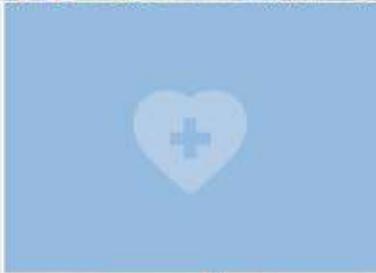


# ENHANCING EMPOWERING ENABLING




**Reliance**  
**Foundation**  
ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24



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## STEPPING INTO YEAR 15, EMPOWERING, ENHANCING, ENABLING, WITH RENEWED VIGOUR



We stand at an important juncture in an incredible journey as Reliance Foundation begins its 15th year of creating a 'Greener, Kinder, Happier' world. We are stepping into a phase where we are looking at ambitious new initiatives, with even deeper and stronger resolve, to uplift millions of Indians, building on our years of experience to create far greater impact.

We have always believed that what is good for the nation is good for Reliance. Likewise, for Reliance Foundation, the year 2023-24 was eventful in efforts to position India on a global pedestal. India House at the Paris 2024 Olympics was a historic first, showcasing India on the world's biggest sporting stage. It provided a home away from home for Indian athletes, celebrated the nation's sporting excellence, and became a vibrant hub of culture and engagement including social impact initiatives by Reliance Foundation. Through the Foundation, we continue to nurture India's sporting talent from grassroots to elite levels, strengthening the nation's Olympic vision.

This was also the year we launched Vantara – the world's largest Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre for abused, neglected, and endangered animals – in Jamnagar, Gujarat. Founded by Shri Anant M. Ambani and inspired by his compassion for all living beings, Vantara is the living embodiment of the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', The World Is One Family. Vantara is a safe haven where the wounded find care, the voiceless are heard, and nature flourishes in harmony with humanity.

It is a sanctuary of hope and healing where over one million animals and birds from all over the world – injured, orphaned, or rescued – have found a happy home and a new lease of life.

We also rolled out one of India's largest scholarships programmes for higher education, the Reliance Foundation Scholarships, which made a world of difference to the lives of young people across the country.

Across our work on Rural Transformation, Health, Education, Sports, Women Empowerment, Arts, Culture & Heritage, and Disaster Management, we have been significantly deepening our commitment and charting innovative paths.

Building on a collaborative movement to reinforce the Olympic spirit among children, young people, and volunteers across India, we are reinforcing the nation's voice to host the Olympics. Reliance Foundation continues with its long-standing commitment to the development of sports, from grassroots to the global arena, through its myriad programmes of unearthing and nurturing talent throughout the length and breadth of the nation.

The International Olympic Committee session held in India after 40 years, gave impetus to India's growing Olympic vision. We launched the Olympic Values Education Programme through an MoU with the International Olympic Committee to motivate children's participation in sports and inculcate Olympic values in their lives.

From Odisha to Kerala, we aimed to build resilient communities, for which the strength of the entire Reliance ecosystem comes together. Across rural India, we reached over 2.6 million people, helping them improve livelihood. We also partnered with the Gates Foundation to empower one million rural women entrepreneurs. We have enabled and empowered women across the country through multiple strategic approaches.

As Kabita Marandi in Mayurbhanj found financial literacy and empowerment with digital access and knowledge, the Gond women of Mahasamund led the way in sustainable agriculture, strengthened by technical expertise and purpose.

The world-class quaternary care provided by Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre, one of India's best hospitals, also steps into its 10th year in 2025. Commemorating it, we are launching a number of public health programmes for free high-quality care and treatment for vulnerable communities, aiming to transform lives of thousands of children and other individuals across remote pockets of the country.

Also, in healthcare, the Reliance Foundation Drishti programme for vision care marked its 20th anniversary this year, having completed over 21,600 corneal transplants till date. The Drishti Braille Hindi newspaper completed 10 years, reaching readers across 15 countries.

With efforts to create a quality, conducive, and viable ecosystem of learning for children and young people, Reliance Foundation enables a range of interventions, ranging from early childhood education to quality schools, scholarships to higher education and skilling, thereby ensuring equitable access to education for all.

The Dhirubhai Ambani International School continued its journey of global excellence. Our daughter, Isha, led the launch of the Nita Mukesh Ambani Junior School, a state-of-the-art campus with flexible learning spaces to foster love of learning, with focus on 21st-century skills, for early childhood education. It is a part of our vision for world-class education with an Indian heart and soul.

As part of our vision to provide world-class early childhood care and education for 10 million children from disadvantaged communities, we are elevating the experience of children in Anganwadis across various states in India. Through strategic partnerships with different states, we are creating enriching teaching and learning environments within Anganwadi Centres, enhancing capabilities of ICDS personnel, and fostering meaningful engagement with parents and the wider community.

Reliance Foundation is a founding member of a multi-partner consortium initiative, LiftEd,

aiming to positively impact foundational learning for 4 million children in India over five years. Reliance Foundation provided timely support for response and recovery through seven natural calamities across 13 states during the past year.

We are continuously working with central and state governments, and partners to strengthen resilience of vulnerable communities. Following June 2023's tragic train collision in Odisha's Balasore district, the Foundation acted as a first responder, joining national and state emergency teams, and announcing a 10-point relief programme to provide holistic rebuilding support to affected families.

Through the year, we continued our journey to support traditional art, culture, and heritage. The Swadesh initiative to take the best of India to the world, and bring the best of the world to India, set up an experiential space at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre, which has now become an integral part of the Jio World Centre in Mumbai, given its immense popularity among visitors.

A truly inspiring effort has been Vantara (Star of the Forest), an umbrella initiative focusing on rescue, treatment, care, and rehabilitation of injured, abused, and threatened animals, both in India and abroad. The first of its kind in India, envisioned by our son, Anant, Vantara will aim to reach out with innate kindness and compassion to all living creatures, creating a new benchmark for our 'We Care' philosophy.

Volunteering initiatives such as the 'Plant4Life' and the 'Kahani, Kala, Khushi' campaign amassed 19,000 volunteering hours, contributed by employees through different initiatives.

As we bring the 2024 Annual Report to you, we draw deep inspiration from our personally transformative experiences – the women who have risen overcome their hurdles, the sportspersons who have raised their bar with grit, the young people who are redefining their world and the world around them. It is from these people that we draw our determination, it is from these lives that we are motivated to draw thoughts and ideas to share – so we may find many such millions of changemakers.

As the nation moves collectively towards a 'Viksit Bharat', at Reliance Foundation, we intensify our deep resolve to listen to those voices that still need to be heard, to find those pathways through which we can support, to make positive change possible, because, 'We Care'.

**Nita M. Ambani**  
Founder and Chairperson,  
Reliance Foundation

*As of March 2024,  
the total number of people reached  
through Reliance Foundation's programmes*

**Reliance Foundation Annual Report 2023-24**

***Innovation, action and transformation in the spirit of We Care***

Innovation and bold action can transform lives – this belief guides Reliance Foundation's actions in enhancing opportunities, empowering communities, and enabling individuals to achieve their full potential.

The year 2023-24 provided numerous opportunities to build an inclusive and sustainable future through initiatives in Rural Transformation, Education, Health, Women Empowerment, Sports, Disaster Management, Volunteering, Animal Welfare and Arts, Culture, and Heritage. These programmes are contributing to national priorities and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

Strong partnerships built over the past many years continued to help the organisation deliver positive impacts. Reliance Foundation's Annual Report 2023-24 'Enhancing,

Enabling and Empowering' provides a close look at all the programmes, the partnerships driving them and the resulting impacts, reflecting Reliance's core philosophy of 'We Care' for all.

**76 Million**

*People reached cumulatively*

**595**

*Districts reached, including  
55,500+ villages and urban locations*





# RURAL TRANSFORMATION

The Rural Transformation programme of Reliance Foundation focusses on building climate-resilient and gender-just communities with sustainable livelihoods.

The programme establishes replicable and scalable models for rural development, combining hands-on engagement with digital outreach. Multilateral partnerships for technical support and implementation are crucial to Reliance Foundation's efforts, which reached 26 lakh+ people across India during FY 2023-24.

**26 Lakh+**  
Individuals Reached  
Across India

**37 Lakh+**  
Received  
Livelihood Advisories

# BUILDING CLIMATE-RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Climate-resilient communities are able to withstand and recover from climate shocks by adapting to changing conditions. Reliance Foundation continued to enable communities along climate-resilient pathways during FY 2023-24.

By introducing new knowledge, trainings and facilitating resource availability for converting knowledge into practice, the Rural Transformation programme has helped create 1,229 climate-resilient villages across 24 districts in eight states of India.

To sustain these efforts, a cadre of local youth is being nurtured and trained as Climate Champions. During the year, 900 people in communities were identified and equipped with knowledge about natural resource management and livelihoods. These champions have been sensitising their communities to enhance resilience. Estimating climate resilience of a community is key to resilience building efforts. Reliance Foundation has rolled out a Climate Resilience Index (CRI), a dynamic tool that measures the level of climate resilience of an area, including the community and their interactions within the ecosystem.

## This Climate Resilience Index is derived from the following:

1. Climate Change Awareness, Community Preparedness, Social Cohesion
2. Production and Agricultural Practices
3. Water Governance and Resource Management
4. Producer Networks, Marketing and Risk Management
5. Women's Empowerment
6. Diversified Livelihoods and Food Availability
7. Bio-physical – Forests and Plantations

## Promotion of Climate Smart Agricultural Practices

Small and marginal farmers are most vulnerable to climate change. Therefore, making agricultural systems climate-resilient is a key focus area for Reliance Foundation.

During FY 2023-24, Reliance Foundation enabled farmers to adopt climate-smart agricultural practices, including soil management, climate-resilient crop varieties, improving their water-use efficiency, integrated pest and nutrient management and mechanisation of farm operations.

About 39,000 hectares of land were brought under these improved farming practices, bettering the livelihoods of over 53,000 farmers. Reliance Foundation also provided information and awareness advisories to over 37 lakh farmers and fisherpersons across India to enhance knowledge and build improved practices.

One of the initiatives to enhance sharing of knowledge among rural communities is Digital Farm Schools (DFS) – groups of farmers and fisherpersons brought together in-person and through digital platforms.

Reliance Foundation's DFS have significantly accelerated the uptake of locally relevant

climate-resilient practices and technologies, such as tolerant and resistant varieties, less water-intensive sowing techniques and crops, mechanical and biological pest control, optimising crop calendars, alternate cropping, scheduling irrigation, etc., among nearly 33,000 farmers in diverse agro-climatic zones.

The shared knowledge among members of the DFS has been aggregated into localised packages of practices for 10 crops and is currently made available to over 34 lakh farmers.

**39,000+ HECTARES**  
*Farmland brought under improved farming practices*



## Community-based Water Resource Management

To facilitate improved water resource management, various community-based approaches are adopted. During the past year,

- Participatory assessment of natural resources and creation of management plans in over 1,500 villages where the Rural Transformation programme is working.
- Based on these analyses, water harvesting capacity was enhanced by nearly 285 lakh cubic metres through the renovation of water harvesting structures and groundwater recharge across about 870 villages.
- Over 100 low-cost, community driven water harvesting structures called Bori Bandhan were created, resulting in assuring the irrigation in more than 650 acres of farmland in Shahdol and Kotma districts of Madhya Pradesh in the areas of the CBM project.

Reliance Foundation worked on ensuring last-mile availability of water within homes in nearly 1,500 villages across different locations. Over 17,000 households were supported in grey water management for reuse or recharge.



## Food Basket Diversification

Reliance Foundation works to diversify diets at the household level with nutrition awareness, setting up of nutrition gardens and providing training. Nearly 50,000 households were impacted through nutrition awareness and training programmes.

Additionally, promotion of biofortified varieties of wheat, pulses and millets have significantly contributed to improving the availability and utilisation of diverse nutritious crop varieties.

## IMPROVING INCOMES THROUGH THE STRENGTHENING OF AGRI-VALUE CHAINS

During FY 2023-24, Reliance Foundation worked in 24 crop value chains to help farmers achieve higher productivity, improve their farming practices and realise higher incomes. Improved seed varieties of soybean, mustard, wheat, chickpeas, turmeric and other crops were introduced to over 18,000 farmers.

**24**  
Crop value chains worked in

## Strengthening Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)

During the year, Reliance Foundation worked with over 150 farmer collectives, building capabilities, linking them to markets and helping them in improving their governance.

These farmer collectives transacted with more than 97,000 farmers for over ₹143 crore, experiencing, on average, 13.7% better market returns compared to the local market.



## NURTURING LOCAL CEOs FOR FPOs

Reliance Foundation established FPO-LEAD (FPO Leadership Excellence and Development), a unique initiative that seeks to nurture a pool of CEO-ready talent for FPOs. FPO-LEAD is designed as an experiential blended management training, combining internships, continuous mentoring and industry interactions.

Small and marginal farmers, constituting 86% of all farmers, face significant market challenges as they cannot operate at scale

individually. Farmer collectives such as FPOs have the advantages of aggregation. However, the lack of skilled human resources, particularly CEOs, is inhibiting the success of FPOs.

The FPO-LEAD is imparting real-time business skills to village youth and preparing them for CEO roles in FPOs. Reliance Foundation aims to nurture at least 3,500 potential CEOs in collaboration with national institutions such as NABARD and NRLM.



## Promoting Millets for Climate Resilience, Income and Nutrition

Millets are climate-resilient and nutritious cereals. However, the millet cultivation area in India has reduced to less than a third over the last few decades. To revive and encourage the production and consumption of millets, Reliance Foundation has been working with millet farmers to enhance crop productivity, value addition, enable access to markets and consumption.

One such initiative is the millet value chain intervention in Mandla, Madhya Pradesh, where Reliance Foundation convened stakeholders like NABARD, GIZ, ICRISAT and Columbia University to help develop economic incentives to encourage millet farming and consumption. Reliance Foundation is also partnering with HarvestPlus to encourage biofortified pearl millet cultivation in Rajasthan and help women's groups market ready-to-eat millet-based foods in Patan, Gujarat.



## Enhancing Livelihoods with Tech and Improved Farming Practices

Enabling communities' access to technology, Reliance Foundation supported smallholder farmers in accessing and using agri-tech like drones, boom sprayers, satellite guidance, seed drills for sowing, transplanters, digital transactions in farmer collectives and AI-based grain grading. Agricultural technological interventions were implemented on more than 39,000 hectares of agricultural land during the year.

During FY 2023-24, the Rural Transformation programme, disseminated livelihood related advisories to over 34 lakh farmers, for improved incomes. By adopting digital means, Reliance Foundation provided scientific, data-driven knowledge on agriculture, agri-allied and fisheries.

### WINGS OF INNOVATION: THE INSPIRING JOURNEY OF DRONE DIDI SANJU NAGPURE

Sanju Nagpure, a dedicated farmer and community leader from Kohkadibar village in Balaghat district, Madhya Pradesh, has transcended her traditional role to emerge as a progressive farmer advocating the use of technology in agriculture.

Sanju's journey towards empowerment began in 2016 when she joined a Self-Help Group (SHG), subsequently evolving into a Krishi Sakhi, providing invaluable assistance to farmers in adopting natural farming practices.

In 2023, Sanju became associated with Reliance Foundation's Digital Farm School (DFS) initiative in Balaghat district.

The Balaghat DFS, an all-women digital farm school, equips enrolled farmers with decision-making information, facilitates learning, and connects them with agricultural experts throughout the crop season.

Sanju's introduction to drone technology was during a DFS demonstration in 2023, where she witnessed drone fertilizer spraying operations. As a child she did not know how to fly a kite. So she was very amused to see how a drone is flown.

In January 2024, Sanju completed the DGCA-approved Remote Pilot Training Course conducted by Soaring Aerotech Private Limited in Indore. Subsequently, she received specialized training as a certified drone pilot under the Sashakt Nari-Viksit Bharat programme, earning recognition from the Department of Fertilizer, Government of India, in Bhopal in March 2024 for being the only Drone Didi from her district to participate in this event.

She works with 1300 women in her block and motivates them to adopt natural farming practices. Sanju Nagpure's remarkable journey exemplifies the transformative power of knowledge and technology in agriculture.



# DIVERSIFICATION OF INCOME SOURCES AND WOMEN'S ENTERPRISES

The Rural Transformation programme aims to bring income stability to households and diversify their income sources. Women play a key role in these efforts. Taking a livelihood cluster development approach to enable farm diversification into agri-allied and non-farm-based livelihoods, Reliance Foundation worked with over 7000+ women SHGs and collectives during the year.

Entrepreneurship for women is promoted by conducting microenterprise development trainings to support business planning and financial linkages. Women across 81 clusters in various sub-sectors, including dairy, goatery, handicrafts, fisheries, lac production, non-timber forest products (NTFP) and horticulture, realised increased incomes through Reliance Foundation's interventions.

The programme also helped strengthen access to technology and digital literacy among women.

