

A PROFILE BOOK



JATAN SANSTHAN



ABOUT JATAN SANSTHAN



JATAN SANSTHAN is a grassroots voluntary (not-for-profit) organization working with resource-poor and tribal communities in rural areas of southern Rajasthan, India, specifically in the districts of Rajsamand, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Udaipur, Barmer, Bhilwara, Sirohi, and Banswara. Jatan has a presence in over 6,000 villages throughout these regions, which have traditionally faced poor social indicators.

Since its establishment in 2001, Jatan has designed and implemented various initiatives geared towards improving social and demographic indicators by working with youth groups. In the last decade, Jatan has worked on programs related to children, young people and women in the areas of health and education.

Objective:

To empower communities—especially women, children, and adolescents—through participatory and rights-based approaches, with a focus on gender equity, health and hygiene, life skills, education, and sustainable development. Jatan Sansthan aims to create inclusive spaces that nurture dignity, choice, and voice for all individuals, enabling them to realize their full potential and lead empowered lives.

Our Vision:

Jatan envisions a society where people lead a healthy, safe and empowered life, free from all forms of discrimination.

Our Mission:

Jatan's mission is to empower communities by giving them spaces to freely express their concerns. Jatan aims to provide information that will enable communities to seek social and scientific solutions, so that communities can become their own agents of change. Jatan encourages active participation of youth in decision making, policy formulation and advocacy across various forums at national and international level.



Our Commitment

All the offices of Jatan Sansthan are plastic free, smoking free, tobacco free, and waste free. Plastic bags and disposable plastic materials are not used in the office and we encourage others also not to use the same. Jatan Sansthan is committed to not use plastic bags, plastic water bottles, flex banners, plastic folders, straws, plastic or thermocol cups, thermocol sheets, plastic printing material, plastic food packets or containers etc. in its premises and in the various programs we organize. We know that resources are limited, so we emphasize the proper and appropriate use of resources. This is why we believe in making maximum use of any material whether it is cotton cloth used for menstrual management or single-sided paper

Registrations & Details

1. Registration No : 2/Rajsamand/2001,2002 dated 12.06.2001
2. Registered in: 2001
3. Registered under: Society Registration Act 1958.
4. Founder : Dr. Kailash Brijwasi
5. Present Leader : Dr. Kailash Brijwasi
6. Tax Exemptions: u/s 12A of the Income Tax Act, 1961
7. Tax Exemptions: u/s 80 G of the Income Tax Act, 1961
8. FCRA Registration No. : 125750008, Dt.05.03.2010
9. NGO Darpan: RJ/2017/0159436

THEORY OF CHANGE



Core problem

1. **Gender Inequity:** Deep-rooted patriarchal norms continue to marginalize women and girls, limiting their agency, voice, and access to opportunities.
2. **Lack of Adolescent Support:** Adolescents lack safe spaces, life skills, and access to comprehensive sexuality education, leaving them vulnerable to misinformation, violence, and exploitation.
3. **Menstrual Taboos and Poor MHH Practices:** Stigma, misinformation, and lack of access to sustainable menstrual products hinder the health and dignity of menstruators.
4. **Weak Foundational Learning:** Many children, especially in rural and tribal settings, lack foundational literacy and numeracy, impacting long-term learning.
5. **Environmental Unsustainability:** Communities are often unaware of or lack access to sustainable, plastic-free alternatives, contributing to environmental degradation.
6. **Limited Community Participation:** Governance structures often exclude meaningful participation from women, adolescents, and marginalized groups.
7. **Lack of life skilling :** Often find that our adolescents suffering in taking decisions for themselves and even if they grow up with the same circumstances.

