

2024-2025



Doosra Dashak

ANNUAL REPORT



PREPARED BY

Foundation for Education and Development

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CHAIR OVERVIEW

We are pleased to report that Foundation for Education and Development (FED) has had another fulfilling and impactful year, marked by both consolidation and expansion of the Doosra Dashak (DD) Project. For over two decades, DD has been dedicated to the holistic and integrated education of out-of-school adolescents aged 11-20 years across 9 blocks in 7 districts of Rajasthan, covering 238 Panchayats and 1143 villages. Our primary focus remains on designing educational interventions that are life-changing and empowering, especially for girls from orthodox and marginalized communities.

A major achievement this year is the return of Tata Trusts as our key funder after a gap since 2018. We take pride in securing new project funding for four tribal blocks in South Rajasthan, which stands as a testament to our resilience, institutional capacity, and unwavering commitment to serve the most vulnerable sections of rural society in contextually relevant and flexible ways. Alongside DD's proven activities, the project now prioritizes systematic support for adolescent girls—primarily from tribal communities—whose educational progress was severely impacted by COVID-19. The initiative provides structured opportunities for girls to complete schooling through residential camps, open and distance learning, life skills training, and livelihoods development.

Two significant elements of the Tata Trusts project will have long-term impact. First, a longitudinal impact assessment of DD since its inception, and second, a capacity-building initiative based on our Organization Development Exercise (ODE), designed to strengthen current leadership and nurture emerging second-line leaders. Both components will be conducted by nationally reputed specialist agencies.

Our innovative approach to residential camps for girls has also gained international academic recognition. DD's work has been included as a case study in the forthcoming Routledge publication (2025), "Girls' Education and Empowerment: Strategies and Experiences from South Asia" by three eminent Indian scholars. This inclusion highlights DD as one of only two influential Indian NGOs featured in Chapter 2, titled 'Residential Camps and Schools for Girls as a Strategic Approach: Some Case Stories.' This recognition is expected to stimulate interest among policy analysts, scholars, educators, and development professionals, underscoring DD's contribution in providing customized, contextual residential schooling that enables marginalized girls to dream, aspire, and lead social change.

Another major development this year is the decision by the Azim Premji Foundation (APF) to support FED with a Flexible Grant for five years, aimed at strengthening education, empowerment, and leadership capacity of marginalized adolescents—especially youth and girls—as well as promoting constitutional values. This opportunity follows DD's successful implementation of similar APF-supported projects in recent years. Building on human resources nurtured earlier, we plan to reinvigorate our community-based organizations—Yuva Manch and Mahila Samooths—anchored through Youth Resource Centres in every block. These centres will facilitate active citizenship development by promoting constitutional

values, scientific thinking, and community-based projects, thereby fostering solidarity and harmony in rural society.

I would also like to highlight two key management decisions taken by our Board of Trustees during the last meeting in November 2024. First, the introduction of a social security scheme for staff who have served FED continuously for five years, aimed at improving staff morale and motivation—a move made possible by APF’s generous contribution. Second, the initiation of a system for regular internal audits of our field offices to enhance financial discipline and fiscal responsibility.

In conclusion, I express my heartfelt gratitude to our donors, philanthropists, local governments, partner NGOs, and private sector supporters for their unwavering cooperation and encouragement. As we face many challenges, our spirit remains high. We are determined to work harder and better, serving the most underprivileged sections of society with empathy, compassion, and dedication, in alignment with our fundamental values and core principles.

Abhimanyu Singh

Chair,

Foundation for Education and Development (FED) and

Doosra Dashak

FOUNDATION OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT (DOOSRA DASHAK) AT A GLANCE

Every adolescent, regardless of where they live, deserves the right to learn, lead, and thrive. This is Doosra Dashak's commitment to turning that belief into action.

Our Vision

An equal and just society, where all youth especially the excluded can dream, learn, and lead.

Our Mission

To provide a second chance at education and equip adolescents with skills and values to face the real life challenges with confidence.

Our Goals

- To promote holistic education for marginalized adolescents.
- To strengthen democratic, constitutional and gender-equality values among youth.
- To enhance life skills, livelihoods, and leadership capacities.



Our Founder: Shri Anil Bordia

Shri Anil Bordia, a visionary educationist and social activist, founded the Foundation for Education and Development (FED) and conceptualized the Doosra Dashak programme in 2001. As former Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, he played a pivotal role in formulating India's National Policy on Education (1986) and launched landmark initiatives like Shiksha Karmi and Lok Jumbish in Rajasthan. Doosra Dashak was his dream project to ensure holistic education for adolescents aged 11–20 in rural India. His leadership brought thousands of marginalized youth into education and community life, setting an example replicated by organisations across several states. For his outstanding contributions, he received prestigious honours including the Padma Bhushan (2010) and UNESCO's Avicenna Gold Medal (1999). Shri Bordia strongly believed in women's empowerment, decentralisation, and the power of people's participation. His vision continues to inspire and guide all our work at Doosra Dashak.

DOOSRA DASHAK FOCUSES ON EMPOWERING ADOLESCENTS THROUGH SIX KEY THEMES:



VISION AND STRATEGY

At the heart of Doosra Dashak is a belief: real change happens when communities lead their own development. Our strategy is rooted in the voices of adolescents, youth, and women from the most marginalized communities.



We start by listening. Tools like social mapping help us understand village realities—such as education levels of children and adolescents, health status, livelihood income, etc. From this understanding, we build customized plans for development of adolescents with active involvement from community members. Leadership is nurtured through Yuva Manch and Mahila Samooh, who go on to take ownership of issues like education, health, and access to government schemes.

Central to our approach is a four-month residential camp that offers adolescents a holistic, immersive second chance at education—combining foundational literacy, life skills, digital tools, vocational guidance, self-defence, SRHR, and gender equity training—while supporting school re-entry, open schooling, and continuing education programs. After the camp, learning continues through platforms like Ikhvelos and village-level workshops, ensuring ongoing engagement.