It equipped over 84,000 women with digital literacy skills and supported them in accessing advisories through various platforms, including mobile phones. Further, digital advisories focusing on kitchen gardens, mushroom cultivation, backyard poultry and livestock keeping reached more than 20,600 women in FY 2023-24.

**7,000+**  
Women SHGs benefitted through livelihood development initiatives

## IMPACT

### VEGETABLE PRODUCTION CLUSTER ENHANCING INCOME

The Rural Transformation programme is enabling farmers, especially women, to take up vegetable cultivation through 21 vegetable production clusters across multiple states. The initiative involves intensifying vegetable production dissemination of improved package of practices, enabling adoption of technology, collectivisation, primary-level processing and strengthening input-output market linkages for better returns. Through this cluster development approach, over 16,000+ vegetable growers were supported in increasing their incomes.

*An assessment of this initiative showed that it resulted in a 21.4% increase in net annual income from an acre of land.*



# STRENGTHENING LIVESTOCK REARING AND FISHERIES

Reliance Foundation also supported 3.02 lakh marine fisherpersons by providing advisories sourced from its knowledge partner, INCOIS. This resulted in sustainable, safe and economical fishing practices. End-to-end support was provided to women-led fishing enterprises, like those operating in Odisha's community and individual ponds. These interventions involved improving feed and fodder management, breed improvement, strengthening linkages with local markets and fish health management, which resulted in increased productivity, higher incomes and reduced mortality, especially in goats.

To augment dairy-based livelihoods sustainably and strengthen the dairy sub-sector, Reliance Foundation is helping farmers access technologies like artificial insemination with sex-sorted semen for livestock. Through this technology, farmers can increase the number of superior heifers, accelerate the genetic improvement of their herds for better milk production and earn higher incomes without increasing the herd size undesirably.

Sex-sorted insemination is being made available to farmers in collaboration with BAIF Livelihoods, NDDDB-NDS promoted

Mahi Dairy Company and the departments of Animal Husbandry in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Telangana. Through this initiative, over 450 animals were inseminated, providing opportunity for enhancing livelihoods through breed improvement.

Reliance Foundation disseminates information about Potential Fishing Zones (PFZ), sourced from INCOIS, to promote sustainable, safe and economical fishing. PFZs are regions in the sea where fish are likely to be found, along with other information that helps ensure safe and sustainable fishing and hygienic handling of fish. Reliance Foundation also conducts awareness and stakeholder discussion programmes to help fisherpersons avail of these information services. Reliance Foundation, along with INCOIS, hosted a national stakeholder programme in August for Maharashtra's fishing community.

**3 Lakh +**  
*Marine fisherpersons supported through advisories*



# SKILLING FOR BRIGHT FUTURES

The Skilling and Employment initiatives of Reliance Foundation identify, mobilise and empower youth from marginalised sections ensuring they actively participate in India's growth trajectory. It empowers youth with necessary skills, connecting them to career opportunities in sectors such as service and retail.

Over 14,000 youth were trained during FY 2023-24, with over 90% linked to various jobs in the retail sector.

The programme contributes to the UN SDGs for Quality Education, Decent Work and Economic Growth.

In February 2024, Reliance Foundation and the National Skill Development Corporation

(NSDC) announced a strategic partnership to create courses with future-ready skills for 500,000 Indian youth. This partnership entails the development of a curriculum focused on equipping youth in fields including EdTech, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI), environmental sustainability, policy analysis and much more.

**14,300**

*Total youth trained*

**13,300+**

*Total youth placed*



## Suyash's Journey: Skilled to Succeed

Suyash Sanjay Mohite, a 26-year-old from Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra, transformed his life through Reliance Foundation Skilling and Employment programme. Motivated by his ambition to excel and uplift his family's living standards, Suyash learned about this programme from a friend. He recognised the value of enhancing his knowledge and skills to advance his career in the sales domain. Hailing from a family of modest means,

Suyash faced numerous obstacles. However, his determination and the opportunities facilitated by Reliance Foundation became a turning point in his life.

Today, Suyash is proud to be a fashion consultant for a renowned brand. His monthly earnings have helped fulfil his dream of contributing to his family's income while also providing a sense of accomplishment.



## FACILITATING SOCIAL SECURITY: MISSION SAHYOG'S SUCCESS

Reliance Foundation is playing a key role in facilitating linkages to financial services and social security schemes through awareness camps and documentation support.

Over 65,000 individuals (60% women) were supported in accessing financial

services and social security schemes through the Rural Transformation programme. Overall, bank linkages worth ₹113 crore were facilitated during the year. Access to bank accounts, loans, insurance, government schemes and other financial products and services helped rural communities make their livelihoods resilient.



Mission Sahyog, an award-winning initiative led by the Model Economic Township Limited, Jhajjar and Reliance Foundation to bridge access gaps to social security, has made significant progress in 11 villages of Haryana's Jhajjar district. The initiative aims to empower marginalised individuals by increasing their access to government welfare policies.

Employing a three-pronged strategy— awareness, support and capacity building – nearly 1,900 families have been connected to various government schemes. These include Aayushman Card, E-Shram Card, Atal Pension Yojana, Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, and more. Through Mission Sahyog, benefits of over ₹4.91 crore were realised by its community members.





# HEALTH



Reliance Foundation's commitment to **Health for All** has been instrumental in addressing the healthcare gaps across India. Through a multi-faceted approach, Reliance Foundation has implemented programmes that focus on improving access to quality and affordable healthcare, particularly in rural and underserved areas. During FY 2023-24, these initiatives reached over 2 lakh individuals, providing essential medical services, preventive care, and health education.

**2 Lakh**

Individuals Reached  
During FY 2023-24

**7 Lakh +**

Consultations provided through  
Health Outreach Initiatives in  
FY 2023-24

## Key areas of focus

### Establishing healthcare facilities

Reliance Foundation has built and equipped hospitals, clinics, and mobile health units in regions with limited healthcare infrastructure. These facilities offer a wide range of services, including general medicine, specialized care, and diagnostic testing.

### Providing essential medicines and supplies

Reliance Foundation ensures that these facilities are well-stocked with essential medicines and medical equipment, making healthcare accessible and affordable for patients.

### Conducting health camps and outreach programmes

Regular health camps and outreach initiatives are organised to reach remote communities

and provide preventive healthcare services, such as vaccinations, check-ups, and screening for common diseases.

### Training healthcare professionals

Supporting training and development of healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, and community health workers, to enhance the quality of care provided in its facilities and across the region.

### Promoting health awareness and education

Reliance Foundation conducts health education programmes to raise awareness about preventive healthcare, healthy lifestyles, and the importance of seeking timely medical attention.

Through these comprehensive efforts, Reliance Foundation has made a significant impact on the health and well-being of countless individuals across India. By addressing healthcare disparities and providing essential services, Reliance Foundation has contributed to improving the overall health outcomes of the population.

Reliance Foundation's health outreach initiatives have reached over 92 lakh people till date, providing primary to tertiary care to the most vulnerable sections of society. These efforts complement the quaternary care offered by Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre. Community awareness programmes are integral to ensuring accessibility and effectiveness.



# TAKING ESSENTIAL HEALTHCARE TO THE LAST MILE

Reliance Foundation is committed to bridging the healthcare gap in rural areas through a comprehensive range of initiatives. These include Mobile Medical Units (MMUs), Static Medical Units (SMUs), Community Health Centres (CHCs), community health camps, telemedicine consultations, door-to-door screenings, and counselling initiatives, which are making a significant impact on the health and well-being of underserved communities.

In FY 2023-24, Reliance Foundation provided approximately 7.1 lakh consultations, addressing critical public health issues such

as anaemia, malnutrition, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, and cancer. These initiatives have empowered rural communities to access essential healthcare services and improve health outcomes.

Reliance Foundation's MMUs play a pivotal role in delivering healthcare services to the last mile.

These mobile units bring healthcare services directly to the doorstep of rural communities, ensuring that people in remote areas have access to quality medical care.



In FY 2023-24, these mobile clinics served numerous villages in Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, and Maharashtra, providing primary and preventive healthcare consultations, specialized medical camps, and emergency medical services.

## Maharashtra

Of the 2.4 lakh consultations conducted through the Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital's Health Outreach program in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Palghar, and Bhiwandi, over 61,000 consultations were facilitated by the MMUs.

In Nagothane, an MMU served 11 villages, and an emergency ambulance service was launched to improve healthcare accessibility.

Reliance Foundation's MMUs have demonstrated their effectiveness in reaching underserved rural communities and providing critical healthcare services. By offering a range of medical services, including primary care, specialised consultations, and emergency assistance, these mobile clinics are making a significant impact on the health and well-being of rural populations across India.

## Madhya Pradesh

In Shahdol and Kotma, MMUs reached over 150 villages, facilitating over 1 lakh consultations. Targeted health camps focused on eye care, orthopaedics, gastrointestinal issues, and dental problems benefited more than 1,000 individuals.

## Haryana

In Jhajjar, MMUs served 20 villages, providing over 32,000 consultations. Specialized health camps were conducted, and the Reliance Aarogya Clinic offered primary healthcare services, particularly to construction workers.

## Gujarat

In Vadodara, MMUs served 13 villages, providing over 13,500 consultations and free medication. Specialized medical camps, including a mega dental camp in Aangadh and a multi-specialty camp in Undera, were also organized. Additionally, first-aid and CPR training initiatives were conducted to enhance community awareness.

In Jamnagar, villagers from 24 surrounding villages benefited from over 2 lakh consultations and a free ambulance service.

## Andhra Pradesh

In Gadimoga, Reliance Foundation supported patients visiting a PHC facility built under the KGD6 project. A mega medical camp at the facility treated 360 patients.



**2.4 Lakh+**

Consultations through Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital's Health Outreach in Mumbai

**4.6 Lakh+**

Consultations across other locations



# ADVANCING HEALTHCARE WITH COMPASSION AND CARE

Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre is a 360-bed multi-specialty quaternary care hospital in Mumbai that provides care in Cardiac Sciences, Gastroenterology & Hepatobiliary Sciences, Liver Transplant, Nephro-Urology, Neuro Sciences, Oncology, Orthopaedics & Spine, and Woman & Child Health. It is equipped with state-of-the-art medical technology and has the finest professionals in medicine providing world-class care. From its physical design to its daily functioning, Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital is providing 'Patient and Family Centric' clinical care for everyone.

Recognised as one of India's top healthcare facilities, the Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre continued to see a rise in the number of admissions, OPD consultations and surgeries during 2023-24. Despite an increase in the number of high-end surgeries, the Hospital is committed to ensuring recovery in minimal time; it recorded 1,598 short-stay surgeries (less than 24 hours stay) during the year.

The Hospital reached 1.34 lakh individuals through its Health Outreach programme, which aims to strengthen primary healthcare in under-served communities in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. An assessment of the economic impact of the programme showed it has resulted in savings of about ₹2 crore in out-of-

pocket expenditure on non-communicable disease management and secondary consultations during the year, and an estimated ₹228.5 crore in future saved costs due to timely screening and diagnoses.

Reliance Foundation Sports Science and Medicine team supports more than 300 elite athletes in its various programmes across the country. Besides this, the Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital's Sports Medicine Department has catered to more than 300 recreational, masters and junior athletes across the year in various sports.



IMPACT

## HOLISTIC HEALTH SUPPORT FOR EXCELLENCE IN TABLE TENNIS

The Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital Sports Medicine team has been holistically supporting India's ace table tennis player Manika Batra. Manika has qualified for the Paris Olympics.

Having custom designed a programme to help her become stronger, fitter and make timely recovery from injuries, the team tests Manika's fitness regularly. Her nutrition plan is minutely

detailed by the Hospital's sports nutritionists every week depending on her competitions, travel, rest and recovery. The Hospital's sports physicians provided health consultations as required, and a sports psychologist helped in enhancing her mental resilience and self-belief. Manika is grateful for the support of the team, which has helped her seal her hard work.



IMPACT

## RISING STRONG: A JOURNEY OF HOPE AND TRIUMPH OVER CANCER

Radha resides in Dharavi with her husband Prakash Shinde. Both of them worked earlier as a caretaker and cook, respectively, but life took an unfortunate turn when they lost their jobs.

Radha began experiencing episodes of dry cough, breathlessness and loss of appetite for which she approached the Sir H. N Reliance Foundation Hospital's Health Outreach team. Subsequently, she was referred to the hospital for a free OPD consultation.

Following preliminary investigations, she was admitted to the hospital for drainage of a mediastinal (inside of chest between the lungs) cyst.

A follow-up CT scan of the abdomen revealed a lump in the left kidney. This finding did not frighten Radha; she chose to view cancer as a fierce opponent that she would overcome. Radha underwent a Lap Left Radical Nephrectomy surgery at the hospital. Her positive outlook and unwavering faith in her body's ability to heal were vital in her battle against cancer.

# NUTRITIONAL CARE FOR CHILDREN

One of the key focus areas for Reliance Foundation's healthcare initiatives is addressing malnutrition among children. A targeted multilocation effort identifies malnutrition and works to reverse it to ensure healthy growth and progression into adulthood.

More than 8,800 children were screened for malnutrition in Mumbai. Of these, 266 children were newly diagnosed with malnutrition, with 235 found to have Moderate Acute Malnutrition and 31 children Severe Acute Malnutrition. The families are being supported in improving the nutritional status of the children.

Under Reliance's CSR initiatives in Shahdol, as part of a Malnutrition Control Programme, health check-ups and supplements were provided to over 321 children with severe or moderate acute malnutrition. Eighteen children who were being supported managed to successfully reverse malnutrition. Three anganwadis were supported to become malnutrition-free.

In Nagothane, 'Zero Mission', a comprehensive programme aimed at eradicating malnourishment in children, was implemented. About 128 malnourished children were enrolled and 28 children who were screened were being treated.

Reliance Dhirubhai Ambani Early Intervention Centre at Tallarevu in Gadimoga cared for 65 children with disabilities. Physiotherapy services are also provided at the Centre, and its staff conducted a door-to-door survey to identify more children in need of support. A series of counselling sessions were conducted for family members of newly identified children needing support.

**15,000+**

*Children screened for malnutrition under Health Outreach Programme*



# ENSURING THE WELLBEING OF GIRLS AND WOMEN

Reliance Foundation focused on some key interventions to support the health and wellbeing of girls and women. Of over 24,000 women and girls, aged 15 to 49 years, who were screened for anaemia during the year by Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital's Health Outreach Programme, about 18,000 were found to be anaemic. They are receiving counselling, free treatment and regular follow ups.

In Jamnagar, Gujarat, to create awareness about cervical cancer among women of Sikka village, an awareness session was conducted in association with the Department of Community Medicine, Shree M. P. Shah Medical College. An antenatal camp was also held in January.

Towards promoting safe deliveries and reducing maternal and infant mortality, 253 women in Shahdol were provided PNC kits to promote institutional deliveries. To prevent and treat anaemia in girls, more than 800 girls studying in two residential schools were frequently checked. Students found to be anaemic were provided nutritional supplements. About 127 girls recovered from anaemia.

In Vadodara, a year-long initiative enhanced menstrual hygiene awareness for over 1,000 adolescent girls from 15 primary schools and women in villages around Vadodara Manufacturing Division. An awareness session on care during and after pregnancy was held for 185 new mothers along with the distribution of grain kits.

In Gadimoga, an awareness programme covered prenatal and postnatal care, early childhood education and shared preventive health measures for 110 women along with nutrition kits. Another programme that focused on physical and emotional changes during adolescence involved 165 girls aged 12-18 years from Gadimoga and Bhyravapalem.

At a women's health camp in Nagothane in February, Smt. Aditi Tatkare, Minister for Women and Child Welfare, Maharashtra, joined in the awareness programme where check-ups, free medical treatment and menopause-related informational support were provided.

**36,200+**  
Women and girls  
screened for anaemia

**24,400+**  
Anaemic women and  
girls receiving treatment



## IMPROVING ACCESS TO CANCER CARE

To facilitate early cancer detection, Reliance Foundation has been screening individuals in vulnerable communities to reduce the burden of oral, breast and cervical cancers. Screening camps were held during the year and people suspected of having cancer were referred for further investigations and follow-ups. Through the Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital's Health Outreach Programme, more than 92,000 individuals were assessed during the year in and around Mumbai. About 8,500 people were identified as high risk and guided further.

Reliance Foundation supported Dr. Abaji Thatte Sewa Aur Anusandhan Sanstha in Nagpur, Maharashtra, to establish the state-of-the-art National Cancer Institute (NCI). The Institute provides affordable high-quality cancer treatment to people from socially or economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Opened in August 2017, NCI is committed to elevating care standards and expediting patient recovery through technology.

Reliance Foundation also supported the establishment of a comprehensive cancer care unit at Rotary LG Haria Hospital in Vapi, Gujarat. More than 300 individuals are expected to benefit directly from the Centre's facilities.

