

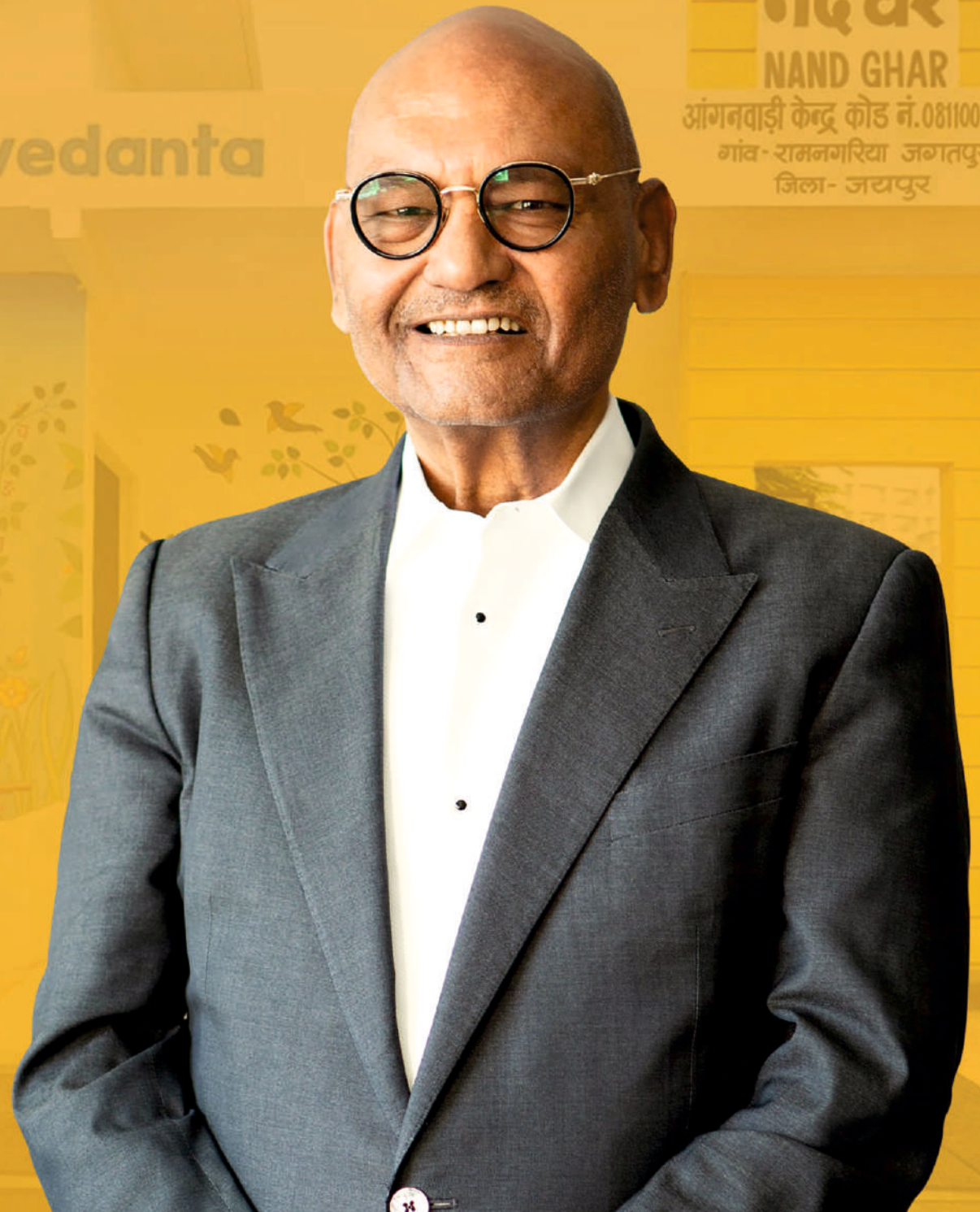
NAND GHAR

Chairman's Reflection

“

What began with 100 pilot centres has now grown into a network of over 8,500 Nand Ghars across 15 states. And yet, this is just the beginning.

”



नंद घर
NAND GHAR

आंगनवाड़ी केन्द्र कोड नं. 08110090308
गांव- रामनगरिया जगतपुरा
जिला- जयपुर

Nand Ghar began with a simple, heartfelt thought—to benefit the children and women of rural India, the very soul of our nation who for too long have remained unseen, unheard. I have always believed that if India is to truly prosper, we must begin where it matters the most—at the grassroots. That's where our strength lies. That's where our future lives.

This vision is deeply personal to me.

I grew up in modest circumstances, in a small town. I have seen first-hand the struggles of rural families—the lack of opportunity, the quiet endurance, the dreams left behind. I know what it feels like to go to bed hungry. That feeling stays with you. And it became a part of my purpose.

It is this dream that drives Nand Ghar—a dream where no child in India goes to bed hungry, where malnutrition is a long-forgotten reality, and every woman has the means to live with dignity, strength, and pride.

We envisioned Nand Ghar not as just a building, but as a community hub. A space of warmth, nourishment, learning and hope. The name itself—Nand, meaning child, and Ghar, meaning home—holds the essence of what we set out to create: a home for every child. A safe, vibrant space where women and children are empowered to grow and thrive.

By reimagining the traditional Anganwadi, we created a modern, inclusive model rooted in nutrition, early education, healthcare and skill development. Every Nand Ghar today continues to serve hot, nutritious meals, delivers digital learning for school readiness, offers clean drinking water, and provides healthcare access and entrepreneurial training for women.

And in each of these centres, I see more than infrastructure—I see the India we dream of. I see the laughter of children, the confidence of mothers, and the quiet pride of communities rising together.

What began with 100 pilot centres has now grown into a network of over 8500 Nand Ghars across 15 states. And yet, this is just the beginning. With 14 lakh Anganwadis spread across India, our vision is clear: to impact the lives of 8 crore children and 2 crore women, and to transform every village into a hub of opportunity and care.

Behind every statistic, there is a story. A little girl who now dreams of becoming a doctor. A mother who started her own tailoring business. A village that found its voice. These stories are the heartbeat of Nand Ghar—and this book

feel: a deep warmth, a quiet pride, and a strong belief that we can make a difference—together. I hope you see not just what Nand Ghar is, but what it can be—a symbol of what's possible when compassion meets action.

This is also an invitation—to you, dear reader—to walk with us, to dream with us. And to help shape a brighter, more inclusive India.

One Nand Ghar at a time.

Yours,



ANIL AGARWAL
Founder & Chairman, Vedanta Group

Director's Message

“

Nand Ghar remains at the core of this commitment, as we continue to strengthen India's Anganwadi network and deliver on our promise of Zero Hunger, Quality Education, Accessible Healthcare, and Women Empowerment.

”



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आंगनवाड़ी केंद्र कोड नं. 08110090308

गांव - रामनगरिया जगतपुरा

जिला - जयपुर

Dear All,

At Vedanta, we've always believed that growth finds its true meaning when it uplifts others. Artha (the value we create) gives us the strength to build, but it is Dharma (the value we give back) that gives our journey its soul.

It is this philosophy that forms the foundation of our social impact vision, to serve the communities and ecosystems around us.