Youth are trained in life skills, digital tools, and local governance systems—turning knowledge into action. Through convergence with Panchayati Raj Institutions and local government, FED’s work connects vision to system-level change. By strengthening village- and block-level groups like YSS and JMS, we ensure that the impact of our efforts last beyond the project timeline.

Doosra Dashak’s strategy is simple but powerful: empower communities, equip youth, and walk with them as partners in transformation.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF FED IN 2024–25

Key Achievements

- Over 1,893 youth mobilized through 124 Yuva Manch platforms, across all project blocks, who emerged as change-makers in education, health, governance, and rights.
- This year, through various orientation workshops, awareness campaigns, and four-month residential camp, 342 adolescents appeared for the RSOS Class 10 and 12 examinations; 249 passed, with 75% were girls.
- Through the Constitution Fellowship Program, fellows successfully re-enrolled 382 out-of-school adolescents into formal or distance education programs.
- 213 youth were trained across nine blocks in vocational, technical, and digital skills to boost employment opportunities; of these, 41 gained employment and 3 became self-employed.
- 3,799 individuals facilitated to access government welfare schemes, including pensions, housing, Palanhar, MGNREGA, and Ayushman Bharat etc.
- 106 Mahila Samoochs, empowered over 1,400 women who actively engaged in Gram Sabhas, health initiatives, menstrual hygiene campaigns, and local governance reforms.

Funders, Awards & Partnerships

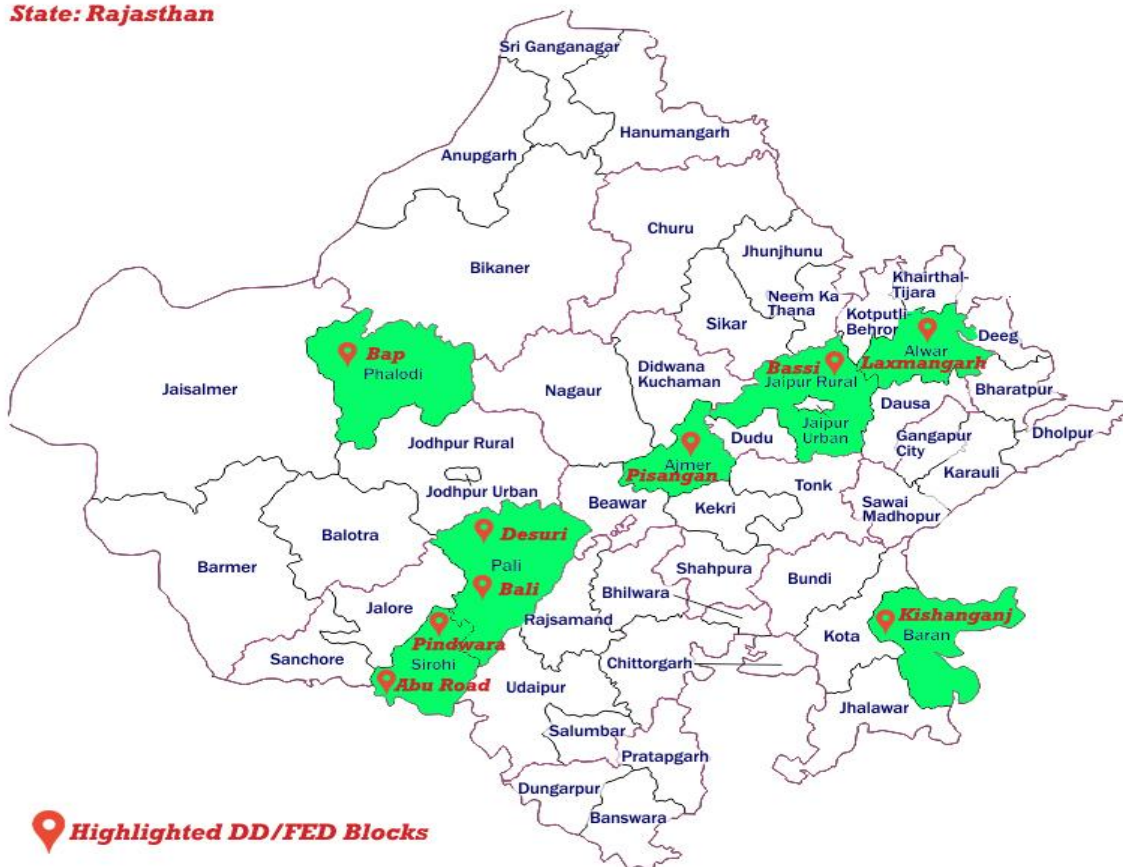
- FED alumna Ms. Rekha Kumari, now Sarpanch of Nichlagadh Panchayat, received the Adi Grama Utthan Gaurav Samman from the President of India for her impactful work in promoting girls' education in tribal areas, demonstrating long-term transformation through the Doosra Dashak programme.
- Tata Trusts renewed their support by approving funding for four blocks in South Rajasthan upto 2028, reaffirming their continued confidence in FED's model and outcomes.
- Phase III of collaboration with EMpower, backed by a new two-year grant aimed at deepening adolescent programming, strengthening girls' empowerment, and engaging boys in gender-equity initiatives.

PROGRAMME AREA, OUTREACH AND MAP

Doosra Dashak's impact is rooted in a deep and sustained engagement across Rajasthan, With a focus on youth-led social change, we implement multisectoral initiatives in the domains of education, health, gender justice, livelihoods, constitutional literacy, and community empowerment. These programmes are delivered through grassroots structures like Yuva Manch, Mahila Samooh, Ikhvelo Learning Centres.