**8,000+**

*Screened for cancer through Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital Health Outreach Programme in and around Mumbai*

**146**

*Suspected of having cancer after screening by Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital Health Outreach Programme*



## RELIANCE FOUNDATION DRISHTI: A VISION FOR CHANGE

Reliance Foundation Drishti is committed to caring for the vision of people most in need. This year, Drishti marked its 20th anniversary. Over 6,000 children and grandchildren of Reliance employees participated in the annual art and essay competition, organised in more than 35 locations. In 2023, Reliance Foundation Drishti's Braille newspaper in Hindi completed a decade of transforming lives with 4,200 copies distributed across 15 countries.

Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital, through its Health Outreach programme, recently started ophthalmology screenings in Nagothane. Over 1,500 children and staff at Reliance Foundation Primary School were screened, with plans to extend screenings to other nearby schools.

Reliance Foundation supported R.N.C. Free Eye Hospital in procuring auto-perimetry and topography machines, aiding in the treatment of glaucoma and providing crucial data for corneal surgeries. These machines have significantly improved eye care services, benefiting over 800 people from marginalised communities in south Gujarat.

In Jhajjar, eyeglasses were provided to over 750 people to improve their vision. Forty-two individuals were supported in undergoing cataract surgery at the district hospital. In

Shadhol, more than 1,200 people were screened for eye related problems. Eye glasses were provided to over 900 people and nearly 150 individuals were referred to the district hospital for cataract surgeries.



**Reliance Foundation Drishti celebrated 20 years of providing vision care. Drishti's Braille newspaper in Hindi completed 10 years; 4,200 copies distributed.**

## ADDRESSING HUNGER AND NUTRITIONAL CHALLENGES IN COMMUNITIES

Addressing the critical requirement for food and nutrition security, Reliance Foundation supported three initiatives for nutrition in Mumbai implemented by Akshaya Chaitanya — Swasthya Ahara, Paushtik Ahara and Bal Shiksha Ahara. Swasthya Ahara provides nutritious meals to families of inpatients in public hospitals, alleviating financial strain and freeing up resources for essential medical expenses.

Paushtik Ahara and Bal Shiksha Ahara aim to eradicate classroom hunger to foster an environment where every child can thrive.

Over 6,900 students, 55,000 patients and more than 93,000 hospital staff and relatives benefited from these efforts.

In a different initiative, the Sir H. N. Reliance Foundation Hospital's Health Outreach programme fosters nutrition seeking behaviour in the communities it serves through initiatives such as the Indian Poshan League (IPL). It encourages women to cook nutritious and low-cost millet-based recipes, selecting the best recipes to be showcased in a special recipe booklet.



## STRENGTHENING HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE

Reliance Foundation supported Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS), Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, with critical healthcare infrastructure upgrades in gastroenterology, cardiology and oncology. This support benefits more than 30,000 people annually.

Through Reliance Foundation's assistance, Kasturba Vaidyakiya Rahat Mandal (KVRM), Valsad, Gujarat, acquired a state-of-the-art MRI machine, revolutionising diagnostic capabilities in the region. This equipment has been instrumental in conducting precise and timely examinations, particularly focusing on brain, spine and limb issues, benefiting over 3,500 patients annually in south Gujarat.

**30,000+**

*Patients supported annually through critical healthcare upgrades at SVIMS, Tirupati*

**3,500+**

*Patients benefitting from access to MRI facilities at KVRM, Valsad*





## EDUCATION

### *Reliance Foundation's Commitment to Education*

Recognising the transformative power of education Reliance Foundation's holistic approach encompasses all levels of education, from primary to tertiary, providing access to world class institutions and comprehensive programs. This investment in education aims to nurture a generation of empowered individuals equipped with the knowledge, skills, and mindset to thrive in an increasingly complex and competitive world.

Reliance Foundation is dedicated to creating an inclusive and equitable educational landscape. Through capacity building, scholarships, ecosystem strengthening, and skill-building, the effort is to ensure that every young person, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to reach their full potential. By investing in education, Reliance Foundation is not only shaping the future of individuals but also laying the foundation for a brighter, more prosperous future for the nation and the world.

**8 Lakh+**

Children reached through LiftEd  
for strengthening Foundational Literacy and  
Numeracy

# STRONG FOUNDATION FOR LIFE-LONG LEARNING

## Early Childhood Care and Education

Through its Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme, Reliance Foundation seeks to lay a strong foundation for life-long learning and development of children.

ECCE goes beyond academic learning to promote complete development, including social-emotional skills, creativity, critical thinking and physical well-being. By prioritising ECCE, India can unlock the full potential of its youngest citizens and build a stronger, more resilient society for generations to come.

Reliance Foundation works with the Integrated Child Development Services across different states to support, strengthen and contribute towards ECCE. The ECCE programme aims to build capacity development models and initiatives as well as work on providing an enabling environment at the Anganwadis for children and their teachers.

In FY 2023-24, the programme engaged with stakeholders across regions. In Uttar Pradesh, Reliance Foundation worked with Anganwadis in Varanasi to create play-based learning environments. Trainings were conducted for Anganwadi workers that emphasised play-based learning and focused

on cognitive and language development. Seventy-five Anganwadis were also developed in the district. In addition to developing the learning infrastructure, Reliance Foundation provided quality books and material to further support play-based learning. These efforts have reached over 4,200 children.

Partnerships were formalised with the governments of Maharashtra and Telangana to implement the programme in these states and demonstrate good practices in capacity building and community engagement for enhancing preschool education outcomes.

*The ECCE programme works with the Integrated Child Development Services across different states. 75 Anganwadis developed and 100 Anganwadi workers trained on play-based learning pedagogy*



## FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY TO TRANSFORM EDUCATION

Reliance Foundation is a founding member of LiftEd (Learning and Innovation in FLN to Transform Education), a multi-partner consortium that was launched this year. LiftEd is an initiative set to positively impact four million children in India over five years. It aligns with the Government of India's NIPUN Bharat Mission, aiming to achieve Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN) goals for all children in India in primary schools by 2025.

In line with Reliance Foundation's vision, LiftEd aims to provide children with a strong start to their educational journey by fostering innovation in FLN. Its dual approach involves on-ground and at-home interventions.

The initiative's on-ground education partners are collaborating with state governments and school facilitators in Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi NCR, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to train and build the capacity necessary to improve FLN in public school children across grades 1-3.

The EdTech Accelerator seeks to catalyse innovative at-home and community-based FLN solutions, working with state governments to institutionalise remote learning and scale products.

Through eight diverse learning interventions, the EdTech Accelerator has supported, LiftEd reached 8 lakh children this year.



## PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

### Dhirubhai Ambani International School

Continuing its commitment to educational excellence through quality schooling, Reliance also provides world-class education through the Dhirubhai Ambani International School (DAIS) to about 1,090 children every year, with nearly 200 teachers experienced in national and international curricula.

A K-12 school founded in 2003, Dhirubhai Ambani International School (DAIS) is an IB World School, offering IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) in LKG to Class V, IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) in Classes VI to VIII and IB Diploma Programme in Classes XI and XII. The School also offers the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) and the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) in Classes VIII to X.

In the 2023 IGCSE board examinations, 83.3% of all grades achieved were A\* and A grades. The School's ICSE average score was 97%. In the IB Diploma examinations, 11 students earned a perfect score of 45, topping IB schools worldwide, while the school's

average score was 39.4 points. The IB Diploma graduates of 2023 earned admission to 23 of the top 30 universities worldwide. DAIS was ranked among the Top 10 Schools in the World (outside of the USA and the UK) by HSBC Hurun Global High schools ranking in 2023, among the top 20 IB Schools globally by Education Advisers Ltd. UK for the 5th consecutive year (2019 to 2023).



~ 560

Awards won by DAIS students at the district, state, national and international levels

*Ranked the No. 1 International School in India by Education World for 11 consecutive years (2013 to 2023), DAIS continues its quest for global excellence in education for students in India.*

# DAISPORA 2024 DAIS ALUMNI MEET



## Nita Mukesh Ambani Junior School

A state-of-the-art campus with flexible learning spaces, the Nita Mukesh Ambani Junior School (NMAJS) was unveiled in Mumbai this year. NMAJS provides comprehensive facilities for sports and co-curricular activities, as well as experiential learning. The infrastructure is designed to be adaptable and facilitate flexibility in seating, learning experiences, teaching methods and curriculum.

With its natural light-filled environment and energy-efficient architecture, the NMAJS campus embodies all facets of a green building. Its futuristic curriculum is designed to prepare the future generation for the 21st century.

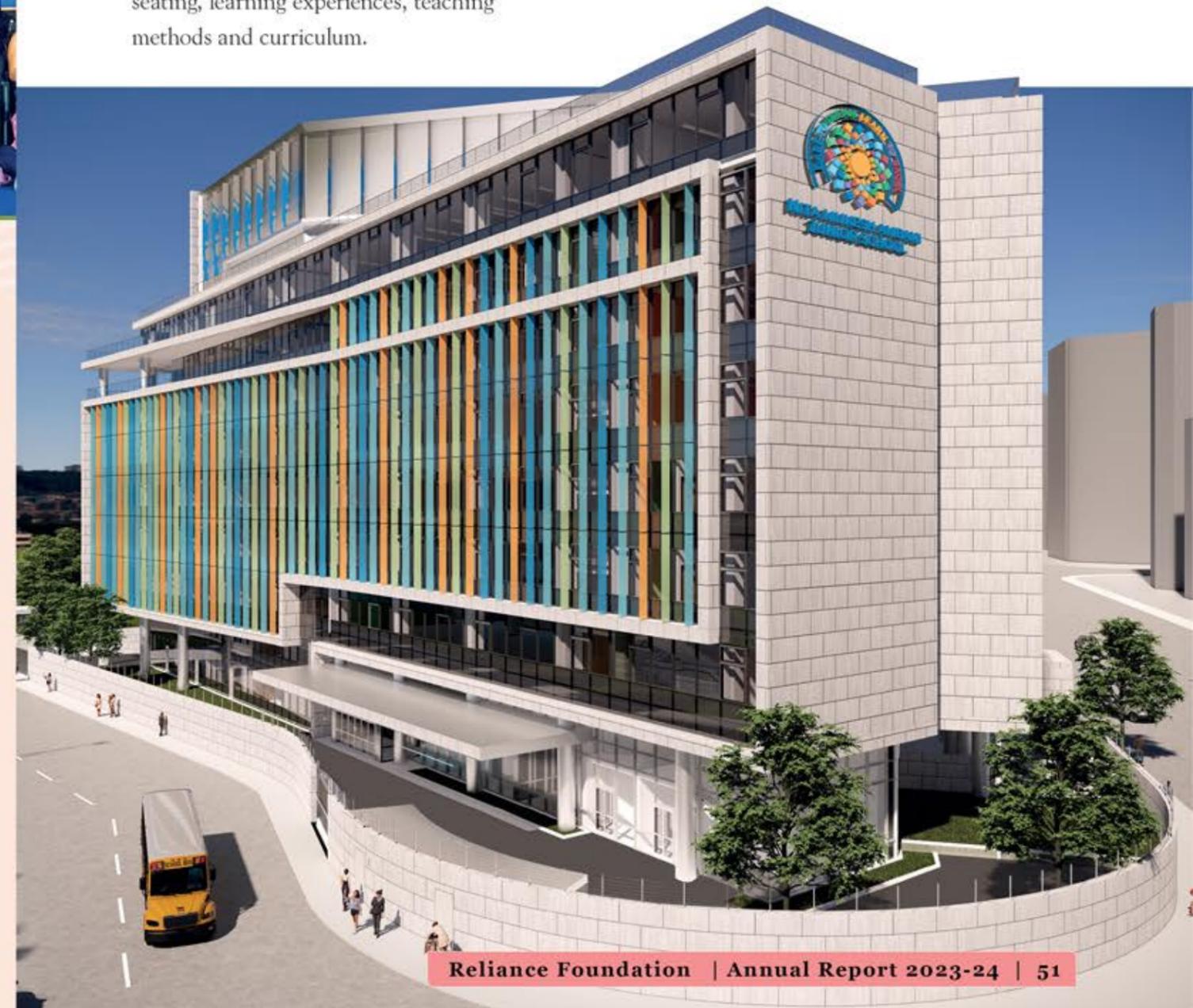
## DAISPORA 2024: NOSTALGIA AND NETWORKING

The DAIS Alumni Meet 2024, DAISPORA, was held at the Dhirubhai Ambani International School in January 2024. The event was attended by over 600 alumni and their spouses travelling from over 20 countries.

The keynote address by the Chairperson, Smt. Nita M. Ambani, highlighted how DAIS has lived its vision and mission and emerged as a centre of excellence ever since its establishment 20 years ago. Smt. Ambani

also reminisced about cherished memories of school life, such as Sports Day, DAIS Fete, Night School, Annual Day and Graduation Day.

The programme was meticulously crafted to benefit current students by learning from the experiences of the alumni. Panel discussions on 'Careers and College' saw the alumni share their experiences and advice regarding their interesting and eclectic careers, colleges and admissions processes.



## Reliance Foundation Schools

With the aim to provide high-quality education, focusing on academic excellence and holistic development, the 13 Reliance Foundation Schools across locations - Jamnagar, Surat, Vadodara, Dahej, Koparkhairane, Lodhivali, Nagothane and Mouda educate about 14,000 students each year.

### *Celebrating Academic Excellence and Beyond*

- In Reliance Foundation Schools affiliated to the CBSE, 97.5% of students passed Class 12, with 65.61% of them securing distinction. Over 99% of the students passed Class 10, with 72.48% securing distinction in 2022-23.
- In Reliance Foundation Schools affiliated to the Maharashtra State Board, 98.83% students passed Class 12 (Science and Commerce), and 98.72% of them passed Class 10 in 2022-23.
- In Reliance Foundation Schools affiliated to the Gujarat State Board, 80.95% of students passed Class 12 (Science and Commerce), and 90.11% of them passed Class 10 in 2022-23.

In 2023-24, students also excelled in sports and co-curricular activities, achieving remarkable success with over 31 international awards, 94 national awards and 491 accolades at the zonal, state and district levels.

**31**

*International awards won by students of Reliance Foundation Schools*

**94**

*National awards won by students of Reliance Foundation Schools*

**491**

*Accolades received by students of Reliance Foundation Schools at various levels*

## RELIANCE FOUNDATION SCHOOLS SHINE IN 2023-24

- Education Today's 'India School Merit Awards 2023'
- Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Reliance Foundation School, Jamnagar, was ranked No. 1 in India under the CBSE category for 'Integrated Learning'.
- Reliance Foundation School Nagothane (English Medium) ranked No. 1 in India under the CBSE category for 'Co-Curricular Education'.
- Reliance Foundation School Mouda ranked No. 1 in India under the CBSE category for 'Holistic Education'.
- Reliance Foundation School Koparkhairane ranked No. 1 in India under the CBSE category for 'Co-curricular Education'.

*In the EducationWorld India School Rankings 2023-24, five Reliance Foundation Schools –Jamnagar, Lodhivali (English Medium), Koparkhairane, Surat (English Medium) and Mouda were highly ranked.*

*11 schools were recognised as 'Microsoft Showcase School' for 2023-24.*

## Supporting Underprivileged Students to Pursue Schooling

Through the 'Mission Navodaya' programme at Model Economic Township, Jhajjar, Haryana, Reliance Foundation supported 23 students securing admission to the prestigious Navodaya schools. The mission helps primary school-going children to gain admission by preparing them for the schools' entrance exam. Through a similar effort in Shahdol and Kotma, Madhya Pradesh, 22 children were supported in clearing entrance exams of various residential schools.

Recognising the unique challenges that girls face in pursuing education, targeted support initiatives are underway in multiple locations. Twenty girls who had dropped out of school and were being supported by Reliance Jamnagar Open Schooling Project appeared for the NIOS secondary examinations (Class 10) and passed with good results in June 2023.

Till date, the initiative has helped over 160 students clear their secondary examinations. Many of these students went on to pursue further education, jobs or are now self-employed.

In Shahdol, a bus service dedicated to help girl students commute to school proved beneficial for nearly 464 students from 21 villages. This is a crucial intervention as it helps girls stay in school.

Additionally, to help school-going students from disadvantaged backgrounds become sufficiently equipped to pursue schooling, education materials such as books and bags were distributed to students in multiple places, including Gadimoga, Jhajjar, Nagothane, Shahdol and Vadodara, benefiting over 43,000 students.



## Education and Sports for All

Reliance Foundation's Education and Sports for All (ESA) initiative fosters holistic development and equal opportunities in education and sports for children with disabilities and children from disadvantaged backgrounds. It leverages technology, capacity building, and strategic partnerships.

In FY 2023-24, Reliance Foundation collaborated with 14 non-profit organizations dedicated to pre-primary education, girl empowerment, mainstreaming children with special needs, and instilling life skills through sports. This collective effort has positively

influenced over 1 lakh underprivileged children nationwide.

Furthering ESA's commitment to quality education, a fully-equipped Digital Learning Van has been deployed has been reaching children in 11 government schools in Mumbai and Thane districts, Maharashtra.

To spread cheer and keep children motivated, more than 1.2 lakh children from disadvantaged backgrounds celebrated various occasions during events organised by Reliance Foundation.



