres currently in operation in Kokada and Lasadiya gram panchayats of Bhim block in Rajsamand district of Rajasthan. Supported by the local communities, which are providing space and other amenities, these centres are helping ensure adherence to a routine for children. “The unpreparedness of the system to deal with the pandemic led to reversal of the Non Formal Education system,”

says Himanshu Shukla, project lead in Rajasthan. These learning centres, for children in 6-12 age group, are multi-activity centres, which not only ensure learning but also help children with orientation on several other developmental issues, including sanitation and hygiene, protection etc.

In another initiative, we repurposed our Sanjhi Siksha project in the COVID context, building the centres from the scratch with the help of the community. Supported by L&T, the project was originally aimed at creating centres in government schools and Anganwadi centres. From community members offering balconies and terraces, to community volunteers gathering children and community members, these learning centres have emerged as an alternative to schools at community level. The program design focuses on both curricular and co-curricular aspects, enabling a child to get access to quality education and reach full potential, while strengthening community mechanisms to aid school preparedness in children.

Gulmohar – A Low-Tech Solution for Learning Continuity

Bhayashree’s son regularly went to the nearest Anganwadi learning centre in Hiremuddenahalli, Karnataka, before the pandemic. But the lockdown led to closure of all schools, forcing students to shift to online classes. Bhayashree, like many others, found herself struggling to ensure her son’s education as she didn’t know what and how to teach her son.

The pandemic called for re-imagination and re-alignment of education to address the new educational challenges. That was the genesis of Save the Children’s Gulmohar model. Designed as a low-tech solution to take learning to the doorstep of the most marginalised children, it connects Anganwadi workers, teachers and parents through regular calls, WhatsApp groups and SMS services. It has a pool of activities which helps parents with tools and tips to keep children in the 3-6 age group engaged at home, using household items like fruits and vegetables. Age-appropriate early literacy and numeracy support is provided through this program, using two-way

communication process, involving a caregiver sharing a video demonstrating the activity followed by a reflection session at the end of the week.

With this, Bhayashree, and many like her, were finally able to ensure that their children’s education was not disrupted.

Developed and reviewed in-house, the Early Childhood Development Framework was launched by Karnataka Women & Child Development Department and is set for scale-up by the Jharkhand government’s Education Department.



21,000
Children reached through Gulmohar



Preparing Children with Self-Learning Kits

Save the Children conceptualised an age segregated (3-6 and 6-14 years) self-learning kit as a first step towards restoration of education continuity during institutional closures. These kits have reached 16,000 children in Delhi, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Rajasthan. They contain age-appropriate play-based learning material and a parent guidebook on kit usage. The learning material and guidebooks are available in local languages, and are mindful of the cultural sensibilities, inclusiveness, age suitability and gender sensitivity. The kit has child-friendly information on how to stay safe and healthy, besides a set of two reusable masks and hand sanitizer. A school bag, water bottle, a hand towel, a set of crayons, a sketchbook, and a poster explaining how children can stay safe and healthy and protect themselves, are included.

Other Initiatives

- We partnered with the Directorate of School Education in Telangana to print and publish subsidised text books for 10,000 children from marginalised families, enabling us to cut printing/publishing costs by INR 8.9 lakh. Early learning workbooks were also printed and published for Anganwadi centres.
- After Rajasthan government issued guidelines on the Right to Education exempting private schools from 25 percent quota for EWS (Economically Weaker Section) students, we filed an appeal to the state government for protection of rights of children for quality preschool education, in collaboration with 25 NGOs and 3 civil society networks, including Right to Education Forum, Rajasthan Bal Adhikar Sanrakshan and Sanjha Abhiyan. Acting on a PIL filed by an NGO, a division bench of Rajasthan High Court has sought a response from the Government of Rajasthan on the new guidelines.

- Save the Children won the fifth edition of the HCL Grant Award, worth Rs. 5 crore, to support a safe learning environment in schools of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir (J&K).
- In collaboration with the Telangana State Portal School Education, we conducted a special program focused on inclusion and safety at schools on TSAT, a satellite-based communication network run by the state government to interact with headmasters and teachers. The initiative has reached 43,000 head teachers and around 8 lakh children.
- Save the Children is the technical partner with the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), and State Education Departments across seven Indian states .

#AllyUpForHer-Securing Girl's Education



The pandemic-induced long school closure has led to the emergence of a global education crisis, with 32 crore learners across the world being affected. In India, where the education system already exhibits a stark gender gap, 1 crore girls are at the risk of never going back to school. Save the Children's #AllyUpForHer campaign, calling for by-stander action for girl's safety, has been advocating for actions for education of these girls, whose future remains shrouded in uncertainty. Planned from 1 June 2021 (International Children's Day) till 8 September 2021 (International Literacy Day), this '100 Days of ACTION' - a campaign milestone, urges leaders and policy makers to save education and protect the generation of learners. The campaign has been endorsed by other civil society entities like Breakthrough, Sayfty, Red Dot Foundation, RTE Forum and Centre for Social Research, along with public figures, political leaders and influencers.



CARING FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH

With the pandemic overwhelming the country's health infrastructure, marginalised children found themselves among the worst hit in terms of health and nutrition. Our rapid assessment found that close to two-fifth of the households reported that their children did not receive mid-day meals. The assessment also found that 40 percent people were not able to provide adequate meals and eight out of 10 households reported loss of income. Ensuring medical, health and nutrition support for such children became a priority for Save the Children amid this crisis, which adversely impacted the most vulnerable sections of the society.

Our interventions in this area include

- Nomination as part of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) technical expert group for revision of Facility Based Newborn Care guidelines
- Save the Children's piloted program intervention Nutrition Care & Counselling Session, for addressing malnutrition, was scaled up in all 1,670 AWCs of Gumla district, Jharkhand
- 1st ever Pneumonia Skill lab inaugurated in Tonk, Rajasthan; state government plans to establish similar skill labs in all districts, along with an IVRS platform 'PNEUMO-VAANI', to create awareness on childhood pneumonia
- Innovative adaptations launched with m-Health toolkit COVID IVRS state toll-free numbers & Rapid Emergency Training Solution app for capacity building of health workers

Supporting healthcare through Advocacy

- Launched **SAANS campaign** on childhood pneumonia in partnership with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare & UNICEF
- Drafted guidelines on '**Continuing Community-based management of**

acute malnutrition (CMAM) during COVID Outbreak', resulting in issuance of orders by 4 states

- Extension of Save the Children's existing Statement of Intent (Sol) with Niti Aayog for **Aspirational District Program** for 2021-23 on health & nutrition
- NITI Aayog requested **technical inputs & support in implementation of 2 nutrition programs** - Intensified *Nutrition Package* for all 112 aspirational districts & *Anemia Mukh Bharat* for aspirational districts of Jharkhand



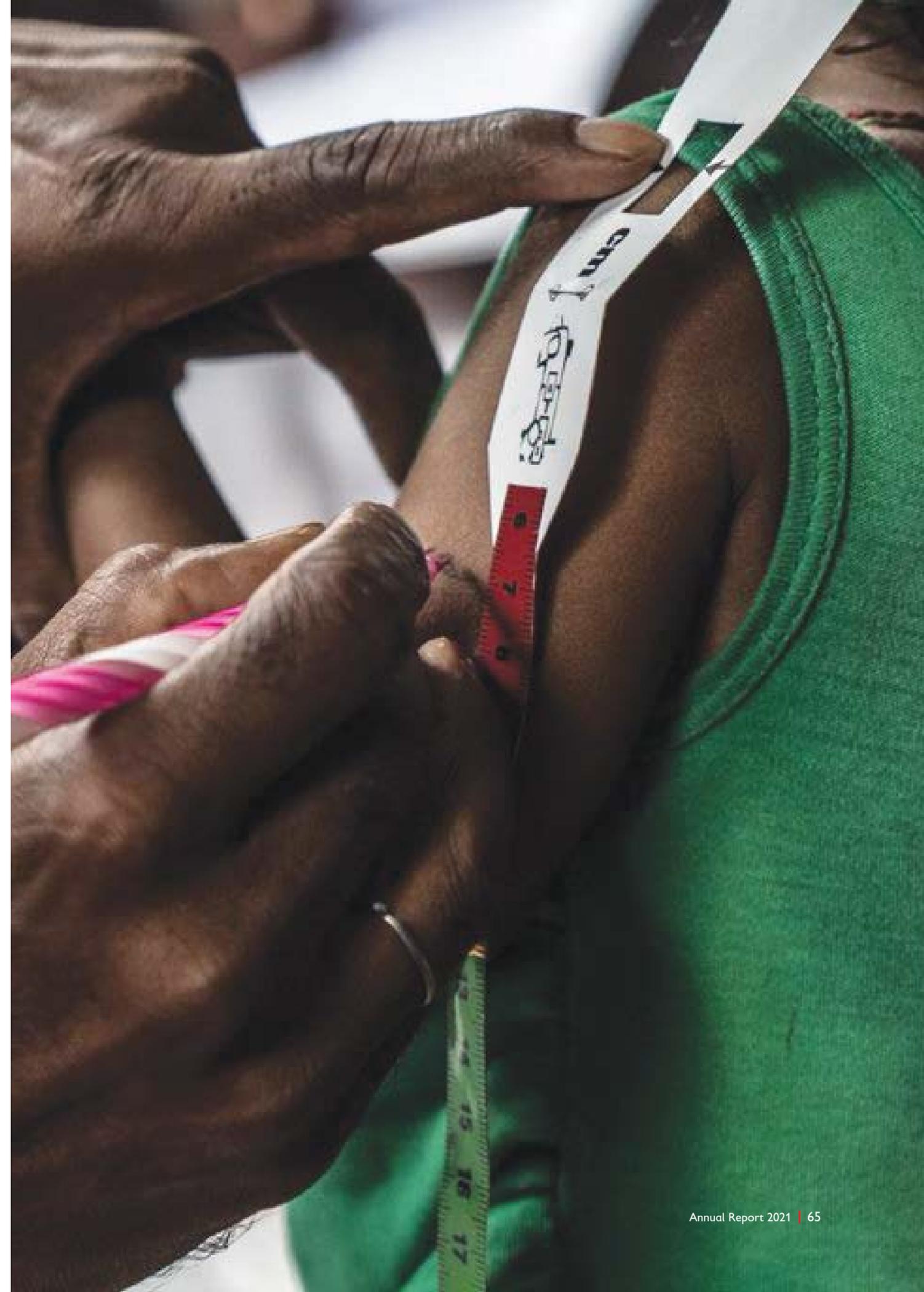
1,74,963
Children reached in the area of Health & Nutrition