Our interventions cover nine blocks in seven districts, reaching over 205 villages and 112 panchayats across the state. These areas include a diverse mix of tribal, rural, drought-prone, and peri-urban regions—where young people and women face barriers to education, rights, and opportunities

State: Rajasthan



Highlighted DD/FED Blocks

- **Districts:** Ajmer, Sirohi, Jaipur, Pali, Sikar, Jodhpur, Baran
- **Blocks:** Pisangan, Aburoad, Bassi, Bali, Desuri, Laxmangarh, Bap, Kishanganj, Pindwara
- **Direct Reach:** ~4,500 adolescents and youth

THEME-WISE DESCRIPTION (2024–25)

THEME 1 - COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

Over the past year, we mobilized adolescents and women across 9 blocks through vibrant community platforms such as Yuva Manch and Mahila Samooh. These collectives emerged as powerful agents of change, addressing issues such as child marriage, school dropout, menstrual health, gender equity, and local governance. They conducted regular meetings, awareness campaigns. Many of them led by adolescents themselves, focused on education, health, and constitutional values. For example, in Bassi, collective discussions helped break taboos around menstrual health and sanitation. Youth leaders engaged in capacity-building trainings, organized tree plantations, led peer learning within families, and contributed to village-level planning processes. Social



mapping and the Vigyan Mela (science fair) also played significant roles in social mobilization. Through social mapping, we collect household-level data such as education levels, family size, health status, and income sources, to gain an understanding of village realities; this data is then shared with community through meetings or door-to-door visits. In Pisagan block this year, A Vigyan Mela was organized where adolescents led awareness camps focused on family planning and reproductive health. Stalls were set up basic health check ups, and youth shared information on human body structure. The event also featured sessions on adolescent reproductive health planning led by trained youth, deepening community engagement and scientific understanding

Key Results:

- 124 Yuva Manch and 106 Mahila Samoohs are actively functional across 9 blocks
- 1,645 individuals were provided access to government schemes (pensions, Jan Aadhaar, housing, etc.)
- Over 600 youth and women trained in leadership, constitutional rights, and social development

THEME 2 - FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY (FLN)

FLN initiatives were implemented through 13 Ikhvelos (Continuing Learning Centre), four-month Residential camps and 10 Gurukuls across Pisangan and Laxmangarh blocks, focusing on improving reading, numeracy, and digital skills among children and adolescents. In Pisangan, daily two-hour sessions, along with cultural and digital activities, storytelling and educational games, boosted participation and retention in schools. In Laxmangarh, around 150 children received structured learning in Hindi, English, and Mathematics, with digitally tracked individual progress. 80 children participated in FLN sessions emphasizing storytelling, group reading, and regular assessments to monitor progress. In Bassi, out-of-school adolescents learned foundational skills using tablets and interactive learning aids. Across blocks, these efforts contributed to improvements in literacy, numeracy, and school readiness.

Key Results:

- 300+ children participated in foundational learning programs
- 152 adolescents engaged in storytelling, digital learning, and creative writing
- 382 out-of-school adolescents were re-enrolled in formal or distance education programs.



THEME 3 - LIVELIHOODS

Doosra Dashk equips adolescents with practical vocational skills by organizing hands-on training and connecting them with institutions offering relevant professional courses.

In 2024–25, the project undertook a diverse set of livelihood trainings across multiple blocks. In Bassi, 37 girls received fashion design training at the Institute of Leadership Development (ILD), Jaipur; 12 gained employment and 3 launched self-run businesses. In Pisangan, 9 girls excelled in fashion design, winning 6 gold and 7 silver medals, and secured jobs with an average income of ₹12,000–₹15,000 per month, another 20 girls received beauty parlour training. A workshop was organised to expose 59 migrant youth to various livelihood pathways. In Bap, youth received training in tailoring, mobile repair, AC wiring, plumbing, painting, and e-Mitra operations in partnership with Aajeevika Bureau, Udaipur. Training in stitching garments was organized in both Pisangan and Bap blocks.



Key Results:

- 213 youth trained across 9 blocks in vocational, technical, and digital skills.
- 41 youth were employed and 3 adolescents are self-employed.



THEME 4- RESIDENTIAL CAMPS

Doosra Dashak conducts four-month residential camps for adolescents aged 11–20 years to facilitate their entry to nearby government schools. The main objective of these camps is to provide girls from marginalized communities a second chance at education. Over the last decade, DD's residential camps have gradually shifted their focus to marginalized adolescent girls over 14 years old to equip them to take the Grade 10 and 12 exams from RSOS. Alongside academics, the program provides information and basic knowledge on SRHR, digital literacy, financial literacy, and other relevant topics to raise awareness among girls. These discussions help participants share knowledge in their communities, leading to positive changes in society and empowering girls and women.

In 2024–25, efforts across Pisangan, Bassi, Bap, and Pindwara focused on enabling dropout adolescents, especially girls, to obtain certification for grades 10 and 12 through the Rajasthan State Open School (RSOS).

A total of 46 dropout girls were identified and enrolled in non-residential open school camps in Pisangan, while residential camps were conducted in Pisangan, Baap, and Bassi to prepare girls for the 10th and 12th board exams. Orientation workshops were organized in 27 villages to support RSOS registration and exam readiness. In Pindwara, 10 adolescents received personalized academic and motivational support through Ikhvelo centers.

In Bap block, 30 girls and young women—including 22 dropouts who had studied in DD's camps—secured college admission. Former sahbhagis also took on the role of peer mobilizers, helping identify and enroll new learners and supporting their academic preparation. Across all locations, academic support was provided in subjects in Hindi, Social Science, Home Science and Political Science.

