NAND GHAR MILESTONE REPORT

2000

NAND GHAR MILESTONE REPORT
“Transforming the lives of 8.5 crore children and 2 crore women across 13.7 lakh Anganwadis in India through Nand Ghars, by imparting best in class curriculum through televisions for e-learning, healthcare with a doctor at doorstep, hygienic pre-cooked meals for nutrition and economically empowering women through customized skill training across India”

“Committed to the Prime Minister’s national vision of eradicating child malnutrition, providing education, healthcare and empowering women with skill development”
BACKGROUND

Early Childhood Care and Education

The first six years in a child’s life are critical to their overall development and wellbeing. According to UNICEF, globally 7.6 million children under the age of 5 years die each year.

Early childhood development (ECD) includes elements critical to a child’s cognitive, social and emotional development. These comprise learning, health, nutrition, play and overall care. Evidence suggests that early childhood development has an impact on a person’s income, health and emotional wellbeing, thereby enabling them to achieve their full potential. The absence of ECD interventions can have adverse effects on a child’s intelligence levels, personality and behavioral aspects such as problem-solving ability, learning capacity etc. thereby limiting their long-term development.

ECD in INDIA

India is home to approximately 159 million children in the age group 0-6 years constituting 13.12 percent of the total population (Census 2011).

India is also committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which encompass various targets on child wellbeing including quality of ECD, care and pre-primary education, eliminating all forms of malnutrition and ending preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, amongst others.

Child development indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistics</th>
<th>World</th>
<th>India</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 5 mortality rate</td>
<td>38 per thousand</td>
<td>34 per thousand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stunted</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wasted</td>
<td>6.9%</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


ICDS and Anganwadi ecosystem

Integrated Child Development Services

ICDS is aimed at providing an integrated package of services for the holistic development of children (0-6 years old) and pregnant and lactating mothers. The package comprises:

- Supplementary nutrition
- Pre-school education
- Nutrition and health education
- Immunization
- Health check-up
- Referral services

Objectives of ICDS

- Improvement of nutritional and health status of children aged 0-6 years
- Laying the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of the child
- Reduction in incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout
- Enhance capability of mother to ensure normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education
- Effective coordination of policy and implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development
NAND GHAR

About the Nand Ghar program

Nand Ghars are a network of modern Anganwadi centres with an integrated approach to child welfare and skill development for women.

In line with the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s vision of Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao, National Nutrition Mission, Swachh Bharat, Women Skill Development, Digital Literacy and Improving Maternal and Child Health across the country, Vedanta, in partnership with Ministry of Women and Child Development, is constructing 4000 model Anganwadis, “Nand Ghars”, across 11 states.

Today, the 2302 Nand Ghars across Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, and Gujarat are a testimony to Vedanta’s commitment to transforming the Anganwadi landscape of India. Vedanta has also collaborated with Government of Rajasthan to upgrade 25,000 Anganwadis to Nand Ghars over next 3 years.

Among other objectives, the Nand Ghar initiative, through its core services viz. Early Childhood Education, Nutrition, Maternal and Child Health, and Women’s Economic Empowerment through Skill Development, aims:

• To provide quality education to children between the ages of 3-6
• To have no malnourished children at Nand Ghars through the provision of nutritious hot-cooked meals served to children
• To provide primary healthcare at the doorstep for children and women of Nand Ghar
• To develop skills through trade-based and entrepreneurship training for women who are above 18 years of age

Furthermore, a major focus of the project is placed on inculcating strong social and moral values in children from a young age, instilling proper hygiene and sanitation habits in children, and increasing the respect for women in their household and their community.

“Before Nand Ghar was introduced in our village, Anganwadi centres were perceived only as ration collection centres by the community. With improved resources and facilities at Nand Ghars, there is a change in the mindset of the community towards pre-school education. Children are fascinated by modern and interactive learning tools and parents are sending their children to Nand Ghar regularly. Uninterrupted supply of nutritious and delicious meals has also played a major role in encouraging children to come to Nand Ghars.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nand Ghar team worked tirelessly to generate awareness about the disease and organized campaigns on precautions to be taken to restrict the spread of the virus in our communities. The team also ensured continued learning for children by sharing e-learning content on WhatsApp groups with parents of Nand Ghar children. I appreciate the work done by the Nand Ghar team in my village.”