In 2015, we launched Nand Ghar with a simple mission- That no child should go to bed hungry and every woman should have access to opportunity and dignity.

Today, Nand Ghar is one of India's largest movements for early childhood care and women's empowerment, touching the lives of over 7 crore children and 2 crore women across the country.

And our journey has only just begun.

As we celebrate 10 years of Nand Ghar, we are entering a new chapter. We are now working to establish 25,000 Nand Ghars across Rajasthan.

At the Anil Agarwal Foundation, we have pledged ₹5,000 crore towards social impact initiatives over the next five years. Nand Ghar remains at the core of this commitment, as we continue to strengthen India's Anganwadi network and deliver on our promise of Zero Hunger, Quality Education, Accessible Healthcare, and Women Empowerment.

This coffee table book is a reflection of the decade gone by. It captures not just the milestones we've achieved, but the mission that drives us forward to create a more nourished, inclusive and empowered India.

Because at Vedanta, we don't see CSR as a checkbox. We see it as our calling.

We believe that true progress lies in giving back more to the world more than we take from it.

That belief is at the heart of Nand Ghar. That is the future we are building together.

PRIYA AGARWAL HEBBAR

Chairperson, Hindustan Zinc Ltd | Anchor, TACO
Non-Executive Director, Vedanta Ltd.

About the Anil Agarwal Foundation (AAF)

AAF is Vedanta Limited's social impact arm that drives social, community, and development initiatives with the aim of creating strong, inclusive, and resilient communities in India. AAF's diverse CSR activities focus on healthcare, women & child development, skill development, animal welfare and sports promotion. At the core of AAF's efforts is a deep commitment to nation-building by uplifting the economically disadvantaged and marginalised by implementing initiatives that build a strong connection with grassroots communities. To unlock the full potential of communities and enable them to contribute significantly to India's growth story, AAF has initiated a plan to invest ₹50,000 Mn over 5 years towards India's socio-economic development.

About Nand Ghar

Nand Ghar, AAF's flagship initiative, focuses on modernising Anganwadis to secure a brighter and more promising future for the next generation. These centres play a crucial role in addressing severe issues such as malnutrition, offering vital pre-primary education, delivering essential healthcare services, and empowering rural women through a range of targeted initiatives. By enhancing these community hubs, Nand Ghar is committed to fostering sustainable development and significantly improving the quality of life for millions of people across India.





Vision

Nand Ghar is committed to supporting the Hon'ble Prime Minister's national vision of eradicating child malnutrition, providing education and healthcare, and empowering women with skill development.

Mission

Transforming the lives of 70 Million children and 20 Million women across 1.40 Million Anganwadis in India through Nand Ghars.



veda





A Legacy of Change

Driven by a vision to uplift underserved communities, Anil Agarwal laid the foundation for AAF's flagship project, Nand Ghar, in June 2015. Over the past 10 years, this initiative has been consistently working to transform rural India's social landscape. Nand Ghar expands the reach of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme, by reimagining Anganwadis (community childcare centers) as modern hubs. Nand Ghars are designed to be a hub for change within communities. They offer and support integrated services that help combat child malnutrition, enhance pre-primary education, ensure access to healthcare, and empower women through skill development. Additionally, they also offer quality infrastructure, access to safe drinking water and sanitation, capacity building for staff, and real-time digital monitoring. Over the last decade, Nand Ghars have played a crucial role by facilitating the provision of nutritious meals, vital pre-primary education, essential healthcare services, and by empowering rural women through a range of targeted initiatives. By enhancing these community hubs, Nand Ghar is committed to fostering sustainable development and significantly improving the quality of life for millions of people across India.

Milestones in the Journey of Transformation

JUNE 2015



Proof of Concept (PoC) for Nand Ghar was presented to the then Union Minister for Women & Child Development, Smt. Maneka Gandhi. The first prototype was constructed in Sonipat, Haryana.

SEPTEMBER 2015



A landmark MoU was signed with the Ministry of Women & Child Development to establish 4,000 Nand Ghars across India.

APRIL 2016



The first operational Nand Ghar was inaugurated in Nagepur village, Varanasi, marking the beginning of on-ground transformation.

AUGUST 2019



1000th Nand Ghar inaugurated in Amethi by Former WCD Minister, Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani

FEBRUARY 2022



An MoU was signed with the Government of Rajasthan to develop 25,000 Nand Ghars across the state—one of the largest public-private partnerships in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) space.



APRIL 2023



MoU signed with the Varanasi District Administration to build 975 Nand Ghars, reinforcing the model's roots in its birthplace.

DECEMBER 2023



Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited a flagship Nand Ghar in Varanasi, recognising it as a unique, integrated model of early childhood care and development.

NOVEMBER 2024



Over 7,000 Nand Ghars developed across 15 states, impacting millions of children and women—cementing the initiative as a scalable model for national growth.

APRIL 2025



Nand Ghar crosses the 8,000 mark across India; Vedanta signed an MOU with the Government of Rajasthan to develop 25,000 Nand Ghars across the state; AAF signed an MoU with Kalahandi District Administration to upgrade 100 Anganwadis in each district.

