

Chairman's Message



Shekhar Mehta

Healing Touch

Dear friends of humanity,

It is one of the greatest blessings to be able to heal someone. If the healing is done for a young child, the joy is unbounded. I am so happy to see the "Saving Little Heart" program progressing so well. 21 children from around the globe have got their little hearts saved by getting complicated surgeries done in different parts of India.

Equally heartening is the healing of the minds when you make a child literate and empower a young girl to become literate. It is the best healing one can do for that girl. Our Asha Kiran program is healing so many child minds. These young children had to drop out of schools or never got the chance to go to one. But under the Asha Kiran program they are back to schools.

The Padho Bharat program has been a huge success with collection having crossed a 2 lakhs mark with request pouring in from everywhere. We have had to extend the date for book donations to 31st December, 2025. So, I urge everyone to donate books even as we have created hundreds of libraries.

Our correctional homes program has also got a shot in the arm with IHF getting permission to start the adult literacy program in all 61 correctional homes in the State of West Bengal.

I thank every partner, every donor for being a part of our journey in serving humanity.

Regards,

Shekhar Mehta.

Shekhar Mehta

Chairman

India Humanity Foundation

From collection to creation:



Over 2 lakh donations pave the way for Padho Bharat libraries

As the **Padho Bharat 2025** movement gains momentum, we are delighted to share a major milestone—over **2,00,000 books** have now been collected through the collective efforts of our City Leaders, partner organisations, schools, volunteers, and supporters across India. What began as a nationwide call for reading material is now a people's movement united by one goal: **ensuring every child has access to books and learning spaces.**

With contributions pouring in from multiple states, the next phase of the campaign is already in motion.

We are *deeply grateful* to all our **partners** whose unwavering support has powered the Padho Bharat movement forward. Organisations like **Goonj, Round Table India, Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust, Orient Blackswan, iLead, Gift a Library, Yeh Mera India**, along with **publishing houses and educational institutions**, have not only contributed books but have actively mobilised their networks, shared resources, and encouraged widespread participation. Our **media partners—Dainik Bhaskar, Sanmarg, and 91.9 Friends FM**—have amplified the campaign's reach, helping us connect with thousands across states. Their collective trust, collaboration, and enthusiasm have transformed this initiative into a true people's movement, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude for standing with us in this mission to spread knowledge and build a reading India.



Books at IHF's collection centre

Sorting Begins: From Piles to Purpose

To build effective libraries, systematic sorting has now begun at our collection centres. Volunteers and teams are organising books carefully by **language**, **age group**, and **subject** to ensure they reach the most suitable readers. Books are being categorised under:

- **English, Hindi & Regional Languages**
- **Primary (Grades 1-5)**
- **Elementary (Grades 6-8)**
- **Secondary & Sr. Secondary (Grades 9-12)**
- **College / University Level**
- **Miscellaneous (Religious, reference, etc.)**

Every sorted book brings us one step closer to creating meaningful libraries for children and young adults in underserved areas.

From Sorting to Setting Up: Libraries Take Shape

The implementation phase has also begun. Underserved schools and community spaces are being identified, and the first libraries are now in the process of being set up. Soon, the books collected will fill shelves in places where children may have never held a storybook before.



Books at IHF's collection centre

Apply for a Library: A Simple Step to Create Change

As libraries begin to take shape, Padho Bharat invites schools, communities, and organisations across India to apply for one in their area. The process is simple:

- Fill the Library Requisition Form on the Padho Bharat portal
- Libraries can be set up in schools, correctional homes, villages, community centres, or any learning space

Apply here:

https://padho-bharat.ihf.org.in/library_details.php

Together, we are turning books into imagination, access, and opportunity—one library at a time.

