



# VANI SANSTHA ANNUAL REPORT 2024- 2025

Stand up, Stay strong. Have a Voice

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## Message from the CEO

Dear Readers,

I am happy to share the Annual Report 2024- 2025 with you. I have seen a lot of growth in terms of reaching more children and communities through our programmes and initiatives. While this was indeed a reason to celebrate, there were moments to empathise with as well. VANI SANSTHA successfully documented the best practices for Child Rights & Education, Health & Hygiene in Rajasthan State.



**Dr. Sunil Sharma**  
**CEO, VANI SANSTHA**

The organisation also strengthened its efforts on gender equality and self-empowerment for Adolescents through our projects and advocacy initiatives – With vocational and skill training organised for girls and other related programmes in the field of Community Development.

The help we have received from the government, local and international donors, corporate donors, grassroots NGOs and supporters from around the state has been immense.

VANI SANSTHA is grateful for the consistent support of its Board Members and Patrons. The time they have contributed has helped in directing the organisation forward. I also thank the staff of VANI SANSTHA for the work and effort they have put in through out the year.

# ABOUT THE ORGANISATION

## Origin of VANI Sanstha

VANI Sanstha began its journey in 1989 in Kotputli Block, Jaipur, born out of the pressing need to address gender discrimination, child malnutrition, and lack of education among rural women and girls. At a time when the voices of poor farmers and marginalized communities were unheard, Smt. Vimla Devi, a committed rural social worker, founded VANI to give them a platform.

The organization was registered under the Rajasthan Society Registration Act, 1958, with its first initiative focused on girls' education, leading to the establishment of Vani Adarsh Bal Niketan in Purushottampura village.

By 1995, VANI had expanded to Dausa district, working with SC/ST children and launching training programs for rural teachers. To support its growing operations, the organization shifted its headquarters to Jaipur in 2004-05.

Today, VANI is a leading grassroots organization working for the empowerment of women, children, and marginalized communities. Its core focus areas include education, child rights, women's empowerment, capacity building, and social development of SCs, STs, small farmers, landless, and displaced families.

With a strong commitment to justice and equity, VANI continues to be a voice for the voiceless across rural Rajasthan.

## Legal Status

Registration – Rajasthan Societies Registration Act 1958 Sec 12

Date of Registration – 25.11.1989

Registration Number – 332/jai/1989-90

PAN Number – AAATB7335B

TAN Number – JPRV02984C

Registered under – 12A and 80 G

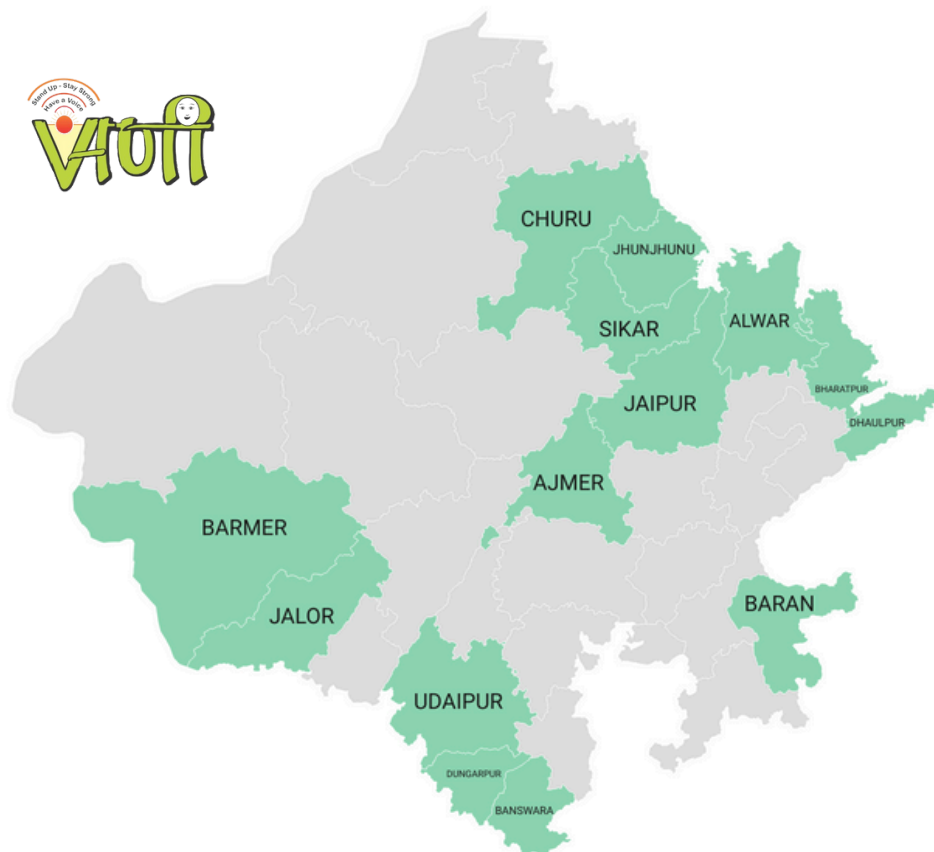
“Our vision is socio-economic empowerment of the marginalized sections of the society through overall development of human and natural resources”

“VANI’s mission is to facilitate, assist and support its partner communities viz. scheduled caste, scheduled tribe, small & marginal farmers, land less poor, women and children by improving their capacities and ensure their decision making in development scenario that leads to build their self-determination towards achieving sustainable process of self-reliance”

## Geographical Reach

### Districts where VANI works

■ AJMER ■ ALWAR ■ BANSWARA ■ BARAN ■ BARMER ■ BHARATPUR ■ CHURU  
■ DUNGARPUR ■ Dhaulpur ■ JAIPUR ■ JHUNJHUNUN ■ Jalor ■ SIKAR ■ UDAIPUR



The geographical spread of VANI Sanstha is all over Rajasthan with special focus in 14 districts in Rajasthan covering a total of 3000+ villages and 50 urban wards in two districts with funding support from UNICEF, Salaam Mumbai Foundation, Ambuja Education Initiative (AEI), Department of Medical, Health and Family Welfare, Government of Rajasthan, NABARD and Department of Urban Local Bodies, Government of Rajasthan.

