

PEHCHAAN, SURAKSHA AUR SWAVLAMBAN



**ANNUAL REPORT  
2024-25**



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# Table of Contents

S. No.	Section	Page No.
1.	Foreword	3
2.	Executive Summary	4
3.	About ISRD	5
4	Key Programs and Achievements (2024-25)	6
4.1	Strengthening the Informal Workforce	7-11
4.2	Skilled Youth, Stronger Tomorrow	12-15
4.3	From Malnutrition to Milestones	16-19
4.4	Breaking Chains, Rebuilding Lives	20-22
4.5	Back to School, Forward in Life	23-26
5.	Way Forward	27
6.	Financial Summary	28-29
7.	Contact Details and Office Information	30

# Foreword



**Dear Friends, Supporters, and Change-makers,** It gives me immense pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD) for the year 2024-25. This year has been a remarkable journey of resilience, innovation, and transformation. At ISRD, we believe that sustainable development is possible only when the most vulnerable sections of society—be it informal sector workers, tribal children, women, persons with disabilities, or youth—are given the tools, knowledge, and support to lead a life of dignity. Through our integrated programs in rights-based advocacy, skill development, education, child protection, nutrition, and labour empowerment, we have made significant strides in enabling thousands of lives to move from exclusion to inclusion.

In 2024-25, ISRD reached over 10,000 individuals through direct interventions across 22 urban slums of Bhopal and rural-tribal belts of Raisen district. Our work ranged from rescuing bonded labours and re-enrolling school dropouts to forming labour collectives, linking thousands of workers with government welfare schemes, and ensuring nutritional security for young children. We also scaled our community mobilization efforts, trained leaders from within the informal sector, and built strong partnerships with organizations like Azim Premji Philanthropy initiatives, Jiv Daya Foundation, Trust Bridge, FVTRS and HandinHand, along with local administration and civil society networks. These collaborations have strengthened our ability to deliver effective, need-based programs and build accountability-driven community structures.

However, challenges persist. From inadequate social protection coverage for informal workers to the growing vulnerabilities of urban poor children and youth, the road ahead requires deeper engagement and systemic reform. But what keeps us inspired is the incredible strength of the communities we work with—their willingness to organize, lead, and demand their rightful space in society.

As we look to the future, our focus will be on deepening impact, expanding outreach to more geographies, and integrating digital tools for better monitoring and delivery. We aim to foster stronger CBOs, enable grassroots leadership, and ensure that every life we touch moves toward empowerment and dignity.

- Francis Anthony  
Secretary  
ISRD, Bhopal

# Executive Summary

The year 2024-25 marked a period of impactful action, strategic partnerships, and transformative community engagement for the Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD). Guided by its mission to empower the most marginalized, ISRD reached over 10,000 beneficiaries across both urban slums of Bhopal and rural tribal communities in Raisen district, Madhya Pradesh.

Our interventions this year focused on addressing multiple layers of deprivation through integrated programming. The core thematic areas of our work included:

- **Empowerment of Informal Sector Workers**

Through rights awareness, formation of worker collectives, and facilitation of linkages with social security schemes to ensure identity, dignity, and legal protection.

- **Bridge Gap Education for Out-of-School Children**

Identifying and supporting school dropout children in urban slums through informal education, counselling, and school re-enrolment, to reconnect them with formal education systems.

- **Preschool Nutrition and Early Childhood Education**

Combating child malnutrition and promoting cognitive and social development through daily nutrition, early learning, and parental awareness in remote tribal villages.

- **Rescue and Rehabilitation from Bonded Labour**

Identifying and rescuing individuals trapped in exploitative labour, and facilitating their rehabilitation, legal aid, and integration into protective systems.

- **Youth Skill Development**

Equipping underprivileged youth with market-relevant vocational skills, including tailoring, computing, and food preparation, to promote livelihood security and self-reliance.

Our efforts were made stronger through robust collaborations with government departments, grassroots networks, NGOs, and donor organizations. These partnerships enabled us to ensure timely delivery of services, amplify community voices, and advocate effectively for systemic changes.

This annual report captures our journey of empowering communities, building capacities, and advocating for inclusive growth. It is also a testament to the resilience of the people we work with, and the shared commitment of all those who walk alongside us.