— Saroj, Sarpanch, Jodhpur
NAND GHAR REACH AND IMPACT

2302 Nand Ghars across 11 states and 33 districts

Number of Nand Ghars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Children</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAR '20</td>
<td>52,000</td>
<td>81,700</td>
<td>92,000</td>
<td>1,60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAN '21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAR '23</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>61,300</td>
<td>69,000</td>
<td>1,20,000</td>
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</table>

Roll-out plan for transforming 25,000 Anganwadis to Nand Ghars in Rajasthan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>FY' 22 - Constructed</th>
<th>FY' 23 - Constructed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ajmer</td>
<td>1,946</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barmer</td>
<td>3,216</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhilwara</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittorgarh</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davra</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaisalmer</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jalore</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jodhpur</td>
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<td>1,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajsamand</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikar</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonk</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawai</td>
<td>2,997</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Udaipur</td>
<td>2,397</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>11,113</td>
<td>13,687</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 million

0.75 million
NAND GHAR MODEL

Service Delivery Strategy
Integrated, holistic, high-quality services at Nand Ghar doorstep

CORE SERVICES

Early Childhood Education
through play-based learning and e-learning modules on TV

Nutrition
through Government system strengthening for timely provision of hot-cooked meals, breakfast and Take-Home Ration (THR)

Skill Development
through trade-based skill development training, entrepreneurship development programs, and linkage with Govt schemes

Resource centre

Information sessions for adolescent girls on reproductive health

English speaking and computer literacy classes for youth

Focal point for community events and celebrations

Information centre for farmers on new agriculture innovations

COVID-19 information centres and quarantine facility

Health Education Nutrition O&M Skills

Nand Ghar (NG) Steering Committee Advisory Committee Vedanta Nand Ghar Team

Oversight & Governance Partner

Health Partner Education Partner O&M Partner Skills Partner

Information Technology Partner Communications Partner Baseline and Needs Assessment Partner Impact Assessment Partner

Nand Ghar Assets & Amenities

Nand Ghar Beneficiaries
OPENING A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITIES TO A BRIGHTER WORLD

- 24x7 electricity through solar panels
- Equipped with clean toilets and water purifiers for access to safe drinking water
- Primary healthcare services at Nand Ghar through telemedicine and Mobile Health Vans
- Fire resistant, damp resistant and earthquake proof state-of-the-art infrastructure
- Holistic learning through Building as Learning Aid (BaLA) designs, TV and Smart Kits
- Activity-based learning through swings and slides
GOAL: The Nand Ghar initiative aims to provide quality education to children between the ages of 3-6 years by delivering best-in-class content aligned with state curriculum. Through providing quality education, the initiative endeavours to make Nand Ghar an aspirational pre-school.

KEY FEATURES:
Nand Ghar provides an enabling learning environment through:
• Holistic learning using digital media,
• Play-based learning using Early Learning Activity kits,
• BaLA (Building as Learning Aid), and
• Interactive green boards.

The content taught is scientifically developed keeping in mind early childhood development milestones, adapted to regional context, consists of elements of spoken and written English, and focuses on inculcating strong social values. Anganwadi workers and Sahayikas are trained extensively with an appropriate mix of classroom and in-situ training to ensure effective delivery of content and usage of interactive teaching methodologies such as activity-based learning.

EDUCATION
Ensuring continuity in Education for Nand Ghar children during COVID 19

At-home e-learning made available to Nand children on smartphones
IVRS audio content introduced for feature phones users for maximum reach of Education during COVID-19
At-home learning through learning enablers (such as Smart Kits, slates etc.) facilitated by field team

>2,300 Nand Ghars covered through alternative modes of ECE during lockdown
>69,000 Children provided ECE at home during the lockdown
4,500 Calls per month (on average) made on IVRS system
>2,300 Nand Ghars in which parents were continuously engaged
Interactive learning tools such as AD boards and innovative methods of ECE attract children to Nand Ghar. Sahayika and I have also developed a play area inside the Nand Ghar premises for children.

With the help of Nand Ghar team, we regularly organize parent-Anganwadi meetings in which children's progress is discussed with parents. Additionally, the Nand Ghar Committee in our village takes regular reviews of our work which helps us stay motivated and continue to improve ourselves.

— Ganga Sahoo, Anganwadi worker, Durg

Nand Ghar’s pronounced focus on enhancing early childhood development indicators and leveraging scientific methods to educate children is being appreciated by key stakeholders in the Anganwadi ecosystem.

One such key stakeholder is Mr. Chandrashekhar, headmaster of a primary school adjacent to Nand Ghar, who has witnessed the transformation of his local Anganwadi in terms of children's eagerness to participate in learning activities and a notable improvement in the school-readiness of children graduating from Nand Ghar.

"I have been teaching for more than 25 years. Enrolment and attendance at Anganwadi used to be very low due to limited resources at Anganwadi workers' disposal. With the arrival of Nand Ghar in the village, the way in which pre-school learning is imparted has completely changed, thanks to a renewed focus on ECE and the use of BaLA paintings and other interactive tools. The Nand Ghar team carries out meetings with parents to encourage them to register their children at Nand Ghar. I am happy that this transformation of Anganwadis has taken place during my tenure."

