

NEWS UPDATE

December 2025



“Every charitable act is a steppingstone toward heaven.”

– HENRY WAR BEECHER



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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 Especially 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 health, education and the well-being 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



Advancing Tribal Women's Empowerment Through Sustainable Development
The Shrimad Rajchandra Sarvamangal Centre of Excellence for Women was inaugurated on 27 December 2025 in Dharampur, Gujarat, in the esteemed presence of Hon'ble Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh, alongside Manu and Rika Shah. The Centre advances women's empowerment through skill development, dignified employment, and holistic growth, strengthening livelihoods across South Gujarat. Designed as a hub for inclusive development, it currently supports 900 tribal women, reinforcing a shared commitment to sustainable livelihoods and community-led socio-economic transformation
(Continued on page 5)

EVENT – SHRIMAD RAJCHANDRA SARVAMANGAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR WOMEN

December 2025: The town of Dharampur in Gujarat witnessed an extraordinary celebration of purpose and empowerment as the Shrimad Rajchandra Sarvamangal Centre of Excellence for Women was inaugurated on 27 December 2025 to provide employment and training to women of tribal origin. Along with Shah Family, the Hon'ble Defense Minister of India, Shri Rajnath Singh took part in it.

The centre is situated 1.8 KMs from the Shrimad Rajchandra Ashram and hundreds of community members, leaders, and stakeholders gathered under one roof, united by a shared mission to strengthen livelihoods and enable dignity and self-reliance among marginalized women.

The moment marked a significant milestone for the Centre as the operations were being conducted in a rented building whereas with the new centre in place, 900 women will be able to learn and earn and that too with enhanced safety and comfort.

The Centre's mission integrates skill development, education, and holistic growth to create sustainable livelihood opportunities for women but at the same time, understands them by having one entire building where these women can sleep and mothers of young children can leave their children in creche—Raj Vishranti.

The inauguration concluded with a powerful speech by Rika and Manu where the philanthropist couple talked about the catalytic nature of women focused social impact initiatives and how important they are. They also inspired the crowd, being more proactive towards the women empowerment and gender equality.



EVENT – NATIONAL IMPLEMENTORS’ CONCLAVE VISION CARE PROJECT

December 2025 – On 26 December 2025, the National Implementation Partners’ Conclave for the Vision Care Project was held at the Shrimad Rajchandra Raj Sabhagruh in Dharampur. The gathering brought together all key partners working toward SMFT’s commitment to screen 20 million people for refractive errors by 2028, offering a shared platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange. Convened by Ujjal Bhattacharya, Program Manager of the Vision Care Project, the conclave saw participation from 17 implementing organizations.

The event opened with a presentation outlining the project’s purpose, progress, and impact to date. Stakeholders celebrated two major milestones: the completion of 5 million vision screenings and the distribution of 800,000 free eyeglasses. Launched in 2024, the initiative has already reached 155 districts across 15 Indian states, significantly expanding access to primary eye care.

A video segment showcased powerful field stories from students and elderly beneficiaries who had lived with undetected vision issues for years. Their testimonies—describing the joy and relief of seeing clearly for the first time—highlighted the transformative nature of the project.

Addressing the gathering, Manu Shah shared the personal experiences that inspired him to fund the initiative independently. He spoke about how proper vision shaped his own educational journey and contributed to his professional success, reinforcing the importance of accessible eye care for all.

The conclave concluded with Rika and Manu Shah presenting awards to each participating organization, acknowledging their dedication and impactful work on the ground.

Their collective efforts reaffirmed a shared vision to make clear sight accessible to every individual, regardless of geography or circumstance.



Manu Shah addressing the crowd



Rika and Manu felicitating Partners



Atmarpit Nemiji with Rika Shah



Rika and Manu Shah with Vision Care Projects Implementors

EVENT – NATIONAL IMPLEMENTORS’ CONCLAVE ANEMIA MITIGATION PROJECT

December 2025 – On 28 December 2025, the National Implementation Partners’ Conclave for the Anemia Mitigation Project (AMP) was held at the Shrimad Rajchandra Raj Sabhagruh in Dharampur, bringing together 26 implementing organizations to review progress, share learning, and align on the year ahead.

The session reaffirmed anemia as a major public health challenge in India—especially for women and children—and emphasized systematic screening linked to timely treatment. Partners reflected on AMP’s rapid expansion, reaching 2.7 million screenings in 2025 across 12 states through 26 screening partners and 90 centers. The program’s digital backbone—mobile data capture (including offline use) and real-time dashboards—continues to strengthen transparency and monitoring. A robust supply chain ships about 100,000 kgs of medicines and consumables each month, enabling timely treatment delivery across centers.

