



Strengthening of Anganwadi Centres for a Healthy and Educated Community

Project Strengthening of Anganwadi Centres for a Healthy and Educated Community has transformed 25 Anganwadi Centres in Paradeep, Odisha into vibrant hubs of early childhood education, healthcare and nutrition. The Project sought to create model Anganwadi Centres that are physically sound, pedagogically vibrant, nutritionally responsive and community owned.

Project's Reach

Location: Paradeep, Jagatsinghpur District, Odisha

Reach: 25 Anganwadi Centres

Project Duration: 1st June 2024–30th June 2025



Key Initiatives

Enhancement
of Physical
Infrastructure

Capacity-
building of
frontline
workers

Educational
Aids

Promotion
of Water,
Sanitation
and Hygiene
(WASH)
Practices

Nutritional
Support;
Kitchen
Garden

Community
Engagement

Project Rationale

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme is one of the world's largest social initiatives, reaching over to 10 crore children and mothers through 13.9 lakh Anganwadi Centres. In Paradeep, Jagatsinghpur district, Odisha, rapid industrialisation coexists with rural poverty and poor maternal and child health indicators. To address this, Humana People to People India (HPPI), partnered with ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel (AM/NS) India, and upgraded 25 Anganwadi Centres into child-friendly, interactive learning spaces with improved infrastructure—enhancing early childhood care, education, and nutrition for the most vulnerable communities.

Project Interventions

The Project focused on transforming 25 Anganwadi Centres into model institutions equipped to deliver comprehensive early childhood care, education and health services. Key interventions included renovating and upgrading physical infrastructure, installing solar panels for uninterrupted power, setting up clean water supply systems with storage and filtration units, and constructing hygienic toilets. Each centre was equipped with child-friendly furniture, educational aids and kitchen equipment to enhance preschool learning and nutrition delivery. Additionally, 31 nutritional gardens were established to promote locally grown nutritious food. Capacity-building workshops were conducted for 50 Anganwadi and 25 ASHA workers, and regular community engagement activities—such as health awareness sessions and the formation of Women's Health and Adolescent Girls' Groups—ensured long-term sustainability and ownership within the community.

Key Achievements



18,000+ people reached through the awareness programme



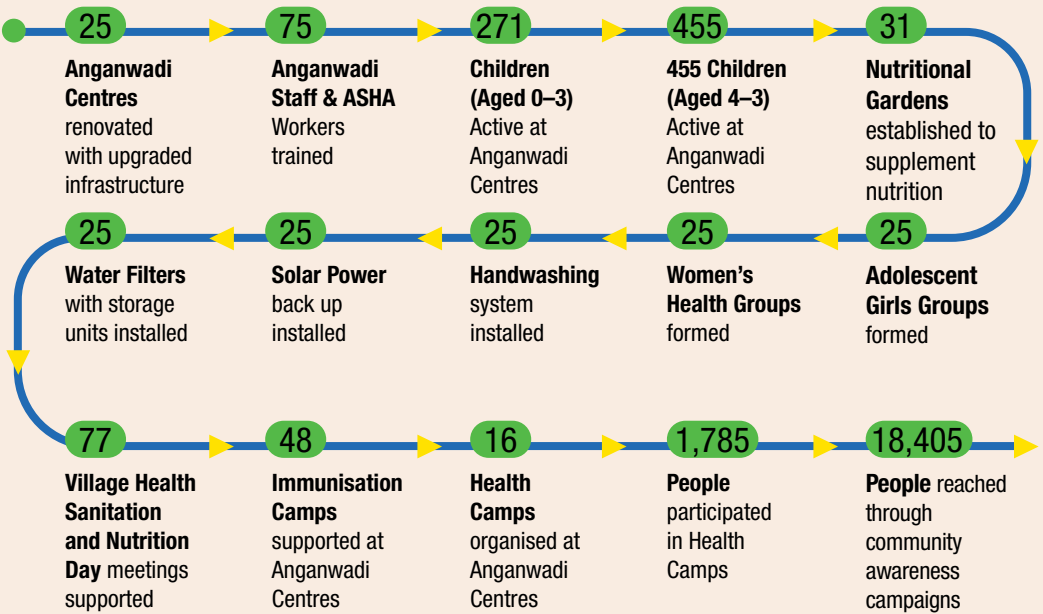
75 Anganwadi staff & ASHA workers' capacity building on health and nutrition



726 children aged 0–6 years registered at Anganwadi Centres



Major Achievements of the Project



Voices from the Ground:

Revitalising Development

“I’ve served at Mushadia Anganwadi Centre for 20 years, but the transformation brought by the project has been truly remarkable. Earlier, we had only 18 children. The Anganwadi Centre had broken windows, no proper seating and poor facilities. With support from AM/NS India and Humana People to People India, everything changed—our centre was renovated, new learning tools were introduced, and community groups for women and girls were formed in each village. Today, 40 children attend regularly, and the environment is bright, engaging, and child friendly. I feel proud to say we are now the first Smart Anganwadi in our area. These improvements have empowered our community and brought hope to many lives.”



Ranjubala Swain,
Anganwadi Worker, Mushadia Anganwadi Centre



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