# About ISRD

## Who We Are:

The Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD) is a committed non-profit organization based in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, working at the intersection of social justice, community empowerment, and inclusive development. Founded in 1997, ISRD has been at the forefront of grassroots development initiatives that address the systemic exclusion faced by informal sector workers, women, children, tribal populations, and persons with disabilities. With a belief in the transformative power of participatory development, ISRD works through field-based interventions, research, advocacy, and partnerships

## Vision:

To establish a just and inclusive society where every individual, regardless of their socio-economic background, lives with dignity, enjoys equal opportunities, and contributes meaningfully to sustainable development.

## Mission:

To empower marginalized communities—including informal workers, migrants, women, persons with disabilities, and children—through a combination of grassroots action, legal and policy advocacy, capacity building, and multi-sectoral partnerships. Our mission is to ensure that these communities are informed, organized, and equipped to access and claim their rights, entitlements, and services.

## Our Legal Identity:

Particulars	Details
Registered Under	M.P. Societies Registration Act, 1973
Registration Date	6 June 1997
FCRA Registration Number	063160144 (Valid 2023-2028)
12AA & 80G Certification	Available
PAN Number	AAAAI1090H
FCRA Bank Account	A/C No. 40094663095 State Bank of India, New Delhi Branch IFSC: SBIN0000691
Non-FCRA Bank Account	A/C No. 119001000262 ICICI Bank, Kolar Road Branch, Bhopal - 462042 IFSC: ICIC0001190

## Key Programs and Achievements (2024-25)

## Strengthening the Informal Workforce

**Project Title:**

“Educate and Empower Unorganized Sector Labour for their Rights and Entitlements”

**Thematic Area:**

Livelihoods | Social Protection | Labour Rights | Urban Governance

**Introduction of the Project:****About the Project & Funding Partner:**

The “Educate and Empower Unorganized Sector Labour for their Rights and Entitlements” project is a flagship initiative of the Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD). It aims to improve the socio-economic conditions of informal workers through awareness-building, rights education, identity documentation, and access to social welfare schemes. This intervention is generously supported by the Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives (APPI). As one of India’s most committed philanthropic foundations, APPI focuses on addressing deep structural inequalities and enabling marginalized communities to claim their constitutional rights and entitlements.

With APPI’s strategic and financial support, ISRD has been able to mobilize and organize thousands of construction workers, domestic workers, and street vendors across 22 slum communities in Bhopal. This partnership has significantly strengthened our grassroots outreach, documentation efforts, and capacity-building initiatives for vulnerable worker populations.

**Program Goal and Vision:****Program Goal:**

The overarching goal of this program is to achieve comprehensive economic empowerment and poverty alleviation among marginalized informal sector workers in 22 slum communities of Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The program focuses on enabling access to legal identity and social security entitlements, thereby improving economic resilience and social inclusion.

**Program Vision:**

The project envisions a future where every informal worker—construction labour, domestic worker, or street vendor—is empowered with knowledge, identity, and institutional recognition. The vision is to build community-led labour structures that strengthen their voice and participation in decision-making processes, thus contributing to equitable urban development.

### Project Location:

The program is implemented in 22 informal urban settlements of Bhopal, where large populations of daily wage workers and migrant labours live and work under precarious conditions without access to formal support systems.

### Project Objectives:

- To organize informal workers into functional labour collectives based on their occupation and locality.
- To educate workers about their rights, laws, and entitlements.
- To facilitate registration and documentation for Food security, e-Shram, Sambal Yojana, BOCW Welfare Board, and other social schemes.
- To build leadership capacity among workers, particularly women, to enable local governance and advocacy.
- To promote convergence with government departments to improve access and accountability in public service delivery.

### Project Interventions:

- **Formation of Labour Collectives:**  
More than 150 labor groups were formed to provide a platform for collective decision-making, mutual aid, and mobilization.
- **Awareness and Legal Literacy Camps:**  
Over 100 awareness camps were conducted on laws like the Street Vendors Act, construction workers' welfare schemes and identity rights for the domestic workers.
- **Documentation and Scheme Linkages:**  
The project facilitated workers' registration under National Food Security Act, e-Shram portal, BOCW, Sambal, various insurance, pension, and health schemes.
- **Leadership Development:**  
Group leaders received training in rights education, grievance redressal, negotiation skills, and public communication. Women leaders played a central role in community coordination.
- **Government Engagement and Advocacy:**  
ISRDR facilitated direct interfaces between labor collectives and local authorities to address issues such as eviction, safety, and exclusion from welfare.