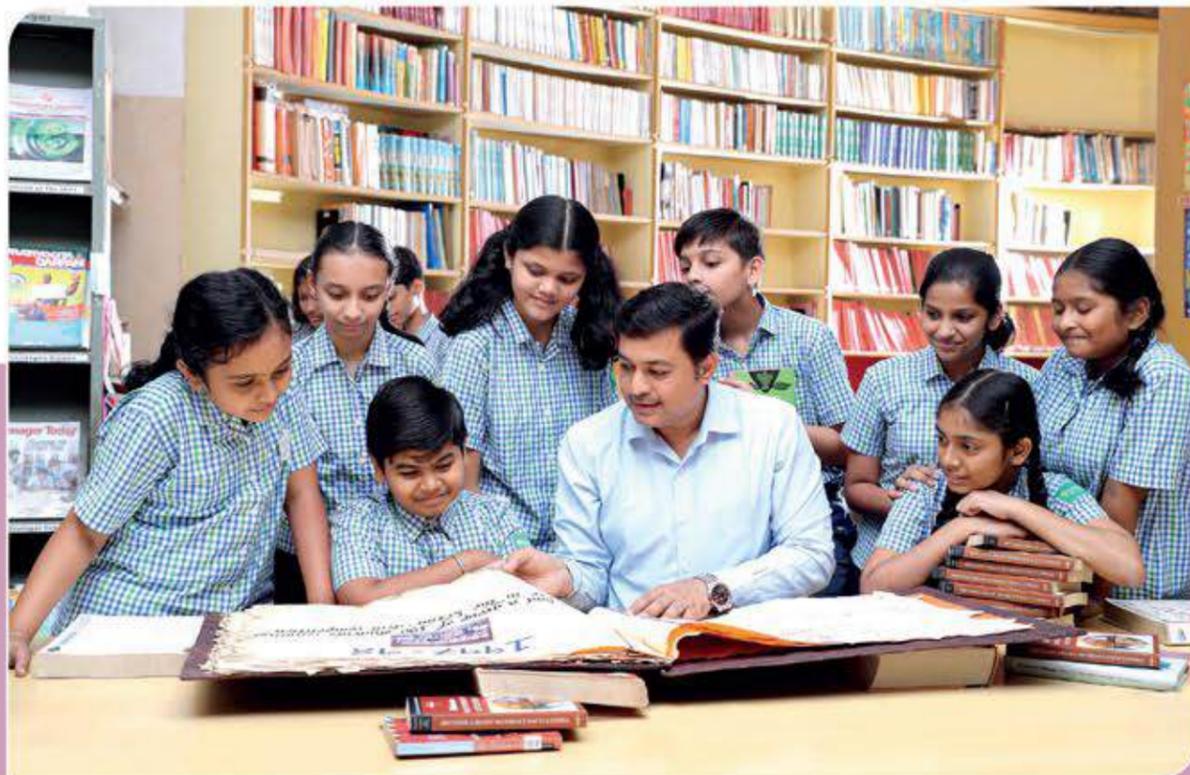
# NURTURING INDIA'S YOUTH THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

## Encouraging Excellence In Teaching

To celebrate India's teachers and motivate them to strive for excellence, Reliance Foundation has been recognising teachers, through Reliance Foundation Teacher Awards. This initiative contributes to efforts to strengthen learning in schools by distinguishing teachers who excel in the Teaching Professionals Olympiad

(TPO), organised by the Centre for Teacher Accreditation (CENTA).

The top three national-level performers and the top 1,000 teachers overall were recognised with awards. Over five years, Reliance Foundation has impacted and motivated nearly 48,000 teachers contributing to support the overall teaching – education ecosystem.



## Reliance Foundation Scholarships

To bridge educational access gaps, Reliance Foundation has instituted holistic scholarship programmes that provide financial and mentoring support to talented students. Reliance Foundation Scholarships offer interactions with experts, industry exposure, volunteering opportunities and generous financial support for both undergraduate and postgraduate studies.

Inspired by Shri Dhirubhai Ambani's belief in the power of investing in youth for national progress, Reliance has been awarding scholarships to meritorious students for over 25 years, significantly impacting over 23,000 young individuals across India.

The undergraduate scholarships are designed as merit-cum-means awards, while the postgraduate scholarships aim to identify future leaders in science and technology by supporting India's brightest minds.

In FY 2023-24, Reliance Foundation awarded scholarships to 10,000 undergraduate (across two cohorts) and 100 postgraduates, marked by a significant increase in interest and in applications with over one lakh submissions from across the country.

Notably, about 48% of Reliance Foundation Scholars are girls, and 246 are students with disabilities. The scholars represent 557 districts across India and are pursuing their education at over 2,000 institutions.

As one of India's most extensive higher education scholarship initiatives, Reliance Foundation's scholarship programme specifically recognises excellence in specific streams of study.

Moreover, the vibrant network of Reliance Foundation Scholars has a lasting impact on their personal development and career trajectories. This year, we introduced a scholar engagement platform, enhancing connections among current and past scholars while providing opportunities for continuous learning and mentoring.

**23,000+**

*Young individuals across India positively impacted by Reliance scholarships*

**520**

*districts and over 2,000 institutions represented*

# WORLD-CLASS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

## Jio Institute

A multidisciplinary higher education institution dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in education, Jio Institute is bringing together global scholars while providing an enriching student experience through worldclass education, highly relevant research platforms and a culture of innovation. Jio Institute offers three one-year, full-time, residential postgraduate programmes in Artificial Intelligence & Data Science, Digital Media & Marketing Communications and Sports Management. Since its establishment in 2022, Jio Institute has been contributing to the UN SDG 4 of accessible and equitable Quality Education.

**Jio Institute offers full-time, residential one-year postgraduate programmes in Artificial Intelligence & Data Science, Digital Media & Marketing Communications and Sports Management.**

## Education Thought Leadership

Jio Institute's Educational Leadership Programme is designed to enhance the skills of teachers, empowering them to drive positive change in education through targeted training and professional development.

This year, Jio institute collaborated with the Principal's Training Institute (PTI) for 'Creating an Effective School Programme' for K-12 school leaders.

Jio Institute organised masterclass throughout the year, with 24 sessions open to all, and five sessions specifically tailored for K-12 school leaders. These sessions covered a diverse range of topics, from industry insights to leadership strategies, and were attended by over 5,500 participants.

Jio Institute also hosted three conclaves and invited over 100 eminent personalities from industry and academia to interact with the students.



## Research & Development and Innovation

Recognising the fundamental role of research in nation-building, Jio Institute strategically aligns its projects and initiatives with India's unique needs and challenges. In its second year, Jio Institute has made significant strides in research, with 25 papers published and indexed in Scopus.

## Executive Education

Jio Institute recognises executive education as vital for refining leadership skills, staying updated with industry trends, and ensuring career growth and innovation.

This year, a series of programmes for professionals from diverse industries were organised. These include

- A three-day Marketing Analytics course for marketing professionals;
- A five-day Artificial & Data Science
- Perspective, Pedagogy & Practice for faculty, delivered in collaboration with the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE);
- A two-day Data Visualisation course for retail leaders;
- A Buying & Merchandising Management Development Programme for senior management leaders;
- A three-day Effective Leadership and Communication course
- A Business Analytics programme for middle-level leaders.

## Jio Institute Digital Library's (JDL) Special Collections

Jio Institute Digital Library's Special Collections initiated two projects:

### Temples of India:

Comprehensive documentation of historical temples up to the 18th century CE. The project has documented 13 temples in Rajasthan, under the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), covering their evolution, historiography, architectural styles, symbolism and other facets.

### Mumbai Archive Project:

Documenting cultural identities and expressions of the indigenous and migrant communities of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region.

## Collaborations

Jio Institute has collaborations with several institutions of international repute, including the University of Toronto, Canada; University of California, San Diego, USA; University of Manchester, UK; and Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, for academic and research exchanges. These collaborations encompass study abroad programmes, student and faculty exchanges, and joint research projects with Jio Institute.

## INSIGHTS

### Building capacity for Anganwadi workers through play-based learning and storytelling workshops

The role a teacher plays in the life of a young child often defines the child's future. Therefore, professional development of a teacher is key, Reliance Foundation has carefully considered an innovative approach that can contribute towards building capacity for Anganwadi workers in an endeavour to enhance quality education in our country. Recognising the pivotal role of Anganwadi workers in shaping classroom practices and, consequently, child development and learning outcomes, the programme takes a multifaceted

approach rooted in the principles of play-based learning.

Aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Reliance Foundation emphasises on the importance of play-based learning in early years. The belief is clear - for classrooms to be truly playful, practitioners themselves must embody a playful spirit. Consequently, the training modules consist of elements of fun, joy, engagement, activity, and interactivity, creating a dynamic and enjoyable learning environment.



Within the realm of play, there is a specific emphasis on free play. The programme advocates the creation of a conducive classroom environment with designated learning corners. This approach aims to facilitate free play, allowing children to explore, discover, and learn.

A focal point of the training revolves around language and cognitive development activities. These activities are intentionally linked to Foundational Literacy and Numeracy outcomes in classes 1-2, preparing Anganwadi Workers to guide children seamlessly into the next stage of their education. Recognising the importance of confidence in effective teaching, the training includes practical sessions designed to empower Anganwadi Workers. Through hands-on experience, teachers gain the confidence that they can successfully implement language and cognitive development activities in their classrooms.

The simplicity of activities is a key principle in the programme. Activities are thoughtfully designed to be easily implementable within the unique settings of Anganwadis, grounded in a sound understanding of how children learn in the early years.

Reliance Foundation supports the training with Teaching Learning Materials (TLMs) such as storybooks and physical manipulatives

like blocks. Importantly, the program encourages creativity by showcasing how these materials can be used in diverse ways for various activities, promoting resourcefulness among teachers.

Reliance Foundation's ECCE programme represents a visionary approach to early childhood education, intertwining play-based learning, targeted language and cognitive development, and the empowerment of Anganwadi Workers. As this initiative unfolds, it promises to contribute significantly to the foundational stages of a child's educational journey, setting the stage for a future of enriched learning experiences and positive outcomes.



## IMPACT

### *Sabina, Reliance Foundation Scholarship awardee aspires to build quality housing for the people of Dampur village, Assam*

Sabina Yesmin from Dampur village in Assam is a first-year B. Tech student of Jorhat Engineering College. Sabina worked hard to pursue civil engineering. She aspires to build quality housing facilities for the people of her village, who need better quality housing, especially to brave the torrential monsoons of Assam.

Sabina has been passionate about drawing and designing since she was a child. Through civil engineering, she intends to put these skills to good use.

"Mathematics has also been my interest other than drawing and designing. As it involves applied mathematics, engineering boosts my zeal to study," says an enthusiastic Sabina.

She further added, "I am very grateful for the Reliance Foundation Scholarship. Firstly, I am looking forward to buying a laptop for my academics with this scholarship. It will also help with my course fees and other expenses."

The Reliance Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships are awarded on a merit-cum-means basis to students in any stream of study. This year, the diverse mix of selected scholars are from all streams including Engineering/Technology, Science, Medicine, Commerce, Arts, Business/Management, Computer Applications, Law, Education, Hospitality, Architecture and other professional degrees.

Having seen the hardships people of her village face due by living in low quality housing especially during torrential monsoons in Assam, Sabina aspires to build better living place for them.



The Reliance Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships are awarded on a merit-cum-means basis to students in any stream of study. This year, the diverse mix of selected scholars are from all streams including Engineering/Technology, Science, Medicine, Commerce, Arts, Business/Management, Computer Applications, Law, Education, Hospitality, Architecture and other professional degrees.

Reliance Foundation has awarded 5,000 scholars in 2022-23 cycle, 51% of these are girls. These scholars were selected from nearly 40,000 applicants studying in more than 4,900 educational institutions through a rigorous selection process, which involved an aptitude test, Class 12 marks and other eligibility criteria. Among the selected include 99 students with disabilities.

In December 2022, Reliance Foundation announced it will award 50,000 scholarships over the next 10 years.



## SPORTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

*For the greater good of both the country and the world, Reliance Foundation's sports initiatives are closely aligned with the UN SDGs.*

**2.29 Crore+**

Children and youth positively impacted in India over the last 10 Years

**65**

Medals won at the international level by athletes supported by Reliance Foundation

**3,500+**

Schools and colleges registered under RFYS and JR NBA Programme

**235**

Athletes under comprehensive high-performance support across Sport Programs

**237**

Medals won at the National Level

**11**

Young footballers from Reliance Foundation Young Champs in FY 2023-24 Secured Professional Contracts

**33,000+**

Students from 1,702 Indian educational institutes engaged through Reliance Foundation Youth Sports (RFYS) and Reliance Foundation JR. NBA



*Reliance Foundation's Sports for Development programme focuses on strengthening the sports ecosystem in India, from the grassroot level to the international arena promoting holistic development and supporting the well-being of various stakeholders within Indian sports.*

The Sports for Development programme places a strong emphasis on establishing long-term partnerships and developing infrastructure at the grassroots level, which ultimately contributes to the growth of sports, athletes and comprehensive development nationwide. It supports athletes in their well-being, education and nutrition, guiding them towards holistic development.

Reliance Foundation is making sports accessible for all through a variety of initiatives. These range from the Jr. NBA programme and the ESA game, to the development of football in Kashmir and Mizoram, as well as supporting the endurance programme in Ooty, Tamil Nadu.

“

*Let me say this with utmost humility – India's potential is limitless. In the years ahead, young Indians are destined to achieve global excellence in every sphere of human endeavour, including sports. This aspiration is not just a dream but also the collective resolve of 1.4 billion Indian hearts and minds.*

”

**Smt. Nita M. Ambani**

IOC member and Founder-Chairperson, Reliance Foundation, shared these thoughts on India's potential during the opening ceremony of the International Olympic Committee session in Mumbai.



“

*“I’m really deeply impressed by Reliance and her (Mrs. Ambani’s) team because you see kids from all over India in this centre. And most of them are coming from underprivileged families and they are being offered education and schooling. But at the same time, they are given the opportunity to train and to prepare for becoming an athlete, a high-level athlete.*

*This is something that exactly reflects our Olympic values and our approach, which we have in our strategies. But to see it on such a scale and being done, you know, by a private entity, which is Reliance Foundation, guided by our colleague – that’s really very, very impressive and very encouraging also for the future of sport, of Olympic sport in India.”*

”

**Thomas Bach**

President, International Olympic Committee.



## BIG GAINS IN THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT

The year 2023-24 emerged as a landmark year for Indian sports, highlighted by the return of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) session to India after a hiatus of 40 years.

Smt. Nita M. Ambani, Reliance Foundation Founder-Chairperson and an IOC member, played an integral role in bringing the session back to India.

The opening ceremony was graced by the Honourable Prime Minister of India, Shri. Narendra Modi, who articulated India’s ambition to host the 2036 Olympics, signalling the country’s keen interest in hosting the world’s biggest sports event.

In a significant move, Reliance Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the IOC to expand the Olympic Values Education Program (OVEP) in India. This initiative is designed to boost children’s participation in sports, encouraging them not only to compete but also integrate the core values of sports into their daily lives.

In February 2024, at the National Inter-District Junior Athletics Meet, which attracted participation from over 7,000 athletes, an OVEP programme was implemented to enhance awareness of Olympic values among the young.



Further, under the guidance of Smt. Nita M. Ambani, Reliance Foundation and IOA will host the first ever India House at the Paris Olympics in 2024, marking a significant step in promoting India's presence and engagement on the global Olympic stage.

