

Chairman's Message



**Shekhar Mehta**

## Changing lives

Dear friends of humanity,

Changing the lives of those who do not have the means to do so themselves is truly a blessing. At India Humanity Foundation, we are grateful to be able to do this consistently by serving humanity.

Through our work in correctional homes across West Bengal, we are reaching individuals who, for various reasons, find themselves in difficult circumstances with little to look forward to. By introducing literacy programs, we are helping change their lives—where educated inmates are teaching non-literate inmates, creating a powerful cycle of learning, purpose, and hope. It is a meaningful initiative that brings a new ray of light into their lives. More than 3,000 inmates in 31 correctional homes in West Bengal have benefitted.

A similar effort continues with non-literate tribal women in underserved regions. These communities have long been left behind in the pace of development. Through our 60-session Vidya program in the tribal areas of Purulia, we aim to empower them with literacy and confidence. This pilot initiative, already underway, will benefit over 1,100 women in its first phase.

Our Padho Bharat program continues to expand, with more libraries being created to improve access to learning resources. The Saving Little Hearts program is making a profound impact by supporting life-saving surgeries for children with congenital heart disease—giving them a second chance at life. Meanwhile, the Annapurna Food Project, in partnership with the Indian Food Banking Network, is reaching children with food support that brings both nourishment and joy.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to every donor, contributor, and member. Your support continues to change lives in meaningful ways—often in places where it matters the most.

Regards,

*Shekhar Mehta*

**Shekhar Mehta**  
Chairman  
India Humanity Foundation

## Literacy progress in Odisha & Jharkhand

### An update on IHF's program supported by Rungta Sons Pvt. Ltd.

As the **Adult Literacy Program** by **India Humanity Foundation (IHF)** progresses across **Jharkhand and Odisha**, the focus continues to shift from numbers to real stories of change. Supported by **Rungta Sons Pvt. Ltd.** and implemented with grassroots partners, the initiative is steadily transforming the learning journey of adults who once had no access to education.

Across **42 literacy centres**, the program is currently reaching **1,680 adult learners** in **Chatra district (Jharkhand)** and **Nuapada district (Odisha)**. Regular monitoring ensures that learning remains consistent and meaningful.



Night classes at vidya centre



Adult literacy centre in Jharkhand

One such story is that of **Geeta Devi (40)** from **Hurnali village in Chatra**. For most of her life, education was never an option—household responsibilities and social limitations meant **she grew up without ever learning to read or write**. When she first joined the **vidya centre**, even recognizing basic letters felt overwhelming. But with **patience, regular classes, and guidance** from her instructor, she slowly began to find her way into the world of words and numbers.

Today, Geeta can **read simple Hindi sentences, write her name, and handle basic calculations**. She now goes to the market on her own, manages small financial transactions, and **even supports her children in their studies**, something she once thought was beyond her reach.



Geeta Devi



Adult learners at a literacy centre



Adult learners at a literacy centre

Across centres, similar progress is unfolding. Learners are beginning to identify letters and numbers, write their names and addresses, and perform simple arithmetic—milestones that build confidence and independence. As the program moves toward completion this month, it reinforces a simple truth: literacy is not just about learning to read and write—it is about opening doors to dignity, self-reliance, and new beginnings.

## CEO's Message

# Together for a Literate and Stronger India



Dear Friends,

In times when the world feels uncertain and heavy, our work becomes even more meaningful. Conflict and crisis remind us that lasting peace begins with dignity, opportunity, and compassion.

At IHF, we believe that strengthening India begins with empowering its people. Through our efforts to **Make India Totally Literate**—helping adults learn to read, bringing education into correctional homes, reaching tribal communities in Purulia and driving the **Padho Bharat** mission—we are building a stronger, more confident nation.

When individuals learn, communities grow. And when communities come together with purpose, the country moves forward.

Alongside this, every life saved through heart surgery is a reminder of what collective care and commitment can achieve.

Thank you to all our volunteers, partners, and supporters. Your continued support helps build not just literacy, but a better future for India.

**Let us come together to strengthen our nation—through knowledge, compassion, and shared purpose.**

With gratitude,

*Aparna Biyani*

Aparna Biyani  
CEO, India Humanity Foundation



## Advancing tribal women's literacy in Purulia

### IHF initiative with WBTDCC and MEELS

India Humanity Foundation (IHF) has launched a new phase of its **Adult Literacy Program in Purulia district**, aimed at empowering **1,150 non-literate tribal women across 23 blocks**. The initiative is being implemented in collaboration with the **West Bengal Tribal Development Cooperative Corporation Ltd. (WBTDCC)** and supported by the **Mass Education Extension & Library Services Department (MEELS)**, Government of West Bengal.

