

# NEWS UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2025



Nothing contributes more to make men polite and civilized, than true and genuine charity.

– WELLINS CALCOTT



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## INTRODUCTION

### HISTORY OF M S INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Manu and Rika Shah founded MSI in 1975, in the basement of their home in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. MSI is now the largest importer and distributor in the world of Premium Surfaces including granite, marble, porcelain and ceramic tiles, slate, travertine, limestone and other natural stone products from 37 countries. Most notably, MSI provided the granite for the Vietnam Memorial in DC.

Manu and Rika Shah established Sarva Mangal Family Trust (Sarva Mangal means 'let all be happy' in Sanskrit) over 20 years ago with compassion as their driving force for philanthropy. Manu's vision for SMFT is to act as a catalyst, challenge status quo, nurture passionate change-makers and support leapfrogging ideas that are scalable and sustainable. Today, all members from the Shah family are involved in social impact initiatives that are undertaken by SMFT. Manu supports VOSAP – Voice of Specially Abled People, which has created over 10,000 change makers and rated over 18,000 buildings rated for accessibility. He also supports Lend a hand India, which provides digital vocational training to over 300,000 students in 20,000 schools.

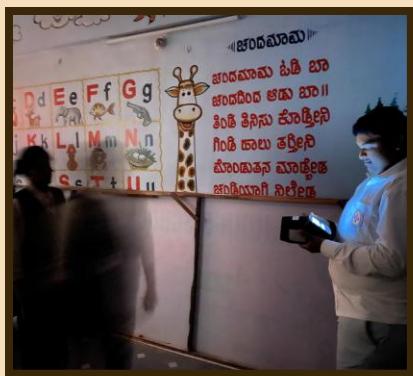
In 2007, Mr. Manu Shah was named Ernst & Young's national Entrepreneur of the Year in the distribution, manufacturing, and security category.

### ABOUT SARVA MANGAL FAMILY TRUST

Established in 1994 by the Founders of M S International, Inc. The mission of the Sarva Mangal Family Trust is to improve and strengthen the health, education and they illness of communities and help them prepare for global jobs of the 21st century. Sarva Mangal is a Sanskrit word which means Goodness to All.

To advance this mission, the Sarva Mangal Family Trust has donated to and is continuing to work with various organizations and programs in health promotion and prevention, assisting victims of domestic violence, empowering seniors, entrepreneurship, technological literacy, community activism, and children's education.

### MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



#### MASS VISION SCREENINGS IN KARNATAKA TO PROVIDE FREE EYEGLASSES

SMFT supported One World One Family and Anekant Community Centre took on the challenge to do 50,000 vision screenings in 6 days and surpassed the target by 2,000 and did a total of 52,358 screenings in 99 schools of 5 different districts of Karnataka. The camp was headed by Dr. Nitin Shah, founder of Anekant Community Centre, California. A total of approximately 25 volunteers from the community medicine team of One World One Family's Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences & Research participated along with MSI Social Impact Team. **(Continued on page 4)**

**November 2025:** A major school-based eye health drive in Karnataka is set to transform thousands of young lives. With support from SMFT, One World One Family and the Anekant Community Centre launched an ambitious challenge: complete 50,000 vision screenings in just six days. The team not only met the goal—they exceeded it by more than 2,000 screenings, reaching an impressive total of 52,358 children.

Screenings were conducted across 99 schools in five districts, bringing essential eye care closer to students and families who may otherwise have limited access. The camp was led by Dr. Nitin Shah, founder of the Anekant Community Centre, California, and powered by strong on-ground collaboration. Using non-invasive techniques, hemoglobin was also surveyed across 500+ female participants.

Approximately 25 volunteers from the Community Medicine team of One World One Family's Sri Sathya Sai Medical College and Research Institute worked alongside the MSI Social Impact Team to deliver efficient, high-quality assessments.

Following the screenings, 7,551 eyeglasses will be distributed free of cost to students identified with vision needs—helping them see the board clearly, learn with confidence, and participate fully in school.

