



**Bal
Raksha
Bharat**

Also known as **Save the Children**

Where Change Begins

From the margins to momentum,
for India's children.

BRB Annual Report 2025-26





OUR CREDENTIALS & CONTACTS

Name: Bal Raksha Bharat
(Also known as Save the Children India)

MCA Registration No. for CSR Activities:	CSR00000065
Tax Exemptions registered:	80G and 12A
Society Registration No.	S/51101/2004
Darpan Portal Id. No.	HR/2017/0152906
Statutory Auditor:	Deloitte Haskins & Sells, LLP

Address: D-61, East of Kailash, New Delhi - 110065
Website: www.balrakshabharat.org
Email id: info@balrakshabharat.org
Telephone: (+91) 011 4053 8140



TABLE OF CONTENTS

I	Message from the Chairperson	1
II	Message from the CEO's Desk	2
III	Our Governing Council	3
IV	Our Leadership	5
V	Achievements in 2025-26 Thanks to your support	7
	• Programme Coverage, Reach and Impact 2025-26	7
	• Strategic Government Collaborations	8
	• Awards Received in 2025-26	9
	• Exceptional Programmatic Achievements	12
VI	Programme Reach & Coverage Across Regions & States	14
	• North Region	14
	• South Region	16
	• East Region	18
	• West Region	20
	• North East Region	22
	• Jammu & Kashmir Region	24
VII	Grassroot Actions – Thematic Focus	26
	• Health & Nutrition	26
	• Education	32
	• Child Protection	37
	• Economic Well-Being	39
	• CA, DRR & Humanitarian	43
	• Integrated Programming	47
VIII	Resourcing the Mission	51
IX	Brand, Campaigns & Communication	53
X	Our People & Processes	56
XI	Managing Risks	58
XII	Finance	59
XIII	List of Abbreviations	62

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



At Bal Raksha Bharat, we believe that sustainable change for children is possible only through strong institutions, accountable systems, and collective action. It gives me immense pleasure to present the Annual Report 2025–26, reflecting the organisation's continued commitment to advancing children's well-being with integrity, innovation, and impact.

Over the past year, Bal Raksha Bharat strengthened its strategic interventions across health and nutrition, education, child protection, economic well-being, and humanitarian action, while responding to emerging challenges such as climate risks, digital vulnerabilities, learning inequities, and livelihood insecurity. Through close alignment with national priorities and flagship government initiatives, the organisation has continued to build resilient, community-owned systems that place children at the centre of development efforts.

The Governing Council remains committed to strengthening governance, transparency, safeguarding, and institutional accountability, while encouraging evidence-based programming and innovation. We firmly believe that long-term impact can only be

achieved through strong partnerships with governments, communities, academic institutions, corporates, philanthropists, and young people themselves.

This year has also been a moment of pride for Bal Raksha Bharat. I congratulate our dedicated staff and leadership teams for receiving prestigious recognitions, including the CSR & Sustainability Award 2026, BW Social Impact Award, ICC Social Impact Award, and recognition at the Times of India National CSR Summit 2026. These honours reflect the dedication and tireless commitment of our teams working across vulnerable communities.

I extend my sincere gratitude to our corporate partners, philanthropic foundations, institutional donors, High Net-worth Individuals (HNIs), government stakeholders, academic institutions, civil society partners, and individual supporters for their continued trust and collaboration.

As we move forward, the Governing Council reaffirms its commitment to strengthening Bal Raksha Bharat as a resilient, future-ready, and child-centred organisation that champions the dignity, aspirations, and participation of every child, while contributing towards the vision of an inclusive and empowered Viksit Bharat.

With Best Wishes

Deepak Kapoor

Chairperson

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO'S DESK



Dear Friends and Partners,

As we are moving forward, Bal Raksha Bharat remains fully committed to contributing towards the vision of Viksit Bharat by building inclusive, safe, and resilient systems where every child can realize their full potential.

At Bal Raksha Bharat, we remain committed to ensuring that every child survives, learns, is protected, and thrives with dignity. During 2025-26, we continued to strengthen child-centred and community-driven interventions across health and nutrition, education, child protection, economic well-being, and humanitarian action, reaching vulnerable children and families across India. Our work reaffirmed the importance of resilient systems, local leadership, and collaborative partnerships in creating sustainable impact.

Aligned with national priorities and flagship initiatives such as Poshan 2.0, Mission Saksham Anganwadi, SAANS Campaign, NEP 2020, NIPUN Bharat, Digital India, Skill India, and disaster resilience frameworks, we continuously engaged with government departments and key stakeholders for strengthened public systems while enabling communities to take ownership of change.

Through close collaboration with government departments, schools, Anganwadi Centres, healthcare institutions, and local governance systems, we contributed to improving service delivery and expanding equitable access for children and adolescents.

This year, we witnessed encouraging progress—from strengthening pneumonia care and maternal-child health systems to advancing foundational learning, safe digital engagement, adolescent well-being, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihood opportunities for youth and women. Equally inspiring has been the emergence of children and young people as changemakers and advocates within their communities.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our corporate partners, philanthropic foundations, High Net-worth Individuals (HNIs), institutional donors, and all the individual supporters whose trust and generosity continue to strengthen our mission. Their support has enabled us to scale impactful interventions, foster innovation, and respond effectively to the evolving needs of children and communities.

I also sincerely acknowledge the dedication of government stakeholders, frontline workers, volunteers, academics, civil society partners, and our teams across the country. Most importantly, I thank the children and communities who continue to inspire us through their resilience and aspirations.

With Best Wishes

Santanu Chakraborty

Chief Executive Officer

OUR

GOVERNING COUNCIL

(As on 31st March, 2026)



Deepak Kapoor

Chairperson



Rajiv Kapur

Treasurer



Swaroop Sampat Rawal

Member



Stuti Narain Kacker

Member



Vasvi Bharat Ram

Member



Susan Thomas

Member



Harpal Singh

Member



Parul Soni

Member



Sushil Dutt Salwan

Member



Sudipto Mundle

Member

OUR

LEADERSHIP



Santanu Chakraborty

Chief Executive Officer

Santanu, a passionate advocate for children's well-being & aspirations, serves as the CEO of Bal Raksha Bharat. With nearly 30 years of experience working for & with children, he brings deep expertise in strategic leadership, and in building long-term partnerships with governments, corporates, and philanthropic institutions. His leadership is driven by a commitment to innovation, scaling evidence-based impact, and advancing equity & inclusion. Santanu is recognised for his holistic vision, empathetic decision-making, and ability to build agile, trust-based, future-ready institutions.

Subhashish is serving as Director – Finance, Legal & IT at Bal Raksha Bharat since 2019. As a Chartered Accountant, Cost Accountant, Company Secretary, and LLB with over 30 years' experience, he specializes in finance, governance, compliance, risk management, and digital transformation. He has led automation and transformation initiatives in finance, strengthened controls, built high-performing teams, and supported international assignments with Save the Children Indonesia and the Philippines. Previously, he held leadership roles at Tata Steel, Reliance Communications, and Ecolab Inc.



Subhashish Neogi

Director - Finance, Legal & IT



Ritu Mendiratta

Director – HR &
Administration

Ritu Mendiratta is a seasoned HR and organisational development leader with over three decades of experience across the development, humanitarian, and corporate sectors. She has held leadership roles with organisations such as Oxfam, CARE, and Médecins Sans Frontières. Her expertise spans strategic HR, organisational development, change management, safeguarding, investigations, and leadership development. A certified investigator with extensive experience in safeguarding and POSH-related cases, Ritu is passionate about mentoring, coaching, and fostering purpose-driven workplace cultures while exploring the role of AI in HR and organisational transformation.

**Sanjay Sharma**

Director - Resource Mobilization
and External Engagement

With over 24 years in the development sector, Sanjay is a strategic leader in programme design, coalition building, and fundraising. He has held key roles at NRHM, CARE, PATH, DFID, and Bal Raksha Bharat. Sanjay has managed multi-million-dollar grants and earned accolades including the Jaipur Samman (2023) and CEO Special Mention (2022). A published author and policy advocate, he holds degrees in Population Studies, Rural Management, and Law.

Avinash is a seasoned development leader with 20+ years of experience in strategy, operations, and public policy engagement. He has led large-scale, multi-geography programmes focused on children's well-being, including ECCE, education, protection, and livelihoods. Known for his expertise in managing complex, multi-donor initiatives, Avinash brings deep insight from working with national and international social impact organisations.

**Avinash Singh**

Director - Programme
Implementation

**Shweta Malhotra**

Head - Organisational
Development &
Governance Affairs

With 17 years at Bal Raksha Bharat, Shweta leads Governance and Organisational Development, steering Board and CEO engagement while driving adaptability and a human-centric culture. Known for building meaningful connections, she brings creativity and empathy to leadership—shaped in part by her past as a successful freelance fashion designer.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025-26 THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

A. Programme Coverage, Reach and Impact 2025-26

Grants : 68 | States/UT : 26 | District :114

Geographical Coverage

Urban Coverage

Municipality	Slum	Ward
95	265	299

Rural Coverage

Block	GP	Village
154	536	926

AWC/School/Health Facility Coverage

AWC	School	HSC	PHC	DH
317	1348	98	91	17



4,29,753

Children Reach (2025-26)

Theme	Projects	Reach
Health & Nutrition	16	1,63,073
Education	23	86,737
Child Protection	6	39,631
Child Participation	1	14,316
Economic Well-Being	6	5,109
Integrated Programmes	14	1,01,960
Humanitarian	2	18,927

Additionally, more than 2L Parents & caregivers (Adults) were directly reached in FY 2025-26 across geography

B. Strategic Government Collaborations

Strategic Partnership

- Bal Raksha Bharat (Save the Children) partnered with CSIR-CBRI (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Central Building Research Institute) to advance child-centric, disaster-resilient infrastructure across India. The collaboration focused on resilient construction, detailed project report (DPR) preparation, field assessments, capacity building, and sustainable engineering solutions, promoting disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation in schools and community infrastructure.
- A five-year MoU has been signed with IIT Mandi iHub & HCI Foundation, positioning Bal Raksha Bharat at the intersection of technology, innovation, and child well-being.
- Bal Raksha Bharat and Loyola College, Chennai, entered into a strategic partnership to advance child well-being through research, youth engagement, digital safety, and capacity building, fostering evidence-based solutions, sustainable community development, and inclusive progress.
- Bal Raksha Bharat and the Indian Institute of Health Management & Research (IIHMR) formalised a strategic MoU to advance research, education, and community action, driving evidence-based solutions in public health, climate resilience, and child-focused development across India.



Strategic Engagement

- Participation at "One Health One World (OHOW) 4th International Symposium" from 20th to 22nd November 2025, hosted by the **CSIR-Central Building Research Institute (CBRI)**, Roorkee, Ministry of Science & Technology.

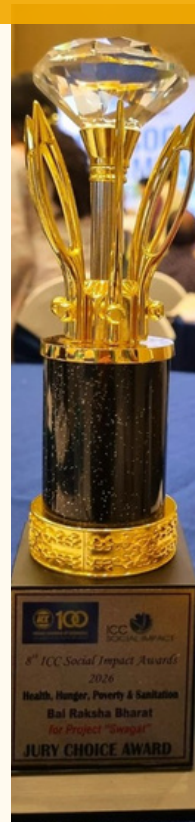


C. Awards Received in 2025-26

Prakruti Mitra award- 2025, Awarded by the Government of Odisha during World Environment Day, 2025



Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Social Impact Awards 2026 at 8th ICC Summit- Health, Hunger, Poverty and Solutions (Won Special Recognition and Jury Choice Winner's Award for Innovative Solutions for Communities).



Times of India Foundation conferred the Institutional Honour at Tol-CSR Summit, 2026.



Conferred by All India Business and Community Foundation (AIBCF) the CSR Sustainability Award 2026 for the Breath of Life project being implemented in Jammu & Kashmir.



SEIL Energy Limited awarded the CSR Partnership Recognition.



BW Disrupt Social Impact Award at their 4th edition of Award ceremony for our work with children.



Educational Leadership Award in Jammu & Kashmir, at the Educational Conclave in the Union Territory.



BVokal Collaborative Social Responsibility Awards 2025, Winner in the category of 'Sanrakshak', for SMART village initiative in Himachal Pradesh.



D. Exceptional Programmatic Achievements

Himachal Pradesh

Following the 2023 landslide and flash floods, Bal Raksha Bharat developed the Model Resilient Village in Sil/Sunani, Bawasni Gram Panchayat, Solan, Himachal Pradesh (2024–25) to rebuild safer, child-centred and climate-resilient communities through resilient infrastructure and livelihoods. This was done in partnership with CSIR-Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (HP-SDMA), district administration and Zee Entertainment Enterprises. This Model Resilient Village – Phase 1 was handed over to the Deputy Commissioner, Solan District, Himachal Pradesh, on 15th July 2025.



Jammu & Kashmir

35 government-run schools in Srinagar have been declared as Eat Right Schools, marking a significant milestone in promoting health, hygiene, and nutrition among students. Under this initiative, a three-year MoU was signed with the Agriculture Department to strengthen the programme's sustainability. A collaborative action promoted safe and nutritious school environments across 35 schools through kitchen gardens, free water testing by the Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department, health cards and check-up facilities for all students, along with food melas and kitchen audits. Capacity building included training of trainers, teachers, cooks, and School Management Committee (SMC) members, benefiting over 2,500 students. The programme has been a collaborative effort involving departments such as School Education, Health, Public Health Engineering (PHE), Agriculture, and the Food Safety, working together to build a culture of safe, healthy, and sustainable eating practices in schools.

Bal Raksha Bharat, in partnership with the Directorate of Health Services, Kashmir; University of Kashmir; and the Health Department in the districts, has built capacities for all health workers across 10 districts. The partnership leveraged 42% of the 48 lakh budget in training and health camps under the Social Awareness and Action to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) programme for 2025-26.



Karnataka

Bal Raksha Bharat's successful Disaster Risk Reduction pilot in Bengaluru Urban led to its nomination as a panel member by the Karnataka State Disaster Management Authority (K-SDMA), strengthening collaboration on the State DRR Roadmap 2030 and advancing Child-Centric Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) in Karnataka.