### Beneficiary Reach (2024-25):

Worker Category	Direct Beneficiaries
Construction Workers	1,800+
Domestic Workers	1,600+
Street Vendors	1,100+
<b>Total Reach</b>	<b>4,500+ individuals</b>

Additionally, over 1,200 indirect beneficiaries (family members) experienced improved household security and access to public services.

#### Project Impact:

- **Legal Identity (Applications Submitted):**  
Over 4,500 workers were supported in applying for e-Shram cards, BOCW board registration, and other identity documents for future legal recognition.
- **Social Security Scheme Access:**  
Applications were submitted for food security schemes, pensions, Ayushman card, Sambal Yojana, and educational support, enabling workers to begin accessing key welfare benefits.
- **Collective Worker Action:**  
Formation of More than 150 labour groups helped build unity and enabled workers to collectively engage with authorities for their rights.
- **Women's Leadership:**  
Many group leaders are women, now actively advocating for better working conditions and gender equity in informal sectors.
- **Legal Awareness:**  
Workers gained knowledge on labour laws and entitlements, increasing their ability to demand fair treatment and social protection.

#### Testimonials:

##### [1] A Struggle for Support - Prema Rao's Journey



*"My husband passed away six months ago due to a sudden heart attack. After his death, I applied to the Nagar Nigam for widow assistance just a month later. For four months, I ran from office to office, but no help came. A month ago, I came in contact with the ISRDR team. They listened to my problem and took me*

*to the Collector's office. I was advised to get a recommendation letter from the local councillor, which we submitted to Nagar Nigam. Still, there was no response. Finally, ISRDR took my case to the Jan Sunwai, and I received ₹5,000. They have assured me that I will receive the remaining assistance soon. Without ISRDR, I wouldn't have been able to get this far."*

– Prema Rao (47)

Indira Nagar Multi, 12 No. Stop, Bhopal

##### [2] Durga Ojha - Accessing Food Security with Dignity



*"For seven months, I struggled without a ration card. I visited offices, but nothing worked. Then ISRDR helped me fill the form and took me to the BPL office at 12 Daftar. After some weeks, my ration card was finally made. They also took me to the Collector's office, where I met Mr. Satyarthi. He approved my food coupon and*

*told me to come again at the end of July to collect it. I'm so relieved and grateful. Today, I feel secure because someone stood by me when I needed help the most."*

– Durga Ojha (28),

Rahul Nagar, Bhopal

### SHGs Formation:

ISRD has actively worked to organize informal women workers into strong, community-based Self-Help Groups (SHGs) across four targeted clusters in Bhopal. These SHGs have been formed with the vision of enhancing financial literacy, promoting collective savings, and creating sustainable platforms for mutual support



among women engaged in street vending, domestic work, and construction labour. The process of SHG formation was driven through community mobilization, regular orientation sessions, and confidence-building activities, particularly for women who had limited exposure to formal systems of finance and governance.

Over time, these SHGs have evolved from simple savings groups into powerful collectives where women discuss their rights, access government schemes, and raise their voices on workplace dignity, fair wages, and safety. Regular capacity-building

sessions have equipped members with knowledge on budgeting, book-keeping, bank linkages, and internal lending practices. Importantly, several of these SHGs have also joined Umang Street Vendor Cooperative Society, established to strengthen the socio-economic position of street vendors through collective enterprise and legal recognition. By becoming part of the cooperative, SHG members have gained access to greater



support systems such as group savings mechanisms, enterprise development services, vendor registration facilitation, and advocacy for designated vending zones.

This integration has allowed women from marginalized informal sectors to not only build economic resilience but also to participate in decision-making processes that impact their lives and livelihoods.

### Glimpses of the Project:



## Skilled Youth, Stronger Tomorrow

**Project Title:**

Youth Skill Development Programme

**Thematic Area:**

Livelihoods | Vocational Education | Youth Empowerment | Gender Inclusion

**Introduction of the Project:****About the Project & Funding Partner:**

The Youth Skill Development Programme is a key initiative by the Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD) supported by the Functional Vocational Training and Research Society (FVTRS). The programme focuses on equipping marginalized and underprivileged youth from urban poor communities of Bhopal with market-oriented vocational skills to enhance their employability and income-generating capabilities.