To begin the initiative, a **Training of Master Trainers (Akshar Sathis)** was conducted at **DRDC Purulia** from **9–11 February 2026**. The training brought together **46 Akshar Sathis** from **23 LAMP centres** and was attended by the **Principal Secretary, the Managing Director of WBTDCC Ltd., representatives from WBTDCC and MEELS, and Mr. Shailen Bhowmik, Member of IHF.**



Government officials of WBTDCC and MEELS inaugurating Adult Literacy Program in Purulia

The sessions focused on understanding the challenges faced by adult learners, effective teaching approaches, and the use of literacy materials such as the **“Disha” and “Pathan” toolkits**. Trainers also received practical guidance on the **MIS App** for attendance, reporting, and documentation.

Since **25 February 2026**, **18 literacy centres** have become operational, each supporting around **40 learners** and conducting classes **four days a week for two hours daily**. With regular monitoring and structured learning milestones, the program aims to build **confidence, functional literacy, and greater community participation among tribal women in Purulia.**



Jhalda LAMPS



Pandit Rughunath Murum LAMPS

# Learning behind the walls

## Adult literacy initiative across correctional homes in West Bengal



Adult literacy orientation in a correctional home of West Bengal

Education has the power to change lives—even in places where opportunity feels limited. Through its **Adult Literacy Program**, **India Humanity Foundation** with the support of **Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar** is bringing learning into correctional homes across West Bengal, creating pathways for personal growth, confidence, and rehabilitation among inmates. A key strength of the program is its **peer-learning approach**, where educated inmates are trained as **Inmate Teachers** to guide fellow inmates through structured literacy sessions.

The initiative has already shown encouraging progress. Orientation programs have been conducted in **32 correctional homes** out of the **61 institutions**. Among these, **19 programs have been completed** while **11 are currently ongoing**, reflecting the steady expansion of literacy efforts and educational opportunities within correctional facilities across the state.

### Program Snapshot:

- Correctional Homes Targeted: 61
- Orientation Programs Conducted: 32
- Programs Completed: 19
- Programs Ongoing: 11
- Inmate Teachers Trained: 239
- Inmate Learners Reached: 3,616
- Correctional Homes Covered So Far: 32

### Expanding the reach

To keep the program moving forward, **books and learning materials** have already been delivered to several correctional homes where new orientation sessions are planned. These include **Bankura District Correctional Home, Bishnupur Sub Correctional Home, Jangipur Sub Correctional Home, Kandi Sub Correctional Home, Lalbagh Sub Correctional Home, Bolpur Sub Correctional Home, Durgapur Sub Correctional Home, Suri District Correctional Home, Asansol District Correctional Home, Chanchal Special Correctional Home, and Durgapur Open Correctional Home.**



Contai Correctional Home



Bishnupur Subsidiary Correctional Home



# Padho Bharat

*Expanding reading space for young learners*

**Padho Bharat**, a nationwide initiative of the **India Humanity Foundation (IHF)**, continues to strengthen access to books and reading spaces for children across the country. As part of the project's ongoing efforts in **Kolkata**, an important milestone has been achieved with the establishment of **33 libraries** across **schools** and **partner NGOs**.



*Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar, President, Mr. Sanjay Bhalotia*

By improving access to quality learning resources, the initiative aims to strengthen students' academic foundations while nurturing a lifelong interest in reading. Through partnerships with schools and community organisations, Padho Bharat is steadily building a supportive environment where education can thrive.



*Books presented by IHF Chairman Mr. Shekhar Mehta*

These libraries have been designed as safe and engaging spaces where children can develop reading habits, explore new ideas, and build a stronger connection with learning. To support this initiative, a total of **5,507 books** has been distributed among students and community learning centres. The collection includes academic support books, general knowledge titles, and storybooks that encourage curiosity and imagination among young readers.



*School teachers at IHF book collection centre*

This progress from Kolkata reflects the broader vision of the Padho Bharat initiative, **to make books accessible to every child and promote a culture of reading across communities**. Through continued collaboration and community engagement, IHF remains committed to expanding learning opportunities and empowering young minds across India.