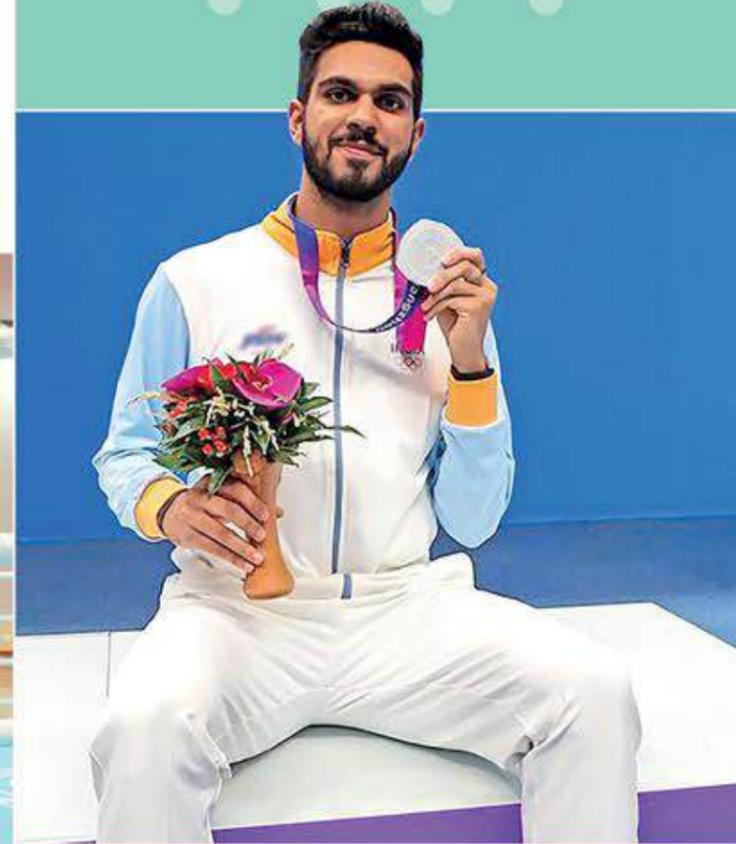
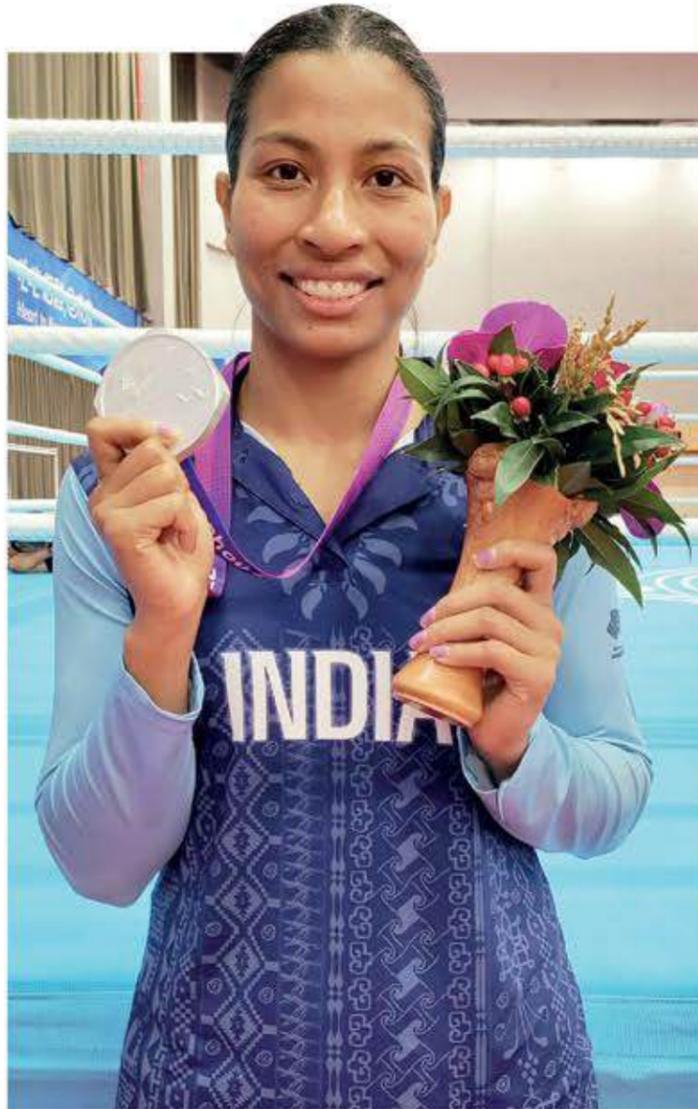
Three athletes supported by Reliance Foundation—boxer Lovlina Borgohain, javelin thrower Kishore Jena and table tennis player Manika Batra— have secured their spots at the Paris Olympics, with more athletes expected to qualify.

Among the athletes setting their sights on the Olympics is Jyothi Yarraji. Jyothi has cemented her status as India's leading hurdler, clinching gold at the Asian Championships and silver at the Asian Games in the 100 meters hurdles event.

Bapi Hansda from the Odisha Reliance Foundation High Performance Centre is another athlete demonstrating considerable promise. Bapi made history by becoming the first Indian to win silver in the men's 400 meters hurdles event at the Asian Youth Athletics Championships in Uzbekistan, leading the charge of promising young athletes. Reliance Foundation athletes have continued to excel on the global stage, securing a total of 12 medals at the Asian Games, with 11 athletes winning a medal.

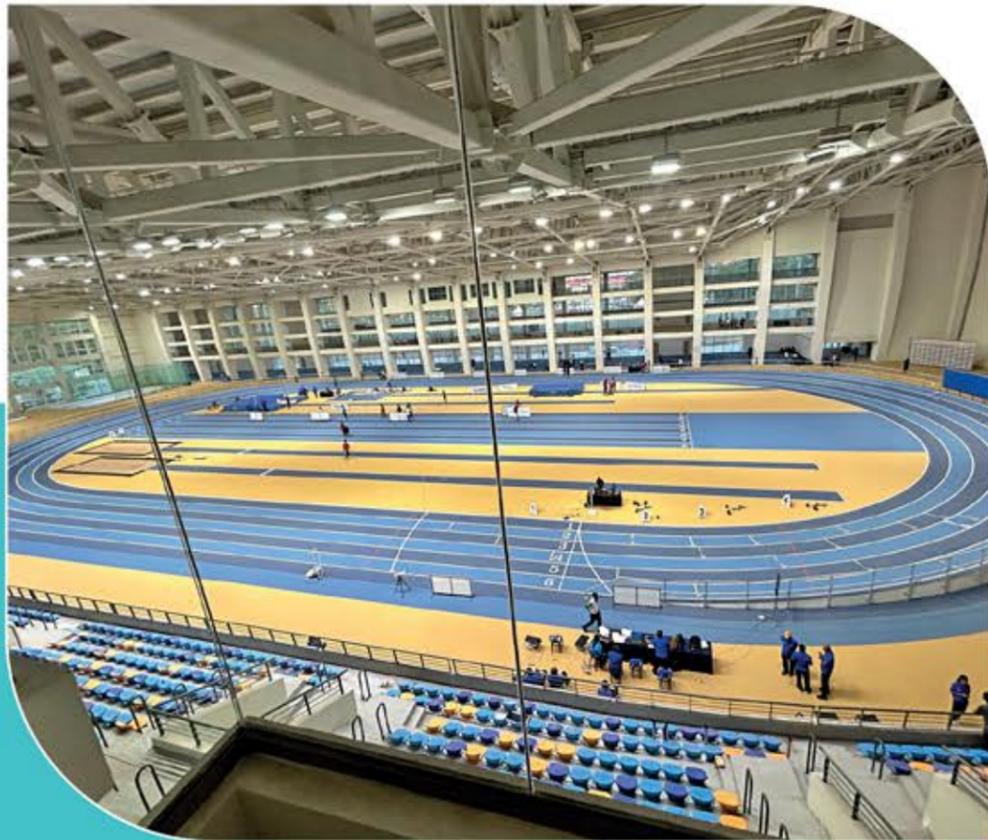
Through its partnership with the Athletics Federation of India and the Indian Olympic Association, Reliance Foundation is making significant contributions in the fields of sports science, medicine, physiotherapy, mental

health and strength and conditioning, all aimed at scripting another successful chapter in India's Olympic journey.



## Launch of NAC and Indoor Athletics Centre

Reliance Foundation has continued to deliver on its promise of building sporting infrastructure with the inauguration of the National Athletics Centre in Navi Mumbai. Additionally, it played a key role in the establishment of the Indoor Athletics Centre in Odisha. This state-of-the-art facility will serve as the new home of the Odisha Reliance Foundation Athletics High Performance Centre.



# WOMEN AND SPORTS

Numerous initiatives under Reliance Foundation's Sports for Development programme are designed to encourage women and girls in sports. During FY 2023-24, women continued to be at the heart of Reliance Foundation's sports initiatives.



## Performance and wellbeing

Reliance Foundation collaborated with the Simply Sport Foundation (SSF) for the Simply Periods initiative. This partnership was aimed at raising awareness about menstruation and its impact on athletic performance.



## Women Leading Olympic Charge

The Olympics Scholarship Programme run by Reliance Foundation featured more than 50 percent women in 2023, and they were at the forefront of success. Lovlina Borgohain became the first athlete to qualify for the Paris Olympics 2024, showcasing remarkable skill and dedication. Additionally, Tilottama Sen became the youngest Indian shooter to earn an Olympics quota for India in shooting.



## ESA Day Inspires Girls

To celebrate inclusivity and motivate children to participate in sports, Reliance Foundation annually observes its Education and Sports for All (ESA) Day in April. This event provides underprivileged children with the opportunity to watch an IPL match in Mumbai and serves as an inspiring occasion. In 2023, ESA Day was dedicated specifically to women and girls, aiming to encourage girls to participate in sports. Over 19,000 girls from across Mumbai watched the match between Mumbai Indians and Kolkata Knight Riders, leaving with unforgettable memories and strong motivation to pursue sports.

Smt. Nita M. Ambani, speaking about the ESA Day dedicated to girls, stated, "Today's match is a celebration of women in sports. I want to highlight that girls have the right to education and sports. I hope all 19,000 girls here today, and those watching on TV, have the courage to follow their dreams and achieve whatever they desire. This is why we have invited them all here today—to just feel inspired and take courage back home."

**19,000+**

*Girls from Mumbai inspired to participate in sports*



## Junior NBA's 10th Year

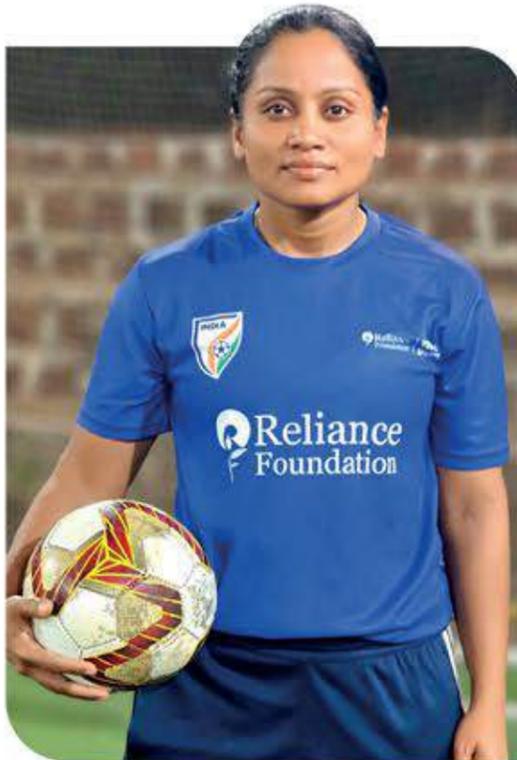
The hugely successful Junior NBA programme returned for the 10th consecutive year in 2023, featuring the National Championship for boys and girls in the U-12 and U-14 categories. Additionally, the NBA and Reliance Foundation provided further

### *Uvena Fernandes: Breaking Barriers in Football*

The inspiring journey of Wing Commander Uvena Fernandes highlights the significant strides made by women in football. Her unwavering dedication led her to become the first Indian woman to officiate a FIFA World Cup final, a remarkable achievement for the nation.

Uvena participated in a two-day workshop organised on December 4-5, 2023, by Reliance Foundation Youth Sports (RFYS) and the All India Football Federation (AIFF). Held in Mumbai, the workshop trained female referees for the Indian Women's League (IWL). Uvena was among the 24 referees and six match officials who participated in the workshop. Before her remarkable officiating career, Uvena represented India as a footballer. After joining the Indian

training opportunities to standout players in Aizawl, Mizoram, and Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Ten boys and 10 girls from each city were selected to participate in fortnightly weekend clinics throughout the year.



Air Force as an Air Traffic Controller, she transitioned to refereeing to stay connected with football.

Uvena's story serves as a testament to the power of perseverance and dedication, while also shining a light on India's footballing talent and the growing prominence of women in the sport.

## DEVELOPING THE FOOTBALL ECOSYSTEM

Reliance Foundation is committed to advancing football in India through various initiatives and skill development programmes. These include a professional academy and tournaments for both boys and girls, starting from the under-6 age-category up to under-21.

Reliance Foundation's tournaments traverse the length and breadth of India, impacting over 13,000 children in the country and focusing on strengthening the football system from grassroots to elite level.

Additionally, Reliance Foundation provides annual grants to Indian Super League clubs to support their grassroots programmes.

**13,000+**

*Children impacted through football programme*



## Reliance Foundation Young Champs

RFYC is a professional football academy that offers holistic development and education, alongside high-quality skill training in the sport.

### *Converting Dreams to Reality*

In a first, 11 graduates from the 2023 batch of the RFYC signed professional contracts with clubs in the Indian Super League (ISL) and I-League, turning their dreams into reality.

Apart from competing in the Next Generation Cup, which provides exposure to international competition, the academy's students visited Japan and Italy.



### *RFDL & RFYC Naupang League*

A grassroots football tournament in Mizoram, the second edition of the RFYC Naupang League kicked off in September and successfully organised 2,430 matches across the season.

Reliance Foundation Development League (RFDL), India's largest Under-21 age group football league, in its second season expanded to nine regions, with over 50 teams competing in over 300 matches.

The third edition of RFDL kicked off in February 2024, penetrating further into the country, with teams from Bihar, a region that is not a traditional football stronghold, competing against top teams in India.

### *Next Generation Cup*

During the Next Generation Cup held in India, RFDL's top four teams competed against international clubs, including those from the Premier League. Speaking about Reliance Foundation presents Premier League Next Generation Cup, Neil Saunders, Director of Football, Premier League, said, "This tournament really has some football development outcomes for not just the Indian players, but for the English teams as well. I think that in itself points to the quality increase of football in India."



## Reliance Foundation Youth Sports

Reliance Foundation Youth Sports (RFYS) is India's leading grassroots football tournament for schools and colleges. RFYS has adopted a multipronged approach to developing India's football ecosystem,

including increasing female participation across categories, developing coaches and match officials, and expanding its reach to Kashmir, thereby shaping the state's football aspirations.



## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Reliance Foundation, under the visionary leadership of Smt. Nita M Ambani, is a global champion of women's empowerment. Rooted in the belief that women's progress is essential for societal advancement, Reliance Foundation's initiatives span a wide range.

Guided by the inspiring mantra, "What women can't do, cannot be done," Reliance Foundation's interventions span a wide spectrum. From grassroots projects that address the immediate needs of women in marginalised communities to large-scale initiatives that aim to create systemic change, Reliance Foundation is dedicated to empowering women at every level.

The organisation's approach is multifaceted. It facilitates education and skill development opportunities to equip women with the tools they need to succeed. It supports women-led businesses and entrepreneurship, creating pathways for economic independence. Additionally, Reliance Foundation advocates for women's rights and works to address issues such as gender-based violence and discrimination.

Through its unwavering commitment and innovative initiatives, Reliance Foundation is shaping a future where women are empowered to reach their full potential and contribute meaningfully to society.

**10 Lakh+\***

\*Includes women reached through Rural Transformation, Health and other Women Empowerment efforts.

# WOMEN LEADERS INDIA: NURTURING THE NEXT GENERATION OF FEMALE LEADERS

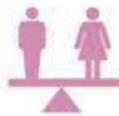
Reliance Foundation's commitment to women's empowerment remains steadfast. Through a comprehensive approach, it is driving positive change by:



**Promoting Digital Inclusion**  
Equipping women with digital skills to navigate the modern world.



**Nurturing Leadership**  
Developing the next generation of through mentorship and training.



**Ensuring Equal Access**  
Advocating for equal opportunities and access to resources for women.

Through this approach Reliance Foundation is laying the groundwork for a sustainable and equitable future. It is empowering countless women, contributing significantly to the progress of communities across India.

Recognising the immense potential of women to drive positive change, Reliance Foundation, in partnership with Vital Voices Global Partnership, launched the Women Leaders India (WLI) Fellowship in October 2022.

The WLI Fellowship equips women with essential leadership skills and provides mentorship, empowering them to become agents of change within their communities and beyond. A key focus of the program is on networking and peer learning, fostering a strong network of like-minded female leaders.

In the inaugural round, Reliance Foundation and Vital Voices supported 50 dynamic and mission-driven women from diverse sectors.

The Fellowship's impact was significant, with 84% of participants reporting increased confidence in taking on leadership roles, 87% enhancing their ability to innovate, and 84% improving their capacity to mentor and support other women in their leadership journeys.

The Fellows join Reliance and Vital Voices' global network of women leaders who are driving social change.

**84%**

*Fellows reported increased confidence in being leaders*

**87%**

*Fellows enhanced their ability to innovate*

**84%**

*Fellows improved their ability to support others in their leadership journey*



## Leading with purpose: Revathi's story of social change

Revathi Radhakrishnan is one of the many inspiring women in this exceptional cohort of women. Her evolution from a modest leader to a fearless one, offers a compelling testament to the influence of the WomenLead India Fellowship. Her story demonstrates the innate potential of women leaders to navigate their journeys with a resolute sense of purpose, and leading with people – not for them.

Revathi's career began as a television journalist, where she was involved in producing shows for television and the film industry. It was the tsunami in 2004 that led her to volunteer in Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu, where she founded Vanavil Trust—an organisation committed to improving the lives of children and women from nomadic tribes through education and empowerment.

