



CORO

2023-24

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24



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# INTRODUCTION TO CORO INDIA

**CORO India has empowered marginalised communities to break systemic barriers and lead lasting social change. We believe true transformation comes from within, creating a society where justice, equality, and dignity are realities for all.**

For over three decades, CORO India has been working alongside marginalized communities to build a more just and equitable society. We believe that true and lasting change must be driven from within, led by individuals who experience injustice firsthand. Systemic discrimination and inequality deeply shape identities and mindsets, creating internal barriers that often hinder progress. Breaking these barriers is essential for meaningful social transformation.

Our approach focuses on empowering grassroots leaders to recognize challenges and develop sustainable solutions, fostering a culture of self-reliance and collective action. We begin by unlocking the “power within” individuals, helping them transition from a state of helplessness to becoming proactive agents of change. By strengthening their confidence and skills, we enable them to take control of their circumstances and lead progress within their communities.

At the same time, we cultivate collective leadership by fostering solidarity and shared responsibility. Strengthening community bonds creates a foundation for collaborative problem-solving and long-term solutions.

A crucial part of our work is challenging harmful social norms. We actively confront caste-based discrimination, gender inequality, and other systemic injustices while promoting values rooted in constitutional principles and human dignity. Through this transformative approach, we strive to create a society where justice, equality, and respect for all are not just aspirations but lived realities.



# Highlights of the Year

**The past year has been one of energy, learning, and deep connection at CORO, a year where grassroots leadership continued to take empowered steps forward.**

In April 2023, we welcomed two new cohorts of our flagship Grassroots Leadership & Organisation Development Program (GLODP), our 12th cohort in Maharashtra and our 6th cohort in Rajasthan. Each cohort comprised of 120 Leaders, brimming with hope, determination, and the desire to work on the ground and bring change in their communities. To support their journey, we reviewed and updated our leadership training modules to reflect the evolving realities confronted by our communities. We also sharpened our focus on organization development by integrating separate training of organization heads working with these leaders. We did this because of our belief that the organisations (smaller NGOs and Community Based Organisations- CBOs) to which these leaders belong create a supportive ecosystem for our grassroots leaders and developing organisations make the ecosystem stronger.

## ON GOING



**12TH COHORT IN MAHARASHTRA**



**6TH COHORT IN RAJASTHAN**



**240 FELLOWS**

This year, we launched several experimental campaigns focused on gender justice. Through Women in Governance (WiNG), we supported women to step into public decision-making spaces, many of them for the very first time. We worked closely with women from the NT-DNT (Nomadic and Denotified Tribes) communities, helping them discover their voices and build leadership skills grounded in their lived experiences. Whether in panchayat meetings or village streets, more women are now participating, speaking up, leading discussions, and being seen as leaders in their own right.

At the core of everything we do is a belief in the power of grassroots knowledge. This belief took on a new form with the launch of **our Knowledge Building** vertical, a space where learning is mutual, lived, and rooted in community wisdom. Our weekly column in *Lok Satta*, which ran for 26 weeks, brought grassroots feminism into living rooms across Maharashtra, with stories that were raw, real, and deeply moving. We documented our own journey through the **CORO Approach Report**, and celebrated people's knowledge through vibrant grassroots festivals in Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The year also saw the release of *Jalnayika*, a collection of powerful stories of women leaders working on water related issues.



As an organisation, we've also grown and evolved. Our team grew stronger not just in the field but also in our enabling functions – we added new team members to our Documentation and Communication team, we started focusing on IT initiatives by adding team members, strengthening our finance, reporting and compliance function with our new Lead-Finance, we hired a resource to dedicatedly handle HR function. We partnered with Tech4Dev (an NGO focusing on building IT capabilities of other NGOs) with the aim of evolving an IT strategy customised to the type of grassroots work that we do, of exploring ways in which IT can release time for people to focus more on working with people in the field and ensuring that timely and context specific information is available to everyone on our team to help them make quick and informed decisions. At the governance level, we were joined this year by two new Executive Committee members, Vidya Kumaraswamy and Shaila Yadav. Both bring deep commitment and sharp insight, and their presence has added fresh perspective to our leadership table.



# Impact

1688

ALUMNI NETWORK OF  
GRASSROOTS LEADERS

600+

NGOS NETWORK ACROSS  
MAHARASHTRA AND  
RAJASTHAN

In 50 villages

FACILITATING PEOPLE LED  
WATER CONSERVATION  
AND MANAGEMENT MODEL  
ACROSS MAHARASHTRA.

20%

LAND IN 6 SATARA  
VILLAGES COVERED WITH  
WATER RETENTION  
STRUCTURES

3,396

VILLAGES COVERED

252

DISTRICTS IN THE

2

STATE OF  
MAHARASHTRA AND  
RAJASTHAN

121

VILLAGES OF VIDARBHA  
REGION OF  
MAHARASHTRA.

1,73,000

acres

FOREST LAND ACQUIRED  
THROUGH COMMUNITY  
FOREST RIGHTS ACT

8 lakh+

CHILDREN IN  
COLLABORATION WITH  
GOVT. OF  
MAHARASHTRA

25000+

REACHED OUT TO  
GOVERNMENT  
SCHOOLS

12,000+

Cases of Domestic  
Violence Handled  
So Far

19,000+

Single Women  
Network

51%

Increase in toilet  
seats in Mumbai  
for women from  
2012

10,000+

Women in Mahila  
Mandal  
Federation

3.5 Million lives Impacted





# Grassroots Leadership and Organisation Development Program

# GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP AND ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Grassroots Leadership and Organisation Development Program (GLODP) is more than just a training initiative, it's a transformative journey for changemakers from marginalized communities and grassroots organizations. Designed for leaders and organizations across Maharashtra and Rajasthan, the program equips them with skills, knowledge, a growth mindset and confidence to tackle real-world challenges and create meaningful change within their communities.

What sets GLODP apart is its hands-on, application-driven approach. Learning goes beyond theory, participants actively apply their insights, engage in real-life problem-solving, and implement strategies that strengthen their organizations. Through mentorship, peer learning, and experiential training, they gain not just technical expertise but also the confidence and leadership acumen to navigate complex social issues. By the end of the year-long program, they emerge not only with new tools and strategies, but also with the resilience, vision, and networks needed to drive sustained impact where it matters most.

The new cohort of GLODP began in April 2023. This year we expanded our geographical reach in both Maharashtra and Rajasthan while selecting the Leaders .

## STAGES IN THE SELECTION PROCESS



# MEET THE NEW COHORT

The following is the status of fellows at different stages of recruitment

## APPLICATION INSIGHTS: AT A GLANCE



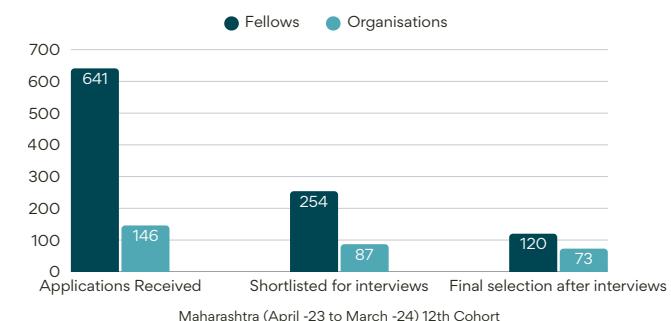
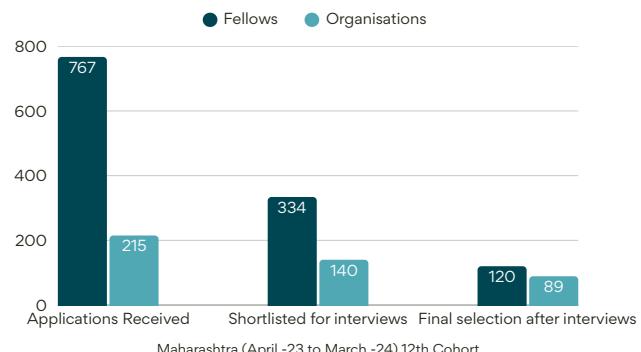
**360 Organisations  
Participated**



**1,408 Applications  
Received**



**Average: ~4 Applications  
per Organisation**



## FROM APPLICATIONS TO ACTION: LEADER SELECTION AT A GLANCE



**240 LEADERS  
SELECTED**



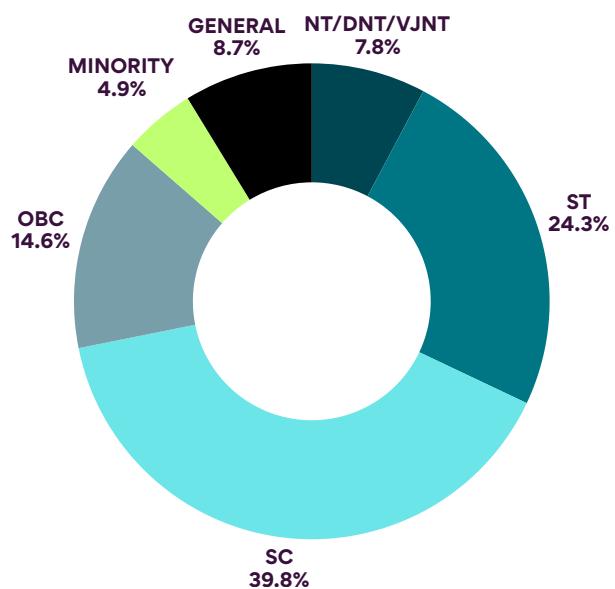
**FROM 162  
ORGANISATIONS**



**1 IN EVERY 6  
APPLICATIONS  
WAS SELECTED**

**SELECTION RATIO:  
1:6**

## IN TERMS OF SOCIAL CATEGORISATION



Majority of the leaders belong to marginalised communities like SC / ST and NT-DNT categories

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GLODP PROCESS

**15,000**

**INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES**

In Maharashtra and Rajasthan, were able to access government schemes

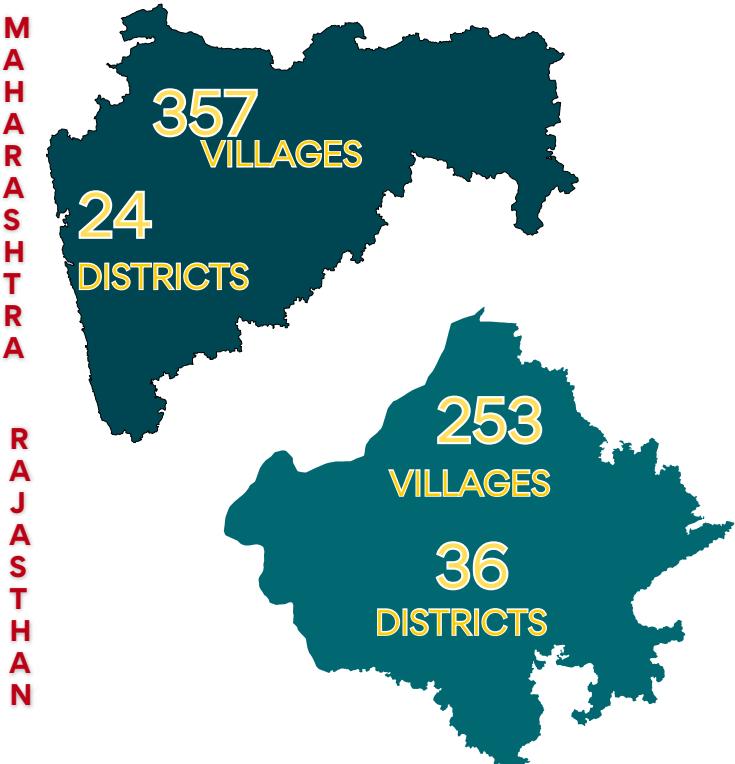
**40 RESOURCE PERSONS**

We have expanded our pool of resource persons to facilitate GLODP trainings.

## TEAM CAPACITY BUILDING

Focus on organization development, facilitation skills, and MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning) processes, leading to improved impact assessment and program review mechanisms.

## OUR FELLOWS ARE WORKING



- A collaborative approach led 38 organizations to rewrite their vision statements, ensuring alignment with community needs.
- Regulatory compliance also saw progress, with nearly 50% of organizations obtaining key certifications, including 12A, 80G tax exemptions, and CSR accreditation, strengthening their credibility and sustainability.
- Registration of the first tribal women-led fisherwomen cooperative society in the Konkan region, promoting economic self-reliance.



## FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT THROUGH

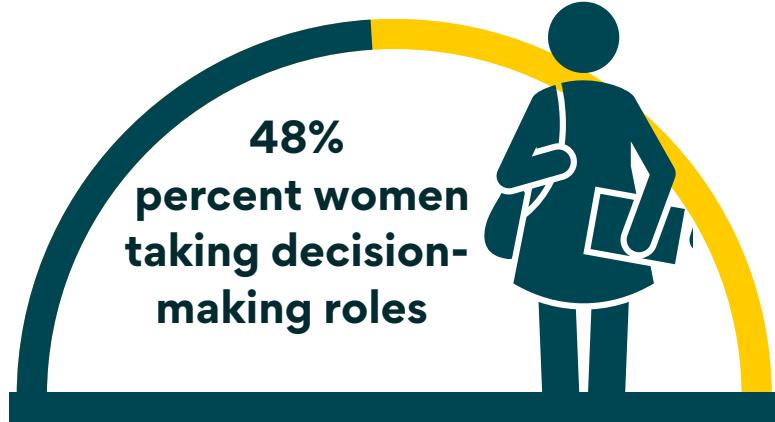
LEADERSHIP  
FACILITATION **87** SHGs  
WITH

**185** LAKHS  
CREDIT SECURED

**GRANTS TO  
ORGANISATIONS** **1.5** CRS

Financial support bolstered early-stage organizations, with 5 out of 17 receiving ₹1.5 crore in grants, while eight others are in discussions for initial funding.

**The OD program strengthened leadership and gender-inclusive governance, with incorporating women in decision-making roles.**



## IN RAJASTHAN

**49** individual forest rights claims were successfully processed.



**3,446** people accessed livelihood opportunities



**6,627** individuals benefited from labor cards, health programs, and scholarships.



**1,528** individuals secured critical identity documents, such as ration and Aadhaar cards.



**2** villages successfully acquired cremation grounds for the Kalbeliya community, ensuring dignified burial

**3**

**WOMEN-LED  
ORGANIZATIONS  
SECURED  
GRANTS.**



# Rising Voices for Domestic Workers in Dhule

In Dhule city, Maharashtra, a powerful change is reshaping the lives of domestic workers, primarily women. For years, these women endured low wages, exploitative working conditions, and a lack of recognition for their labor.

Change began with the emergence of Navnirmiti Gharelu Kamgar Sanghatana, Maharashtra State, an association dedicated to advocating for the rights of domestic workers. The organization, established on December 10th Human Rights Day became a symbol of empowerment, taking a holistic approach and addressing critical issues such as education, health, and employment for domestic workers and their families.

Women who had once suffered in silence now stood together, raising their voices and sharing their struggles. Empowered by a shared vision, these women transformed their grievances into action.

They began organizing awareness campaigns, demanding fair wages, social security benefits, and legal protections. Through skill-building workshops and leadership training, they gained the confidence to engage with policymakers and employers, asserting their rights and reclaiming their dignity.

The impact of Navnirmiti Gharelu Kamgar Sanghatana is already visible in Dhule. Women who once hesitated to speak now lead discussions, negotiate better wages, and safer working conditions. The organization has become a crucial support system, providing legal aid, financial literacy training, and community-driven solutions to long-standing issues.

The women of Dhule have proven that when voices unite, change is not just possible, it is inevitable.





# Women's Empowerment Program

# Women's Empowerment Program



**THE FOCUS FOR THIS YEAR HAS BEEN ON THE FOLLOWING STRATEGIES:**

**2. Building leadership amongst women and helping them discover the power within themselves**

**3. Challenging unequal gender attitudes for changing them at the community level.**

**2. Creating robust community-based support systems**

**4. Advocating for supportive systems (police, judiciary, policy environment)**

The Women's Empowerment Program is a multi-dimensional program of CORO whose aim is to empower Women and reduce Gender Based Violence. Women's empowerment has been at the core of all of CORO's interventions. Since 1995 this is a structured program, by facilitating the Mahila Mandal Federation, a federation of women's groups (**More than 10,000 women from 350+ women's groups are associated**).

**FAMILIES  
14,200**

So far, this program has directly reached 14,200 families across Mumbai, Nashik, and Ahmednagar, opening doors to safety, awareness, and support.

A key pillar of this program is the Case Registration Centre (CRC), a trusted, visible space where women and families can report issues, seek guidance, and access help. The CRCs first attempt to resolve issues through primary counselling for both parties involved. If the parties choose to pursue the legal process further, they are then referred to the SLACC (Savitri Legal Aid and Counseling Centers) for legal assistance. Geographically, we have been working in Mumbai, Nashik and Ahmednagar in a focused manner – through Mahila Mandal Federation in Mumbai, through Lok Nirnay Sanghatana in Nashik and through Gramin Vikas Kendra in Ahmednagar.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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### STRENGTHENING AND BUILDING CAPACITIES

- We focused on building the capacities of our partner organisations. We are now working towards strengthening and building capacities of 50 different organizations and women's federations, to help these organizations become more aware and create support, and an effective ecosystem of community with a safe space for women.
- We also partnered and built the capacities of the local support systems like Protection Officers (POs), Police, OSCs, Childline to sensitize them to gender issues.
- The exposure visits and capacity-building training programs were organized for the team and six organizations working with us, with a focus on enhancing their understanding of gender dynamics and mental health perspectives.
- We undertook multiple campaigns and initiatives with an aim to meeting our objectives.

## SOME OF CAMPAIGN



We celebrated 'World Menstrual Hygiene Day' in collaboration with MUSE to advocate for menstrual health awareness. With over 500 participants, this interactive session aimed at dispelling myths and misconceptions surrounding menstruation.



The Parisar Panchayat in Nashik initiates dialogues between the local community and the administrative system. It aims to address community concerns by facilitating open discussions involving residents, officials, and stakeholders. The initiative fosters a sense of ownership and encourages a joint effort to improve local conditions, making it a promising model for participatory democracy.



**One Day Police Officer :** It was an innovative initiative to commemorate Women's Day by granting CRCs the chance to become Police Officers for a day at the Shivaji Nagar Police Station in Mumbai. This initiative was an excellent platform for community women to gain firsthand experience within the realm of law enforcement.



The women from the Dalit and Muslim communities showcased a remarkable display of cultural harmony and resilience during this year's Ganpati festival. What made this even more extraordinary was that this dance, traditionally reserved for married women, saw the participation of widows and single women, shattering stereotypes and celebrating the spirit of inclusion and unity.



Between November 26th and December 8th, an extensive campaign, 'Mahila Adhikar se Manav Adhikar,' was conducted across ten locations in the Chembur-Trombay area of Mumbai. The campaign addressed critical issues such as violence against women, child abuse, and substance addiction. The initiative primarily focused on raising community awareness through various mediums, including the distribution of 5,000 informative pamphlets and the display of informational posters outlining legalities and these pressing concerns.

# IMPACT

## CRC & SLACC: Building a Holistic Framework Against Gender-Based Violence

The CRC model offers crucial support to women facing violence through trained local leaders who provide immediate, compassionate help. With added legal aid from SLACC, women receive guidance on their rights and access to justice.



**239**

TOTAL CASES OF  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
REGISTERED BY CRCS

**133**

TOTAL CASES  
RESOLVED AT  
CRC LEVEL

**192**

TOTAL CASES OF  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
REGISTERED BY SLACC

**37**

TOTAL CASES  
RESOLVED AT SLACC  
LEVEL

**89**

TOTAL CASES OF DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE REGISTERED BY  
SLACC IN NAGAR AND NASIK

**98**

TOTAL CASES OF  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
REGISTERED BY CRC IN  
NAGAR AND NASIK

### CRC INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT SYSTEM

- Counselling & Guidance
- Refer to SLACC (for advance counseling and legal guidance)
- Provide Support System

239

103

17

### Case Resolution by CRCs

Compromise  
(through the  
process of  
SLACC and TL  
intervention)

Compromised  
49.6%



Settlement  
through  
Communication &  
Dialogue  
Settlement  
50.4%

\*Resolved Case : Cases may be reopened, but we consider those that are settled or compromised as resolved.

\*CRC : Case Registration center

\*SLACC: Savitri legal aid and counselling center

# CRC CASES PROFILE

**53**

**TOTAL CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOLVED BY CRC IN NAGAR AND NASIK**

**48**

**TOTAL CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOLVED BY SLACC IN NAGAR AND NASIK**

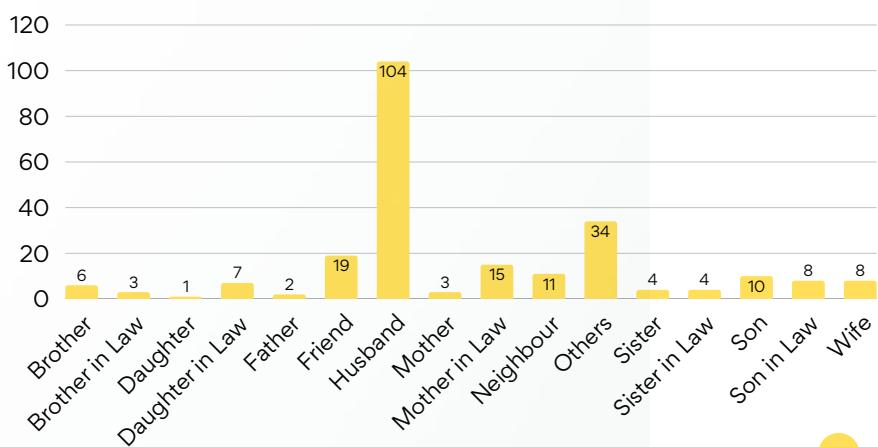
**618**

**TOTAL CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REGISTERED AT ALL LEVEL**

**271**

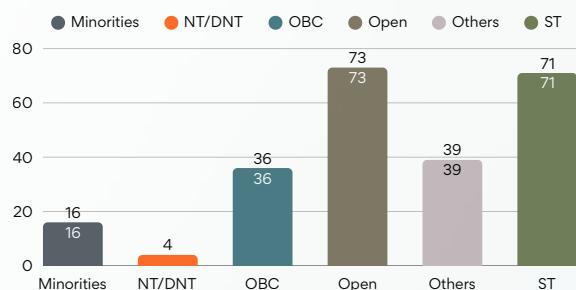
**TOTAL CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOLVED AT ALL LEVEL**

## Nature of Relationship with Applicant



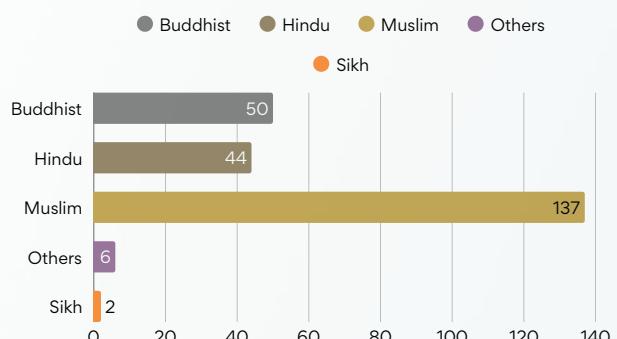
**86% CASES WERE REGISTERED BY FEMALE SURVIVORS.**