Key Results

- 3 Residential camp of four months were conducted in Pisangan, Bap, and Bassi for preparation of class 10th and 12th exam.
- This year, 342 adolescents were supported by DD through orientation workshops, awareness campaigns and four-month residential camps to appear in the RSOS Class 10 and 12 examinations; 249 passed, of which 75% were girls.
- 46 dropout girls enrolled in non-residential RSOS camps in Pisangan.
- 30 girls and young women—including 22 dropouts were admitted to college after attending residential camp in Bap block.
- Several Sahbhagis became peer mobilizers, supporting enrollment and exam preparation of first time learners.

GLIMPSES OF DD’S RESIDENTIAL CAMPS



THEME 5- LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION (LSE)

In 2024–25, Life Skills Education (LSE) trainings were conducted across multiple blocks, for



1,152 adolescents, including 954 girls. Both residential and non-residential formats were used to organise participatory sessions on selected themes based on need and demand. Topics covered included communication, gender equality, menstrual health, relationships, and substance abuse.

Orientation workshops and pre-training visits helped in participant selection and preparation. Participatory approaches like group activities, inspirational songs, role play, and experience sharing were used to enhance learning and engagement.



Key Results:

- 964 adolescents (648 girls) attended residential LSE workshops.
- 730 adolescents participated in non-residential learning sessions in Bap and Pisangan
- 39 youth trained as peer LSE educators across blocks



THEME 6- CAPACITY BUILDING

To strengthen field-level planning and data collection processes, FED organized a series of capacity-building initiatives across its operational blocks. A two-day micro-planning workshop was conducted on 24–25 January 2025 at the Rajasthan Adult Education Association in Jaipur. The workshop focused on revisiting and upgrading existing micro-planning tools by integrating new thematic areas—Spoken English, Constitutional Literacy, and Digital Literacy—to make the tools more comprehensive and relevant to the current field context.

A virtual training was conducted to build DD staff capacity in using digital tools for data collection, specifically the KoboToolbox platform. This initiative aimed to streamline social mapping activities using technology, making the process more efficient and cost-effective. Following this, FED initiated the transition to the Solstice portal—a simplified and scalable version of mWater—for long-term data management.

Under the Tata Trust project, social mapping was carried out using the Kobo Toolbox in 48 villages in four south Rajasthan blocks (Bali, Desuri, Pindwara, and Abu Road), covering approximately 14,118 households. This effort involved direct engagement with each household to gather in-depth information on the educational status of marginalized communities.

Key Results:

- Conceptual understanding of micro-planning among field teams was improved.
- Upgraded micro-planning tools were aligned with emerging thematic areas
- Enhanced staff capacity in using digital tools for field-level data collection
- Completed social mapping in 48 villages in Bali, Desuri, Pindwara, and Abu Road blocks, covering over 14,000 households
- Improved data quality and efficiency through technology-enabled processes
- Laid the foundation for transitioning to a centralized digital data system (Solstice) for future planning and monitoring

CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES BASED FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

Since September 2022, the Constitutional Values-based Fellowship program (CVP) has been implemented in 60 villages in 5 blocks, through 20 full-time fellows and 5 mentors. The program actively collaborated with 143 community-based platforms such as Yuva Manch, Mahila Samooh, and Lok Biradari Manch, involving 1,743 local members. Educational engagement was deepened through partnerships with 64 schools and 375 teachers, reaching over 3,580 students. Fellows addressed core social justice themes including communal harmony, gender equity, welfare and entitlements, caste discrimination, land and forest rights, and legal awareness. Capacity-building sessions and cross-learning workshops enhance knowledge of fellows resulting in better communication.

Workshops, creative campaigns, and community dialogues have led to tangible shifts in deep-seated customs—such as ‘Mrityu Bhoj’ and caste-based exclusion—promoting austerity, equity, and solidarity. Collaboration with community-based organisations like Garasia Samaj Sudhar Seva Samiti have amplified grassroots reform, creating community ownership.

Deshpurka Village (Pindwara)

In Deshpurka, a poor laborer's sudden death triggered plans for a traditional multi-day feast, burdening his financially weak family. Recognizing the pressure, youth members of the local Yuva Manch intervened. With guidance from mentors and local leaders, they sensitized the family and community about the economic strain of such rituals. As a result, the family opted for a simple one-day gathering, breaking from the social norms and setting a precedent for future events.

Republic Day Flag Hoisting at a Mosque in Badoli (Laxmangarh)

In village Badoli, youth and community leaders organized a Republic Day event at the local mosque. With prior permission from the mosque committee and inclusive planning by the Lok Biradari and Yuva Manch, the event saw participation from diverse castes and faiths. The Imam hoisted the national flag, children performed cultural activities and the community donated prizes.

Key Results:

As the first phase of the CVP program comes to a close, the following measurable results highlight the program's community-level impact:

- 153 community development activities have been completed (e.g., road and streetlight construction, water supply, sanitation, waste management)
- 3,799 individuals were provided access to government welfare schemes (pensions, housing, Palanhar, MGNREGA, Ayushman Bharat, etc.)

- 28 cases of child/early marriage were prevented through community-level intervention
- 32 cases of gender-based or domestic violence were addressed.
- Constitutional themes have been integrated into the work of 143 DD's youth platforms, encouraging values-based dialogue and action
- 64 schools reported increased civic engagement through student-teacher participation in constitutional awareness sessions
- Fellows emerged as local change agents, actively influencing community discussions on rights, justice, and equality



Initiatives in Bap Block



Model Anganwadis

Badi Dhani & Choodon ki Basti

Key Interventions:

- Created 5 Learning Corners (Nutrition, Art, Library, Local Culture, Dollhouse)
- 81 pregnant women tracked for maternal & child health
- Regular child-friendly play and learning sessions
- Model scaled to 16 other Anganwadis via training + WhatsApp peer learning



“We now see children more engaged and active in the centers.”