Rajasthan

Through its strategic partnership with CSIR– Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Bal Raksha Bharat is advancing Smart Village models in Rajasthan that foster safe, climate-resilient, and child-friendly environments. The initiative supports the design and strengthening of schools, Anganwadi Centres, and community structures through technical innovation, institutional capacity building, and scalable approaches that enhance resilience to climate and disaster risks.



Tamil Nadu

Bal Raksha Bharat entered into a non-financial partnership with the Commissionerate of Adi Dravidar Welfare (ADW), Tamil Nadu, aiming to strengthen educational quality, child protection, and holistic child well-being across Government ADW schools and hostels through system-strengthening and child-centred interventions.



Telangana

Bal Raksha Bharat maintained a strong technical partnership working on the Learning Improvement Programme (LIP), Unnati in Telangana, to strengthening academic standards for grades 6-9. The overall objective is to support children who are behind in their learning in grades 6-9 to catch up with their learning to achieve age and grade-appropriate performance.

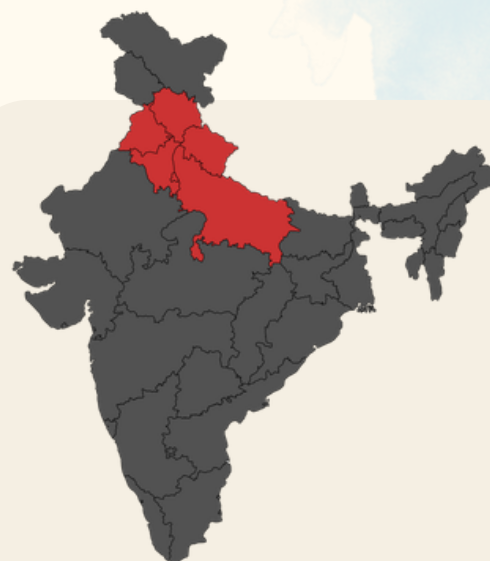


PROGRAMME REACH & COVERAGE ACROSS REGIONS & STATES

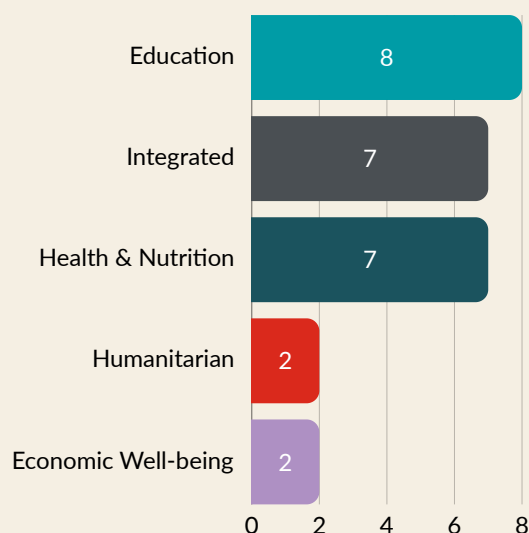
NORTH REGION

State / UT	Nos	District
Chandigarh	1	Chandigarh
Delhi	10	Central Delhi, East Delhi, New Delhi, North Delhi, NE Delhi, NW Delhi, South Delhi, SE Delhi, SW Delhi, West Delhi.
Haryana	3	Faridabad, Gurugram, Sonapat
Himachal Pradesh	3	Kullu, Sirmaur, Solan
Punjab	3	Chandigarh, Mohali, S.A.S Nagar
Uttar Pradesh	7	Barabanki, Bahraich, Balrampur, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Gonda, Lucknow, Shravasti
Uttarakhand	1	Dehradun

Programme Facilities - North			
States	Schools	Anganwadi Centres	Health Facilities
Delhi	58	3	1
Haryana	33	2	13
Himachal Pradesh	56	0	0
Punjab	7	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	195	0	3
Uttarakhand	2	0	0
Region Total	351	5	17



Thematic focus across projects



Programme Reach - North					
States	Girls	Boys	Total children	Adult	Total Reach
Chandigarh	1,958	1,593	3,551	283	3,834
Delhi	10,021	9,280	19,301	16,264	35,565
Haryana	8,972	7,178	16,150	34,616	50,766
Himachal Pradesh	19,358	4,998	24,356	9,467	33,823
Punjab	1,824	1,793	3,617	1,459	5,076
Uttar Pradesh	23,593	4,957	28,550	12,241	40,791
Uttarakhand	37	66	103	8	111
Grand Total	65,763	29,865	95,628	74,338	169,966

Achievement Highlight – North

24,331

Children and Youth trained on reducing locally-determined climate and/or environmental risks

831

Children supported in foundational literacy, numeracy, social and emotional learning

5,357

Children received inpatient or outpatient consultation at a supported health facility or mobile clinic

512

Vulnerable households having access to social protection schemes & services

809

Pregnant women, lactating mothers, and primary caregivers were counselled by Frontline Workers (FLWs) on improved health-seeking behaviour

306

Trained youth (18 years and above) successfully placed as self-entrepreneur / in decent employment

570

Adolescents and youth (18 years and above) completed vocational training (including green jobs and enterprises)

113

Children and adults received training on Child Protection in Emergency (CPiE) and impact of climate change

235

Children (boys and girls) removed from harmful work

53

Medical & public health personnel mentored on integrated delivery of interventions for MNCAH, digital health solutions, climate-related health impacts and management

58

FLWs / Master Trainers were trained on WASH & Nutrition Management for skill upgradation

40

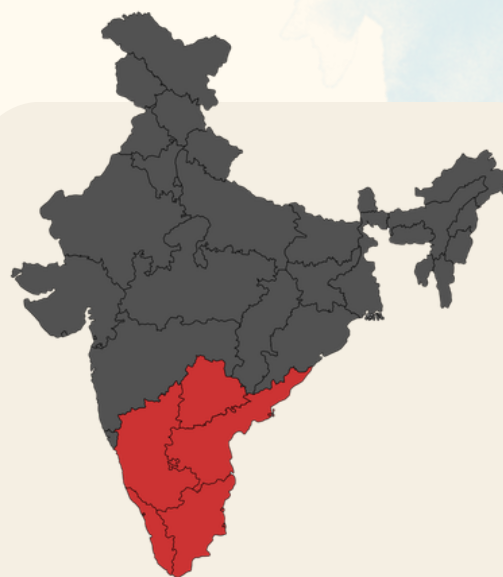
Teachers and facilitators were supported to strengthen their competencies (including climate resilient practices)

PROGRAMME REACH & COVERAGE ACROSS REGIONS & STATES

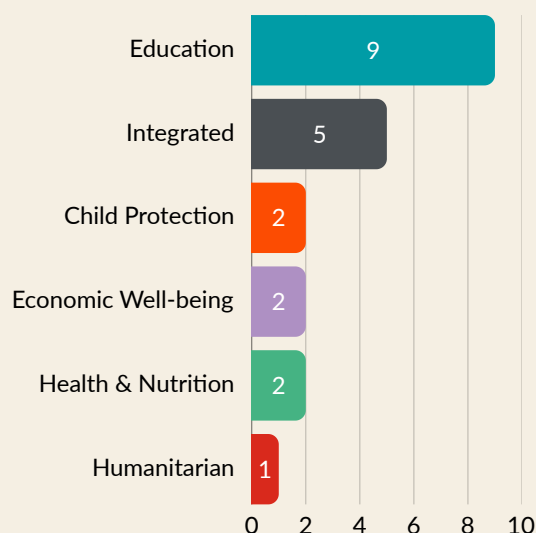
SOUTH REGION

States & UTs	Nos	Districts
Andhra Pradesh	4	Anantapur, Krishna, NTR, Tirupati
Karnataka	4	Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, Haveri, Ramanagara
Kerala	1	Ernakulam
Puducherry	1	Pondicherry
Tamil Nadu	38	Chennai, Cuddalore, Kanchipuram, Perambalur, Tenkasi, Thiruvallur, Tirunelveli, Tuticorin. Another 30 districts with only adolescent training programme in ADW Hostels
Telangana	3	Hyderabad, Medchal Malkajgiri, Ranga Reddy

Programme Facilities - South			
States	Schools	Anganwadi Centres	Health Facilities
Andhra Pradesh	11	31	25
Karnataka	177	40	52
Kerala	5	0	0
Puducherry	4	2	1
Tamil Nadu	202	50	104
Telangana	13	2	3
Grand Total	412	125	185



Thematic focus across projects



Programme Reach - South					
States	Girls	Boys	Total children	Adult	Total Reach
Andhra Pradesh	1,649	1,324	2,973	2,636	5,609
Karnataka	10,644	9,992	20,636	19,079	39,715
Kerala	130	220	350	278	628
Puducherry	258	223	481	667	1,148
Tamil Nadu	36,764	7,741	44,505	2,976	47,481
Telangana	5,211	4,062	9,273	10,121	19,394
Grand Total	54,654	23,562	78,218	35,757	113,975

Achievement Highlight – South

12,518

Persons trained on reducing locally-determined climate and/or environmental risks

3,305

Children aged 3 to 6 years attended an early childhood education programme

3,485

Pregnant women, lactating mothers, and Primary caregivers were counselled by FLWs on health-seeking behaviour, IYCF, maternal nutrition, anaemia prevention, safe water storage, handwashing steps, menstrual hygiene, personal hygiene, etc.

2,383

Children who received inpatient or outpatient consultation at a supported health facility or mobile clinic

1,181

Vulnerable households having access to social protection schemes & services

947

Teachers and facilitators were supported to strengthen their competencies (including climate resilient practices)

712

Children supported in foundational literacy, numeracy and social & emotional learning.

446

Children & adults received mental health and/or psychosocial support services (MHPSS)

120

FLWs / Master Trainers provided with training/capacity building on Nutrition Management for skill upgradation

12

Schools have a Safe School Plan in the Bal Raksha Bharat operational areas

15

Adolescents and youth (18 years and above) have completed vocational training (including green jobs and enterprises)

10

Schools/AWCs have a Safety Audit conducted regularly

12

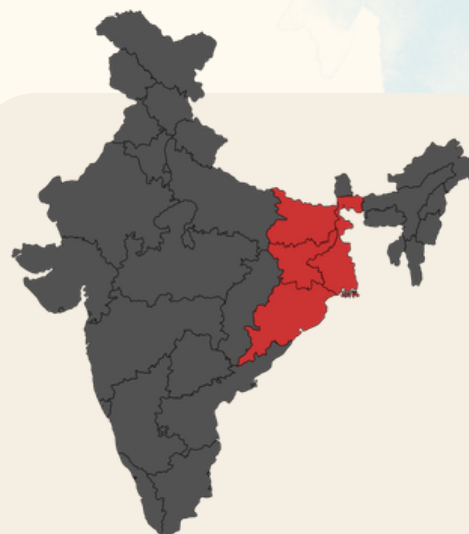
Trained youth (18 years and above) successfully as self-entrepreneur / in decent employment..

PROGRAMME REACH & COVERAGE ACROSS REGIONS & STATES

EAST REGION

States & UTs	Nos	Districts
Bihar	4	Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Patna, Purbi Champaran
Jharkhand	1	Ranchi
Odisha	3	Boudh, Jajapur, Kandhamal
West Bengal	2	Kolkata, South 24 Parganas,

Programme Facilities - East			
States	Schools	Anganwadi Centres	Health Centres
Bihar	7	2	5
Odisha	92	162	117
West Bengal	5	3	0
Grand Total	104	167	122



Thematic focus across projects



Bal Raksha Bharat in Jharkhand provided technical support in the form of state-level training for Police and Line Department staff on Disaster Risk Reduction Preparedness and Planning.



Programme Reach - East					
States	Girls	Boys	Total children	Adult	Total Reach
Bihar	2,304	1,530	3,834	3,577	7,411
Jharkhand	0	0	0	111	111
Odisha	9,786	4,691	14,477	15,902	30,379
West Bengal	3,376	3,791	7,167	15,047	22,214
Grand Total	15,466	10,012	25,478	34,526	60,115

Achievement Highlight - East

4,665

Enrolled children who complete the grade level or programme (including ECCD)

1,410

Adolescents and youth (18 years & above) have completed vocational training (including green jobs and enterprises)

1,159

Vulnerable households having access to social protection schemes & services

408

FLWs / Master Trainers trained on Nutrition Management for skill upgradation

2,471

Pregnant & lactating mothers and primary caregivers received counselling on improved health-seeking behaviour

1,289

Children received health services

551

Children & adults received training on Child Protection in Emergency (CPiE) and impact of climate change

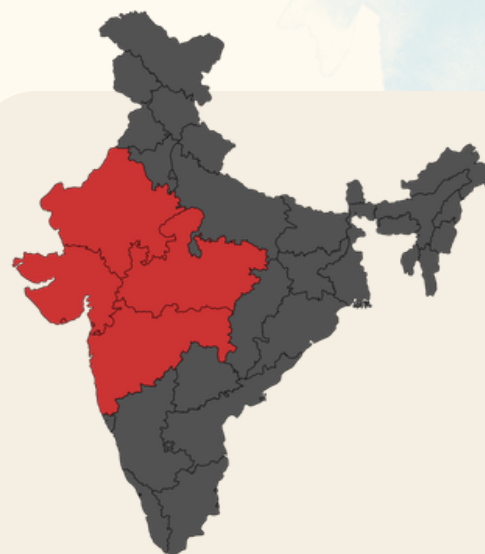


PROGRAMME REACH & COVERAGE ACROSS REGIONS & STATES

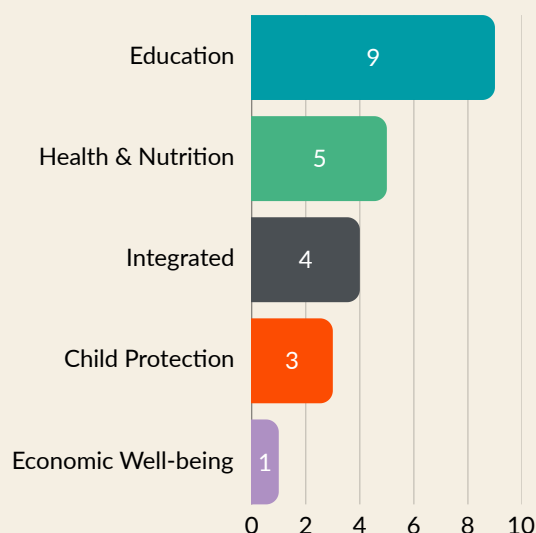
WEST REGION

States & UTs	Nos	Districts
Gujarat	2	Ahmadabad, Surat
Madhya Pradesh	2	Bhopal, Raisen
Maharashtra	6	Mumbai, Mumbai Suburban, Nagpur, Nashik, Pune, Sindhudurg
Rajasthan	7	Alwar, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Khairthal-Tijara, Pali, Phalodi