The Nand Ghar Impact



8,500+

Nand Ghars
across 15 states



3,20,000+

children aged 0-6 years
beneficiaries



2,50,000+

women empowerment
program beneficiaries



10603



Ministry of Women and
Child Development
Government of India



Transformation Blueprint

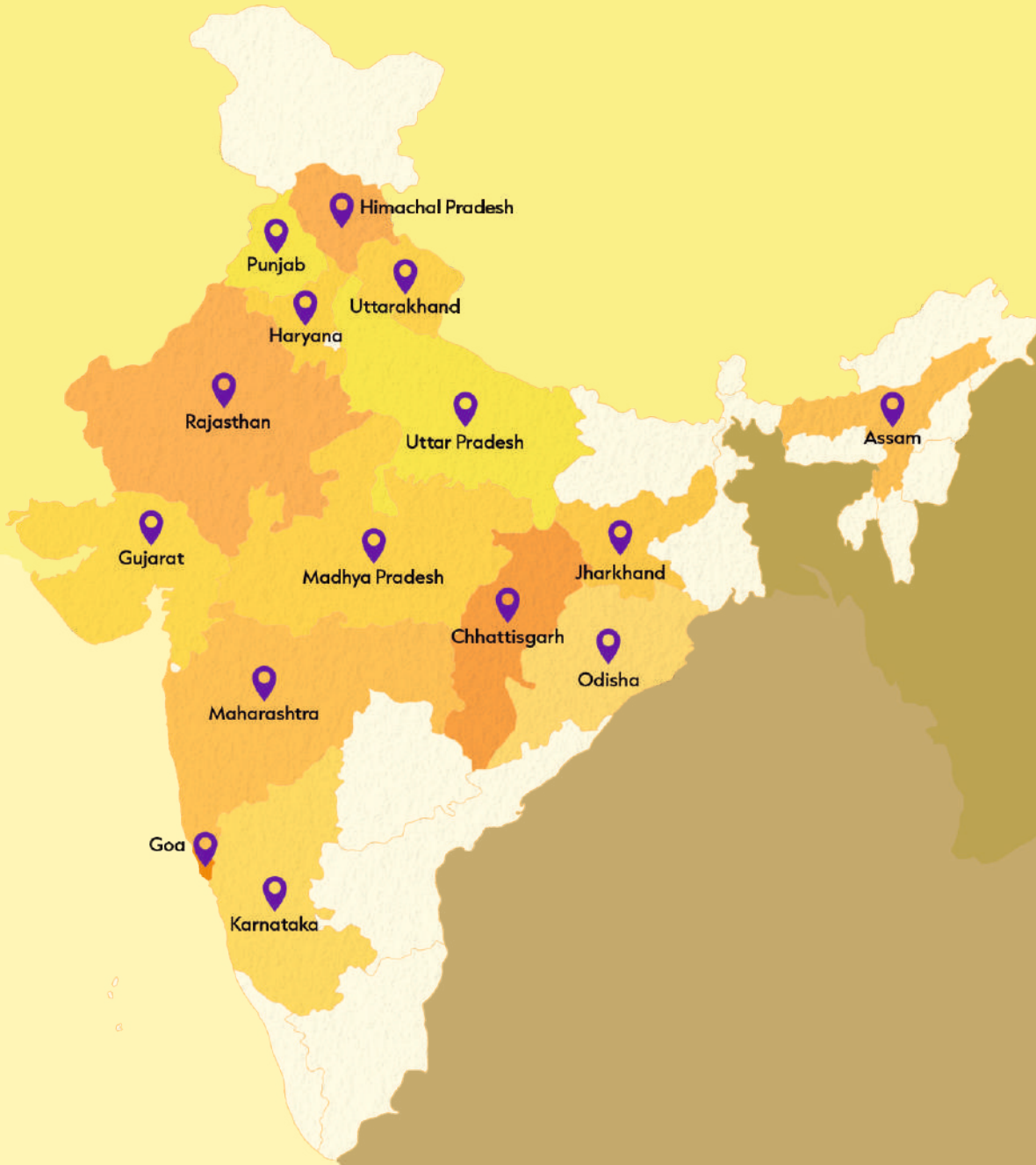
Nand Ghar represents the future of Anganwadis, integrating modern infrastructure and innovative services to uplift rural communities. Recognised as a model Anganwadi by Rajasthan's government, the Nand Ghar in Ramnagariya sets a new benchmark for child development, maternal health, and women's empowerment. By blending education, nutrition, and economic support, it ensures holistic progress. The new model Anganwadi centres, like the Nand Ghar in Ramnagariya, will continue to integrate best-in-class facilities and services to serve as a benchmark for community resource centres across Rajasthan.

Reimagined Anganwadis

Innovation has been at the heart of the Nand Ghar initiative since its inception 10 years ago. Enabling large-scale implementation of the model calls for groundbreaking solutions, and that is what led to the development of distinct models adapted especially to the unique needs of various states in a vast country like India. While the Brown Field Model breathes new life into existing Anganwadis, infusing them with modern facilities, the Green Field Model, constructed with Schnell technology, ensures resilience against earthquakes and fire hazards.



Nand Ghars Across India



What You Will See at Nand Ghar

Every Nand Ghar is a testament to progress. These holistically designed, modern childcare centers are redefining the meaning of community development, proving that the right infrastructure and state-of-the-art technology, coupled with visionary programs, can create lasting impact. From the first playful steps of a child to the first earning of an empowered woman, Nand Ghar is where brighter futures take root and flourish.



Bright, airy classrooms



Lightweight child-friendly chairs without hard or sharp edges



Swings and slides



BaLA (Building as Learning Aid) designs



Interactive green boards



Smart kits



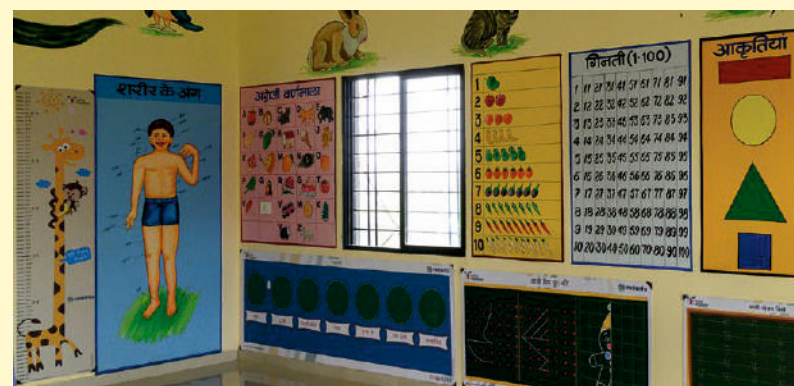
Colourful walls painted with murals portraying birds, animals, and flowers



Play-based learning using Early Learning Activity kits



Pre-loaded content on TVs, and tablets



Instructive charts showing alphabets in English and the varnmala in Hindi and vernacular language

Meet the Nand Ghar Didis

Nand Ghar Didis are the central force behind Nand Ghars. These dedicated caregivers and educators play a vital role in providing care, nurturing, and educational support to children in Nand Ghars, fostering their growth and development. As women who hail from within the community, they also bring with them a deep sense of familiarity and empathy that strengthens their bond with the children and families they serve.

Armed with specialised training aligned with state curriculum standards, Nand Ghar Didis transform traditional classrooms into vibrant spaces of curiosity and growth. Moreover, their contributions go far beyond being just caregivers or educators. With a strong focus on health and nutrition, they also ensure that children receive proper medical attention and are guided on healthy eating habits to support their growth.

Nand Ghar Didis are often women who have benefited from training and skill development programs, and as a result, they serve as the vital links between families and the wider community, and go on to become agents of positive change in their communities. By nurturing children and empowering women, Nand Ghar Didis contribute to the overall transformation of their communities.





“

We engage children who come to Anganwadi Centre in fun and educational activities, ensuring their cognitive and mental development. We try to equip them with valuable knowledge that will help them to continue learning in the future.

”

JASWANT KAUR

Nand Ghar Didi,
Kishangarh Parwahi, Ajmer, Rajasthan

Nand Ghar Services



Nourishing Bodies and Minds

At Nand Ghar, every meal is a step towards a healthier future. Nutritious and fortified hot cooked meals and take home rations provide sustenance to children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers. Children also receive millet-based supplements such as bars, chikkis, shakes, etc., that are delicious and nutritious, ensuring they receive the vital nutrients needed for growth and immunity.



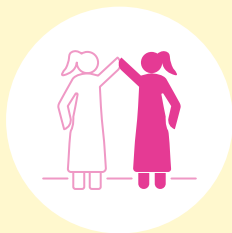
A Positive Start for Every Child

Education at Nand Ghar transcends conventional chalk-and-blackboard methods. Here, smart TVs and tablets bring lessons to life, guiding children aged 3-6 years through an engaging 40-week e-learning curriculum. Vibrant BaLA (Building as Learning Aid) designs adorn the walls, turning the very structure into a teaching tool. Smart kits designed for linguistic, cognitive, and motor skill development foster curiosity and holistic growth in young minds.



Healthcare at the Doorstep

Ensuring good health is integral to the Nand Ghar vision. An integrated healthcare model brings primary healthcare services right to the doorstep, offering timely medical check-ups, vaccinations, and consultations through effective system strengthening, referral systems and partnerships.