## Category-wise Distribution of CRC's Cases

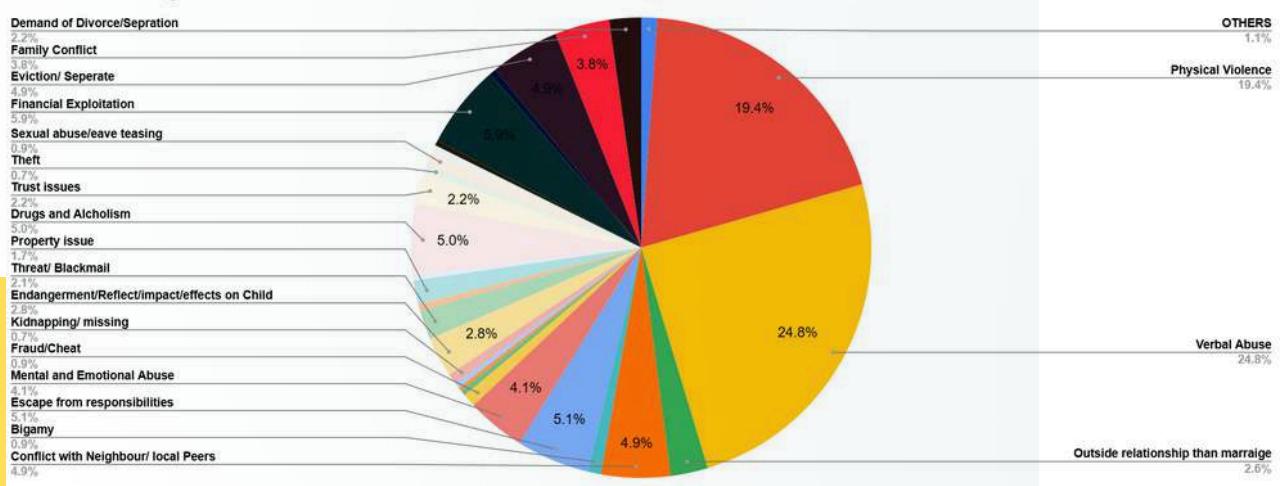


**14% CASES WERE REGISTERED BY MALE SURVIVORS.**

## Religion-wise Distribution of CRC's Cases



## Nature of CRC Registered Cases

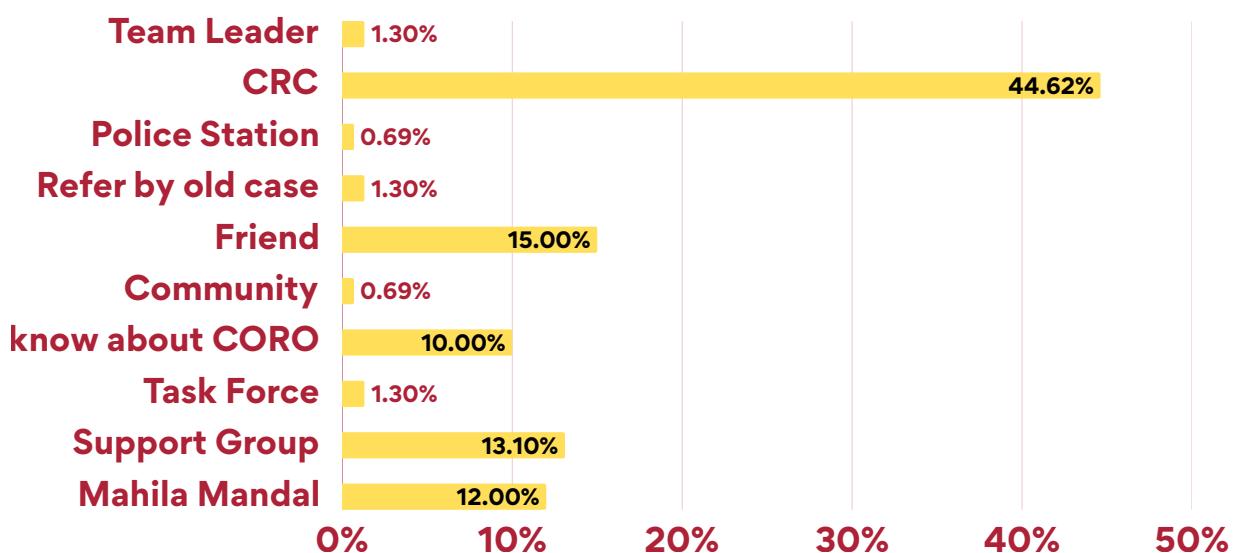


- The Mahila Mandal Federation in Mumbai was revitalized and empowered to create a network of support, enabling women to access resources, education, and opportunities for economic independence.
- This was achieved through the formation of various "samitis" such as Rozgaar Samiti (Employment Committee), Ration Samiti (Ration Committee), Mulbhoot Suvidha Samiti (Basic Amenities Committee), and Atyachar Samiti (Anti-Exploitation Committee)
- Moreover, employment opportunities have been provided to women who applied for tailoring machines through a formal application process. Additionally, **410 women** successfully submitted forms for the Municipal Corporation Self-Employment Scheme.

## SLACC CASES PROFILE

### Case Referred by

#### Who refer the case



86% CASES  
WERE  
REGISTERED  
OF FEMALE  
SURVIVORS.



14% CASES  
WERE  
REGISTERED  
OF MALE  
SURVIVORS



2 CASES COME  
FROM LGBTQ  
COMMUNITY BUT  
THEY DIDN'T  
REGISTER THEIR  
CASES

**1046**

FOLLOW UP  
CONDUCTED WITH  
SLACC CASES IN  
MUMBAI

**37**

CASES WERE  
RESOLVED BY  
SLACC CENTER IN  
MUMBAI

## Type of SLACC -Cases



- SLACC: Savitri legal aid and counselling center
- Other cases means : Neighborhood disputes, Money fraud, Female accused, Medical Help family property dispute, document fraud case, senior citizen case)



A memorandum was submitted to the DCP with the support of **250 women** and a delegation of **30 representatives**, showcasing the power of collective action.

Representatives from the community visited the DCP office to present their demands and highlight the challenges they face due to drug and alcohol abuse, as well as the unsafe environment for girls and women

- Our organizational outreach extended across Maharashtra and Rajasthan, where we connected with other grassroots organisations working on the issue of gender-based violence (GBV). We completed 53 visits and received over 150 positive responses from CRCs, reaffirming the impact of our work on the ground.
- The impact of community events was evident in the strengthening of relationships between law enforcement and women's groups.

## *Promised Protection, Faced Abandonment: Tara's Story of Strength*

Tara Gupta, a 45-year-old woman, moved from Bihar to Mumbai in 2004 after marrying Mr. Ram Lal Gupta. This was her second marriage. Tara had three children from her first marriage, two sons and a daughter. Her sons stayed with her parents, and her daughter, who was just four years old, came with her. Mr. Ram Lal also had two sons from his first marriage, as his wife had passed away.

When Tara married Ram Lal, he promised in writing that he would take care of her daughter. They lived together in a small house in Baiganwadi, Mumbai, along with his sons and their wives. Tara worked hard as a tailor and even helped financially when her husband bought two more houses in the area.

In 2018, things changed. Mr. Ram Lal transferred the ownership of both houses to his sons and refused to give Tara any rights to the house they were living in. Tara was hurt and worried about her and her daughter's future. When she asked for the house to be put in her name, he refused. Arguments and fights followed. Eventually, he stopped taking care of the family and wanted to send Tara back to his village in Bihar.

Feeling alone and helpless, Tara heard about CORO through a friend. When she came to CORO, our counsellor listened to her story and tried to speak with her husband, but he did not respond. With support from CORO's legal team, Tara filed a case under the Domestic Violence Act.

Her husband tried to fight back in court. He claimed their marriage wasn't valid. But the court saw the truth. The judge ordered him to pay Tara ₹7,000 per month as maintenance. Later, when Mr. Ram Lal challenged this decision, the court reviewed the case again and increased the amount to ₹12,000 per month.

During this time, the house where Tara was staying was in very bad shape. She decided to rebuild it herself. But Mr. Ram Lal didn't support her. Instead, he tried to stop the construction by calling the police and threatening the workers.

Tara again turned to CORO. With the help of the Mahila Mandal Federation, a group of local women leaders supported by CORO, Tara stood strong. These women helped protect the workers and made sure the house was rebuilt safely.

With her courage and CORO's support, Tara now has a safe home and receives regular maintenance funds. More importantly, she has reclaimed her dignity and inner strength.

*(The original names in the case have been changed and the story has been documented with the family's informed consent.)*



# Gender Sensitisation and Child Rights Program



## WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH



**3500**  
**Children**



**20**  
**Villages**



**2 districts**

The Gender Sensitization Program is about creating a world where every child, boy or girl, feels safe, valued, and free to dream without fear of discrimination or violence. It helps children understand what gender-based violence is, why it's harmful, and how they can stand up against it. More importantly, it gives them the confidence to speak out, support one another, and ensure that girls are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.

But change doesn't happen in isolation. That's why this program reaches beyond classrooms to include parents, teachers, and the entire community, helping them see the role they play in shaping a fairer, safer world for all children. Through conversations, awareness sessions, and collective action, it encourages everyone to challenge harmful biases and create an environment where equality isn't just talked about—it's lived every day.

## HIGHLIGHTS

In Beed, a series of capacity-building workshops were conducted to strengthen the team, local leaders, and youth groups, ensuring a deeper understanding of gender sensitization.

Seven Women's Workshops were held to understand issues like power, restrictions on women, gender discrimination, participation in Gram Panchayats, and mental stress, and to find possible solutions. The focus was also on building women's leadership.

**289 Women** from **20 villages** Participated in the workshops  
Women's groups formed in all **20 Villages** Engaging around  
**250 women** in collective action.



### STRENGTHENING CHILD PROTECTION AT THE VILLAGE LEVEL

#### 185 PEOPLE ENGAGED

Men, women, and children became active members of the Village Child Protection Committees (VCPCs) in 20 villages

### WORKSHOPS IN 20 VILLAGES

Conducted to restructure VCPCs for better representation and inform members about their roles and responsibilities



### INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION

Committees now reflect broader community voices—strengthening accountability and child safety



Over 200 gender sensitization sessions were held in 20 villages with ~3,500 children (1,800 girls and the rest boys).

These sessions were aimed at making children aware of their rights, enhancing their leadership skills, understanding protection systems, reducing gender discrimination at home, building comfort in talking about their bodies, understanding personal hygiene, learning the difference between attraction and love, etc.

## Gender Fair campaign

A major Gender Fair campaign was carried out across 20 villages with the objective to raise awareness about gender-based discrimination and child rights among the entire village.

# IMPACTS

## SOME OF THE IMPACT OF THIS INITIATIVE INCLUDE

### Participants in Gender fair

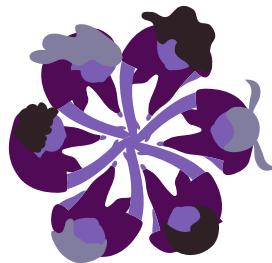


**3,000 CHILDREN**



**2000 ADULTS**

conducted 64 meetings with Gram Panchayats across 39 villages to integrate gender sensitization at the local governance level.



**The formation of the Prerna Mahila Sanghatana (Women's Collective).**



Girls have started living away from home for pursuing higher education.



**10 Girls  
07 Boys**

**Children have begun to speak up against child marriage .**



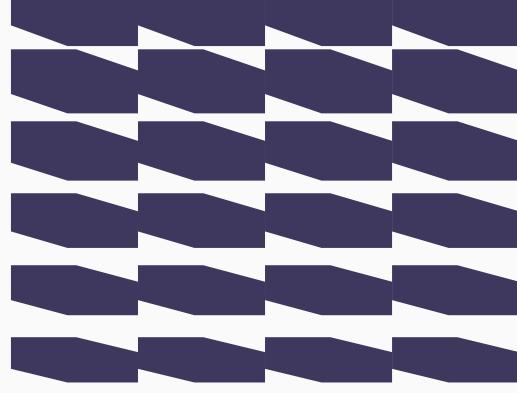
**25 Women  
17 Children**

**Emergence of strong women and child leaders from the villages.**



**02 Girls  
01 Boy**

Two girls and one boy from the child groups were selected as members of the Taluka-level Child Protection Committee.



# From the Classroom to the Community:

## A Girl's Fight for Gender Justice

Growing up in Ambewadi, a small village in Osmanabad, Shraddha Gyaneshwar Sutar initially struggled with academics but soon developed a strong determination to succeed. Inspired by her father, a businessman and priest who actively participated in household chores, she grew up questioning traditional gender roles.

Her perspective shifted further in Grade 8 when she joined the Gender Sensitisation Program by CORO, learning about discrimination and gender equality through interactive sessions. One of her first victories was challenging the gender-based school tradition of only girls cleaning classrooms, successfully advocating for shared responsibilities among boys and girls.

Shraddha carried her learnings beyond school, sharing insights with friends and advocating for women's participation in village affairs. She empowered her younger sisters, and engaged parents and local leaders in discussions on gender sensitization.