– Local Anganwadi Worker



Children’s Voices

Mimjhar Newspaper & Storybook

Innovation Highlights:

- **Mimjhar** – First children’s newspaper in Phalodi
- **Ek Bar Ki Baat** – Storybook of 28 selected stories illustrated by children
- Clarified myths on hygiene issues and health risks
- Promoted open discussion



25 Dec 2025

Venue: Bap Block

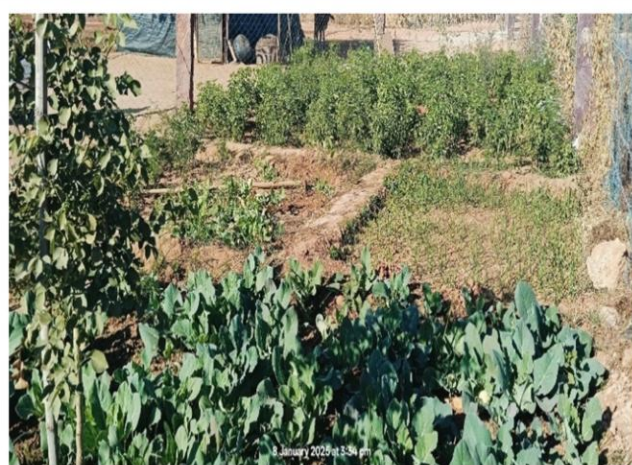
Special Activities

- Cloth bag distribution (by adolescent girls for community)



Aforestation + Kitchen Gardens

- 1,077 trees planted – fruit, medicinal, decorative, shade



OUR NETWORKING EFFORTS WITH OTHER LIKE-MINDED NGOS

Foundation for Education and Development (FED) has actively sought to build a strong network with organizations that share our mission. The key engagements with NGOs this year are as follows:

- **APU Partner Meet (March 4-6, 2025, Bangalore):** Two members from FED attended this meeting. The main objective was to develop a 5-day orientation plan for fellows working on the Constitutional Fellowship Project in the field. Shri Quazi Ashik of FED gave a presentation during a panel discussion. The meeting concluded with an emphasis on expanding the program and reaching a consensus on assessment methods for assessing the performance of fellows.
- **Garima Utsav (April 17-18, 2025):** Jan Sahas Sanstha, Bhopal, organized this event as part of the Dignity Fellowship Program. The event focused on sharing experiences and learnings about constitutional values. A member from FED participated in this event.
- **Centre for Budget and Policy Studies's Workshop on Gender Violence (July 10-12, 2024, Hyderabad):** Three members from FED attended this three-day workshop titled "Gender Violence in Public Spaces: Studying the Approaches and Theorising the Pathways of Change." The purpose of this workshop was to get feedback on a new "process indicators" framework designed to measure social change.
- **MVF Visit (July 13, 2024, Hyderabad):** Three members from FED visited the MVF Foundation (MVF). During the visit, the FED team visited a residential bridge school for girls and engaged in discussions with community representatives, teachers, and students. They learned about MVF's non-negotiable principles, such as the complete abolition of child labor and their focus on getting all children into school. The visit highlighted the importance of community-led advocacy and the challenges faced in rural areas.



- **Charkha Workshops (June 8-12 and September 25-29, 2024, Jaipur):** Three members from Doosra Dashak attended two separate four-day workshops on writing and photography skills, including photojournalism, organized by Charkha. After the workshops, participants stayed in touch with the Charkha team through a virtual platform. As a result of this training, four articles and one photo story written by Doosra Dashak staff who attended the workshops were published in various newspapers.

- **Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS) Policy Festival (November 22-23, 2024):**

Four members from FED participated in this festival, which focused on "What is 'public' in public policy?". The event included workshops, breakout sessions, films, and hands-on activities, and was designed to engage a diverse group of stakeholders including grassroots organizations, academics, researchers, civil society organizations, students, and the general public.



Presentation by Youth Leader and Women Leader in CBPS workshop

- **Azim Premji University (APU) Visit (November 21, 2024, Bangalore):** A FED team member visited Azim Premji University (APU). The purpose of the visit was to get acquainted with the work of APU and to strengthen our partnership. The visit was beneficial and should lead to a continued collaboration

Major Events in this year

10TH ANIL BORDIA MEMORIAL LECTURE – GIRLS' EDUCATION IN INDIA BY SHANTHA SINHA

The 10th Anil Bordia Memorial Lecture was delivered by Prof. Shantha Sinha, Padmashri, a well-known child rights expert on the history and challenges of girls' education in India. She highlighted several key points in her lecture, a few of which are given below:

- Before independence, only 20% of girls were enrolled in school, with their education primarily focused on domestic skills.
- Although progress has been made since the 1980s, many girls, especially from marginalized communities, still face barriers like societal norms, economic pressures, and gender discrimination. They also struggle with long travel distances, child labor, and harassment.
- Schools often lack the necessary resources to support girls' education.
- Laws such as the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act and the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act have limitations. For example, they do not address child labor in agriculture and do not fully support adolescents.
- Cash transfer schemes, while intended to delay marriage, can sometimes prevent girls from continuing their education.
- With education and community support, girls can overcome societal pressures like child marriage and forced labor.
- Education empowers girls to challenge authority and fight for gender equality, ultimately reshaping society for the better.



In essence, the lecture conveyed that education is the most powerful tool for girls to overcome adversity and lead the change for a more equitable society.



AWARDS AND PUBLICATIONS

President Of India Honors Doosra Dashak Worker

On October 4, 2024, at Mangadh Dham in Banswara, Rajasthan, a participant from the *Doosra Dashak* program was honored by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, for her outstanding contributions to education and community development.

Ms. Rekha Kumari, a former *Doosra Dashak* sahbhagi and trainer, and currently Sarpanch of Nichlagadh Panchayat (Abu Road), received the *Adi Grama Utthan Gaurav Samman* for her dedication to promoting girls' education in tribal areas on this occasion. She expressed her gratitude to the late Shri Anil Bordia, whose *Doosra Dashak* program inspired her work.