This initiative addresses the critical gaps in access to professional training, workplace readiness, and dignified employment, particularly for school dropouts, unemployed youth, and young women. The support from FVTRS enabled ISRD to expand its reach and offer structured, certified training across multiple trades aligned with industry demand.

**Program Goal and Vision:****Program Goal:**

To train disadvantaged youth in diverse vocational trades and enable their placement, self-employment, or entrepreneurship, thereby contributing to poverty reduction and inclusive economic development.

**Program Vision:**

To foster a generation of skilled, confident, and economically independent youth, ready to take on employment opportunities or create their own enterprises with dignity and purpose.

**Project Location:**

The training program was implemented across various slum communities in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, where access to professional training and formal job markets remains extremely limited.

**Project Objectives:**

- To offer vocational training in trades with strong market demand and growth potential.
- To support placement and entrepreneurship pathways for trained youth.
- To promote women's participation and leadership in skill-based careers.
- To build soft skills such as communication, digital literacy, and workplace ethics.

- To provide post-training support for income generation, enterprise setup, and job linkages.

#### Trades Offered & Batch Details:

Trade	No. of Batches	Participants per Batch	Total Participants
Retail & Basic Computer	3	30	90
Beautician	3	30	90
Bag Making	2	30	60
Handicraft	2	30	60
Office Assistance	2	30	60
Front Office Management	1	30	30
Electrician Training	2	30	60
<b>Total</b>			<b>450</b>

#### Project Interventions:

- **Participant Mobilization:**  
Community-based outreach, counselling, and family engagement to enroll marginalized youth.
- **Technical and Practical Training:**  
Certified trainers conducted hands-on sessions with a focus on real-world applicability and employability.
- **Soft Skills and Workplace Readiness:**  
Youth received training in communication, customer service, digital literacy, and interview preparation.
- **Certification and Exit Planning:**  
Each trainee was awarded a completion certificate, with career guidance provided to explore jobs, apprenticeships, or enterprise pathways.
- **Post-Training Support:**  
ISRDR facilitated job placements, micro-business setups, and linkages with mentors and industry partners.

#### Beneficiary Reach (2024-25):

- **Total Participants Trained:** 450 youth
- **Women Participants:** more than 60%
- Most of the Youth participated from Marginalized Families

### Project Impact:

- **Employment and Enterprise Creation:**

Most of the participants have been placed or engaged in income-generating activities.

Placement areas include:

- ❖ Retail jobs at D-Mart and BIBA
- ❖ Tele-calling positions in service centres
- ❖ Beauticians working at salons or opening home parlours
- ❖ Electricians who started small repair shops or freelancing services

- **Confidence and Social Mobility:**

Youth now demonstrate enhanced self-esteem, independence, and a clearer career path.

- **Gender Empowerment:**

Many young women trained in beautician, bag making, and office assistance trades are now earning and supporting their families.

- **Economic Resilience:**

Families of participants reported improved financial security due to regular income earned post-training.

### Testimonial: Urmila Maheshwari - From Learning to Earning with Confidence



*“Before joining the training at the Sarvdharm Training Centre supported by FVTRS, I had limited skills and no idea how to start a career. The Retail and Basic Computer course changed everything for me. The trainers encouraged me, and I gained the confidence to step into the professional world. After*

*completing the training, I got a job at BIBA. Today, I earn ₹15,000 a month and support my family proudly. This opportunity has truly transformed my life, and I hope many more girls like me get this chance to stand on their own feet.”*

*– Urmila Maheshwari*

***Retail Associate, BIBA***

Glimpses of the Project:



## From Malnutrition to Milestones

**Project Title:**

Pre-School Nutrition and Education Programme

**Thematic Area:**

Child Health | Nutrition | Early Childhood Education | Tribal Welfare

**Introduction of the Project:****About the Project & Funding Partner:**

The Pre-School Nutrition and Education Programme is a focused intervention of the Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD), implemented in partnership with the Jiv Daya Foundation (JDF). The project aims to combat malnutrition and support early childhood development among tribal children in remote rural areas of Raisen District, Madhya Pradesh. Children aged 6 months to 5 years in tribal and low-income families are among the most nutritionally vulnerable. This project provides daily nutrition, pre-school learning, and parental awareness, ensuring that every child receives the foundation for a healthier, stronger, and smarter future.