Our approach

Jatan Sansthan believes that *sustainable, community-led change* is possible when interventions are gender-transformative, youth-centric, culturally rooted, and system-strengthening. The organization works at the intersection of gender, health, education, environment, and governance using the following strategies:

1. Input (What Jatan invests)

- Skilled and trained grassroots teams
- Collaborations with schools, Anganwadi centers, PRIs, and government departments
- Locally developed IEC materials and toolkits
- Community spaces like Apna Jatan Kendras
- Technical partnerships and donor support
- Volunteer networks and peer educators

2. Activities (What Jatan Does)

- Adolescent Empowerment

- Life skills education, sexuality education, and leadership development
- Safe space creation through youth clubs, Apna Jatan Kendras, and Mera Kona corners
- Peer educator programs and adolescent collectives
- **Gender Equity & Positive Masculinity**
 - Gender sensitization sessions with boys, men, PRIs, and community leaders
 - Engagement on patriarchy, consent, care work, and toxic masculinity
 - Campaigns and dialogues to challenge gender norms
- **Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH)**
 - Cloth pad production and training in menstrual literacy
 - Breaking stigma through festivals, films, and community events
 - Promoting sustainable, dignified, and eco-friendly menstruation
- **Early Childhood Development (ECD) & Primary Education**
 - Play-based learning sessions in Anganwadis and schools
 - Parental engagement and ECE module development
 - Peer teaching models to strengthen foundational learning
- **Community Engagement & Governance**
 - Capacity building of PRIs and community leaders
 - Interface meetings between adolescents and panchayats
 - Campaigns on child protection, nutrition, and rights
 - Recipe trail for community people specially for lactating and pregnant women
- **Sustainability Practices**
 - Plastic-free office and event protocols
 - Awareness of climate-conscious living and resource use
 - Promotion of reusable alternatives and zero-waste culture

3. Outputs (Long/Short-term result)

- Adolescent girls and boys attend regular peer-led sessions
- Adolescents get sensitized in terms of gender, MHH, positive masculinity
- Menstrual health products are distributed and adopted
- Community members participate in gender and environment sessions
- Teachers and Anganwadi workers adopt play-based learning methods
- Learning level of students get increase
- SMCs and SDMCs get strengthened

- Nutrition level among children get improve
- PRIs include youth and gender issues in gram sabhas

4. Outcomes (Medium term)

Individual Level:

- Adolescents gain self-confidence, decision-making skills, and awareness of rights
- Menstruators adopt healthier and more sustainable MHH practices
- Boys and men develop empathy and share care work and decision-making

Family and Community Level:

- Gender roles begin to shift; families support girls' education and mobility
- Communities normalize conversations around menstruation, the body, and consent
- Local governance structures (PRIs, SMCs) include adolescent and gender issues in planning

Institutional Level:

- Schools and Anganwadis adopt inclusive and interactive learning practices

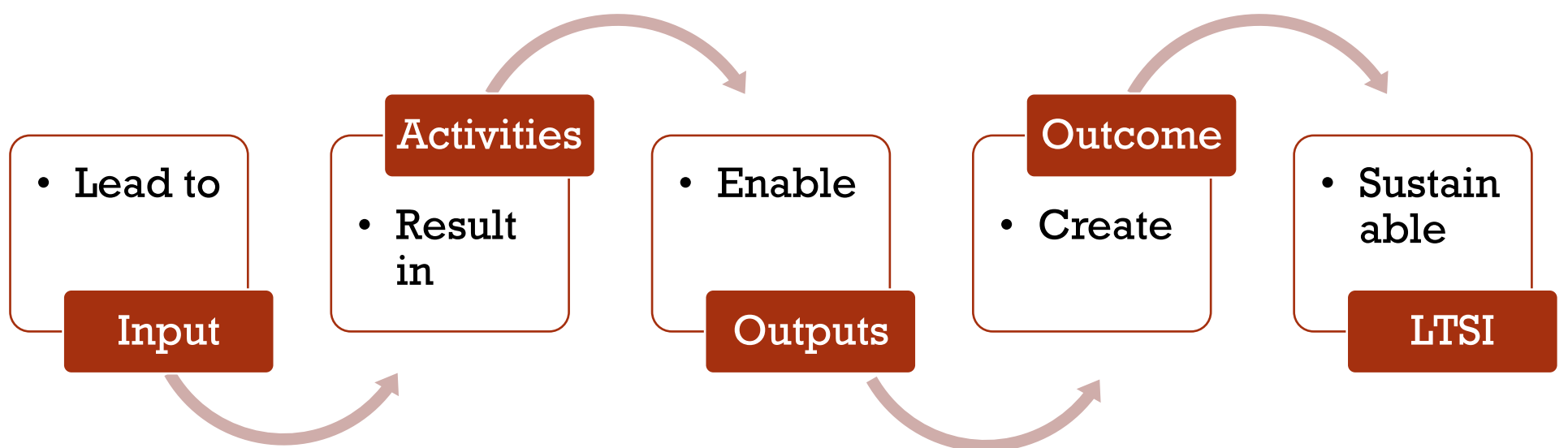
- Events and campaigns reach large rural audiences