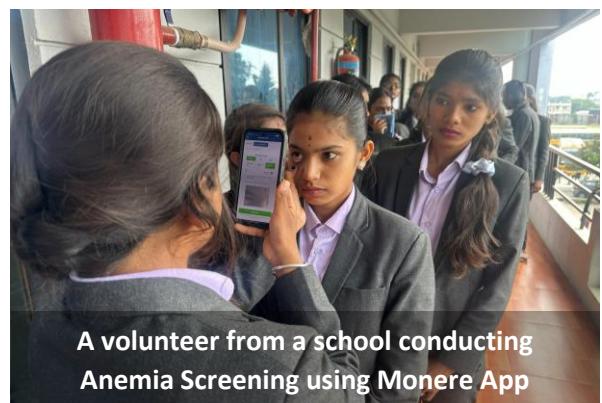
Good vision is a basic need for every child, yet uncorrected refractive errors remain one of the most common and easily treatable barriers to learning. When students struggle to see the blackboard or read their textbooks, it can lead to poor academic performance, headaches, eye strain, low confidence, and even absenteeism—often without anyone realizing that vision is the root cause. By combining mass screenings with free spectacles for those who need them, initiatives like this ensure that no child is held back simply because they cannot see clearly.



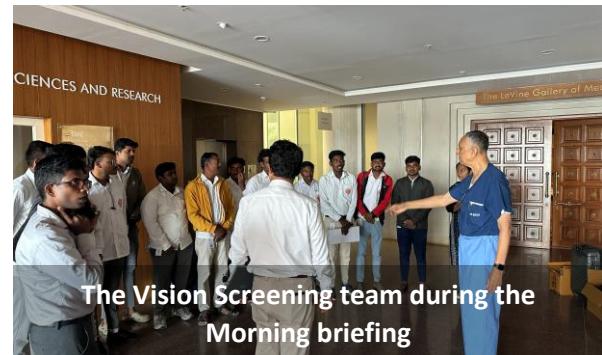
Dr. Nitin Shah conducting training of OWOF's Community Medicine team



Vision Screening team in action at a School



A volunteer from a school conducting Anemia Screening using Monere App



The Vision Screening team during the Morning briefing

## VISIT – AMERICAN INDIA FOUNDATION

**November 2025:** On 5 November, the MSI Social Impact Team visited the American India Foundation's S.N.E.H. Project in Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh, to learn about its on-the-ground model and outcomes. S.N.E.H. (Skilling, Nutrition, Education and Healthcare) was launched in January 2023 and is expected to run through 2030, strengthening early childhood care while also creating livelihood opportunities for women who need a stable income.

The project primarily supports children aged 6 months to 6 years, with services delivered by locally identified and trained women—turning community members into changemakers. Key activities include early childhood education sessions, midday meal preparation and distribution, anthropometric growth monitoring, and targeted parent consultations for families of severely malnourished children. The team also helps ensure that children at anganwadis receive vaccinations on time and conducts home visits for malnourished children—guiding caregivers on affordable, locally available meals that are nutritious and practical to prepare at home.

Currently operating in three locations, S.N.E.H. has reached 27,000 children across Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Odisha. The initiative has trained and organized 120 women into 12 self-help groups, providing a source of income through meal preparation for multiple anganwadis and schools.

S.N.E.H. is also exploring mental health and social-emotional learning in government schools. Teachers reported that children are better able to manage emotions such as anger, frustration, and shame, and noted a decline in school fights—an encouraging sign of sustained impact.

Overall, the visit reinforced the strength of S.N.E.H.'s community-led model and its potential for sustained, scalable impact on early childhood development while advancing women's livelihoods.



MSI Social Impact Team with SNEH Team in an Anganwadi



Outside of an SHG Kitchen under SNEH



MSI Social Impact Team with SHG



Children demonstrating how to handle nervousness in Mental Health classes

## VISIT – AMERICAN INDIA FOUNDATION

**November 2025:** On 6 November, the MSI Social Impact Team visited the SMFT-funded Learning and Migration Programme (LAMP), implemented by the American India Foundation (AIF) in Vyara, Gujarat.

Vyara is a low-income, water-scarce region, where many families migrate for more than six months each year in search of livelihoods. This seasonal migration often disrupts children's schooling. LAMP works with migrant families and government systems to ensure that children's education continues uninterrupted.

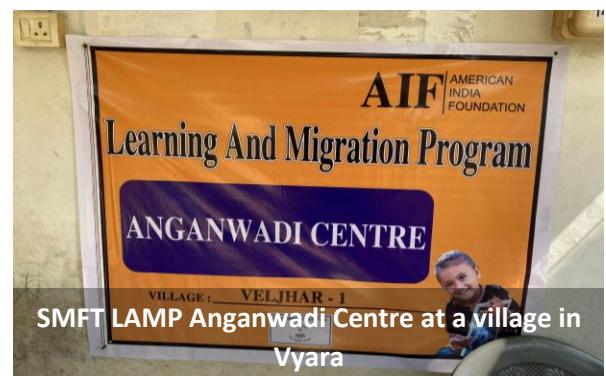
Working closely with the government as a training, research, and community mobilization partner, the programme—launched in 2024—has supported 3,788 children across 70 primary schools, 3 high schools, and 100 anganwadi centres. LAMP has also established six Learning Resource Centres (LRCs) that serve as hubs for teacher training on engaging pedagogy, the development of Teaching-Learning Materials (TLM), and strengthening Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN). These hubs further support 30 Learning Enhancement Programmes in 30 schools (spokes) and 100 anganwadi centres.