— Chandrashekhar, Teacher, Varanasi

EDUCATION

Reimagining the means of delivering Early Childhood Education

Interactive learning tools such as AD boards and innovative methods of ECE attract children to Nand Ghar. Sahayika and I have also developed a play area inside the Nand Ghar premises for children.
Like other parents in the community, I too was quite worried about my daughter’s education during this period. Rekha Devi’s daughter is enrolled at Palai Nand Ghar in Niwai, Tonk. On account of pre-school education being suspended at Anganwadis during the COVID-19 lockdown, she was concerned about the education of her daughter in her crucial formative years.

In order to ensure continuity in early childhood education during the pandemic, the Nand Ghar project in Rajasthan collaborated with the State Government and UNICEF to develop interactive e-learning content for children, which was rolled out in Rajasthan’s 62000+ Anganwadis. WhatsApp groups of parents of registered Nand Ghar children were formed in which multimedia e-learning content is shared daily.

Rekha Devi was added in her Nand Ghar’s WhatsApp group in June 2020. Since then, she has been receiving e-learning material in the form of educational videos, audios, and pictures to help her conduct interactive learning activities with her daughter.

“The Nand Ghar e-learning program has been a huge weight lifted off my shoulders. My daughter has been even more engaged in her education as she gets to perform interactive learning activities with the family.”

With the aim of ensuring minimal disruptions in ECE for Anganwadi children, digital (multimedia) modules of Odisha’s Arunima curriculum were rolled out across the state to enable at-home e-learning for children who have access to smartphones. A significant number of beneficiaries, however, were not reached by the initiative due to unavailability of smartphones in their families or due to weak internet connectivity in their villages. To address this shortfall, in collaboration with Government of Odisha, an Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) was instituted which provides children beneficiaries on-demand access to audio contents of Arunima curriculum and Nand Ghar learning modules by simply calling a toll-free number. The system was rolled out not just for children attending Nand Ghars in Kalahandi and Rayagada, but also for children attending regular Anganwadis in neighbouring districts.

As of March 2021, more than 4500 calls per month, on average, are made on the Nand Ghar IVRS system, allowing children and parents to continue essential learning activities during the lockdown without the need for a smartphone or strong internet connectivity.
As Nand Ghar was closed during the COVID-19 outbreak, I was worried about my child’s development and learning. The Nand Ghar team visited my home to inform me about the Arunima e-learning initiative. They immediately added me to the WhatsApp group, and I started receiving educational videos and audios for my child on my phone. Today, my child is fully engaged in learning activities even though Nand Ghar/ Anganwadis are closed for education activities.

— Sugri, Parent, Rayagada

Before our Anganwadi was transformed into a Nand Ghar, we had limited availability of resources and infrastructure, because of which children and their parents were not interested in pre-school learning. In November 2019, our Anganwadi was upgraded to a Nand Ghar which not only transformed the mindset of parents about pre-school learning but also encouraged children to come to the centres, largely because of refurbished infrastructure and an inviting ambience.

The attractive paintings on the walls help children in becoming familiar with shapes, letters, etc. Children are shown video stories on the TV which they enjoy immensely and ask us to replay them. The events organized by Nand Ghar team from time-to-time have increased the involvement of other community members at Nand Ghar as well.

— Anokhi Devi Meena, Anganwadi worker, Dausa
GOAL: To have no malnourished children at Nand Ghars through the provision of nutritious hot cooked meals served to children.

KEY FEATURES:
- Breakfast, hot-cooked meals, and Take-Home Ration offered to children through ICDS’ supplementary nutrition program
- Regular quality checks to ensure that food is hygienic, safe and maintains highest quality standard(s)

Hot-cooked meals are prepared at Nand Ghar centres by Anganwadi workers (AWW) or Anganwadi Sahayikas (AWS) and served hot to children. Nand Ghar field teams work on the ground to strengthen the government delivery system to ensure proper quality, quantity and frequency of nutrition at Nand Ghars. All children coming to Nand Ghars are served wholesome nutrition everyday with a predetermined objective of eradicating malnutrition from Nand Ghars and from the community at large.