**Project wise geographical coverage:**

1. Health Programme– Ajmer, Baran, Bharatpur, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Jalore, Banswara, Barmer (8 Districts and 44 blocks)
2. Education Project –All over Rajasthan (33 Districts and 295 Blocks) with special focus in Barmer and Dungarpur districts.
3. NABARD Project – Jaipur (1 District and 1 Block)
4. NULM Project – Banswara (1 District and 1 Block)
5. JJM Project – Churu & Jhunjhunu (2 District and 20 Blocks)

## **Partners and Donors**

UNICEF, World Vision, Save The Children Fund, IIHMR, IDS (Institute for Development Studies), SANDHAN, DIGANTER, PRIA, SAUHARD, SALAAM BOMBAY FOUNDATION, NABARD and National Urban Livelihood Mission  
State Government Departments: DRDA, DIC (District Industries Centre), PHED, Rajasthan Council of Elementary Education, Rajasthan Council of Secondary Education, Surve Siksha Abhiyan, Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation, Department of Medical, Health and Family Welfare, Department of Mahila Adhikarita, Department of Women and Child Development, Department of Planning, Jila Parishad and RSLDC (Rajasthan Skill and Livelihood Development Corporation)

# PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

## Education Programmes and initiatives -

1. Empowering Adolescents Through Life Skills, Self-Esteem & Community Engagement

Project Title: Technical Support to RSCERT on “Adolescent Empowerment” Through Life Skills and Constructive Parental Support

Duration: April 2024 – December 2024

Implementing Partner: VANI Sanstha

Supported by: UNICEF Rajasthan

Geographical Focus: Barmer, Dungarpur, Udaipur, Ajmer, Karauli, Alwar (Pilot Blocks: Badgaon & Kurawad in Udaipur)

## Program Context & Rationale

Adolescence is a critical stage in human development. In Rajasthan, adolescents—particularly girls—face challenges related to low self-esteem, entrenched gender norms, limited access to accurate information about their bodies, and a lack of emotional support. In rural communities, parents and teachers often do not have the training to engage with adolescents meaningfully. Recognizing this gap, the program aimed to promote adolescents’ holistic well-being through the integration of life skills, body confidence, and gender equality frameworks in schools and community platforms.

## Overall Objective

To promote adolescent empowerment through life skills education, community involvement, and institutional capacity building—ensuring that children, particularly girls, can navigate adolescence with dignity, resilience, and support.

## Key Strategies and Components

1. Self-Esteem and Body Confidence (SEBC) Kit Rollout:

Utilized specially designed Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) tools to trigger discussions during Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTMs), Bal Sabhas, and School Management Committee (SMC) sessions.

## 2. Multi-Level Stakeholder Engagement:

Orientation of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Rajeevika SHGs, teachers, PEEOs, and VOAs to create a supportive ecosystem around adolescents.

## 3. Parent-Teacher Meeting Reforms:

PTMs reimaged as active platforms to share key messages on puberty, adolescent rights, aspirations, and emotional well-being.

## 4. Community-Led Dialogue:

Dissemination of self-esteem messages through SHG gatherings, Gram Sabhas, NREGA sites, and adolescent group meetings.

## 5. Capacity Building & Orientation:

Conducted detailed training sessions for teachers, PEEOs, SHG leaders, and VOAs to implement the program with sensitivity and ownership.

## 6. Monitoring & Feedback:

Real-time data collection through Google Forms by field educators to assess reach and engagement levels.

## Quantitative Achievements

Key Indicators	Achievement	Remarks
Adolescents reached with SBC messages via PTMs	16,392	PTMs conducted in over 200 schools
Teachers, PEEOs, and VOAs trained	409	Capacity building on adolescent-friendly content
Community members engaged (PRI, SHGs, NREGA, etc.)	2,135	Through local forums and Gram Sabhas
Panchayat representatives oriented	188	Focus on gender equality and youth inclusion
SHG-linked VOA sessions conducted	194	Used storytelling and visual aids

## Qualitative Outcomes

- Increased Awareness among Parents: Parents expressed better understanding of body image, adolescence, and emotional needs of children.
- Behaviour Change in Schools: Teachers began using inclusive, gender-sensitive language in classrooms and community discussions.
- Emerging Adolescent Leadership: Students showed increased participation, initiated conversations on career dreams, and shared personal challenges openly.
- Women's Groups as Champions: SHG women in several villages requested continued sessions, especially on emotional support and menstrual health.

## Pictorial Representation



## 2. Program Highlight: Empowering Adolescents through Self-Esteem, Life Skills & Community Engagement

Project Title: Technical Support to Rajasthan Council of Educational Research and Training (RSCERT) on “Adolescent Empowerment”

Project Duration: October 2024 – January 2025

Geographic Focus: Barmer, Dungarpur, Udaipur, Ajmer, Karauli, and Alwar

Pilot Implementation Areas: Badgaon and Kurabad Blocks, Udaipur

Target Group: Students of Classes 6 to 8 (adolescents), families, teachers, PRIs, SHGs, and school governance structures

### Background & Purpose

VANI Sanstha, in collaboration with RSCERT and UNICEF, implemented a pilot initiative to empower adolescents in Rajasthan by addressing self-esteem, body confidence, gender equality, and constructive parental engagement. Recognizing the pivotal role of family, school, and community in shaping adolescent well-being, the program was designed to enhance psychosocial development and equip young people with life skills essential for their academic and personal growth.