- Government schemes are better accessed by the community
- Program tools and models are scaled or integrated into government training

5. Long-term sustainability impact (Transformation Jatan seeks)

- Adolescents become agents of change, leading social transformation in their communities.
- Gender norms are disrupted, resulting in more equitable homes, schools, and public spaces.
- Women and girls live with dignity, accessing opportunities, health, and leadership roles.
- Communities embrace sustainability, adopting zero-waste practices and eco-friendly alternatives.
- Local governance becomes inclusive, participatory, and responsive to the needs of marginalized groups.
- Intergenerational cycles of poverty and discrimination are broken, paving the way for a more just and equitable society.
- Nutrition level among children is improving
- Adolescent boys behave empathetically and share and care in household work

Our Approach



GEOGRAPHY & PEOPLE

OUR REACH



GEOGRAPHY

STATE	
RAJASHTHAN	MUMBAI
10 DISTRICTS	1 DISTRICT
SO FAR COVERED MORE THAN 6000 VILLAGES	
COVERED MORE THAN 4528+ ANGANWADI	

REACH

S.N.	IMPACT	NO.
1	CHILDREN	1530000+
2	CAREGIVER	107563+
3	WOMEN	191200+
4	ADOLESCENTS	57000+

BUDGET

S.N.	FINANCIAL YEAR	BUDGET
1	2025-26	66723000 (& COUNTING)
2	2024-25	95999990
3	2023-24	57250988
4	2022-23	100262668
5	2021-22	69874152



OUR COMMITMENT

LET'S MAKE IT SUSTAINABLE

Journey Toward Environmental Responsibility

In a world that is grappling with climate change, unsustainable consumption, and increasing amounts of non-biodegradable waste, Jatan Sansthan has chosen to walk a different path—one of responsibility, mindfulness, and long-term vision. Sustainability is not merely a principle embedded in our programmatic interventions—it is a lifestyle and organizational culture we strive to nurture every day. Our commitment to maintaining plastic-free, smoke-free, tobacco-free, and waste-free spaces is rooted in the belief that change must begin with us.

We recognize that every single act—whether it's choosing a reusable bottle, printing on both sides of a sheet of paper, or refusing a plastic folder—has an environmental impact. The cumulative effect of these decisions becomes powerful when institutionalized. That is why we have established clear and uncompromising guidelines across all our offices and programs to eliminate wasteful and polluting materials.

Why does this commitment matter?

The modern lifestyle is heavily reliant on convenience, often at the cost of the environment. Single-use plastics, chemically processed disposable items, and energy-intensive products have become part of daily life. However, these materials are not just non-recyclable—they're also non-renewable, harmful to the soil and water, and contribute significantly to the global waste crisis.

Plastic alone takes hundreds of years to degrade, releasing micro plastics into the environment that ultimately enter food

Chains affecting both human and animal health. Smoking and tobacco use not only cause devastating health effects but also produce non-biodegradable waste in the form of cigarette butts, foil wrappers, and packaging. Meanwhile, thermocol and flex banners, while popular for their low cost and vibrant appearance, are entirely non-recyclable and severely toxic when burnt.

Understanding this reality, Jatan Sansthan chose to take an institutional stand to challenge norms and become a model of ecological responsibility for the development sector.