Empowering Women, Enabling Dreams

Nand Ghar is not just a place for children; it is also a launchpad for women's empowerment. Through skill development programs, women gain access to vocational training, credit linkages, and enterprise development opportunities along with scheme linkage programs empowering them to achieve financial independence. Upskilling of women and engaging in Self- Help Groups also help in building capacity of women and financial stability. These centers become hubs of self-reliance, where women not only learn but also grow into entrepreneurs and community leaders paving the path for a better future for all generations.







NUTRITION

Every bite matters

Nourishing India

India has long battled the silent crisis of malnutrition, a challenge that directly affects the health and future of its children and the GDP of the country. As per NFHS 5 data, among 744 crore children under six years, 37.51% were stunted, 17.43% were underweight, and 6% of children under five were wasted. Adding to the concern, nearly half of all women of reproductive age suffer from anaemia—a stark reminder of the urgent need for intervention. Nand Ghar presents that movement committed to ensuring that no child in India goes to bed hungry. With a mission to nourish the nation's future, Nand Ghars across the country facilitate serving hot, nutritious and cooked meals to children, offering not just sustenance but a foundation for healthier lives. Further strengthening its impact, Nand Ghar supports the government in facilitating the distribution of fortified dry rations ensuring 100% access to good nutrition for every child and mother in need. Nand Ghar is also revolutionising nutrition with innovative solutions like millet bars, millet chikkis, millet shakes, and millet biscuits. These nutrient-rich offerings not only combat malnutrition but have also significantly boosted attendance at Nand Ghars.





Meal-time at Nand Ghar

At Nand Ghar, meals are prepared with the highest standards of hygiene. What makes them truly special is their celebration of regional flavours—from poha and upma to halwa, the menu reflects the rich culinary diversity of India, ensuring that children enjoy both taste and nutrition in every bite. By strengthening the government's delivery system, Nand Ghar also goes beyond just serving meals—it reinforces food safety, hygiene, and accessibility, amplifying the impact of the government's flagship programme, POSHAN Abhiyaan 2.0.

Building Lifelong Healthy Habits

By providing nutritious meals, Nand Ghar is also laying the foundation for lifelong healthy habits. Beyond providing essential nutrition, these daily meals shape young minds, reinforcing the importance of balanced eating not just for children, but also for their parents. Mealtime also becomes a moment of joy and connection, where children bond with their peers, fostering social skills and emotional well-being. By making nutrition an integral part of childhood, Nand Ghar is building a healthier, well-adjusted future generation.



Aligning with POSHAN Abhiyaan 2.0

POSHAN Abhiyaan 2.0 offers key Anganwadi services to improve nutritional outcomes for children under six years of age, pregnant women and new mothers. Taking a cue from this initiative's recommendations, Nand Ghars have also facilitated the establishment of nutrition gardens or Poshan Vatikas, which have helped thousands of women in the country with access to fresh, homegrown produce. Nirmala Devi, an Anganwadi worker from Sikar, Rajasthan, is one of them. Using the organic seeds and composting advice provided by Nand Ghar, she started her own kitchen garden. Today, not only does it serve as an additional source of nutrition for her family, but her success has sparked a movement, inspiring her neighbors to grow their own food and embrace healthier lifestyles.



The Millet Revolution

As the world embraces sustainable and nutritious food sources, millets are reclaiming their place as a vital solution to both health and environmental challenges. Recognising their potential, Nand Ghar took up the initiative to reintroduce this traditional superfood into the daily diets of children and communities. In 2023, AAF launched the multi-millet nutri bar to combat child malnutrition—a breakthrough initiative that saw remarkable success. Building on this momentum, Nand Ghar introduced a millet shake distribution program in 2024, during the international year of the millet, offering a specially formulated shake to ensure children receive essential nutrition.





The Millet Shake

- The protein-dense millet shake is dairy-free and crafted from a blend of ragi, bajra, foxtail and kodu millets. Introduced for the first time in India, it is a patented and FSSAI-certified product.
- It is rich in 23 essential vitamins and minerals, low in calorie with plant-based protein.
- It is manufactured by Millet Bowl, a startup supported by Vedanta Spark, a unique global corporate innovation, accelerator, and ventures program by Vedanta Limited.
- With a six-month shelf life, the millet shakes are also a convenient and sustainable way to support children's health.

1,00,000

The number of protein-packed millet shakes distributed in September 2024

15,000+

The number of children in centres in Gujarat, Punjab, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Goa and Jharkhand who received millet shakes.

Small Grains, Big Impact



Millets, known as "nutri-cereals," have been a staple in Indian diets for centuries.



Rich in protein, fiber, antioxidants, and micronutrients, they offer superior nutrition.



These versatile superfoods support health while being eco-friendly and resilient to climate change.



Millets require minimal water and inputs, making them a sustainable choice for cultivation.



Recognising their potential, the Government of India advocated for 2023 to be declared the 'International Year of Millets' by the United Nations.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Nutri-Bar Impact

In the quiet corners of rural communities, small changes often yield the most profound results. For Kiran, Rahul, and Arjun, the introduction of millet nutri-bars has proved to be a great nutritional boost. Kiran, just three years old, comes from a family where both parents are illiterate, and her father works as a daily wage labourer. As the youngest of four, her mother struggles to provide even two meals a day. Since the introduction of nutri-bars provided by Nand Ghar, rich in essential nutrients, her mother noticed a remarkable shift. Kiran is now lively, eagerly participating in playtime activities that once left her drained. Five-year-old Rahul faced a different challenge. With both parents working as daily wage labourers, Rahul's attendance at the Nand Ghar was irregular, limiting his access to hot meals

and regular growth monitoring. The Nutri-Bar program became an incentive for consistent attendance. Now, Rahul not only enjoys a nutritious supplement but also benefits from regular health check-ups and social interaction, fostering his overall development. For six-year-old Arjun, the battle was against dietary habits. Despite his family's awareness of healthy eating, Arjun was reluctant to try protein-rich foods. The program's playful approach turned his initial hesitation into curiosity. Today, Arjun eagerly munches on millet bars, his energy levels soaring, and his parents beam at the visible improvement in his health and enthusiasm. Through these stories, the impact of Nand Ghar's nutritional endeavours is clear: nourishing not just bodies, but also potential, one child at a time.



“

Before this Nand Ghar was built, there was no Anganwadi in the area. Children would just loiter on the roads. Now they get a nutritious meal and learn a lot. I wish this Nand Ghar had come up years ago.