Programme Facilities - West			
States	Schools	Anganwadi Centres	Health Facilities
Gujarat	22	4	0
Madhya Pradesh	27	0	0
Maharashtra	235	111	31
Rajasthan	125	27	0
Region Total	409	142	31



Thematic focus across projects



Programme Reach - West					
States	Girls	Boys	Total children	Adult	Total Reach
Gujarat	480	526	1,006	529	1,535
Madhya Pradesh	1,816	1,052	2,868	2,406	5,274
Maharashtra	38,094	39,024	77,118	12,908	90,026
Rajasthan	10,098	8,769	18,867	10,034	28,901
Grand Total	50,488	49,371	99,859	25,877	125,736
Grand Total	100,976	98,742	199,718	51,754	251,472

Achievement Highlight – West

27,250

Children (0-18 years) received WASH programme intervention

2,449

Pregnant women, lactating mothers, and primary caregivers were counselled by FLWs on improved health-seeking behaviour, IYCF, maternal nutrition, anaemia prevention, safe water storage, handwashing steps, menstrual hygiene, and personal hygiene

1,768

Children supported in foundational literacy, numeracy, and social & emotional learning

847

Teachers and facilitators were supported to strengthen their competencies (including climate resilient practices)

356

Families have received the benefits (access) of selected social protection programmes

48

Adolescents and youth (18 years and above) have completed vocational training (including green jobs and enterprises)

31

Youth (18 years and above) trained & successfully placed as self-entrepreneur / in decent employment

2,493

Children received inpatient or outpatient consultation at a supported health facility or mobile clinic

2,032

Children aged 3 to 6 years (36-72 months) attended an early childhood education programme

1104

FLWs / Master Trainers trained on Nutrition Management & MNCH for skill upgradation.

625

Children & adults trained on reducing locally-determined climate and/or environmental risks

19

Schools having a Safe School Plan in the Bal Raksha Bharat operational areas

20

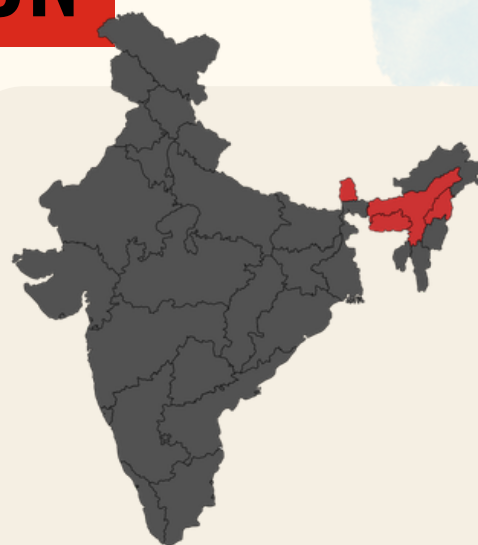
Children and adults who received training on Child Protection in Emergency (CPIE) and impact of climate change



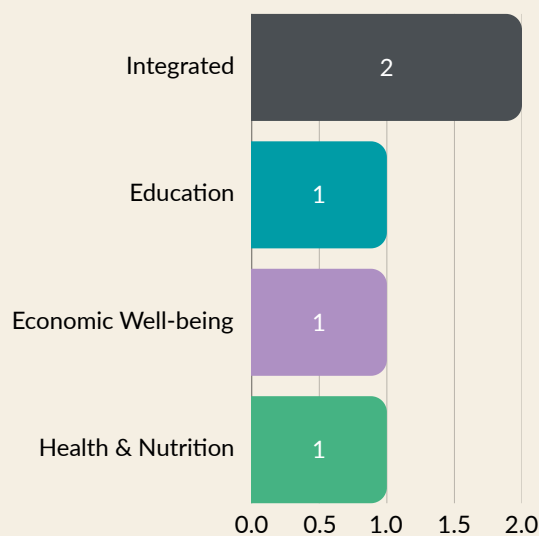
PROGRAMME REACH & COVERAGE ACROSS REGIONS & STATES

NORTH-EAST REGION

States & UTs	Nos	Districts
Assam	5	Dibrugarh, Golaghat, Jorhat, Kamrup, Kamrup Metro
Meghalaya	2	East Khasi Hills, Ri Bhoi
Nagaland	1	Dimapur
Sikkim	1	Namchi



Thematic focus across projects



Programme Facilities - NE	
States	School
Assam	5
Meghalaya	2
Nagaland	2
Sikkim	2
Grand Total	11

Programme Reach - NE					
States	Girls	Boys	Total children	Adult	Total Reach
Assam	5,201	2,905	8,106	5,264	21,476
Meghalaya	178	176	354	180	888
Nagaland	326	191	517	270	1,304
Sikkim	60	76	136	0	272
Grand Total	5,765	3,348	9,113	5,714	23,940

Achievement Highlight - North East

1,150

Primary caregivers counselled by FLWs on safe water storage, handwashing steps, menstrual hygiene, personal hygiene, etc.

159

FLWs / Master Trainers trained on Nutrition Management for skill upgradation.

51

Teachers and facilitators were supported to strengthen their competencies (including climate-resilient practices)

444

Adolescents and youth (18 years & above) have completed vocational training (including green jobs and enterprises)

82

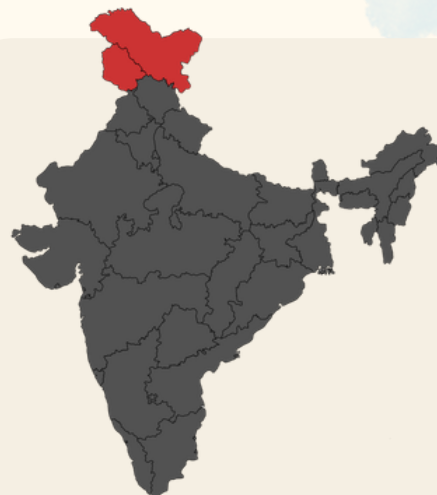
Children removed from harmful work



PROGRAMME REACH & COVERAGE ACROSS REGIONS & STATES

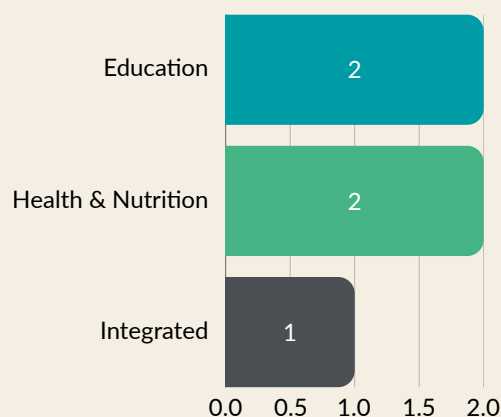
JAMMU & KASHMIR REGION

States & UTs	Nos	Districts
Jammu & Kashmir	8	Anantnag, Bandipora, Baramulla, Budgam, Ganderbal, Kulgam, Kupwara, Srinagar
Ladakh	1	Leh Ladakh



Programme Facilities – Jammu & Kashmir			
States	Schools	Anganwadi Centres	Health Facilities
Jammu & Kashmir	69	32	21
Ladakh	32	0	0
Total	101	32	21

Thematic focus across projects



Programme Reach – J&K					
States	Girls	Boys	Total children	Adult	Total Reach
Jammu & Kashmir	33,456	37,549	71,005	26,799	97,804
Ladakh	310	282	592	49	641
Grand Total	33,766	37,831	71,597	26,848	98,445

Achievement Highlight – Jammu & Kashmir

15,000

Children (0-18 years) received programme intervention in Health, Nutrition and WASH

3,194

Pregnant and lactating mothers and primary caregivers counselled by FLWs on health seeking behaviour, IYCF, maternal nutrition, anaemia prevention, safe water storage, handwashing steps, menstrual hygiene, personal hygiene, etc.

426

Medical & public health personnel mentored on integrated delivery of interventions for MNCAH, digital health solutions, climate-related health impacts and management

180

Teachers and facilitators were supported to strengthen their competencies (including climate resilient practices)

32

Child Protection Committees were functional in the community

4,751

FLWs / Master Trainers trained on MNCH, Nutrition Management & WASH for skill upgradation

3,186

Children received inpatient or outpatient consultation at a supported health facility or mobile clinic

212

Children who complete the grade level or programme (including ECCD)

27

Bal Raksha Bharat intervening schools/AWCs have a Safety Audit conducted regularly and have a Safe School Plan



GRASSROOT ACTIONS – THEMATIC FOCUS

HEALTH & NUTRITION

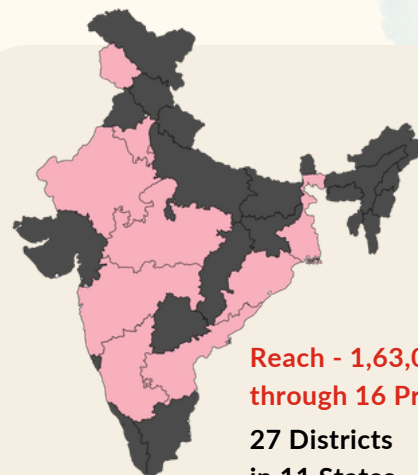
Advancing Integrated Systems for Healthier Communities

At Bal Raksha Bharat, we have strengthened the Health & Nutrition portfolio through a **lifecycle-based, systems-focused approach**, ensuring that **equitable, high-quality, and responsive services** reaching **1,63,073 children, adolescents, and women**. During the year, we have worked across 27 districts in 11 states to address the interconnected challenges of **undernutrition, maternal, child and adolescent health, WASH, and early childhood development**. We addressed these issues by **strengthening public health and nutrition service delivery systems**, working in collaboration with government agencies at various levels and enabling communities to take ownership of their health outcomes.

Our approach has been anchored in **integration, convergence, and innovation**. We have ensured that interventions across nutrition, health, and WASH are delivered in an interconnected manner, enabling a continuum of care from early childhood through adolescence. By aligning with national priorities and working closely with government systems, including Anganwadi Centres, schools, and health facilities, we have helped strengthen service delivery platforms and improve their effectiveness at scale.

Strengthening Nutrition Outcomes Across the Lifecycle

At Bal Raksha Bharat, our strategy to improve nutrition outcomes has been anchored in a lifecycle approach, addressing the needs of adolescents, pregnant women & lactating mother, and young children in an integrated manner. By combining evidence-based interventions, system strengthening, and community engagement, we have worked to deliver sustainable and scalable improvements in nutrition among vulnerable populations.



Geographical Coverage

Urban Coverage

Municipality	Slum	Ward
18	78	87

Rural Coverage

Block	GP	Village
23	70	116

AWC/School/Health Facility Coverage

AWC	School	HSC	PHC	DH
70	218	181	161	25



69,676 Children Received Healthcare Services



1,427 FLWs / Master Trainers trained building on MNCH for skill up gradation



15,939 patients (children) received inpatient or outpatient consultation at a supported health facility or mobile clinic



15,883 pregnant & lactating mothers and primary caregivers counselled by FLWs on improved health-seeking behaviour



68,548 Children Received Nutritional Care Services

Strategic Approaches

- **Life-Cycle Continuum of Care** works on strengthening core practices from pre-pregnancy through early childhood, specifically targeting **Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices**, maternal nutrition, and adolescent health to improve home-based feeding/eating behaviours.
- **Community-Based Integrated Management of Malnutrition (IM-SAM)** focuses on scaling up the identification and treatment of acute malnutrition through **strengthened screening, referral linkages & facilitation, and follow-up systems**, which improve recovery rates and prevent the burden on hospitals.
- **Technical Assistance & Governance** supporting **Aspirational Districts & Blocks** by assisting administrations with strategic planning and monitoring. This includes capacity building for frontline workers and promoting **data-driven decision-making** to optimise service delivery.
- **Platform Strengthening (Poshan 2.0)** aligns with national missions to enhance **Anganwadi and school-based platforms**. Focus areas include improved growth monitoring, supplementary nutrition, and more effective service delivery at critical caregiver touchpoints.
- **Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC)** is driving community-level change through participatory communication strategies that encourage **dietary diversity**, consumption of millets, and climate-resilient food choices.
- **Nutrition-Sensitive Interventions** promoting sustainable food access through the establishment of **kitchen gardens and nutri-gardens**, ensuring families have direct access to fresh, nutritious produce at the household level.

7,583 FLWs / Master Trainers provided with training/capacity building on nutrition management for skill upgradation

6,910 pregnant and lactating mothers and primary caregivers counselled by FLWs on IYCF, maternal nutrition, anaemia prevention

918 medical & public health personnel mentored on Integrated delivery of interventions for MNCAH, digital health solutions, climate related health impacts and management

At the community level, **behaviour change has been central to our approach**. Through participatory and locally relevant communication strategies, families have been supported to adopt improved dietary practices, including increased dietary diversity, use of millets, and climate-resilient food choices. These efforts have been complemented by the promotion of **kitchen gardens and nutri-gardens**, which have improved access to fresh and nutritious foods while encouraging sustainable, nutrition-sensitive practices.

Through this integrated approach, **sustained nutrition improvements are achieved when community ownership is strengthened, frontline systems are capacitated, and interventions are rooted in local contexts**.



Evidence from Practice

Nourishing Change: Shalini's Path to Better Health

"Medicines did not heal us. When you explained that food is medicine, I understood. Today, my daughter and I are healthy. Thank you for bringing this change in our lives." - **Kiran reflected emotionally**

In Jogiya village, where malnutrition was once accepted as routine, change began with awareness and collective action. Kiran, a mother with a high-risk pregnancy, had been receiving Take Home Ration (THR). But, like many others, she was unaware of its importance and used it as cattle feed. Her daughter Shalini was identified as severely malnourished (SAM), and Kiran's own health remained fragile.