### Key Objectives

- Build self-esteem and positive body image among adolescents
- Challenge and reduce gender stereotypes at school and community levels
- Promote career aspirations and forward-looking mindsets
- Enhance parental and community engagement in adolescent development
- Foster a supportive educational environment through structured interventions

### Strategy & Platforms of Engagement

To ensure widespread and sustainable impact, the program leveraged existing government and community structures:

- Education Department Platforms:
  - Parent-Teacher Meetings (PTM-I in November 2024, PTM-II in January 2025)
  - School Management Committees (SMCs)
  - Samudayik Bal Sabhas
  - Orientation of PEEOs and school-level stakeholders
- Panchayati Raj Institutions:
  - Vishesh Gram Sabhas
  - NREGA Sites
  - Direct engagement with Sarpanchs, Ward Members, and VDOs
- Rajeevika (State Rural Livelihood Mission):
  - Cluster Level Federations (CLFs), Village Organizations (VOs), and Self-Help Groups (SHGs)
  - Special trainings for Village Organization Assistants (VOAs) on SBC tools

## Progress & Results Overview

Activity	Target	Achieved	Remarks
1. SBC Toolkit Implementation through PTM/SMC/PRI Events	500	16,392	Far exceeded due to integration with every PTM, SMC, and PRI meeting in both pilot blocks. Data captured via Google Forms by PEEOs.
2. Orientation of Teachers/ PEEOs on Parental Engagement Tools	100	409	All PEEOs and PTM in-charges oriented. Implementation data captured during field visits.
3. Interface with Community Members via Events	10,000	2,135	Includes 1,291 Gram Sabha meetings, 512 NREGA visits, 332 daily community interfaces. Additional data from Nayi Chetna, ICDS, Aarohan yet to be added.
4. Case Studies from Field Impact	10	10	10 case studies developed
5. Training of VOAs on SBC Tools	180	194	121 VOAs trained in Nov; 73 more trained through field sessions and SHG meetings in Dec.
6. Orientation of Gram Panchayat Members	250	188	Data reflects Oct-Jan outreach. Engagement with PRIs began earlier but is not yet fully documented.

## Key Highlights

- **Digital Monitoring Innovation:** A Google Form was developed for PEEOs to report SBC implementation, streamlining data collection and real-time tracking.
- **Cross-sectoral Collaboration:** The program successfully linked education, livelihood (Rajeevika), local governance, and health departments, creating a holistic ecosystem of adolescent support.
- **Scalable and Replicable Model:** The model demonstrates how existing government mechanisms can be activated to support psychosocial development in adolescents at scale.

## Challenges & Learnings

- **Time Constraints:** The delayed rollout of toolkit orientation limited the time available for capturing qualitative impact through case studies.
- **Data Integration:** Some engagement data from allied platforms like ICDS and Health is yet to be consolidated.
- **Field Capacity:** Continuous training and motivation of field-level facilitators (VOAs, teachers) is essential for long-term sustainability.

## Conclusion & Way Forward

The “Self-Esteem and Body Confidence” program has demonstrated tangible results in shaping adolescent mindsets and enabling supportive environments in Udaipur’s pilot blocks. By integrating life skills education into school governance, community meetings, and livelihood platforms, VANI Sanstha has laid the foundation for a systemic change approach to adolescent empowerment.

As we move forward, the focus will be on:

- Finalizing and sharing documented case studies and success stories
- Consolidating cross-sectoral data for holistic reporting

- Advocating for scaling up to more districts through policy dialogue and state partnerships
- Ensuring continuous capacity building of frontline stakeholders to deepen impact

### Pictorial Representation



## Health Programme and initiatives-

Program Highlight: Targeted Intervention (TI) Project under NACO – Rajasthan (2024–25)

Project Title: Targeted Intervention for HIV Prevention, Testing, and Linkages among High-Risk Groups

Location: Rajasthan (Program focus: Ajmer district)

Implementing Partner: VANI Sanstha

Collaborating Agency: National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), RSACS

Reporting Period: April 2024 – March 2025

### Program Objective:

The TI project aims to reduce HIV transmission and promote care, support, and treatment services among high-risk groups (HRGs) such as Female Sex Workers (FSWs), Men who have Sex with Men (MSM), Injecting Drug Users (IDUs), and Transgender (TG) communities.

### Core Strategies and Activities:

#### 1. Prevention and Outreach

- Total Outreach: 2,682 individuals from HRG groups were reached with targeted interventions.
- Condom Promotion: Distribution of 1,51,000 condoms across hotspots to reduce unprotected sex.
- Needle Syringe Exchange Program (NSEP): For IDUs, a total of 4,332 clean needles and syringes were distributed, with 3,610 used ones returned.
- Behavior Change Communication (BCC): Conducted 125 peer-led group sessions, 43 hotspot meetings, and regular counselling on safe sex practices, STI awareness, and stigma reduction.
- Link Worker Outreach: Field teams mapped 92 hotspots in both districts and maintained contact with HRGs for consistent service delivery.

## 2. HIV Testing, ART Linkage, and STI Management

- HIV Testing: 1,475 individuals tested through mobile and ICTC testing services.
- Positive Cases Identified: 17 new HIV positive cases identified and linked to ART centers for initiation of treatment.
- ART Linkage Rate: 100% linkage of newly diagnosed cases with ART centers.
- Syphilis Testing: 1,120 HRCs underwent syphilis testing as part of integrated screening.
- STI Treatment: 65 cases treated at designated STI clinics; referrals made for complex cases.

## 3. Community Engagement and Enabling Environment

- Peer Educator Capacity Building: 14 peer educators trained on counselling, mapping, and BCC.
- Violence Reporting: 9 cases of gender-based violence recorded, of which 7 were resolved through legal or community-based mediation.
- Crisis Response Mechanism: Activated within 24 hours in all reported cases.
- Community Events: 6 health camps and 2 awareness rallies conducted on World AIDS Day and International Day against Drug Abuse.

## 4. Monitoring, Revamping & Finance Strategy

- Data Management: Daily data captured through CMIS tools and validated monthly by TI M&E Officer and RSACS officials.
- TI Revamp Strategy: Service delivery strengthened by clubbing outreach areas and optimizing HR distribution.
- Resource Optimization: 92% budget utilization reported. All financial records were audited and submitted to RSACS as per norms.

## Challenges Faced

- Resistance from HRCs due to stigma and police harassment.
- Lack of nighttime outreach coverage.
- Poor health-seeking behavior, particularly among new entrants.

Response: We adopted a peer-led intervention model, increased nighttime outreach hours, and collaborated with local law enforcement to create a safer environment.

Impact Summary (April 2024–March 2025):

Indicator	Target	Achieved
HRG Reached	2,500	2,682
Condoms Distributed	1,00,000	1,51,000
HIV Testing (ICTC + Mobile)	1,200	1,475
HIV Positive Cases Identified	—	17
ART Linkage	100%	100%
STI Cases Treated	50	65
Peer Educators Trained	12	14
Hotspot Mapping	90	92
Community Events	4	6
Violence Cases Resolved	—	7 of 9

Conclusion and Way Forward:

The TI project implemented by VANI Sanstha has made tangible progress in HIV prevention, care, and support for vulnerable communities in Rajasthan.