Findings from 2025 showed that 56% of those screened were diagnosed with anemia (44% mild, 11% moderate, 1% severe). Treatment pathways included deworming and a 90-day course of Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) tablets, alongside education sessions on symptoms and dietary improvements. In total, 1.47 million individuals received treatment, and around 30,000 were referred to local hospitals/PHCs for advanced care.

Impact data highlighted an average 12% improvement in hemoglobin post-intervention, with 84% showing improved readings, 37% becoming non-anemic, and 74% sustaining gains three months after stopping IFA.

Looking forward, partners aligned on a 2026 target of six million screenings, deeper government collaboration, and research support with IIM Udaipur. In the end, Manu Shah sat together with all the partners, discussing the challenges, best practices and way forward.

With shared learning, stronger partnerships, and a clear 2026 roadmap, AMP is poised to reach millions more and accelerate progress toward an anemia-free India.



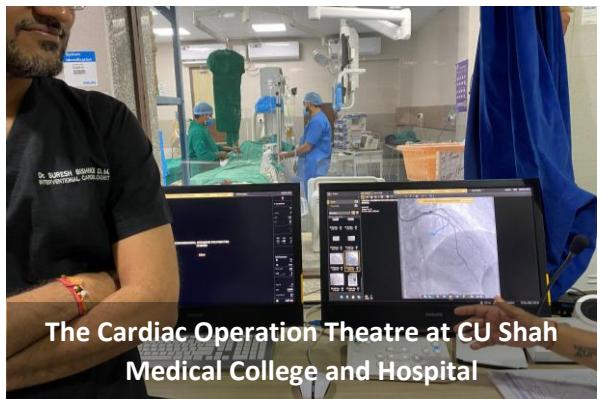
VISIT – CU SHAH MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL

December 2025 – In December, the MSI Social Impact Team visited SMFT funded CU Shah Medical College & Hospital (CUS) in Surendranagar, Gujarat, a prominent charitable tertiary care institution serving rural and semi-urban communities across the region. Established in 2000 and currently managed by Shrimad Rajchandra Mission Dharampur, the hospital has grown into a trusted healthcare provider, with OPD and IPD patient volumes increasing significantly over the years due to its strong emphasis on quality, affordability, and compassionate care.

CUS operates as a 613-bed hospital, including 83 ICU beds, and delivers a comprehensive range of specialty and super-specialty services. The hospital is equipped with advanced diagnostic infrastructure encompassing microbiology, biochemistry, radiology, CT scan, MRI, and pathology services, enabling timely and accurate clinical decision-making. Full-time specialists across disciplines such as gastroenterology, nephrology, rheumatology, cardiothoracic surgery, and critical care position CUS as a key referral center for Surendranagar district and neighboring regions.

The hospital plays a crucial role in strengthening the public healthcare ecosystem through regular outreach camps, free consultations, and highly subsidized diagnostics and medicines. It is the only hospital in the district offering 48-hour emergency coverage for road traffic accidents and operates the district's largest, fully equipped blood bank. In addition, CUS provides lifelong free treatment and comprehensive care for children with thalassemia and supports emergency response through an advanced ICU-on-wheels ambulance service.

The MSI Social Impact Team also reviewed progress on the upcoming Shah Happiness Urgent Care Centre, designed to provide round-the-clock primary and emergency services to underserved northern areas of Surendranagar. Strategically located and PWD-friendly, the centre will further enhance access to timely healthcare. Collectively, CU Shah Medical College & Hospital's integrated clinical, outreach, and emergency services underscore its vital role in expanding equitable, high-quality healthcare for underserved communities.



VISIT – PRAGNA CHAKSHU MAHILA SEVA KUNJ

December 2025 – In December, the MSI Social Impact Team visited Shree Pragna Chakshu Mahila Seva Kunj (PCMSK) in Surendranagar, Gujarat, a voluntary organization dedicated to the upliftment and inclusion of visually impaired individuals through education, shelter, nutrition, and livelihood-oriented support. Established in 1996, the organization has steadily expanded its reach and currently supports around 800 visually impaired beneficiaries across its four residential homes in central and eastern Gujarat.

The facility visited in Surendranagar provides a safe, structured, and nurturing living environment for 80 women residents, spanning a wide age range and diverse care needs. Residents are encouraged to actively participate in daily routines, community living, and skill-building activities, fostering independence, confidence, and a strong sense of belonging. The centre places particular emphasis on holistic development, combining care with opportunities for personal expression and social engagement.

Education and skill development are core pillars of PCMSK's work. Beneficiaries are trained in Braille literacy, reading and writing in Gujarati, and the use of assistive digital technologies, including text-to-speech tools that enable access to computers and basic applications. During the visit, beneficiaries confidently demonstrated their ability to perform basic tasks using digital tools, reflecting the effectiveness of the organization's learning approach.