The turning point came when Bal Raksha Bharat, along with Anganwadi Workers, engaged directly with Kiran. Through home visits, recipe demonstrations, and mothers' meetings, she was supported in understanding that food is as essential as medicine. Encouraged by the community, Kiran began using THR correctly and adopting better nutrition and care practices.

Steady progress followed - Shalini moved from 5 kg (SAM) in June 2025 to 6.2 kg (normal) by August of the same year. Today, both the mother and child are healthy, inspiring others in the village. Their journey shows that real change happens when communities come together, and nutrition is truly understood and practised.

Strengthening Integrated, Technology-Enabled and Climate-Resilient MNCAH Systems

Bal Raksha Bharat implementation approach focuses on building fair, strong, and responsive health systems through connected services, technology use, and active community participation across the Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health (MNCAH) continuum.

918 medical & public health personnel mentored on Integrated delivery of interventions for MNCAH, digital health solutions, climate-related health impacts and management

Key Strategic Highlights Adapted

- **Integrated Life-Cycle Care:** Connecting health services for mothers, newborns, children, and teens so that prevention and treatment work together seamlessly from home to the clinic.

- **Strengthening Primary Care:** Fixing "supply" issues (like better buildings and more staff) while also tackling "demand" issues (like helping people understand and afford the care they need).
- **Mobile Health Clinics:** Using travelling clinics to reach remote areas, allowing for early check-ups and quick referrals for patients who live far from a hospital.
- **Adolescent Health (ARSH):** Helping young people make informed choices about their reproductive and sexual health by building awareness and removing the shame or stigma around these topics.
- **Digital Health Tools:** Using modern tech like telemedicine (video calls with doctors), Health ATMs, and instant diagnostic tests to make sure people in hard-to-reach places still get their medicine and care.
- **Climate Resilience:** Building tougher health centres and emergency plans that can keep running even during climate-related disasters in extreme weather conditions.

Breath of Life: Strengthening Pneumonia Care for Children in Kashmir

*In Jammu & Kashmir, where childhood pneumonia remains a leading cause of preventable deaths, **Project Breath of Life** is improving early detection and timely treatment through stronger health systems and community outreach.*

Implemented by Bal Raksha Bharat (BRB) in partnership with the Directorate of Health Services in Kashmir and the National Health Mission Jammu & Kashmir, with generous support from the Harish and Bina Shah Foundation, the initiative has currently reached more than 79,000 children under the age of 5, across eight districts of the region.

*This initiative had two-pronged approach: **strengthening health systems by building the capacity of health-care providers**, improving treatment protocols, and enhancing district-level training; and **driving community engagement to promote awareness and timely care-seeking**. A key innovation is the Pneumonia Skill Lab, which has trained more than 2,000 healthcare providers in early diagnosis and standardised care. Additionally, digital Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) tools have supported frontline workers in conducting home visits, tracking cases, and providing caregiver counselling.*

Together, these efforts are enabling better child health outcomes and paving the way for scale-up across the region.

1,427 FLWs / Master Trainers provided with training/capacity building on MNCH for skill upgradation

Evidence from Practice

Health at Fingertips: Transforming Maternal & Child Health in Rural Odisha through Health ATMs

In Phiringia Block, one of the NITI Aayog Aspirational Blocks of Odisha, access to basic health services has become faster and easier with the introduction of Health ATMs - digital machines enabling quick and reliable health check-ups. Earlier, families travelled long distances for routine tests, facing time and cost barriers. Under the Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar (Healthy Women, Empowered Families) health initiative launched by the Government of India, a health camp at Sadingia Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAM) reached 86 beneficiaries, including women and children. Tests such as haemoglobin, diabetes, and cholesterol were conducted with instant reports. Health workers provided on-the-spot consultation, identifying early health risks and referring cases for further care-improving awareness, saving time, and strengthening preventive health practices.



Urban MaCare: Strengthening Maternal Health Through Community and Technology

The **Urban MaCare Initiative pilot** demonstrated how a technology-enabled, community-based approach can strengthen maternal health service delivery in underserved urban settings. By integrating the Anandi Maa Kit with frontline outreach platforms such as home visits and Urban Health and Nutrition Days (UHNDs), the pilot enabled early antenatal screening, improved identification of high-risk pregnancies, and strengthened referral linkages. The initiative successfully trained frontline workers, enhanced service provider capacity, and reached nearly 23,000 community members, reflecting strong engagement and uptake.

It has been a learning that technology is most effective when seamlessly integrated into existing workflows, simplifying tasks rather than adding complexity & anxiety. The pilot highlighted that behaviour change depends more on triggering timely action than merely raising awareness. Equipping frontline workers not only improved their efficiency but also strengthened community trust. The initiative further underscored the importance of government convergence and the need for flexible, mobile service delivery models that respond to the realities of urban populations. Overall, it demonstrated a scalable and sustainable pathway for improving maternal health outcomes.



Strengthening Integrated WASH for Improved Health Outcomes

Bal Raksha Bharat's WASH programme adopts an integrated, lifecycle-based approach that combines behaviour change with system strengthening to improve health outcomes across communities and institutions. Children are positioned as key change agents, equipped to practice and promote safe hygiene behaviours in schools.

- **User-Centric & Inclusive Infrastructure:** Developing WASH facilities that are accessible, safe, and designed with dignity in mind - specifically tailored to the needs of women, children, and vulnerable groups.
- **Infection Prevention and Control (IPC):** Prioritising hygiene safety across health centres, schools, and Anganwadi Centres by training frontline workers and ensuring a steady supply of essential cleaning and safety materials.
- **Behaviour Change over Awareness:** Moving beyond just "sharing information" to demonstration and practice, ensuring that healthy habits (like handwashing) are actually adopted and sustained at home and in public spaces.

82,193 children
reached through
WASH Programmes

14,654 primary caregivers
counselled by FLWs on safe
water storage, handwashing
steps, menstrual hygiene,
personal hygiene, etc.

- **Climate-Resilient WASH:** Engineering water and sanitation systems to be reliable and functional even during environmental shifts or climate-related disasters.
- **Frontline Worker Empowerment:** Equipping community workers with specialised skills, modern tools, and ongoing support to improve service delivery and build deep community trust.
- **Community Ownership:** Using Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) to shift responsibility to the community, encouraging them to manage and maintain their own local hygiene systems.

1,253 FLWs / Master Trainers provided with training/capacity building on WASH for skill upgradation

Looking ahead, we remain committed to scaling integrated, technology-enabled, and community-driven models, with a continued focus on pneumonia prevention, maternal and child health, nutrition security, and climate-resilient systems. Through these efforts, we aim to ensure that every child not only survives but thrives, supported by systems and communities that are resilient, responsive, and inclusive.

Strategic Engagement

Bal Raksha Bharat's partnership with the World Health Organisation (WHO) under the Nurturing Beginnings Initiative in Delhi demonstrates effective institutional collaboration to improve maternal and child health in the first 1,000 days. A joint baseline assessment across urban slum clusters mapped the health and nutrition status of vulnerable mothers and infants. The initiative actively engaged government systems, frontline workers, and communities, ensuring alignment with existing services. Its evidence-driven approach is translating findings into individualised care plans, enabling targeted interventions. This collaboration has strengthened coordination across levels and established a scalable, data-driven model for improving urban health outcomes.

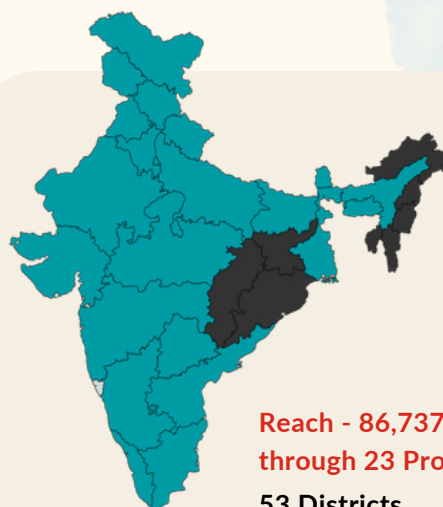
GRASSROOT ACTIONS – THEMATIC FOCUS

EDUCATION

Strategic Advancement in Early Childhood Care and Development (Pre-School)

To improve the school readiness among young children (0–6 Years), strong emphasis was placed on promoting responsive caregiving and early stimulation practices at the household level, alongside the integration of play-based learning approaches within early childhood centres. The **strategic approaches** that have been adopted to achieve this:

- **Transforming Anganwadi Centres into Early Learning Spaces:** Strengthened Anganwadi Centres with vibrant, child-friendly environments through capacity building of workers on play-based pedagogy, early stimulation, and child assessment, supported with contextualised Teaching & Learning Materials (TLMs) and activity-based modules.
- **Institutionalising Quality through Mentoring and Supervision:** Established structured mentoring and supportive supervision systems to improve classroom practices, enhance child engagement, and ensure consistent school readiness outcomes.
- **Ensuring Continuum of Learning:** Promoted seamless transitions from home to Anganwadi Centre to primary school by aligning curriculum and pedagogy across ECCD and early grades (Grade 1–2), minimising learning disruptions.
- **Strengthening School Readiness and Foundational Skills:** Implemented targeted interventions for children entering Grade 1, focusing on foundational literacy, numeracy, and socio-emotional development through integrated approaches.
- **Enabling Convergence between Anganwadi Centre and Schools:** Facilitated joint orientation and collaboration between Anganwadi Workers and primary school teachers to align teaching practices and expectations.
- **Promoting Responsive care-giving and early stimulation:** Empowered caregivers, especially mothers, as primary educators through structured home visits, group sessions, and demonstration of age-appropriate stimulation activities.



**Reach - 86,737
through 23 Projects
53 Districts
in 24 States**

Geographical Coverage

Urban Coverage

Municipality	Slum	Ward
55	115	142

Rural Coverage

Block	GP	Village
102	390	526

AWC/School/Coverage

AWC	School
214	718



Learning process actively supported among 8,408 children aged 3 - 6 years



6,737 children aged 3 - 6 years enrolled in an early childhood education programme

- **Leveraging Low-Cost Digital Reinforcement:** Utilised accessible platforms like WhatsApp and short videos to reinforce positive caregiving practices and sustain engagement at the household level.
- **Driving Behaviour Change at Household Level:** Shifted caregiver attitudes from passive care to active participation in children's cognitive and socio-emotional development, irrespective of literacy levels.
- **Building Community-owned ECCD Ecosystems:** Mobilised caregiver groups and Anganwadi Development Committees to promote early learning as a shared community responsibility.
- **Developing Community Champions:** Identified and trained local champions, including Anganwadi Workers and mothers, to advocate for and sustain early childhood development practices.
- **Strengthening Government Systems for Sustainability:** Partnered with the Departments of Women and Child Development and Education to integrate ECCD models into public systems, support training mechanisms, and enhance curriculum adoption.
- **Driving Evidence-Based Policy Influence:** Leveraged field evidence to advocate for improved investments and institutionalisation of quality ECCD practices, ensuring long-term impact beyond project cycles.

Empowering the Future- Ensuring Access to Quality & Safe Learning for Children (in School)

During the reporting year, Bal Raksha Bharat's Education programmes focused on ensuring that all girls and boys aged 6–18 years have equitable access to safe, inclusive, and quality learning environments. The approach emphasises strengthening foundational learning, addressing learning gaps, enhancing teaching quality, and integrating future-ready skills.



Key Strategic Approaches

Strengthening Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN)

- Prioritised early grade learning to ensure all children acquire basic reading & numeracy skills.
- Implemented structured learning modules and continuous assessments.
- Utilised level-appropriate teaching-learning materials.
- Promoted interactive, child-centred pedagogies among teachers.
- Established regular tracking systems to monitor progress & provide timely academic support.

5,203 children supported in FLN, and social & emotional learning

Support towards Learning Recovery & Remedial Education

- Implemented targeted remedial programmes, including community-based learning centres & after-school classes.
- Adopted learning level-based grouping instead of age/grade-based grouping for instruction.
- Established learning centres in underserved areas to support marginalised children.
- Used flexible schedules and localised strategies to improve reach & participation.
- Focused on accelerated learning to help children achieve grade-level competencies.
- Promoted low-cost, scalable, and replicable remedial models.

Teacher Professional Development

- Strengthened continuous professional development systems beyond one-time training.
- Provided ongoing classroom-based mentoring and support.
- Conducted trainings on experiential learning, project-based learning, the use of technology, and assessment practices.
- Established peer learning platforms for knowledge sharing and collaborative problem-solving.
- Developed master trainers at the block level to ensure sustained capacity building.

2,970 teachers and facilitators supported to strengthen their competencies (including climate resilient practices)

STEAM & 21st Century Skills Integration

- Promoted critical thinking, creativity, & problem-solving through STEAM-based learning.
- Established SMART classrooms and laboratories for hands-on, experiential learning.
- Integrated real-world problem-solving tasks into classroom practices.
- Facilitated exposure to career pathways and mentorship opportunities.
- Strengthened digital literacy to prepare children for future challenges.

Community Engagement for Learning Continuity

- Activated School Management Committees (SMCs) and Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs).
- Encouraged parental involvement in children's home-based learning.
- Organised community events such as sports activities and learning festivals.
- Strengthened community ownership to improve attendance, retention, and learning outcomes.

23020 caregivers / community members actively participated in enabling children's learning

Technology-based Hybrid Learning

- Integrated low-cost digital solutions, including offline content in SMART classrooms and digital assessments.
- Promoted hybrid learning models combining in-person and digital approaches.
- Built teacher capacity to effectively use technology in classrooms.
- Ensured equitable access to digital resources to bridge learning gaps.

Evidence from Practice

Strengthening Learning and Confidence- Subhiti's Journey

Subhiti (name changed), a 15-year-old student from Samadhanpur village, Chihat block, Lucknow, comes from a farming family of seven. Limited income meant she could not access coaching or additional academic support. Selected for the Honda Ki Pathshala (HKP) programme in May 2025, she began receiving support in English, Science & Math, along with exposure to activities like Global Handwashing Day and International Girl Child Day celebrations. Earlier shy and hesitant, she avoided school activities, but HKP boosted her confidence. With extra guidance from the project team, especially in Math, she now actively participates, understands difficult concepts, and shows steady academic progress.