The comprehensive package of services — from testing to treatment — has enabled better health-seeking behavior and improved quality of life for HRGs.

In the coming year, our focus will be on:

- Expanding outreach in hard-to-reach zones
- Strengthening ART retention
- Scaling integrated services with TB and mental health
- Enhancing digital data tracking and real-time reporting

## Water and Sanitation Programs and initiatives-

1. Program Highlight: Strengthening the Jal Jeevan Mission in Jhunjhunu  
Project Title: Community Mobilization & IEC for Jal Jeevan Mission  
Implementing Agency: VANI Sanstha  
Support Agency: Water and Sanitation Support Organization (WSSO), PHED, Government of Rajasthan  
Geographical Focus: Jhunjhunu District, Rajasthan  
Project Period: FY 2024–25  
Coverage: All 8 blocks of Jhunjhunu — Alsisar, Buhana, Chirawa, Jhunjhunu, Khetri, Mandawa, Nawalgarh, Surajgarh  
Total GPs Covered: 325+  
Total Villages Covered: Over 900

### Background

The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), a flagship initiative by the Government of India, aims to ensure Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTCs) to every rural household by 2024. VANI Sanstha was entrusted by WSSO to lead community mobilization, behaviour change communication, and institutional strengthening across Jhunjhunu district — with an emphasis on inclusivity, water quality awareness, and grassroots capacity-building.

### Key Objectives

- Mobilize and strengthen Village Water & Sanitation Committees (VWSCs).
- Promote water conservation, greywater reuse, and safe water practices through robust IEC strategies.
- Facilitate community ownership for sustainable O&M of in-village water supply systems.
- Empower local stakeholders through capacity building, gender inclusion, and participatory approaches.

## Core Activities Undertaken

### 1. Village-Level IEC and Community Mobilization

- Household Outreach: Over 22,000 households reached through interpersonal communication, door-to-door campaigns, and street plays.
- Nukkad Nataks (Street Plays): 960+ performances held across villages focusing on water conservation, safe drinking practices, and community roles in JJM.
- Wall Paintings & Posters: More than 1,500 wall paintings were completed in high-visibility locations promoting the JJM logo, “Har Ghar Jal,” and O&M messages.

### 2. Institutional Strengthening of VWSCs

- VWSC Trainings Conducted: 325+ Gram Panchayat-level trainings conducted covering roles, responsibilities, budgeting, and scheme monitoring.
- Female Participation: Over 40% of VWSC members trained were women, ensuring a gender-balanced approach to water governance.

### 3. Capacity Building of Local Champions

- Master Trainers and Field Resource Persons (FRPs): Developed 90+ local resource persons who act as community educators and monitors.
- PRI & SHG Engagement: Held over 400 meetings with Panchayati Raj Institutions and Self-Help Groups to enhance buy-in and long-term accountability.

### 4. School Engagement & Child-Led Awareness

- WASH Clubs Formed: 130+ schools created active WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) clubs to champion water safety among peers.
- Competitions & Rallies: School-level drawing, essay, and quiz competitions were organized to promote youth awareness on water-saving techniques.

### 5. Water Quality Awareness & Sanitation Linkage

- Demonstrated safe storage techniques and highlighted issues of arsenic, fluoride, and iron contamination.
- Supported Jal Jeevan Survekshan field teams with community coordination and local data validation.

### Monitoring & Evaluation

- **MIS Reporting:** Daily and weekly data tracking through digital formats.
- **Documentation:** Case studies, photo reports, and success stories compiled regularly.
- **Feedback Mechanism:** Village-level feedback collected via community scorecards and Gram Sabhas.

### Challenges Faced

- Resistance due to prior infrastructural delays or misconceptions about government schemes.
- Geographic dispersal and logistical hurdles in remote habitations.
- Initial low participation of women and marginal groups, later addressed through targeted inclusion activities.

### Impact Table

Metrics	Target	Achieved (FY 2024–25)
GPs Covered	325	325+
IEC Events	1,200	1,500
VWSC Trainings	300	325
Household Outreach	18,000	22,000
Women Mobilized	–	9,500
Nukkad Nataks	850	960
SHG/PRI Meetings	350	400
Wall Paintings	1200	1500
School Engagements	100	130

## Conclusion

The JJM IEC and Community Mobilization project in Jhunjhunu has demonstrated how structured, inclusive, and participatory engagement can lay the groundwork for sustainable water supply systems. VANI Sanstha's local-rooted approach ensured capacity-building at the grassroots while promoting behavioural change on a mass scale.

As Jhunjhunu progresses toward 100% FHTC coverage, community ownership and robust institutional structures developed under this initiative will serve as a long-lasting foundation for water sustainability and rural well-being.



2. Program Highlight: Jal Jeevan Mission – Churu District (FY 2024–25)

Implementing Support Agency: VANI Sanstha

Supported by: WSSO, Government of Rajasthan

Project Area: All 8 Blocks of Churu District

Duration: FY 2024–25

Goal: "Har Ghar Jal" – Ensuring every rural household has access to a functional household tap connection (FHTC) with adequate and safe drinking water.

### Project Overview

Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, VANI Sanstha has functioned as an Implementing Support Agency (ISA) across 450 Gram Panchayats in Churu district. The project's core objectives revolved around mobilizing local communities, capacitating Village Water and Sanitation Committees (VWSCs), and catalyzing behavioral change for water conservation, equitable access, and water security.

The implementation followed a community-driven, decentralized model, rooted in inclusivity, sustainability, and empowerment.

### Objectives

- Strengthen community institutions such as VWSCs and PRIs for water scheme ownership.
- Promote responsible water usage and greywater management through BCC (Behavior Change Communication).
- Engage schools and youth to create a generation of water-literate citizens.
- Foster women's leadership in water governance processes.
- 

### Implementation Strategy

#### Community Mobilization

- 450 Gram Panchayats activated with intensive ground-level mobilization.
- House-to-house visits, campaigns, and IEC material dissemination focused on inclusivity.

### Capacity Building

- 645 VWSCs trained on JJM mandates, planning, fund management, and monitoring.
- Orientation of PRI representatives, women leaders, and youth volunteers.