90,933
Girls positively impacted



84,030
Boys positively impacted



Ensuring Nutritional support – POSHAN MAAH

Closure of public supply centres, including AWCs, led to unforeseen nutritional challenges for new and pregnant mothers. We promoted sustainable nutritious solutions among children and mothers across regions with our Poshan Maah campaign and World Breastfeeding Week. Children and adults were covered with household sensitisation for pregnant and lactating mothers, with messaging on the importance of first 1,000 days nutritional plan for infants, food intake mandates for new and pregnant mothers etc, led by FLWs. Community platforms, including mothers, children and adolescent groups, were mobilised by engaging with AWWs, Anganwadi Helpers and ASHA workers in West Bengal, Jharkhand, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

To gather evidence of local and sustainable diet options to handle malnutrition, Cost of Diet Study, launched by Save the Children in September 2020, underscores that nutrition-sensitive Government programs, such as PDS, THR and Iron Folic Acid Supplementation, etc., have the potential to reduce the cost

of the nutritious diet by 30 percent. The study is based on data collected from West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand, where we are implementing an integrated health, nutrition and child development program, supporting the Government of India and NITI Aayog's Aspirational District Programs.



500 children



1,363 adults
Covered under Poshan Maah at 5 locations in Delhi

In addition, E-rickshaw campaigns were conducted in West Bengal, while 326 community members and 72 government workers were reached in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. Nutrition Meetings were organised in 50 AWCs. As many as 553 parents, 50 AWWs, 46 Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) and 50 ASHA workers have been reached in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.



Networking for Child & Maternal Nutrition

The lockdown rendered many families in Delhi's Taimur Nagar area, where most residents are daily wage earners, unemployed. Adults in families with more than two children were starving, and nobody knew where the next round of ration would come from. **Nisha**, a Save the Children youth champion from the neighbourhood, was losing her sleep over this food crisis. Her family was also struggling to make ends meet, but there were families poorer than them. With no respite in sight, she called up Save the Children for support. She and her father, with ration provided by Save the Children, distributed food grains and staples to around 20 houses in her locality, except her own. Her family was also subsequently supported by our team for ration supply.

In Bihar, around 1,000 families in Kharsa village did not have food grains for a week. Most of the families of daily wage workers did not have ration cards—even when they had, the home state ration cards were not acceptable in the host states. **Gayatri**, a 17-year-old youth champion who belongs to the same village in Riga block of Sitamarhi district of Bihar, became their saviour.

Child champions like Nisha in Delhi, Gayatri in Bihar, and Murshida in Kolkata spearheaded the movement across states, emerging as true Samaritans and advocates. While Nisha delivered our relief materials packages in every household in Delhi's Taimur Nagar, Murshida, another child champion in Kolkata, distributed milk packets supported by ITC foods every morning in the urban slums.



16,500

Milk packets distributed in 30 days in Kolkata



Activating Nutrition Care

Despite the Government's directives to continue PDS services and ensure doorstep delivery of ration during lockdown, systemic gaps had crippled access for the poor. Over 1,97,000 children and 83,000 households were thrown off the social security grid due to disruption of services caused by the lockdown, as per Save the Children report. We activated children and community groups in more than 15 states, to act as a bridge between the community and the service delivery platforms, including government schemes and NGOs.

Community volunteers also largely supported the identification of needy families for food



5,14,924

People reached through distribution of food ration, temporary shelter, hygiene, dignity items

distribution by the COVID control room in Badwani district of Madhya Pradesh, controlled by Save the Children. In close coordination with ICDS departments, the AWWs in Bihar, Jharkhand and Maharashtra distributed THR packets to households identified as priority.



CHAMPIONS SPEAK

Protecting from hunger



“Today I felt like a true champion. My village people did not go to sleep hungry, as they had their rations distributed at their doorstep. And while I write this page of my diary, I recall how nervous I was when I was asked during a TV interview as to how I mustered the courage to write a letter to the district magistrate. The fact is I was motivated by my love for my people, and by the courage I gathered from knowing my own rights.

I am a 17-year-old from Kharsa village in Bihar. The COVID outbreak and the subsequent lockdown had been taking a toll on us. Our household, and many others from my village, had run out of ration as we did not have any food grain supply under the PDS for two months. I called the PRI members and the PDS dealers to resolve the issue, but they said that distribution will lead to breakdown of social distancing norms.

I knew they were depriving us from our right to the essentials as the Government had asked them to ensure the same even during the lockdown. I got in touch with Save the Children project team, who guided me to prepare a list of families which did not have food grains at their homes. I, along with the ward members, created a list of 950 such families.

Save the Children partner NGO helped me send a demand letter to the district magistrate, Abhilasha Kumari Sharma, indicating a clear violation of government directives to ensure supply of food grains. The next day, the Supply Inspector, Circle Officer, Pramukh and Block Development Officer arrived for an inspection at my village. All families with and without ration cards were enlisted by the officials. And soon, truckloads of ration arrived, and were distributed to the families.”

...Gayatri Kumari

(She is a child champion under the Marriage No Child's Play (MNCP) project in Riga block of Sitamarhi district in Bihar. The project works with girls' groups in villages to build their capacity on life skills, financial literacy etc., to empower them to negotiate for their rights on appropriate platforms.)



Health First, Always

Even before the pandemic, malnutrition among children posed a huge challenge to their development. In addition to the threat of COVID infection, lockdown restrictions led to food insufficiency as a result of loss of income and livelihood. Further, vulnerable and marginalised households had trouble accessing healthcare and medical support.

In this backdrop, ASHA and AWWs emerged as messiahs for many poor women, especially new mothers and pregnant women. Forty-one-year-old Pawan Devi was one such woman, who reached out to the community during the pandemic to spread awareness on management practices and prevention of nutritional disorders, besides promoting the government's family planning services through counselling. Having moved from Bihar to Delhi after early marriage, Pawan later managed to complete high school and senior secondary education. She started work as a community health volunteer to set an example for her five children and later became an ASHA. Today, one of her kids is a chartered accountant and another is pursuing training to join the Civil Defence. Refusing to stay in the safety of her home during the pandemic, she, with training from the Government and Save the Children, counselled pregnant women and new mothers on timely vaccination, IFA (Iron/Folic Acid tablet) and the risks of home-based delivery. Under the Rural India Supporting Trust project, her work entailed meeting with the community members and supporting them to register and get vaccination, and promoting awareness on safety measures for pregnant women.

Like Pawan Devi, ASHA and AWWs across the country were risking the pandemic to perform their duties through the year.

We, at Save the Children, ensured continuum of healthcare by improving linkages between facility and community care. Use of technology to link families with their respective ASHA and ANM workers created shared accountability and helped equip frontline health workers to provide timely and tailored care to their most vulnerable clients.

Other initiatives

- As a result of our constant advocacy efforts in Bihar, the state government's ECCE Core committee notified that migrant children will be covered under ICDS at the AWC levels.
- Save the Children signed a declaration on tackling pneumonia deaths among under-five children at the Global Childhood Pneumonia Forum held in Barcelona, Spain, in January 2020; The declaration includes a six-point action plan to ensure less than 3 deaths per 1000 newborns by 2030.



13.64 lakhs

Lives touched through ration kits, food items, hygiene kits, learning, awareness drives, psychosocial support



5.57 lakhs

Children benefitted

Preparing frontline workers to handle crisis

As India struggled to ensure sufficient supply of PPE kits to the FLWs, Save the Children rose to support the Corona warriors by distributing such kits through mobilisation of funds amid the lockdown. We identified the FLWs from the health department and ICDS. Amid the improbability of being on the field, all the

supplies were directly sent to the Chief Medical Officer, from where they were distributed to the FLWs. The supplies were also sent to CHCs / Primary Health Centres (PHCs) for distribution at all levels. A total of 1,059 FLWs, including 385 Anganwadi Supervisors, 80 ANMs, 398 ASHA workers, 20 Sanginis and 176 staff at CHCs/PHCs were reached through the process.



“LET US SACRIFICE OUR TODAY SO THAT OUR CHILDREN CAN HAVE A BETTER TOMORROW.”

...APJ ABDUL KALAM, FORMER PRESIDENT OF INDIA

Our commitment to nurturing a better tomorrow for our children is inexorably linked with the choices we make today to ensure livelihood for them, and the investments we make in building technological assets to steer their progress.



INVESTING IN LIVELIHOOD TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE

A shocking 80 percent people reported loss of work/income due to the pandemic, while an equal number reported lack of/limited cash to meet daily expenses, as per our rapid assessment report. The crisis caused 45 percent people to resort to credit/mortgage/loan. Inclusive interventions targeting the poor emerged as a priority agenda at Save the Children.

WE INITIATED SEVERAL IMPACTFUL PROGRAMS IN RESPONSE TO THIS CRISIS



Developed SOPs for scaling of Adolescent & Youth Skilling Program in other geographies and policy brief on Improving Skills for Adolescents and Youth.



Launched E-Mitra mobile drive, linking 6,000 families to social protection schemes and raising awareness for 2 lakh families in collaboration with District Administration, Rajasthan.



Scaled up Save the Children's Palanhar parenting sessions on *Child Sensitive Social Protection Schemes*: Commitment received from Education, ICPS & Child Rights Departments in Dungarpur, Rajasthan.