Ensuring Continuity of Education with Safe and Peaceful Learning Environments (0 Days Loss in Education)

During the reporting year, focused efforts were made to ensure uninterrupted access to education for all children, even in the face of disruptions and emergencies. The approach integrates school safety, peace education, infrastructure resilience, and system strengthening to create learning environments that are safe, inclusive, and conducive to holistic development. By combining preparedness, community participation, and policy engagement, the programme aims to ensure “0-day loss” in children’s education.

Key Intervention Approaches:

Implementation of Comprehensive School Safety with Integrated Peace Education

- Adopted a holistic framework combining Comprehensive School Safety (CSS) and School as a Peace Zone (SPZ).
- Conducted school safety audits and developed context-specific safety plans.
- Implemented risk reduction measures addressing physical, emotional, & social safety.
- Embedded peace education into school culture through codes of conduct & child-friendly norms.
- Promoted zero tolerance for violence, bullying, and discrimination.
- Trained teachers and staff on positive discipline, conflict-sensitive approaches, & inclusive practices.
- Integrated peacebuilding themes such as respect, empathy, & cooperation into daily school routines & co-curricular activities.

37 intervening schools / AWCs have Safety Audit conducted regularly

58 schools have a Safe School Plan

Safe Infrastructure & Risk-informed Planning

- Promoted development of safe, resilient, & climate-responsive school infrastructure.
- Conducted hazard mapping & risk assessments to guide infrastructure improvements.
- Ensured adherence to safety standards & national guidelines.
- Collaborated with Central Building Research Institute (CBRI) for technical expertise & quality assurance.
- Strengthened the safety of schools and Anganwadi Centres to minimise risks and vulnerabilities.

Education in Emergencies (EiE) Preparedness

- Developed standardised modules and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for emergency education.
- Built capacities of teachers & community members on EiE & psychosocial support.
- Established systems for rapid response to ensure continuity of learning during crises.
- Strengthened resilience to maintain education access in adverse situations.

Child & Community Participation for Peaceful and Inclusive Environments

- Promoted children’s participation through child groups and peer networks.
- Built leadership and conflict resolution skills among children.
- Enabled children to address issues such as bullying, exclusion, and discrimination.
- Engaged communities in awareness campaigns on non-violence, gender equality, & inclusion.
- Involved parents & community members in dialogues and collective action for safe learning environments.

Systems Strengthening & Strategic Engagement

- Worked towards institutionalising peace education within school safety frameworks.
- Engaged with government stakeholders, particularly in Jammu & Kashmir, to integrate SPZ principles into teacher training and school guidelines.
- Leveraged programme evidence to advocate for scaling and replication.
- Strengthened partnerships with education and disaster management authorities for better coordination.
- Promoted integration of peace education as a standard component of safe school systems, especially in Jammu & Kashmir.

Evidence from Practice

Small Acts, Big Shifts: The Power of Community Ownership

For years, many Anganwadi centres were viewed merely as government service points, often struggling with basic infrastructure and limited local engagement. However, as our strategy to build a community-led early learning ecosystem took shape, a fundamental shift occurred: families and local leaders stopped seeing these centres as external projects and began seeing them as their own.



This sense of ownership has translated into immediate, tangible action. When encouraged to contribute to their children's learning environments, communities across 28 project sites stepped forward with remarkable initiative. In a heartening display of collective responsibility, 15 centres received new fans through local donations, ensuring a comfortable environment for young learners. In Jelwa, Bilara Block, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, residents didn't wait for official budgets; they raised ₹3,000 to repair damaged door frames and windows themselves.

This spirit of collaboration has also bridged the gap between communities and local governance. In one of the villages in Bilara block, after an initial discussion regarding a damaged wall that threatened to stall learning progress, the Sarpanch arrived the very next morning with a contractor, completing the repairs in just two days.

Perhaps most inspiring are the frontline workers who have become catalysts for change. In Malkosani, Pushpa, an Anganwadi worker, refused to let broken flooring hinder the centre's transformation; she rallied the community to secure the necessary repairs herself. Similarly, in Kaparada, a worker independently arranged for chairs and stationery to ensure her students had the tools they needed.

These stories highlight a vital lesson for our strategic approach: when communities feel a true sense of ownership, they don't wait for external intervention. They become the primary architects of their children's future, proving that small, local acts are the true drivers of systemic shifts.

GRASSROOT ACTIONS – THEMATIC FOCUS

CHILD PROTECTION

Prevention, care, and protection of children from neglect, abuse, exploitation, and violence

India's internet growth post-COVID has transformed children's lives but increased online risks. Cybercrimes surged (2019–2022), with many children lacking digital safety awareness. Despite government measures, gaps remain in supervision, preventive education, and access to real-time support systems.

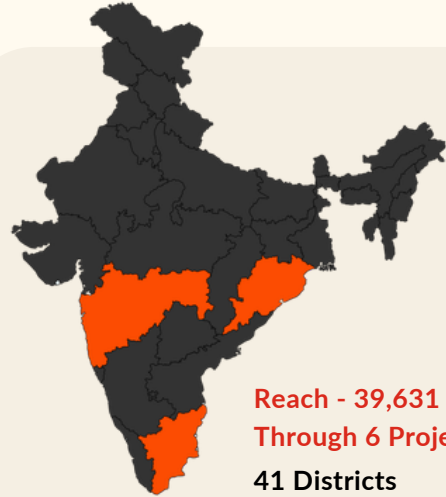
Bal Raksha Bharat implemented a comprehensive online child safety programme across schools and communities. The approach integrates child-centric education, caregiver engagement, and institutional capacity building, while fostering collaboration with authorities. It promotes safe online behaviour through interactive learning, peer-led initiatives, and awareness-building efforts, aiming to empower children, strengthen community support systems, and create a safer digital environment. We have worked towards:

Safeguarding children from cyber abuse and ensuring a supportive environment for reporting and response.

- Established 151 Cyber Safety Clubs with nearly 3,000 child ambassadors.
- Trained over 1,800 teachers, 4,600 parents & SMC members.
- Oriented 27,600 (approx.) children through age-appropriate cyber safety modules.
- Achieved 78.1% improvement in cyber safety awareness among children aged 10–12 years, and 88.6% improvement among children aged 13–16 years.
- Trained 100 students on online risks, reporting mechanisms, & prevention measures.

Strengthening child-sensitive policing practices through operationalisation of NCPCR guidelines on child-friendly police stations.

- Established child-friendly spaces at Manchar Police Station, Pune.



Reach - 39,631
Through 6 Projects
41 Districts
in 3 States

Geographical Coverage

Urban Coverage

Municipality	Slum	Ward
2	1	3

Rural Coverage

Block	GP	Village
3	24	53



361 children removed from harmful work



2,300 children & adults who received training on Child Protection in Emergency (CPiE) & climate impacts



Facilitated access to Social Protection Schemes & Services for 3,047 vulnerable households

Building the capacity of police personnel on child psychology, cyber and online abuse risks, and child-sensitive procedures.

- Trained 30 police officials on child-friendly policing and online child safety.

Improving technical infrastructure within police stations to support child-sensitive policing and protection mechanisms.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support to all vulnerable children and caregivers (MHPSS)

India's 250+ million adolescents are facing an escalating mental health crisis driven by academic pressure, socio-economic stress, digital exposure, and rising vulnerability to violence and exploitation. For children in underserved communities, these challenges are compounded by poverty, trauma, and a lack of support systems. Yet, access to adolescent-friendly mental health services remains extremely limited due to stigma, a shortage of trained professionals, and weak last-mile delivery systems. As a result, millions of young people struggle in silence-leading to school dropouts, risky behaviours, and long-term loss of human potential.

We are implementing programmes to

- Create awareness about personal hygiene and health practices
- Educate children on safety and security measures
- Promote responsible and safe use of digital platforms
- Develop life skills for better decision-making and emotional well-being
- Identify the personal issues faced by adolescent girls and provide appropriate guidance, support, & counselling to help them overcome challenges, and improve their overall well-being.



Key Strategic Achievements

The counselling sessions helped 29,343 girls from 465 hostels to improve their emotional well-being, reduce distress related to parental absence, and shift their focus towards personal growth, social interaction, and academic engagement.

Evidence from Practice

Scaling Counselling and Life Skills Support Across ADW Girls' Hostels

Many adolescent girls residing in Tamil Nadu Adi Dravidar Welfare (ADW) Directorate hostels come from economically disadvantaged and socially marginalised families. As first-generation learners, they often face low confidence, academic stress, limited career awareness, and inadequate guidance on health, safety, and digital engagement. These challenges frequently affect their aspirations and emotional well-being during a critical stage of adolescence.

To address these concerns, Bal Raksha Bharat implemented a child-centred, rights-based counselling initiative across ADW girls' hostels. Trained counsellors conducted interactive sessions on mental health, relationships, academic stress, personal safety, and life skills using participatory approaches. Working closely with District ADW Officers, the initiative created safe and supportive spaces where girls could openly share concerns, seek guidance, and build resilience. The intervention has strengthened confidence, decision-making, and emotional well-being, empowering girls to make informed choices about their future.

GRASSROOT ACTIONS – THEMATIC FOCUS

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

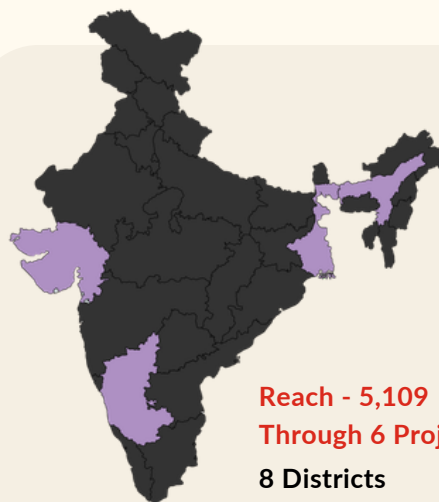
Through Economic Well-being (EW) interventions, we have strengthened household resilience by equipping youth and women with market-relevant skills, access to resources, and livelihood opportunities - thereby driving sustainable income and disrupting intergenerational poverty and increasing the possibilities of a secure childhood among the children from low-income families.

Adolescents and Youth Empowerment

Bal Raksha Bharat has empowered close to 3,000 adolescents and youth through an integrated programmatic approach to skill development and employment support, enabling sustainable career pathways and financial independence.

Key Intervention Approaches

- The implementation approach is to identify the most marginalised eligible youth, conduct regular home visits, build their life skills, assist with enrolling in the vocational training institutions, enterprise development training, apprenticeship training, provide career counselling support, mobilise youth for exposure visits in industry, assist with job placement, and provide mentorship support.
- Combining community mobilisation, career counselling, and integrated training in life skills, financial literacy, and digital literacy.
- Facilitating market-oriented vocational skilling, mentorship, job readiness, and placement support through industry linkages.
- Strengthening adolescents' and youth employability through industry-aligned skilling, vocational training, and career readiness.
- Promoting entrepreneurship and market-linked enterprise development for youth and women. Advancing green livelihoods and circular economy practices through waste upcycling and sustainable enterprises.
- Enhancing leadership, confidence, resilience, and informed decision-making among young people.



**Reach - 5,109
Through 6 Projects
8 Districts
in 5 States**

Geographical Coverage

Urban Coverage

Municipality	Slum	Ward
9	36	35

Rural Coverage

Block	GP	Village
2	1	4



**2,890 adolescents and youth
have completed vocational &
soft skill trainings**

Key Achievements

- Bal Raksha Bharat's 21st century skills programme, focusing on life skills, financial literacy, and digital literacy, was provided to 2,809 adolescents and youths.
- 950 youth in the age group of 18-24 received vocational training and job placement or group entrepreneurship support. 15 Employers and Human Resource agencies are partnering in this initiative.
- 270 adolescents and youths were provided with personalised career counselling.
- 8 Institutional Partnerships developed with various government-affiliated training institutes for technical training.

836 youth (18 & above) successfully placed in self-entrepreneur / decent employment

Evidence from Practice

Strength Beyond Struggles: Ajmeri's Journey to Independence.

"When I received my first salary, I felt proud-for the first time, I knew I could stand beside my mother and support my family," - Ajmeri

At 19, Ajmeri Khatoon's life was shaped by hardship after her father left, leaving her mother to support four children on a modest income. Witnessing daily struggles, Ajmeri balanced her education with low-paying home-based work, earning just ₹1,000 a month. Determined to change her circumstances, she enrolled in a three-month bakery training programme supported by Bal Raksha Bharat.



Despite initial hesitation, Ajmeri built confidence, gained technical skills, and secured a job earning ₹9,500 per month - her first step toward financial independence. Today, she contributes to her family's well-being, easing her mother's burden and restoring dignity at home.

Her journey reflects the transformative power of opportunity, skills, and timely support in breaking cycles of poverty.

Livelihood and Food Security for vulnerable families (and Children at risk)

Livelihood and food security programmes are essential to addressing the root causes of vulnerability among marginalised families. By strengthening household economic capacity and ensuring access to adequate nutrition, Bal Raksha Bharat not only supports immediate survival needs but also secures long-term, sustainable development outcomes for children and their communities. Such integrated interventions are critical to breaking intergenerational cycles of poverty and ensuring that every child has the opportunity to survive, learn, and thrive in a safe and supportive environment.

Key Intervention Approaches

- Building capacities of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), youth collectives, and producer groups for collective enterprise and financial inclusion.
- Facilitating market linkages, mentorship, and industry partnerships to strengthen employability and enterprise sustainability.
- Promoting convergence with government schemes and private sector initiatives for scale and long-term impact.
- Contributing to economic resilience, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability through community-driven livelihood models.
- Ensuring inclusive and gender-responsive programming for vulnerable adolescents, young women, and marginalised communities.

Key Achievements

- Women's groups established, strengthened, & linked to formal financial institutions.
- 100+ women trained and actively engaged in nylon upcycling enterprises.
- 3 training-cum-production units are operational, with assembly line production.
- A cluster-level women's company registered & functional, handling production & marketing.
- Strong market linkages established with boutiques, corporates, and online platforms.
- At least 30–40 tons of nylon textile waste are diverted from landfills annually.
- Women's average monthly income rises by ₹7,000–₹10,000.