Ensuring proper Nutrition for Nand Ghar children and mothers during COVID-19

Supervision and assistance provided to frontline workers in doorstep delivery of THR and Dry Ration

Produce from kitchen gardens provided to Nand Ghar children every week

Supporting children on their road to recovery from malnutrition

Menka Devi, mother of two, is a resident of Kaduavita village, Bokaro. Her younger daughter, Manju, who is around 17 months old, was not keeping well and wasn’t able to walk properly in the early months of her infancy. During regular malnutrition screening sessions at Nand Ghar, it was observed that Manju was malnourished. Manju weighed 6 kg, which is significantly lower than the “normal” weight range for her age and height.

Following consultations with frontline health workers in the village, her daughter was referred to the nearest Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre (NRC) for professional care and supervision. Despite her initial apprehensions, Menka Devi visited the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre, where it was suggested that her daughter be admitted for 15 days. After special foods, nutritional supplements, and medication was administered to her at the centre under the supervision of nutrition experts, Manju’s weight rose to 7.05 kg. Upon returning home, Menka Devi conscientiously followed the diet prescribed by the nutrition experts at NRC, following which Manju weighed 8 kg, was visibly healthy, and was able to walk properly.
Ghatwada 3rd Nand Ghar in Amer block, Jaipur is situated immediately beside a gravel road, doesn’t receive adequate water supply, and lacks space for development of kitchen gardens. Nand Ghar team, with support from community members, made attempts to plant saplings across the road, but to no avail.

In the absence of proper kitchen gardens at the Nand Ghar, community members were not able to take advantage of nutritious produce from kitchen gardens as a supplementary source of nourishment.

On that account, the "sack model" was adopted for developing kitchen gardens at the Nand Ghar. The "sack model" is an innovative method of growing fruits and vegetables in containers such as sacks, pots, jars etc. Sacks are filled with stones, animal manure, and soil into which seedlings are planted for growing a variety of fruits and vegetables.

Based on insights derived from baseline assessment about the environmental conditions of the region, drought-tolerant, short-rooted plants like spinach, tomato and climbers were selected for growing in the sack kitchen garden.

With the active involvement of the community and Anganwadi workers, the initiative has been largely successful, and the plants have grown to start providing vegetables, which are distributed to pregnant and lactating women. Encouraged by the results of the initiative, the same model has been adopted at 10 more Nand Ghars in Amer block.

**NUTRITION**

Adopting "sack model" as an alternative to regular kitchen gardens
My son, Uttam, is 3 years old. I was very worried about him as he had been diagnosed as “malnourished” during malnutrition screening sessions at Nand Ghar. The Nand Ghar team and Anganwadi workers have supported us in efforts to improve his nutritional and health status. They visited us regularly, provided Take Home Ration on time, and continually monitored his health. As a result, Uttam’s health has improved, and his weight has increased by 2 kgs in the past 3 months. Uttam is now more energetic and much healthier. I appreciate the constant support that is provided by Anganwadi worker and the Nand Ghar team to children in the community.

— Malti Verma, Parent, Durg

I was fascinated by the kitchen garden at Nand Ghar and decided to develop one at my home. I plant a variety of vegetables for our consumption as well as for distributing to our neighbors. Knowledge sessions by the Nand Ghar team on maintaining proper nutrition have also been very valuable. They educate children about the importance of nutrition through poems and rhymes, as a result of which children have started eating organic vegetables and are healthier than before.

— Anita Meena, Tonk

The Nand Ghar team suggested that I develop a kitchen garden at my home as an additional source of nutrition for my family. They provided organic seeds and educated me on composting and producing organic manures from waste food products. I am very pleased to see all the vegetables that are growing in my kitchen garden. My neighbors and beneficiaries were inspired by my kitchen garden and are now developing their own kitchen gardens. I feel happy to extend a helping hand to other community members as well for developing kitchen gardens at their homes.

— Nirmala Devi, Anganwadi worker, Sikar

NUTRITION
GOAL: To provide primary healthcare at Nand Ghars for children, women and community at-large.

Healthcare services are offered at Nand Ghars through:
• Mobile Health Vans (MHV) at Nand Ghar doorstep every fortnight
• Telemedicine facility at Nand Ghar

KEY FEATURES:

Nand Ghar healthcare service comprises:
• Annual health checkup for Nand Ghar beneficiaries and their family
• Regular checkups by General Physician and nurse
• Basic non-invasive tests
• Specialist consultations through teleconsultations or referrals
• Health camps for beneficiaries as well as community at-large
• Diagnostic and curative healthcare services
• Behavior Change Communication on women’s health and hygiene
• Over-the-counter (OTC) medicines

Nand Ghars also serve as centres for delivery of key Government health services such as immunization of women and children, antenatal care (ANC) and postnatal care (PNC), and counselling for pregnant and lactating women.