Plastic-free offices

All offices of Jatan Sansthan are strictly plastic-free zones. We have developed and implemented a clear policy to eliminate the use of:

- Plastic carry bags
- Disposable cutlery and straws
- Plastic water bottles
- Thermocol or plastic cups
- Flex banners
- Plastic folders

A Commitment to Sustainable Workspaces: Jatan Sansthan's Journey Toward Environmental Responsibility

Instead of these, we encourage alternative such as:

- Cloth bags and jute pouches
- Refillable steel/glass/ceramic utensils
- Cloth and paper-based materials
- Reusable folders and paper files

This is not merely an internal policy—it is a shared commitment. Staff, interns, visitors, and community members are all oriented to this practice through induction, and reminders.

THEMATICS AREA

JATAN WORKS ON

Jatan Sansthan began its journey with a focused commitment to addressing issues around Gender, Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH), and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). These core areas reflected an urgent need in the communities we serve—especially for adolescent girls and women, who faced silence, stigma, and limited access to information and support.

Over time, as our relationships with communities deepened and we engaged more closely with adolescents, caregivers, and local governance systems, new needs and interlinked challenges emerged. Responding to these, Jatan gradually broadened its thematic focus—adopting a holistic and integrated approach to development.

Today, Jatan works across more than 7 thematic areas, building synergies between health, education, empowerment, and sustainability. These areas include:

- Early Childhood Development (ECD)
- Education (Primary & Senior Secondary)
- Nutrition and Health
- Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Local Governance
- Environmental Sustainability
- Positive Masculinity and Gender-Sensitive Engagement with Boys and Men
- Women empowerment, Social Justice and Inclusion



THEMATICS WORK

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD)



Child Development Program (Supported by Child Fund India), At Jatan Sansthan, we recognize that the early years of a child's life (0–6 years) are foundational for lifelong learning, health, and well-being. Our Child Development Program is designed to ensure that every child regardless of their gender, caste, or socio-economic background, has access to nurturing care, age-appropriate learning, and a supportive environment both at home and in early learning spaces like Anganwadis. Alone, this program caters to almost 2500 students.

Apna Jatan Kendra (supported by Gebeco) is a dedicated and developed as community teaching center where students learn by doing. And this program impacting around 50 students from the surrounding community.

Nand Ghar (Supported by Vedanta) program focuses on the holistic development of Anganwadis by transforming them into model centers. It ensures the provision of key facilities such as improved infrastructure, digital literacy (via digital content displayed on TVs), essential amenities, running water, functional washrooms, and kitchen gardens. Through this initiative, we have supported 1,002 Anganwadis, benefiting approximately 6,956 children.

Healthy Generation (Supported by HBSF) program aims to build healthier futures by addressing Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) among children. This initiative is currently improving the nutritional well-being and health outcomes of 16,921 children.

Pahala Kadam (Supported by Echidna giving) focuses on Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC). Through this program, we are positively impacting the lives of 8,250 children across 275 Anganwadis, fostering a strong foundation for their future learning and development.



Education (Primary & Senior Secondary)

Digant program (Supported by Educate for Life) focuses on strengthening secondary education, specifically targeting students from classes IX to XII. The core objective is to build subject-wise competency in Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Hindi, and English. This program is currently being implemented in two schools located in the Mandwa and Jhed panchayats of Udaipur district, reaching out to around 360 students. Alongside academic support, the program also promotes critical thinking and problem-solving skills to ensure holistic development.

Apna Jatan Kendra (Supported by Gebeco) is centered around enhancing foundational learning through a primary education support model. Based on an after-school learning concept, children attend the center post school hours, where they are supported with their syllabus as well as engaged in extracurricular activities like arts, reading, and play-based learning. Located in a community neighborhood, the center currently caters to more than 25 students, creating a safe and stimulating space for joyful learning.

Child Development Program (Supported by ChildFund India), takes a life-cycle approach to ensure learning opportunities across different age groups. Along with academic reinforcement, it emphasizes the integration of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)

Nutrition & Health

Healthy Generation program (supported by HBSF) focuses on improving child nutrition by addressing Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). Through regular screenings, community engagement, and coordination with health services & RUTF, the program aims to ensure early identification and timely intervention. Currently, it is benefiting over 16,900 children, promoting better health and long-term well-being.