In addition to academic learning, PCMSK offers vocational training, including beautician courses and other livelihood-oriented skills, helping women build pathways toward economic self-reliance. Residents also participate in extracurricular activities such as singing, dancing, cooking, and indoor games, many of which have led to recognition and awards at local and regional levels.

Through its integrated approach of combining care, education, skill development, and emotional support, Pragna Chakshu Mahila Seva Kunj continues to create meaningful opportunities for dignity, inclusion, and long-term empowerment for visually impaired women.



SMFT Team with PCMSK Founders



Residents of PCMSK with the founder Pankaj Dagli



The Choir Team at PCMSK



A Child with Visual Impairment Operating Computer

VISIT – PROJECT LIFE

December 2025 – In December, the MSI Social Impact Team visited Project Life in Rajkot, an organization working across education, women's empowerment, environment, and healthcare through integrated, community-driven initiatives. Project Life's approach combines grassroots engagement with scalable models to strengthen long-term social, economic, and environmental outcomes.

At the Life Greenfield Centre, the team observed large-scale environmental initiatives focused on tree propagation and afforestation. The centre cultivates 70 varieties of trees using advanced plant propagation techniques and has distributed over 200,000 saplings since inception. With a reported 99.5% success rate, the initiative contributes meaningfully to environmental sustainability while supporting community access to affordable saplings and technical guidance.

The Life Women Empowerment Project demonstrated strong impact in livelihood generation. Since 2008, the program has trained and employed over 127,500 women, equipping them with vocational skills such as tailoring, embroidery, and beautician services. Under SMFT support, women receive structured training, access to equipment, and market linkages, enabling income generation and economic independence. Many beneficiaries earn stable monthly incomes and demonstrate increased confidence and participation in household and community decision-making.

The visit also included the Life Blood Centre, which highlighted modern blood collection and component separation facilities. The centre actively promotes voluntary blood donation and thalassemia awareness, contributing to preventive healthcare efforts in the region. Technology-enabled systems support efficient operations and quality standards.

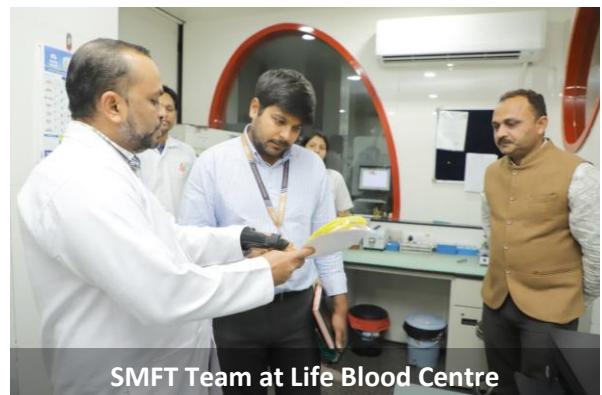
Overall, the visit highlighted how Project Life translates purpose into measurable outcomes through well-designed programs and strong community engagement. Its holistic approach continues to strengthen livelihoods, improve health awareness, and promote environmental stewardship, reinforcing its role as a valuable partner in advancing inclusive and sustainable development.



SMFT Team with Beneficiaries of Women Empowerment Project



A Beauty Parlor run by Beneficiary of Women Empowerment Project



SMFT Team at Life Blood Centre



SMFT Team Interacting with Children at Sarva Mangal Primary School

VISIT – AKSHAYA PATRA

December 2025 In December, the MSI Social Impact Team visited the Akshaya Patra centralized kitchen in Bhuj, the organization's 42nd kitchen, inaugurated in 2019 and jointly supported by Sarva Mangal Family Trust and BKT (Balakrishnan Industries Limited). The kitchen plays a vital role in addressing nutritional gaps among school-going children and supporting improved educational outcomes across the Bhuj region.

The Bhuj kitchen currently serves 191 government schools, providing midday meals to approximately 26,000 children and breakfast to 28,000 children on every school day. Operating for nearly 260 days each year, the kitchen ensures that children receive consistent, nutritious meals that support regular attendance, improved concentration, and overall well-being. The cost-efficient model, delivering meals at approximately ₹20 per child per day, reflects strong operational planning and effective public-private collaboration.

The facility employs 140 staff members, including 50 women, contributing meaningfully to local employment and livelihood generation. A strong emphasis is placed on food safety and quality assurance throughout the cooking and distribution process. The kitchen undergoes four audits annually, including a globally recognized ISO 22000 Food Safety Management System audit, ensuring adherence to high standards of hygiene, nutrition, and operational discipline.

Daily meal distribution is supported by a robust logistics system, with a fleet of 28 delivery vehicles, including electric and CNG-powered vans, enabling timely and reliable delivery to schools across the region. Automated cooking processes, hygienic packing systems, and in-house food testing further strengthen consistency, safety, and quality.