A particularly strong component of LAMP is its work with School Management Committees (SMCs) and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), bringing stakeholders together to identify challenges and determine where government-funded hostels for children of migrant families should be established. During the visit, the MSI Social Impact Team attended an SMC–PRI meeting and observed that the LAMP team had identified 10 villages where children are at high risk of migration. Within a month of these findings, hostel construction had already begun at four locations.

Overall, the visit highlighted LAMP's effective, government-aligned approach to reducing learning disruption among migrant children—demonstrating how timely community mobilization and evidence-based planning can translate quickly into practical solutions such as hostels and stronger classroom support.



Inside an LRC in Vyara



MSI Social Impact Team with SMC and PRI Representatives

## VISIT – SHRIMAD RAJCHANDRA MISSION DHARAMPUR

**November 2025:** On 13 November 2025, the MSI Social Impact Team visited the SMFT-funded Shrimad Rajchandra Hospital and Research Centre (SRHRC) in Dharampur, Gujarat along with its off-campus public health activities, to understand hospital workflows that could potentially be streamlined through SMFT's flagship AI chatbot, AIHealth Happiness.

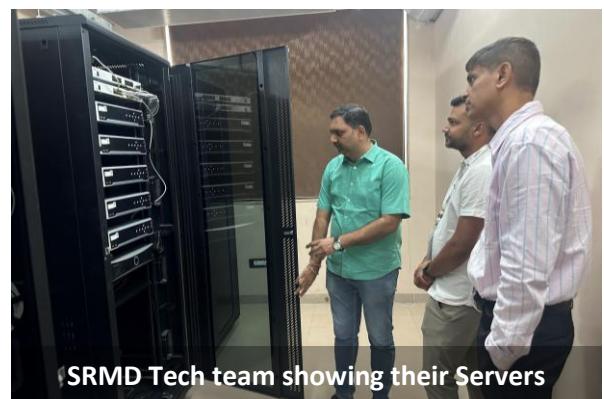
SRHRC is a large charitable, multi-specialty hospital serving South Gujarat's tribal and underserved communities. It provides a wide range of services—from emergency care and surgery to specialties such as cardiology, pediatrics, and oncology—supported by mobile clinics and community health outreach aligned with the Shrimad Rajchandra Mission's focus on holistic well-being.

During the visit, it was noted that SRHRC already uses an online portal for doctor consultations, which maintains patient profiles and helps identify whether a patient falls under the Below Poverty Line (BPL) category. With an exceptionally high daily footfall of nearly 6,000 patients, the hospital manages significant demand for timely registration, triage, and referrals.

In this context, AIHealth Happiness may help reduce waiting times by capturing symptoms early, guiding patients through basic information collection, and supporting faster routing to the most relevant department or specialist—while ensuring clinical decisions remain with healthcare professionals.

The team also discussed how similar triage and guidance support could be explored in SRHRC's off-campus initiatives, including village outreach programs, ASHA worker capacity-building efforts, and mega health camps, following appropriate pilot testing and feedback from frontline teams.

Overall, the visit highlighted practical opportunities to use digital tools to strengthen patient experience and improve operational efficiency in high-volume charitable care settings.



## VISIT – ONE WORLD ONE FAMILY

**November 2025:** On 19 November 2025, the MSI Social Impact Team visited the SMFT-funded Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (SMSIMSR) Hospital, along with the Shah Happiness Urgent Care Centres, to understand workflows that could potentially be streamlined through SMFT's flagship AI chatbot, AIHealth Happiness.

SMSIMSR is a pioneering, free private medical college in rural India, established by Sadguru Sri Madhusudan Sai to de-commercialize healthcare. It offers world-class, values-based education to underprivileged youth, transforming them into compassionate doctors committed to serving rural communities. The institution is supported by the Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence and the Prashanthi Balamandira Trust. Shah Happiness Urgent Care Centres (UCCs) are commissioned by the Shah Happiness Foundation under the umbrella of Sai Swasthya Clinics.