Her efforts culminated on June 25, 2024, at the launch of Phase II of the program in Dharashiv, where she boldly stated, "Children accept gender equity easily, but parents, teachers, and society must change too!" Encouraged by her family, Shraddha remains committed to breaking gender barriers, and striving for a world where opportunities are shaped by merit, not stereotypes.



# Samta Fellowship Program



The Samta Fellowship is awarded to individuals and groups who believe in the power of constitutional values and want to make a difference in their communities by following the values enshrined in the Preamble of our constitution. The Samta fellows are expected to spread awareness and understanding of constitutional values to ensure the social fabric of our society improves and people act and live as per the constitutional values.

They are expected to take hands-on initiatives to tackle social and cultural challenges, helping people not just learn about their rights and stand up for them but also to spread the values as upheld in our constitution.

**THE FELLOWSHIP WAS AWARDED TO FELLOWS IN 2022 THROUGH A RIGOROUS SELECTION PROCESS FOR A PERIOD OF 3 YEARS.**



**TOTAL OF 42  
FELLOWSHIPS  
WERE AWARDED**



**24 TO INDIVIDUAL  
(INDIVIDUAL  
FELLOWSHIP)**



**18 TO GROUPS  
(GROUP  
FELLOWSHIP)**

# HIGHLIGHT

## DURING THE YEAR WE UNDERTOOK

- Two cross-learning events spread over 4 days, in which the Fellows shared their experiences, learnt from each other, deepened their understanding after listening to their peers and also through the inputs shared by resource persons.
- Cross-learning events were followed by field visits wherein they visited each other's work areas, understood the context better and received more grounded handholding support/feedback.

## WE ALSO FACILITATED A FEW EVENTS – TO BRING TOGETHER COMMUNITIES AND SPREAD THE VALUES ENSHRINED IN THE CONSTITUTION. THESE EVENTS WERE CONCEPTUALIZED AND IMPLEMENTED BY THE SAMTA FELLOWS:

- In June 2023, a State-Level **Adim Janjati Sanmelan** brought together Maharashtra's three Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) communities, Katkari, Kolam, and Madiya, for the first time, to discuss their issues, constitutional rights, and future. The two-day event engaged over 30 participants in discussions, community debates, focused group discussions, and cultural programs, fostering collective representation.
- The **Dastur Bachao Tehreek** was organized in Mumbai with the Muslim community, particularly Maulanas, to discuss Islam, the Constitution, and the importance of constitutional values in today's times. Over 45 Maulanas participated in this one-day event, engaging in discussions through a participatory approach to strengthen awareness and advocacy.
- The **Kala Sanskrutik Shibir** was held in August, 2023, in Kashpathar, Satara, with 19 fellows and 15 external participants to discuss the state of folk art in Maharashtra and its future.

- The **Sant Vichar Parichay Shibir** was held in Pandharpur to explore the significance of the Warkari tradition in fostering constitutional awareness. With 40 participants, the workshop introduced the life and teachings of Warkari saints, highlighting their relevance to contemporary social justice movements.

- In Rajasthan multiple workshops on constitutional values were organised with different communities in different regions. A session with the Kalbeliya (NT-DNT) community addressed their struggles, while workshops in Chittorgarh and Udaipur focused on Adivasi issues. In Ajmer, we facilitated discussions on the constitutional rights of the Chita Meharat community. In Jaipur, we engaged Muslim women on their socio-political challenges. These initiatives aimed to strengthen awareness and advocacy for historically marginalized groups.

## IMPACTS

The program succeeded in initiating conversations about the Constitution in communities that had never before encountered its language or principles. From tribal belts to religious institutions, the idea of constitutional values began to take root in everyday dialogue and collective consciousness. Through these interventions, the fellowship created pathways for individuals to transition from personal struggles to leadership. Some examples include

### NIRMA KUMARI

A survivor of domestic violence and disability, now leads a **250-MEMBER** women's collective focused on self-employment and constitutional awareness.



**I AM LEADER**

### DNYANESHWAR

Despite resistance from orthodox segments of the Warkari community, founded Abhang Probodhani and published his book, **'Hoy Hoy Varkari'**, to spread constitutional values.

**HOY  
HOY  
VARKARI**

### CHANDRALAL BHEEL

Empowers Dalit and Adivasi Bheel communities in Rajasthan through cultural activities. His Bhim Mandali program mobilized 130 youth leaders and thousands of community members to fight for caste certificates, forest rights, and education. His Bhim Jagarans have strengthened grassroots movements, and he plans to expand legal advocacy efforts.

**BHIM  
JAGARANS**

## MANGAL KANADE

and her team support single women in Marathwada, addressing education, employment, and gender discrimination through Sanvidhan Pandharawada

**PREVENTED** 2 CHILD MARRIAGES

**MOBILIZED** 100 WOMEN

**REACHED** 2,000 PEOPLE

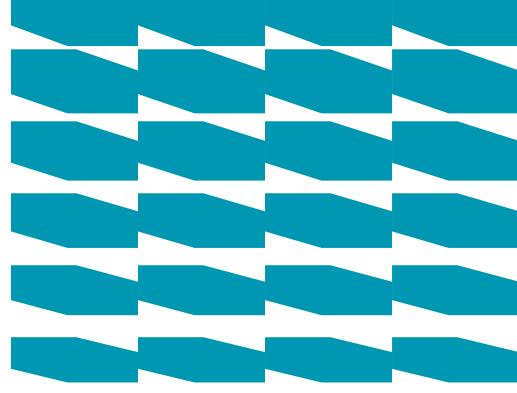
**SANVIDHAN PANDHARAWADA**

## SHAHISTA KHAN

has dedicated her work to Muslim women and the transgender community in Jaipur, providing legal aid, securing social benefits for 366 individuals, and re-enrolling 63 school dropouts. Her voter awareness campaigns engaged 2,500 people, and she continues to expand her advocacy.

The fellowship has demonstrated that when communities engage with constitutional values, they can become resilient, inclusive, and capable of leading change.

In Rajasthan multiple workshops on constitutional values were organised with different communities in different regions. A session with the Kalbeliya (NT-DNT) community addressed their struggles, while workshops in Chittorgarh and Udaipur focused on Adivasi issues. In Ajmer, we facilitated discussions on the constitutional rights of the Chita Meharat community. In Jaipur, we engaged Muslim women on their socio-political challenges. These initiatives aimed to strengthen awareness and advocacy for historically marginalized groups.



# From Marginalisation to Leadership

Nirma Kumari, a 29-year-old resident of Bubaniya village in Ajmer district, Rajasthan, was born into a world of limitations. As a physically challenged girl married off at the age of 14, she endured years of mental and physical abuse. Her husband, often intoxicated, subjected her to violence and humiliation. But Nirma chose not to surrender to her circumstances. She lodged a police complaint and sought refuge through support centers like the Sakhi One Stop Center. Yet, real transformation began when she connected with Sathan Mahila Sangh and later joined CORO's Samta Fellowship.

Through the fellowship, Nirma was introduced to the Indian Constitution, not just as a book of laws but as a moral compass for justice, equality, and dignity. Despite her personal battles and physical challenges, she completed her 10th and 12th-grade education and is now pursuing a Bachelor of Commerce degree. More importantly, she began organizing others like her.

Nirma's work with the Divyang (disabled) community quickly expanded to preventing child marriages in her village and mobilizing unemployed women into self-reliant groups. She helped over 100 women access government schemes and start small businesses, transforming economic dependency into empowerment.

But her most notable achievement is the formation of *Mahila Samvidhanik Shakti Sanghatan*, a collective of over 250 women, mostly from marginalized communities who now actively discuss constitutional values, question injustice, and demand their rights. Nirma, once a silent sufferer, is now a recognized leader. Her courage, clarity, and commitment to justice have not only changed her own life but ignited a powerful movement in her region.



# Right To Pee



For most men, finding a public toilet is not something that they ever need to think about. . For women, it's a daily struggle. The Right to Pee (RTP) initiative is working to change that. The RTP campaign started with the objective of providing safe, accessible toilets to women, but this has now grown into something much bigger, a movement for dignity, equality, and basic human rights for the marginalized people, and especially the women among them

RTP enables women not only to demand better sanitation but also to claim their rightful space in public life. By working with local governments and grassroots groups, the initiative empowers the women in communities to speak up, take charge, and create lasting change in their communities, because something as simple as a toilet should never be a privilege.

Through the RTP campaign, we are working in 6 administrative wards of Mumbai and have created 64 community groups in the form of Vigilance Committees involving Community Based Organisations (CBOs)



## HIGHLIGHTS

Two residential training programs for women members of the Vigilance Committee and partner CBOs, were conducted in Karjat and Konkan, focusing on self-awareness, property rights, and domestic violence, empowering community women leaders with essential knowledge.

**65 women leaders participated in this.**

### **Our activity further expanded in Mumbai, Kolhapur and Osmanabad (Dharashiv)**

In Mumbai, 10 new community-based organizations (CBOs) and vigilance groups were established across five new wards.

In Kolhapur, we started working with the local administration and the community members in Ajra and Gadhinglaj village.

We also started work in 10 weekly market areas in Osmanabad.

There is a lot of inconvenience due to this, and there is a great need for toilets in the market area.

Additionally, a first of its kind workshop was held, between the community members and the Junior Officer and Junior Engineer from the M East Ward of the BMC. The officers and the community members discussed their roles and responsibilities and collective efforts required to make the settlements cleaner.

**64 people participated**

To assess sanitation issues, the team conducted a survey with 1,200 participants to analyze toilet conditions in local village markets in Dharashiv. This was followed by online discussions to review findings and devise future strategies. One of the main findings was around toilet facilities in weekly markets (People from 10 to 12 villages gather at the weekly market, with a total of around 2000 people attending). It was found that.

**90%** of the respondents said that there is no toilet in the weekly market

**80%** of the toilets that are there, are such that people cannot use them.

**FOLLOWING THE SURVEY, FOUR COMMUNITY GROUPS WERE FORMED. APPLICATION LETTERS WERE SUBMITTED TO NAGAR PARISHAD, RESULTING IN THE OPENING OF TWO CLOSED TOILETS FOR PUBLIC USE.**

**We actively disseminated the work done as part of the 10 year journey**

- Conducting Right to Pee awareness sessions with the CREA organization.
- Conducting a sanitation awareness session with 50 graduate students at Vashi's Modern College
- Our team member, Anjum Shaikh, participated in a Civil Court session under the Young Muslim Women Program.
- Our team member, Rohini Kadam, conducted a session about the Right to Pee campaign in Odisha through CERA Sanstha.
- Rohini was interviewed on the Manini channel under My Mahanagar about the RTP campaign.
- BBC News featured the story of youth leader Ayesha, an active member of our team, and Rehana Shaikh's Story was featured on Bai Manus.



# IMPACT

## Community Meetings

During the year we held over **1,000 community meetings** attended by over 25,000 people.

## Training

Training has been conducted on **OVER 10 TOPICS**

## Collaboration

This year, we held the first collaborative workshop with BMC officers and engineers.

## Survey

This year, similar to the work in Mumbai, we surveyed weekly markets in Kolhapur and Osmanabad and studied sanitation there.

## Implemented

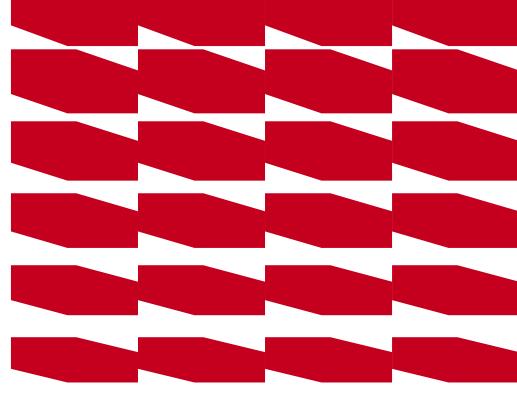
Like in the M East division, VC model was implemented in five new wards of Mumbai.

## Group formed

30 groups were formed. These wards include Kurla, Wadala, Ghatkopar, Santacruz, Chembur, these divisions.

In the last two years, **230 toilets were built by BMC** in the M East ward. Out of these, **188 toilets deteriorated** significantly within just three months. A survey was conducted to assess the condition of all the toilets.