Ensuring access to healthcare for the most vulnerable rural population segments

Bhagwan Singh, aged 82, is a resident of Pirawali Joda village. He used to work as a labourer in a brick kiln for 30 years like many other residents of his village. As a result of continually inhaling dust particles at the kiln, he gradually developed a respiratory issue, from which he has been suffering for more than 10 years.

He sought treatment at a hospital in a nearby urban area but was unable to continue taking the medication prescribed to him because of its high price and the distance he had to travel for regular check-ups at the hospital. During home visits by Nand Ghar field team, a field coordinator encountered upon the situation and recommended that Bhagwan Singh consult with the MHV doctor during the van’s next visit.

Bhagwan Singh visited the MHV at Nand Ghar on the next designated date and discussed his health issues with the doctor. The doctor conducted a thorough check-up to diagnose his illness and provided the medications that Bhagwan would need to take regularly. For the past one year, he has been receiving medicines from the MHV, the treatment has provided him significant relief and his condition has improved considerably.
I am part of the adolescent girls’ group in my village’s Nand Ghar. The informational sessions organized by the Nand Ghar team are very creative and interactive, which encourages me and my friends to attend them regularly. We try not to miss any of the sessions/campaigns.

I have been part of the program on prevention of anemia in adolescent girls which has helped me understand the causes of anemia and the importance of proper nutrition in our lives. The team also educated us on maintaining menstrual hygiene during periods. I have benefited a lot from these informational sessions.

— Pooja Kumari, Adolescent girl, Bokaro

During my pregnancy, the Nand Ghar team informed me about the Government scheme for institutional delivery for pregnant women (Janani Suraksha Yojana) and helped me in enrolling for the scheme. Frontline workers, supported by the Nand Ghar team, not only monitored my immunization sessions but also ensured regular health checkups and educated me on the importance of self-care and nutrition during pregnancy.

— Deepika Prajapat, Lactating mother, Jaipur
During the COVID-19 lockdown, Nand Ghar team, in collaboration with ASHA workers, educated villagers about the precautions to be taken for curbing the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

The team actively worked in the community and conducted door-to-door visits to spread awareness, which inspired me to contribute to their efforts. I volunteered to collaborate with the Nand Ghar team to serve the community by making masks and sanitizers available to villagers.

— Chhotu Choudhary, Jaipur

The Nand Ghar team in our village works actively in the community and conducts regular home visits and campaigns to educate pregnant and lactating women about the importance of nutrition and self-care during and post-pregnancy.

Additionally, the team is determined to eliminate malnutrition from the community, especially for children. They conduct regular information and education sessions to spread awareness about nutritional requirements for children.

Immunization campaigns and regular meetings for community members on important issues like anemia, COVID-19, menstrual hygiene etc. are conducted in collaboration with Anganwadi worker and ANM.

— Rama Bharti, Sarpanch, Durg
Pregnant and lactating women in the community are regularly supported by frontline workers and Nand Ghar coordinators who provide useful information on a range of topics including self-care during pregnancy and importance of nutrition.

During my last pregnancy, the team helped me get my MAMTA card, regularly monitored my health through check ups and ensured that I never miss any of my vaccination sessions.

I have also learned about the benefits of kitchen gardens and am planning to develop a kitchen garden soon at my home to grow organic and nutritious vegetables for my family.

— Nazma Bano, Health beneficiary, Gauriganj, Amethi

Before Nand Ghar was established in our village, pregnant women used to hesitate in registering themselves at Anganwadi centers due to lack of services and facilities.

After our Anganwadi was transformed into a Nand Ghar, there has been an increased and active registration of pregnant women. The team keeps track of immunization sessions and educates women about self-care during and post-pregnancy.

I organize VHSND and awareness sessions with active participation from the community. A growing number of pregnant and lactating women are interested in availing the benefits offered by the Nand Ghar program.

— Suman Jangid, ASHA, Tonk
GOAL: Nand Ghars are instrumental in developing skills through trade-based skill development training for women who are above 18 years of age.

KEY FEATURES:
Nand Ghars run as children’s educational and health centres in the morning and train women in trade-based skills in the second half. The skilling model at Nand Ghar aims to create sustainable livelihood opportunities for women.

Through its skilling program, Nand Ghar provides:
- Best-in-class entrepreneurship development programmes including soft skills, financial literacy, and business development.
- Market linkages imperative for sustainability.
- Trade-based skill training.
- Twin model for enterprise and federation creation.

Selection of local trades is based on village profile and local economy. 30 women are trained per batch over 6-8 months on a rolling basis, and 15 women are supported to make their business plans, out of which at least 5 turn entrepreneurs and the remaining are gainfully employed. Women are linked to selected Government schemes during the training process.

SKILL

- Credit disbursed to women associated with Nand Ghar economic empowerment initiative.