**Program Goal and Vision:****Program Goal:**

To reduce child malnutrition and improve early learning outcomes among tribal children aged 0.5 to 5 years, through a combination of nutritional support, pre-school education, and community engagement.

**Program Vision:**

To create malnutrition-free villages where every child has access to nutritious food, early learning opportunities, and a nurturing environment that promotes holistic growth and development.

**Project Location:**

The project is implemented in four remote tribal villages of Raisen District, Madhya Pradesh:

- Khairuwa Tola
- Ghatla
- Chopra
- Rampurtaula

These villages face challenges such as poverty, poor access to health services, and high levels of child undernutrition.

### Project Objectives:

- To provide daily nutritious meals (including milk and balanced food) to children aged 6 months to 5 years.
- To offer pre-school learning sessions that build cognitive, social, and language skills in children.
- To create awareness among mothers and caregivers on nutrition, hygiene, and child care.
- To monitor children's growth and health indicators regularly.
- To provide dry ration kits to families to support household food security.

### Project Interventions:

- **Daily Nutrition Support:**  
Children are provided with nutritious food and milk every day at the village-based learning centres.
- **Pre-School Education:**  
Children engage in age-appropriate learning activities, storytelling, songs, games, and motor skill development sessions.
- **Mother's Meetings & Awareness Sessions:**  
Regular sessions are held for mothers on nutrition, breastfeeding, hygiene practices, and child development.
- **Health & Growth Monitoring:**  
Periodic weight, height, and growth monitoring is conducted to track nutritional improvements and identify at-risk children.
- **Dry Ration Distribution:**  
Families of enrolled children receive nutritional ration kits twice a year to support household-level food availability.

### Beneficiary Reach (2024-25):

Category	Number of Beneficiaries
Children receiving daily nutrition	90
Children in pre-school sessions	90
Families receiving dry rations	150

### Project Impact:

- **Reduction in Malnutrition:**

Regular access to nutritious meals has led to visible improvement in children's weight and energy levels.

- **Improved Learning Habits:**

Children now show enhanced attention span, language use, and peer interaction thanks to structured early learning.

- **Increased Maternal Awareness:**

Mothers now understand the importance of balanced diets, hygiene, and early stimulation for child development.

- **Healthier Households:**

Dry ration kits have helped families reduce food insecurity and ensure consistent nutrition for growing children.

- **Community Engagement:**

Local volunteers and families are now more involved in child health monitoring and center management.

### Testimonials:

#### [1] A Mother's Relief and a Child's Joy - Impact of the Nutrition & Learning Centre

*"Earlier, my son was very weak and didn't eat properly. I was always worried about his health. But ever since he started attending the ISRDC center in our village, his routine has changed completely. He now gets milk every day, eats nutritious food, and enjoys playing with other children. I've seen him become more active, healthier, and happier. I feel very relieved as a mother knowing that my child is growing well and is being taken care of."*

*– Kunti Bai, Mother, New Khairuwa Tola*

#### [2] Ajay - From Milk and Poems to Big Dreams

*"I love going to the center every day! I drink milk, sing poems, and learn to count numbers. Didi teaches us in a fun way, and I also help my friends when they don't understand. I want to go to a big school soon and become a teacher when I grow up. Thank you to the center for giving us such a nice place to learn and play."*

*– Ajay, Age 5, New Khairuwa Tola*

Glimpses of the Project:



## Breaking Chains, Rebuilding Lives

### **Project Title:**

Bonded Labour Identification and Rehabilitation

### **Thematic Area:**

Labour Rights | Human Trafficking | Legal Aid | Social Justice

### **Introduction of the Project:**

#### **About the Project & Institutional Efforts:**

The Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Project is a critical rights-based intervention by the Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD), supported by the Trust Bridge. The project is designed to identify, rescue, and rehabilitate individuals trapped in bonded labour across informal work settings in urban and rural of Bhopal and Raisen in Madhya Pradesh. With the support of Trust Bridge, ISRD has been able to strengthen its grassroots action, institutional convergence, and victim-centered legal aid to uphold the constitutional right to freedom and dignity. Collaborative efforts with stakeholders such as the **District Administration, Labour Department, Legal Services Authority**, and civil society partners like **International Justice Mission (IJM)** have amplified the reach and impact of this intervention

#### **Program Goal and Vision:**

##### **Program Goal:**

To ensure the identification, rescue, and holistic rehabilitation of individuals working under bonded labour conditions, with an emphasis on restoring their rights, dignity, and access to government entitlements.