Pahala Kadam, supported by Echidna Giving, focuses on strengthening Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) by ensuring quality learning environments and responsive caregiving. In addition, the program emphasizes advocacy efforts to improve health facilities and access to nutrition and timely Take Home Ration (THR) distribution for young children and mothers.

KMC, supported by Development Consortium, focuses on reducing Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR) through effective implementation of Kangaroo Mother Care in two district hospitals, promoting warmth of baby, breastfeeding, and close monitoring for low birth weight and preterm babies.

Child Development Program (Supported by ChildFund India), takes a life-cycle approach to ensure learning opportunities across different age groups. Along with education it also focus on nutrition and health by providing nutrition support and awareness.

Uger is a separate entity of Jatan Sansthan which provide training related to Sexual Reproductive Health & Menstrual Health & Management.



ENVIRONMENT & SUTAINABILITY



Cloth Pad Initiative is one of our flagship movements rooted in both environmental consciousness and menstrual health equity. With a deep commitment to honoring Mother Nature, this initiative promotes the use of reusable, washable, biodegradable, and eco-friendly cloth pads as a sustainable alternative to disposable sanitary products. Plastic free office, is our another movement for the betterment of Mother Earth. Our goal is twofold: to reduce the environmental burden caused by single-use sanitary waste and to empower women and adolescent girls with healthier,

Cost-effective menstrual solutions. Through regular workshops and community sessions, we teach individuals — especially women and youth — how to stitch their own cloth pads, fostering self-reliance and skill development. Each of our offices also functions as a resource hub, where ready-to-use cloth pads are available for purchase at an affordable cost. This ensures easy accessibility for those who may not be able to make them at home.

By promoting this initiative, we are not only addressing the crucial issue of

menstrual hygiene management, but also paving the way for a larger cultural shift — one that embraces dignity, sustainability, and environmental responsibility.

Through this movement, we aim to break the silence and stigma around menstruation, create awareness about eco-friendly practices, and offer practical, affordable solutions that respect both women's health and the planet.

This initiative stands as a symbol of empowerment, encouraging individuals and communities to adopt mindful choices that contribute to long-term wellbeing both personal and ecological.

A SUSTAINABLE STEP TOWARD PROTECTING MOTHER EARTH

Plastic-Free Office Movement, in our continued efforts to protect and preserve Mother Earth, the **Plastic-Free Office** movement stands as a powerful commitment to environmental sustainability. This initiative is not just a policy—it is a deeply held organizational value that guides our everyday actions and choices across all our offices.

We have consciously eliminated the use of single-use plastics and shifted toward biodegradable, reusable, and eco-conscious alternatives. From daily office operations to large-scale events, every aspect of our work reflects this commitment. Whether it's serving refreshments in eco-friendly utensils, using cloth and handmade paper for banners and posters, or replacing plastic packaging with compostable materials—our team ensures that sustainability is at the core.

Even our print and outreach materials are designed to be biodegradable and environmentally responsible, ensuring that our message doesn't harm the environment it seeks to protect. In events and public campaigns, we use decorations made from natural fibers, recycled materials, or plant-based resources, setting an example for the community and encouraging others to adopt similar practices.

Importantly, our entire staff is deeply mindful and aligned with this mission. Each team member is trained and sensitized to reduce plastic usage and promote eco-friendly habits in their professional as well as personal lives.

Today, all our offices proudly operate as plastic-free zones, serving as living examples of what environmentally responsible workspaces can look like. Through this movement, we reaffirm our dedication to restoring balance with nature and reducing the burden of plastic pollution on the planet.

We believe that even small, consistent steps toward sustainability can lead to lasting, meaningful change, and we are proud to walk that path every day.

Carbon footprint, recognizing the urgent need to address climate change and environmental degradation, we have recently begun focusing our efforts on the critical issue of carbon footprint reduction. With growing industrialization and rapid urbanization, factories, vehicles, and human activities are contributing significantly to carbon emissions. Yet, there remains a stark imbalance, very few concrete efforts are being made to offset or neutralize these emissions.