SMSIMSR and the Sai Swasthya Clinics cater to more than 8,000 patients per day. To decongest long OPD queues and streamline patient flow, the MSI Social Impact Team discussed potential use cases for the AIHealth Happiness chatbot within these processes.

It was mutually agreed that the AIHealth Happiness chatbot could be highly beneficial for telemedicine delivered through community health professionals, including OWOF and ASHA workers. By reducing the time spent on first-level assessment, the same technology could be a game-changer—using an AI agent to capture symptoms, collect key patient details, and support appropriate routing and referrals, while ensuring that clinical decisions remain with healthcare professionals.

Overall, the visit underscored actionable opportunities to leverage digital tools to strengthen patient experience and streamline operations in high-volume charitable care environments.



### ***About the Nonprofit***

The American India Foundation (AIF) is a U.S.-based nonprofit advancing social and economic change in India. Founded in 2001, AIF is committed to improving the lives of India's underprivileged through high-impact interventions in education, livelihoods, and public health. As a binational organization strengthening the bridge between the civil societies of the world's largest and two most powerful democracies, AIF also cultivates a robust platform for leadership development through its fellowship program, nurturing the next generation of globally minded changemakers. Its vision is an India where all people can learn, earn, and thrive with dignity.



### ***About the SMFT Funded Project***

SMFT supports a robust portfolio of AIF initiatives:

- In livelihoods, SMFT's recently completed project in Rewari upskilled candidates in electric vehicle technology, garment manufacturing, and IT competencies through a community-based Training-cum-Production Centre. Currently, SMFT-supported Village Vistaar projects in Rewari and Nuh focus on empowering women through climate-resilient livelihood training and holistic community development. Additionally, GenUP—an expansion of livelihoods works into urban centers—has partnered with the National Skill Development Corporation to help households achieve economic agency and independence.



## NGO IN FOCUS NOVEMBER'25 – AMERICAN INDIA FOUNDATION (Cont.)

- In education, SMFT supports the Learning and Migration Program (LAMP), ensuring children impacted by seasonal migration have access to foundational learning.



### *Project Location/Geography*

- Rewari and Nuh districts (Haryana) for Village Vistaar
- Vyara in Tapi district (Gujarat) for LAMP Project
- Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu) and Vadodara (Gujarat) for GenUp



### Recent Project Updates

SMFT's initial Rewari program concluded successfully, surpassing targets by training 1,416 individuals and placing 845 in employment. Building on this success, the Rewari Village Vistaar project has launched to empower 2,155 women across three district blocks through upskilling initiatives and community development efforts, including a solar-powered community kitchen, child care center, skilling-cum-remote employment center, and infrastructure for multi-layer farming.



In Nuh, Village Vistaar trained 111 women in the third quarter of 2025, and 52 have already begun their self-employment journeys, securing work orders from the local community worth ₹3,000–₹5,000.

LAMP continues to provide educational access to children from migrant communities. A recent highlight was conducting "Summer Camp-cum-Bal Mela" events across 21 schools, engaging 846 students, 20 government teachers, and 80 community stakeholders, strengthening school-community bonds through dynamic learning platforms.

Meanwhile, GenUP is preparing to launch: city locations have been identified, and the first Skill India Centers are poised to open in early 2026, laying the groundwork for large-scale urban upskilling.



### ***Overall Impact***

SMFT's partnership has catalyzed transformative impact across AIF's portfolio. In livelihoods, the completed Rewari project upskilled 1,416 individuals, with 845 securing employment.

The ongoing Nuh Village Vistaar is on track to train 180 women for sustainable income by year-end, with a total expected impact of 1,000 women over the lifespan of the project.

Looking ahead, GenUP aims to train 8,000 street vendors, 1,000 women, and 1,000 youth, advancing economic security in urban communities.



In education, the LAMP project has built a strong support ecosystem for children from migrating households, ensuring they remain enrolled and continue learning during seasonal migration. Now in its second year, the initiative has reached 7,280 beneficiaries through government-linked Learning Resource Centres across 70 villages, including 3,788 children. The program strengthens foundational literacy and numeracy for Grades 3–5 and reinforces math and science competencies for Grades 6–8 through concept-based, hands-on instruction. It also improves education delivery by training teachers and Anganwadi Workers, while activating School Management Committees to strengthen stakeholder engagement and school governance. Through close collaboration with schools, local government bodies, and community stakeholders, LAMP reduces learning loss and enhances long-term academic outcomes for migrant children.