Through its scale, efficiency, and well-established systems, the Akshaya Patra kitchen in Bhuj continues to play a critical role in combating classroom hunger and promoting holistic child development. The visit highlighted how strong partnerships and operational excellence can translate into sustained nutritional impact at scale.



Women Operating a Roti Making Machine



The Meal Packing Area at the Bhuj Kitchen



Food Testing Lab



The Midday Meal Delivery Trucks

VISIT – SHREE JAIN MEDICAL AND EDUCATION TRUST

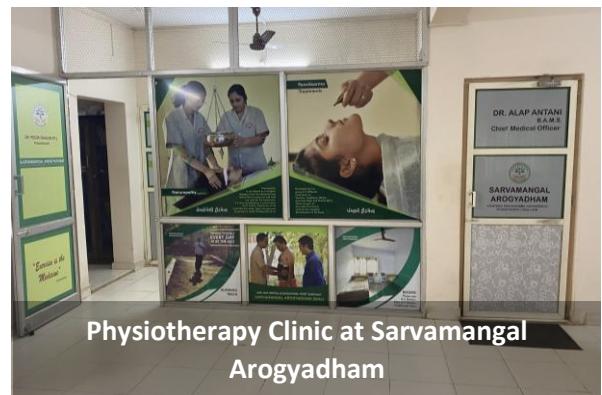
December 2025 – In December, the MSI Social Impact Team visited Shree Jain Medical and Educational Trust in Bhuj, Gujarat, an organization working to strengthen community well-being through integrated initiatives in healthcare and education. Through its flagship programs—Sarvamangal Arogyadham and Matruchhaya School—the Trust addresses physical health, learning needs, and holistic development for individuals and families in the region.

Sarvamangal Arogyadham functions as a health-cum-education centre offering a wide range of nature-based and wellness-focused therapies, along with yoga, meditation, and physiotherapy-related training. The centre provides a calm and supportive environment for healing and learning, supported by residential accommodation for patients and their families. An English-medium playschool operates within the campus, contributing to early childhood education and laying strong foundations for learning at a young age.

The MSI Social Impact Team also visited Matruchhaya School, which operates a network of four schools catering to students from preschool to higher secondary levels. The schools serve children from surrounding communities and play a vital role in improving access to quality education in Bhuj. SMFT's support focuses on structural safety and infrastructure strengthening, particularly important in the earthquake-prone Kutch region, ensuring safer and more resilient learning spaces for students.

Planned infrastructure enhancements include the development of prayer halls, sports facilities, laboratories, activity rooms, and improved classroom environments. These additions are designed to support academic learning, co-curricular activities, and overall student development, creating a more enriching educational experience.

Through its combined focus on healthcare services, early childhood education, school infrastructure, and community engagement, Shree Jain Medical and Educational Trust continues to strengthen essential services and improve quality of life for families in Bhuj. The Trust's integrated and community-oriented approach reflects a long-term commitment to inclusive development and social well-being.



VISIT – VICHARTA SAMUDAY SAMARTHAN MANCH

December 2025 – In December, the MSI Social Impact Team visited Vicharta Samuday Samarthan Manch (VSSM) in Banaskantha district, Gujarat, a grassroots organization working extensively with de-notified and nomadic tribes across 26 districts of the state. Founded by Nari Shakti Puraskar awardee Smt. Mittal Patel, VSSM has been engaged in community-led development since its formal establishment in 2010, with a strong focus on dignity, rights, and sustainable livelihoods for marginalized communities.

VSSM follows a rights-based and participatory approach, ensuring that communities are actively involved in identifying priorities and implementing solutions. The organization works across key thematic areas including water conservation, tree plantation, education, livelihoods, housing, and human rights, enabling holistic village-level development. A distinctive feature of its environmental work is a collaborative model in which communities, government bodies, and the organization share responsibility, fostering ownership, accountability, and long-term sustainability.

During the visit, the MSI Social Impact Team observed several community-driven interventions such as lake desilting and restoration, borewell revival, forest regeneration, and housing support for vulnerable families. Restored lakes and revived borewells are contributing to improved water availability for agriculture and household use, while afforestation initiatives are strengthening local ecosystems and environmental resilience. Housing initiatives provide safe and dignified shelter, supporting improved living conditions for families from nomadic and de-notified tribes.

VSSM's work is rooted in strong relationships with the communities it serves. Through trust-based engagement and locally driven action, Vicharta Samuday Samarthan Manch continues to strengthen natural resources, enhance livelihoods, and improve quality of life, reaffirming its role as a vital grassroots partner in advancing inclusive and sustainable development across Gujarat.