If you would like to contribute books, volunteer, or partner with us in any capacity, reach out at:

✉ literacy@ihf.org.in

☎ +91 74397 69372

🌐 www.ihf.org.in

CEO's Message



Aparna Biyani

Illuminating Hope

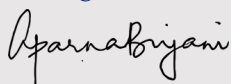
Dear Friends,

It fills me with immense satisfaction to see Padho Bharat grow from a simple idea into a national movement. What began as a call to donate books has transformed into a collective mission of compassion and purpose. Today, with over **two lakh books** collected, more than **hundred volunteers** engaged, and libraries taking shape in schools and communities, Padho Bharat is touching lives of young minds across the country. My heartfelt gratitude to our enthusiastic City Leaders, partner organisations, and volunteers whose dedication has made Padho Bharat a great success. Together, we will be able to create nearly **thousand libraries** thereby gifting these beautiful books to children who never had access to them.

As we celebrate the Festival of Lights, may the radiance of knowledge continue to illuminate every life we touch. This Diwali, let us renew our commitment to our mission of **Total Literacy** – to light every home with the power of learning and hope.

Wishing everyone a bright, peaceful, and purpose-filled Diwali!

With gratitude,



Aparna Biyani

CEO

India Humanity Foundation

Know Our Trustee

Kamal Sanghvi

A visionary leader with a heart for humanity



Mr. Kamal Sanghvi

If there is one person who embodies leadership with **warmth, service with passion, and success with humility**—it is **Mr. Kamal Sanghvi**. Born on **2nd January 1961** in **Dhanbad** to **Chandrakant Bhai** and **Pushpa Sanghvi**. Mr. Sanghvi's life journey is an inspiring blend of **excellence, empathy, and enthusiasm**. A graduate of **Kasturba Medical College, Manipal**, he has carried his education and energy into every sphere of life—from business to social service—with unshakable commitment.

A true people's person—**always smiling, approachable, and ever-energetic**—he leads by example. As **Managing Director of his family's banking, financing, and construction enterprises**, he brings the same discipline and innovation that define his humanitarian work. Alongside his wife, **Mrs. Sonal Sanghvi**, a qualified architect and partner in his endeavors, Mr. Sanghvi balances professional success with family values. His children, Dr. Khwab, is doing research on immunotherapy for Brain Cancers and Raavishu, MBA and Computer Engineer is working for Service First an American Consultancy firm as Product Manager.



He is the **Chair of Coalfield Gujrati Samaj** (an apex body of **80 gujrati organisations**), **Founder trustee of Bal Kalyan Samiti** (which runs **8 schools**), **Founder Trustee of Dhanbad Public School**, **Trustee of Dhanbad Sthanakvasi jain Sangh**, **Trustee Jeevan Jyoti Sansthan** etc.

His **Rotary journey began in 1991** when he joined the Rotary Club of Dhanbad. From there, his path was marked by remarkable milestones—**Club President (1998–99)**, **District Governor (2005–06)**, **Rotary International Training Leader 2010–12** and **Rotary International Director (2019–21)**. He is one of the trustees of India Humanity Foundation an impactful national initiatives transforming lives through education and health.



As a humanitarian, his leadership extended far beyond boundaries. Mr. Sanghvi pioneered the **"Aman Ki Asha"** initiative—bringing children from **Pakistan to India for life-saving heart surgeries under the Healing Little Hearts program**. He also played a key role in organizing **disaster relief efforts, including shelter kits in Bihar and earthquake relief in Nepal**.



A visionary of **women's empowerment**, he helped established **28 vocational training centers—Saheli Centres**—to equip women with income-generating skills. His efforts have helped thousands become self-reliant and confident.

An acclaimed orator, he has addressed over 500 Rotary events worldwide and represented Rotary International Presidents across continents. His awards—**Service Above Self, Four Avenues of Service, and the Distinguished Service Award** from Rotary Foundation—reflect his lifetime of dedication.

For IHF, Mr. Sanghvi is not just a leader—he is an **inspiration**, proving every day that **true greatness lies in serving others with love, laughter, and purpose**.