”

SOYATI, 55

Gurhamalani, Rajasthan.
Soyati's three granddaughters attend Nand Ghar



ANIRUDH, 04 AND ARADHYA, 03
Benipur, Varanasi

Benipur Nand Ghar: Nurturing Hope, One Child at a Time

In rural Benipur, in Varanasi, 4-year-old Anirudh and 3-year-old Aradhya were identified as Severely Acute Malnourished (SAM) children. They both showed signs of poor health, including low weight, frequent illness, and lack of energy. Their families lacked awareness about essential health and hygiene practices, leading to recurrent infections and slow physical development. The Benipur Nand Ghar quickly recognised these critical health issues faced by both the children, and in collaboration with healthcare professionals, implemented key health-focused interventions. The process started with weekly visits by the Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) to ensure regular monitoring of their health parameters, including weight, height, and signs of deficiencies. Timely medical consultations and referrals were provided to address any underlying health concerns. Both children received necessary vaccinations as per the national immunisation schedule. Clean drinking water and proper sanitation facilities were ensured at the Nand Ghar to reduce health risks. The program

combined immediate medical intervention with long-term parental education. Awareness sessions were conducted to educate the parents on the importance of timely immunisation, deworming, and vitamin supplementation to prevent infections and promote growth. Nand Ghar did Anita and helper Sheela conducted handwashing demonstrations and educated families on the importance of personal hygiene in preventing illnesses. Mothers were counselled on including iron-rich foods and micronutrients to prevent anaemia and other deficiencies. Nand Ghar facilitated Poshan Maah (Nutrition Month) activities, helping mothers learn about diet diversification and balanced meals. Results were remarkable, with both children showing improvement in health and body weight. Their mothers are now proactive in following health guidelines, ensuring timely medical check-ups and better hygiene practices at home. Regular follow-ups by healthcare workers continue to support their well-being and prevent relapse.



“

Nand Ghars have played a crucial role in transforming and upgrading the whole ICDS sector in Varanasi through future-ready Anganwadi centres. Their focus on nutrition is commendable as it creates a holistic approach to learning. My sincere thanks and wishes to the whole team of Nand Ghar and Vedanta.

”

HIMANSHU NAGPAL

Chief Development Officer (CDO),
Varanasi





From access to clean washrooms to safe drinking water and nutritious meals, Nand Ghar offers children not just sustenance but a solid foundation for a healthier life



EDUCATION

Embarking on an Ed-venture

Lead Tomorrow

The early years of a child's life are crucial for cognitive and social development. Recognising this, Nand Ghar provides high-quality early childhood care and education for children aged 3-6 years through best-in-class content aligned with state curriculum standards. By transforming Anganwadis into model preschools, the initiative aspires to create an aspirational learning environment for young minds. But it is not just about schooling; it is about shaping dreams, fostering curiosity, and ensuring that every child who enters its doors walks





Learning Centres

At Nand Ghar, the walls come alive with colours, shapes, and letters, they guide little hands and curious minds. Songs and stories fill the air, and digital learning modules introduce young learners to the wonders of numbers and language. Technology is seamlessly introduced in the child's daily life through smart kits that support comprehensive child development to help build linguistics, cognitive, and motor skills, among others. This blend of physical and digital content makes education at Nand Ghar not just engaging but deeply impactful. At the heart of this transformation is Building as Learning Aid (BaLA), where every corner of the classroom serves a purpose, alphabets and numbers woven into wall murals, supporting numeric literacy, artistic elements including animals, fruits, vegetables adorn the center. With LED televisions providing an extensive 40-week scientific curriculum, Nand Ghar is a space for holistic learning. By blending innovation with tradition, they ensure that every child steps into school equipped with a strong foundation in early literacy, numeracy, and social skills, and

Early Lessons, Lifelong Success

Studies have shown that a child's brain develops rapidly from birth to age 5, reaching about 90% of its adult size by the time the child turns 5. During this time, children develop brain connections supporting many important cognitive, physical and social abilities. Recognising the crucial role Early Childhood Development (ECD) plays in laying the groundwork for lifelong development, Nand Ghar integrates interactive learning methods to create an engaging educational experience. Nand Ghar's scientifically designed curriculum aligns with childhood development milestones, incorporating spoken and written English, regional adaptations, and value-based education, ensuring that children are 100% school-ready. Nand Ghar Didis undergo extensive classroom and in-situ training to effectively deliver content through activity-based learning

*More than 8,500 Nand Ghars
have been established in 15 states.*

*Beneficiaries
3,20,000 children
2,50,000 women*

approaches. As part of the initiative, Nand Ghar Didis captivate young minds by narrating stories, singing songs, and fostering curiosity. Through innovative teaching methods, they create an environment fostering better hygiene practices, improving WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) behaviour, thereby supporting healthier development in early childhood. These simple yet impactful activities also enhance social development and nurture cognitive skills. At each Nand Ghar, clean drinking water, hygienic toilets, and a comprehensive WASH program empower children to build lifelong habits. These habits like frequent handwashing, mindful toilet use, maintaining personal cleanliness, etc. are crucial for the well-being and growth of children.

*Nand Ghar aims to transform the lives of
70 Million children
20 Million women across
1.4 Million Nand Ghars in India.*







IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Learning in the Light of Inclusion

Sahil, a 5-year-old boy from Milki Chak Nand Ghar, near Varanasi, has faced challenges due to blurry vision. But the Nand Ghar program has helped him. "Sahil faces challenges with his vision, particularly in sunlight, but manages to study better in the shade," explains Shashikala, a Nand Ghar didi. Understanding Sahil's condition, Nand Ghar has implemented creative teaching methods to ensure he can learn effectively. Slates and other visual aids are used to minimise glare, allowing Sahil to engage comfortably in lessons. The Nand Ghar also provides a supportive and inclusive environment, ensuring that Sahil feels encouraged and capable despite his challenges. These tailored strategies have empowered Sahil to make remarkable strides in his education. He is an active participant, driven by his enthusiasm for learning and the dedicated support of his Didi. "He studies and he writes. He comes to Nand Ghar regularly to study. At Nand Ghar, we are empowering children by building an inclusive learning culture for all," says Shashikala. Sahil's journey serves as an inspiration to the community, highlighting that with the right support and determination, no obstacle is insurmountable.

SAHIL, 05

Milki Chak Nand Ghar, Near Varanasi



Empowered Educators

In the Naxal-affected Nawadih block of Bokaro, Jharkhand, Anganwadi workers Charubala Devi and Rita Devi have become catalysts for educational change. Charubala didi, formerly a teacher in a private school for students in classes one to five, recognised that many children lacked adequate preparation when they entered school. This realisation prompted her to focus on working with children aged 3-6 years. Rita didi, a homemaker facing financial difficulties, was encouraged by a village woman to become an Anganwadi sevika and engage in social service. Recognising gaps in early childhood education, they embraced the transformation of their centres into Nand Ghars in 2021. Empowered by the ECCE training provided by Nand Ghar's (former) education partner TITLI, they enhanced their teaching methods and gained the confidence to mentor others. Their commitment extended beyond their classrooms, as they trained fellow Anganwadi workers across their Panchayat, improving learning outcomes for countless children. Their journey reflects resilience, community leadership, and the transformative power of education in even the most challenging environments.

“

All facilities are available at Nand Ghar. Here we have a TV and children have access to notebooks, and books for writing, as well as tables and chairs to sit on. This makes it easier for the guardians to send their children without hesitation and the children face no difficulties in studying, playing or engaging in other activities.

”

RAJKUMARI

Nand Ghar Didi,
Khowja Nand Ghar, Varanasi



“

Nand Ghar has made a significant impact in Pindra Varanasi by bringing a transformative change in the Anganwadi Centers. Teaching Learning Materials, audio-visual aids and other materials are available for the children of Nand Ghar to prepare them for pre-school. With hygienic toilets and availability of kitchens for healthy meals, Nand Ghars provide a pleasant environment for the complete development of children.