VISIT – BHANSALI TRUST

December 2025 - MSI Social Impact Team visited the SMFT Funded Bhansali Trust in Gujarat from Dec 9 to 11, 2025, to understand how our partnership is strengthening community well-being across health, nutrition, education, livelihoods, and relief.

During the visit, the team toured Gandhi Lincoln Hospital in Deesa, a Bhansali Trust–managed 200-bed facility offering multi-specialty care and diagnostics, and met staff supporting patient access through government health schemes. The team also learned about the De-Addiction Project, which connects individuals and families to counseling, medical support, and structured follow-ups.

In Kotda, the SMFT-supported Integrated Development Project showcased last-mile services across 90 villages—powered by a large cadre of community health workers who provide doorstep guidance, basic care, and referrals to weekly medical camps. The team also reviewed initiatives that promote dignity and resilience, including self-help groups, essential household support, and targeted assistance for vulnerable families.

At Radhanpur, the team observed a convergence model that combines vision screening and affordable eyeglasses, skill-building through women's tailoring units, and the SMFT Supplementary Nutrition Program. By September 2025, Bhansali Trust reported screening 331,554 people and providing 153,405 pairs of eyeglasses. The nutrition program prepares and distributes a locally produced nutrition mix for thousands of beneficiaries annually, while creating employment through its production process.

The visit reinforced the shared commitment of SMFT and Bhansali Trust to practical, community-led solutions that improve lives at scale.



VISIT – ANIMALS LIVES ARE IMPORTANT (ALAI)

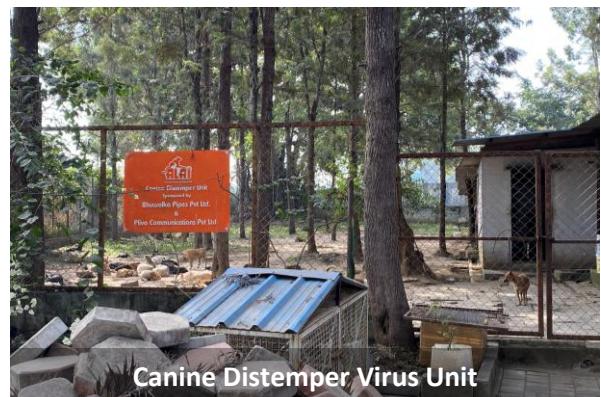
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VISIT – SHRIMAD RAJCHANDRA HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTRE

December 2025 - In December, the MSI Social Impact Team visited Shrimad Rajchandra Hospital & Research Centre (SRHRC) in Dharampur, Gujarat, a charitable tertiary care hospital serving rural and tribal populations across South Gujarat. Managed by Shrimad Rajchandra Love and Care, the hospital has emerged as a key healthcare institution addressing the medical needs of underserved communities in the region.

SRHRC operates as a 250-bed hospital offering comprehensive medical, surgical, diagnostic, and super-specialty services. The hospital is supported by a team of full-time specialists and advanced in-house diagnostic facilities, enabling timely and accurate clinical care. With an estimated 1,500–2,000 patients accessing services daily, SRHRC plays a critical role in meeting high healthcare demand from surrounding districts.

The hospital is empanelled under Ayushman Bharat–PMJAY and recognized as a First Referral Unit (FRU) by the Government of Gujarat, ensuring access to cashless treatment and round-the-clock emergency services for eligible patients. These recognitions further strengthen SRHRC's ability to deliver equitable and affordable healthcare.

Beyond hospital-based services, SRHRC runs extensive outreach programs through mobile medical units and approximately 70 outreach centres, providing free medicines, basic diagnostics, and consultations at the community level. These initiatives help extend primary healthcare to remote and tribal areas where access to medical facilities is limited.

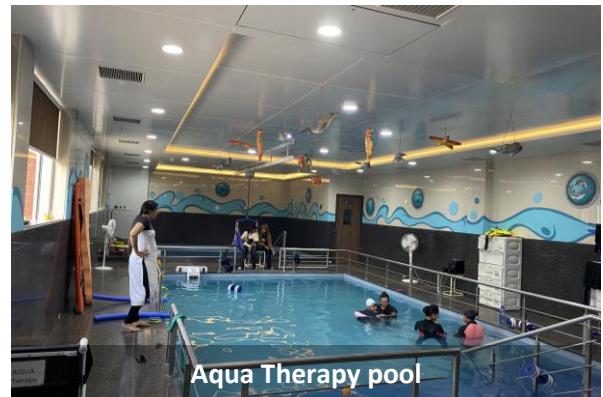
Through its integrated approach of combining tertiary care, outreach services, and preventive healthcare Shrimad Rajchandra Hospital & Research Centre continues to strengthen healthcare access and improve health outcomes for marginalized populations. The hospital's commitment to compassionate, high-quality care underscores its vital role in advancing community health and well-being across South Gujarat.