26 Households linked to income generation activity

Evidence from Practice

Threads of Change: Turning Waste into Worth

"What we once saw as waste has become our strength—today, we earn and shape our future." SHG members.

In Bengaluru, marginalised youth and women are transforming discarded textiles into sustainable livelihoods through circular economy enterprises. With training in upcycling, mentorship, and enterprise development, they began creating products such as bags, doormats, and cushion covers from used clothes. Linked with the Government of India's Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihood Mission, the group strengthened financial literacy, accessed subsidised loans, and established production units. Community outreach engaged over 2,000 individuals, promoting fabric donation and reducing textile waste. The enterprise has since expanded into cloth and jute bag production for corporate orders, with members now earning ₹8,000–10,000 per month. Beyond income, the initiative has enhanced confidence, decision-making power, and economic independence.



Child-Sensitive Social Protection

This thematic approach adopts a child-sensitive, full-cycle model to strengthen skilling, employability, and social protection for marginalised youth and women. This helps capitalise on the social protection and welfare programmes & schemes of the government and helps the vulnerable families and individuals tide over challenging situations.

Key Intervention Approaches

- Supporting out-of-school youth through Open School systems and alternative education pathways.
- Promoting convergence with government social security schemes to improve entitlements, household resilience, and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

640 adults accessed specific benefits under CSSP initiatives

Key Achievements

- Assisted 1,159 adults to connect to social protection schemes.
- 827 children impacted positively in vulnerable families, securing benefits accessed from the government's welfare schemes.

GRASSROOT ACTIONS – THEMATIC FOCUS

CLIMATE ACTION, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION & HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE.

Strengthening Humanitarian Response: Preparedness and Localisation

During the reported period, humanitarian efforts were strategically aligned to strengthen surge capacity, enhance anticipatory action, and promote localised, community-led responses. The approach focused on building resilient systems at both institutional and community levels, ensuring timely, efficient, and inclusive responses to emergencies. Emphasis was placed on multi-stakeholder collaboration, technology integration, and empowering local actors to lead and sustain humanitarian action.

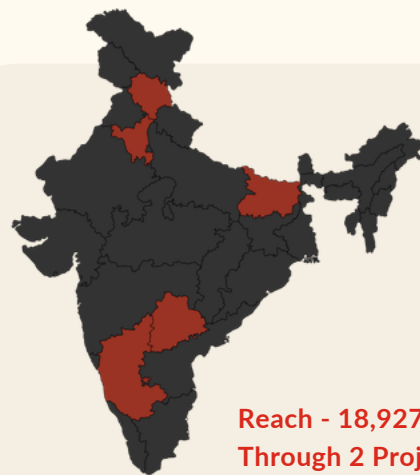
Key Strategic Approaches

Building Humanitarian Surge Capacity & Effective Response

- Strengthened institutional systems for rapid and coordinated emergency response.
- Developed & operationalised Emergency Preparedness Plans (EPPs) across programme areas.
- Conducted real-time needs assessments to guide timely & context-specific interventions.
- Strengthened coordination with local administration & frontline stakeholders for efficient service delivery.

Enhancing Anticipatory Action Capacity

- Developed and integrated anticipatory action frameworks into programme design.
- Strengthened early warning systems & preparedness protocols at community & institutional levels.
- Promoted forward-looking planning to minimise the impact of disasters on vulnerable populations.



**Reach - 18,927
Through 2 Projects
8 Districts
in 7 States**

Geographical Coverage

Urban Coverage

Municipality	Slum	Ward
4	7	7

Rural Coverage

Block	GP	Village
8	28	105



**38,704 people trained on
reducing locally-determined
climate and/or environment
risks**

Unlocking Local Resources through Multi-Stakeholder Engagement.

- Facilitated collaboration among the government agencies, civil society, the private sector, and community institutions. Promoted convergence with existing schemes & systems for efficient utilisation of resources.

Localisation and Community-Led Approaches

- Promoted locally relevant and culturally appropriate solutions using community knowledge and resources.
- Strengthened participation of community-based organisations and local leaders in planning and response.
- Strengthened local ownership & accountability in humanitarian action.
- Ensured inclusion of vulnerable groups in decision-making processes.

Technology Integration for Humanitarian Response

- Leveraged innovative tools such as drones for rapid assessment and response in remote areas like Mandi district, Himachal Pradesh.
- Supported approximately 15,000 individuals in the Sainj block (Kullu, Himachal Pradesh) through technology-enabled interventions.
- Enhanced efficiency, reach, and accuracy of humanitarian operations through digital solutions.

Key Achievements

- **National Capacity Building:** Conducted a 2-day National Training on HUM, DRR, and CA in collaboration with IIT Mandi – ICARS. 60 participants from thematic and state teams were trained.
- **Staff Capacity Enhancement:** Delivered 3 training sessions on Anticipatory Action Protocols, EPP, Disaster Management, and Heatwave response.
- **Community Preparedness Strengthened:** Developed 5 Community Emergency Preparedness Plans (CEPPs) integrated with anticipatory action protocols.
- **Early Warning Systems:** Issued 11 alert notes to support timely preparedness and response actions.
- **Humanitarian Response & Reach:** Responded to emergencies in Mandi, Kullu, Uttarkashi, East Champaran, and Gurugram. Reached 20,577 individuals with immediate relief support.

These achievements demonstrate strengthened preparedness systems and a timely, coordinated humanitarian response executed by Bal Raksha Bharat.

Evidence from Practice

Hope Lit the Way Forward

Man Dass, a 60-year-old farmer from Karsog in Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh, lived with his family of 12, sustained by agriculture, apple orchard, and livestock. On 30 June 2025, devastating rains triggered a landslide that destroyed their home, cowshed, and orchards—wiping out both shelter and livelihood overnight. Displaced and without income, the family moved into rented accommodation, struggling to meet basic needs while coping with emotional distress.



“Everything was lost in a single day... this support gave us strength when we needed it the most”, as Man Das, signs off.

At this critical juncture, Bal Raksha Bharat, supported by JNTL Consumer Health India Pvt. Ltd. (Kenvue), provided immediate humanitarian assistance through essential supplies, hygiene and dignity kits. This timely support ensured access to essential supplies, reduced health risks, and restored a sense of dignity during displacement.

While rebuilding will take time, the intervention offered crucial stability and renewed hope in their most vulnerable moment.



Climate Action (CA) & Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Implementation Approach:

- Integrated climate resilience into community and institutional systems.
- Promoted eco-retrofitting of schools to enhance safety and sustainability.
- Strengthened disaster management planning at the school and community levels.
- Improved safety protocols in schools and Anganwadi Centres.
- Built climate awareness and skills among children, youth, and communities.
- Engaged children and youth in climate and resilience actions.
- Collaborated with govt. authorities to align with disaster management frameworks.
- Ensured sustainability and scalability of interventions through system strengthening.

Key Achievements: Climate Action (CA) & DRR

- **Climate-Resilient Infrastructure:** Eco-retrofitting completed in 2 schools in Bengaluru and Gurugram.
- **Institutional Preparedness:** Disaster Management Plans developed for 20 schools & AWCs, strengthening safety systems.
- **Community Resilience:** 10 Community Preparedness Plans established, enhancing local risk reduction capacities.
- **Climate Learning:** Developed an age-appropriate climate toolkit and installed 1 Weather Monitoring Station for real-time awareness.
- **Innovation:** Established a Virtual Reality Disaster Lab in collaboration with IIT Mandi iHub.
- **Youth Engagement:** Formed 5 State-level ONE Networks, strengthening youth leadership and participation in climate and DRR initiatives.

Evidence from Practice

Partnerships that Power Resilience

Building resilient communities requires strong collaboration. During the year, the programme leveraged strategic partnerships with government, academic, and global networks to drive innovation and scale impact. Engagement across 12 national and international platforms, including the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Start Network, CSIR-CBRI, and UNICEF, strengthened knowledge exchange and policy advocacy.

New partnerships with IIT Mandi iHub and IIHMR University advanced work on AI for children and emergency health systems. Collaboration with CSIR-CBRI also initiated a **SMART Village Project** aligned with the Viksit Bharat 2047 agenda of the Government of India.

At the state level, a partnership with the Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority (HP-SDMA) enabled 7 Training of Trainers (ToT) programmes, building the capacity of **483 stakeholders** across key districts. Additionally, **INR 2 lakh** was mobilised to support drone-based training, showcasing how partnerships unlock innovation and strengthen local resilience systems.

ECO Retrofitting: Creating Child-Friendly, Climate-Resilient Schools.

In schools within the intervention area, multiple eco-friendly solutions were developed, including cool roofing to reduce indoor heat, improved ventilation, and energy-efficient lighting and fans to enhance comfort and lower energy use. A rainwater harvesting system has been installed to promote water conservation. Learning environments were further enriched through an open library equipped with tools such as abacus sets, sun-direction models, and geometric shapes. Additionally, an indoor child-friendly space now ensures safe, engaging learning during extreme weather, benefiting over 300 children daily. A workshop on ECO retrofitting engaged 30 teachers and children from the School's ECO Club, who actively participated in hands-on learning activities.



GRASSROOT ACTIONS – THEMATIC FOCUS

INTEGRATED PROGRAMMING

Bal Raksha Bharat's programme design revolves around placing children at the heart of our operations, recognising them as the most important stakeholders. Bal Raksha Bharat's fundamental purpose is to prioritise the comprehensive development and well-being of marginalised children. The aim is to diligently consider their needs, voices, and perspectives when making decisions that may affect them, to bring positive and sustainable change in their lives, both in development and humanitarian contexts.

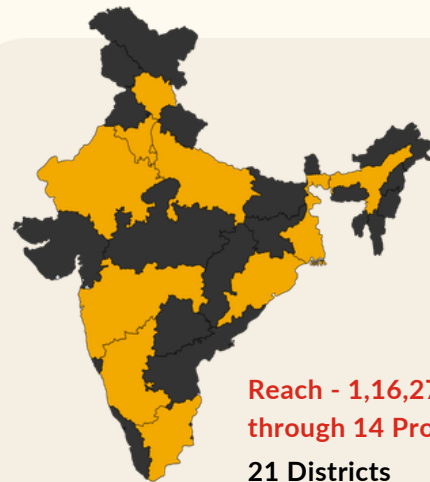
Objective of Holistic Care and Support

The objective is to address the multi-dimensional needs of children & youth and create a resilient, nurturing, and enabling environment that fosters their physical, emotional, cognitive, economic, and social development. This underlines the significance of providing all-encompassing assistance to children, going beyond specific themes or areas of focus individually. The organisation work towards creating a nurturing and supportive environment that fosters every child's holistic growth and development.

Strategic Approaches

Holistic care is an unequivocal declaration of our intent, reflecting our unwavering commitment to ensuring children's overall well-being and development. To bring this intent to fruition, we employ a range of diverse modalities, each playing a crucial role in our pursuit of holistic care.

- Co-locating multiple and age-appropriate thematic interventions in select geographies as a Holistic Development Cluster.
- System-led interventions such as advocacy, building capacity, facilitating supportive supervision, concurrent assessment, demand generation, and community mobilisation for the uptake of existing government services.



Geographical Coverage

Urban Coverage

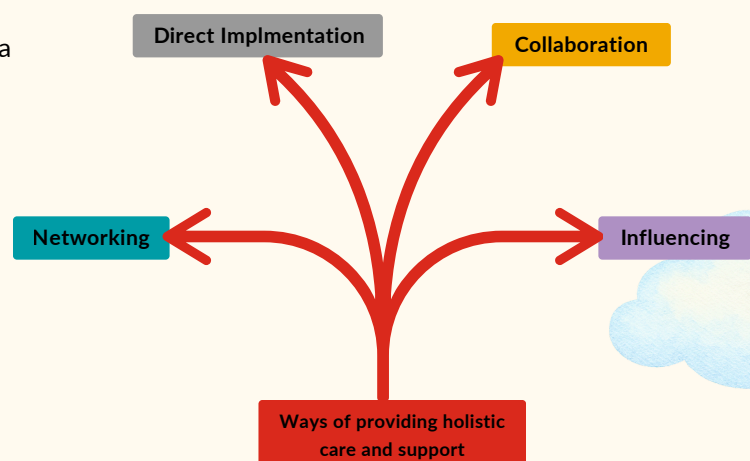
Municipality	Slum	Ward
15	28	31

Rural Coverage

Block	GP	Village
38	19	124

AWC/School/Health Facility Coverage

AWC	School	HSC	PHC	DH
113	349	4	5	2



- Collaboration and strong partnerships are key to expanding our impact. By working with organisations, government agencies, and communities, we extend our reach and support holistic child development. Leveraging our influence and resources, we strengthen partners through funding, expertise, capacity building, and advocacy. This collective approach helps share knowledge, drive innovation, and deliver more effective and sustainable outcomes for children.

By combining these multiple modalities of direct implementation, supporting stakeholders and partners through influence, fostering collaboration, and establishing extensive networks, we create a comprehensive ecosystem of care and support for children. Our intent to provide holistic care transform into tangible outcome, enabling children to thrive, grow, and reach their full potential in a nurturing and empowering environment.

Key Intervention on the Ground

- Bal Raksha Bharat implemented the flagship programme '**Multi-Activity Centre**' across 15 locations during the year. These function as a one-stop centre to work on the diverse needs of children, adolescents, & youths, and their caregivers.
 - o. More than 500 children have been supported with bridge schooling, learning and mainstream support through these centres, and 350 families have been assisted with access to the government welfare schemes, and 138 registered with ABHA ID for health services. Over 100 youth connected with these centres have been provided with life skills training, making them better prepared for livelihoods and professional development. In localised need-based interventions, a Library with 1,500+ books has been set up Shaheed Bhagat Singh Inter College, fostering reading habits and benefiting 1,400 students in South-East Delhi, and installed two 500 LPH water purification systems, ensuring safe drinking water for 3,200 students and 45 teachers in rural areas of NOIDA.
- **Children First** - Common Approach to Delivering Child well-being project in Boud, Odisha reached close to 10,000 children with diverse programmes for children, including capacitating 1500 Mothers Group members & over 3000 adolescents on WASH and SRHR, and assisting 32 individuals to access the government welfare schemes.
- **Gram Vikas** programme in Pali, Rajasthan, is addressing all aspects of children's development from birth to youth, including strengthening family livelihoods in 7 villages. The programmes trained more than 50 women in income-generating activities, helped children from 10th class with after school support, learning support, enabling them to pass the 10th-class board exam, and connected over 300 people to the government welfare schemes.