To contribute meaningfully to this global challenge, we have initiated two projects currently in the planning phase, both designed to address the dual goals of environmental restoration and community development.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT & POSITIVE MASCULINITY



Sehyogi is a transformative initiative supported by UNICEF, focused on fostering positive masculinity among adolescents and young men. In today's society, traditional notions of masculinity often carry negative connotations. Boys and men are socialized to suppress their emotions, avoid vulnerability, and embrace harmful stereotypes like “*Mard ko dard nahi hota*” (real men don't feel pain). These outdated beliefs often normalize aggressive behaviors such as violence, eve-teasing, street fights, and reckless stunts, which severely impact both individuals and communities.

Additionally, gender roles within households are rigidly defined—where domestic responsibilities are viewed as the sole domain of women, and earning a livelihood is expected only from men. This unequal division of labor not only perpetuates gender discrimination but also affects girls' education. Many girls are forced to drop out of school due to the burden of household chores and caregiving responsibilities. To challenge and change these deep-rooted gender norms, the Sehyogi program conducts regular interactive sessions, group discussions,

and street plays (nukkad natak) with adolescents in schools and communities. One of the key messages promoted through the campaign is “*Ghar Ka Kaam Sabka Kaam*” (housework is everyone's responsibility), encouraging boys and men to participate equally in household duties. Through these continuous efforts, Sehyogi is helping build a more empathetic, gender-sensitive generation that respects equality, promotes shared responsibilities, and rejects harmful stereotypes.

EMERGING THE CHANGE

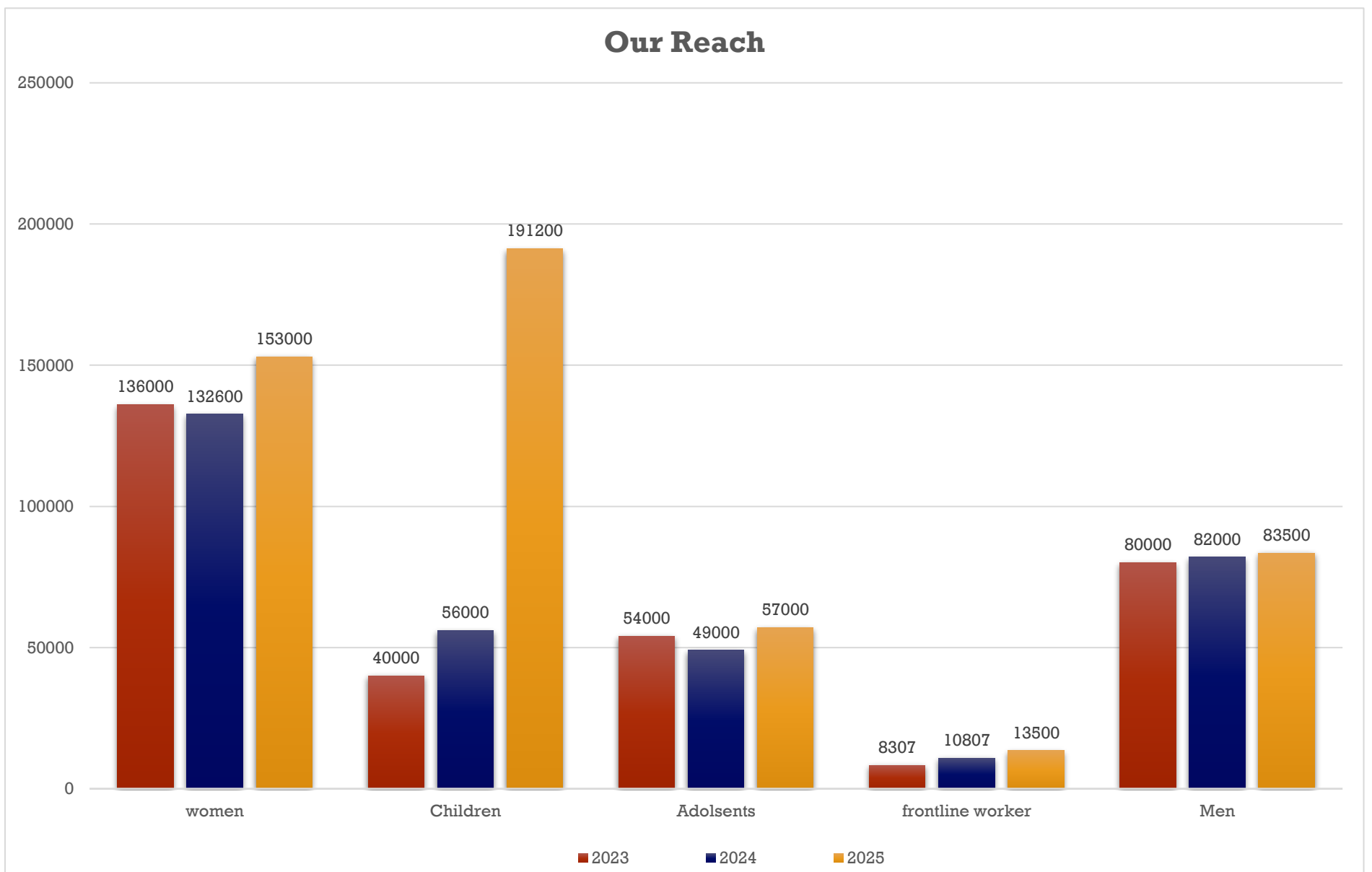
Panchayati Raj program, supported by Azim Premji Philanthropy, focuses on promoting active and meaningful participation of women in Panchayat-level elections. In many rural areas, a common and deeply rooted issue is the prevalence of the ‘Pradhan Pati’, ‘Samiti Pati’, and ‘Ward Pati’ culture—where women are elected to official positions, but their husbands or male family members control all decision-making processes, attend meetings, and exercise power on their behalf. As a result, the true representation and leadership of women remain symbolic and ineffective.