DOOSRA DASHAK HONORED AT INDIA'S UNSUNG HEROES AWARDS 2024

Doosra Dashak has been recognized at the India's Unsung Heroes Awards 2024 in Jaipur for its commendable work in supporting community efforts to make a positive impact and contribute to social change.

The award was presented by Sudha Chandran, an inspiring Indian classical dancer and acclaimed film and television actor.



EMPOWERING CHANGE: DOOSRA DASHAK IN GENDERTALK

An article on Doosra Dashak was featured in the sixth issue of *GenderTalk* by NCAER's National Data Innovation Centre, spotlighting how the initiative empowers marginalized adolescents through holistic education, life skills training, and community-based interventions. It provided insights on overcoming key challenges and driving meaningful change, emphasizing the role of Doosra Dashak's CBOs (Yuva Manch, Mahila Samooh) and residential camps as transformative platforms.

A case study on DD's Residential Camps for Girls is featured in "Girls' Education and Empowerment: Strategies and Experiences from South Asia," a comprehensive book published by Routledge (a renowned UK publisher of professional and academic books). Highlighting Doosra Dashak's innovative strategies in overcoming barriers to girls' education, the case study is crafted to inspire academics, policymakers, and professionals to adopt community-led education models for transforming the lives of the underprivileged.

Three colleagues from Doosra Dashak participated in a five-day workshop organized by Karwan Development Communication in New Delhi, focused on “Development, Gender, and Media” and storytelling techniques. As part of the workshop, they conducted field visits in Jaipur’s Ramganj area to understand local issues and wrote articles based on their experiences. With guidance from their mentors, their write-ups were refined and published in various newspapers. This initiative not only enhanced their communication skills but also gave visibility to DD’s grass root work through media. A group of their articles are highlighted here

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SCHOLARSHIPS IN DOOSRA DASHAK

ANIL BORDIA SCHOLARSHIP

The Anil Bordia Scholarship was instituted in memory of the founder of Doosra Dashak to support Sahbhagis aspiring to pursue secondary and higher education. Launched in 2014–15, the scholarship is awarded to those who have been associated with Doosra Dashak for more than four years and come from financially disadvantaged backgrounds. Preference is given to participants who have faced barriers to education due to caste physical disability, minority status and financial constraints.

VIJAY GINA MANILAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Vijay Gina Manilal Scholarship was initiated by Shri Vijay and Gina Manilal, based in the USA, and is facilitated through FED. It supports marginalized adolescents from Doosra Dashak who have the aspiration to continue their education but face financial hardship. These scholarships are awarded annually.

Impact of Scholarships (2023–24)

- 17 participants received the Anil Bordia Scholarship.
- 6 participants received the Vijay Gina Manilal Scholarship (4 new, 2 renewals).
- Awarded by these scholarships, Sahbhagis are now pursuing vocational and professional courses such as B.Ed., STC, GNM, and ECC. 3 participants are enrolled in B.Ed., 2 in STC, 1 in GNM, and 1 in ECC.
- Outreach to marginalized communities has deepened, with 11 ST, 6 SC, and 3 Muslim participants among the scholarship holders.



Story of Indra Devi: Breaking Barriers of Caste through Awareness and Solidarity

In Danau Kalan village, Bassi Block, Jaipur, two women—Indra Panchal (from the OBC caste "Lohar" community) and Indra Valmiki (from the Scheduled Caste community)—changed perceptions.

Indira Panchal began participating in the Doosra Dashak programme about four years ago. As an active member of the Mahila Samooh, she attended monthly meetings that discussed topics like constitutional values, caste discrimination, and gender equality. Through these sessions, she gained awareness about her rights and began questioning discriminatory practices.

She observed a woman named Indra Valmiki who came to that area for sweeping. Everyone behaved very strangely towards her. No one would sit with her; if she used a glass, no other caste person would use it, as she was from the Valmiki community. Indira Panchal felt bad for her. Earlier, Indra Panchal used to avoid interaction with Dalits—she wouldn't sit on their platforms, drink water from their vessels, or enter their homes. But after continued participation in the DD's programs, her perspective, and that of other community members, changed.

One day, Indira Panchal declared that Indra Valmiki should now be treated as her sister. Initially, Indra Valmiki was surprised and hesitant, but Indira Panchal explained that in our Constitution, there is no discrimination based on caste. She emphasized, "Caste was made by us, not by God; we are all equal." Gradually, Indra Valmiki started visiting Indira Panchal's house, helping her with daily chores, sharing food, and eventually building a strong bond of sisterhood. Over time, Indra Panchal stopped believing in untouchability, saying, "Caste was made by people, but we are all equal. We are one."

Conclusion

The strategic implementation of new technology, standardized

When Indra Valmiki's son got married, she invited Ms. Indra Panchal to stay with her for the wedding. They ate together, and she even gave her clothes as a wedding gift, something never seen before in the village. Later, when Ms. Indra Valmiki's daughter got married, Indira Panchal's entire family attended the marriage and joined the festivities.

needs effectively, leading to higher satisfaction and loyalty.

Now, both families support each other and encourage others in the village to reject caste-based practices. Their transformation has become a symbol of social change in the area. Their friendship, rooted in mutual respect and constitutional values, is a direct result of the awareness built through Doosra Dashak's strong advocacy against discrimination.

Sharda's Journey: From Forced Marriage to Empowerment



Sharda, a resident of Bhilon Ki Dhani Jagariya, joined the Doosra Dashak Programme, Bap block, in 2016 through a four-month residential camp. Prior to this, she had only studied up to the 5th grade. At the camp, she prepared for her 10th-grade exams through an open school and passed her exams from Rajasthan State Open School.