For Revathi, the journey through the WomenLead India Fellowship introduced her to a world of knowledge, resources, and, perhaps most importantly, to a tribe of women leaders. It was an experience that broadened her horizons, reshaped her perspective, and equipped her with tools to solve complex societal challenges. Concepts like personal goals, communication modeling, strategic planning, and human-centered design thinking took on new life and meaning.

She said “When I heard the Vital Voices CEO, Alyse Nelson, reiterate the mantra of “BE BOLD” during my introductory workshop, it left an extraordinary impression on me. This impact was particularly significant because I was embarking on new endeavours, and feelings of apprehension and fear had begun to creep in. Her talk served as a powerful reminder of the importance of embracing boldness and courage in our pursuits.”



For Revathi, the Fellowship wasn't just about acquiring skills; it was about discovering the power of camaraderie. She found a network of women who shared her unyielding passion for social change. “Women strengthen women. The friendships are the foundation on which women can become bold leaders.” said Revathi, who is also the driving force behind an independent publishing house specialising in feminist literature. Her translations of works by leaders and her own collection of poems, embody her commitment to equality and social justice.

Today, Vanavil has evolved into an organisation that has liberated over 500 child beggars, provided them with education, and created livelihood opportunities for more than 500 nomadic women who were previously engaged in begging. Vanavil operates a school, children's home, and an after-school program, benefitting 800 children, along with a higher education program for Nomads.

The Women Leader India Fellowship has been the crucible where Revathi's passion, knowledge, and determination have been honed into powerful instruments of change. It's a journey that has transformed her worldview, strengthened her mission, and provided her with a strong support network.

As she continues her journey, Revathi remains persistent in her dedication to empowering the marginalised, especially women and children, reminding us all that when one individual is empowered, they possess the ability to ignite a chain reaction of positive change, impacting the lives of everyone they meet.



# WOMENCONNECT CHALLENGE INDIA: BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE AND EMPOWERING WOMEN

With India projected to have 1 billion smartphone users by 2026, there is a growing need to prioritize digital inclusion, especially in rural areas. Empowering women to embrace digital technology can have a profound impact on their lives, families, and communities.

To address this need, Reliance Foundation and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) launched the WomenConnect Challenge India (WCC India) in 2020. The initiative aims to identify and support innovative organizations working to bridge the digital divide and foster women's empowerment. By enhancing women's access to digital technology, WCC India seeks to drive positive outcomes for both women and their communities.

Since its inception, Reliance Foundation has supported 17 non-profit organizations implementing digital inclusion projects across India. As of March 2024, over 5 lakh women and community members have been directly and indirectly reached through these projects, spanning two rounds of the WCC India initiative.

In the ongoing Round 2, which was active during FY 2023-24, more than 1.6 lakh

women across seven states and one Union Territory have benefited from digital literacy, entrepreneurship promotion, and financial inclusion initiatives. Grantees participating in these projects are part of a vibrant Community of Practice, fostering collaboration and driving innovative gender-inclusive digital transformation.

**5 Lakh+**

*Women impacted through digital inclusion projects since 2020*

**1.6 Lakh+**

*Women & community members reached during FY 2023-24*

**84,000+**

*Rural women empowered through digital literacy skills*



# EMPOWERING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN RURAL INDIA

Reliance Foundation, in collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), is implementing a joint effort aimed at empowering 1 million women entrepreneurs across multiple Indian states. This initiative aims to strengthen women's collectives, pioneer and scale innovations, and establish replicable models of entrepreneurship within women-led enterprises. Through partnership with the states of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Odisha, the programme aims to boost women's incomes through entrepreneurship.

Operating in close partnership with the rural livelihood missions of each state, the initiative is carried out by carefully selected local non-governmental organisations (NGOs) serving as implementation partners. Reliance Foundation leads the on-ground implementation ensuring seamless coordination and alignment with government efforts while providing essential technical expertise.

At its core, the project aligns with the National Rural Livelihoods Mission's (NRLM) objective of enabling 30 million rural Self-Help Group (SHG) women to achieve an annual income of at least Rs. 1 lakh.

**3.46 Lakh**  
*Women supported*

Its three-pronged strategy includes:

## 1. Strengthening production:

This involves enhancing the quantity and quality of commodities and services across farm, off-farm and non-farm sectors, as well as refining skills in non-farm sectors.

## 2. Value addition and marketing:

This includes providing training in grading, sorting, primary processing and facilitating access to new markets and supply chains through collective action.

## 3. Creating an enabling environment:

This involves supporting access to working capital, fostering financial literacy and facilitating linkages with government programmes, technology providers and markets.

The programme emphasises capacity building and documentation of learnings for replication.

During FY 2023-24, the programme reached 3.46 lakh women across 27 districts in three states. The supported women initiated income-generating activities. Notable achievements include support for scaling and diversification of farm-based livelihoods, promotion of improved agricultural practices, incubation of collective enterprises and facilitation of market linkages.

## Off-farm Livelihoods

Livestock is a critical source of livelihood for many rural households as it helps in diversifying incomes.

Over the past year, Reliance Foundation, through its Rural Transformation programme supported over 48,500 women in dairy, goat farming poultry and other off-farm activities. This was achieved through an integrated approach that involved establishing women collectives, owned and managed livestock development centres and goat resource centres. These centres provide veterinary services such as artificial insemination,

deworming and vaccination by trained cadres of Pashu Sakhis (friends of animals).

These efforts aim to increase the scale of enterprises, enabling households to transition from subsistence livelihood activities to women-led enterprises.

**48,500+**  
*Women supported  
in off-farm activities*

## Non-farm Livelihoods and Furthering Digital and Financial Literacy

More than 8,000 women were supported in non-farm enterprises, including non-timber forest products like sal leaves, mahua, hill brooms, as well as stitching, handicrafts and micro businesses. This support was provided through skill development and facilitating access to quality raw materials, product diversification, standardisation and market linkages.

Recognising financial and digital inclusion as key drivers in entrepreneurship, 62,000+

women received training in digital and financial literacy to enable them to effectively manage their finances.

**62,000+**  
*Women supported in  
acquiring digital and  
financial literacy skills*

## *Empowering women farmers: A tale of growth in rural West Bengal*

In rural West Bengal, women are leading a silent revolution in farming. At the forefront of this movement is Palirani Sahu, an inspiration of change in her community. After Cyclone Amphan ravaged agricultural lands in 2022, leaving behind saline soil, Reliance Foundation Information Services (RFIS) supported in setting up Digital Farm Schools (DFS) to help local farmers recover and rebuild their livelihoods by providing essential tools and knowledge.

Palirani along with her peers Prasanta Giri, and Dilip Mity emerged as Digital Farm School leads within Kultali, championing innovative practices like organic farming and integrated farming systems. Their dedication not only improved their own farms but also inspired change in nearby villages like Bhetkipur.

The journey towards empowerment began with a simple yet powerful idea: to empower rural women as decision-makers in agriculture. Despite playing crucial roles in farming, women frequently found themselves directed towards less visible tasks, occasionally overshadowed by the guidance of men. Palirani and her fellow farmers sought to challenge this status quo by promoting gender-inclusive farming practices and providing women with the tools and knowledge needed to diversify their livelihoods.

The approach adopted by Reliance Foundation Information Services and its partner Sasya Shyamala Krishi Vigyan Kendra was holistic, addressing both the technical and social barriers faced by women farmers. Through initiatives such as soil testing camps and skill building workshops, women in Bhetkipur were introduced to innovative farming techniques like vermicomposting, azolla cultivation, organic vegetables and mushroom cultivation.

Central to the success of these interventions was the concept of farmer to-farmer learning, with Palirani and her colleagues serving as community resource persons, sharing their expertise and experiences with fellow farmers. Their decision was supported by community leaders of Bhetkipur by allotting a space for demonstrations and trainings in existing community center. This grassroots approach not only fostered a sense of solidarity but also empowered women to take ownership of their farms and future.



Technology played a crucial role in facilitating learning and knowledge sharing, with the adoption of QR codes to disseminate information effectively. By scanning these codes, farmers could access detailed guidance on farming practices, nutritional value, and step-by-step instructions in their local language. This innovative approach not only enhanced the accessibility of information but also fostered a culture of continuous learning and innovation within the community.

The impact of these efforts has been profound, transcending mere agricultural productivity to encompass broader socio-economic dimensions. Women like Latika Halder, Tapati Choudhuri Halder and 100 more families who started cultivating mushrooms and organic vegetables have experienced tangible improvements in their lives, both in terms of nutrition and income.

Ageing Latika Halder (65), a widow staying alone says, "I am able to earn about Rs 300 every week from the sale of mushroom and organic vegetables from small patch which laid barren for years. I also cultivate fodder for my goats which is making a lot of difference. Since I got earthworms from the community center, I could make manure at home using the kitchen waste, dry leaf and cow which can get easily in the village. I don't have to rely on anyone's support."

"I started cultivating berseem variety of fodder based on the training from this Reliance Foundation. As a result, I have surplus fodder now, which motivated me to increase the herd

size from 5 to 16 goats in November 2023," says Tapati Choudhuri Halder, a livestock rearer. With their newfound skills and confidence, they have emerged as agents of change within their communities, inspiring others to follow suit.

As we reflect on this inspiring narrative of empowerment and resilience, it serves as a touching reminder of the transformative power of agriculture and the fundamental role of women in driving sustainable development. Through collective action and inclusive partnerships, we can harness the full potential of rural communities, paving the way for a brighter, more equitable future for all. Reliance Foundation is committed to comprehensive rural development, focusing on income security, nutrition sufficiency, climate resilience, and gender equality.

Through various Reliance Foundation programmes, with personalized development plans, encouragement of collective efforts, enhanced access to finance, and emphasis on efficient resource management, especially in water-related aspects are implemented. Reliance Foundation's collaborative approach involves leveraging synergies with communities, institutions, partner organizations, and the government. Empowering rural communities with information, Reliance Foundation's Rural Transformation initiatives have successfully reached millions, contributing significantly to the sustainable development of rural India.

## HER CIRCLE

Her Circle, founded by Smt. Nita M. Ambani, is an inclusive, collaborative, diverse and interactive socially-conscious digital movement for Indian women. It aims to be a safe space for growth and is rapidly becoming one of India's fastest growing digital platforms for women. In FY 2023-24, Her Circle launched a series of impactful initiatives and collaborations aimed at empowering women. These efforts focused on promoting inclusive development through strategic projects and programmes that promote body positivity, embrace life-affirming attitudes, foster entrepreneurship, celebrate crafts-womanship and drive positive societal transformation through the Her Circle narrative of Equity, Diversity, Sustainability and Empowerment.



**59.2 Crore+**  
Reached since 2021

**30 Crore+**  
Reached in FY 2023-24

**4.5 Lakh+**  
Registered 'Her Circle'  
platform users

\*The reach numbers indicate total reach via multiple Her Circle campaigns and platforms (online, offline, and social). The reach numbers are not of unique individuals but cumulative.

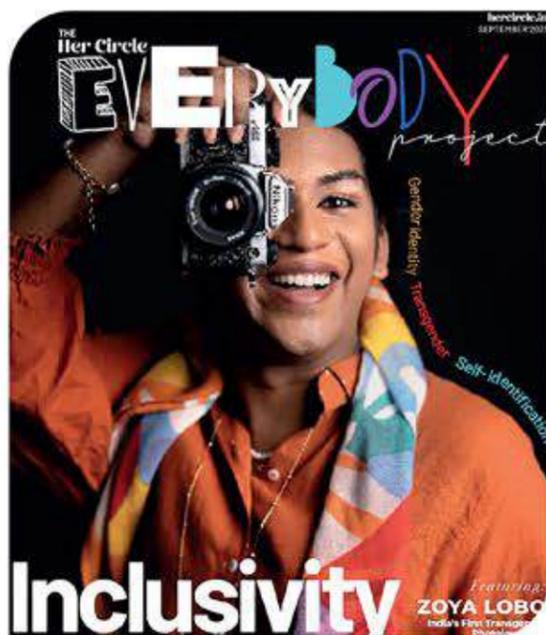
## The Her Circle EveryBODY Project: Promoting Inclusive Development

In March 2023, Smt. Nita M. Ambani, Founder-Chairperson of Her Circle, launched 'The Her Circle EveryBODY Project' to celebrate body positivity and encourage the acceptance of everyone. This movement aims to create a circle of kindness and non-judgemental acceptance.

As part of the year-long initiative, Her Circle collaborated with social media influencers and neurodiversity advocates to raise awareness through real-life stories and short films. The project featured stories of individuals like Pooja and Norah, with Norah having been diagnosed with Down Syndrome at birth. Together, she and her mother shared how they shifted the frame of reference to redefine general perception of abilities.

Zoya Lobo, India's first transgender photojournalist and an advocate for inclusivity and empowerment within the transgender community, and Sweta Mantrii, who addresses the stigma and inaccessibility associated with disability using comedy as a medium to break stereotypes about people with disabilities, were also part of this initiative.

Tanvi Geetha Ravishankar, plus-size model and influencer, promoted inclusivity and encouraged women to gain confidence as well. Her Circle also collaborated with other influencers including Virali Modi, Neha Parulkar, Neelakshi Singh, Apeksha Dusija, Roma Maity, Aastha Shah, Prableen Kaur and Nishriin Parikh to help women combat negativity and encourage self-acceptance.

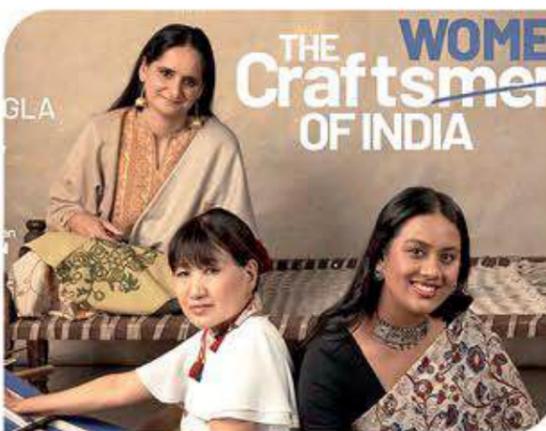


## Crafting Change: Supporting Indian Craftswomen

Her Circle's Make in India special initiative was a tribute to the remarkable craftswomen of our country and their distinct crafts, weaving one powerful narrative – Make in India.

Her Circle collaborated with SWADESH, which stands for artisans, their craft, their art and their creativity. Aringla, a loom weaver from Manipur; Sahiba, an embroidery artist from Kashmir; and Garima, a blue pottery artisan from Rajasthan came together to showcase their craft, innovation and the local-to-global heritage that India's diversity stands for.

Their stories of empowerment through skill development were narrated in special videos.



## Sustainable, Zero-Waste Shoot

On World Environment Day, Her Circle successfully carried out a zero-wastage shoot for the second consecutive year. From location to catering, styling to the use of natural light, every element in this shoot adhered to sustainable and mindful practices. The location was industrial in nature

yet sustainable in the space of energy conservation. The shoot featured Kalki Koechlin, an iconic sustainability advocate who believes in going minimal for maximum impact.

## Her Circle, NITI Aayog Collaborate for Women Entrepreneurs

In 2023, Her Circle entered into a long-term partnership with the Government of India's Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) by NITI Aayog to work together on initiatives to promote and encourage women entrepreneurship and development.

Under the State Support Mission of NITI Aayog, WEP's mission is now being taken to different parts of the country to facilitate impact at the grassroots level. Her Circle was the Digital Media Partner for the Workshop on Enabling Women-led Development – Western Region, held in Goa.

## Prioritising Women's Self-Care

Encouraging women to prioritise self-care, Dr. Firuza Parikh, Director of the Well Women Centre at Sir H. N. Reliance

Foundation Hospital, explained the purpose of the Centre and discussed the technologies it provides through the Her Circle platform.

## Expert Mentorship Through Her Circle HIVE

Her Circle HIVE is a platform that offers Her Circle users the opportunity to learn, interact and be mentored by experts. To support this endeavour, Her Circle HIVE collaborated with wellness expert Anshuka Parwani and entrepreneur Dr. Jaishree Sharad to conduct exclusive mentorship sessions and interactions for the training and development of Her Circle users.

Sensitivity 2023. The award was received for the social insight documentary 'Her Burden: Women & India's Water Crisis'.

The women empowerment initiatives that span across Reliance Foundation's various thematic areas are an integral part of its social initiatives and non-negotiable as part of the framework – from women in farming to sports and other areas of development.

Her Circle won the UNFPA-supported, Laadli Media & Advertising Awards for Gender



## DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Reliance Foundation is committed to protecting lives and livelihoods vulnerable to extreme events.

Guided by the Sendai framework and the Prime Minister of India's 10 Point Agenda on Disaster Risk Reduction, the programme has a multi-pronged approach to disaster management. This includes leveraging technology, risk assessment through GIS/remote sensing, risk communication, risk reduction, resilient livelihood practices, volunteer engagement and response and recovery.

Through its Disaster Management programme, Reliance Foundation leverages collaborations with government, NGOs, research institutions, national and state disaster management authorities, military and paramilitary forces, Inter Agency Group and others to provide support in times of need.