# Breaking Norms:

## **WOMEN RISE THROUGH KABADDI AT CHEETA CAMP**

On the occasion of International Women's Day, a thrilling Season-1 of Women's Kabaddi Tournament took place on March 10, 2024, at the Cheeta Camp Ground, Chembur. A total of 17 teams participated. The event saw remarkable performances, with Ranragini Team from Vashi Naka securing the first place, Power Panthers from Chita Camp finishing second, and Hirakani Women's Club from Ghatla taking the third place.

What made this tournament truly inspiring was the sheer dedication of 180 women players, who had been training rigorously for the past two months. Their relentless hard work and passion were evident in every match they played. The energy in the air was contagious, and the 565 spectators couldn't stop cheering for these fierce and determined women.

This was more than just a one-day event, it was the result of a movement. Women from the community, under the leadership of the VCs, CBOs, and local women leaders, took charge of organizing the event. A core committee of 28 members meticulously planned every detail to ensure its success.

This tournament wasn't just about Kabaddi. It was about breaking barriers, stepping into public spaces, and proving that women belong everywhere, on the field, in leadership, and beyond. As these women continue their journey, the next step is even more exciting: creating lasting change and building a future where women confidently claim their space.



# Single Women Program

# INTRODUCTION



In 2014, a movement quietly began in Marathwada, sparked by a simple but powerful idea, single women deserve to be seen, heard, and empowered. It wasn't just about support; it was about transformation. The women leading the charge weren't outsiders, they were part of the community, shaped by the GLODP program, determined to rewrite the narrative for single women and other marginalized groups. What started as a campaign grew into a strong, structured effort, helping women reclaim their identities, stand up to stigma, and break free from cycles of violence and economic hardship. More than just a program, it became a force for independence and change, proving that when women stand together, they don't just survive, they thrive.

# HIGHLIGHTS

The team made notable progress in advancing the Single Women's Leadership and Livelihood Program. Like the initiative in Mumbai, a **kabaddi tournament** was organized in all **11 blocks of Osmanabad**, with 65 teams and over **800 women participating**, an unprecedented initiative that brought single women into public and leadership spaces through sport. The competitions culminated in a state-level tournament in Jalna, drawing wide public attention and media coverage.

Women took the lead in all aspects of the event, from **fundraising (over ₹1.2 lakh raised locally)** and logistics to media outreach and negotiations for public spaces, marking a significant moment in the assertion of their public agency.

## THE YEAR ALSO SAW

### REGISTRATION

- 1 Registration of a women-led Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) with **250+ members**.

### REVIVAL

- 2 Revival of the Ekal Mahila Sanghatan (EMS), the Single Women's organisation, block committees in **7 blocks** and formation of **4 new ones**.

### WORKSHOPS

- 3 **3 workshops** on financial literacy conducted in partnership with ICICI Foundation, **reaching 600 women**.

### EXPANSION

- 4 Swavalambi Credit Cooperative Society's expansion to **over 1,700 members** with a **cumulative corpus of ₹25 lakh**.



## TRAINING AND HANDHOLDING

5

Training and handholding support to **85 local women teachers and mentors**

## WORKSHOPS

6

leadership workshops held for second-line leaders and elected women representatives, involving **350+ participants**.

To enhance visibility and solidarity, public events like Raksha Bandhan and Makar Sankranti drew participation from **1,000+ community members**, and a media outreach campaign resulted in 8 regional media stories and one national feature in The Hindu.

## IMPACT

The formation of the FPO and expansion of the cooperative society have laid the groundwork for long-term economic empowerment. The FPO has already begun masala production and distribution in two blocks, with plans to reach five more by year-end.

Meanwhile, the Swavalambi Credit Cooperative Society disbursed over ₹12 lakh in small loans to help women start or expand livelihood activities, including goat-rearing, food processing, and tailoring.

## POLITICAL AND SOCIAL LEADERSHIP ALSO SAW A LEAP:

**11 WOMEN CONTESTED GRAM PANCHAYAT ELECTIONS WITH 6 WINNING SEATS**

a major step in grassroots representation.



**34 WOMEN LEADERS**

**CONDUCTED COMMUNITY MEETINGS**  
**SUBMITTED 17 LOCAL DEMANDS**  
**TO PANCHAYATS AND DISTRICT OFFICIALS.**

The Raksha Bandhan event, where **over 2,500 women** pledged mutual protection, was symbolic of growing intra-community solidarity.

- Participation in two state-level forums and one national policy dialogue on single women's rights, to help amplify the voices of grassroots leaders, and position EMS as a critical stakeholder in shaping inclusive governance.
- With increasing participation of tribal and Muslim single women, the program is steadily growing in both diversity and reach.

# Ayodhya Jagtap

## A STORY OF COURAGE AND DETERMINATION

Ayodhya Jagtap, a resident of Dhanora village, became single at the age of 27. Initially living in a joint family, she was made to live separately within a year. Quiet and reserved by nature, she rarely stepped out of the house. She supported her household by stitching clothes and contributing to her children's education.

Things began to change when Rukmini Nagapure, a Saheli from Ekal Mahila Sangathan (EMS), started visiting her regularly. Through these visits, Ayodhya became a member of EMS. In conversations with Rukmini, it came to light that there was 2.5 acres of agricultural land in her late husband's name. However, her mother-in-law had been registered as the legal heir. Ayodhya expressed her desire to claim her rightful share of the land. Though her mother-in-law resisted, Rukmini stood firmly by Ayodhya's side, guiding and supporting her in the fight for her property rights. This struggle continued for almost six years.

During this period, Ayodhya didn't give up. She completed her education and even received a scholarship through the single women's program. Then, a turning point came: a property tax of ₹70,000 was due on the family house. Her mother-in-law asked Ayodhya to pay half the amount. In return, she agreed to transfer a part of the land to Ayodhya.

Ayodhya managed to arrange the money and pay her share. Following this, her mother-in-law signed the necessary documents. Ayodhya received 1.5 acres of land in her name, and the remaining 1 acre was registered in her son's name.

Reflecting on her journey, Ayodhya says,  
“EMS stood by me when no one else did, not even my own relatives. It gave me the courage to fight for my rights.”



# Women in Governance Program

# WOMEN IN GOVERNANCE

In India the participation of women in governance (either at a local level, state level or the national level) is very low. To encourage participation of women in government at all levels, reservation of a certain number of seats for women at various levels of government, has been implemented.

Despite this, entering politics is neither an aspiration of a lot of women nor are they truly empowered to take decisions. This issue is much more amplified in the case of women from the marginalized communities such as NT-DNT communities, socially backward communities, tribal communities and religious minorities. The aim of the WING program is to increase the active participation of women, mainly from disadvantaged groups, in government at various levels, to promote democracy in its truest sense.

The specific targets for the year included a) Creating a collective platform at the Maharashtra level on this issue with like minded people; b) building the capacities of 83 women sarpanches of village level gram panchayats



## HIGHLIGHTS



### Capacity building

As part of this program, a capacity building program was successfully held with **77 elected members** and **35 statutory committee members** from **51 Gram Panchayats**, and a comprehensive handbook was developed to support future training efforts.



### Hand holding

Continuous hand holding visits were conducted by **visiting the 83 sarpanches** in their fields.



### Enhancing their leadership skills.

**Six women** from the WING team participated in the She Represents course organized by ISD, further enhancing their leadership skills.



### Participation in democratic processes

Women's participation in democratic processes has been bolstered through active engagement in over **100 Gram Sabhas** as part of the "Chala Gram Sabhela Jauya" (Let's go to the Gram Sabha) campaign.

## IMPACT

The Women in Governance initiative has strengthened women's participation in local governance.

**485 INDIVIDUALS ELECTED ACROSS 205 GRAM PANCHAYATS IN 27 BLOCKS SPANNING 8 DISTRICTS**

Among them,

**83**

have taken on roles as Sarpanches in the Grampanchayats

as Upa-sarpanches

**38**

as Gram Panchayat Members.

**365**

**Several women leaders from the initiative have been recognized for their contributions.**

Ganga Jawarkar received the Rashtriya Pradarshani Vidarbha Stariya Prayogshil Kisan Sanman Puraskar,

Jaya Kurne was elected as a director of the Kamdhenu Co-operative Milk Produce Society.

Hemlata Padvi was honored with the Vidya Bal Yuva Karyakarta Puraskar from Yashwantrao Chavan Pratishthan, Mumbai.

# Urmila Prakash Kurne

## GRAM PANCHAYAT (HERLE VILLAGE) ELECTED IN 2022

Urmila was the daughter of an ordinary brick kiln worker with four brothers. While they worked hard, her parents gave all their children education to the extent they could. She got married to Prakash Bapu Kurne of Herle village at the age of 15 or 16, after which her education stopped. Initially, she joined the self-help group of an organization and started working with the women of the area, in various activities of the organization, creating a strong identity for herself in the area. She discussed with the other members of her organization the need to have representatives in the Gram panchayat.

In 2017, the Sarpanch post in her village was reserved for women from the backward class. So she filed a nomination and started campaigning actively. While some people taunted her on the appropriateness of contesting for the post of sarpanch, she also received support from others- a local CBO Kshitij Sanstha was one of her main supporters. She lost by a narrow margin. She had a meeting with her supporters to discuss what went wrong and how to plan ahead as she was determined to stand for re-election. This is when she got involved with CORO and its various programs.

The CORO team encouraged her to continue her education from an Open University today, she holds a B.A. degree from Yashwantrao Chavan Open University.

CORO's trainings changed her outlook and the way she looked at society, she gained a deeper understanding of gender based and caste based discrimination and most importantly understood the meaning of 'constitutional value'.

When the gram panchayat five-year elections were held in 2022, she filled the form - this time her education in the form was BA and not seventh. She campaigned actively, she was more confident this time due to which people reposed a lot of faith in her abilities/ could see her desire to genuinely work for them. She won this election by 155 votes and was elected as a gram panchayat member.

After she was elected, one of the first things she did was to call for a gram sabha in her village to make people aware of the importance of mahila sabha, bal sabha and gram sabha. She took the initiative to put the names of committee members on the wall in the gram panchayat. She introduced the ritual of reading the Preamble of our Constitution in the village meeting. She started street meetings to mobilise the women for the mahila gram sabha meetings.

With her effort, dedication and initiative, today her points are heard and considered. She is instrumental in encouraging several more women gram panchayat members to build their capacities as part of this wing process. The gram panchayat women members who have been added to the new process have brushed aside the interference of the men in their affairs. Now, they make their own decisions and take action independently - all credit to the WING process.



# CAMPAIGN TO EMPOWER THE NT/DNT COMMUNITY

# CAMPAIGN TO EMPOWER THE NT/DNT COMMUNITY

The NT-DNT communities are amongst the most marginalized communities. They were notified as criminal tribes in the British regime (because of the nature of the resistance they offered against the acquisition of forests) and were de-notified in independent India only after five years of independence. These communities are socially excluded and lead a nomadic lifestyle. The nomadic nature combined with their marginalization, has resulted in a large percentage of people from these communities not having any citizenship documents (Aadhar cards, election cards, ration cards, etc.). This is also a primary hurdle in accessing government schemes meant for them. Furthermore, their fear and apprehension about the police system justifiably restrain them from disclosing their identities.

This process started in September – 2022, but this year we focused our work on 42 castes/communities (Jamatis) of NT-DNT in Maharashtra (e.g., Nathjogi, Vadar, Kaikadi, Davri-Gosavi, Bahurupi, Bhopi, Pingala, etc.). Our aim was to improve the situation and sustain the leadership building efforts within communities. The plan was to initiate evidence-based dialogue with a) government systems, b) communities, c) academia, and d) other networks of organisations to address the issues of these communities. This year, our focus was on helping provide citizenship documents, children's education, and livelihood to the people of the NTDNT communities.

CORO is working in collaboration with partner organizations from the NT-DNT community across the state of Maharashtra.



# IMPACT



## IDENTIFY WOMEN LEADERS

Leadership-building efforts have **identified 63 potential women leaders**. They have participated in two training workshops, leading to grassroots-level engagement **in 171 villages**.



## SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY

A socio-demographic survey covering **3,271 households** in **126 villages across 24 blocks from 10 districts** was conducted, representing 24 out of 42 identified communities. The report is nearing completion and will provide critical insights for future policy interventions.



## NT-DNT WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Following the NT-DNT Women's Conference and continued engagement, a state-level committee and four district-level committees were established by the Social Justice Department.