### Behavioral Change & Awareness

- 1,800+ IEC events including rallies, group meetings, and video van shows.
- 1,250+ Nukkad Nataks and 2,250 wall paintings delivered strong visual messaging on water conservation, FHTCs, and greywater reuse.

### Institutional Strengthening

- Strengthened convergence with PHED, ICDS, SBM-G, and school departments.
- Regular coordination with Block and District Water and Sanitation Missions.

### Gender and Youth Focus

- Over 9,500 women mobilized, engaged in leadership, monitoring, and reporting roles.
- 220+ schools included in the campaign to promote early sensitization among children.

### Impact Snapshot

- Increased awareness and community ownership over rural water schemes.
- Strengthened VWSCs across blocks for sustainable O&M of infrastructure.
- Elevated women's role in water governance and monitoring at the village level.
- Widespread behavior shift in water conservation and hygiene practices.

## Impact Table

Metrics	Target	Achieved (FY 2024-25)
GPs Covered	325	450
IEC Events	1,200	1,800
VWSC Trainings	450	525
Household Outreach	24,000	35,000
Women Mobilized	–	12,250
Nukkad Nataks	1200	1345
SHG/PRI Meetings	350	400
Wall Paintings	1800	2250
School Engagements	150	180



## Livelihood and Empowerment Activities

Program Highlight: NABARD-Supported Farmers' Producer Organizations (FPOs)

Implementing Agency: VANI Sanstha

Supported by: NABARD

Project Area: Kotputli Block, Jaipur District, Rajasthan

Total FPOs Supported: 4

Sectors Covered: Vegetable Marketing & Dairy Production

Project Duration: Ongoing

### Overview

To strengthen the livelihoods of small and marginal farmers, VANI Sanstha has been actively promoting and managing four Farmers' Producer Organizations (FPOs) in Kotputli Block of Jaipur district, Rajasthan. These FPOs are supported under the NABARD FPO Development Program, aimed at fostering collective production, processing, and marketing capacities among rural farmers.

By facilitating access to institutional support, capacity building, market linkages, and improved agricultural practices, the initiative empowers farming communities to increase incomes, ensure sustainable practices, and reduce dependency on middlemen.

### List of NABARD-Supported FPOs in Kotputli

S.No.	FPO Name	Sector
1	Shri Shyam Vegetable Marketing Producer Company Limited	Vegetables
2.	Shri Bhomiyaji Vegetable Marketing Producer Company Limited	Vegetables
3.	Shri Kripal Dairy Producer Company Limited	Dairy
4.	Sant Darsan Singh Dairy Marketing Producer Company Limited	Dairy

## Key Components of the Program

### 1. Producer Mobilization

- Mobilized over 1,000 farmers across Kotputli block into collective groups.
- Conducted village-level awareness sessions on benefits of collectivization and producer ownership.

### 2. Capacity Building

- Intensive trainings conducted on:
  - Business planning and financial literacy
  - Governance structures and roles of Board of Directors (BoDs)
  - Market demand assessment and price negotiations
  - Agronomy, livestock care, and sustainable practices

### 3. Institutional Strengthening

- Formation of professional governance models within each FPO.
- Regular Board and General Body meetings conducted.
- Legal and financial compliances ensured (GST registration, PAN, ROC filings, etc.)

### 4. Market Linkages & Input Services

- Facilitated bulk procurement of seeds, fodder, and inputs at reduced costs.
- Linked FPOs with mandis, processors, and local retail markets.
- Support in developing branding and marketing strategies for farm produce and dairy.

### 5. Access to Finance

- Credit linkage support provided through local banks and NABARD credit schemes.
- Assistance in accessing working capital, agri-credit, and startup support funds.

## Impact Table

Key Metrics	Achievement
Farmers Mobilized	1,000+
Functional FPOs Established	4
Trainings Conducted	20+ capacity-building sessions
Input Services Offered	Seeds, veterinary care, fodder
Market Linkages	Mandi sales, direct vegetable sale
Women Participation	Active members in BoDs & SHGs

## Outcome Highlights

- Increased collective bargaining power and income security for member farmers.
- Strengthened governance and managerial capacities at grassroots level.
- Enhanced farm productivity and market reach through aggregation and professionalism.
- Creation of a replicable model for sustainable agri-business in rural Rajasthan.



# STORIES OF CHANGE

## Education Case Studies:

- Inspiring Transformation through Comics: Hitesh's Story of Confidence and Creativity

Name: Hitesh Meghwal

Age: 14

Class: 8th

School: Government Upper Primary  
School, Kumawatoka Guda

Block: Badgaon

District: Udaipur, Rajasthan

Facilitator Contact: Hemlata Kumawat



### Background:

Hitesh Meghwal, a bright and expressive 14-year-old student from Government Upper Primary School in Kumawatoka Guda, Udaipur district, lives with his parents and two siblings. His father, Pyarelal, works as a floor repair artisan (फर्शी मिस्त्री), and his mother, Basanti Devi, is a homemaker. As the eldest among three children, Hitesh dreams of becoming a senior officer one day. He has a strong liking for drawing and creative expression.

### Catalyst for Change: The Aadha Full Comic Experience

Things began to change for Hitesh when his teachers, Ankita Ma'am and Hemlata Ma'am, introduced him and his classmates to the Aadha Full comic book series during a reading session. One of the comics, "Khatre Mein Badlipur", deeply resonated with him. He particularly connected with the character Khoobilal, who was teased for his body size and avoided engaging with others due to low self-esteem.

Before reading this comic, Hitesh too believed that appearance defined one's worth. But the comic's message — that one's strengths and values are more important than physical appearance — helped shift his thinking.

## Impact and Personal Growth

Inspired by the characters Adrak, Kitty, and Tara, Hitesh began drawing them on the walls of his classroom corner, decorating the space with colorful artwork. He said, “Adrak is my favorite. He is full of ideas. If he had studied more from Class 7 onwards, he could have done even better!”

Through group activities around the comics, Hitesh also participated in role-plays and dramatic performances during school assemblies and village meetings. For the first time, he played a lead role — portraying Adrak with full confidence. Earlier, he feared speaking in front of an audience. But now, he says proudly, “I confidently perform Adrak's dialogues and tell my friends that we should focus on our strengths instead of our looks.”