##### **Program Vision:**

A society free from bonded labour, where every individual has the right to work in dignity and freedom, and mechanisms are in place to prevent exploitation and ensure justice.

##### **Project Location:**

The project operates across urban slums, brick kilns, and informal work sites in Bhopal and Raisen and surrounding rural areas, where unregulated labour conditions and debt-based bondage are prevalent.

##### **Project Objectives:**

- To identify and document cases of bonded and forced labour through community-based monitoring.
- To rescue victims in coordination with government authorities and legal agencies.

- To provide rehabilitation support, including financial compensation, legal aid, and reintegration into society.
- To create awareness about bonded labour laws among communities and employers.
- To strengthen reporting mechanisms and activate vigilance committees at local levels.

#### **Project Interventions:**

- **Identification and Reporting:**

ISRD field teams and community leaders conducted field visits, household surveys, and referral networks to identify victims in vulnerable occupations such as construction, domestic work, and brick kilns.

- **Legal and Administrative Action:**

Once identified, ISRD supported victims through rescue operations in partnership with local authorities, followed by submission of cases to the District Magistrate for official declaration and compensation under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976.

- **Rehabilitation Support:**

**Survivors were assisted in accessing:**

- ❖ Financial assistance packages (₹20,000-₹1 lakh depending on case)
- ❖ Ration cards, pension, housing, and livelihood schemes
- ❖ Psychosocial counselling and family reintegration

- **Convergence & Capacity Building:**

Regular coordination meetings were held with Labour Department, Police, Legal Services Authority, and IJM to build a stronger response ecosystem.

#### **Project Impact:**

- **Restoration of Rights and Freedom:**

Rescued workers were released from exploitative conditions and formally declared as bonded labourers eligible for support.

- **Improved Access to Justice:**

With legal aid and official case submissions, victims received financial rehabilitation and identity documentation.

- **Breaking the Cycle of Exploitation:**

Rehabilitated individuals were reintegrated into society with access to dignified livelihood options.

- **Community Vigilance Strengthened:**

Local leaders are now trained to report suspected trafficking, and multiple vigilance committees are actively working with authorities.

Glimpses of the Project:



**"बाल श्रम निषेध दिवस" पर प्रधान जिला न्यायाधीश तथा जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण कार्यशाला आयोजित**

SPRINGER LADLAKH - RESCUE, Rehabilitation & Restoration

रायसेन। प्रधान जिला न्यायाधीश एवं जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण अध्यक्ष अनिल कुमार सोहाने की उपस्थिति में, "इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ सोशल रिसर्च एण्ड डेवलपमेंट" (एस आई आर डी) "सामाजिक अनुसंधान एवं विकास संस्थान" एवं जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण रायसेन के संयुक्त तत्वाधान एवं ट्रान्सेशनल जस्टिस मिशन रायसेन के समन्वय से "बाल निषेध दिवस" के अवसर पर एक निजी होटल में अर्ध दिवसीय कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया। कार्यशाला में मुख्य अतिथि प्रधान जिला न्यायाधीश अनिल कुमार सोहाने द्वारा अपने विचार व्यक्त करते हुए कहा गया कि बाल मजदूरी रोकने के लिए हमें मिलकर प्रयास करने होंगे। शिक्षा को बढ़ावा देकर और गरीबी को कम करके हम इस कुप्रथा को जड़ से मिटा सकते हैं।



## Back to School, Forward in Life

### Project Title:

Bridge Gap Education Programme

### Thematic Area:

Education | Child Rights | Urban Poor Empowerment | School Reintegration

### Introduction of the Project:

#### About the Project:

The Bridge Gap Education Programme is an impactful initiative of the Institute of Social Research and Development (ISRD) aimed at addressing the growing issue of school dropouts among children in urban slum communities of Bhopal with the support of HandinHand foundation from Germany.

The project supports out-of-school children—most of whom are from marginalized, migrant, or economically distressed families—by providing informal education, individual academic support, and enabling school reintegration.

The initiative is part of ISRD's broader commitment to ensuring that every child has the right to education, safety, and dignity. By closely working with parents, schools, and local authorities, the project seeks to bridge the gap between home and school—and between exclusion and opportunity.