## COLLABORATION WITH THE ELECTION COMMISSION

A special campaign was held in collaboration with the Election Commission between August and December 2023 to ensure that the people from these communities receive crucial identity documents



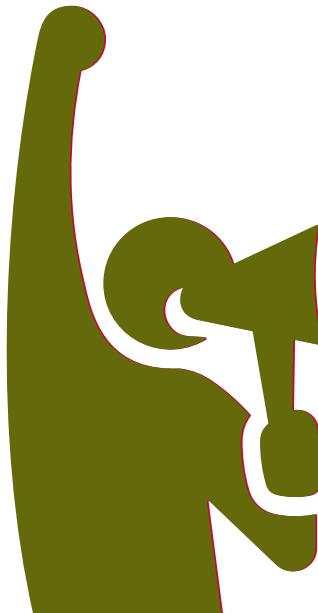
## IMPACTS



**21,315 PEOPLE**

**20 DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES**

RECEIVED CRUCIAL  
IDENTITY  
DOCUMENTS IN  
THE SPECIAL  
CAMPAIGN WITH  
THE ELECTION  
COMMISSION.



### THE CAMPAIGN REACHED

**409 VILLAGES**

**62 BLOCKS**

**16 DISTRICTS**

**253 VOLUNTEERS**

**18 LEADERS**

**24 ORGANIZATIONS**

FACILITATING THE PROCESS.

UNDER THE HOUSING SCHEME

### 91 FAMILIES

FROM TRIBAL AND MADARI  
COMMUNITIES SECURED FUNDING OF

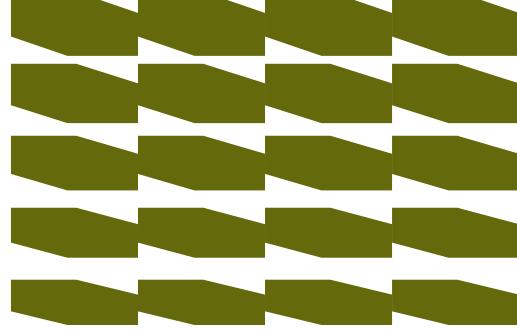
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### 48 NEW ORGANIZATIONS JOINING

The expansion of the movement, with 48 new organizations joining, underscores the growing momentum for change and the collective commitment to strengthening the rights and opportunities of historically excluded communities.



# Divya Chavan



## NTDNT WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Divya, a woman NT-DNT leader from Shirso Taluka Murtajapur District Akola, has studied till Class 10 and is 27 years of age. She is a labourer and belongs to the Phanse Pardhi community. She has been associated with the NT-DNT Women's Leadership program.

Divya narrates her story here:

“Since I belong to the Pardhi community, I could attend the training only with my husband's permission. I went to a big city (Pune) for the first time, met a lot of friends. I was scared that I may face discrimination but I felt loved and included.

The training helped me to understand who I was, about my language and my culture. My life changed a lot, when as part of the training, I first held the mike and spoke in front of everyone. Earlier, I did not have the courage to speak, I was afraid that I might say or do something wrong. I thought it is better not to talk. The thought that I could contribute to solving the problems of my community did not arise because I lacked the confidence. But after the training we gained a new energy, a new perspective, a new confidence. We learned that we can start to speak up, we can ask questions both within and outside our families, we can make our own decisions, and we now have the courage to talk to people and influence them. Through the training we realized the courage and knowledge within us. It helped us understand the leadership in us, and gave us direction to reflect on our identity.

After the training, I started talking to women about the problems faced (like women's health or domestic violence, children's education) by women, and held meetings with women to understand the issues in the village. Together, we started talking to women about the problems faced by women.

I worked to solve two problems in my village in which I followed up with the gram panchayat, but when they did not listen, I went on a hunger strike with my community. This action gave me the courage to address the issues of drinking water shortage and lack of road access. I am now working on women's participation and employment opportunities in gram sabhas.”



# ADDRESSING WATER SCARCITY WITH PEOPLE INITIATIVES PROGRAM

# ADDRESSING WATER SCARCITY WITH PEOPLE INITIATIVES PROGRAM

The Addressing Water Scarcity with People Initiatives (AWSPI) program aims at Addressing the issue of water scarcity in the 12 identified villages by both a) Increasing the groundwater availability and b) better and equitable water management.

This program differs from the other programs in the following ways:

- A rigorous scientific approach using hydrogeological mapping is adopted to identify recharge and discharge areas. This ensures that interventions are strategically placed for maximum impact.
- Instead of executing everything top-down, the program builds leadership and technical capacity within the community. This empowers villagers to make collective decisions about water conservation, groundwater recharge, and demand management — turning beneficiaries into changemakers.

Through this integrated and holistic approach by including people's participation, the plan is to create a sustainable model for addressing the issue of water scarcity in villages.



## HIGHLIGHTS & IMPACT

**01**

CORO's Jalnayika initiative brought women-led water action to life in Jat and Karjat.

**02**

Through Paani Shalas, communities deepened their understanding of water conservation

**03**

In Jat, 9 check dams and 1 village tank were desilted through local collaboration

**04**

In Antavdi, collective advocacy led to the government sanctioning ₹2 crores for the construction of 7 new check dams.

**05**

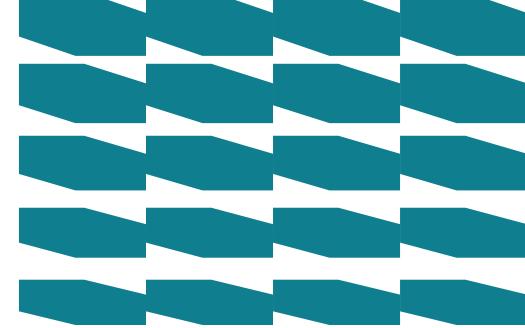
Over 400 parasbaags (kitchen gardens) were created, promoting food security and water awareness.

**06**

Groundwater studies were conducted in 12 villages, and water action plans from 10 villages have been submitted to the government for support and implementation.



# Dhotrewadi



## A VILLAGE THAT RECLAIMED ITS WATER, AND ITS FUTURE

Every summer, the village of Dhotrewadi in Karjat faced a grim reality: dried-up wells, disappearing streams, and total dependence on government water tankers. For years, this cycle repeated itself, until one man decided enough was enough.

During a simple school session on water conservation, Ramchandra Darwada heard the story of the poet Kabir and the importance of preserving water. That moment sparked a quiet revolution.

Instead of waiting for outside solutions, Ramchandra went door to door, urging people to act. He gathered the community and shared a bold idea: “Let’s build a check dam ourselves, with our own hands.”

What followed was nothing short of transformative.

The villagers came together, using local resources and voluntary labor to build their first check dam. It became a symbol of collective will—and soon inspired neighboring Khanand to follow suit. The value of these structures ran into lakhs, but the cost was zero—because they were built by the people, for the people.

The momentum didn’t stop there.

Dhotrewadi identified an abandoned check dam that could be restored to benefit not only their village but also three nearby hamlets. The community created Gramkosh—a local development fund—with 11 villagers contributing ₹100 each. A bank account was opened, a plan was drawn, and the people took full ownership. For five days, 89 villagers worked together under the scorching sun. Every household sent one member for shramdaan (voluntary labor). No one waited to be told what to do—because this wasn’t just a project. It was their future.

The Gram Panchayat, moved by the unity and urgency, passed a resolution and approved the work. The dam was repaired, swiftly, collectively, and without delay.

Today, water flows again in Dhotrewadi.

For washing. For livestock. For farming. For life.

The people have taken a stand:

“No more water tankers. We will manage our water on our own terms.”



# **BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH LOCAL CITIZENS' ACTION (VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM)**

# **BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE THROUGH LOCAL CITIZENS' ACTION (VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM)**

The Village Development Program aims to develop a replicable, community-based model to address the issues of climate change through community participation and local intervention.

## **IMPLEMENTED ACROSS 43 TRIBAL VILLAGES**

This year, the program was successfully implemented across 43 tribal villages in Maharashtra, encompassing Gadchiroli and Chandrapur districts.

The main components of this program included building the abilities of the leaders in the Gram Sabhas, both in their leadership capacities and in understanding various laws pertaining to Community Forest Rights (CFR) Act, awarding the CFRs to the Gram Sabhas and improving the functioning of the Gram Sabhas. Other key activities included conducting baseline studies to understand the factors affecting ecological balance in these regions and planning sustainable practices, among others.



## HIGHLIGHTS . . .



**LEADERSHIP TRAINING  
GIVEN TO 52 LEADERS  
IDENTIFIED BY THE  
GRAM SABHAS  
OF 43 VILLAGES**



**LEADERSHIP TRAINING  
GIVEN TO IDENTIFIED  
52 LEADERS OF THE  
GRAM SABHAS OF 43  
VILLAGES**

to make them aware of the laws, policies and schemes pertaining to PESA, CFR and livelihood.

- The Leaders have also been trained to undertake surveys so as to assess the ecological balance in the villages and other aspects like mapping the type of crops, bio-diversity, livelihood, etc which are expected to form the basis of Village Development Plans of each of the 43 villages

- Workshops were conducted with the community members in the villages where they were sensitized to the issue of climate change, and behaviours to mitigate the effects of the same.
- Studies were conducted in 43 villages by trained community members to establish a baseline of natural resources, agricultural practices and available livelihood options.



# IMPACT

## BUILD GRASSROOT LEADERS



Over a span of nine months, capacities have been built of **53 grassroots leaders from the Gram Sabhas of 43 villages**



who in turn have helped, in reaching out to **more than 20,000 people**.

10 Gram Sabhas received approvals from Sabari Mahamandal (an agency of the State Government for the economic upliftment of Scheduled tribes) to start businesses in the local context to the extent of Rs. 4.50 crore (approximately 4000 people from these 10 villages benefited.)

## INCOME GENERATION INITIATIVE

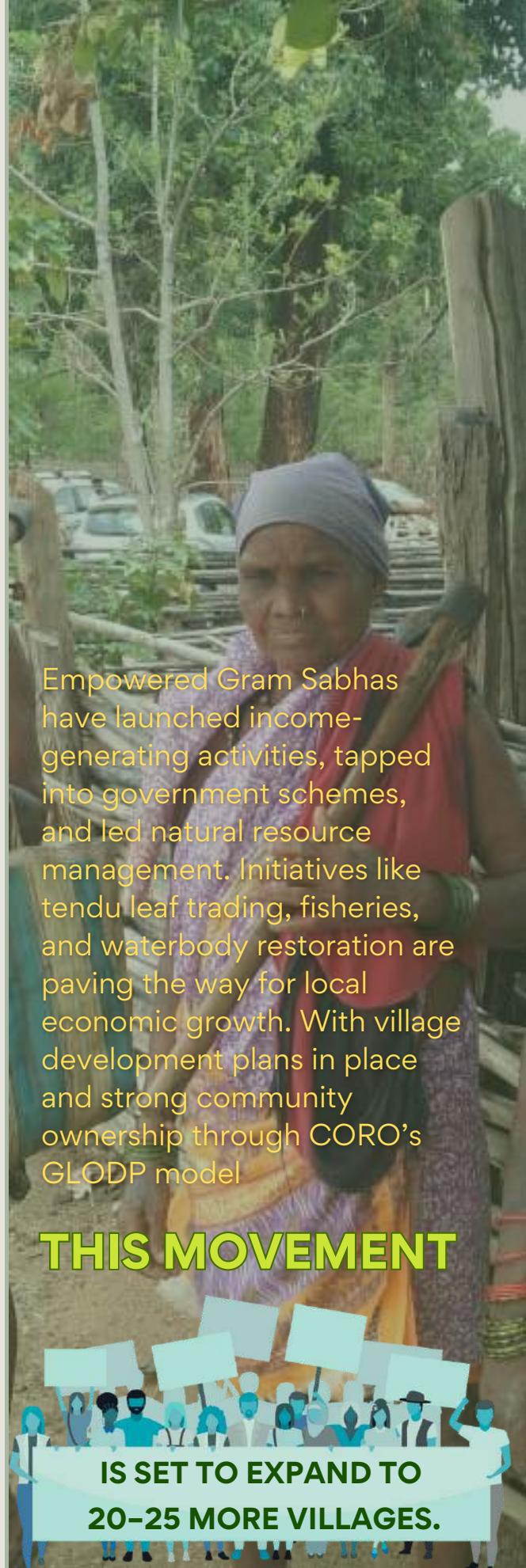
In addition to the above, **14 Gram Sabhas** have submitted fishery-based income generation proposal to Sabari Mahamandal Gram Sabhas of **16 villages** have enrolled in the MGNREGS portal. This will help provide the Gram Sabhas with an employment guarantee as prescribed in the MGNREG Act.