Leading by example:

A controller's mission to educate inmates



Kalyani Subsidiary Correctional Home

When the literacy program of **India Humanity Foundation (IHF)** reached the **Kalyani Subsidiary Correctional Home** in **Nadia district, West Bengal**, no one expected that the Controller himself, **Sri Somnath Bhattachariya**, would step forward as a teacher.



Sri Somnath Bhattachariya,
Controller, Kalyani Subsidiary Correctional Home

Managing a facility with **90 inmates** in the Kalyani Industrial Area, Sri Bhattachariya not only committed his personal time to teaching but also inspired several of his colleagues to join him. This marks the first instance, since the program began across West Bengal's correctional homes, that a Controller has taken such a direct role in leading literacy efforts.

For many inmates, it was the first time someone from prison administration had spoken so openly about how education could shape their futures. His initiative has not only brought the promise of literacy into the correctional home but also fostered trust and connection between the inmates and authorities. What followed was a visible change—learners began attending classes with renewed enthusiasm, inspired by the Controller's personal involvement.

His presence in the classroom sent a strong message: education is not just a program, but a genuine path to dignity and self-reliance. Inmates now see literacy as a tool for rebuilding their lives. Sri Bhattachariya's leadership proves that when those in power lead by example, transformation truly begins.

"Education is the first step towards rebuilding your life and preparing for a better tomorrow."

- Sri Somnath Bhattachariya

Annapurna treats young volunteers:

23,170 students across West Bengal benefit

Under its **Annapurna Program for Hunger Alleviation, India Humanity Foundation (IHF)** recently reached out to schools whose students had earlier volunteered in our **Diksha program**—closing the circle of service with care.

Through this effort, treats were distributed across **South 24 Parganas, Kolkata, and Howrah**, touching the lives of **23,170 schoolchildren**: From large clusters like **Begampur Gyanendra Prasad High School** and **Homra Palta High School** to smaller schools spread across the districts.

"Supporting these children is our way of giving back to those who once gave their time and compassion to help others. Every meal shared is a message of gratitude and encouragement."

For the students, this was more than just receiving treats. It was a recognition of their spirit of service and an assurance that their contributions matter.



Children of Kurali Choyani Jana Priya High School

Stories from the field

Breaking Chains of Child Marriage:

Sapna's fight for education in Bihar

A case story shared by: **Jawahar Jyoti Bal Vikas Kendra**



Even in today's world—where humans are reaching the moon and dreaming of life on Mars—many young girls in India still face the harsh reality of child marriage. One such story comes from a small village in Samastipur, Bihar, where 13-year-old Sapna* (name changed) stood against the odds to protect her childhood.



Sapna, a Class 7 student, belongs to a poor family with four daughters. For her parents, marriage seemed like the only way to relieve themselves of responsibility. Her elder sister had already been married off early, and now it was Sapna's turn. One day, her father bluntly told her, "We've found a boy, now preparations for your wedding will begin." When Sapna hesitantly replied, "Mujhe padhai karni hai, vivah nahi!" her words were silenced with anger. For a moment, her dreams seemed shattered.

But fate had other plans. The very next day, Jawahar Jyoti Bal Vikas Kendra, supported by Just Rights for Children (JRC), organised an awareness camp against child marriage in the village. Sapna attended and realised that what her parents planned was not only wrong but also illegal. Gathering courage, she whispered her fears to the team during a community meeting.

Soon, a joint intervention by the Kendra, local administration, and the Panchayat was carried out. Initially resistant, Sapna's parents finally agreed after learning that child marriage could lead to legal consequences. More importantly, they were moved by their daughter's determination to study. They signed an affidavit pledging that her marriage would only take place after she completes her education.



Today, Sapna is back in school, her eyes filled with hope and confidence. Her story is not just her victory—it is proof that with awareness, timely action, and community support, age-old practices like child marriage can be stopped.

This powerful case story, shared by Jawahar Jyoti Bal Vikas Kendra, reminds us that education is the true path to empowerment.