#### Program Goal and Vision:

##### Program Goal:

To reduce dropout rates and reintegrate out-of-school children back into the formal education system through community-based learning and parental support.

##### Program Vision:

A society where **every child, regardless of background, has equal access to quality education** and the opportunity to thrive in a nurturing and inclusive learning environment.

##### Project Location:

The project is implemented across selected **urban slums in Bhopal**, where child dropout rates are high due to poverty, migration, and limited parental literacy.

##### Project Objectives:

- To identify and enrol dropout children in bridge learning centres.
- To provide basic literacy, numeracy, and life skills to prepare children for formal schooling.
- To engage parents and caregivers in supporting children's education.

- To coordinate with local schools for re-admission and documentation of dropout children.
- To prevent re-dropouts by offering follow-up academic support and motivation.

#### Project Interventions:

- **Child Identification Drives:**  
Door-to-door surveys and community mapping were conducted to identify school-aged children not attending school.
- **Informal Education & Bridge Classes:**  
Trained facilitators provided non-formal education sessions, covering basic subjects like language, mathematics, general knowledge, and moral education.
- **Parental Engagement & Counselling:**  
Regular meetings with parents—especially mothers—helped increase awareness about the importance of education, reduce resistance, and improve home support.
- **School Re-enrolment Drives:**  
Children who reached the learning benchmarks were formally re-enrolled into schools with ISRD's facilitation for school access, transfer certificates, and uniform distribution.
- **Post-Enrolment Support:**  
Continued academic mentoring and emotional support were offered to children to ensure **retention and performance** in school.

#### Beneficiary Reach (2024-25):

Activity	Number
Children Identified (Dropouts)	50+
Children Attending Bridge Classes	50+
Children Re-enrolled in Schools	50+
Learning Sessions Conducted	200+

### Project Impact:

- **School Re-enrolment:**

Over **50 children** successfully transitioned back to formal schools after attending ISRD's bridge classes.

- **Improved Learning Confidence:**

Children showed **improved reading and writing skills**, better discipline, and excitement about returning to school.

- **Parental Mindset Shift:**

Many families that once prioritized child labour or household help now actively support their children's education.

- **Child Rights Restored:**

The project has helped reduce the risk of child labour and early marriage by restoring children's access to safe learning spaces.

### Testimonials:

#### [1] Avni Kawade - Reclaiming Childhood After Loss

*"After my husband passed away, our life changed completely. My daughter Avni became quiet and withdrawn. She had stopped going to school, and I didn't know how to help her. When the ISRD team came to our slum and told me about their Bridge Education Centre, I enrolled Avni right away. Within weeks, I noticed a change—she started reading, smiling, and playing again. She looked forward to attending the centre every day."*

– **Ashwini Kawade**, Mother of Avni Kawade

#### [2] Simran Manpiya - A New Beginning Through Education

*"My daughter Simran had been out of school for more than a year. We faced many difficulties at home and were unable to manage her school expenses. I had lost hope that she would return to school. Then one day, we met the ISRD team during their home visit. They explained the Bridge Gap Programme and assured us that Simran could catch up with her studies. Since then, she has been regularly attending the centre and is doing well."*

– **Bhupendra Manpiya**, Father of Simran Manpiya

Glimpses of the Project:



## Way Forward



As we look ahead, ISRD remains deeply committed to strengthening its grassroots impact while expanding its presence across underserved communities. In the coming year, one of our foremost priorities will be to deepen engagement with local worker groups, women leaders, and youth collectives. These community-based institutions are not just beneficiaries but changemakers in their own right, and our role is to empower them to lead sustainable transformation from within.

We aim to scale successful models such as our Preschool Nutrition Programme, Bridge Gap Education, and Youth Skill Development initiatives into new geographies, especially tribal and rural regions where the need is both urgent and underserved. Recognizing the evolving landscape of employment, we plan to introduce more trade-specific, market-relevant vocational courses—with a special focus on digital literacy, green skills, and micro-entrepreneurship—to equip young people with the tools they need for a dignified livelihood. In parallel, we will continue working to strengthen access to social protection schemes and entitlements for informal workers, survivors of bonded labour, and vulnerable families—through deeper convergence with government departments and legal institutions. Our work to prevent forced labour and human trafficking will be intensified through community vigilance, legal redressal, and survivor rehabilitation pathways.

