



SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES  
INDIA



**HAPPY**NINGS

November 2023



**SOS Children's Villages India**, India's largest self-implementing childcare NGO was established in 1964 aiming to break the cycle of child neglect, abuse and abandonment. We provide curative and preventive services to vulnerable children without parental care or are at the risk of losing it via a value chain of quality care services that go beyond childcare alone, ensuring comprehensive child development.

### Remarkable journey toward success

Shalini Kumari and her elder sister came to SOS Children's Village Rajpura at a very tender age. Shalini was a good student. She scored 61% in class 12 and enrolled to the B.Sc. programme in Hospitality and Hotel Management with Ambala Institute of Hotel Management.



Her hard work and dedication paid off when she was selected as a resource for an online baking workshop. She landed her first job at ITC Fortune Group Dalhousie, Himachal Pradesh, and is currently working with Welcome Hotel by ITC Hotel/Bella Vista in Panchkula.

Shalini is a Culture Champion, having received the certificate of recognition for her outstanding work in the first quarter of 2023. This is not the first time she has achieved this recognition; she was also named Culture Champion in the last quarter of 2022.

### From housewife to successful entrepreneur

Chaya, a housewife struggling to make ends meet, was welcomed to the Family Strengthening Programme, after which she joined the Self-Help Group 'Sankalp Mahila Bachatgat'. She started saving monthly. After receiving the right financial guidance from the Self-Help Group, she started saving monthly and was a regular at capacity building sessions, which prompted her to start her own business. She received income generation support to start a boutique. Her talent for design got her many orders, and with the help of her husband, she merged her businesses and invested in buffalo rearing.



Chaya then associated with the Mann Deshi Foundation, learnt how to mass produce papads and through a subsidy, invested in a papad-making machine. Through her various initiatives, her dream remains to educate her children and give wings to their ambitions.

## Highlights of the month

**Family Strengthening Programme Chennai** organised an awareness session on **Cyber Safety** for caregivers and children. The session was attended by **50 participants**. The aim of the session was to promote a secure online environment and equip caregivers with tools to guide children.



**Family Strengthening Programme Latur** organised an awareness session on the **Chief Minister Employment Programme (CMEGP)** and various Government schemes. Caregivers from Navjivan and Samarth Self-Help Groups participated in the session.



An **essay competition** was organised by the Vigilance Department of the **Food Corporation of India** at **SOS Children's Village Guwahati** as part of the **Vigilance Awareness Week 2023**. The topic of the essay was **'Say No to Corruption: Commit to the Nation'**. **40 children** participated in the competition and the top performers received prizes and certificates.



**Family Strengthening Programme Bhopal** organised a **'Bal Mela'**. This initiative was taken by the local NGO **National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development (NIWCYD)** in association with **UNICEF**, to celebrate the week's occasion of safety and security of children. The event witnessed the participation of 459 children in various art and clay competitions.



**23 boys** from the **Youth House in Thrissur Children's Villages** were given a tour of the **Kerala Police Academy**. They had an amazing experience interacting with the K9 Dog Squad and were shown around various places in the academy, such as the Model Police Station, Academic and Research Wing, Parade Ground. The academy administration and career opportunities were also explained to them.



**Vaibhav Tambat**, the first child raised in **SOS Children's Village Alibag**, won the **Bal Snehi Award** in the 'Care Leaver with Exemplary Achievement' category. The **Ministry of Women and Child Development Maharashtra**, along with the **State Commission for Protection of Child Rights and UNICEF**, organised the event. Vaibhav, 24, is currently pursuing a fully funded PhD in Marine Science at the National Kaohsiung University of Science and Technology in Taiwan.



**SOS Children's Village Begusarai** organised an **exposure visit** for students of class 8 to 12 to **Varun Beverages Ltd**, which is a PepsiCo bottling plant. The students were educated about the safety and standard operating procedures of food and beverage production. They were then taken on a guided tour of the manufacturing units of Pepsi products.



**SOS Children's Villages India** celebrated **Child Safety and Child Rights Week** across its **40+ programme locations** in India. The week aimed to promote awareness on child safety and child rights, empowering children to exercise their rights. Activities included workshops on child safety, storytelling sessions, art competitions, street plays and sports events on the theme '**For Every Child, Every Right**'.



**Family Strengthening Programme Chennai** conducted a **Menstrual hygiene session** for adolescent girls. A medical officer from Greater Chennai Corporation was invited as a resource person. The session aimed to empower girls with knowledge about their reproductive health to ensure their overall well-being.



**Family Strengthening Programme Guwahati** organised a **free medical camp** in collaboration with **Marwari Hospital**. The camp was attended by more than **100 participants** who received free medicines and underwent necessary health check-ups. This event was aimed at promoting community well-being.



**Family Strengthening Programme Bangalore** distributed nutritional materials among the children residing at Indira Gandhi Colony. The distribution was based on the **HB and BMI tests** conducted to identify children with low HB and severe BMI levels. A total of **84 children** received the materials.



**50 Children** from **SOS Children's Village Guwahati** visited the **Guwahati Airport**. They were warmly welcomed during the visit. They also got a tour of the domestic terminal, greenhouse, runway and airport traffic center.



**SOS Children's Villages India** hosted a three-day event for the **BorgWarner Global Volunteer Team**. During the event, the team participated in various activities focused on preserving the environment, promoting community well-being, and providing young people with employability and entrepreneurship skills.



**Akash Bal**, from **SOS Children's Village Rourkela**, has enrolled to the **B.Sc. Hospitality and Hotel Administration** Course at State Institute of Hotel Management, Odisha. His course fee amounting to **INR 4,68,600** was approved by the District Collector through the District Mineral Fund administered by the District Employment Officer.



- **Eight children** from **SOS Children's Village Shillong** have received the Governor's award for Guides and Rangers
- **SOS Children's Village Faridabad** received an ICPS grant of **INR 54,79,080** (2023-2024)
- **SOS Children's Village Bhuj** has received a Foster Care grant of **INR 31,73,128** (2023-2024)
- **SOS Children's Village Bawana** received a government grant of **INR 26,53,365** (2023-2024) for the Youth Home in Sonipat



**You support us to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children and families. You choose to help those in need and fight for good.**

**THANK YOU**

**For rekindling hope, spreading joy!**

**Thank you for your thoughtful contributions and relentless support in helping those impacted by the pandemic. You have been our constant companion in making a difference to the communities we operate in. With you by our side, we will continue to empower the lesser privileged, helping them sail through these turbulent times. A little can change a lot. Do your part to help them out during these trying times.**

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