To protect and uplift girls like Sapna, **India Humanity Foundation**, through its **Asha Kiran program**, has been ensuring that children—especially young girls who are denied schooling due to poverty, migration, or harmful social practices—get a fair chance at education. By bringing them back to learning, **IHF has helped many regain their voice, dignity, and dreams**. Sapna's story is just one among many where education became the turning point toward a safer, brighter future.



Serving humanity - Impact Stories

Murti's Journey:

From the Sands of Thar to the Doors of Learning

In the heart of the **Thar Desert**, where temperatures reach **50°C** and daily life revolves around the struggle for water and work, **nine-year-old Murti** from **Barmer, Rajasthan**, stands as a symbol of **determination**. Every morning, she walks **nearly an hour** through sand and heat to reach school—without missing a day.

But Murti's return to education was not easy. As the eldest of two siblings, she had to drop out when her parents migrated to another city in search of work. Left with her grandmother, she spent her days caring for her younger brother and managing household chores. Like many rural families, hers placed survival before schooling. Poverty, migration, and illiteracy often force children out of classrooms and into responsibility.



Murti with other happy children at the Asha Kiran centre



Asha Kiran classes in session

The turning point came when **India Humanity Foundation (IHF)**, in partnership with **Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)** and **Uttari Rajasthan Cooperative Milk Union Ltd. (URMUL)**, established an **Asha Kiran centre** in her village. Asha Kiran identifies *out-of-school children* and supports them through bridge-learning centres to help them return to formal education.

After counselling sessions, Murti's family agreed to let her attend. Guided by her teacher, Tulsi, she rediscovered the joy of learning. She practiced reading and writing daily and eagerly listened to stories. **"I don't feel like going home after class,"** she said with a smile.

After six months of effort, Murti and several peers were mainstreamed into a nearby government school. Her father, once hesitant, now says, **"After seeing her dedication, I want all my children to study."**

Murti's story proves that **when opportunity meets determination, education can change lives**. Through Asha Kiran, IHF continues to help children like her return to school and build brighter futures.

A Second Chance at Learning:

Mita's Journey of Hope and Determination

At **40**, many believe the window for education has closed—but not for **Mita Rani Kar Mahapatra** of **Srirampur village**. Financial struggles forced her to abandon school early, and like many young girls, she was married off before she could complete her studies. Yet, her longing to read and write never truly left her.

Everything changed when she learned about the **adult literacy classes** at the **Srirampur Vidya Centre** under **India Humanity Foundation's literacy mission**. With quiet determination, Mita enrolled and began her journey toward learning.

Since then, she has completed more than **60 sessions**. Today, she can confidently **write her name, read simple texts, and form sentences**. What once felt impossible has become part of her daily life. Her transformation hasn't stopped with her—**Mita now helps tutor her daughter**, ensuring that the next generation grows with confidence and education.

Her story is a testament to how *literacy restores dignity, independence, and hope*. It also highlights the lasting impact of **IHF's donor-supported programs**, which continue to empower adults who were once denied the opportunity to learn.

Mita's journey is not just about picking up a forgotten dream—it is about *rewriting her future*. Through resilience, opportunity, and support, she has proven that it is never too late to start again.



Mita Rani teaching her daughter confidently

Saving little hearts:

Restoring hope, one child at a time

Every child deserves a healthy heart and a chance to dream. Yet for many families, life-threatening congenital heart conditions remain a painful reality—made worse by the staggering cost of treatment. Through its flagship initiative, **Saving Little Hearts, India Humanity Foundation (IHF)** is helping bridge that gap by providing life-saving heart surgeries to children from underprivileged families, both in India and beyond.

In collaboration with the **Yogita Kichlu Welfare Trust** and **Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence**, IHF continues to bring smiles, healing, and hope to children who once faced an uncertain future. Each story is a testament to compassion, courage, and the power of collective action.