17,740
Girls helped



15,740
Boys helped



33,480
People reached with our Poverty & Inclusion schemes



Steep Road to Rebuilding Livelihoods

Even as they struggled with the pandemic, the cyclone-prone North and South 24 Parganas and East Midnapore areas of West Bengal were hit by Cyclone Amphan in 2020, soon after the nationwide lockdown was imposed.

The state government reported that about 28.6 lakh houses and 17 lakh hectares of agricultural crops were damaged, estimating the total loss at about INR 1.02 lakh crore. Around the same time, thousands of migrant workers were walking back home, hoping to find employment since jobs had dried up in the cities. Villages in these two districts were already reeling under the first and second waves of the COVID pandemic when Cyclone Yass made its landfall in May 2021. Crops, fishings, livestock etc. were washed away, and the total property loss was pegged at INR 1,000 crores.

The impact has been nothing short of catastrophic. The example of 26-year-old Sabita Sardar, mother of three, is a case in instance. Back home in Kolkata, where she worked as a migrant worker, her husband started seeking work under the MGNREGA. The family barely managed to survive Amphan when they were hit by Yass, which severely damaged their home, leaving them only with their identity cards which they had carried with them before evacuating. In the southern districts of West Bengal, most of the economic activities gradually stopped, first because of the pandemic and then cyclone Amphan. Under our **New Horizons project**, we extended support to 1,696 such households in urban intervention, covering 12 wards of Kamarhati and Metiabruz.

Other Initiatives

- We reached out to adolescent girls and boys (in the 15-17 age group) who have not completed basic education, child domestic workers, victims of trafficking, children of single parents, victims of child marriage, school drop-outs, etc. They were provided with transferable life skills consisting of sessions on gender norms, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, child rights and financial literacy skills.

- Youth boys and girls in the 18-24 age group were provided with life skill sessions, gender norms awareness, financial literacy and support in technical handholding. Capacity building of selected youths and their family members on Pond Based Integrated Farming was conducted in collaboration

with the Sundarban Development Board, West Bengal, and Block officials from Fishery, Agriculture & Animal Husbandry departments of Sagar Block. Periodic interface was organised with relevant government officials and stakeholders for exploring possible business opportunities for groups.

- We launched a mobilisation campaign in our intervention areas to make MGNREGS child-sensitive. Total 1,400 postcards were signed by key stakeholders and community, putting their demands before the state commissioner of MGNREGS.



8,343
People benefitted under New Horizons project



2,558 households in 37 villages
Supported under 6 Gram Panchayats of Sagar block in South 24 Parganas with food baskets, hygiene kits and shelter kits



11,227 (including 3,596 children)
Benefitted through humanitarian support



120 adolescents and 16 peer educators
Trained on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), financial literacy and child rights (Overall, 270 family members of adolescents, peer educators and youth were reached)



135 marginalised youth (75 urban & 60 rural)
Completed various skill training sessions and business enterprises training through New Horizons Plus project



15 marginalised trainees
Selected for coffee brewing course, undergoing various life and soft skills trainings



5,761 marginalised trainees
Through community-led campaign activities, awareness programs



The **competency-based framework developed by Save the Children for training community cadre for protection of children** has been accredited as a customised qualification by the Northern Council for Further Education (NCFE). NCFE is a leading provider of educational services in the United Kingdom (UK), and has been at the forefront of technical and vocational education for over 170 years. **60 such community cadres have been trained in 4 districts of West Bengal and Jharkhand.**

Linking youth to business

80 victims of child labour have been supported to start their individual ventures through skill building of youth and adolescents in Rajasthan. The businesses include a range of initiatives, such as motor winding shops, cycle repair shops, vegetable stalls, home based tailoring and kiosk centres. In Jodhpur district, Save the Children supported adolescent girls groups to form their own start ups to generate income by selling face masks.



SHARING TECHNOLOGY TO DRIVE CHANGE

Technology has emerged as one of the biggest game-changers in the pandemic hit world. Though long touted as something that NGOs needed to adopt, innovation and digital transformation became imperative in the COVID world, driving the much-needed adaptability for steering long-term changes. At Save the Children, we pioneered new ways to stay connected and build accessible platforms during the COVID crisis. We turned ideas into reality with the help of innovation champions within organisation, who drove a novel and disruptive approach in the best interests of children within each function.

Linking Youth to Business

With the wants and risks of the vulnerable populations increasing manifold and resources becoming dry, digital solutions emerged as the need of the hour for NGOs to deliver on their vision and goals amid the pandemic. The need to remain connected with the community while ensuring physical distancing motivated us to push low-cost and low-tech solutions through innovation and adaptation to the existing platforms.

How COVID catalysed digital transformation

Using popular and accessible platforms like phones and Whatsapp, we launched innovations that ensured that children are not deprived of opportunities to learn, can survive, and are protected. With quick activation on Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) and tele-calling services, we reached out to more than 6,94,370 people with tele messages for awareness creation, dispelling myths and misconceptions, general wellness check of partners, their staff and community, and also for evoking action by community and children's groups during emergencies, against any protection threat or for psychosocial first-aid. Such tele-calling networks were also used to handhold FLWs, to continue essential services for learning and health and nutrition to children and mothers.

We activated tele-calling networks across 10 states - Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal.



Other Initiatives

- Our Gulmohar framework recognised the need for intervention of caregivers to ensure early learning at home, as the centres dedicated to their development remained closed. Our Academic Support Fellows (ASFs) supported mothers and AWWs to prepare videos on early childhood education and disseminate them through Whatsapp groups for helping caregivers to homeschool their children in rural areas of states like West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand.
- School facilitators and educators were supported in disseminating Teaching Learning Material (TLM) for early learning through WhatsApp groups, and in conducting digital online classes for the children in the community. Launched at the national level on 22 September 2020, the module was adopted for scale-up by Women and Child Development, Karnataka, and Department of Education, Jharkhand. More than 21,000 children have been reached across seven states in India.



Balancing Nutrition with Cost of Diet

Considering the abject poverty faced by families and the need for local solutions to enable access to basics, we implemented the Cost of Diet method to enable families and individuals to meet their nutrient requirements at affordable costs by suggesting cheaper alternatives. This software identifies economic constraints in accessing nutritious food items among the poorest, and addresses the same by promoting traditional nutritional practices. It estimates the minimum amount of money a typical household would need to purchase their recommended intake of energy, protein, fat and micronutrients. The software selects a combination of food items based on availability in the local markets, or can be home grown, or are available in the natural environment. Nutrient requirements are calculated as per recommendation by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) (2004).



Save the Children has conducted 'Cost of Diet Study' in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand with the use of the software to promote food security, nutrition and health among the community. We had signed a Sol with NITI Aayog in 2019 to contribute to the 'aspirational districts' in Jharkhand, West Singhbhum being one of them, for improving their indicators on health and nutrition.

The Poshan Maah Abiyan campaign across the intervention states culminated with the national launch of the Cost of Diet Study on 29 September 2020 as a virtual event, with representation from UNICEF, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad and Apnalaya, a non-profit based in Maharashtra, to highlight sustainable and affordable ways to ensure food and nutrition security.

Smarter communities with Smartpur

Our work has not only been supported by CSOs, but also for-profit entities like Nokia, which enabled our last mile connectivity in the remote areas of India through digital connectivity amid the pandemic. From Dungarpur in Rajasthan, Nellore in Andhra Pradesh, to Nashik in Maharashtra and Dhemaji in Assam, the Smartpur project brought in the much needed digital revolution by enabling access and inclusion for the community.

With support from Alcatel and Nokia, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), infrastructure available in Government schools in 160 villages across India was converted into E-service centres to provide the community with access to social protection schemes with respect to education, livelihood, health banking & finance, and social entitlements through digital means and processes.

From training women and youth on livelihood opportunities, to bridging digital divide for children, these centres were also used later for helping the community with vaccine registration, tele medicine support, etc. Besides providing digital access, the project also incubates and mentors the local digital entrepreneurs in developing a viable business around digital access.





**“IF WE ARE TO TEACH REAL PEACE IN THIS
WORLD, AND IF WE ARE TO CARRY ON A
REAL WAR AGAINST WAR, WE SHALL HAVE
TO BEGIN WITH THE CHILDREN.”**

...MAHATAMA GANDHI, FATHER OF THE NATION

We believe that a meaningful change for the better can be enabled only by involving children. From inspiring change to driving it, children are imbued with the vision to transform the world, and possess the inherent ability to bring impactful change in the lives of others.

CHAMPIONING CHANGE THROUGH CHILDREN

The pandemic challenged Save the Children's 100 years of humanitarian experience in an unprecedented manner. While the organisation jumped to address the immediate need to #ProtectAGeneration, the response was actually led by children who have always been at the forefront of our programs. Years of experience in working for and with children was manifest in our various campaigns, where children could be seen fighting the fallouts of the pandemic at the community level with absolute elan. The child champions led the fight, with risks of school dropout, child labour, trafficking and marriage lurking as among the biggest pandemic-induced crises.

Celebrating change at International Children's Peace Prize

Nazreen, Vasundhara, Poonam, Naushin and Jashoda—five firebrand children driving our interventions on the ground, joined the likes of Greta Thunberg and Malala Yousafzai by securing nominations for the International Children's Peace Prize 2020. The International Children's Peace Prize is awarded annually to a child who has made an exceptional difference for the rights of the child and the position of vulnerable children, anywhere in the world.

The five Save the Children nominees were:

- **Nazreen** (15) from Govandi in Mumbai is an active volunteer of life skills as well as Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in her community. She leads a team of 14 adolescents, and has given around 100 trainings on topics such as malnutrition, hygiene and SRHR in the past six years. She also counsels pregnant women in her area, and makes sure they are registered in a hospital in the first trimester. She guides women on what to feed their children.