*School students reading books donated by IHF*



*Rotarian Ashok Agarwal of Rotary Calcutta Mahanagar*

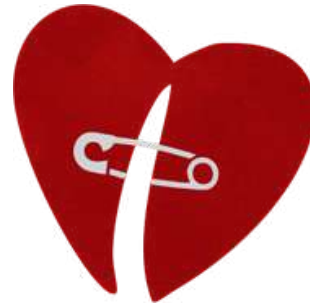


*Classroom library setup in a school*

# Saving Little Hearts

*When compassion meets care, children get a second chance at life.*

A healthy heartbeat is something most of us take for granted. For many children born with congenital heart conditions, however, that heartbeat can depend on timely and specialized medical care—care that is often financially out of reach for their families.



*Donor visit by Arghya Dey from Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence*

## A collaborative effort in Kolkata

In a recent initiative, **India Humanity Foundation** partnered with **Yogita Kichlu Welfare Trust** and the **Rotary Club of Kolkata Benevolence** to support **17 children** in need of urgent cardiac procedures in Kolkata. The surgeries were conducted at **R.N. Tagore Hospital (14 cases)** and **Neotia Bhagirathi Woman and Child Care Centre (3 cases)**, offering not just medical care but renewed hope and a chance at a healthier childhood for the young beneficiaries.



*Sameer Roy\**



*IHF staff with Sahil Barik\* during visits*



*Rivansh Yadav\* a beneficiary of the program*

Over the years, the program has facilitated **more than 1,500 heart surgeries**, offering children the opportunity to recover, grow, and live healthier lives. The impact of the initiative has also crossed national boundaries, with support extended to children from countries such as **Ethiopia and Ghana**, reflecting IHF's belief that access to healthcare should not be limited by geography.



*Rahul Kumar Singh\**

*\*name changed*

## Program Snapshot:

- 1,500+ paediatric heart surgeries supported
- Children assisted from underserved communities
- Medical partnerships with leading cardiac hospitals in India
- Support extended to international beneficiaries from **Ethiopia and Ghana**



IHF CEO and staff while visiting Noori\*



Vishal\*



Sabira Khatun\* with her parents at Neotia Hospital



Aditi Mula\* with her mother at Neotia Hospital



Sabira Khatun\*

At just **one month old**, **Sabira Khatun's** life had already become a journey of uncertainty. What should have been a time of joy for her parents turned into days of fear as they watched their newborn struggle with a serious heart condition. They moved from one hospital to another, searching for answers, until someone guided them to **Neotia Bhagirathi Women and Child Care Centre**, where hope finally found them. There, Sabira was enrolled under the **Saving Little Hearts Program** by **India Humanity Foundation (IHF)**, opening the door to life-saving care.

Admitted on **9th March 2026**, Sabira underwent a **Balloon Coarctoplasty (Balloon Angioplasty)** the very next day. The surgery was successful, and she was discharged on 11th March—bringing immense relief to her family. For her parents, this was more than a medical procedure; **it was the moment fear turned into hope, and their daughter was given a chance at a healthy future.**

*\*name changed*

# Annapurna Food Project:

*Food support initiatives by IHF continue to assist vulnerable families and children across West Bengal*



Students of St. Stephen's School

Across North 24 Parganas and South 24 Parganas, the Annapurna Food Project by India Humanity Foundation (IHF) continues to support communities facing food insecurity. Through regular outreach and community partnerships, the initiative is helping ensure that families, children, and institutions such as orphanages receive timely food support.

Recently, the project reached over **8,000 individuals**, distributing snacks and essential food items across several communities. These efforts aim to provide immediate relief while supporting children and families who often struggle with consistent access to meals.

## Program Snapshot:

**Districts Covered:** North 24 Parganas & South 24 Parganas

**Individuals Reached Recently:** 8,000+

**Juice Pouches Distributed (with Keventer Agro Ltd.):** 1,320

**Daily Mid-Day Meals at Rotary Vivekananda School:** 600 children



Happy students of Rotary Vivekananda School



Happy children of Sitarampur Vivekananda Seva Pratishthan



Mid-Day meal served at Rotary Vivekananda School

The initiative was further strengthened through collaboration with **Keventer Agro Limited**, which contributed **1,320 juice pouches**, adding an additional refreshment component to the distribution drive and expanding the overall reach of the program.

A key component of the Annapurna Food Project is the **Mid-Day Meal support at Rotary Vivekananda School**, where **600 students receive rice and dal every day**. This daily meal helps ensure that children have access to food during the school day, allowing them to remain focused and engaged in their learning.