Little Vishal's Life-Saving Surgery

One-year-old Vishal* from **Bankura** was born with a serious **congenital heart defect**. His father, a driver, struggled to afford treatment—but his hope never wavered. On **21st July 2025**, with support from **Saving Little Hearts**, Vishal underwent a successful device closure (**Cath + PDA**) surgery at **R.N. Tagore Hospital, Kolkata**.

Vishal was discharged on **23rd July**, smiling and healthy once again. His father expressed his heartfelt gratitude, calling the experience *“a miracle of kindness.”*

Brave Sunil's Journey of Healing

Ten-year-old Sunil* from **Bagda, North 24 Parganas**, faced one of the toughest battles—a complex heart defect that made every breath a struggle. On **26th and 28th September 2025**, he underwent a series of critical cardiac procedures at **R.N. Tagore Hospital**, supported by **IHF's Saving Little Hearts initiative**.



Though the surgeries were complex, Sunil's recovery was remarkable. Today, he is home, smiling, and regaining the childhood he nearly lost. His father, a farmer, calls it *“a blessing beyond words.”*

A New Chapter for Rohan

Eleven-year-old Rohan Purkait* from **Hooghly** had battled a weak heart since infancy, following a bout of **tuberculosis**. On **27th July 2025**, he was admitted to **R.N. Tagore Hospital**, where he underwent a **Cath + LPA Stenting surgery** the very next day.

Within 24 hours, Rohan's energy returned, and his mother's eyes filled with relief. *“You didn't just save his heart—you saved our family,”* she said. Supported under **Saving Little Hearts**, Rohan's story reflects the life-changing impact of timely medical intervention and compassionate care.

Healing Hearts, One Child at a Time

These stories—of **Vishal, Rohan, and Sunil**—are just a small glimpse into the countless children whose lives have been transformed through the **Saving Little Hearts** program. Each surgery represents more than just a medical procedure; it is a future restored, a family healed, and a community uplifted. Every heartbeat matters, every smile tells a story of courage, resilience, and hope. Through the dedication of doctors, caregivers, and supporters, these children are given a chance to dream, grow, and live fully. But this is only one chapter in a continuously growing journey of hope.

Turn the page to meet the shining faces of children whose lives were saved through this initiative—each smile a true heartbeat of gratitude, bravery, and possibility.



Rohan Purkait



Sunil post surgery

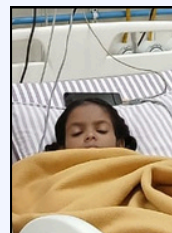


Vishal with IHF staff

*name changed

21 smiles, 21 heartbeats of hope

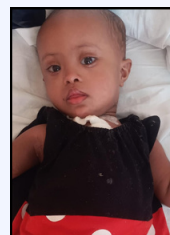
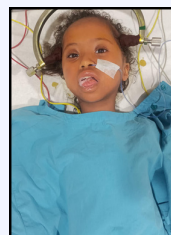
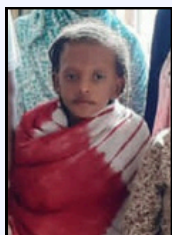
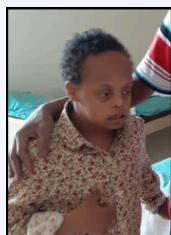
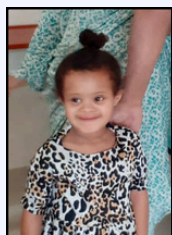
*Brave children whose lives were transformed –
each photo tells a story of courage and new beginnings.*



Children from India



Children from India



Children from Ghana

Children from Ethiopia

**IHF is happy to recognise the
outstanding NGO partners**

**Sondalia Minority Backward Social Welfare Society, West Bengal
Mr. Selim Ali Molla**

**Bhartiya Jan Utthan Parishad, Jharkhand
Mr. Abhishek Bhartiya**

**Sishu Vikash Samiti, Odisha
Mr. Shanti Ranjan Behera**