- **Vasundhara** (14) from Dardaturki in Tonk district of Rajasthan has reached more than 180 girls through life skill education sessions and awareness on menstrual hygiene. She has been active in generating awareness on child marriage along with sexual and reproductive health, as well as rights issues, among adolescent girls in her village. She played a vital role in submission of girls' demands at Gram panchayat, block and district levels to authorities. She has submitted demands to upgrade Khedula village school from 5th to 8th standard, a sanitary napkins scheme benefit for private schools in the village, and an incinerator for disposal of sanitary napkins, among others.



- **Jashoda** (15) from Ashapura village from Osian district in Rajasthan is an active campaigner for stopping Violence against Women and Girls. She has trained 120 girls in Life Skill Education. She is an advocate for self-defence training, education, life skills among girls to ensure their safety. She has been instrumental in stopping four child marriages, has motivated 10 girls to pursue higher education, and oriented 500 girls to act in matters of violence against women.



- **Poonam** (13) from Nashik, Maharashtra, is an active campaigner for health and hygiene rights for children. She has participated in over 110 sessions on Health and Sanitation and influenced over 2,500 community members into adopting regular hygiene practices. She is the Child Representative of School Management Committee (SMC) in her school. She raises issues and shares best practices during SMC's monthly meetings. She, along with her fellow children group members, ensures clean toilets in schools, use of washrooms in community, regular hygiene practices like handwashing and use of soap etc. to keep the community healthy.



- **Naushin** (15) from Bihar is an ardent advocate of gender equality among Muslim girls in her community. She conducts sessions on life skills and encourages other adolescent girls in her village to raise their voice against child marriage and various other gender stereotypes. She is known for her direct negotiation with Ministers for moves against child marriage and the need for skill building, with specific focus on encouraging girls to engage in vocational activities.



Crusade against child marriage recognised at UNV

It was 2017 when our MNCP project team identified Yashoda Pandey from Nuapada district of Odisha as a girl with fire in her belly. Yashoda has since successfully led a tirade against child marriage in a drought prone district, where seasonal migration has long been a bane. Yashoda won the prestigious V-Award 2020 by UNV for her fight against child marriages. The 21-year-old has successfully stopped 80 child marriages in the last three years.

Amplifying stories of grit, resilience, change

Save the Children collaborated with No Filter Neha, a no-holds barred audio show, where Bollywood star Neha Dhupia chatted with child champions to dig out their stories of change. The streaming of the show is available on Jio Saavn app, an Indian online music streaming service.

We also partnered with a youth-led organisation – 'The Tale of Humankind' - to showcase courageous stories of brave child champions. These children have fought all odds to make a change in their community and The Tale of Humankind, a non-profit organisation, helped us tell their stories to a wider audience and inspire youth leaders to become changemakers.



Our children joined those from 45 other countries to amplify their recommendations for tackling the fallouts of the pandemic during the global survey to assess the impact of COVID on children. The survey report – ‘A Generation at Stake: Protecting India’s children from the impact of COVID 19’ - underscored pertinent recommendations made by children. They called on the Government and leaders to ensure special sessions to improve learning levels after schools reopen, social protection coverage for families who lost their livelihoods, strengthening of health systems, access to food & nutritional schemes, safety at homes and schools.



Accelerating change with Dream Accelerator

‘Dream Accelerator’ - our flagship initiative that engages, empowers and inspires children with potential to propel change - has been successfully piloted in seven states of Northern and Eastern India. The initiative, which is ready to be scaled up, is structured around a rigorous training framework that supports children to understand, implement, mobilise, govern and contribute to social impact at local level. It has been rolled out in Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar and Assam, to support nine social change projects led by nine child leaders.

working with child champions has underscored some of the exemplary work being done by the children from underprivileged background to infuse changes in the society. This program has been designed to give further impetus to their dreams for change — to encourage their enterprise and inspire active citizenship among them.



53

Children trained in 6 modules



1,500

Reached through pilot project

The initiative is rooted in Save the Children’s value of ‘being the voice’, not only on behalf of children but also to cultivate and nurture them to speak for themselves as strong champions for the rights of children. Our history of



Preparing Community for Climate Change

Twenty-year-old Kunal Das from Kolkata has a mission in life: To educate the community, especially children and adolescents, on the impact of the climate crisis. In addition to raising awareness on global warming, he has undertaken plantation drives in his neighbourhood. "In our locality, we young people encourage others to plant saplings everywhere, inside and outside their homes. In the past five years, we have experienced frequent occurrence of cyclones and floods. Temperatures have also increased. If we don't act now, in the next 30 years, thousands of people will die for lack of food, water and basic amenities," – this is Kunal's message to the world. He's part of Save of Children's Urban Resilience Program.

Children are at the core of the climate crisis conversation. During any humanitarian crisis, children are the most affected, with their development, physical and psychosocial well-being badly impacted. A child-centred climate resilience program aims at building sustainable and resilient communities, equipped to cope with extreme climate change events and enable children to influence their future.



Dream Accelerator is an opportunity for children to transform their own lives, to create a difference in communities through meaningful engagement and accountability. We believe that every child deserves the right to realise their dreams, irrespective of who they are and where they come from.



Here's how a community driven model with children's participation is changing mindsets

Dakhinveda is a tiny village with 75 odd families in the Kendrapara district of Odisha. The Brahmani river circles the village, which has been witnessing its fury for years. The river's ebbs and flows have been guiding life in this village. Every year, heavy rainfall and cyclones - which have increased in frequency and intensity - wash away the mud huts and disrupt lives.

But Jyotsna, a 21-year-old B.Sc Botany student, confidently rattles off what to do in case of a cyclone. She and a few other adolescents of the hamlet have been trained by Save the Children India and its partner - Nature's Club - on disaster risk reduction and climate resilience. These climate resilience exercises started after spates of floods in Odisha in 2011. Now these young adults are not only safeguarding their village but are also going to other villages and training them on risk reduction, evacuation and asset management in case of a natural disaster.

Even the younger children, growing up amid a constant state of uncertainty of climate change events, are educating themselves in disaster risk management.

A similar resilience project is in place in Bihar - another state that is vulnerable to extreme climate change events. The northern part faces annual floods while the southern parts are prone to droughts. As part of the resilience program, adolescents and young adults are taught to draw three kinds of maps. The first is the social map that shows all the houses (kaccha and pakka houses), schools, water resources and the general layout of the village. The asset map highlights the cyclone shelters, schools, temples and other buildings that can double up as shelters, and the third one is a risk map which shows all the pathways through which water can enter the village and the vulnerable houses. There's an evacuation map in case of any hazard, such as fire, in urban slums.

Children who were part of the disaster risk reduction program are young adults now, devising their own ways and educating the community. Their development process has now become a way of life.



PREPARING GROUND WITH RESEARCH & EVALUATION

During the year, we conducted a host of research and evaluation studies to pave the way for more effective interventions and response in the key identified areas of our focus. A total of 10 research studies and 20 evaluation studies were completed.

Rapid Need Assessment

The RNA conducted by Save the Children included a sample size of 7,235 families across 15 states. The survey was carried out from 7 to 30 June 2020, to understand the challenges, thematic priorities and impact of Coronavirus among target beneficiaries. In the country's northern region, 3,827 households were surveyed, while in the southern region 556 households were surveyed. In the eastern region, 1,722 households were surveyed and in the western region 1,130 households were surveyed.



Photo from pre COVID time

Key Research Reports



Save the Children & PWC India jointly launched **'Protect a generation: Climate security for India's children'** at national level, with key findings & recommendations to ensure child-centered climate adaptation measures.

Based on empirical evidence collected from Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, and West Bengal, this report highlights how growing instances of extreme weather events like floods, cyclones, erosions in disaster prone areas increase the socio-economic and psychosocial vulnerabilities of children living in these geographies and threaten their fundamental rights.



Collaborative study by Save and Wada Na Todo Abhiyan **'Leave No Child Behind: Children of Vulnerable Communities and their Rights'** released, with focus on COVID's impact on achieving Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs) with inequalities faced by children.

Through empirical evidence collected from across India, the report throws light on how the pandemic threatens to reverse the progress on children's agendas achieved in India and the collective effort needed to undo the damages and pave the way to attain the SDGs 2030 for children.



Image for representative purpose

RNA 1 and 2 findings on COVID impact on children were shared with key ministries & disseminated at several external platforms.

Through RNA, Save the Children undertook the task to understand, as a result of COVID-19, the most important challenges at the household level, various distress measures for meeting family needs, effects on children's education, key concerns with regard to children, and other needs of the population.



Image for representative purpose

Research paper on **"Adolescent girls transition from school to work"**, based on Save the Children's programming, was published in Indian Journal of Human Development.

Through a study based in Rajasthan, this report shows how career ambition in girls is directly related to better learning outcomes, greater work-related agency and a readiness to overcome community obstacles, thereby underscoring the need to empower girls and break down traditional gender norms for overall community development.



Launched **'A Generation at Stake: Protecting India's Children from COVID impact'** capturing impact on children's well-being, children's voices & key recommendations for programming & policy.

The report is a part of the global research study conducted in 46 countries which analyzes the impact of the pandemic on the lives of children when it comes to their protection, health, education and over well-being and make some truly pertinent recommendations as the way ahead.

SHOWCASE GALLERY

1. #AllyUpForHer film: Save the Children's campaign film under #AllyUpForHer shows a tailor taking a stand to prevent Chunni, a girl of 12 from getting married though her parents insist. This film was a viral content of 2020 with more than 22 lakh views.



2. CiSS Digital Exhibition: Titled "A Lens on #TheInvisibles", Save the Children's first ever digital exhibition showcases photo-exhibits by internationally acclaimed photographer and erstwhile street child, Vicky Roy. This exhibition reinforces the conditions that these children and their families grapple with, while also highlighting their dreams and hopes for a better tomorrow.