**91,000+**

Individuals received  
Short/Mid-Term  
Humanitarian Support

**94,000+**

Saplings planted in eight  
states to promote  
Nature-Based Solutions

**17 LAKH**

Vulnerable Individuals  
Reached Through Early  
Warning Advisories

Responded to seven  
Disasters Across

**13 States**

**5,500** Livestock treated  
and saved from flood related  
Morbidities and Mortality

**1,800+** Volunteers  
Supported the disaster  
Management Programme

# RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

## Balasure Trains Collision (Odisha, June)

After the tragic train collision near Bahanaga Bazar in Odisha's Balasure district on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2023, Reliance Foundation responded by joining national and state emergency teams in rescue operations. Essential supplies like face masks, gloves, water and food were made available to rescuers. Reliance Foundation also announced a 10-point relief programme, including six months of dry ration kits for over 180 households, psychosocial counselling, free one-year mobile connectivity, wheelchair

support, livestock-based livelihood support and job-led skill training. These efforts aimed to provide immediate, midterm, and long-term support to the affected communities.

The Sneha Srujan campaign for children, parents, teachers, school management committee (SMC), and alumni in Bahanaga block fostered a strong sense of school readiness among children and helped adults overcome their trauma.



## Cyclone Biparjoy (Gujarat, June)

Cyclone Biparjoy struck coastal Kachchh in Gujarat in June 2023. Reliance Foundation had been monitoring the cyclone since it began forming in the Arabian Sea and contributed to Reliance's swift response to assist communities affected by the storm.

Life-saving information was disseminated to more than 2 lakh people who were in the cyclone's path. Reliance Foundation worked with disaster management authorities, civil

society organisations and the communities themselves to mitigate damage and raise preparedness for the storm's aftermath.

To help communities recover after landfall, it took up distribution of relief material reaching affected people. With support from teams from Reliance's Jamnagar refinery, 68,700 food packets were distributed to individuals in temporary shelters and shelter homes in six districts.

## Raigad Landslide (Maharashtra, July 2023)

Immediately after the landslide in Raigad on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023, Reliance Foundation coordinated a rescue effort with the support of volunteers from Reliance and the community, HAM radio experts, veterinarians and the Disaster Management and Research Foundation (DiMaRF). Despite the difficult terrain, the Reliance team reached the spot and took part in rescue operations, ensuring water and food supply to rescuers.



## Floods (Tamil Nadu, December 2023)

In December 2023, Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts of Tamil Nadu received the season's rainfall in a single day. Kayalpattinam reportedly recorded 946 mm in just one day, the highest ever rainfall recorded in plains of Tamil Nadu. The rains significantly damaged agriculture and livestock. Reliance Foundation treated 5,495 livestock animals and distributed dry ration and sanitation kits to 3,560 households across 56 villages.

"All affected families had to move with children to safe shelter and stayed there for a week. The heavy rain and flooding affected farming, goats and cows. Reliance Foundation voluntarily came forward to provide medical assistance to the animals. We will never forget the camp where all the cows suffering from foot rot and other conditions were treated and provided with vaccination."  
*Farmer Nagalingap Perumal, Thottiyar, Thoothukudi District*

## Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (Sikkim, October 2023)

In October 2023, a glacial lake outburst flood in Sikkim's South Lhonak Lake caused loss of life, affected livelihoods and damaged infrastructure. To help high-altitude residents facing sub-zero temperatures after their homes were destroyed or filled with silt, Reliance Foundation provided bedding and winter kits to 1,370 households. It collaborated with district administrations, municipal bodies, ward representatives and local volunteers for this effort.



# PROMOTING NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

Reliance Foundation helps communities to reduce disaster risk and mitigate climate challenges through Nature-based Solutions (NbS). Bio-shields and other site-specific solutions and approaches are promoted to naturally build resilience, regenerate the landscape and shield livelihoods from climate shocks.

As part of a larger effort to enhance the bio-shield cover, 94,000+ seeds/ mangrove hypocotyl have been planted in 16 districts across eight states. This includes mangrove plantation in the coastal states of Odisha and West Bengal, Miyawaki forest and cactus plantation for livestock fodder in Gujarat,

coconut plantation in the coastal region of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, and plantation along river boundaries in Assam.

Mangroves are essential bio-shields, and Reliance Foundation is helping coastal communities become self-sufficient in enhancing their mangrove cover by helping in the establishment of community-led mangrove nurseries. A nursery established in Balasore, Odisha, has yielded more than 10,500 saplings for plantation. The stocking of saplings through nurseries helps replenish plants at plantation sites and contributes to sustaining mangrove conservation efforts.



## IMPACT

### KEEPING STORMS AT BAY BY PLANTING MANGROVES

Rupamari village in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas is vulnerable to cyclones and was severely impacted by Yaas, Amphan and other cyclones that struck India's east coast.

The women of the Rupamari village are playing an active role in conserving mangroves to mitigate the impact of storms on their village.

Juthika Gayen, Juthika Di to the villagers, is an SHG leader who oversees 100 SHGs. Under her direction, the women SHG members participated in plantation activities and awareness programs of Reliance Foundation on International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem, World Environment Day and World Wetlands Day with great enthusiasm.

Around 3,500 mangroves were planted to create a natural bio-shield and support coastal biodiversity, while raising community awareness of mangrove conservation.

"Mangrove plantation in the remotest parts of Sundarbans in North 24 Parganas will improve the capacity of the village to withstand any heavy storm or cyclone," said Juthika.



## NURTURING FIRST RESPONDERS

Volunteer engagement is most essential for providing immediate assistance after disasters and supporting long-term recovery. Volunteers also play a crucial role in fostering community resilience by leveraging specialised skills and raising public awareness.

Reliance Foundation engages with employees across Reliance and with members of the

communities it serves to help build their capacity for response and resilience.

Community volunteers are supported in capacity enhancement for implementing NbS and school safety programmes. They play a crucial role in mock-drills. This year more than 1900+ volunteers supported Reliance Foundation's Disaster Management programme.

### IMPACT

## SHARMIM AKTER CHOUDHURY, A YOUNG STAR OF HER COMMUNITY

Sharmim Akter Choudhury from Kazidahar Part-I in Cachar district of Assam is currently studying law and volunteers as 'Apada Mitra' in her region. Her village is highly flood-prone, with limited safe shelters and existing school infrastructure is used in emergency situations. Sharmim has witnessed her community struggling to access food and shelter during floods in recent years.

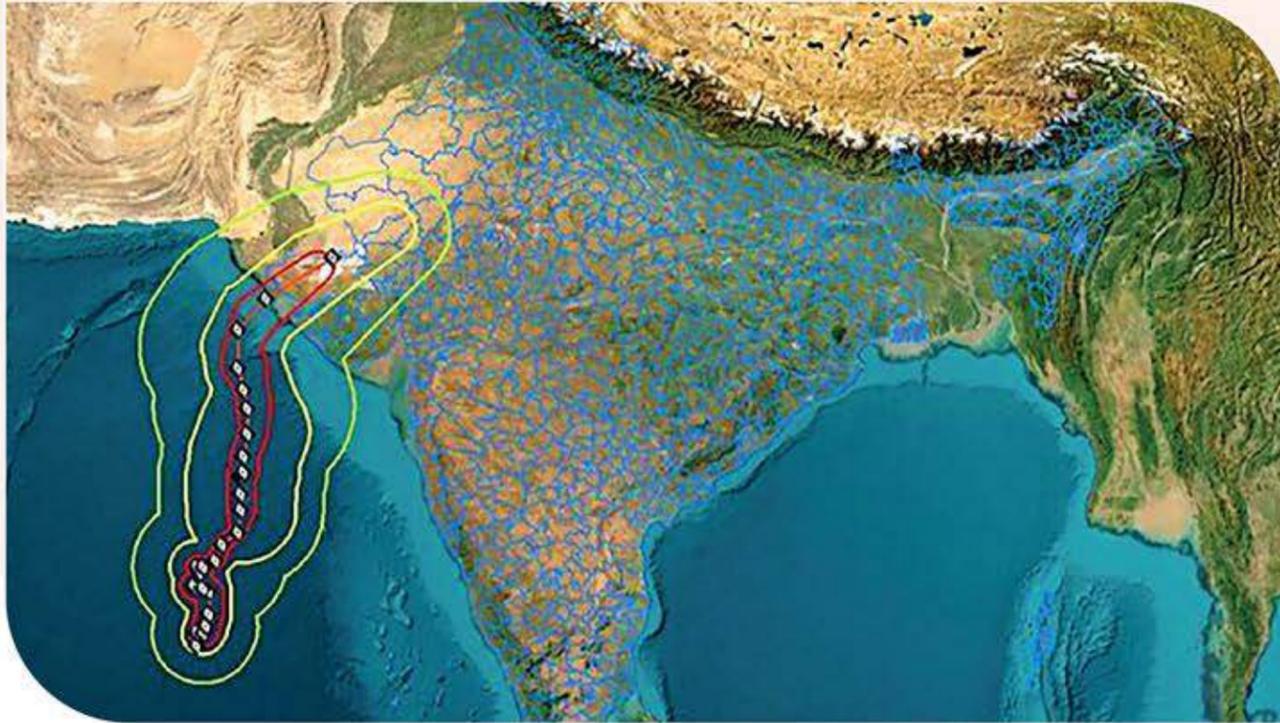
Determined to make her community better-prepared for disasters, Sharmim enrolled in NDMA's Apada Mitras programme in 2020. The initiative aims to promote a culture of volunteerism for Disaster Risk Reduction and Response through a trained volunteer force—Apada Mitras—a 15-day residential programme held at the district level.

Following her training, Sharmim started supporting the Cachar District Disaster Management Authority with capacity-building and mock-drill programmes in her circles (a cluster of villages). She attended many trainings, gained skills in search and rescue operations, emergency transportation for handling casualties, first aid, fire safety and improvised life saving techniques during disasters. Reliance Foundation works with Sharmim to train the youth in her region.

"I advocate supporting young girls so they can protect themselves and their families. I focus on bringing more young girls into the training programmes and acquire basic skills. I also aim to train 300 people from my village. Every household should have at least one family member trained in disaster management."



## IMPACT BASED FORECASTING AND EARLY WARNING



Reliance Foundation is working on transitioning from Early Warning Systems (EWS) that provide weather forecast information, like quantum of rainfall cyclone disturbance wind speed, etc., to Impact-Based Forecasting and Warning Services (IBFWS) that can forecast the impact of a disaster.

Owing to advances in technology, IBFWS can forecast the impact on vulnerable groups of people like pregnant women, damage to homes and infrastructure like roads, forecast the extent of livelihood loss and point out locations where water inundation and storm surge is likely, based on digital elevation model and more.

When cyclone Mocha was heading towards Bangladesh and Myanmar in May 2023, Reliance Foundation's IBFWS projected damage to 330 houses in Mizoram. After landfall, the disaster management authorities reported damage to 230 houses.

A more extensive IBFWS exercise during cyclone Biparjoy predicted damage to 2,000 houses in Gujarat while 2,167 houses were reported damaged by the authorities.

Through its IBFWS effort, Reliance Foundation is refining its advisories and coordinating with other organisations to enhance preparedness and response in India.

## IMPACTFUL DISASTER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

The Centre for Environment and Regional Development (CERD), New Delhi, conducted a comprehensive independent review of Reliance Foundation's Disaster Management programme. The study was further reviewed by the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM).

The CERD report mentions, "The core principle underlying Reliance Foundation's interventions lies in leveraging advanced communication technologies, fostering coordination and encouraging multi-stakeholder participation. Over the course of a decade, Reliance Foundation's disaster management programme has successfully established impactful interventions across key thematic areas, aligning with the principles of the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, SDGs and national priorities. The study underscores Reliance Foundation's potential to assume a leadership role in disaster management within the private sector."

The NIDM study was presented during a Reliance Foundation hosted roundtable discussion titled 'Disaster Management from the Ground Up: Effective Preparedness, Response, and Mitigation' in September 2023.

Reliance Foundation hosted a series of roundtable discussions to provide a platform for stakeholders to deliberate disaster management in India. One of these roundtables was held in October 2023 in Kolkata, organised for the East and North-East regions with a focus on Assam, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal.

Discussions included Tsunami-readiness at the grassroots, implications of hazards specific to the region, school programmes, mainstreaming gender in DRR, implementing of disaster development plans, DRR in the MSME sector and approaches to early warning systems.





## ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Reliance Foundation believes that art has the power to transform lives, educate people across generations, and instil pride in India's rich cultural heritage. This belief guides Reliance Foundation's efforts to preserve traditional art forms and provide a global platform for India's talented artisans.

Recognising that culture is the bond between arts and heritage, Reliance Foundation supports communities in their cultural endeavours and actively participates in cultural events.

In FY 2023-24, Reliance Foundation continued its mission to encourage artisans by providing platforms to showcase arts and promoting traditional Indian heritage to national and global audiences.

## PROMOTING TRADITIONAL ARTS

Reliance Foundation organised a series of exhibitions and workshops featuring traditional Indian art forms, such as pottery, weaving, and painting. These events provided artisans with an opportunity to showcase their work to a wider audience and generate income from sales.

Reliance Foundation partnered with cultural organisations to promote traditional Indian music, dance, and theatre. This included supporting performances, festivals, and educational programmes.

Reliance Foundation Launched a digital platform to showcase traditional Indian art forms and connect artisans with buyers around the world. This platform has helped to create new markets for Indian artisans and increase their income.

Reliance Foundation supported initiatives to preserve traditional Indian crafts and techniques. This included providing training to young artisans and documenting traditional crafts.

Reliance Foundation's work in preserving traditional Indian art forms is an important part of its commitment to promoting India's cultural heritage and empowering its communities. By supporting artisans and providing them with a platform to showcase their work, Reliance Foundation is helping ensure that India's rich cultural heritage is preserved for generations to come.

Under the visionary leadership of its Founder and Chairperson, Smt. Nita M. Ambani, Reliance Foundation is dedicated to protecting and promoting India's rich cultural heritage. One of the foundation's key initiatives is to provide Indian artisans with the infrastructure, platforms, and

opportunities needed to showcase their work and preserve India's cultural inheritance for future generations. Through specific programmes, Reliance Foundation is committed to bringing India's extraordinary legacy to a wider global audience.



# SWADESH: A PLATFORM FOR TRADITIONAL ARTISANS

Swadesh, a cornerstone of Reliance Foundation's efforts, was established with the aim of showcasing the talent and skill of traditional Indian artists and artisans to a global audience. By providing a platform for these artisans, Swadesh seeks to bring visibility to India's age-old arts and crafts.

The inaugural exposition of Swadesh at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre

(NMACC) in Mumbai served as a powerful demonstration of this commitment. By reimagining the traditional artist's space, Reliance Foundation supported Swadesh's efforts to engage audiences and showcase skilled artisans in action. The exposition facilitated direct interaction between traditional artisans and their customers and audiences, fostering a deeper appreciation for India's cultural heritage.

## Supporting Artisans and Preserving Heritage

Reliance Foundation's initiatives extend beyond Swadesh. It actively supports various programmes and initiatives aimed at preserving India's cultural heritage. This includes providing training and resources to artisans, promoting traditional crafts and techniques, and fostering collaborations

between artists and communities. Through its unwavering commitment to Indian arts, culture, and heritage, Reliance Foundation is playing a vital role in preserving India's rich traditions and ensuring that they continue to thrive for generations to come.

## Art for Livelihood

Reliance Foundation has supported unique and iconic Indian regional art forms and crafts over the years, including 'Pichwai', 'Banarasi' weaving, 'Pattachitra', 'Sozni' embroidery, Blue Pottery, 'Kal Baffi', 'Paithani' and candles made by individuals with vision impairment at Sunrise Candles.

With continued promotion and support, these artisans are now accessing markets through Swadesh's retail initiative, which is

not only helping in art preservation but also in improving livelihoods.

The 'Palagai Padam' Tanjore painting expo from Tamil Nadu showcased extravagant gold foil depictions of deities. Visitors were also captivated by the intricate zari patterning of 'Venkatagiri' weaves, the 'Tholu Bommalata' leather shadow puppetry from Andhra Pradesh, and the unique 'Patola' weaves of Gujarat.

## CASE STUDY

### WEAVING THE EXQUISITE BANARASI

Banarasi weaves often depict nature-inspired themes such as flowers, foliage and animals in their designs. Crafted from fine silk and embellished with pure gold and silver zari, these textiles feature distinct motifs inspired by Indian and Persian designs. The intricate floral and foliate motifs, such as Kalga, Bel, Jaal, Koniya and Shikargah, distinguish the famous Banarasi saree.

Ramji, aged 57, a resident of Sarai Mohana village near Varanasi, is a master artisan who learned weaving from his father as a child. Almost every household in his village of 25,000 people is involved in weaving. He has

mastered the art of weaving Banarasi silk and is on a mission to share his knowledge to preserve the art by uniting weaver families and ensuring work for all. Recently, he trained 75 women. According to Ramji, it can take up to two months to weave a Banarasi saree.