### ***Highlight of the Month***

Nishant Pandey, AIF CEO, represented the organization at Charcha 2025, a three-day convening held at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi. Hosted by The Spark Forum and co-created with over 20 global partners, Charcha, brought together hundreds of social sector practitioners to explore how innovative livelihood initiatives can scale from pilot programs into solutions that impact millions. Nishant highlighted the importance of project design, strong partnerships, and the capacity to manage complex, large-scale interventions. AIF's post-COVID effort to rebuild the livelihoods of one million street vendors showed how modest catalytic investments can unlock larger funding from government and commercial partners.



### Awards

HundrED has announced AIF's LAMP (Learning and Migration Program) as one of the 100 most impactful and scalable education innovations worldwide in the Global Collection 2026.

The HundrED Global Collection 2026 showcases one hundred of the world's most impactful and scalable education innovations, selected from nearly 800 submissions across 52 countries and six continents.

AIF's CEO, Nishant Pandey, received the prestigious CEO of the Year Award at the Making India Employable Conference & Awards (MIECA) 2025. This award recognizes visionary leadership and measurable impact in advancing education, skilling, and employability across India.



*In the News*

# Business Standard

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## American India Foundation Elevates Disability Inclusion Discourse at International Purple Fest Goa 2025



## SUCCESS STORY – AMERICAN INDIA FOUNDATION



**Name:** Himani Saini  
**Location:** Rewari, Haryana  
**Project:** Village Vistaar

Himani Saini's journey is an inspiring example of determination, resilience, and the power of the right support system. Coming from Shanti Nagar, Rewari, and facing financial constraints with her father's modest income as a shopkeeper, she remained committed to building a better future. While pursuing her B.A. degree, Himani honed her IT skills at Aastha Kunj, showing her drive for personal and professional growth.

A major turning point came when she joined remote job interview preparation sessions at the Center of Excellence in Rewari.

With support from the American India Foundation, her dedication resulted in a remote internship with Kutumbh Care Pvt. Ltd. This achievement reflects not only Himani's hard work but also the importance of programs that empower young people through skill development and employment opportunities.

Despite her family's financial challenges—a household of five supported by a 15,000 INR monthly income—Himani stayed focused on contributing to her home and shaping her own future. By taking interview training before starting her job, she demonstrated foresight and a strong commitment to learning.

Now earning 8,000 INR per month, Himani has gained independence and confidence. Her success stands as a motivating example for others, proving that with education, support, and determination, barriers can be overcome and dreams can be realized.



## SUCCESS STORY – AMERICAN INDIA FOUNDATION



**Name:** Saraswati

**Location:** Gurugram, Haryana

**Project:** Village Vistaar

Saraswati, a 21-year-old from Pataudi, set out to become self-reliant despite challenges early in her married life. Married at 19, she lived in a family of five where her husband was the only earner. With her 12th-grade education and an Electrician trade diploma from Govt. ITI Rewari, she struggled to find stable employment and remained financially dependent.

Determined to support her family, Saraswati sought opportunities to improve her skills. Her turning point came when she learned about the American India Foundation's Centre of Excellence (COE).

She enrolled in the ITes course, which strengthened her technical abilities, confidence, and communication skills—crucial for today's workplace.

With guidance and placement support from AIF, Saraswati secured a job as a Final Quality Inspector at Hero in Dharuhera. Earning 12,500 INR per month, she now contributes significantly to her household and has begun her journey toward economic independence.

Saraswati's story highlights the powerful role of skill development in uplifting women from disadvantaged backgrounds. Through the right training and support, she transformed uncertainty into opportunity. Her success inspires other young women to pursue their ambitions, proving that empowerment through skills can change lives and build stronger communities.



## SUCCESS STORY – AMERICAN INDIA FOUNDATION



On 23rd June 2025, a meeting was held at Patel Faliya Primary School, Vazharda, for the reformation of the School Management Committee. During discussions, members raised a serious concern—the school was facing an acute shortage of water. The lack of a reliable supply affected safe drinking water, toilet use, and the preparation of mid-day meals, directly impacting children's health and daily routines.

AIF's Community Facilitator (CF), working under the LAMP-MSI Project, attended the meeting to support the committee. The CF explained the program's goals and advised members on practical, immediate solutions. One suggestion was to seek temporary access to private borewell water from nearby households.

In response, an SMC member generously agreed to provide water from his personal borewell, ensuring uninterrupted drinking water and mid-day meal services for students. The committee expressed gratitude for his support and resolved to submit a formal request to government authorities for a permanent water supply.

The meeting reinforced the importance of shared responsibility and community participation in solving school-level challenges.

**Name:** Patel Faliya Primary School

**Location:** Vazharda Village, Tapi, Gujarat

**Project:** LAMP

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