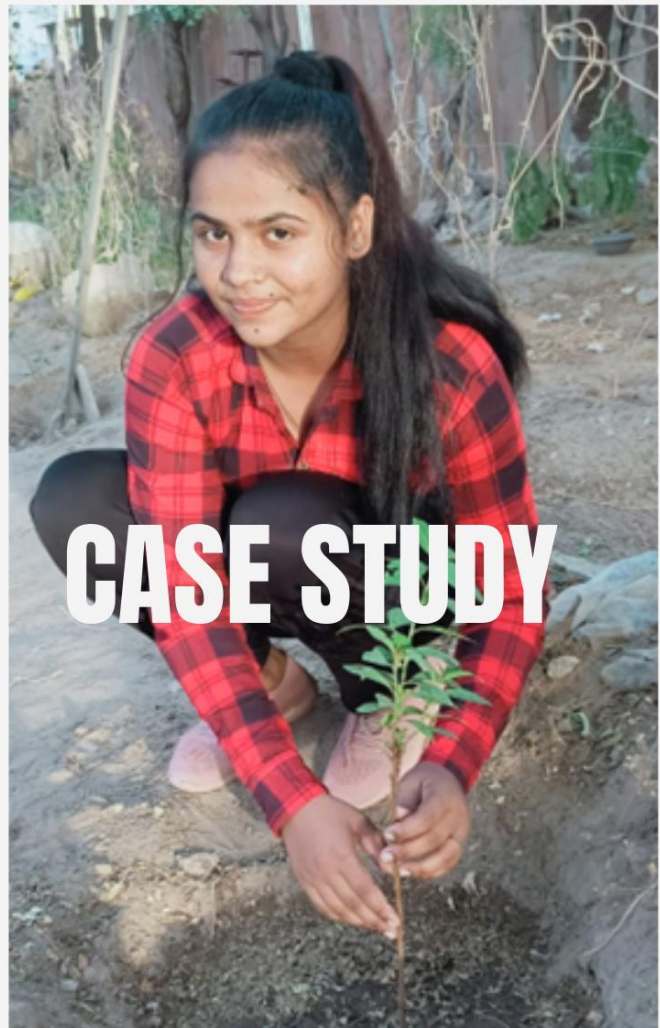
After passing her 10th grade, Sharda could not continue her education because she was forced into an early marriage. After her marriage, Sharda found that her husband was impotent and was undergoing treatment, but she remained silent. Sometime later, when Sharda did not conceive, her in-laws began to blame her. At this point, Sharda raised this issue, and she faced violence and threats. She then left home and sought shelter at her aunt's home.

Her physical and emotional state took a toll. Despite societal pressures, her family and the Doosra Dashak team stood with her. When the community tried to silence her and prevent her from raising her voice through the local panchayat, Sharda courageously spoke up, demanded a divorce. After hearing both sides, the panchayat took a decision in Sharda's favor.

Despite this victory, she went into a depression. The team from Doosra Dashak maintained continuous contact with her, counseled her, and re-enrolled her in a camp to restart her studies. After this, Sharda recovered and passed her 12th grade. She gained confidence through digital and life skills training. Sharda participated in exposure visits to Jaipur, Udaipur, Jaisalmer, and Bhopal.

Sharda is actively involved in community outreach—teaching computer literacy, working with young girls on menstrual health, and facilitating workshops on adolescent health and rights. She is now in her second year of a Bachelor of Arts program and preparing for BSTC exams.

With the consent of her family, Sharda has remarried a man of her choice and is very happy. Sharda's dream is to join the police force to fight for justice and protect women from exploitation.



Implementation of a Customer Relationship Management System
Development of Standardized Processes:

Conclusion

OUR LEADERS: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

	Shri Abhimanyu Singh, IAS (Retd.) Chairperson, Foundation for Education and Development (FED) Former Education Secretary (Govt. of Rajasthan) and Joint Secretary, MHRD, New Delhi. He brings over 40 years of experience in public administration and global education leadership. Held key positions at UNESCO in Paris, Nigeria, and East Asia (Beijing). Recipient of the Fulbright (USA) and Japan Foundation Research Fellowships.
	Shri. Rajendra Bhanawat, IAS (Retd.), <i>Former Secretary Rural Development, Government of Rajasthan, Director, Literacy and Continuing Education (CE). He received the NLM UNESCO award in the year 2000 on behalf of the State of Rajasthan for outstanding work in promoting literacy.</i>
	Ms. Vrinda Sarup, IAS (Retd.), <i>former Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy.</i> <i>Since the early 1990s, she has made significant contributions to major national education initiatives such as DPEP, SSA, and Mahila Samakhya. She has also worked closely with several international agencies including the World Bank, DFID UK, UNICEF, the European Union, and the World Food Programme.</i>
	Shri. Ashok Kumar Bhandari, IPS (Retd.) <i>Secretary, Indian High Commission (London), Special Secretary Jammu & Kashmir Affairs (New Delhi) and administrative member, Central Administrative Tribunal. He has been awarded Police Medal in 1958 and President's Police Medal in 1992. Presently he is a member of, Eye Bank Society of Rajasthan, Jaipur.</i>
	Prof. Shantha Sinha <i>is an internationally recognized activist against child labour and the founder of the Mamidipudi Venkatarangaiya Foundation (MV Foundation). She is a Professor in the Department of Political Science at Hyderabad Central University. She has served two consecutive terms as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights. For her outstanding contributions, she was awarded the Padma Shri by the Government of India in 1999 and the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership in 2003.</i>
	Shri. Ajay Singh Mehta, <i>is the Chairman of Vidya Bhawan Society, Udaipur, and a former Chief Executive of Seva Mandir. He has also served as the Executive Director of the National Foundation for India for a decade. Currently, he is a member of the Rajasthan State Planning Board and is widely recognized as one of the leading social activists working in the non-state development sector in India.</i>