Crèche Facility for children



SRHRC Help Desk



Aqua Therapy pool



District Early Intervention Department

VISIT – KALIDAS HOSPITAL

December 2025 – In December, the MSI Social Impact Team visited Kalidas Hospital in Vyara, Tapi district, Gujarat, a charitable healthcare institution operating under Aruna Anil Vyara Pradesh Vikas Pratishtan. Situated in a predominantly rural and tribal region, the hospital plays an important role in delivering accessible, affordable, and timely healthcare services to communities with limited access to secondary medical facilities.

Kalidas Hospital functions as a 40-bed facility, providing a range of medical, surgical, diagnostic, and referral-based services. The hospital is supported by full-time general surgeon, gynecologist, and general physician, ensuring continuity of care for patients across key clinical areas. In-house X-ray and sonography services strengthen diagnostic capacity, enabling timely evaluation and treatment at the local level. Visiting specialists from nearby cities further enhance the range of services available to patients and support referral-based care when required.

The hospital places strong emphasis on community outreach and preventive healthcare. It regularly conducts free health camps and awareness programs in surrounding villages, focusing on early diagnosis, basic treatment, and health education. These outreach efforts help extend essential healthcare services beyond the hospital premises and promote improved health-seeking behavior among rural populations.

Emergency response and patient transport are supported by a fleet of five ambulances, enabling timely referrals and access to higher-level care when needed. In addition, a blood donation mobile unit, operated in collaboration with the Red Cross Society, strengthens blood availability and emergency preparedness across the district. The hospital also partners with the Red Cross on blood donation drives and anemia-related health initiatives, further supporting community health needs.

Through its clinical services, outreach programs, and collaborative partnerships, Kalidas Hospital continues to strengthen healthcare access and improve health outcomes for underserved populations. Its commitment to compassionate, community-centered care reinforces its role as a vital healthcare provider in Tapi district.



About the Nonprofit

Bhansali Trust was established in 1969 with the purpose of serving the poorest of the poor. The Trust has projects in the field of Health, Education, Income generation, De-addiction, Eye care, Mental health and other Socio-Economic fields, in addition to Relief Projects during natural calamities.



About the SMFT Funded Project

- Dang Integrated Development Project
- Mushar Integrated Development Project
- Sarva Mangal Vidhyalaya
- Mushar Integrated Development Project (Expansion)
- Supplementary Nutrition Program
- Chashma Project
- Banswada Hospital
- Kotda Integrated Development Project



SMFT's partnership with Bhansali Trust is helping drive integrated development in some of India's most underserved communities. Across Dang district (Gujarat) and Nasik district (Maharashtra), a village network of 663 paramedical volunteers is delivering primary care at the doorstep, treating about 550,000 patients each year—alongside physiotherapy clinics, mobile medical support, addiction recovery, and livelihood-linked self-help groups.

In Bihar's Mohanpur/Gaya area, the Mushar Integrated Development work is improving hygiene, reducing school drop-outs, and supporting learning through after-school coaching (5,662 students) and the Sarva Mangal Vidhyalaya, where 200 children study regularly; expansion in Gaya district is also underway.

Nutrition remains a priority: 3,559 malnourished children, mothers, adolescents and patients are receiving a daily protein supplement across 2,000 villages in Gujarat and Bihar. Eye and vision care is expanding too across Gujarat, Bihar and Assam—the Chashma Project has screened 331,554 people and provided 153,405 pairs of glasses, while construction continues on the Banswada satellite eye hospital in Rajasthan, designed to eventually serve 1.8 million people in 1,500 villages.

In Kotda (Udaipur, Rajasthan), weekly medical camps and local volunteers are strengthening ongoing primary healthcare

Project Location/Geography

- Dang and Radhanpur (Gujarat)
- Nasik (Maharashtra)
- Mohanpur and Gaya (Bihar)
- Banswada and Udaipur (Rajasthan)
- Assam (Guwahati)