Education will remain a core pillar of our strategy, as we strive to ensure that every child, especially those from migrant and marginalised families, has continuity in learning and the opportunity to thrive. We are also exploring digital innovations that will help us monitor our field impact more effectively, improve transparency, and enhance service delivery.

With the unwavering support of our donors, government allies, and most importantly, the communities we serve, ISRD remains hopeful and determined. Together, we envision a future where every child, worker, and woman lives with dignity, freedom, and opportunity. The path forward is clear—and it calls for continued collaboration, compassion, and collective action.

– Moncy Thomas  
Deputy Director  
ISRD, Bhopal

# Financial Audit



**Deepak Kumar Soni & Associates**  
**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited the attached Balance sheet as at **31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**, Income & Expenditure account and Receipt & Payment account for year ended on **31<sup>st</sup> March 2024** relating to "INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, BHOPAL". These financial statements are the responsibility of the Management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We have conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We state that

- a) We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of audit.
- b) In our opinion proper books of accounts as required by the law have been kept by Trust so far as appears from our examination of such books.
- c) The Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure Account and Receipt & Payment Account referred to in this report are in agreement with the books of account produced before us.
- d) In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said accounts give a true and fair view in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in India.
  - i) In the case of Balance Sheet of the state of affairs as at **31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**.
  - ii) In the case of Income & Expenditure account of the excess of income over Expenditure for the period ended on that date.

Place : Bhopal  
 Date : 27.08.2024

For Deepak Kumar Soni & Associates  
 (Chartered Accountant)  
 FRN.027591C

*DKS*  
 CA Deepak Kumar Soni  
 (Pro.)  
 M.No.411439  
 UDIN No.24411439BKCIZA1872



78, Shri Ram Parisar Awadhपुरi, Bhopal - 462022, Mobile : 9302122656

email: ca.deepaksoni@yahoo.com

**INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, BHOPAL**

**Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2024**

Prev. Year Amt as on 31.03.2023	LIABILITIES	AMOUNT (Rs.) as on 31.03.2024	Prev. Year Amt as on 31.03.2023	ASSETS	AMOUNT (Rs.) as on 31.03.2024
	<b>Capital Account</b>		2,63,037.00	<b>Fixed Assets</b>	2,23,219.00
3,20,830.00	Capital Reserve Fund	3,20,830.00		(As per Annexure - B)	
1,08,944.00	Capital Grant	86,865.00			
	<b>Income &amp; Expenditure A/c</b>			<b>Current Assets, Loans &amp; Adv.</b>	
73,765.98	Opening Balance	96,048.50		<b>Loans &amp; Advances</b>	
	Less: Disallowed Expenses	-	8,42,297.00	Receivables from ChildLine India	5,42,585.00
	Less: Revenue Expense	-		(As per Annexure-A)	
22,282.52	Add : Current Year	5,041.70	44,122.00	Receivables from MPPSC	44,122.00
				(As per Annexure-A)	
11,25,499.50	<b>Unspent Grant</b>	16,30,603.90	55,126.00	Loans & Advances (Asset)	-
	(As per Annexure-A)		18,000.00	Membership Receivable	35,000.00
			27,389.00	TDS (2010-11)	27,389.00
			8,820.00	TDS (2018-19)	8,820.00
3,03,287.00	<b>Current Liabilities &amp; Provisions</b>	1,03,274.00	10,013.00	TDS (2022-23)	10,013.00
5,35,175.00	<b>Sundry Creditors</b>	5,05,586.00		TDS (2023-24)	27,329.00
	<b>Expenses Payable &amp; Provisions</b>		31,018.00	<b>Cash &amp; Bank Balances</b>	
			11,89,962.00	Cash in Hand	21,488.00
				Cash at Bank	18,08,284.10
				(As per Annexure - C)	
<b>24,89,784.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,48,249.10</b>	<b>24,89,784.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,48,249.10</b>

As per my Audit Report of even date attached

For Institute of Social Research & Development

*Pushpalata*  
(President)

*Amul*  
(Secretary)

Place: Bhopal  
Date: 27.08.2024



For Deepak Kumar Soni & Associates

Chartered Accountants

FR.No.027591C

*DKS*

CA Deepak Kumar Soni

(Prop)

M.No.411439

UDIN No.24411439BKCIZA1872



## Institute of Social Research and Development

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