Creating financial independence for women through trade-based skill development

Rampati Regar is an 18-year-old resident of Jirota village who is currently in her 2nd year of college. Her father passed away during her childhood due to which her family has faced financial difficulties. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she was restricted to her home and was not able to contribute to the family income.

As the lockdown was being phased out, the Nand Ghar team initiated training sessions for girls on stitching and tailoring in Rampati’s village. The training was rendered to around 20 girls for 45 days spanning over 3-4 months. The girls were initially trained on stitching masks and sanitary pads, post which they were introduced to more complex skills such as stitching blouses and salwar kameez.

Rampati picked up the skills almost instantly and started tailoring professionally. She is taking work orders not only from the village community but is also being contacted by traders for Zari work.

She earns around ₹3000-4000 per month which helps her support her family. She has also become a source of inspiration for other girls in the village for whom she has started conducting stitching and tailoring classes. Rampati is a change leader in the making.
Pooja Verma, a mother of two, is a resident of Sarhari Village in Varanasi. The Anganwadi in her village was upgraded to a Nand Ghar in 2019 in which both her children are enrolled. The financial condition of her family has not been very stable, owing to which she sought to support her family and attain financial self-sufficiency.

She enrolled in a 25-day enterprise training program conducted by the Nand Ghar team in her village, wherein small-scale enterprise creation was discussed. Pooja expressed interest in setting up an enterprise for production of paper plates at her home. She contacted the Nand Ghar team for support, who assisted her in availing a bank loan at minimal interest rates. The team also provided technical support in establishing a machine for producing paper plates at her home and provided refresher training in production of paper plates.

Pooja is successfully running the enterprise with her family’s support. She manufactures around 5 bundles of paper plates everyday along with attending to her domestic obligations.

Pooja is earning around ₹10,000-12,000 per month and is comfortably supporting her family with her enterprise.

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SKILL

Economic empowerment of women by fostering entrepreneurship

Seema Bunkar, Skill development beneficiary, Jaipur

“We are 9 members in our family and our financial condition has not been very stable. I was looking for opportunities to generate some income for my family when the Nand Ghar team approached me for enrolling in skill development training.

I enrolled myself in stitching and sewing classes provided by the Nand Ghar field coordinator in our village. I, along with other girls, attended the sessions for 2 months.

I have taken up tailoring and stitching as a profession to support my family. I have become financially independent and more confident than before. This is not only helping me generate income but is also helping me save money as I have started wearing self-stitched clothes.”

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Seema Bunkar, Skill development beneficiary, Jaipur
I was competent in stitching and tailoring but was not confident enough to build a business out of it. Through enterprise training programs, Nand Ghar team encouraged me and helped me start my own tailoring business. The team guided me every step of the way and provided necessary information on managing the business to keep me motivated.

Since the demand for masks was high during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nand Ghar team encouraged me to produce masks on a large scale. The team also helped me in determining the right wholesale and retail prices for the masks and connected me to nearby traders and buyers.

In May and June 2020, I earned around ₹14,000 which was a valuable addition to our family income.

— Hina, Skill development beneficiary, Sikar
Government of India, anticipating a surge in the volume of COVID-19 cases in India, announced a nationwide lockdown on March 24th, 2020 (followed by subsequent extensions).

The lockdown served as an effective buffer, allowing the Government the opportunity to set in motion concrete measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the country.

The pandemic and the resultant nationwide lockdown, however, also ruptured the delivery of essential welfare services, including Anganwadi services, in the early stages. • Pre-schooling activities were suspended across all Anganwadis • Hot-cooked meals and snacks for children at Anganwadis were discontinued • Significant disruption was experienced in other activities provided through the Anganwadi ecosystem such as health and nutrition education through VSHND, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) programmes, and health check-ups for beneficiaries, among others.

Consequently, revamped processes were adopted to minimize disruptions in delivery of the aforementioned services to the last mile: • Door-to-door distribution of supplementary nutrition (THR and Dry Ration) by Anganwadi functionaries • Immunization of women and children through home visits by frontline health workers • Antenatal and postnatal care and counselling for pregnant and lactating mothers through home visits by Anganwadi workers and Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA)

In addition to these services provided by the Government through revamped processes, corporations with national presence such as Vedanta partnered with the Government to strengthen service delivery, offer infrastructure and other resources to help fight the pandemic, and introduce innovations to enhance the reach of essential services.
Educating the community about COVID 19

Nand Ghar field teams are supporting frontline health workers in disseminating information for community members about the fundamentals of the disease such as modes of transmission, common signs and symptoms, critical preventive measures, and high-risk groups (HRGs).