## THE FEDERATION COLLECTED REVENUE OF RS. 2.70 CRORE.



The process of tendering of tendu patta (forest produce) through Gram Sabha Federation has started (**45 gram sabhas participated**).

The process of **rejuvenating 6 water bodies in 6 villages has been initiated** with the aim of ensuring that sustainable fishing in these water bodies can be re-initiated.





## Bhendikanhar: A Journey from Forest Struggles to Sustainable Prosperity

Deep within the dense forests of Dhanora taluka in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district lies a small but determined village — Bhendikanhar. Around 60 kilometers from the nearest town, this remote tribal village once faced severe hardships. There were no roads, no transport facilities, no employment opportunities, and barely any farming. The villagers survived primarily on forest resources, but with no formal rights over them. By 2012–13, the situation had grown worse. Acute water scarcity had taken hold — there was hardly any drinking water, livestock were suffering, and unemployment among the youth was rising rapidly. Hope, for many, seemed out of reach.

But things began to change in 2021, when the villagers took a bold step. Through their Gram Sabha, they collectively applied for and successfully secured **300 hectares of Collective Forest Rights (CFR)**.

This legal recognition gave them ownership over the secondary forest produce in their region — such as tendu leaves and bamboo — and enabled them to begin planning small-scale forest-based industries. The inspiration and momentum for this transformation came through the Village Development Program (VDP) of CORO, where two young men from the village, Sachin Wadde and Shobu Wadde, received training in leadership and community mobilization. Rather than calling themselves “leaders,” they chose to identify as GaonSanghis — friends of the village. Together, they revived the Gram Sabha process, encouraged open discussions, and helped their community move from silence to collective decision-making.





The first issue they tackled was the water crisis. While some villagers suggested installing individual water tanks, Sachin and his team advocated for a long-term, collective solution — building a large village pond. After several meetings and debates, the community agreed. On a 3-hectare plot of village land, they constructed a pond entirely through *Shramdaan* (voluntary labor) and self-funding. The result was transformative. The pond resolved the water shortage, supported irrigation for crops, and provided ample water for livestock.

With access to water, new opportunities emerged. All 37 families in the village began rearing livestock. They also started goat and poultry farming, supported by funds from NABARD and their own contributions. This created a steady stream of income, with each family earning at least ₹25,000 annually. Seeing the success, the Gram Sabha initiated fish farming in the village pond. Local fish seed worth ₹7,200 was planted, and in the first year alone, the village earned ₹40,000 — all of which was reinvested into community development.

The momentum didn't stop there. With further efforts by the villagers and the Gram Sabha, tap water connections were installed in every household, completely resolving the drinking water problem. In addition, two small check dams were constructed to enhance water storage, support soil conservation, and improve groundwater levels, steps that would benefit not only agriculture but also help regenerate the surrounding forests.

Another major challenge the community addressed was forest fires. Bhendikanhar developed and implemented the idea of a "fire-free village." Through participatory processes, they created fire-lines, raised awareness on wildfire prevention, discouraged burning in the forest, and established community rules to protect their land.

Today, Bhendikanhar stands as a powerful example of what grassroots development can achieve. The village now earns over ₹1 lakh annually through activities like tendu and bamboo collection, fishing, animal husbandry, and eco-friendly forest enterprises. Importantly, they are now preparing a Village Development Plan, one that is not made for them, but by them, with full community participation guiding every step.

Bhendikanhar's story is not just about development, it is about dignity, rights, and resilience. It shows how collective action, when driven by awareness, self-leadership, and sustainable resource management, can transform even the most isolated forest village into a self-reliant and thriving community.



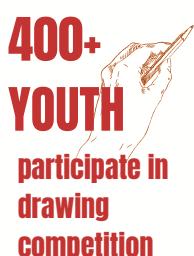


# **YUVA MANTHAN PROCESS**

## INTRODUCTION

The Yuva Manthan Process is an initiative aimed at empowering youth from underprivileged communities in Chembur and Trombay. It addresses key challenges in education, health, employment, and civic awareness, fostering responsible and engaged young citizens. With a strong emphasis on constitutional literacy and gender awareness, the program provides opportunities for both personal growth and community development.

## HIGHLIGHT



**Reach Out**



**session module developed for youth**

The second batch of the Yuva Netrutva Vikas Karyakram began with 30 young leaders, reinforcing the program's commitment to nurturing the next generation of changemakers.

Community outreach efforts have expanded significantly, with Mahatma Yojana Yuva Samvad Melava organized across four settlements, drawing participation from 400 to 500 youth.

Mental health awareness has emerged as a key focus area, with sessions and one-on-one counseling conducted at the community level.

In collaboration with the School of Media and Cultural Studies, TISS Mumbai, Yuva Manthan leaders produced impactful films, which reached an audience of 500 to 550 people through a dedicated film festival.

A structured session module is currently being developed for youth leadership training, ensuring that future cohorts receive systematic guidance.



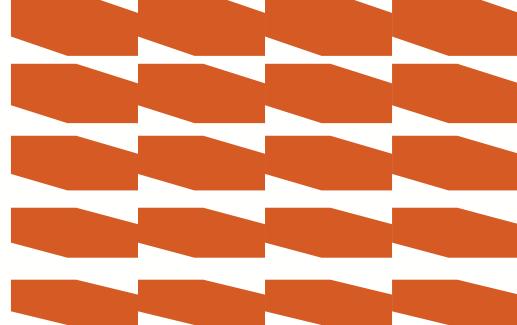
# IMPACT

- The program has played a pivotal role in raising awareness about civic responsibilities, particularly through the *Election Campaign*, which emphasized voting as a constitutional right. Youth leaders mobilized the community, encouraging maximum voter turnout and reinforcing the importance of democratic participation.
- Additionally, partnerships with Prakruti Sanstha and Oscar Foundation led to increased awareness about critical issues such as youth and child welfare, human trafficking, and the benefits of outdoor sports.
- Youth leaders took a proactive role in political engagement by submitting representation letters to politicians such as Aditya Thackeray and Sujat Ambedkar, highlighting pressing issues related to education and employment in their communities.
- Under the *Yuva Awaaz... Yuva Netrutva* initiative, youth leaders took a strong stand on the rising concerns of substance abuse and insecurity by submitting a formal letter to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP).
- The Yuva Manthan leaders participated in TISS's Samiksha Program which provided them a platform to share their field experiences and insights in a panel discussion, amplifying their impact and contributing to broader discourse on youth development.
- Through these interventions, Yuva Manthan has successfully fostered a culture of leadership and civic engagement among young people. The program continues to empower youth to challenge systemic issues, advocate for their rights, and drive meaningful social change.



# BREAKING BARRIERS

## TO EDUCATION IN MANKHURD



In the narrow lanes of Mankhurd bastis, where societal expectations often dictate the future of young girls, two determined young women, Sangeeta and Shabana, have rewritten their destinies. Both had dropped out of school years ago, burdened by family circumstances and deep-rooted gender biases. They had grown up hearing that education held little value for girls, as they were destined to be married and leave their parental homes. The lack of family support further pushed them away from pursuing their dreams.

Despite these barriers, Sangeeta and Shabana found a new path through the Yuva Manthan Program. They regularly attended meetings and discussions held in their community, where they engaged with other young leaders and mentors who encouraged them to think differently about their futures. Slowly, their perspectives began to shift.

Shabana recalls how these sessions made her question her decision to leave school. With each discussion, her desire to resume her education grew stronger. However, convincing her family was a challenge. Similarly, Sangeeta, who had been forced to quit school due to financial hardships, realized that education was the key to overcoming her struggles. The program instilled in her a renewed sense of confidence and determination.

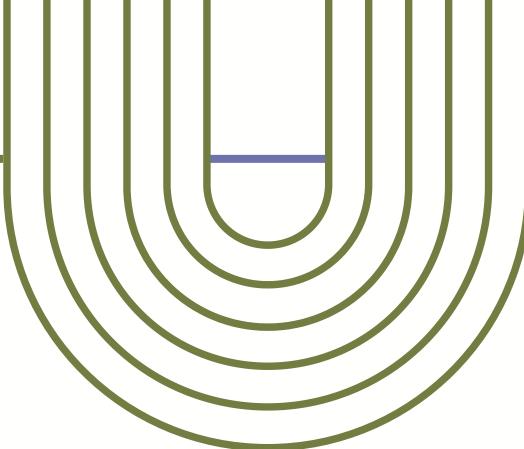
With unwavering resolve, both young women took a bold step. After a six-year gap, Shabana re-enrolled in the 10th grade, determined to complete her schooling despite the odds. Meanwhile, Sangeeta, after a five-year break, returned to school in the 8th grade, ready to reclaim the education she once had to abandon.

Their journey symbolizes more than just going back to school. It represents a powerful shift in mindset, resilience against societal norms, and the courage to fight for their future. Through the Yuva Manthan Leadership Development Program, these young women have not only rediscovered their dreams but have also become inspirations for others in their community. Their story stands as a testament to the power of education, self-belief, and the impact of grassroots leadership in transforming lives.



# WOMEN'S PROPERTY RIGHTS

# PROPERTY RIGHT



The Campaign for Women's Equal Property Rights in Maharashtra is about ensuring that women have a fair share in property ownership. It empowers grassroots organizations and individuals to stand up for gender-equal rights through training, awareness, and collective action. By pushing for accountability and spreading knowledge, the campaign works to bring lasting change, making sure women's voices are heard and their rights recognized at every level.

## HIGHLIGHT

- A Certificate Course on Equal Property Rights for Women was launched for grassroots activists, running from December 2023 to November 2024. The course began with a rigorous selection process, enrolling 30 dedicated participants. Three training sessions/workshops were conducted.
- Participants are actively engaging with 94 Gram Panchayats and urban wards across 16 districts, significantly expanding the campaign's reach.
- A dedicated team is being formed at the organizational level to drive sustained efforts on Equal Property Rights for Women.
- Additionally, knowledge-building resources, including a training manual, documentation of the selection process, resource materials, and case studies, are currently under development.



## IMPACT

- The program has contributed to a growing movement for equal property rights, with 35 fellows from the GLDP program coming together to work on this issue. Some of these Fellows have completed the Certificate Course for advanced training.
- A major milestone was achieved with the State Public Health Ministry issuing an order to enforce the Marriage Registration Act (1998-99) following persistent advocacy efforts. This directive is now reaching Gram Panchayats, with ongoing follow-up to ensure effective implementation.
- Marriage registration rates are steadily increasing in regions where the program has been active over the past three years.
- A network of 24 partner organizations has been established, fostering collaboration on women's property rights.
- Over 53 support groups have been created by course participants, further strengthening grassroots advocacy.

**24 PARTNER  
ORGANIZATIONS**



**35  
FELLOWS**



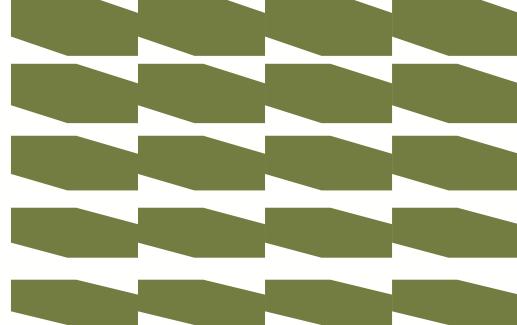
**MARRIAGE  
REGISTRATION  
RATES ARE  
STEADILY  
INCREASING**



**53  
SUPPORT GROUPS**



# RUKMINI'S FIGHT FOR JUSTICE



## A STORY OF CHANGE

Rukmini Ramesh Nagapure, a single woman from Beed district, Maharashtra, has been associated with CORO since 2016. Her interest in women's property rights led her to join a team working on the issue, where she gained a deeper understanding of the legal and social significance of property ownership for women. As she helped others fight for their rights, she began to reflect on her own situation.