IN THE NEWS



Budget 2021: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Announces Rs. 35,000 Crore For COVID-19 Vaccines

Feb-2021



Pandemic or not, transformation continues

Jan-2021



Child rights body: Strengthening street kids' families first priority

Nov-2021



3 out of 4 children reported increase in negative feelings since COVID outbreak, a new report says

Nov-2021



Lockdown loans to survive could push street children into bonded labour, fear NGOs

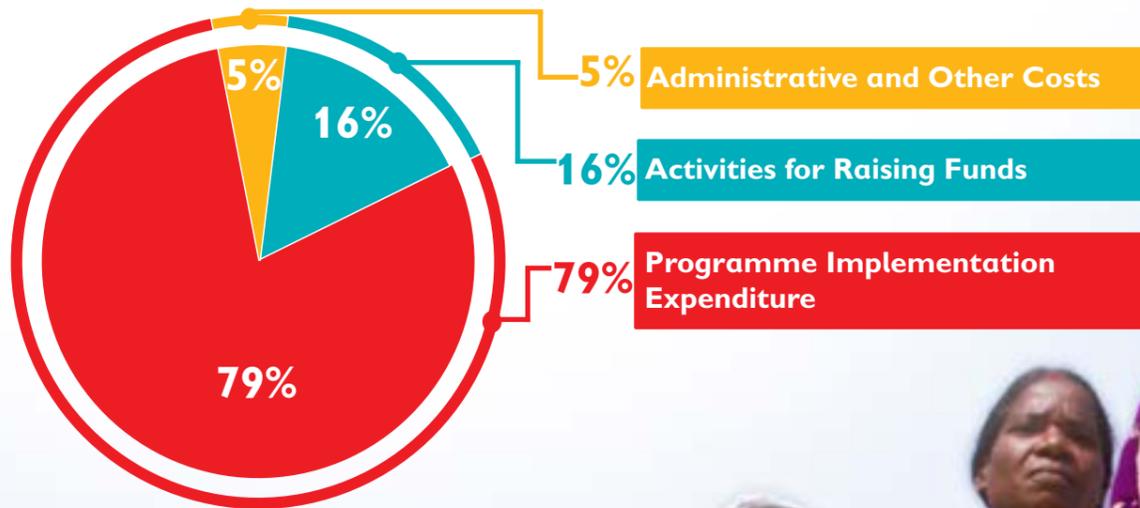
Jun-2021



Of Empathy in Education: Interventions in a Juvenile Home in Gujarat

May-2021

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



Deloitte Haskins & Sells

Chartered Accountants
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GOVERNING BOARD OF BAL RAKSHA BHARAT

Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **BAL RAKSHA BHARAT** ("the Entity") which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2021, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Cash Flow Statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the aforesaid financial statements give a true and fair view in conformity with the Accounting Standards and other accounting principles generally accepted in India, of the state of affairs of the Entity as at March 31, 2021 and its excess of income over expenditure and its cash flows for the year ended on that date.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI). Our responsibilities under those Standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by the ICAI together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the ICAI's Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence obtained by us is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the financial statements.

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

The Entity's management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of the Entity in accordance with the Accounting Standards issued by the ICAI, and other accounting principles generally accepted in India.

This responsibility also includes maintenance of adequate accounting records for safeguarding the assets of the Entity and for preventing and detecting frauds and other irregularities; selection and application of appropriate accounting policies; making judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and design, implementation and maintenance of adequate internal financial controls, that were operating effectively for ensuring the accuracy and completeness of the accounting records, relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Sub

Photo from pre COVID time

Deloitte Haskins & Sells

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

The Governing Board is also responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal financial control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

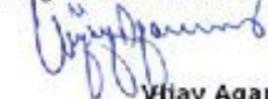
Deloitte Haskins & Sells

Materiality is the magnitude of misstatements in the financial statements that, individually or in aggregate, makes it probable that the economic decisions of a reasonably knowledgeable user of the financial statements may be influenced. We consider quantitative materiality and qualitative factors in (i) planning the scope of our audit work and in evaluating the results of our work; and (ii) to evaluate the effect of any identified misstatements in the financial statements.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

For DELOITTE HASKINS & SELLS

Chartered Accountants
(Firm Registration No: 015125N)



Vijay Agarwal
(Partner)

(Membership No: 094468)
(UDIN-21094468AAAAHK1925)

Place: Gurgaon
Date : August 25, 2021

Bal Raksha Bharat
(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2021
(All amounts are in Indian Rupees)

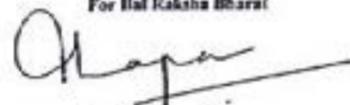
	Schedule No.	As at 31 March 2021	As at 31 March 2020
Sources of Funds			
Corpus fund	1	11,400	11,600
Restricted fund	2	497,822,073	517,749,592
Endowment fund	3	216,975,000	186,610,936
General fund	4	387,707,283	203,643,090
Special purpose fund	5	100,000,000	100,000,000
		<u>1,202,515,756</u>	<u>1,008,014,618</u>
Property, Plant and Equipment			
Gross block	6	64,513,485	73,355,781
Less: Accumulated depreciation/amortisation		50,185,780	47,485,611
Net block		14,327,705	25,870,170
Capital Work in Progress		2,360,358	-
		<u>20,788,063</u>	<u>25,870,170</u>
Current assets, loans and advances			
Cash and bank balances	7	1,363,242,455	1,009,040,614
Loans and advances		89,118,418	90,326,950
Grant debtors		23,094,829	25,681,698
Stock in hand		2,305,651	9,132,414
		<u>1,377,760,753</u>	<u>1,134,181,676</u>
Less: Current liabilities and provisions			
Current liabilities	8	143,916,385	111,656,659
Provisions		52,116,674	40,340,569
		<u>196,033,060</u>	<u>152,037,228</u>
Net current assets		<u>1,181,727,693</u>	<u>982,144,448</u>
		<u>1,202,515,756</u>	<u>1,008,014,618</u>

Significant accounting policies and notes to accounts 13

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the financial statements.

As per our report attached.
For Deloitte Haskins & Sells
Chartered Accountants

Vijay Agarwal
Partner

For Bal Raksha Bharat

Deepak Kapoor
Chairperson

Sudarshan Suchi
Chief Executive Officer
Place: Gurgaon
Date: 25th August 2021

Rajiv Kapur
Treasurer

Subhashish Neogi
Director-Finance


Place: Gurgaon
Date: 25th August 2021



Bal Raksha Bharat
(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2021
(All amounts are in Indian Rupees)

	Schedule No.	For the year ended 31 March 2021	For the year ended 31 March 2020
Income			
Restricted income (grants/donations)		1,164,461,636	982,690,957
Unrestricted income (grants/donations)		746,366,415	723,039,846
Grants received in kind (refer note no 9 of schedule 13)		39,542,665	37,851,101
Other income	9	145,153,097	64,287,955
		<u>2,095,523,813</u>	<u>1,807,869,859</u>
Expenditure			
Programme implementation expenditure	10	1,493,995,881	1,333,215,708
Activities for raising funds	11	307,155,390	394,032,963
Administrative and other costs	12	93,685,765	114,226,985
		<u>1,894,837,036</u>	<u>1,841,475,656</u>
Excess of income over expenditure / (Expenditure over income)		<u>200,686,777</u>	<u>(33,605,797)</u>

Significant accounting policies and notes to accounts 13

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the financial statements.

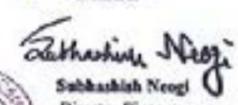
As per our report attached.
For Deloitte Haskins & Sells
Chartered Accountants

Vijay Agarwal
Partner

For Bal Raksha Bharat

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Chief Executive Officer
Place: Gurgaon
Date: 25th August 2021

Rajiv Kapur
Treasurer

Subhashish Neogi
Director-Finance


Place: Gurgaon
Date: 25th August 2021



Bal Raksha Bharat
(Registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)
Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2021
(All amounts are in Indian Rupees)

Schedule No.	For the year ended 31 March 2021	For the year ended 31 March 2020
Cash flow from operating activities		
Grants/Donations received	1,993,704,327	1,913,066,091
Corpus fund received	400	-
Miscellaneous receipts	707,847	62,770
Payment for expenses		
Programme Expense	(1,456,360,179)	(1,336,179,567)
Fundraising and other expenses	(288,873,315)	(481,309,232)
Salary and allowances	(63,591,473)	(71,570,295)
Deposits and advances (Net)	-	1
Income taxes (paid)/refund	2,856,272	(60,964)
Net cash flow from operating activities	191,243,582	94,813,801
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of fixed assets	(2,677,348)	(3,617,737)
Proceeds from sale/disposal of fixed assets	984,499	761,579
Bank deposits not considered as cash and cash equivalents - Placed	(4,437,118,633)	(3,984,727,370)
Bank deposits not considered as cash and cash equivalents - Matured	4,140,264,354	6,048,272,369
Interest Received from bank deposits	64,651,308	58,852,616
Net cash flow from investing activities	(258,894,028)	119,540,437
Cash flow from financing activities		
Net cash flow from financing activities	-	-
Net increase / (decrease) cash and cash equivalents	(62,651,438)	215,554,439
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	244,949,395	29,414,956
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	182,314,957	244,969,395
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents with the balance sheet:		
Cash and bank balances	1,268,241,455	1,089,949,614
Less: Bank balances not considered as cash and cash equivalents as defined in AS 3 cash flow statements:		
In fixed deposits original maturity more than 3 months	1,080,921,500	764,971,221
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	182,314,955	244,969,395

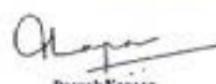
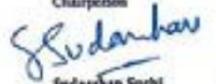
Significant accounting policies and notes to accounts

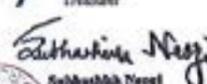
13

The schedules referred to above form an integral part of the financial statements.