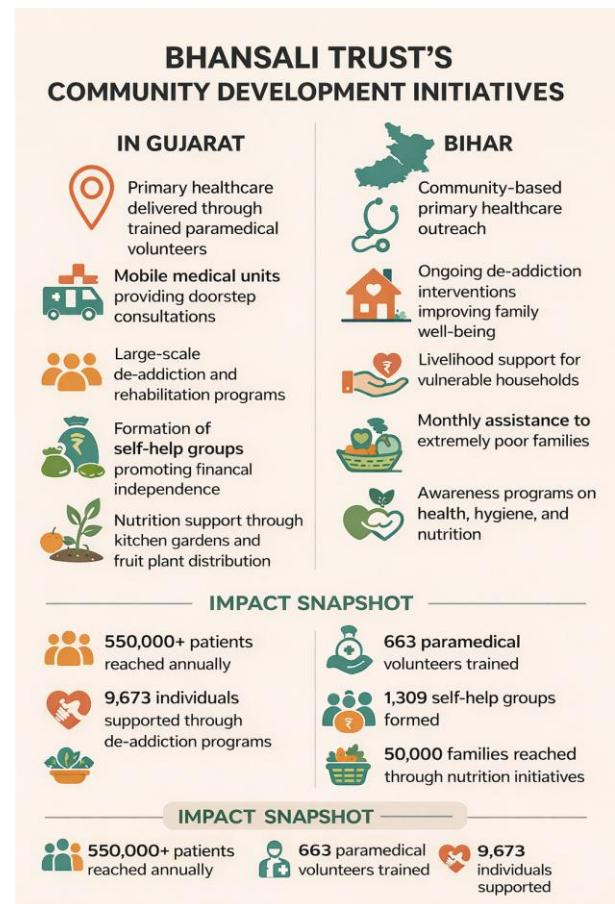


Recent Project Updates

Recent updates from the SMFT-supported portfolio highlight practical, on-the-ground course corrections and steady progress. At Sarva Mangal Vidhyalaya in Mohanpur Block (Gaya, Bihar), the team responded after 15 students left—many were 4–5 years older than typical for their grade—by re-enrolling them into a special classroom designed to help children learn faster and potentially move up two standards at a time.

Because the academic year is already mid-way, new admissions were limited, but the school plans a stronger intake next year; Mr & Mrs Ashok Bhansali also visited and encouraged teachers to build closer relationships with parents, helping families move away from alcohol and tobacco.

Meanwhile, the Mushar Integrated Development Project (Expansion) in Gaya district is in its start-up phase, with village and household surveys underway through a 20-member team. The Supplementary Nutrition Program is tightening inclusion by identifying and adding still-missed needy patients—especially in Mushar villages—and construction of the Banswada eye hospital in Rajasthan continues to progress despite a few constraints.



Overall Impact

Overall, SMFT's support is translating into stronger community health and livelihoods across some of India's hardest-to-reach geographies. In Dang district (Gujarat) and Nasik district (Maharashtra), a network of 663 paramedical volunteers is treating around 550,000 patients each year for common ailments, backed by a mobile clinic reaching about 11,000 patients annually and nine village-level physiotherapy clinics (including free home treatment for bed-ridden patients).



NGO IN FOCUS DECEMBER'25 – BHANSALI TRUST (Cont.)

In Kotda (Udaipur, Rajasthan), paramedical volunteers treat about 97,000 patients yearly, complemented by weekly Sunday medical camps that see around 25,000 patients a year, plus monthly help to 125 vulnerable families. Alongside healthcare, families are building resilience: 1,309 micro-credit self-help groups have formed with collective savings of Rs. 6.64 crore (about US\$0.75m), while 737 extremely poor families receive monthly monetary support.



De-addiction and household nutrition are strengthening too, with 9,673 addicts reported fully cured, 50,000 families receiving mixed vegetable seeds for kitchen gardens, and 26,000 grafted fruit plants distributed every year to improve micronutrients and generate extra income.

In Bihar's Mushar communities (Mohanpur), impact is visible in everyday routines and opportunities: hygiene has improved, school drop-outs have reduced, and 5,662 children are attending after-school coaching classes. Free village-level care for common ailments is easing health burdens, while reduced exploitation in borrowing is reflected in interest costs dropping to 1% per month from 10% per month. Education gains are reinforced at Sarva Mangal Vidhyalaya, where 200 students study regularly, teachers' performance is reported strong, and parent engagement is improving school management.



NGO IN FOCUS DECEMBER'25 – BHANSALI TRUST (Cont.)

Nutrition and eye care are scaling in parallel—3,559 malnourished children, pregnant women, adolescents, and TB/cancer patients have been identified for regular supplementary nutrition (with continued efforts to find remaining needy families), and the Chashma Project has examined 331,554 adults and children, provided 153,405 pairs of glasses, and referred 25,636 cataract cases for surgery (most operated free of cost). New initiatives are also on the horizon: the Mushar expansion project is still in its early stage, and the Banswada eye hospital is yet to commence but is planned to ultimately serve 1.8 million people across 1,500 villages once ready.



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Empowering Underfunded Communities for a Better Tomorrow | Unusual Suspects

In this episode of Unusual Suspects, we delve into the crucial role of family philanthropy in championing the cause of the underfunded communities. Join us for an enlightening discussion, in partnership with GivingPi, featuring Sonal Sachdev Patel, CEO of the God My Silent Partner Foundation (GMSP) Foundation, and Ashok Bhansali, a founding trustee of the Bhansali Trust, as we explore the role of philanthropy in supporting and empowering marginalised and underfunded communities. Tune in.