One day, her brother approached her with a Hakk Sod Patra, a deed relinquishing her claim to their ancestral property. However, armed with the knowledge she had gained through workshops and discussions, she refused to sign it. Despite this, after their father passed away, her brother used his influence over local authorities, including the Talathi and Police Patil, to transfer the inherited property solely in his name—without Rukmini's consent.

In 2021, Rukmini discovered this injustice and was deeply disturbed. She knew she had a rightful claim to the property and decided to fight back. Her journey was not easy. Many in her community, driven by patriarchal norms, tried to dissuade her from pursuing her rights. They feared that if she succeeded, other women might also come forward, challenging the long-standing traditions that denied them their inheritance.

But Rukmini stood firm. She relentlessly followed up with the authorities, used her knowledge to challenge the improper registration, and exposed the flaws in the system. With persistence and determination, she pressured officials to rectify their mistake. After a long struggle, she succeeded—her and her sister's names were officially added to the property documents, securing their rightful inheritance.

While her family expressed disappointment over her actions, Rukmini remained resolute. She had not only won her battle but had also set an example for other women facing similar struggles. Her journey stands as a testament to the power of awareness, persistence, and the fight for justice in the face of deeply rooted societal resistance.



# GRASSROOTS KNOWLEDGE BUILDING INITIATIVE



## Grassroots Knowledge Building Initiative

The Grassroots Knowledge Building Initiative recognizes, integrates, and elevates grassroots wisdom, making it a 'social necessity' in broader social change efforts. It fosters knowledge building, dialogue, and co-creation, creating inclusive and reflective spaces for grassroots leaders and partners to engage in collective learning and mindset shifts.

This initiative is linked to the Atta Deep Academy of Grassroots Leadership (ADAGL), incubated by CORO. While CORO nurtures its early development, ADAGL will evolve into an independent entity, expanding beyond CORO to include diverse grassroots contexts. Through this, we aim to build a sustainable ecosystem where grassroots wisdom drives systemic change.



# HIGHLIGHT



The Grassroots Knowledge Building Initiative has made significant strides in advancing grassroots leadership, advocacy, and knowledge dissemination. The development of GLDP modules in both English and Hindi ensured accessibility for diverse communities, while the CORO 34 Years Approach Report documented invaluable grassroots strategies and impact. A strong focus on feminist narratives led to the publication of 26 articles on grassroots feminism, amplifying the voices of women activists.

A major milestone was the launch of the Atta Deep Academy in Maharashtra and Rajasthan, a collaborative effort with a consortium of over 100 grassroots organizations. The initiative also played a critical role in documenting social issues, including the completion and publication of Stories of Caste and Gender Discrimination in Rajasthan, as well as the Right to Pee and CFR documents, which are now being disseminated for wider advocacy.

Eight knowledge-building conversations were hosted by grassroots knowledge holders, fostering dialogue and knowledge exchange. The initiative also experimented with collaborative filmmaking through the RTP program, enabling community-led video documentation of grassroots work. Media engagement played a crucial role, with two articles published in IDR in both English and Hindi, alongside seven audiovisual and textual stories produced in collaboration with BBC. Further strengthening its reach, the initiative built strategic partnerships with leading institutions such as TISS, IIT-Mumbai, and SNDT Women's University, Pune.



# WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

## **Highlights**



The Women's Leadership Program is designed to empower women across Maharashtra by providing them with the necessary tools, skills, and platforms for leadership development. The program focuses on personal growth, self-awareness, and community engagement, offering women a space to share experiences, overcome challenges, and collaborate on solutions. It brings together women from various backgrounds and communities to address the unique obstacles they face, creating a platform for learning, networking, and collective progress.

In 2023-24, the Women's Leadership Program organized three workshops focused on nurturing leadership skills and creating a strong, supportive network of empowered women. Held across two locations, Khargar (two workshops) and Kolhapur (one workshop). These sessions brought together 185 women from various regions of Maharashtra.

The workshops served as dynamic spaces for participants to engage in meaningful dialogue, share lived experiences, and develop strategies to overcome socio-economic challenges. With a strong emphasis on leadership development, self-empowerment, and collective resilience, the program enabled participants to forge lasting connections and support each other in their journeys of personal and professional growth.

# IMPACT

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185 women from diverse communities have participated in the workshops. These participants have not only gained knowledge but also formed a supportive network that extends beyond the workshops. As a result, many women have taken on leadership roles in their local communities, including active participation in village councils and political activities, which were previously male-dominated areas.

## THE EFFORTS OF WOMEN LEADERS RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING

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**855  
FAMILIES**



**7  
VILLAGES**



**1,267  
HECTARES**

**Facilitated community forest rights in 16 villages.**

## BENEFITS

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### **Enabled**

- 1 Enabled employment for 855 families across 7 villages through MGNREGA.

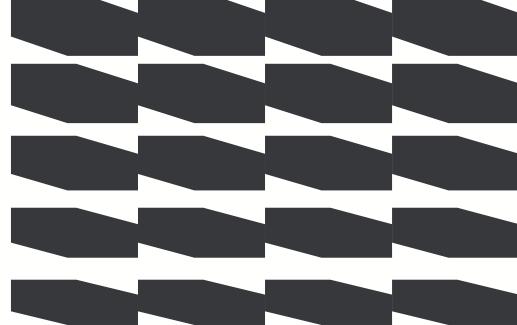
### **Promoted**

- 2 Promoted the formation of study groups, labor unions, and savings collectives.

### **Advocated and activated**

- 3 Advocated and activated Gram Sabhas, empowering citizens to demand rights like housing and pensions.

# SUSHMA TAI



## ROOTED IN STRUGGLE, RISING IN POWER

Sushma Tai, originally named Chandrakala from Dongargaon village in Chandrapur district, faced a challenging life marked by societal norms that erased her identity after marriage. She was married at 17, and soon after, her husband developed an addiction to alcohol, leading to the closure of their small hotel. With no steady income, Sushma Tai resorted to collecting forest products to feed her family. Despite hardships, she joined a savings group in 2006, where her life began to change.

In 2011, after her husband's death, she was nominated for a fellowship by an NGO that recognized her resilience and potential. This fellowship provided her with confidence, leadership training, and the tools to work on women's empowerment. She helped 855 families gain employment through the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) and increased village participation in Gram Sabhas. As a leader, she fought for women's rights, securing land rights and work opportunities for many.

Sushma Tai's political journey began when she became a sarpanch, battling opposition in court and winning despite financial struggles. She later went on to complete her education and serve as a sarpanch again. Through her efforts, she helped create savings groups, improve village economies, and empower women.

Her personal transformation also flourished. After attending a training in 2022, she began to prioritize herself, enjoying activities like dancing, something she had longed for but had been afraid to pursue. Sushma Tai's resilience, from surviving domestic abuse to becoming a community leader, has inspired many. Today, she is a symbol of strength, proving that no matter the struggles, a woman can rise and lead.

## **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

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- CORO's Single Women Team was honored at the Maharashtra Growth Story Conclave for their outstanding work with the Swavalambi Credit Cooperative Society under the Maharashtra Women's Organization. The award was presented by Mr. Ajay Thakur, Head of the Bombay Stock Exchange.
- On National Polling Day, CORO received the 'Utkrushta Matdar Mitra Puraskar' (Best Voter Friend Award) from the Chief Electoral Officer, Maharashtra for its deep-rooted commitment to strengthening democracy at the grassroots.
- Lalita Dhanwate was honored by the Andhashraddha Nirmulan Samiti for her significant contributions to the NT-DNT (Nomadic and Denotified Tribes) community, recognizing her impactful efforts in promoting positive social change.
- Hemlata Padavi, our leader from Nandurbar, has been awarded the Youth Social Activist Award by the Yashwantrao Chavan Foundation in recognition of her outstanding contributions to social change.
- Swati Sawant, our leader from Western Maharashtra, was honoured by the CII Foundation for her impactful grassroots work, reinforcing her commitment to making a difference.
- Kausalya Padvi, a dedicated member of our tribal women's group, has been honored with the Social Work Award by Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal. Her unwavering commitment and leadership continue to uplift and empower communities.
- Shaila Yadav, our trustee, has been awarded the Comrade Ashok Manohar Youth Energy Award for her tireless advocacy for marginalized communities.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

THE MAHARASHTRA  
PUBLIC TRUST ACT, 1950

NAME OF THE PUBLIC TRUST:  
**CORO INDIA**

REGISTRATION NO :  
**F - 0013921 (BOM)**

FUNDS & LIABILITIES	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2024
<b>Trust's Funds or Corpus</b>	<b>Amount (INR)</b>	<b>Fixed Assets</b>
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	<b>575000</b>	Balance as per last Balance Sheet
Adjustment during the year	<b>5000000</b>	Less: Depreciation up to date
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5575000</b>	
Earmarked Funds	<b>321585407.97</b>	
<b>Statutory Liabilities:</b>		<b>Advances:</b>
For TDS	<b>406253</b>	To Employees
For Professional Tax	<b>11600</b>	To Others
For EPF	<b>343284</b>	Advances to other-Income Tax*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>761137</b>	Advance Professional Tax
<b>Other Liabilities:</b>		
To Employees		
To Others		
<b>Income &amp; Expenditure Account:</b>		<b>Cash &amp; Bank Balance:</b>
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	<b>24346520.89</b>	(a) Cash Balance
Refund of Unspent Grant	<b>-775383</b>	(b) In Savings Bank Accounts
Surplus / (Deficit)	<b>10747144.72</b>	(c) In Fixed Deposit Accounts
<b>Less: Deficit</b>	<b>34318282.61</b>	Sub-Total
		Accrued Interest
		<b>5010167</b>
		<b>358771863.08</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>362239827.58</b>	<b>362239827.58</b>
Contingent Liability*	414662	

\*Pertaining to disputed Income Tax demand for Assessment Year 2016-17, of which Rs.82,934 has been paid under protest.

As per our report attached of even date  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg No. 101851W

The above Balance Sheet, to the best of our belief, contains a true account of the Funds and Liabilities and of the Property and Assets of the Trust.

**For CORO India**

(Shraddha Jathar)  
Partner  
M. No. 136908

Chairman

Secretary

Date: July 22, 2024  
Place : Mumbai

**The Maharashtra Public Trust Act, 1950**

**Name of the Public Trust:** CORO INDIA  
**Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended:** 31.03.24

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>For the year ended March 31, 2024</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>For the year ended March 31, 2024</b>
<b>Expenditure in Respect of Properties:</b>			
Rent, Rates, Taxes, Cesses	523,054.00	<b>Interest</b>	1,626,957.00
Repairs and Maintenance	755,828.60	on Savings Account	22,705,450.00
Other Expenses	258,016.84	on Fixed Deposit Account	-
		on income tax refund	
<b>Remuneration to Trustees</b>	4,702,933.00		<b>24,333,407.00</b>
<b>Audit Fees</b>	549,644.00		
<b>Amount Written Off</b>		<b>Grants</b>	125,570,677.98
<b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	3,338,152.82	<b>Donations</b>	5,099,001.00
<b>Depreciation</b>	-	<b>Income from other sources</b>	<b>130,666,675.98</b>
<b>Expenditure on Objects of the Trust</b>			
(a) Religious			
(b) Educational (Including Women Empowerment)	134,018,182.00		
(c) Medical Relief			
(d) Relief of Poverty			
(e) Other Charitable Objects (COVID/Flood Relief)	563,100.00		
	<b>134,581,252.00</b>		
<b>Surplus carried over to the Balance Sheet</b>	10,747,144.72	<b>Deficit carried over to the Balance Sheet</b>	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>155,456,055.98</b>		<b>Total</b> <b>155,456,055.98</b>

As per our report attached of even date

**For M. P. Chitale & Co.**  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg No. 101881W

**For CORO India**

**(Shraddha Jathar)**  
Partner  
M. No. 136908

**Chairman**

**Secretary**

Date: July 22, 2024

Place : Mumbai



# Thank You

to our  
**PARTNERS**



Azim Premji  
Philanthropic  
Initiatives



An Edelweiss Initiative



indira foundation



2023-24

# ANNUAL REPORT



**CORO INDIA**

## **CONTACT US**

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 [www.coroindia.org](http://www.coroindia.org)

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Road, Chembur  
Mumbai – 400 071 INDIA