As per our report attached,
For Deloitte Haskins & Sells
Chartered Accountants

Vijay Agarwal
Partner

For Bal Raksha Bharat:

Deepak Kapoor
Chairperson

Sudarshan Sochi
Chief Executive Officer
Place: Gurgaon
Date: 25th August 2021

Rajiv Kaper
Treasurer

Subhash Mehta
Director-Finance
Place: Gurgaon
Date: 25th August 2021


Bal Raksha Bharat
(Registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1960)
Schedules forming part of the accounts
(All amounts are in Indian Rupees)

	As at 31 March 2021	As at 31 March 2020
Schedule 1: Corpus fund		
Opening balance	11,000	8,600
Additions during the year	400	2,400
Closing balance	11,400	11,000
Schedule 2: Restricted fund Liability		
Opening balance	317,749,390	331,674,902
Add: Grants received during the year	1,225,017,787	1,167,316,538
Less: Write back of restricted fund liability (refer note 14 of Schedule 13)	(18,454,287)	-
Less: Revenue grants recognized in the income and expenditure account	(1,164,441,634)	(981,699,905)
Less: Amount transferred to Endowment Fund (refer note 3(b) of Schedule 13)	(13,741,480)	(23,000,000)
Less: Interest Cost recovery earned transferred to General Fund	(78,213,649)	-
Add: Utilised Balance of Endowment Fund Interest Income for the year	2,292,978	1,739,454
Grant debtors (grossed up)	16,072,265	33,799,653
Closing balance	497,212,079	513,749,592
Schedule 3: Endowment fund (refer note of Schedule 13)		
Opening balance	186,610,936	161,510,936
Add: Transferred from Restricted fund	83,341,480	-
Add: Transferred from General Fund	85,672,584	25,000,000
Closing balance	355,624,999	186,510,936
Schedule 3A: Endowment fund interest		
Interest earned on endowment fund during the year	13,820,112	11,990,343
Less: Funds disbursed to early child development (ECD) center during the year	(6,527,154)	(12,250,939)
Less: Funds transferred to IAS	-	-
Balance transferred to restricted fund	7,292,958	1,739,404
Schedule 4: General fund		
Opening balance	209,643,090	221,248,887
Add: Excess of income over expenditure / (expenditure over income)	200,686,777	(31,643,797)
Less: Amount transferred to Endowment Fund	(166,632,584)	-
Closing balance	243,707,383	289,605,090
Schedule 5: Special purpose fund		
Opening balance	100,000,000	100,000,000
Add: Transfer from general fund	-	-
Closing balance	100,000,000	100,000,000



Place: Gurgaon
Date: 25th August 2021



Bal Raksha Bharat
(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)
Schedules forming part of the accounts
(All amounts are in Indian Rupees)

Schedule 10 - Programme Implementation Expenditure

Thematic Intervention	For the year ended 31 March 2021	For the year ended 31 March 2020
Education	296,695,151	266,378,052
Protection	336,710,723	527,507,727
Disaster response and disaster risk resilience	541,315,861	229,565,014
Health and nutrition	293,396,295	242,085,601
Other grant related expenditure	25,963,851	67,679,314
Total	1,493,995,881	1,333,215,708

Schedule 11 - Activities for Raising Funds

	For the year ended 31 March 2021	For the year ended 31 March 2020
Salary and allowances	46,991,122	51,259,869
Travel and accommodation	210,338	4,317,383
Rent	2,305,594	5,547,686
Repairs and maintenance	145,362	345,585
Legal and professional	2,751,301	1,135,986
Conference and meetings	16,658	997,697
Agency fee/commission	67,081,332	79,509,922
Telemarketing expenses	47,728,468	87,991,434
Advertisement	89,703,371	84,811,203
Bank Charges	80,506	149,488
Communication expenses	5,842,192	5,266,340
Other operational expenses	44,259,146	72,700,460
Total	307,155,390	394,032,963

Schedule 12 - Administrative and Other Costs

	For the year ended 31 March 2021	For the year ended 31 March 2020
Salary and allowances	32,068,630	32,260,559
Travel and accommodation	127,509	3,250,175
Rent	2,230,981	3,914,853
Repairs and maintenance	173,851	293,645
Legal and professional	4,654,570	4,174,172
Conference and meetings	66,632	774,066
Bank Charges	62,465	35,976
Communication expenses	1,048,458	1,002,156
Other operational expenses	46,342,989	59,794,843
Depreciation and amortisation	6,909,680	8,726,140
Total	93,685,765	114,226,985



Bal Raksha Bharat
(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)
Schedules forming part of the accounts
Schedule 13 - Notes to accounts

1. Organization Status

Bal Raksha Bharat is a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 vide registration certificate no. S/51101/2004 dated 27 December 2004. The main object of the Society is to work towards the promotion and enhancement of the quality of Children's life and inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

The Society has been granted an exemption under section 12A of the Income Tax Act, 1961, vide letter no. DIT (E)/12A/2005-06/B-1120/05/1230 dated 21 December 2005. The exemption has been granted with effect from 27 December 2004.

Further, the Society has been registered under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 for carrying out activities of social nature with registration no. 231660869, vide letter no. II/21022/83(0028)/2004-FCRA-II dated 23 April 2008 which has been renewed for a period of 5 years starting from 1st November 2016 till 31st October 2021.

2. Significant accounting policies

a. Basis of preparation of financial statements

The Society is a Level III entity- Small and Medium Sized Enterprise (SME) as defined in the Applicability of Accounting Standards to Non-corporate Entities. Accordingly, the Society has complied with the Accounting Standards as applicable to a Level III entity. The Society is not required to present the Related Party Disclosures, Segment reporting and Discontinuing Operations disclosures as required under the relevant Accounting Standards. Further, the Society has availed an exemption in respect of the Accounting Standard 15 (revised) on 'Employee Benefits' and Accounting Standard 19 'Leases'. The Society has presented Cash flow statements to meet its internal requirements.

The financial statements of the Society have been prepared under the historical cost convention on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with the applicable accounting standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") in India.

In the Income and Expenditure account, expenses are reported according to following functional classifications: (1) Programme Implementation Expenditure; (2) Activities for Raising Funds and (3) Administrative and Other Costs.

b. Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Indian GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Any revision to accounting estimates is recognized prospectively in current and future periods. Contingencies are recorded when it is probable that a liability will be incurred, and the amount can be reasonably estimated.



Bal Raksha Bharat

(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1850)

Schedules forming part of the accounts

Schedule 13 – Notes to accounts

c. Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, Plant and Equipment are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation. The cost of Property, Plant and Equipment includes taxes, duties, freight and other incidental expenditure related to acquisition and installation.

Property, Plant and Equipment procured out of Grants are charged off as program expenditure against the said grants as per terms & conditions set out in the Grant Agreements. However, to reflect a true & fair view of the assets owned by the Society and to exercise physical and financial control over them, those are capitalized at a nominal value of Re 1. Assets which are fully depreciated but are not disposed off, are retained at a nominal value of Re 1 till disposal for the purpose of exercising effective controls over them.

Capital Work in Progress including Capital advance, of Rs 2,360,358 were added during the year.

During the year, based on physical verification of Property, Plant and Equipment carried out at all locations, 1,016 number of assets were identified as available physically but not in Property, Plant and Equipment Register. Those assets have been brought to books of account at a nominal value of Re 1 per asset and is appearing as additions in the various categories of Assets in Schedule 6 to the Balance Sheet.

d. Depreciation

Depreciation is charged on pro-rata basis to the period of use on the written down value method using the following rates:

Property, Plant and Equipment	Rates of depreciation used
Furniture and fixtures	18.10%
Computer	40.00%
Equipment	13.91%
Vehicles	25.89%

Leasehold improvements are being amortized over the remaining term of the lease agreement or the useful life of the assets, whichever is shorter.

Licensed software are being amortized as per period for which license is valid.

The rates reflect the estimated economic useful life of the assets as estimated by the management.

e. The Society's obligations towards various employee benefits have been recognized as follows:

Short term employee benefits

All employee benefits payable wholly within twelve months of rendering service are classified as short-term employee benefits. Benefits such as salaries, allowances, are recognized in the Income and Expenditure Account in the period in which the employee renders the related services.



Bal Raksha Bharat

(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1850)

Schedules forming part of the accounts

Schedule 13 – Notes to accounts

Post-employment benefits

Defined contribution plans: The Society's provident fund is a defined contribution plan where the contribution paid/ payable under the scheme is recognised as an expense in the period in which the employee renders the related service. The Society's contributions are deposited with the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner and are charged to the Income and Expenditure Account.

Defined benefit plans: In respect of gratuity, the liability is determined based on actuarial valuation using the Projected Unit Credit Method as at the balance sheet date, which recognises each period of service as giving rise to additional unit of employee benefit entitlement and measures each unit separately to build up the final obligation.

The obligation is measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows. The discount rates used for determining the present value of the obligation under defined benefit plan is based on market yields on Government securities as at the balance sheet date.

Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in the Income and Expenditure Account. Gains or losses on the curtailment or settlement of any defined benefit plan are recognised when the curtailment or settlement occurs.

f. Leases

The Society has taken various premises on operating lease. Lease payments under operating lease are recognized as an expense in the Income and Expenditure Account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

g. Income Recognition

Restricted Income is recognized in Income and Expenditure account to the extent of expenditure incurred from Restricted Funds. Unrestricted and Other income is recognized on receipt basis. Interest income is recognized on Accrual basis.

h. Cash Flow Statement

Cash flows are reported using the direct method. The cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities of the Society are segregated based on the available information.

i. Cash and cash equivalents (for purposes of Cash Flow Statement)

Cash comprises cash on hand and demand deposits with banks. Cash equivalents are short-term balances (with an original maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition), highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which are subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.