Financial Overview for 2024–25

Overview of Major On-Going Projects						
(Rs. In Lakhs)						
Sr. No.	Funding Agency/Project	Project Period		Project Cost/Grant	Expenses up to 31.03.25	Balance
		From	To			
1	Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives Pvt. Ltd. (APPI), Bengaluru 2022-25	01.08.22	31.07.25	525.07	439.17	85.90
2	Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives Pvt. Ltd. (APPI), Bengaluru: Constitutional Values Fellowship Program	01.09.22	31.08.25	149.93	118.22	31.71
3	Tata Trusts: Tata Education and Development Trusts	01.11.24	31.10.28	1,045.42	68.41	977.01
4	EMpower: The Emerging Markets Foundation	01.04.24	31.03.27	63.29	20.13	43.16
5	Saurya Urja Company of Rajasthan Limited, Jaipur (CSR)	01.04.24	31.03.26	17.29	12.41	4.88
6	Sonalika Social Development Society, Hoshiarpur, Punjab (CSR)	18.09.23	17.09.24	9.62	9.62	0.00
7	Charities Aid Foundation America (CAF America)	01.05.24	30.04.26	8.14	6.12	2.02
8	Bloom & Give	01.04.24	31.03.26	12.87	5.88	6.99
9	Crowdfunding Projects	27.02.23	31.03.26	14.87	2.34	12.53
	Total			1,846.50	682.30	1,164.20

Financial Discipline (Statutory Compliance, Audit and Income Tax)

- The Income Tax Department has allocated PAN: AAATF0669E to the Foundation for Education and Development (FED).
- Tax Exemption Registrations of the FED under section 12A and 80G of the Income Tax Act stands approved.
- Registration of the FED under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 1976 stands approved.

- The FED has ensured timely filing of Income Tax Returns based on its Audited Annual Accounts by an independent firm of Chartered Accountants. It has filed Income Tax Returns for Assessment Year 2023-24.
- Audited accounts are approved by the Board of Trustees.
- Financial strength of an organization is evaluated mainly on the basis of three parameters i.e., Solvency, liquidity and sustainability of an organization by way of a healthy “Corpus” and “Annual Turnover”. The FED has a healthy Corpus of Rs. 11.93 crores and Annual Turnover of Rs.3.85 crores for the financial year ending on 31.03.2025.

These strong parameters and the quality of its work in reaching the most marginalized sections have enabled FED to access project funding from prestigious funding agencies such as Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives (APPI), Bajaj Auto Ltd., Tata Trusts, HT Parekh Foundation, Saurya Urja Company of Rajasthan Limited and Empower (USA).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUPPORT

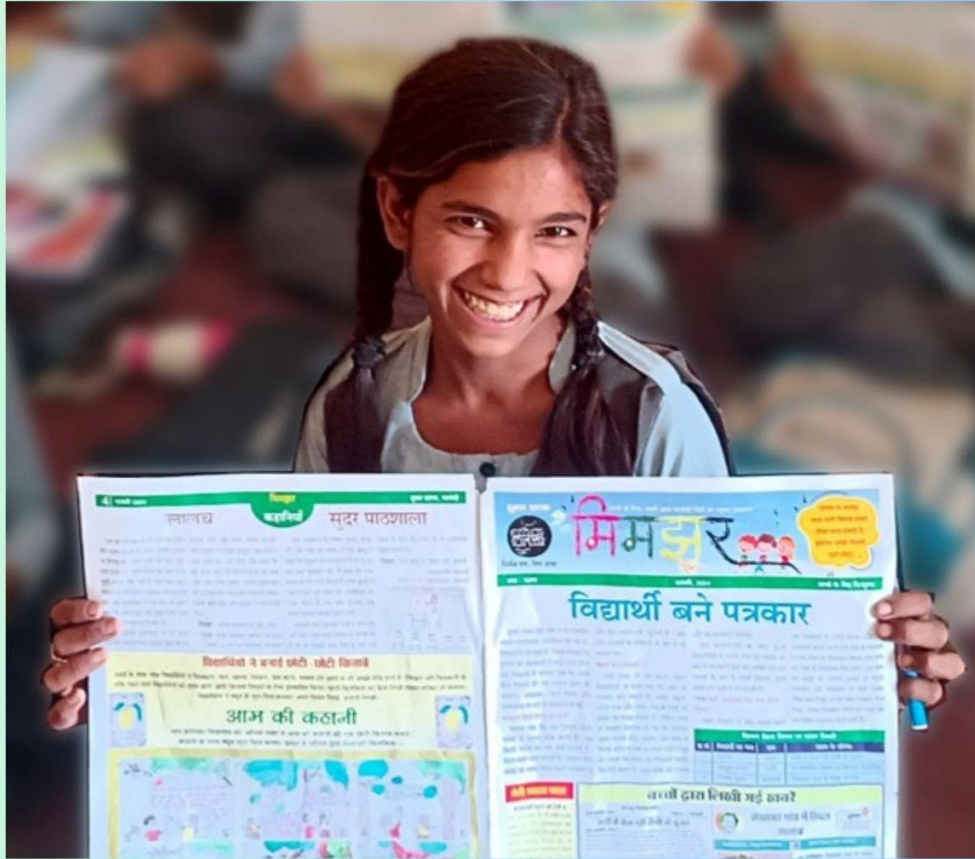
The Foundation for Education and Development (FED) extends its deepest gratitude to all our partners, supporters, donors, and philanthropists for their steadfast commitment and collaboration during the year 2024–25.

Your continued belief in our mission, your investment of time and resources, and your valuable insights have been instrumental in advancing our work with marginalized and tribal communities. It is your trust that empowers us to innovate, sustain, and scale our impact.

We are especially thankful to the institutions that have entrusted us with project grants for implementation of our programme in rural Rajasthan. Their confidence reaffirms the relevance and impact of our work. With a legacy of over two decades, FED remains committed to working for the upliftment and empowerment of marginalised populations through education.

TATA TRUSTS





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