- **'Rising Horizons: Empowering Communities for a Brighter Tomorrow'** in Kamrup, Assam, is addressing critical issues of health, early childhood care, education & skilling. 19 vulnerable children have been linked to the Mission Vatsalya social protection scheme, and 146 out of 208 children enrolled in the Multi-Activity Centre were mainstreamed. The project supported 7 women with training on honey bee farming and facilitated 251 adolescents and young mothers to attend screening & awareness for Anaemia.
- **'Nayi Disha'** initiative in Jajapur, Odisha, worked on strengthening the survival, well-being and development in the early years of childhood across 60 villages in Bari and Rasulpur blocks. The programme served more than 50 pregnant women and 7 high-risk pregnancies. It worked with 8 Anganwadi Centres to strengthen nutritional and pre-school learning services for 161 children for their cognitive & physical development for school readiness.
- **'Sakhi Initiative to secure her future'** is implemented through 235 schools in five districts in Uttar Pradesh and one district in Himachal Pradesh, with a greater focus on both education and health aspects of adolescent girls. In order to develop a safe and enabling environment, the programme worked on school infrastructure where 52 toilets were renovated as girl-friendly toilet, provided with Pad Banks, and disposal bins. Also, suggestion boxes were installed for feedback and suggestions from the children and the community. Community capacity was built in active collaboration with the government.

The programme provided 1,500 scholarships and 2,030 Sakhi Kits. The initiative formed 235 Sakhi Clubs and supplemented them with 705 MHM sessions, 235 life skills sessions, and 235 self-defence sessions.

- **'Ek Pehal_ Project Utkarsh'** is implemented in 5 metros of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai, focusing on multiple development needs of children especially on health and education. The programme set up 38 SMART Schools and 15 Learning Centres and trained 491 Teachers on ICT, benefiting over 19,000+ children through digital and inclusive education. The initiative also had priority attention for migrant children and assisted 966 children with pre-school and bridge education. In addressing the health aspects, 2,924 growth monitoring assessments were conducted, 1,899 nutrition kits were distributed, and 68 WASH awareness sessions were held. The community capacity & ownership building was addressed through engagement of 661 SMC members, 64 PTMs, and 189 awareness and child development events, including Shiksha Utsav activities.



Achievement

19,372

Children (0-18 years) received programme intervention on Health, Nutrition & WASH

2,479

Children supported in foundational literacy, numeracy and social & emotional learning.

651

Children aged 3 to 6 years (36-72 months) enrolled in an early childhood education programme

528

FLWs / Master Trainers provided with training/capacity building on Nutrition & WASH Management for skill upgradation

414

Adolescents and youth (15 years and above) have completed soft skill/life skills trainings

356

Adults linked to selected social protection programmes

75

Children and adults who received training on Child Protection in Emergency (CPiE) and climate impacts.

5,061

Children & adult trained on reducing locally-determined climate and/or environmental risks

1,299

Pregnant and lactating mothers and primary caregivers counselled by FLWs on improved health-seeking behaviour, IYCF, maternal nutrition, anaemia prevention, etc.

542

Teachers and facilitators are supported to strengthen their competencies (including climate resilient practices)

317

Children removed from harmful work

122

Adolescents and youth (18 years and above) have completed vocational training (including green jobs and enterprises)

101

Trained youth (18 years and above) successfully placed as self-entrepreneur / in decent employment.



ENABLING FUNCTIONS

RESOURCING THE MISSION

The Partnerships & Resource Mobilisation function of Bal Raksha Bharat continued to strengthen and expand strategic partnerships, **mobilising** critical resources to support the delivery of the **organisation's** 2025–27 strategy. A key focus during the year was building local capacities and fostering domestic partnerships to enhance local **resource mobilisation**, guided by the vision of “Indian money for Indian children” and contributing to the larger dream of Viksit Bharat. During the year, the function successfully built **53 corporate partnerships** across key thematic areas, including education, health, nutrition, protection, and humanitarian response. At the same time, with the generous support of over **1.30 lakh individual givers**, Bal Raksha Bharat implemented 68 projects, reaching and supporting children across **27 States and Union Territories**.

Strategic Approaches

To meet our resource mobilisation goals, the partnership and fundraising team focused on the following five key approaches:

- **Growing Existing Partnerships:** Our priority was to strengthen relationships with our current donors. We aimed to achieve a 70% retention rate by providing high-quality reports and regular updates. This trust allowed us to scale up current projects through renewals and additional funding proposals for new project phases.
- **Targeted New Donor Acquisition:** We developed a robust pipeline for both long-term development initiatives and short-term micro-projects. While our goal was to secure at least 7 new high-value corporate donors, we exceeded this target by onboarding more than 14 new donors during the year.
- **Diversifying through Innovative fundraising approaches:** New partnership areas like cause-related marketing (CRM), High Net-worth Individuals (HNI), Reward Points, Airport fundraising models have been tried and tested out this year. These models not only helped us reach a large number of corporates and individuals but also helped us raise crucial resources for the organisation. Our CRM helped the organisation partner with like-minded organisations like Aza Fashions, Fery Rides, Superbottom, Aseem Shakti, Amlond AI, and Xoxo Day. These collaborations integrated giving into consumer journeys, allowing customers to contribute seamlessly while engaging with partner brands.
- **Expanding Regional Presence:** We leveraged the local office networks of global donors and reached out to corporations in key regional hubs. By engaging with both large national companies and emerging mid-sized businesses, our efforts were focused on driving funds from a diverse range of sectors and locations.



- **Driving Employee Engagement and Volunteering:** One of the focuses for the Institutional and Corporate Partnership (ICP) team was to encourage and engage employee volunteering initiatives for a positive word of mouth and brand building. This provided employees with an opportunity to participate in projects and feel connected with children & communities, thereby helping us to strengthen corporate relations. More than 1,500 employees were engaged during 2025-26 period.

Way Forward: Priorities for 2026-27



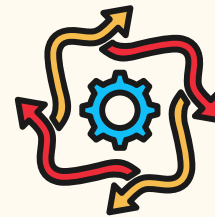
Securing strategic Partnership:

We will move toward long-term, transformative collaborations, including co-creations, rather than one-time grants. By aligning our core programmes in education and health with the long-term strategies of our CSR partners, we would ensure more stable funding for our projects.



Targeting High-Value Domestic Donors:

To offset the decrease in international funding, we will prioritise large Indian corporations and family foundations. This includes creating customised engagement plans to enter new regional markets and secure "New Money" from major domestic players.



Improving Donor Retention:

We will implement a structured engagement calendar for all corporate partners. By providing frequent impact reports, organising site visits, and hosting recognition events, we aim to build stronger relationships and increase our renewal rates.



Technical Proposal Excellence:

Our team will work closely with programme experts to design technically superior project proposals. These project designs will include innovations, technical excellence and evidence-based result demonstration better demonstrating the unique value of partnering with us.



Data-Driven Growth:

We will prioritise the completion of our internal CRM and digital systems to manage our partnership pipeline to effectively connect with our supporters to make the partnerships mutually fulfilling.

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

BRAND, CAMPAIGNS AND COMMUNICATION

Building Visibility, Driving Impact

Every click, every follower, every keyword ranking in this report traces back to a single purpose, making sure that a child growing up in the most overlooked corners of India knows that someone is fighting for them. This year, the Brand and Communications team worked to close the distance between our mission and the millions who need to hear it.

Campaigns That Reached Where It Matters

Behind every number in this report is a child, a parent, a community worker someone whose life was touched, however quietly, by the work we do. This year, the team rolled out four nationally aligned campaigns that carried Bal Raksha Bharat's mission into the heart of communities that need it most.

- **Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi** — In the first 1,000 days of a child's life, the brain develops faster than it ever will again. Yet for millions of children born into poverty, those days pass without the nutrition or stimulation they deserve. This year, 200 Anganwadi Workers — the unsung heroes of India's last mile — were trained to change that, one mother, one child at a time. With 100 more in the pipeline, the ripple effect of this knowledge will reach far beyond the classroom.
- **Poshan Maah** — Over 14,500 children, parents and stakeholders came together in a shared conversation about nutrition because a child who is well-fed is a child who can learn, grow, and dream. For many families we reached, this was the first time someone had spoken to them about what their child truly needs in their earliest years.
- **Global Handwashing Day** — Something as simple as washing hands can be the difference between a child falling ill and a child going to school. More than 10,500 participants joined this movement, in communities where clean water and basic hygiene remain a privilege, not a given.
- **Bal Vivah Mukht Bharat** — Somewhere in India, a girl is being pulled out of school to be married before she turns eighteen. This campaign put over 500 children at the centre of that conversation — not as victims, but as advocates for their own futures. When a child learns to say "this is wrong," the impact echoes through families, neighbourhoods, and generations.



A Voice That Is Growing Louder

None of this reach happens without a platform — and this year, ours grew in ways that matter. On Facebook alone, our reach expanded by 42 million, visits doubled, and nearly 39,000 new followers joined our community. On Instagram, our audience doubled. On X, impressions more than doubled. Each new follower is a supporter of the children's cause, a potential donor, a future volunteer, a parent who shares one of our posts with another parent — and so the circle of awareness widens, one person at a time.

From Awareness to Action

Awareness alone doesn't change a child's life — resources do. This year, our investment in digital strategy ensured that people searching for ways to give, help, or act found us first. Organic search traffic nearly tripled, making Bal Raksha Bharat the second-highest ranking NGO in India for organic traffic. Every rupee invested returns many times over, resources that flow directly into the lives of the children we serve. And we didn't just reach people on Google — we reached them inside Google's AI answers, appearing for over 500 keywords in AI Overview results. As search evolves, we are already where it is heading.



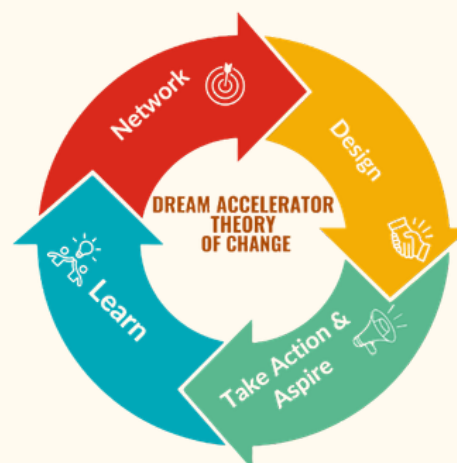
Looking Ahead

The children we serve cannot wait. Every campaign we run, every keyword we rank for, every post that is shared — it all adds up to a country that is slowly, steadily paying more attention to its most vulnerable. The foundation built this year gives us greater reach, a stronger voice, and the ability to turn awareness into the kind of action that changes lives

Dream Accelerator – Building Agency For & With Children/Youth

Supported in rolling out three localised campaigns in alignment with national priorities, as listed below:

The Dream Accelerator initiative empowered children and youth (14–24 years) from marginalised communities to emerge as champions of change across 10 states in India. The programme strengthened meaningful child participation by creating platforms for children and youth to voice their concerns, design solutions, and engage with key stakeholders on issues affecting their communities.



The initiative adopted a four-pronged strategy focused on project design, capacity building, action, and networking.

A total of 177 Child Champions and Youth Advocates were trained, indirectly reaching over 5,000 children and youth. Around 12 audio-visual learning modules were developed to strengthen leadership and advocacy skills.

The programme supported 29 child-led micro-projects addressing social issues across 10 states, with participation from over 525 child and youth leaders, including 63% girls. Additionally, 18 Children and Youth Councils were established through democratic elections, enabling young leaders to influence decisions on education, safety, climate action, and well-being within their communities.

Evidence from Practice

A Young Voice to Protect Climate and the Aspirations of Children

Sixteen-year-old **Insha Manzoor** from Check Kawoosa village in Budgam, Jammu & Kashmir, has emerged as a strong advocate for child well-being, climate action, and education. A student of Government Higher Secondary School Narbal, Insha joined the Children's Group in 2020 and soon became its President. Through training on child well-being, climate change, communication, financial literacy, and cyber safety, she developed the confidence to mobilise children and communities for social change.

In 2024, under the Dream Accelerator initiative, Insha began leading a micro-project to protect Tosamaidan meadows from deforestation and promote plantation drives in her region. She also engaged with local officials to raise awareness on environmental preservation and school safety. During her 2025–26 Micro Project, she collaborated with key stakeholders to plant over 5,000 saplings in the Toshmaidan meadow, contributing to the restoration of its ecological vitality.

Coming from a modest family, Insha dreams of becoming a doctor and believes that awareness, education, and environmental protection can help children build a safer and brighter future.



ENABLING FUNCTIONS

OUR PEOPLE & PROCESSES

Strategic Priorities

The Human Resource function focused on strengthening organisational effectiveness by prioritising people, systems, and governance. The key priorities in the past year included:

- Building a future-ready workforce through talent attraction, development, and retention.
- Driving performance & accountability by aligning individual goals with organisational priorities.
- Strengthening HR systems through digital transformation, automation, and data-driven decision-making.
- Enhancing governance & compliance to ensure ethical, safe, & policy-aligned workplaces.
- Promoting continuous learning and development through structured capacity-building and leadership initiatives.

Approaches Adopted

To achieve these priorities, the function implemented the following strategic approaches:

- **Strategic Talent Management:** Strengthened recruitment processes, competency-based hiring, and retention strategies.
- **Performance-Driven Culture:** Established a structured performance management framework with BRB's goal alignment, competency-based evaluation, and regular feedback.
- **Digital Enablement:** Adopted integrated HR systems, automated processes, and leveraged analytics for informed decision-making.
- **Governance & Compliance:** Strengthened policy frameworks and conducted awareness on safeguarding, POSH, and workplace conduct.
- **Capability Building:** Designed structured learning pathways and targeted skill development initiatives.
- **Change Management:** Facilitated adoption of new systems through communication, training, and stakeholder engagement.