Campaigns for COVID awareness in the form of informative texts (SMS and WhatsApp) have been carried out in the community and information has been delivered to the community through announcements and slogans written on walls.

Support provided to FLWs in tracking cases, contacts, and migrants

Nand Ghar field teams have continually assisted district administrations and frontline health workers in mitigating COVID 19 in their communities.

During the early stages of the pandemic, Nand Ghar field coordinators helped FLWs in conducting door-to-door visits to identify visitors, migrants, suspect cases, and contacts of confirmed cases, counsel these individuals on observing home quarantine, and facilitate institutional quarantine in Government facilities for high-risk cases.

Destigmatization

Given the novelty, unusualness, and perceived health impact of the virus, fear and stigma are easily associated with it. Frontline workers in collaboration with Nand Ghar field teams have been sensitising people and addressing myths and misconceptions. In addition, field teams have been amplifying positive news such as updates on the number of locals who have successfully recovered from COVID-19 and showcasing positive behaviours such as community/family members who have supported a patient through recovery.

Nand Ghars utilized as quarantine centers

Nand Ghar in Basantapada was used as an institutional quarantine facility by the district administration of Kalahandi for individuals who had come in contact with a COVID-19 positive patient. To ensure proper hygiene at the facility, Vedanta on-ground team provided consumables such as soap and phenyl and masks for the contacts’ protection.

Online training of frontline workers in Barmer

To equip frontline workers to sustain the delivery of healthcare services during the pandemic and help fight the spread of the virus in their communities, online training sessions were conducted by the Nand Ghar project in Barmer. In addition, 184 frontline workers were offered capacity building sessions on imparting preschool education.

MHV in Varanasi handed over to district administration

In Varanasi, Nand Ghar Mobile Health Van, which provides primary healthcare services to village communities, was handed over to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to be utilized as COVID-19 relief ambulance for carrying blood samples to Lucknow for testing.

Distribution of masks and PPE

Women from SHGs associated with Nand Ghar produced and distributed more than sixty-thousand masks to frontline workers and rural households across the country. In addition, essential items for personal safety such as gloves and sanitisers have been continuously distributed amongst community members.

In Amethi, more than twenty-thousand masks were handed over to DM-Amethi by Nand Ghar volunteers to support the District Administration in its COVID-19 relief efforts.

Furthermore, women in Rajasthan associated with the Nand Ghar project have generated an income of over INR 3 lakh through stitching and distribution of masks.
GOING THE EXTRA MILE TO FIGHT THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

- **Nand Ghar – UNICEF e-learning content rolled out in Anganwadis across the state**
- ** ₹3 lakh generated by women through stitching and distribution of masks**
- **20,000 masks handed over to DM-Amethi by Nand Ghar volunteers**
- **Nand Ghar MHW used as COVID ambulance by UP Government**
- **Nand Ghar used as quarantine facility for high-risk contacts of COVID patient**
- **Nand Ghar-Arunima content made available to Anganwadis across the state**
I would like to appreciate Nand Ghar team for supporting in seamless delivery of ICDS services during the COVID 19 lockdown phase. IVRS and e-learning innovation ensured continuous early childhood care and education (ECCE). “Ghare-Ghare Arunima program” was effectively implemented by the team.

Efforts of the team in supporting our FLWS in ensuring unhampered THR and dry ration distribution are highly recognized. Furthermore, the community engagement activities conducted by the project have improved health and education seeking behaviour among the community.

SMT. MEENA PATRA,  
Child Development Project Officer of Lanjigarh, Kalahandi, Odisha
In Kalahandi district, following the 5T mantra of Hon’ble Chief Minister, new benchmark has been set in ensuring quality of services in Nand Ghar Anganwadi and ISO 9001 accreditation of 5 AWCs. This is a result of coordinated efforts between Government officials in various departments, Vedanta, KPMG and HLFPPT team.

In Odisha, Kalahandi District is the pioneer to achieve this status through exemplary teamwork.

DR. GAWALI PARAG HARSHAD
District Collector and Magistrate, Kalahandi

SMT. JYOTIRMAEYEE JYOTSNARANI PATRA
District Social Welfare Officer, Kalahandi

The Nand Ghar team have taken excellent initiatives during COVID-19 lockdown and to reach out to children for mobile-based WhatsApp e-learning of State of Odisha curriculum and to reach to all children’s IVRS (Integrated Voice Response System) based education on Arunima curriculum by missed call free service and this initiative and innovation has supported ICDS for improved access to education through mobile and FIVE AWC center in the district achieved ISO 9001 certification status which is the part time in the state of Odisha. This has set an example and we will scale up this initiative and have more AWCs certified in District to strengthen service delivery and QMS.