”

ASHISH VERMA

Child Development Project Officer
(CDPO), Pindra block





Early Childhood Development (ECD) plays a crucial role in laying the groundwork, for lifelong development. Therefore, Nand Ghar integrates interactive learning methods to create an engaging educational experience for children at a young age.



HEALTHCARE

Wellness for all

Bridging the Rural Healthcare Gap

Optimum health is a fundamental right, yet many in rural areas lack access to adequate services. This gap worsens the socioeconomic divide, leading to high mortality rates, malnutrition and low life expectancy. To address this, Nand Ghar focuses on strengthening rural healthcare through holistic, community-centered programs.





Better Health, Brighter Future



Specialised health camps such as eye checkups, orthopaedic camps, and dental check-ups, gynaecology camps, etc. in partnership with local hospitals



Behavioural change communication on women's health and hygiene



Ensuring monthly immunisation and vaccination at Nand Ghar



Training Nand Ghar Didis on government initiatives like e-Sanjeevani (telemedicine)



Basic non-invasive health tests



Referral for diagnostic and curative healthcare services



Menstrual hygiene awareness programs at Nand Ghar



Healthy Women, Stronger Communities

Nand Ghar is also working to tackle three major issues that plague reproductive healthcare in rural areas: inaccessibility, inability to afford, and non-availability of basic primary health care. Tackling the stigma surrounding menstrual health by empowering people with knowledge on Menstrual Health Management (MHM) and safe reproductive health practices. Nand Ghars also serve as centers for the delivery of key government health services such as immunisation of women and children, antenatal care (ANC) and postnatal care (PNC), and counselling for pregnant and lactating women.



Healing Rural India

Access to quality healthcare remains a challenge in rural India, making Nand Ghar's healthcare initiatives particularly crucial. To enable better and timeless access to health care, Nand Ghar has been facilitating specialised health camps across India. These camps, observed as Village Health and Nutrition Day (VHND), provide essential medical check-ups, nutrition support and counselling, ensuring that vulnerable communities receive timely care. Nitanjali Pradhani, a resident of Odisha, brought her son, Harpit, to one such camp for a routine check-up. Harpit, who is differently abled, was found to be severely malnourished, weighing far below the average for his age. After discussions with the Nand Ghar Didi at the center, Harpit was referred to the Nutrition Rehabilitation Centre (NRC) in Bhawanipatna under the Rashtriya Bal Suraksha Karyakram. Over 15 days of comprehensive treatment, his weight increased from 5.6 kg to 8.1 kg. Now healthier, Harpit continues his early education at Nand Ghar, along with his parents receiving ongoing counseling and care to maintain his health and well-being.





IN THE SPOTLIGHT

More Than Healthcare

A similar story unfolded in Hirima Mundapada village, in Odisha's Jharsuguda district, where Kuntala Munda, the wife of a daily wage labourer, noticed a decline in her son Chintu's health. A check-up at Nand Ghar confirmed his malnutrition, prompting Nand Ghar Didis to counsel the family and facilitate his admission to a nearby NRC. Following two weeks of treatment, Chintu's health significantly improved. But the story does not end there. Inspired and guided by Nand Ghar, Kuntala's family established a nutrition garden at home, ensuring access to fresh fruits and vegetables. They now actively participate in Nutrition Awareness Sessions, while Nand Ghar Didis conduct monthly home visits to monitor Chintu's progress. Nand Ghar's healthcare interventions are transforming lives, serving as a model that can be replicated across India to bridge healthcare gaps in rural communities.

A Second Chance at Sight



Musri Devi, an elderly resident of Madhunia village in Chas Panchayat, Bokaro, Jharkhand, had resigned herself to a life of struggle. With no support from her two married sons or the village community, she lived in quiet hardship with her husband, relying on his meagre and irregular earnings as a daily wage labourer. To make matters worse, her vision had been steadily deteriorating, making even the simplest tasks a

challenge. She dismissed it as an unavoidable part of ageing—until hope arrived at her doorstep. A free eye check-up camp organised by Nand Ghar became a turning point in Musri Devi's life. For the first time, her condition was examined by dedicated healthcare professionals, who diagnosed her with cataract. With their guidance and care, she underwent successful surgery that restored her eyesight. Today, Musri Devi sees more than just the world around her; she sees new possibilities, renewed confidence, and a life no longer bound by darkness.

Nand Ghar has reached over 85 Lacs community beneficiaries through its ongoing health programs.





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Nand Ghar became my beacon of hope in times of darkness. The guidance and support from Nand Ghar's ANM (Auxiliary Nurse Midwife) not only helped me conceive but also empowered me with knowledge about my health. I am determined to assist other women facing similar challenges in my village.

”

SANGEETA, 28

from Dhadhorpur, Varanasi,
who welcomed a healthy baby girl in December 2023

LEADERSPEAK



“

Nand Ghar has made a significant contribution towards providing basic infrastructure at Anganwadi centers in Varanasi district. It has transformed over 1500 centres across Varanasi, thereby creating an improved environment for health, nutrition services, and pre-school education. Their efforts have helped reduce the rate of malnutrition among children up to 6 years of age.

”

D.K. SINGH

District Project Officer (DPO),
Varanasi





Nand Ghar focuses on strengthening rural healthcare through holistic, community-centered programs, and serves as a center for the delivery of government health services such as immunisation and reproductive healthcare



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Unleashing her potential

Empowering Rural Women, One Skill at a Time

Often excluded from the formal workforce, women in rural India have long borne the consequences of exclusion from financial systems. Fortunately, this reality is changing. As of January 2025, India has over 9 Million SHGs, with almost 100 Million women as its members.¹ With 0.65 Million villages in the country,² this amounts to 14 SHGs per village. For over a decade, Nand Ghar has been contributing to this change by empowering women through skill development, financial independence, and sustainable livelihoods. Nand Ghar's initiatives have transformed communities in states such as Rajasthan, UP, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and others, and sparked a movement of empowerment across rural India. With every new skill learned and every life uplifted, Nand Ghar moves closer to its vision of a self-reliant, empowered nation.

1. Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission

2. 2011 Census





From Learning to Earning: A Day at Nand Ghar

With a holistic approach to women's empowerment, modernised Anganwadis are transformed into hubs of learning and economic growth. While children receive early education, nutrition and health services during the first half of the day, the centres transition into spaces for skill training, financial literacy, and access to government schemes for women during the second half. This structured training equips them with essential skills and connects them to income-generating opportunities, including job placements, market linkages, and micro-enterprise development. Approximately 20.37% of Indian women are Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) owners and contribute to over 23.3% of the labour force, yet they continue to face greater barriers than men. Recognising this, Nand Ghar specifically trains rural women who aspire to start their own businesses. These specialised training sessions boost confidence, expand perspectives, and foster decision-making skills. Women are also encouraged to identify a trade, develop a business plan, and receive continuous mentorship

to consolidate and grow their enterprises. Additionally, Nand Ghar promotes financial independence through real-world exposure. Women visit local markets, interact with successful female entrepreneurs, and challenge societal norms. By nurturing their emotional and intellectual strength, teaching basic accounting, and encouraging calculated risk-taking, Nand Ghar empowers women to build independent identities and become role models for their communities.

Nand Ghar aims to transform the lives of 20 Million women in India through 1.4 Million Anganwadis in the country.