Bal Raksha Bharat

(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)

Schedules forming part of the accounts

Schedule 13 – Notes to accounts

3. Foreign Contributions

Grants and donations remitted from foreign sources are received in INR converted value directly credited to FCRA Bank Account. Until 27th September 2020, the Society had received foreign contributions in its previous FCRA Bank Account in Standard Chartered Bank. On 28th September 2020, after the Foreign Contribution Regulation Amendment Act, 2020 was notified, the Society opened an FCRA Bank Account with State Bank of India, New Delhi Main Branch which was approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 2nd November, 2020 post which foreign contributions were received & credit to the SBI FCRA Account.

4. Corpus fund

Corpus fund relates to funds contributed by the founder members at incorporation and fees received on admission of an Institutional Member in the Society.

During the year, admission fees of Rs 400 were received from the Governing Council Members.

5. Restricted fund

- a) Restricted Funds are funds that are to be used in accordance with the specific restrictions imposed by donors. The cost of administration of such funds is charged against the specific fund in line with donor agreements or allocated based on usage of common facilities.

The society has presented Restricted Fund Liability and Restricted Fund Asset separately.

- b) The unutilized portion of foreign currency unrestricted fund income generated out of indirect cost recovery on foreign grants, individual giving donations received from foreign sources and interest earned on foreign contributions, which used to be classified under Restricted Fund liability till previous year, being unrestricted in nature have been transferred to General Fund in the current financial year.

6. Endowment fund

The Endowment fund had an opening balance of Rs. 186,610,936 for funding the operation of a Centre for Early Childhood Development (ECD) within Jamia Millia Islamia University. This grant was funded by Save the Children, United Kingdom in August 2009. The Endowment Fund agreement has got amended in April, 2021 to expand its scope for childhood development programme and such other projects as the Society may determine from time to time. The revised agreement allows the Society to run pre-service programme of high quality (Master of Arts-ECD) to produce a cadre of early childhood development professionals. Also, the revised agreement allows to extend technical assistance to state/central government institutions in the domain of ECD. As per the amended grant agreement, the income arising out of the fund balance would be used to administer or support the operations of childhood development programmes in India.



Bal Raksha Bharat

(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)

Schedules forming part of the accounts

Schedule 13 – Notes to accounts

During the year, an amount of Rs 30,364,064 is replenished in the Endowment Fund by the Society. Amount of Rs. 13,741,480 appropriated out of foreign currency unrestricted fund and indirect cost recovery and balance of Rs. 16,622,584 out of general fund. The Endowment Fund balance as on 31st March, 2021 stands restated to its original Endowment Fund value at Rs 216,975,000.

7. General Fund

General funds are unrestricted funds which have not been designated for any specific purposes. They are available for use at the discretion of the management in furtherance of the general objectives of the society.

8. Special Purpose Fund

Special purpose funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees/management of society for specific purposes or to meet specific future commitments. Unlike restricted funds, these designations are self-imposed and are not legally binding. The General Council may allow the management to lift the designation whenever it wishes and reallocate the funds to some other designated purpose.

9. Programme implementation Expenditure

The Society spends its funds in programs across India in the following areas:

Education – Helping children reach school and stay there through various programmes in the areas of elementary education and early childhood care and education.

Protection – Helping and protecting children pushed into child labour, abuse, neglect, exploitation, physical danger and violence.

Disaster Response and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) – Responding immediately to families affected by Natural disasters with food aid, water, essential items, and rehabilitation of affected families. Increase preparedness of children and families for emergency situations in the aftermath of natural disasters through child centered and community based approaches.

Health and Nutrition – Helping children through programmes in the areas of Child Survival, Newborn Health, Maternal Health, Nutrition, Water, Sanitation, Hygiene.

The Society works directly and through other partner agencies to which it disburses grants and accordingly expenditure incurred by the Society during the year includes such disbursement of grants in accordance with the agreements with them.

Post completion of the grant independent audit of the expenditure incurred is conducted through external audit agencies based on which final settlement / accounting is done, which has been relied upon by the statutory auditors.



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Schedule 13 – Notes to accounts

During the year, the Society received various Grants in Kind for humanitarian responses from donors. The value of the gifts in kind, aggregating to Rs. 39,542,665 (previous year Rs. 37,851,101) during the year, has been disclosed under Grants received in kind and a corresponding amount has been included under Programme expenses in the Income and Expenditure Account.

10. Legal and professional charges include Auditors' remuneration:

	Year ended 31 March 2021 (Rs.)	Year ended 31 March 2020 (Rs.)
Audit fees	1,300,000	1,500,000
Other services	300,000	100,000
Service tax/GST	288,000	288,000
Total	1,888,000	1,888,000

11. Employee Benefits

Defined contribution plans

The employee provident fund scheme is a defined contribution plan. A sum of Rs. 48,077,190 (previous year Rs. 22,627,194) has been recognized in the Income and Expenditure Account.

Defined benefit plans

Gratuity is payable to all eligible employees of the Society on resignation, retirement, death or permanent disablement, in terms of the provisions of the Payment of Gratuity Act. The liability for gratuity, as determined by actuarial valuation as on 31st March 2021 is Rs. 52,116,674 (previous year Rs. 40,340,569).

The expenditure for gratuity as determined by actuarial valuation for the year 2020-21 is Rs. 16,866,465 (previous year Rs. 8,279,822).

Particulars	For the year ended 31 st March 2021	For the year ended 31 st March 2020
Discount Rate	6.50%	7.00%
Annual salary escalation rate	7.00%	7.00%

Rs. 40,340,569 of provision for gratuity of previous year includes Rs. 853,860 of ex-gratia which was classified under other current liabilities in the previous year, has now been reclassified under provision for gratuity.



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Schedule 13 – Notes to accounts

12. Save the Children Fund, UK ("SC UK") transferred its operations in India to Bal Raksha Bharat with effect from 1 April 2008 as an initiative of the International Save the Children Alliance, of which both SC UK and Bal Raksha Bharat are members. As per the terms and conditions of the transfer, all assets of SC UK (with historical cost of Rs. 39,917,422) were transferred free of cost to Bal Raksha Bharat. In accordance with the generally accepted accounting principles in this regard, Bal Raksha Bharat has recognized these assets in its books of account at nominal value.

13. Allocation of Common Costs

For the purpose of financial statements of the society, Common costs are allocated on net basis to all departments on the basis of their usage of the services and estimates as considered appropriate by the management and have been adjusted to the natural heads of respective expenses. The nature of common cost are salaries and allowances of Support functions, fundraising expenses, rent, repair and maintenance, travel and accommodation, legal and professional charges, conference and meeting, training expenses, communication, bank charges and other operational charges.

14. The society has written back restricted fund liability pertaining to FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17 of Rs. 18,854,287 since there had been no claims from the concerned donors to date. The written back amount has been included in Other income (Refer Schedule 2 and 9).

15. During the FY 2020-21, the society has reviewed the balances outstanding in foreign contribution (FC) related accounts and Non-FC related accounts and determined that:

- (i) TDS deducted from FC account and Non-FC account has been refunded as consolidated income tax refund amount which has been remitted by the Income Tax Authorities to the Non-FC account of the Society.
- (ii) Security Deposit paid in earlier years from the FC account has been refunded in subsequent years to the Non-FC account of the Society.
- (iii) Expenses accrued to the Non-FC books of accounts were paid from FC account on account of clerical oversight or on account of availability of funds related reasons,
- (iv) Expenses accrued in to the FC accounts were paid from Non FC account of the Society on account of clerical oversight.

While adjustments to rectify the above shall not have any impact on the consolidated financial statements, the Society is in the process of intimating the proposed adjustments to the appropriate authorities.

16. Contingent liabilities and provisions

The Society makes a provision when there is a present obligation as a result of a past event where the outflow of economic resources is probable and a reliable estimate of the amount of the obligation can be made.

A disclosure is made for a contingent liability when there is a:

- a) Possible obligation, the existence of which will be confirmed by the occurrence/non-occurrence of one or more uncertain events, not fully within the control of the Society.
- b) Present obligation, where it is not probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligations, or



Bal Raksha Bharat

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Schedules forming part of the accounts

Schedule 13 – Notes to accounts

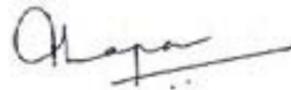
c) Present obligation, where a reliable estimate cannot be made.

Where there is a present obligation in respect of which the likelihood of outflow of resources is remote, no provision or disclosure is made.

As on March 31, 2021, there is no contingent liability against any pending litigation.

17. The figures for the previous year have been regrouped/ rearranged wherever considered necessary to conform to the current year's classification.

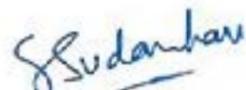
For Bal Raksha Bharat



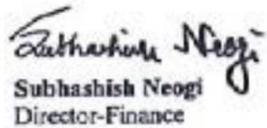
Deepak Kapoor
Chairperson



Rajiv Kapur
Treasurer



Sudarshan Suchi
CEO



Subhashish Neogi
Director-Finance



Place: Gurgaon
Date: 25th August 2021



PARTNERS

List of Corporate Partners

Tesco International Sourcing Limited
Alcatel Lucent India Limited
Pwc
Minikulb (Covid)
Hcl Foundation
Knorr Bremse
Philips
Bny Mellon
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Globalsoft
Private Limi
Microsoft
Caf Oracle
Pvh
Serum Institute
Nokia Solutions And Networks India
The Lego Group
Lavazza Sc Italy
Coca Cola Foundation

Caf - Charities Aid Foundation
Ajmal Foundation
P&G
S C Johnson Products Pvt Limited
Marks And Spencers
Mg Motor India Private Limited
Laudes Fondation
Give Foundation
Save The Children Hong Kong Limited
Npl - Dutch Lottery
Coca Cola Foundation
Rake Magazine
Sony Pictures Network India Pvt Ltd.
Piaggio Vehicles Private Limited
Glaxosmithkline Pharmaceuticals Limited
Stiching Ikea Foundation
H&M Foundation
S C Johnson Products Pvt Limited
Nokia Solutions And Networks India
Mars Wrigleys
Herbalife International India Private
Unilever/Health&Nutrition
Oracle Financial Services Software Limited
Discovery Communications India
Save The Children Deutschland Ev
Sc Us - Western Union
Glaxosmithkline Pharmaceuticals Lim
Bank of America Through Sc
Aro.