Surely Nand Ghar project has brought new ideas of reaching out to community as a whole.
Vedanta has developed 100 Nand Ghars in district of Dausa, Rajasthan. Under this project, the Anganwadi Centres were renovated and attractive mural painting has been done to promote the cognitive abilities of the children. Along with this children are being provided with pre primary education through e-learning aided by LED TVs. These Nand Ghars are also equipped with solar panels and regular monitoring and maintenance is undertaken. Under the program of the Directorate of Women and Child Development, Nand Ghars have also developed nutrition gardens in their premises and the homes of the beneficiaries. This is commendable because under this initiative the beneficiaries are able to get fresh and nutritious vegetables and fruits, hence combating malnutrition. On behalf of the department, I appreciate and thank Vedanta, Nand Ghar team and the Humana team for their tireless efforts.

MR. OM PRAKASH VASHISTHA
Deputy Director, ICSD, Dausa, Rajasthan

The Nand Ghar team along with the Govt. of Chhattisgarh has been working towards the holistic development of women and children through the 101 Nand Ghars functioning in the District of Durg. The combined effort ensures that the community members receive health facilities and children are provided with pre-school education and nutritious meals. The innovative ideas of Poshan Vatika acts a pivotal step in combating malnutrition among children and women. Additionally, special attention is given to women’s health, hygiene and awareness on menstruation so that the misconceptions around menstruation are debunked and women get an equal opportunity to thrive. Similarly anemia is a serious issue that needs attention. It is only with its eradication that the community will become healthier.

Nand Ghar in collaboration with the Government of Chhattisgarh is ensuring that communities move towards a healthier and brighter future.
The Nand Ghar project in Sikar and Dausa has partnered with the Government for providing health checkups, medicines, and referrals for severe cases through Government's Mobile Medical Units. The vans provide free of cost services at Nand Ghars of Shrimadhopur, Neem ka Thana and Khandela blocks of Sikar district, and Lalsot block of Dausa district.

Arpan Seva Sansthan is an NGO working towards capacitating women in rural communities in animal husbandry. In partnership with Arpan Seva Sansthan, women from Shrimadhopur and Khandela blocks of Sikar are being offered training on optimizing dairy production through proper feed management, veterinary services such as vaccinations and deworming for cattle, and market linkages for milk and dairy products to augment their income.

Shiv Shiksha Samiti Ranoli is an NGO engaged in providing essential Health, Nutrition, and Education services for marginalized sections of society, with a special focus on women and children. Nand Ghar has partnered with Shiv Shiksha Samiti Ranoli to provide free health checkups through visits by MHPs (Mobile Health Vans) to the rural community in Tonk.
PROJECT DELIVERY PARTNERS

- Health
  - Wockhardt Foundation
  - Dhanush
  - Doconline

- Education
  - Sesame Workshop
  - SchoolNet Learning for Life

- Nutrition
  - Akshaya Patra
  - MTR

- O&M
  - Humana
  - Udyog
  - Rallis

- Skills
  - Indian Nurses Services
  - Quess

INTERNATIONAL PARTNER
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PARTNER
- Dhwani

COMMUNICATIONS PARTNER
- Kaizen

CONSTRUCTION PARTNER
- Mott MacDonald

IMPACT ASSESSMENT PARTNER
- TATA Consultants Engineers Limited
Mobile app is light, simple, intuitive and operates in areas with no internet connectivity.

Automated flags for any breach in SLA, such as monitoring frequency.

Also captures feedback from community, Government, and eco-system stakeholders.

Data captured is divided into modules and sub-modules, which enables better data representation and analysis.

Data validation through triangulation using methods such as photo-validation, time-stamp and geo-tagging.

Reflects variations in reporting, generates automated reports, and flags outliers.

PowerBI Dashboard is web-based and mobile responsive.

Near real-time dashboard helps in understanding challenges and prepares the system for predictive analysis of critical indicators such as:

- attendance
- delivery of e-learning
- health seeking behaviour
- social composition of beneficiaries
Vedanta is a globally diversified natural resources company with low cost operations. We empower our people to drive excellence and innovation to create value for our stakeholders. We demonstrate world-class standards of governance, safety, sustainability and social responsibility.

Community Development at Vedanta is integrated, holistic and focused on healthcare, education, women empowerment, skill development and environment conservation. In India we reach out to nearly 2.5 million people through sustainable community development projects.

"Our primary focus is to start at the grass root level with the holistic development of children and women, who form the future of our nation. With this objective, we have reimagined Anganwadis as ‘Hand Share’ or ‘the Homes for a young one’ as centres of learning for children and women.”

Mr Anil Agarwal
Founder and Chairman, Vedanta

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