1. IBEF report

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Empowerment in Action: Jahota's Women Take Charge

In 2021, Jahota in Rajasthan became the first village to receive the Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus tag under the Swachh Bharat Mission. However, its transformation extends far beyond sanitation. Today, the village's children have access to quality education, nutrition, and healthcare, while its women are empowered and financially independent—all thanks to Project Nand Ghar. Through programs including the Nand Ghar's skill development initiative, Jahota now thrives with 23 active Self-Help Groups (SHGs), leading to increased financial independence and employment among women across the village. As a result, the women in the village actively participate in policy-making and decision-making. The SHGs engage women in diverse income-generating activities, from candle-making to tie-dye work using organic indigo and intricate stitching. Their craftsmanship not only provides financial stability but also reflects their creativity and resilience. With newfound independence, the women of Jahota have redefined their surroundings and futures, shaping the village's





“

for many years. Nand Ghar has promoted the Anganwadi workers of our village in a new way. Self-Help Groups collaborated with Nand Ghar and taught us new skills. Our village now has 23 SHGs training women in various skills. While some women are learning tie-dye through organic indigo colour, others are learning skills like Tagai work, stitching and candle-making.

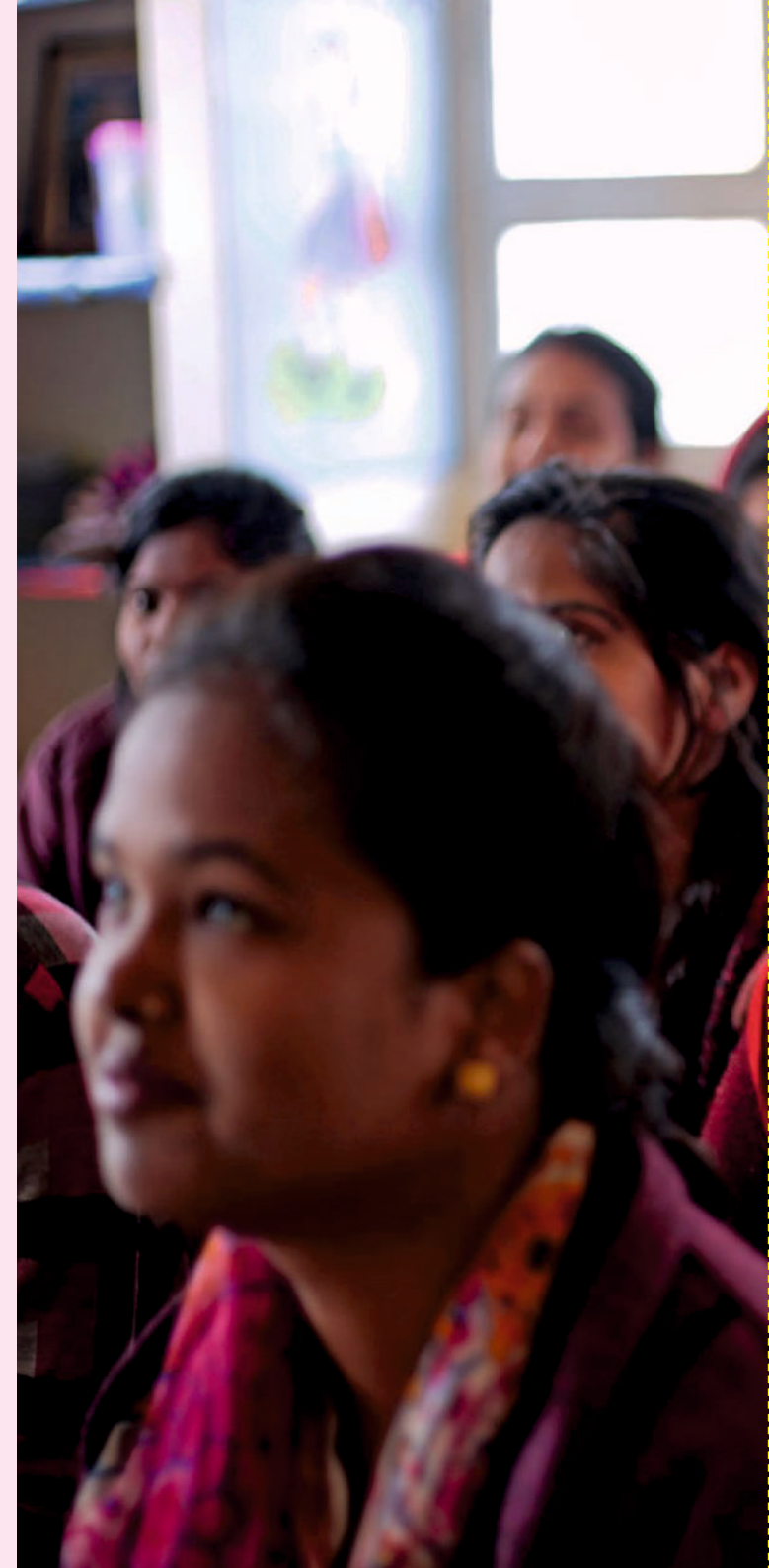
”

RAJNIRATHORE
a resident of Jahota, Rajasthan

Rise and Thrive: Turning Women into Changemakers

When a woman earns, she uplifts not just herself but also her children, her family, and her community. The women beneficiaries of Nand Ghar have experienced this firsthand, using their newly acquired skills to break the cycle of financial dependency and carve out a future of dignity and self-reliance. Babita Devi from Kakaraiya village in Varanasi always harboured entrepreneurial ambitions despite her limited resources. Enrolling in the Nand Ghar skilling program was her first step toward financial independence. With strategic guidance from Nand Ghar, which facilitated vendor connections and wholesale market linkages, Babita launched her grocery shop, gradually expanded her inventory and now earns Rs 200 daily. Priyanka Devi, a 30-year-old resident of Mahroli village in the Shri Madhopur cluster of Sikar district, has managed to change her life through her newly acquired skill. Supporting a family of 5, she was once confined to household chores as her aspirations took a backseat. She would visit the Anganwadi with her children and often dream about learning stitching as a means to contribute financially. When the

Nand Ghar skilling program began, she seized the opportunity and enrolled in the self-employed tailoring training course. The program not only honed her technical skills but also equipped her with the confidence to step into the workforce. Upon completing the training, she secured a job at a local tailoring boutique, where she now earns a fair income. Madhuri, another beneficiary from Varanasi, had never attended school and grew up in a financially struggling household. Her husband, a contract labourer, earned only Rs 250 and frequently fell ill. Madhuri took on various jobs—washing, cleaning, and anything else that could bring in some money. However, the arrival of Nand Ghar in her village marked a turning point in her life. Exploring the range of empowerment opportunities, she opted to set up an Atta Chakki (Flour Mill) at home. This decision not only helped her afford her children's education but also allowed her to fulfill her dream of building a house. These women have rewritten their narratives showcasing the undeniable impact of women's empowerment





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ragi laddoos from Nand Ghar. We now make laddoos and churma, which are healthy and we provide for our kids too. My income has increased, and I earn between Rs 8,000 and 10,000. I am now able to support my family.