"Swadesh shined a spotlight on the art of weaving a Banarasi saree. It felt like our art was hidden until now. With her presence, involvement and support, Smt. Nita Ambani is championing our cause in ways we cannot. With this support, the younger generation is also eager to embrace the art."



Mohammed Haroon, aged 62, was forced to take up weaving at the age of 15 when his father passed away, but he embraced it wholeheartedly. A resident of Kaman Gadha in Varanasi, he quickly mastered the craft and can even set up a loom.

"At Swadesh, many people appreciated our skills because of the art. The recognition that artists are receiving at Swadesh because of their association with the initiative will greatly benefit the art forms and attract new artisans," he said.

## FOR CLASSICAL MUSIC, DANCE AND LEGENDS

Over the years, Reliance Foundation has supported numerous initiatives to bring classical music to audiences across India.

'Bolava Vitthal', organised by **Pancham Nishad**, is a prime example of this dedication. Since its inception in 2005, this soul-stirring concert of devotional folk music has enraptured audiences nationwide, featuring luminaries such as Kishori Amonkar, Suresh Wadkar, Aruna Sairam and Shankar Mahadevan.

The **Kumar Gandharva Pratishthan**, a pillar of Indian classical music, pays homage to the legendary Kumar Gandharva, celebrating his pioneering contributions. In support of his legacy, Reliance Foundation supported a two-day music festival in Mumbai, commemorating the centenary of this iconic maestro.

**Margazhi Maha Utsavam**, a soul stirring tribute initiated by Grammy Award Winner Vikku Vinayakram, is a musical extravaganza in Chennai, celebrating talent and tradition. This festival showcased the collective genius of 60 musicians through 15 enchanting concerts, featured seasoned maestros and emerging virtuosos.

Maharashtra Lalit Kala Nidhi commemorated the 100th birth anniversary of the late Padma Bhushan Pandit C.R. Vyas in December.

The event featured stellar performances by luminaries such as Padma Vibhushan Ustad Zakir Hussain, Padma Bhushan Ustad Rashid Khan and other esteemed artists, paying homage to the legacy of the musical icon.

Reliance Foundation supported **Bhandira Tree's** endeavours to showcase the ancient traditions and mystique of Odisha's Jagannath culture through theatrical performances. Their evocative plays narrate the enchanting saga of Lord Jagannath's earthly descent, delving into the intricacies of Odia language, literature, music, architecture and cuisine, all woven together by the sacred thread of Jagannath culture.



## PRESERVING HERITAGE AND CELEBRATING DIVERSE CULTURES

To preserve traditional built heritage, Reliance Foundation is renovating the renowned Kalighat Temple in Kolkata, the seat of West Bengal's reigning deity. The entire temple complex is being restored to its original grandeur.

Celebrating India's diverse culture, Reliance supports cultural activities across states, including village festivals like those in

Gadimoga and Bhairavapalem in Andhra Pradesh, Hoshiyarpur's 'Nature Fest' promoting local culture, and Navratri celebrations in Vadodara, including Bal Gopal Garba for children up to 14 years of age and a cultural programme, honouring the 91st birth anniversary of Reliance's Founder-Chairman Shri Dhirubhai H. Ambani, for children from 14 primary schools.





## VOLUNTEERING & OTHER INITIATIVES

In FY 2023-24, Reliance Foundation continued its unwavering commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of communities across India. Our employees enthusiastically embraced various volunteering initiatives, embodying the spirit of 'Growth for All, Care for All, and Access for All.'

Throughout the year, we undertook several impactful programs that addressed pressing societal challenges. Our focus on environmental sustainability, community engagement, and societal welfare underscored our belief in creating a more equitable and sustainable future for all.

**5.09 Lakh+**

Saplings planted by  
Reliance volunteers across  
India

**19,000+**

Employee  
volunteering hours

# PLANT4LIFE CAMPAIGN

## Key Highlights:



### Environmental Stewardship:

We implemented innovative initiatives to protect our planet, such as [mention specific initiatives like tree plantation drives, waste management programs, or renewable energy projects].



### Community Empowerment:

Our programs focused on [mention areas like education, healthcare, skill development, or disaster relief] to empower individuals and uplift marginalized communities.



### Social Welfare:

We worked tirelessly to address pressing social issues, including [mention specific initiatives like initiatives related to women's empowerment, child welfare, or elderly care].

Through these endeavours, Reliance Foundation demonstrated its dedication to making a lasting impact and building a better tomorrow for generations to come.



Reliance Foundation's Plant4Life campaign, launched on World Environment Day, 5th June 2023, was a community-driven initiative aimed at enhancing green cover and fostering environmental awareness. The campaign, which concluded on 31st December 2023, successfully created a significant buzz around environmental conservation and encouraged widespread community participation.



## Key Achievements:

### Massive Plantation Drives:

Over 5.09 lakh saplings were planted across various Reliance Industries plant locations and communities, contributing significantly to the region's green cover.

### Volunteer Engagement:

The campaign mobilised over 19,000+ hours of volunteer effort, demonstrating the enthusiasm and dedication of Reliance's employees and community members.

### Seed Ball Initiative:

A unique seed ball-making campaign was conducted in multiple cities, resulting in the creation and distribution of over 61,000 seed balls by NGO partners in open fields.

### Community Involvement:

Plant4Life fostered a sense of community ownership and responsibility for the environment, encouraging active participation from local residents.

### Climate Change Mitigation:

By regenerating common lands and increasing green cover, the campaign contributed to mitigating the effects of climate change.

Plant4Life was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impact on the environment and inspiring a new generation of environmental stewards.

## CASE STUDY

# EASKKI PANDI: VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE

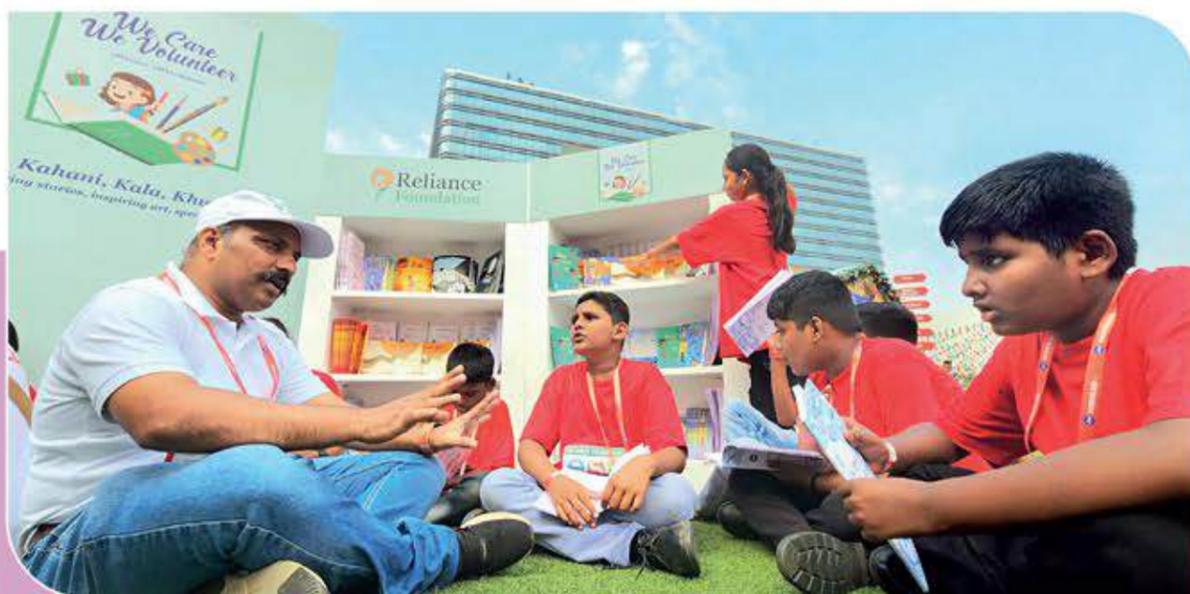
Volunteers play a crucial role in Reliance Foundation initiatives, as they bring diverse skills, passion and support, amplifying impact and extending reach into communities.

In the past year, Easkki Pandi, Territory Head – HSEF Operations Mumbai 1, Reliance Retail Limited, was seen in many avatars. Braving a landslide in Raigad to rescuing people to narrating stories to children and serving hot meals to patient’s family members, he has been a regular volunteer in Reliance Foundation’s initiatives.

Easkki desires to set an example for peers, colleagues and the younger generation, which is evident from the fact that he has

participated in almost all the volunteer-driven initiatives of Reliance Foundation, ranging from the Serve a Meal campaign to Plant4Life campaign to Raigad landslide disaster management to Kahani Kala Khushi campaign. For a few of the activities, he also encouraged his team to join.

Easkki stated, “Serving the community during my time off is a highly rewarding and heartening experience, leading to a sense of accomplishment and a stronger connection to the world around me. I am thankful to Reliance Foundation for providing the opportunity to serve communities.”



# KAHANI KALA KHUSHI

Over 1,000 children from disadvantaged communities in Mumbai enjoyed a day of excitement, joy and inspiration through stories at Jio Presents Hamleys Wonderland™. Facilitating the children’s activities and volunteering at the venue was Ms. Isha Ambani, Director on Boards of RIL and Reliance Foundation, who joined Reliance employee volunteers in cheering the children through fun-filled events of the day that culminated with a storytelling session.

This event with children marked over 75 days of Reliance Foundation’s ‘We Care, We Volunteer – Kahani Kala Khushi’ campaign, where over 1,200 Reliance employees volunteered to engage more than 17,000

children from underprivileged backgrounds across 25 cities of India through storytelling and art.

Spreading joy among children from disadvantaged communities has been happening for over a decade. This year’s effort combined storytelling, culture and art for the children that Reliance Foundation supports through numerous organisations. Volunteers engaged children with age-appropriate stories that helped them imaginatively discover India and express their ideas through art. The art kits and materials, along with story books provided to the children, aimed to sustain their interest.





## The Joy of Volunteering

“What started off as volunteering, I now call ‘visiting family’ because of the unconditional love that I have received from the kids. This is what keeps driving me to be a part of such wonderful activities. The gleam in their eyes and their enthusiasm to just spend some time (may it be singing, dancing or even learning math) with us, makes me equally enthusiastic and excited to learn and grow with them,” said Srishti Singh, a toy and game designer who volunteered.

“The storytelling session was very interesting. When I came home, I told my younger brother what I had heard at school. He liked it too. So now I am getting inspiration to read different things,” said Aditya Gupta, a 6th grade student who is associated with the NGO MELJOL.

## SERVE A MEAL

Reliance Foundation’s ‘Serve A Meal’ volunteering initiative demonstrated its commitment to community welfare by serving over 58,000+ nutritious meals to relatives of patients in government hospitals across Mumbai. With the involvement of 829 volunteers contributing 1,564 volunteering hours, the initiative helped ease the financial burden on families during illnesses.



# VANTARA: DEEP COMMITMENT TO ANIMAL WELFARE

Reliance Industries and Reliance Foundation announced the Vantara (Star of the Forest) programme in February. The programme is an umbrella initiative that focuses on rescue, treatment, care and rehabilitation of injured, abused and threatened animals, both in India and abroad.

The Vantara initiative, the first of its kind in India, has been conceptualised and birthed under the passionate leadership of Shri Anant Ambani, Director on the boards of RIL and Reliance Foundation. Vantara's focus is on creating best-in-class animal conservation and care practices, including state-of-the-art healthcare, hospitals, research and academic centres. Within its programmes, Vantara also focuses on integrating advanced research and will be collaborating with reputed international universities and organisations.

Over the last few years, Reliance's support to wildlife initiatives has rescued more than 200 elephants and thousands of other animals, reptiles and birds from unsafe situations. It has undertaken initiatives in key species, including rhino, leopard and crocodile rehabilitation. Vantara has also taken part in foreign rescue missions under strict legal and regulatory frameworks in India and internationally.

Reliance Foundation believes that the rescue and conservation of animals must go

hand-in-hand with greening initiatives. The Vantara programme envisages a continuing greening of Reliance refinery areas and has already greened thousands of acres of land.

## *Vantara's Conservation Oasis*

Spread over 3,000 acres within the green belt of Reliance's Jamnagar Refinery Complex in Gujarat, Vantara aims to be one of the leading contributors to conservation efforts globally. By working with leading experts in animal

care and welfare, Vantara has converted the space into a jungle-like environment that mimics the natural, enriching, lush and verdant habitat for the rescued species to thrive in.



## OTHER INITIATIVES

### Recognition for CSR initiatives

Our impactful initiatives during the year has been acknowledged with multiple recognitions.



#### Rotary Award

Reliance Foundation Founder and Chairperson Smt. Nita Ambani was awarded the 'Citizen of Mumbai' Award 2023-24 by the Rotary Club of Bombay for her contributions to healthcare, education, sports, arts and culture.



#### CII Sports

- Smt. Nita Ambani, Founder and Chairperson of Reliance Foundation, was honoured and awarded at the CII Scorecard 2023 event held on December 4, 2023, in New Delhi, with the 'Sports Leader of the Year – Female' award for her exemplary leadership in driving India's sports story.
- Reliance Foundation was also awarded with the 'Best Corporate Promoting Sports in India' award for setting a benchmark for excellence in sports.

#### Certificate of Gratitude for Reliance Foundation in Odisha Train Accident Response During Zilla Mahotsav and Pallishree Mela – 2024

Presented in gratitude by Dattatraya B. Shinde, IAS, Collector, Balasore for exceptional bravery and selflessness after the train accident in Bahanaga. Impact Person recognition for Dr. Tarang Gianchandani.

#### Golden Peacock Award for CSR, 2023-24

Reliance Industries Limited won the award for 'Nature-based Solutions for Disaster Risk Reduction'. The awards jury was headed by Hon'ble Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah, former Chief Justice of India.

#### Business Excellence Awards 2023

Reliance Foundation was recognised by Hybiz TV at an event in September 2023 for its social interventions. Hybiz TV is a Hyderabad-based media house with a large digital media subscriber base.

#### Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control Society, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada

State-level best CSR award from the Project Director, Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control Society.

#### International Nutri Cereal Convention

Reliance Foundation received the prestigious distinction of 'Best NGO, Farmer Impact' award during the International Nutri Cereal Convention (INCC) 5.0, encompassing work done on the millet value chain.

#### 2023 Global Leadership Award for Philanthropy and Corporate Social Responsibility

Reliance Foundation Founder and Chairperson Smt. Nita Ambani was honoured by the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF).

#### MarCom Awards 2023

Reliance Foundation won a Gold Award for its Digital Women Leaders film. it was one of two Indian entries to receive the global award.

#### 6th Edition Navbharat Healthcare Summit and Awards

Awarded to Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital recognised as the Best Multi specialty Hospital in India, Healthcare Leader of the Year – Dr. Tarang Gianchandani, Best Hospital for Organ Transplant in India, Best Hospital of the Year in Quality and Patient Satisfaction.

Reliance MET was honoured with an award under the 'Best Innovative CSR Project in the Education Sector (Mission Navodaya Program)' by **UBS Forums**.

### 10th National Awards for Excellence in CSR & Sustainability

Reliance Foundation bagged an award in the category 'Best Solution for Community Care in COVID-19'.



### Business World – 7th Edition Healthcare Excellence Awards 2024

Awarded to Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital for Institutional Excellence in Multi-Speciality Hospital and Healthcare Impact Person recognition for Dr. Tarang Gianchandani.

### International Nutri Cereal Convention

Reliance Foundation received the prestigious distinction of 'Best NGO, Farmer Impact' award during the International Nutri Cereal Convention (INCC) 5.0, encompassing work done on the millet value chain.

The Times of India All India **Multispeciality Hospitals Survey 2024** Ranked Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital **first among hospitals in India**, in the west region and in Mumbai.

### Best CSR Impact Award by UBS Forums

Awarded to Reliance Foundation's Disaster Management programme's Geospatial Hub – Prediction & Mitigation (Impact Based Forecasting & Warning Services).

### CII Water

'Reliance Foundation – Bharat India Jodo' Kamareddy cluster (TN) received appreciation certificate for 'Noteworthy Project' in 'Water Management' in the 'Beyond the Fence' category.

### Gujarat State AIDS control Society

RIL – Hazira's HIV & TB Control Centre (Reliance ART Centre) was honoured with the 'Best ART (Anti-Retroviral Therapy) Centre Award' by the Gujarat State AIDS Control Society (GSACS), Health & Family Welfare Department, Govt. of Gujarat on World AIDS Day, December 1, 2023 in Ahmedabad.



### CII FPO Summit 2023

Reliance Foundation mentored farmer collectives – Banas FPC and Chorad FPC from Patan, Gujarat won in the Market Linkages and Membership Engagement categories respectively.

Reliance Foundation has been striving to build a sustainable future for all, enabling a positive environment where every individual may achieve their potential. By reaching out

to the most marginalised and vulnerable communities, we aim to continue to transform lives, with the underlying spirit that 'we care for all'.



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