These experiences have built his confidence, public speaking skills, and positive self-image. He even discusses the stories with his family at home, spreading awareness about equality and self-acceptance.

## Classroom and Community Engagement

Every Saturday, dedicated comic-based discussions are held in his class. Teachers assign comics to read at home as well. The students perform comic-based plays during community events — delivering strong messages on gender equality and body confidence. Hitesh's active involvement has made him a role model for his peers.

## Testimonial from Hitesh:

“Earlier I thought that being good-looking was the only way to be accepted. But now I know that everyone is beautiful in their own way. These comics gave me courage and now I tell this to others too.”

## Reflection:

This story of Hitesh is a testament to how creative tools like comics, when facilitated with care and consistency, can reshape a young mind's worldview. Through the Digital Self-Esteem Package under the Aadha Full initiative, VANI Sanstha has been able to empower rural adolescents like Hitesh to find their voice, build confidence, and spread awareness within their schools and communities.

- Fostering Confidence and Gender Awareness Through Comics: Educator Hemlata Kumawat's Journey

Name: Hemlata Kumawat

Designation: Teacher, Government  
Upper Primary School,  
Kumawatoka Guda

Block: Badgaon

District: Udaipur, Rajasthan

Total Students Enrolled: 110



### Background

Situated 20 kilometers from Badgaon block headquarters in Udaipur district, Government Upper Primary School, Kumawatoka Guda, is home to 110 enthusiastic learners. Among the teachers leading impactful work here is Ms. Hemlata Kumawat, who teaches Hindi and Sanskrit to students of Classes 6 to 8.

Ms. Kumawat is known for integrating experiential activities, student voice, and creative materials in her classroom pedagogy. She emphasizes critical thinking, expression, and problem-solving as part of daily instruction. She also leads several student-led forums, including the Meena Manch, which promotes gender equity and leadership skills among adolescents.

### The Beginning: Integrating Aadha Full Comics

When Aadha Full comic books reached the school, Ms. Kumawat was quick to explore their potential. She read through each comic and consulted with fellow educators who were trained in the Self-Esteem curriculum. Realizing the thematic alignment with the objectives of Meena Manch — especially around self-esteem, body confidence, and gender equality — she developed a structured plan to integrate the comics into her school's activities.

She recalls,

“The comics presented real issues that children face — like body shaming and peer teasing. These often go unaddressed in classrooms. I saw an opportunity to help children think critically and change these mindsets.”

## Implementation Strategy

Ms. Kumawat introduced the comics during Meena-Raju Manch sessions, No-Bag Days, and Community Awareness Days. Students were encouraged to:

- Read comics in pairs and summarize the stories.
- Participate in group discussions on themes like body image and gender roles.
- Create and perform plays based on the comics during school assemblies and village meetings.
- Engage in role plays as characters like Adrak or Kitty to internalize messages.

To enhance family and community involvement, students were also encouraged to:

- Discuss comic themes with parents and siblings.
- Write letters to their favorite characters as part of holiday homework.
- Share learnings during parent-teacher meetings and school management committee (SMC) gatherings.

Each comic reading session was supported by reflection questions such as:

- “What is the key message of this story?”
- “Which character did you connect with and why?”
- “Have you faced or witnessed similar situations?”

All sessions were well-documented in the Meena Manch registers, and children even created character cards for storytelling.

## Classroom and Community Impact

The results were both visible and encouraging:

- Behavioral changes: Children stopped teasing each other based on looks or body type.
- Breaking stereotypes: Tasks once done only by boys were now being shared with girls, and vice versa.
- Open conversations: Discussions around self-image and gender fairness became more normalized in classrooms and homes.

- Confidence building: Students who were once hesitant to speak now actively participated in role plays and presentations.

Hemlata Ma'am observed,

"Children began valuing qualities like empathy and intelligence over appearance. They were able to identify harmful social norms and think critically about them."

### Resources and Facilitation Approach

The school received 10 sets of Aadha Full comics and 2 teacher guides. Hemlata diligently studied the guidebooks, enabling her to lead sessions with confidence and depth.

Key components of her approach included:

- Comic cover discussions to spark curiosity.
- Paired reading and storytelling.
- Thematic reflections using open-ended questions.
- Parent engagement sessions around gender and self-esteem.

- Journey of Self-Acceptance: From Physical Comparison to Inner Confidence

Name: Kesar Paliwal

Age: 37 years

Village: Chhoti Morwal Piplantri,  
Rajsamand

Block: Badgaon

District: Rajsamand

Education: Class 12

Occupation: Private Job

Marital Status: Married (1 Child)



#### Introduction:

Kesar Paliwal, a resident of Chhoti Morwal Piplantri in Rajsamand, grew up facing frequent ridicule due to her dusky complexion and slightly misaligned teeth. These physical attributes subjected her to bullying during childhood and even led to rejection during job interviews. Despite these challenges, her perseverance and hard work helped her earn respect based on her capabilities rather than appearance.

#### Transformation Through the Pehchaan Program:

Kesar's journey took a new turn when she became part of the Pehchaan program. The program offered her a fresh perspective on body image and self-worth. She began to realize that physical attributes like skin color or body shape are far less important than one's inner qualities. This understanding transformed not just her mindset but also her approach towards parenting.

Earlier, both she and her husband would unknowingly criticize their son for being overweight — urging him to run more or restricting his food. But after participating in the Pehchaan sessions, Kesar stopped making such comments and instead started focusing on her child's unique strengths and interests. She now encourages him, asks about his routine, and spends more quality time with him, nurturing his self-esteem and capabilities.

### A New Lens on Family and Social Norms:

Kesar also reflected on how she used to compare her son with her niece, believing the latter to be more intelligent and responsible. Today, she has stopped making comparisons and instead teaches her son essential life skills while appreciating his individuality. She is helping him value his inner qualities — an approach that has brought more joy and understanding into their family.

### Spreading the Message of Confidence:

The Pehchaan program, Kesar believes, has not only empowered her but also her child to view life through a lens of self-acceptance. She now understands the damaging impact of physical comparison — how it can lead children and even adults into anxiety, low self-esteem, and social withdrawal. She strongly feels that society must move away from superficial judgments and support individuals in discovering and celebrating their inner strengths.