”

SARITA THAKUR
Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh

LEADERSPEAK

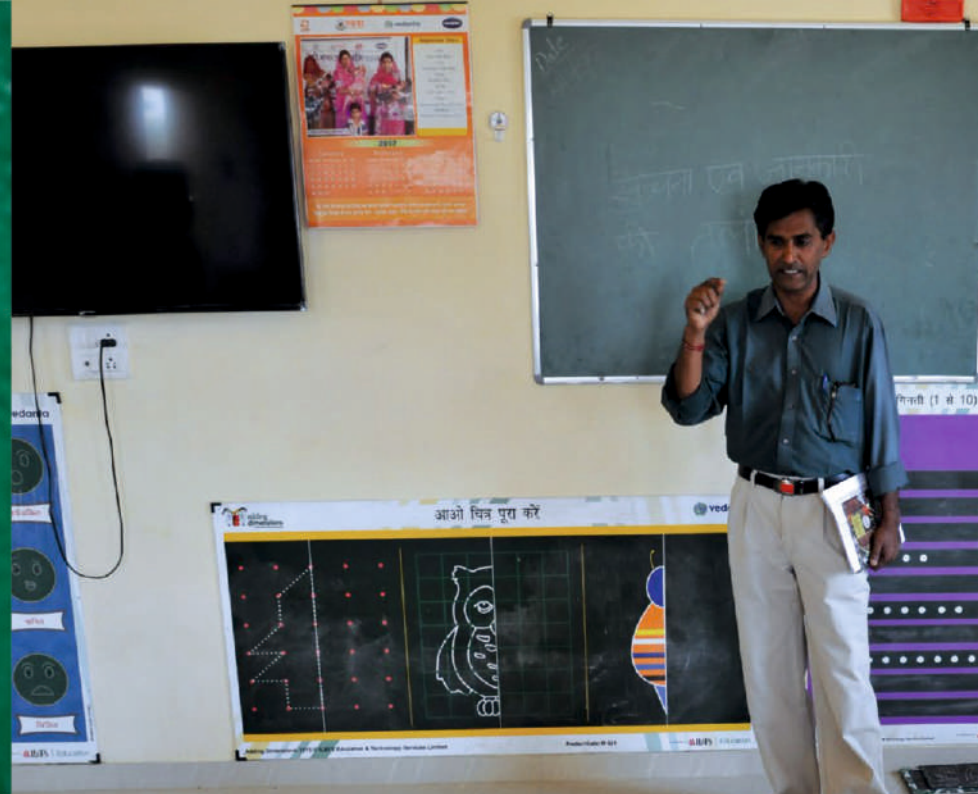


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Several Anganwadi centers in Bharatpur district have been commendably developed into Nand Ghars. As a result, the public perception of Anganwadi centers has improved significantly. The morale of the staff—workers and helpers—has been boosted, and children are now experiencing a vibrant educational environment. The transformation of Anganwadi buildings into Nand Ghars has also increased their longevity. With their modern classroom-like appearance, Nand Ghars have sparked greater interest in learning among children. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Vedanta Group for this initiative.

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SIKARAMARAM CHOYAL
Deputy Director, ICDS, Bharatpur





Nand Ghar empowers women
by offering them training in
skill development and
financial independence.

The Joy of Giving Back

A decade ago, Nand Ghar was born from a vision—to reimagine the future of India's children and women by transforming the foundation of early childhood development and community empowerment. After an incredible journey of 10 years, what one sees is not just numbers, but lives transformed, aspirations ignited, and communities empowered. With over 8,500 Nand Ghars spanning 15 states, Nand Ghar has gone beyond brick-and-mortar structures to create ecosystems of change. Each Nand Ghar is a beacon of hope, ensuring nutritious meals, digital early education, primary healthcare, and skills training to make sure that every child gets a strong start and every woman finds the wings to soar. This journey would not have been possible without the unwavering dedication of community leaders, educators, healthcare professionals, and countless individuals who have believed in the power of change. Their passion and perseverance have turned the vision of Nand

Ghar into a reality, fostering resilience and self-reliance in the heart of India's villages. 2025 is a landmark year, marking 50 years of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)—a program that has been far more than a government initiative. It has been a lifeline for millions, prioritising the well-being of children and mothers across the country. As India celebrates this milestone, Nand Ghar stands as a strong pillar of support, implementing initiatives that help the government achieve its goal of holistic development. With a renewed commitment, Nand Ghar will open new doors, ignite new dreams, and empower even more lives to shine. The next decade will see Nand Ghar deepening its impact, leveraging innovation, and expanding its reach to ensure that every child's laughter echoes in a space filled with learning and nourishment, and every woman's dream finds a path to fulfilment.





TOTAL NAND GHARS DEVELOPED

Over 8,500 Anganwadis across 15 states



BENEFICIARIES IMPACTED

3,20,000 lakh children and 2,50,000 lakh women



NUTRITION INITIATIVE

Distributed over 100,000 millet protein shakes across six states



SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Conducted workshops on crafts, block printing, and millet-based recipes with women's Self-Help Groups



NEXT MILESTONE

Developing 25,000 Nand Ghars across Rajasthan

A Movement of Hope, Empowerment and Transformation

Ten years. Over 8,500 Nand Ghars and counting! What started as a vision has now become a nationwide movement. Nand Ghar is more than a learning center; it's a hub of hope, health and empowerment, helping build a brighter future for India.

This initiative stems from the vision of Vedanta's Chairman and Founder, Mr. Anil Agarwal, whose dream is to positively impact the lives of 70 Million children and 20 Million women in India through the program. The Nand Ghar Movement seeks to nourish India's next generation, providing holistic health, nutrition and quality education while creating opportunities for women to lead grassroots change.

Aligned with the Prime Minister's vision of a new India, Nand Ghar contributes to eradicating child malnutrition, providing education, meeting healthcare needs and empowering women with self-reliance and financial independence. India's Anganwadi

system, established under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), serves as a crucial grassroots initiative serving millions of children and mothers in rural and underserved communities. Nand Ghar sets the blueprint for further transforming these centers into spaces of holistic growth. This is why the expansion of Nand Ghars is pivotal to achieving the nation's goals. With superior infrastructure, integrated services and technology-driven operational excellence, Nand Ghar sets a new standard for care and upliftment in India.

This milestone belongs to everyone—children, parents, Nand Ghar Didis, volunteers and communities who've joined us. We've come far, but the journey continues. We have successfully built the foundation, but to keep it strong, we need everyone to come together. This isn't the work of one person—it's a movement that needs your support.

Look around—does your village, district, or city need a Nand Ghar? Whether you're an NGO, corporation, think-tank, social worker or a passionate individual—you have the power to change lives. Join our mission now! Your time, resources and expertise can create ripples of transformation. Join Nand Ghar today and contribute to building a brighter future, ensuring that no one is left behind in our journey towards progress and prosperity.

Be a part of change by joining the Nand Ghar movement!

Visit www.nandghar.org to know more.



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Vedanta has always found its purpose in giving back to the society by positively impacting lives. Nand Ghar's mission is to transform the lives of women and children through healthcare and nutrition, education, and livelihood opportunities for women. We are working at the grassroot level towards building the foundation for a healthy and prosperous India.

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MR. ANIL AGARWAL

Founder and Chairman, Vedanta Group





For more information on the Nand Ghars

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