We conduct awareness sessions and training that cover the entire electoral process, the roles and responsibilities of elected representatives, government schemes, and the structure and functioning of local governance. These efforts aim to ensure that women not only contest elections but also actively participate in decision-making, planning, and budget utilization.

Through this initiative, we have also observed a critical gap—whether the representative is male or female, the effective utilization of Panchayat-level budgets remains weak due to a lack of awareness and planning skills. To tackle this, we support women leaders in identifying and prioritizing village-level issues such as poor school infrastructure, under-equipped Community Health Centers (CHCs), and gaps in local education services.

To strengthen grassroots governance and accountability, we have formed community platforms called ‘Jagruk Manch’ at the village level. These platforms consist of trained community members who are regularly capacitated through sessions and workshops. They, in turn, serve as local resource persons—raising awareness, supporting women leaders, and ensuring that issues are addressed through collective action and informed participation.

OUR REACH 2023-2025



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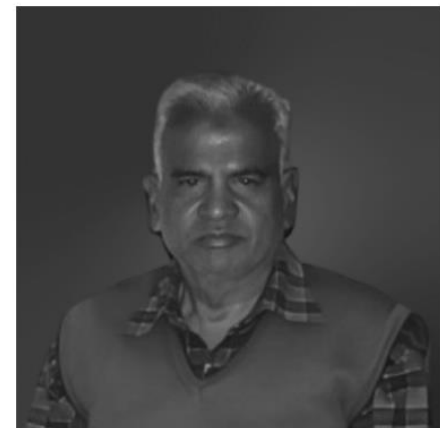
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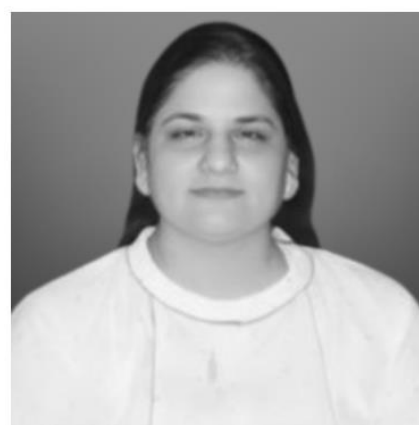
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Member

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