Today, Kesar has become a vocal advocate of the Pehchaan program. She is determined to spread its message to other children, parents, and community members. For her, this is not just a program — it is a movement that inspires individuals to live a life filled with confidence, purpose, and dignity.

“Pehchaan has become close to my heart. It’s no longer just about my child — it’s about every child, every individual, realizing their inner worth and living fearlessly.”

## Health Case Study:

- From Fear to Hope: Salma Bano's Journey with VANI's TI Program

Name: Salma Bano

Age: 32

Location: Ajmer District, Rajasthan

Category: HRG (Female Sex Worker)

HIV Status: HIV Positive

Supported Under: Targeted Intervention (TI) Program – NACO

Implementing Agency: VANI Sanstha

### Background:

Salma Bano, a 32-year-old woman from Ajmer district, had been working as a sex worker for over a decade. The profession was not her choice — rather, it was a desperate response to poverty and a lack of alternatives. Living in isolation, facing social stigma, and constantly fearing the law, Salma kept her pain hidden. Regular illnesses, weight loss, and exhaustion had become part of her life. But what troubled her most was the uncertainty about her health and future.

### A Critical Turning Point:

In early 2024, during one of VANI Sanstha's routine outreach visits under the NACO-supported Targeted Intervention (TI) Program, a peer educator connected with Salma in one of Ajmer's hotspots. Initially hesitant and withdrawn, she gradually opened up after several confidence-building interactions by the outreach team. She finally agreed to undergo HIV screening at the designated ICTC (Integrated Counselling and Testing Centre), facilitated by VANI.

The results were life-changing: Salma tested HIV positive.

### A Compassionate Response:

Upon diagnosis, Salma was overwhelmed — her worst fears had come true. She feared rejection by her peers, discrimination by society, and the loss of income. But instead of judgement, she received empathy and assurance from the VANI team.

Immediately, VANI's outreach worker and counselor stepped in with tailored support:

- **Post-test Counseling:** The counselor patiently explained what HIV meant, helped Salma cope with the emotional trauma, and assured her that it was a manageable condition with timely treatment.
- **Linkage to ART Centre:** Within two days, Salma was linked to the Ajmer ART (Anti-Retroviral Therapy) Centre. VANI's team assisted with documentation, registration, and initial orientation about the ART regimen.
- **Follow-up & Adherence Support:** Salma began receiving regular follow-ups through home visits and phone calls. A peer navigator appointed by VANI ensured she adhered to her medication, took timely tests, and attended scheduled ART center visits.
- **Nutritional & Emotional Support:** VANI also provided basic nutritional guidance and connected her with a support group of women living with HIV, which helped rebuild her confidence.

#### Transformation and Empowerment:

Within six months, Salma's life had transformed. Her physical health improved steadily — she regained weight, her CD4 count increased, and most importantly, her outlook on life changed. No longer afraid, she began participating in community meetings and even started mentoring newly diagnosed women, helping them navigate their own HIV journeys. Salma now advocates for regular testing, safer sexual practices, and early linkage to services. She has become a symbol of courage in her community — proof that with the right support, stigma can be overcome and life can be reclaimed.

"I thought my life was over the day I tested HIV positive. But the VANI team held my hand, stood by me, and helped me believe in myself again. I now want others to know — HIV is not the end, it can be the beginning of a stronger life."

– Salma Bano

## Water and Sanitation Case Study:

### Bringing Water Home: Jaiprakash Yadav's Story from Rampur, Churu

Name: Jaiprakash Yadav

Village: Rampur

Block: Taranagar

District: Churu, Rajasthan

Profession: Farmer

Age: 41

Family Members: 6 (including wife, children,  
and elderly parents)

Supported Under: Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)

Implementing Partner: VANI Sanstha



#### Background: A Life of Daily Struggle

For years, Jaiprakash Yadav, a small-scale farmer from Rampur village in Taranagar block of Churu district, faced an everyday challenge that many rural households in Rajasthan know too well — the lack of access to clean water within his home. Every morning, his wife and daughter would begin their day before sunrise, walking nearly 1.5 kilometers to fetch water from a community handpump. The water was often insufficient and not always clean.

The family had learned to ration water — cooking, bathing, cleaning, and even drinking required strict management. Farming, their main source of income, suffered too, as water scarcity made irrigation difficult.

#### A Ray of Hope: Jal Jeevan Mission Arrives

When the Jal Jeevan Mission was introduced in the village, there was initial skepticism. Years of broken promises and delayed infrastructure had made the community hesitant. But with VANI Sanstha as the implementing partner, things began to move differently.

From village-level planning meetings and VWSC (Village Water and Sanitation Committee) formation to IEC activities, VANI's team ensured that the community was well-informed, engaged, and involved in every step of the implementation.

Jaiprakash recalls,

"For the first time, someone asked us where exactly we want the tap installed — inside or outside the house. That small act gave us hope."

### The Change: From Waiting for Water to Turning a Tap

In just a few months, with the support of the Gram Panchayat and Jal Jeevan Mission engineers, VANI facilitated the laying of pipelines and construction of the household tap water connection. Jaiprakash's family was among the first in Rampur to receive a functional household tap.

"It felt unreal — just turning a tap and getting water inside our own home. For the first time, my wife smiled with relief instead of worry about water," he shared.

Now, the family not only has access to safe and adequate drinking water, but they've also started a small kitchen garden — growing vegetables using wastewater in a sustainable manner. The time saved is now used by his wife to attend SHG meetings, and his daughter no longer misses school due to water-fetching duties.

### Impact at a Glance – Rampur, Taranagar Block (Churu)

- HHCs (Household Tap Connections) Enabled in Village Rampur: 95+
- Community Engagement Meetings Held: 12
- VWSC Formed & Trained: 1
- IEC Events Conducted: 15+
- Women Mobilized: 100+
- Water Quality Awareness Drives: Ongoing

### Conclusion: A Life Changed, A Future Transformed

Jaiprakash's story is a testament to how a simple household tap — when implemented with community participation and transparency — can bring dignity, health, and opportunity. For him, the Jal Jeevan Mission is more than a scheme; it's a lifeline.

"Pehle paani laane mein din chala jaata tha, ab ussi paani se zindagi sudhar rahi hai."