Piaggio Vehicles Private Limited
Mondelez India Foods
Hkl Baumaschinen Gmbh/ Sc Germany
Kubota Agricultural Machinery In
Hcl Foundation
Hempel Paints (India) Private Limit
Larsen Toubro Ltd
Sun Foundation
Comptel Communications India Privat
Verizon Data Services Ipl
Symantec Software And Serv I P Ltd
Oberoi Hotels
Avaya India Private Limited
Nbc Fashion India Private Limited
Vfs Global

List of Institutional Partners

The Government of The Hong Kong
Ananya Birla Foundation
Shriram Foundation

Red Nose Foundation
Pirojshah Godrej
Roberta Moore
SC Korea
SAVETHE CHILDREN DEUTSCHLAND -
SC Germany BMZ
Kumar Foundation
UNIQLO INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
SC Italy
Posner Foundation
THE HANS FOUNDATION
Shroff Foundation
ICCROM ROME ITALY
Save the Children Internationl
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
SAVETHE CHILDREN HONG KONG
LIMITED
RIST
SC Finland
SC Netherlands
OAK FOUNDATION
SC Switzerland
SC Norway
UNICEF

LEADING THE WAY

Steering our humane journey is our highly experienced professional leadership team, which continues to guide our response to children's needs and concerns.



SUDARSHAN SUCHI | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

A seasoned civil society leader, Sudarshan Suchi brings to the table rich local and global experience in academics and development, as well as in corporate environment. An authority in Participatory Practices for empowering communities to lead transformation, he is an alumnus of St. Stephen's College, Delhi University, and Institute of Development Studies, Sussex (UK). He is a leading development professional, with exceptional prowess in conceptualisation of development-based programs and business models. His key strengths encompass efficient resource mobilisation, partnership establishment, and collaboration on issues impacting children's access to basic human rights. Prior to joining Save the Children, Sudarshan was Secretary General at SOS Children's Villages of India. He is currently also serving on the Board of Udyogini (NGO) and the Academic Council of IIHMR's Rural Management Program. A self-professed and self-trained farmer, he has co-founded Udayan Centre for Collaborative Learning – a grassroots NGO in Central India.



SANGEETA NARULA, | DIRECTOR, HUMAN RESOURCES

An HR professional with over two decades of extensive experience in multi-cultural work environment, Sangeeta oversees talent acquisition, retention and employee nurturing at Save the Children. She provides strategic and functional leadership to the team, besides guiding and supporting the Business Partner teams in the development and implementation of appropriate human resource strategies along with policies for organisational effectiveness. She has worked closely with consultants in strategising and implementing organisation-level restructuring, and has also played a vital role in establishing a 'People Strategy' in line with the organisational strategy. Sangeeta had a fruitful association with the British High Commission, where she worked as a Human Resources Manager and then as a Corporate Services Manager.



MADHURA KAPDI | DIRECTOR, CAMPAIGNS & COMMUNICATIONS

With over two decades of experience in diverse areas, Madhura leads the Campaigns and Communications at Save the Children. She has, over the years, developed strong expertise in business development, communications, fundraising, media advocacy, campaign management and planning, particularly among NGOs. She has spent about 16 years of her professional journey in advancing child rights, WASH, and wildlife conservation agendas with reputed non-profit organisations, such as CRY, WaterAid, Wildlife Trust of India and Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA). She has earlier worked with Group M, where she was involved in planning for several Unilever brands. She has also engaged extensively on B2B, retail fundraising, donor management and business analytics. Armed with an MBA, with specialisation in marketing, she has developed a niche edge in brand management and developmental communications.



YASMIN RIAZ | DIRECTOR RESOURCE MOBILISATION

Associated with the social sector since 2011, Yasmin is responsible for marketing and fundraising activities, encompassing Corporate, Institution and Individual Giving verticals, at Save the Children. She is well recognised for her fundraising achievements in the development sector, where she has mentored and developed many leaders and has implemented many pioneering initiatives. She has played a pivotal role in executing effective strategies to enhance revenue growth and profitability. Her past experience as a Corporate Sales and Marketing professional, with successful stints across Software Education, Travel & Tourism and BFSI sectors, has equipped her with proficiency in crisis communications, PR and marketing, along with brand management. Yasmin led SOS Children's Villages of India for eight years, and has also worked with two of the biggest names in the BFSI sector - Max New York Life Insurance and Future Generali Life Insurance Company.



ANINDIT ROY CHOWDHURY | DIRECTOR – PROGRAMS & POLICY

Anindit carries the responsibility of ensuring effective implementation of robust programs at Save the Children, with focus on addressing various needs of India's most marginalised children. His expertise lies in the areas of Program Development and Implementation, Grant Administration, Policy Advocacy and Fundraising by forging strategic partnerships. Prior to coming on board with Save the Children, he worked as Program Manager (Global), Gender Justice and Human Rights at C&A Foundation, where he steered the development of the organisation's investment portfolio in these key areas. He earlier served as Director of South Asia in International Planned Parenthood Federation, where he led the strategic planning, leadership mentoring, program implementation, policy advocacy and program monitoring & evaluation functions. An MSc in Management of NGOs from the London School of Economics and Political Sciences, UK, Anindit has also worked with UN Women, UN International Organisation for Migration, and International Youth Foundation.



SUBHASHISH NEOGI | DIRECTOR – FINANCE, ADMIN & IT

Subhashish brings with him 25 years of experience in various fields of Finance & Accounts, including Financial Accounts, Banking & Treasury, Internal Auditing, Cost Accounting, Inventory and Asset Management, Direct and Indirect Taxation, Company Secretarial and Legal matters. He has strong capabilities in conceptualising and implementing new-age compliance management and accounting solutions, that help monitor regulatory and internal compliances of an organisation, as well as operational efficiency, thus resulting in greater savings. A Chartered Accountant, Cost Accountant, Company Secretary and an LLB, Subhashish has been associated with various prominent companies in the past, including Steel Authority of India Ltd, Tata Steel Ltd, Reliance Communications Ltd, Ecolab Inc, Jamshedpur Continuous Annealing & Processing Company Private Limited (being a JV between Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation and Tata Steel Ltd), Legasis Services Pvt. Ltd, and Spark Advisors & Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd. He is an alumnus of St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, and St. Xavier's School, Bokaro Steel City.



NAMRATA JAITLI | DIRECTOR – POLICY AND PROGRAM IMPACT

With 28 years of rich experience in managing diverse social development programs, through empowering, evidence and advocacy, Namrata leads Save the Children's Policy and Programme Impact division. She infuses a rich portfolio of evidence generation, policy analysis, and strategic engagement with civil society and children to influence government, strengthen robust monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning (MEAL) system to the quality of program. In her previous roles as Head of Programmes at Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), India, she has handled end-to-end management of grant-making programs for corporate clients and individual donors. She was also associated with PRIA (Society for Participatory Research in Asia) for 2 decades in diverse portfolios from program management to monitoring & evaluation, research, capacity building and policy influence. Namrata holds a Ph.D. in Social Work from Jamia Milia Islamia.



SANTANU CHAKRABORTY | DIRECTOR – PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Santanu, a champion for child rights and humanitarian response, is leading program implementation at Save the Children including evaluation, and technical support, multi-sectoral program development & humanitarian response for almost two decades across various themes. He demonstrates the capacity to secure access, undertake longer-term association with CSOs and develop evidence-based strategies on various issues affecting the lives of most marginalized children and their families in some of the most challenging contexts. He is enthusiastic about bringing lasting changes in the lives of the less privileged and their communities by ensuring their equal access to social, gender, economic and civil rights delivered through a high-performance & values-based organisation, innovative programming and partnerships for scale. He comes with decade long experience of working with multiple bilateral and multilateral organisations in different capacities.

GOVERNING COUNCIL LEADERS



Deepak Kapoor
Chairperson of the
Governing Council



Rajiv Kapur,
Treasurer of the
Governing Council



Harpal Singh



Mirai Chatterjee



**Swaroop Sampat
Rawal**



Dr. S.Y. Quraishi



Rashi Dhir



Vasvi Bharat Ram



**Stuti Narain
Kacker**



Muzaffar Ali



GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

ANM	Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery
ASF	Academic Support Fellows
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
AWC	Anganwadi Centres
AWWs	Anganwadi Workers
CACL	Campaign Against Child Labour
CHC	Community Health Centre
CiSS	Children in Street Situation
CMAM	Community-based Management of Malnutrition
CRC	Child Rights for Change
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DCPU	District Child Protection Unit
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EWS	Economically Weaker Section
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FCRA	Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act
FLWs	Frontline Workers
FY	Financial Year
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IFA	Iron/Folic Acid tablet
IVRS	Interactive Voice Response Systems
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi Employment Guarantee Scheme
MHRD	Ministry of Human Resource Development
MNCP	Marriage No Child's Play
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoH&FW	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCFE	Northern Council for Further Education
NCPCR	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
NIEPA	National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration
PDS	Public Distribution System

PHC	Primary Health Centres
PIL	Public Interest Litigation
PMO	Prime Minister's Office
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PRI	Panchayati Raj Institution
RCCE	Risk Communication and Community Engagement
RNA	Rapid Needs Assessment
RTE	Right to Education
SCPCR	State Commission for Protection of Child Rights
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDM	Sub-divisional Magistrate
SHGs	Self Help Groups
SMC	School Management Committee
SMS	Short Message Service
SoI	Statement of Intent
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedure
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights
THR	Take Home Ration
TLM	Teaching Learning Material
T-SAT	Society for Telangana State Network
UK	United Kingdom
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
VLCPC	Village-Level Child Protection Committees
WCD	Women and Child Development
WHO	World Health Organisation