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USHA-Bhansali Trust Foundation Gives New Hope To Women In Gujarat, Provides Them Silai Training

Team NDTV | Updated: December 27, 2022 14:06 IST



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Nearly 100 miles from the hubbub of Ahmedabad lies the small town of Radhanpur. This is where USHA conducted its 15 day Silai Training Programme, in association with the Bhansali Trust Foundation. One of the many women working for the Bhansali Trust is Darji Hansaben Pravinbhai, who takes care of her own finances and lives by herself. Ms. Pravinbhai begins her day by making weak tea in the morning. Apart from the curiosity in her eyes, she has a deep interest in mathematics. She said,

I like mathematics more than work. I have appeared for an exam to learn sewing and stitching skills. I have learned a lot here, and I am able to find where I am making mistakes. The quality is an important aspect for me, so I can identify and resolve it. I don't get lazy now, I open the stitch and sew the cloth again. I learnt different kinds of garments for women, men and children. I used to stitch but was not able to take measurements. But now I can cut and stitch without fear. I learnt all aspects of garment construction here, 62-year-old Ms. Pravinbhai takes pride in being able to divide 30 into four parts for her stitching measurements.





UDAY MAHURKAR

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Cattle camp in Radhanpur taluka

What follows a drought? A flood of promises that evaporate as soon as they're made. In the land of the Mahatma, however, the four-year drought hasn't dried up reservoirs of sympathy. Take the case of Mahesh Bhansali, 46. A diamond merchant from Bombay, Bhansali has made the backward district of Banaskantha his home for the last six months. His mission: to bring some sparkle to the lives of the drought-affected. His family's Bhansali Trust is a leading voluntary relief agency in the state.



Name: Samir Vinod Gawli

Location: Dang

Project: Dang Tribal Integrated Development Project

Samir Vinod Gawli, a young boy from Gada, was born with a problem in his left eye, something his parents did not realise at first. As he grew, the eye began to bulge, and the family's concern deepened. When Samir was just six months old, his parents took him to Ahwa Civil Hospital. The doctor explained that Samir was too small for an operation and advised them to seek specialised care in Ahmedabad. For the family, however, the cost of travel and treatment was beyond reach.

By the time Samir turned two, the condition had worsened and his parents felt helpless. During a field visit, Supervisor Jyotiben met the family, listened to their worries, and informed them about an upcoming eye camp. Encouraged, they took Samir to the camp at Harpada. After an initial checkup, doctors referred him to Mandvi for further examination.

At Mandvi, the medical team explained the urgency: without timely intervention, Samir's other eye could also be affected. The decision was difficult, but after careful thought and discussion, his parents agreed to proceed with treatment.

Three months later, Samir returned to Mandvi, where doctors fitted him with an artificial eye. Today, Samir is five years old and attends kindergarten. The artificial eye has improved his appearance, and his parents say it has brought new confidence and comfort to their child.

The family expresses heartfelt thanks to the Sarva Mangal Family for guiding them to services they did not know were available. Samir's journey is also a reminder of how field outreach and community health camps can connect vulnerable families with timely, life-changing care. With follow up and awareness, more children like Samir can get early help.





Name: Valuben

Location: Bibupada, Gujarat

Project: Dang Tribal Integrated Development Project

Valuben from Bibupada village studied until Class 12. In her final year her father passed away. She stopped going to school and soon became unwell with fever, body pain, and severe stress. At times she left home suddenly without telling anyone. Not knowing how to seek care, her mother took her to a faith healer instead of a doctor.

The healer called her “possessed,” and the stigma led Valuben and her mother to be pushed out of their home.

They took shelter with Valuben’s sister, Taiben, in Shivbara. The family tried temples, rituals, and more healers, but Valuben’s condition worsened. She wandered, ate irregularly, neglected hygiene, forgot time and place, used abusive language, and sometimes became aggressive. Once she walked to Maharashtra and faced harassment at night, escaping only because a nearby woman intervened. With no support from her brother, the burden fell entirely on her mother.

Taiben, a paramedical worker in Dang, learned about our mental-health camp at Ahwa Vanbandhu in 2022 and persuaded the family to attend. A doctor assessed Valuben and began medication. Within a week, she slept better, ate properly, kept herself clean, and restarted small daily tasks. Monthly tele-psychiatry follow-ups with Subir helped maintain treatment, and her speech and behaviour gradually stabilised.

Over time Valuben resumed household work, returned to prayer, and completed a four-month stitching class. Today she sews independently and works part-time with us, helping villagers access Aadhaar and Ayushman cards, open bank accounts, and use other government services. She also identifies cataract patients for referrals and counsels people to quit addictions. Valuben says she has received a new life, and her family remains grateful to the Sarva Mangal Family, with renewed hope.



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