— Jaiprakash Yadav

## Livelihood, FPOs and Empowerment Case Studies:

- A Greener Future with Indigenous Cattle and Organic Farming

Case Study: Ramnarayan Jat –

Adusya Village, Tonk District

Beneficiary Name: Ramnarayan Jat

Village: Adusya

Gram Panchayat: Autoli

Tehsil: Malpura

District: Tonk, Rajasthan



Project: UPNRM – NABARD (Gir Cow Conservation & Sustainable Livelihoods)

Implementing Partner: VANI Sanstha

The Challenge: A Farmer in Distress

For years, Ramnarayan Jat, a dedicated farmer and livestock keeper from Adusya village, relied on his 20 bighas of land for sustenance. Once fertile and irrigated, his fields gradually turned rain-fed due to plummeting groundwater levels. Despite hard work, his agricultural output declined, and water scarcity made cultivation increasingly uncertain. Like many farmers in Rajasthan, he found himself stuck in a cycle of low returns and limited options.

The Turning Point: Gir Cow & Organic Practices

Ramnarayan's life took a transformative turn when he became a participant in the UPNRM project by NABARD, facilitated locally by VANI Sanstha. The program focused on Gir cow conservation, sustainable dairy practices, and integrated organic farming.

With support from the project:

- He took a loan to purchase a Gir cow, known for its high-quality milk and adaptability.
- He underwent hands-on training in animal husbandry, organic composting, vermiculture, and vegetable cultivation.

## Innovation on the Field: Natural Inputs & Smart Practices

Harnessing his newfound skills, Ramnarayan began transforming his farm:

- He prepared vermicompost using cow dung.
- Utilized cow urine as a natural pesticide for vegetable crops.
- Following a demonstration on vegetable farming, he cultivated:
  - Coriander on 8 biswas
  - Lucerne on 8 biswas — both grown using organic manure.

He also adopted pipe irrigation to conserve water and fenced his farmland to prevent crop damage from stray cattle.

### Outcomes: From Survival to Sustained Profit

The changes bore fruit — quite literally.

- Coriander Yield: 30–40 kg per day
- Market Price: ₹40–₹50/kg in Lambaharsingh and Malpura markets
- Daily Income: ₹1,500–₹2,000
- Income from 1st harvest: ₹24,000–₹28,000
- Expected 2nd harvest income: ₹15,000–₹18,000

Ramnarayan proudly reports that his organically grown coriander:

- Sells easily in the market
- Keeps the soil moist, boosts water absorption, and enhances fertility
- Offers cash income without external chemical inputs

### Beyond Income: Building Climate Resilience

While he acknowledges the challenge of rising temperatures, Ramnarayan believes organic farming is his answer to climate stress. His new farming practices not only improve income but help build long-term resilience against erratic weather and water shortages.

“Earlier I worried about survival, now I plan for growth. This Gir cow and organic farming gave me my land back.”

— Ramnarayan Jat

- From Struggle to Sustainability: A Woman Farmer's Organic Journey

Case Study: Smt. Jamna Devi – Morla Village, Tonk District

Project: Climate-Resilient Organic Farming & Women Empowerment

Implemented by: VANI Sanstha



#### Background: Rising Against the Odds

In the semi-arid village of Morla, nestled in Malpura Tehsil of Tonk District, Smt. Jamna Devi and her family of four faced the brunt of climate change and rising farming costs. Owning just 8 bighas of land, only 2 bighas had irrigation access. Recurrent droughts, crop failures, and dependency on chemical inputs had pushed them toward market reliance and financial uncertainty.

But Jamna Devi chose not to give up.

#### VANI's Intervention: Knowledge as a Catalyst

In 2018, she became a part of VANI Sanstha's women-led sustainable agriculture program, participating in:

- Training sessions on organic vegetable cultivation
- Exposure visits to model farms
- Guidance from Assistant Agriculture Officers for on-ground support

The emphasis was on doing more with less—using indigenous practices, bio-inputs, and adaptive methods to revive both land and livelihood.

## Turning Knowledge into Action: Her Transformation

Armed with new techniques and confidence, Jamna Devi:

- Planted tomato and brinjal on 15 biswas of land
- Used cow dung, cow urine, and neem-based organic pest control
- Created her own compost pit and used indigenous seeds
- Engaged with the Agriculture Department for expert guidance
- Demonstrated remarkable resilience by saving her crops from hailstorms through light irrigation

## Results That Speak for Themselves

Indicators	Details
Cultivation Cost	₹10,000
Earnings (5 months)	₹30,000 (despite crop loss due to hailstorm)
Additional Estimated Income	₹40,000 (if hailstorm hadn't occurred)
Consumption & Sharing	Supplied vegetables to family and relatives
Market Strategy	Sold locally and bartered for grains
Knowledge Transfer	Inspired neighboring farmers, especially women

She sold produce in Morla, Dokaria, and Lambaharsingh, using carts and barter systems—maximizing both cash income and community-level food security.

"I used to depend on markets and chemicals. Now, I depend on my own skills and the strength of organic farming. Even nature supports me when I farm naturally."

— Smt. Jamna Devi

## GOVERNANCE AND TEAM

### Executive Board of VANI Sanstha:

VANI Sanstha is governed by a committed and diverse Executive Board comprising professionals from various fields including health, education, finance, social development, and technology. Their strategic vision, sectoral expertise, and ethical leadership guide the organization towards impactful and inclusive development.

The current Executive Board includes:

Name	Designation	Occupation/ Expertise
Dr. Roopraj Bhardwaj	Chairman	Health Expert
Dr. Ratna Verma	Vice Chairperson	Associate Professor
Dr. Sunil Kumar Sharma	Secretary	Development Professional
Mr. Narendra Kumar Sharma	Treasurer	Finance Expert
Mr. Girish Bhardwaj	Member	Development Professional
Mr. Umakant Ojha	Member	Educationist
Mr. Praveer Goyal	Member	Social Activist
Mr. Sanjay Agrawal	Member	Yoga & Meditation Expert
Ms. Sejal Chaudhary	Member	IT Expert
Ms. Shuchi Kaushik	Member	Gender Specialist & Activist
Smt. Ruchi Gupta	Member	Social Worker

The board ensures compliance with statutory norms and upholds the core values of transparency, accountability, and community participation. Together, the board members provide oversight and direction to all of VANI Sanstha's interventions across Rajasthan.