Key Achievements & Performance Highlights

The function demonstrated strong performance across multiple areas:

- Alignment of HR priorities with organisational strategy.
- Recognition as a Great Place to Work.
- Strengthening safeguarding processes with multilingual policies and orientations.
- Promotion of staff well-being through fitness sessions, well-being applications, and psycho-social support.
- Expansion of learning and development through internal talent utilisation and cost-effective training models.
- Initiation of a localised automated HRIS to enhance operational efficiency and scalability.



Way Forward: Priorities for 2026-27

Looking ahead, the HR function will focus on:

- Rolling out the centralised & automated Performance Management System (PMS) to enhance accountability and transparency.
- Completing full implementation of the HRIS for improved reporting, documentation, and analytics.
- Developing a low-cost, efficient and effective delivery model to secure long-term sustainability of the work for & with children.
- Driving change management for the adoption of new systems and organisational culture shifts.
- Strengthening safeguarding frameworks and reporting mechanisms.
- Introducing digital tools for safeguarding automation and case management.
- Continuing investment in organisational capability building, leadership development, and internal talent growth.



Staff Training



Rangoli Winner



Foundation Day Celebration



Diwali Celebration



Annual Reward & Recognition

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

MANAGING RISKS

Strategic Priority

The Risk Management function focused on strengthening organisational resilience by building a competitive advantage in managing uncertainty. The priority was to enhance overall performance, ensure business continuity, and progressively advance the organisation's risk management maturity.

Key Approaches Adopted

The function delivered independent and objective assurance to strengthen systems and processes, guided by three core pillars—Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC):

- **Governance:** Updated and institutionalised key policies, including Risk Management, Whistle Blowing, Risk Appetite, Anti-Fraud & Anti-Corruption, Related Party Declarations, Child Safeguarding, and Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act.
- **Risk:** Developed an enterprise-wide comprehensive risk management framework, reviewed risk observations annually, and presented to the Audit Committee; introduced Risk & Control Matrices to enable risk-based internal audits.
- **Compliance:** Established automated systems for quarterly management certification, compliance dashboards, and self-assessment reporting to leadership.
- **Monitoring & Awareness:** Introduced follow-up reviews, compliance tracking, and Code of Conduct awareness surveys.
- **Zero Non-Compliance Focus:** Institutionalised monthly reviews of statutory compliance to ensure adherence and accountability.

These approaches collectively enhanced ethical practices, operational efficiency, and institutional effectiveness.

Key Achievements & Performance Highlights

- Risk Management is integrated across all functions to strengthen governance systems.
- Enabled a shift towards efficient, accountable, and minimal-interference governance structures.
- Strengthened organisational systems for improved oversight, transparency, & decision-making.

These integrations support a governance model that promote efficiency while minimising unnecessary administrative interventions.

Way Forward: Priority for 2026–27

To further strengthen risk maturity, the following actions have been prioritised:

- Develop and operationalise Risk Registers across all functions to monitor control effectiveness.
- Transition to risk-based, control-based standardised audits for improved benchmarking
- Achieve 100% automation of risk registers through GRC tools for real-time tracking.
- Automate internal audit follow-up and closure processes for efficiency.
- Strengthen the implementation of the Child Safeguarding (CSG) Policy to reduce audit observations.

FINANCIALS

ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Year Ended 31 March 2026

The following pages provide a summary of Bal Raksha Bharat's audited financial statements. These abridged accounts should be read in conjunction with the full audited financial statements and the auditor's report. The complete Audited Financial Statements for FY 2025-26 are available on our website and can be accessed through the link provided at the end of this statement.

1. SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET

BAL RAKSHA BHARAT <i>(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)</i> Balance Sheet as on 31 March 2026 (All amounts are in Indian Rupees Lakhs)		
	As at 31 March 2026	As at 31 March 2025
Sources of Funds		
Corpus fund	0.11	0.11
Restricted fund	3,428.78	3,326.24
Endowment fund	2,169.75	2,169.75
Empathy fund	601.53	564.49
General fund	4,740.73	3,847.66
Special-purpose fund	1,000.00	1,000.00
	11,940.90	10,908.25
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Gross block	732.59	753.17
Less: Accumulated depreciation/amortisation	567.33	538.18
Net block	165.26	214.99
Intangibles under development	16.50	-
	181.76	214.99
Non-Current Assets		
Other bank balances	11,156.23	7,904.27
	11,156.23	7,904.27
Current assets, loans and advances		
Cash and bank balances	1,735.66	3,933.55
Loans and advances	761.86	796.76
Grant debtors	121.28	112.28
Stock in hand	23.16	23.70
	2,641.96	4,866.29
Less: Current liabilities and provisions		
Current liabilities	1,628.33	1,719.97
Provisions	410.72	357.33
	2,039.05	2,077.30
Net current assets	602.91	2,788.99
Net current assets	11,940.90	10,908.25

2. SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

BAL RAKSHA BHARAT <i>(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)</i> Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2026 (All amounts are in Indian Rupees Lakhs)		
	For the year ended 31 March 2026	For the year ended 31 March 2025
Income		
Restricted income (grants/donations)	4,036.95	3,490.56
Unrestricted income (grants/donations)	5,276.29	4,863.28
Other income	942.91	914.79
	10,256.15	9,268.63
Expenditure		
Programme implementation expenditure	6,177.30	6,005.88
Activities for raising funds	2,474.99	2,226.71
Administrative and other costs	710.79	724.09
	9,363.08	8,956.68
Excess of income over expenditure	893.07	311.95

3. UTILISATION OF FUNDS

BAL RAKSHA BHARAT <i>(registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860)</i> (All amounts are in Indian Rupees Lakhs)		
	For the year ended 31 March 2026	Ratio
Expenditure		
Programme implementation expenditure	6,177.30	66%
Activities for raising funds	2,474.99	26%
Administrative and other costs	710.79	8%
Excess of income over expenditure	9,363.08	100%

4. SOURCES OF FUNDING

BAL RAKSHA BHARAT For the year ended 31 March 2026		
<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount (INR Lakhs)</u>	<u>% of Total Funding</u>
Corporate CSR Contributions	4,164.89	40%
Individual Donations	5,276.29	51%
Institutional Donors	139.00	1%
Other Income	793.23	8%
Total	10,373.41	100%

5. AUDITOR'S OPINION

The statutory auditors, Deloitte Haskins & Sells, LLP have issued an unmodified (clean) opinion on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026.

6. MANAGEMENT NOTE

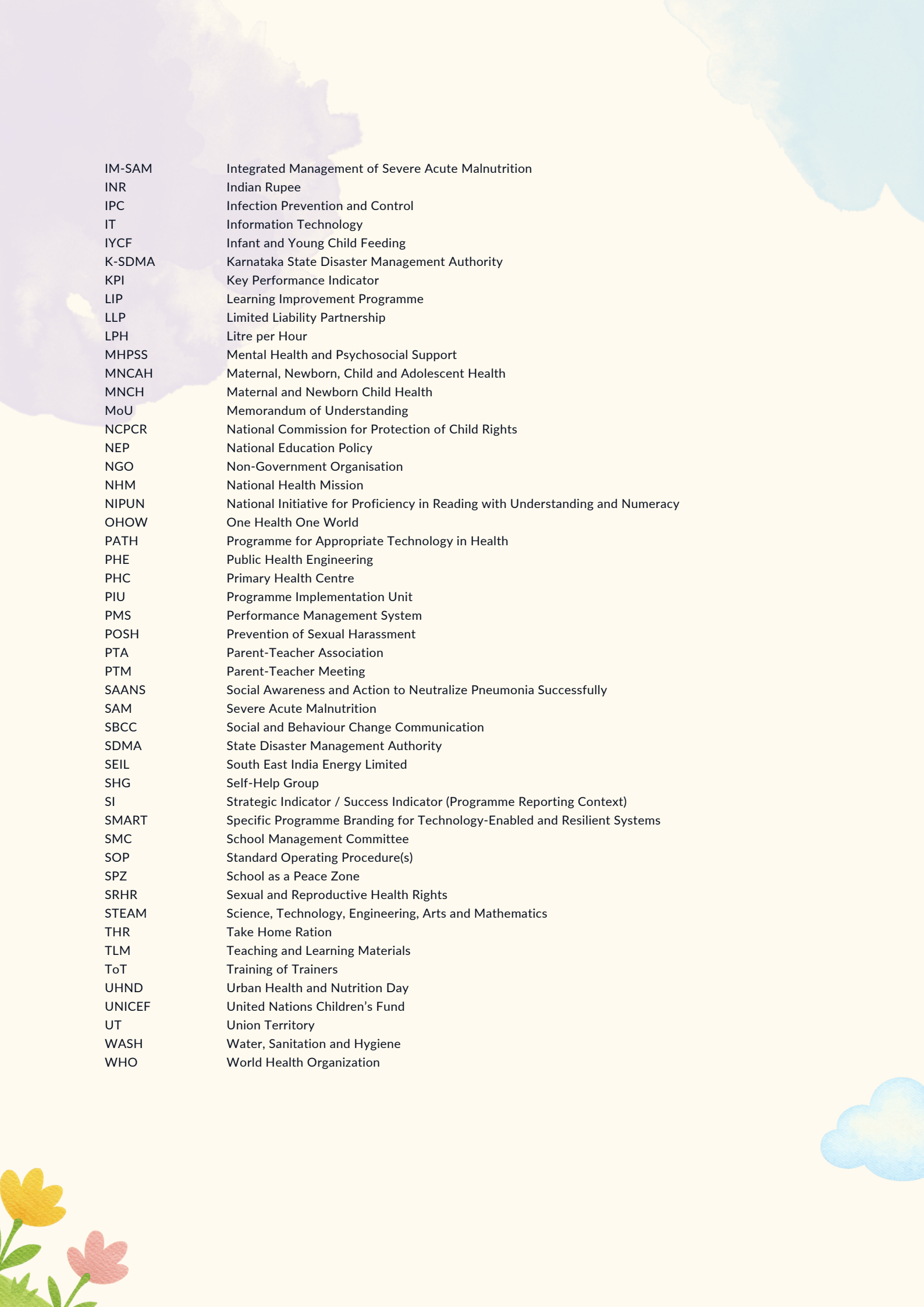
The organisation continues to maintain robust financial management systems, internal controls, and compliance mechanisms to ensure that donor funds are utilised efficiently and for their intended purposes.

For detailed disclosures, accounting policies, schedules, and notes to accounts, readers are encouraged to refer to the complete audited financial statements in the link below:

[BRB Annual Audited Financial Statement 2025-26](#)

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AAM	Ayushman Arogya Mandir
ABHA	Ayushman Bharat Health Account
ADW	Adi Dravidar Welfare
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AIBCF	All India Business and Community Foundation
ANM	Auxiliary Nurse and Midwife
ARSH	Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health
ATM	Automated Teller Machine
AWC	Anganwadi Centre
AWCs	Anganwadi Centres
AWW	Anganwadi Worker
B&E	Brand and Engagement
BRB	Bal Raksha Bharat
BW	Business World
CA	Climate Action
CBRI	Central Building Research Institute
CCDRR	Child-Centric Disaster Risk Reduction
CEPP	Community Emergency Preparedness Plan
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CHC	Community Health Centre
CPiE	Child Protection in Emergencies
CRM	Cause-related Marketing
CSG	Child Safeguarding
CSIR	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CSS	Comprehensive School Safety
DAY-NULM	Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihood Mission
DH	District Hospital
DPR	Detailed Project Report
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECCD	Early Childhood Care and Development
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
EiE	Education in Emergencies
EPP	Emergency Preparedness Plan
EW	Economic Well-Being
FLN	Foundational Literacy and Numeracy
FLW	Frontline Worker
GDN	Global Development Network
GP	Gram Panchayat
GRC	Governance, Risk and Compliance
H&N	Health and Nutrition
HKP	Honda Ki Pathshala
HNI	High Net Worth Individual(s)
HR	Human Resources
HRIS	Human Resource Information System
HSC	Health Sub-Centre
HUM	Humanitarian Action
ICC	Indian Chamber of Commerce
ICARS	Integrated Centre for Adaptation, Resilience and Sustainability
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IIHMR	Indian Institute of Health Management Research
IIT	Indian Institute of Technology



IM-SAM	Integrated Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition
INR	Indian Rupee
IPC	Infection Prevention and Control
IT	Information Technology
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
K-SDMA	Karnataka State Disaster Management Authority
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LIP	Learning Improvement Programme
LLP	Limited Liability Partnership
LPH	Litre per Hour
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MNCAH	Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health
MNCH	Maternal and Newborn Child Health
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCPCR	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
NEP	National Education Policy
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NHM	National Health Mission
NIPUN	National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy
OHOW	One Health One World
PATH	Programme for Appropriate Technology in Health
PHE	Public Health Engineering
PHC	Primary Health Centre
PIU	Programme Implementation Unit
PMS	Performance Management System
POSH	Prevention of Sexual Harassment
PTA	Parent-Teacher Association
PTM	Parent-Teacher Meeting
SAANS	Social Awareness and Action to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SBCC	Social and Behaviour Change Communication
SDMA	State Disaster Management Authority
SEIL	South East India Energy Limited
SHG	Self-Help Group
SI	Strategic Indicator / Success Indicator (Programme Reporting Context)
SMART	Specific Programme Branding for Technology-Enabled and Resilient Systems
SMC	School Management Committee
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure(s)
SPZ	School as a Peace Zone
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights
STEAM	Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics
THR	Take Home Ration
TLM	Teaching and Learning Materials
ToT	Training of Trainers
UHND	Urban Health and Nutrition Day
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UT	Union Territory
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization





**Bal
Raksha
Bharat**

Also known as **Save the Children**

Registered Office
D-61, East of Kailash,
New Delhi-110 065, India

Tel: (+91) 011 40538140



facebook.com/balrakshabharat



x.com/balrakshabharat



instagram.com/balrakshabharat/



youtube.com/@balrakshabharat



linkedin.com/company/bal-rakshabharat/mycompany/



threads.net/@balrakshabharat



balrakshabharat.org