



### TITAN, Kanya Sampurna Project

**T**itan Company Limited in collaboration with CARE India, is working towards improving the education system in Kammapuram, Keeraplayam, and Kattumannarkoil blocks in the Cuddalore district since 2022. Our primary focus is on strengthening the foundational learning of students in Tamil, English, and Maths. We aim to enhance the capacity of teachers in addressing the learning loss of students and promoting functional digital literacy, computational thinking, science, and mathematics domains among middle school children.

We are working with 150 primary schools, 67 middle schools, 35 high schools, and 23 higher secondary schools in the district. Our project revolves around three themes - Ennum Ezhuthum, STEM Education, and Girls Leadership. The Ennum Ezhuthum theme focuses on primary school teachers and provides them with support to improve their teaching methods. We have trained 385 teachers and provided onsite support to 150 primary schools. The STEM Education theme aims to implement STEM interventions in 67 middle schools, with 3444 students and 224 teachers participating. We have established STEM labs in 40 schools and distributed math kits to 40 schools. The Girls Leadership theme provides career guidance programmes, conversation skills training, and civic action initiatives to girls in high and higher secondary schools. We have reached out to 21,272 children and trained 3,553 girls on menstrual hygiene.

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### Knowledge Management and Learning Centre



**C**ARE India has evolved into a knowledge-driven organisation over the last 7 decades, working closely with government and community to build on collective wisdom. In Bihar, the organisation has been supporting the government's efforts to improve maternal, newborn, and child health and nutrition outcomes since 2010, based on concurrently generated evidence. However, the recent pandemic disrupted conventional models for evidence generation, necessitating modifications and strengthening of existing efforts through hybrid models equipped with digital advancements, assets, and a trained dedicated workforce providing technical support to all CARE member partners, nationally and beyond.

To maximise the impact of all current and future programming and establish CARE as a knowledge institution on the global platform, the Knowledge Management and Learning Centre (KMLC) was conceptualised and operationalised in early 2022. The KMLC has been an integral part of all the technical underpinnings for most interventions as well as their assessments across multiple states of India. Efforts have been directed at bringing learnings into implementation and policy space across multiple sectors like health, education, livelihood, gender, humanitarian settings, and climate change. The KMLC wishes to serve as an evidence and learning generation hub and promote a culture of mutual learning within the organisation through a structured process.

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### PI Industries, Naseemben

**I**n the village of Jantran in Gujarat, Naseemben Asifbhai Khilji used to feel trapped in a life of financial struggle and domestic duties. However, when the Self-Help Group (SHG) initiative was introduced by CARE India's IAIDVC project, everything changed for her. After learning about the project from fellow villager Ranjanben, Naseemben overcame her husband's reservations and joined the SHG "Ya gaush paak" as the group's president. She attended training sessions on financial literacy, leadership, and market literacy, and with the group's help, received a loan from Baroda Gujarat Gramin Bank which she used

to improve their shop and expand their business. As a result, their income increased, and they began receiving catering orders from other villages. Her husband also became more supportive and broke social boundaries to allow Naseemben to manage the shop and serve customers. Naseemben's confidence grew, and she realised that she could support her family. The goal of the IAIDVC project is to empower women smallholders and landless workers and help them sustain their livelihoods through improved practices and institutional support.

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"I've always wanted to support my family, and now I know I can." - Naseemben



### IndusInd Bank, Pragati

**T**he Pragati team, in collaboration with the government primary school and the community, aims to provide children in the Umrpada taluka with access to education and learning materials. Umrpada is a sub-district in the Surat District of Gujarat, India, with a population of around 83,723 people and a literacy rate of 58.56%. In the rural tribal areas of Umrpada taluka, children between the ages of 5-8 years old in grades 1-3 do not have access to adequate learning materials and environment. Additionally, parents are often engaged in their livelihood activities, leaving children without sufficient support for early childhood learning and numeracy skills. The intervention of the Pragati-GJ project, a partnership between IndusInd Bank and CARE India, has provided a learning environment for 1,024 children across 24 schools and 14 communities. The Pragati team participates in morning assemblies, classroom processes, and school management committee meetings, building capacity on foundational learning and numeracy skill approaches. Four school mentors provide support in classrooms with lower teacher-student ratios. Additionally, the project has established 10 community libraries where children can access reading materials.

The Pragati team mobilises communities and stakeholders with the message that it is important to ensure children have access to learning materials, a child-friendly environment, and supportive facilitation for the development of foundational literacy and numeracy skills, particularly for children in grades 1-3.

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### Nutrition International, Elevating Quality Nutrition Services

**C**ARE and Nutrition International have collaborated on a project to improve the quality and integration of nutrition services across the first 1,000 days of a child's life in four districts in India. The project will be implemented in Mathura and Saharanpur districts of Uttar Pradesh, and Kheda and Tapi districts of Gujarat, and will use implementation research to identify challenges preventing effective implementation of nutrition interventions, such as interpersonal nutrition counselling (IPNC). Strategies to address these issues will be developed and tested, including enhancing IPNC and behaviour change intervention strategies, strengthening the supply chain for nutrition commodities, enhancing supportive supervision for frontline service providers, and strengthening monitoring and reporting mechanisms. To improve IPNC skills of staff in the health and ICDS departments of Mathura district, CARE India organised a three-day training-of-trainers session. The training aims to increase the skills of trainers on improved nutritional counselling, which will have a cascading effect on the skills of frontline health workers like ASHAs, ANMs, and AWWs, so that they can deliver culturally resonant, evidence-based, individually tailored nutrition counselling to pregnant and lactating mothers and parents of children up to two years of age. Trainers will work closely with ASHAs, ANMs, and aganwadi workers to sensitise them about recent developments in quality and effective nutrition counselling to the community.

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### Bihar Project Visit by BMGF

**T**he Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation representatives recently visited Bihar to observe and gain an understanding of the state's health programmes. During their visit, they visited the districts of Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, and Purnia to see the RMCNHA and NTD-related programmes in action. The team visited various healthcare facilities such as DH, CHC, HWCs, and VHND sites, where they observed the weak intervention for newborns at the ground level. Additionally, they participated in a community meeting organised by the Jivika Team, which demonstrated the collective efforts made to improve health-related indicators.

The visit lasted three days, during which the team met with district-level government officials on the first day to share their views and understand the challenges of health and community participation. On the second day, they mainly visited VHSND sites, conducted home visits, attended community meetings, and observed service delivery points such as HWCs and community health centres. On the third day, they focused on urban centres and interventions taken to address the health needs of the urban population. Overall, the visit provided valuable insights into the challenges and successes of Bihar's health programmes.

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