



ANNUAL REPORT
2022-23

Vikasalaya Foundation

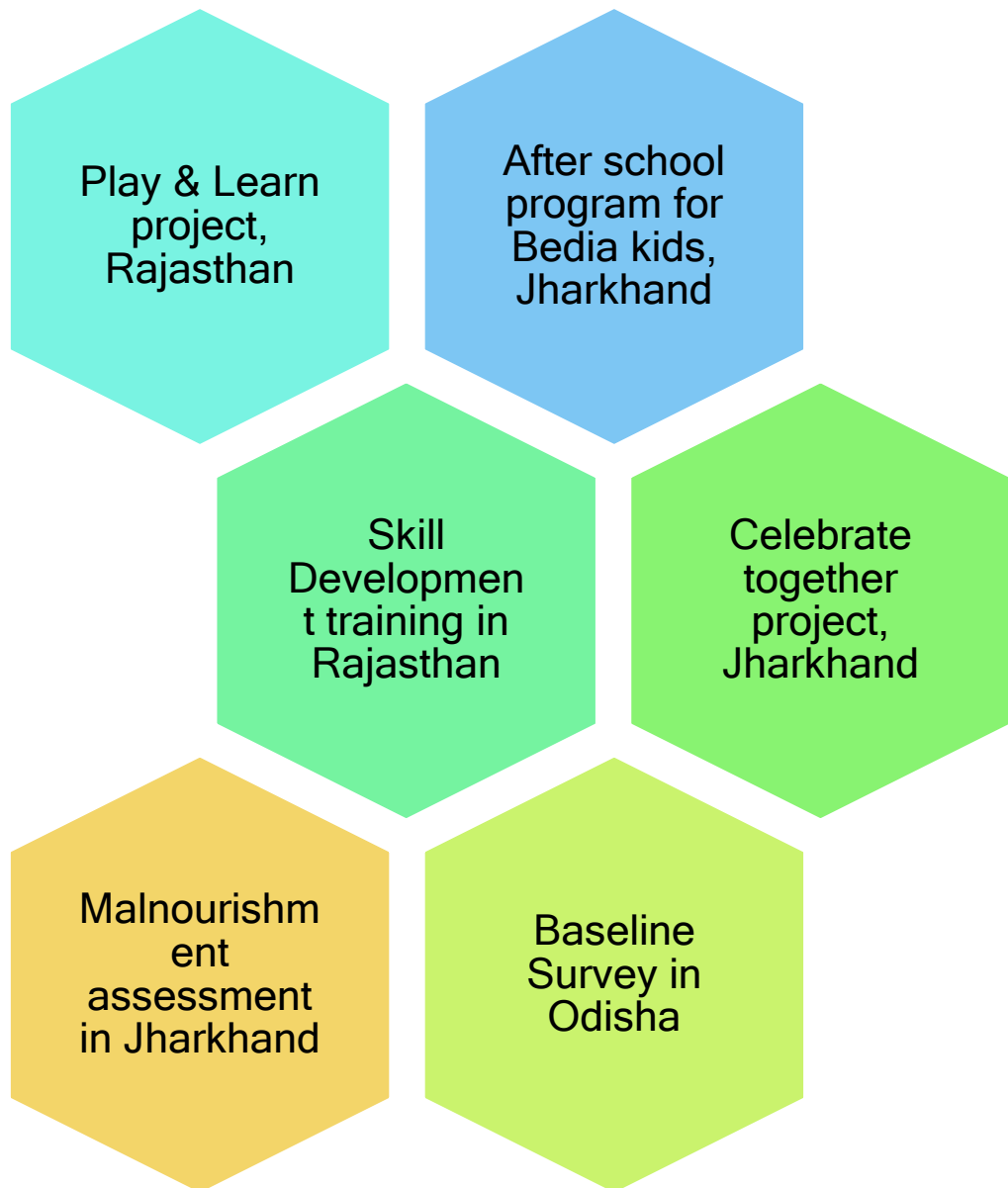
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Highlights of 2022-23



Malnourishment Survey in Jharkhand

47.8% of Jharkhand's children are underweight, placing Jharkhand behind only Bihar and Madhya Pradesh in child malnutrition levels. The infant mortality rate in Jharkhand is 44 deaths per 1,000 live births and the under-five mortality rate is 54 deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to national averages of 41 and 50. To find out the correct data and reach beneficiaries, we conducted a sample survey in rural Jharkhand.



After school project, Jharkhand

Labour forever, is the only future that each kid from Bedia community has accepted for themselves. They attend school till 8th standard for mid day meal that is provided and after that it's just one way road to their entire future. The road that leads them to working as labour at coal mines. These kids are from the **Bedia community of Dhanbad** which is a **semi-nomadic tribe** that is also **declared as denotified tribe** in many Indian states. Bedia is one of the most backward societies in my village. They live in a group of 500+ members

and their struggles for daily bread and butter are saddening. The traditional occupation of this community is snake catching and snake charming where they catch poisonous snakes, entertain masses with snake shows, and sell their poison for making antidotes for snake bites. People give them money, rice, wheat, food, etc against the snake shows they perform. With urbanization, snakes are disappearing, people are losing interest in snake shows and prefer television or toys over them. This change has endangered their traditional practice of earning and at present their source of earnings is extremely limited; they work as labors, househelps, at coal mines or snake catchers.

Most of the kids are encouraged to attend school but their motive is mid-day meals and that's why no kid attends after 8th standard. **Only one person in the entire community has passed secondary education.** Children touch their teenage age by the time they pass 8th, boys start working in coal mines, and girls end up working as housemaids or some other labor jobs. By this age, their future is decided - **labuor forever** who need to struggle for every day's meal and forget about other necessities of life. Higher education is not even a point of consideration for them as they have the clear mindset that we have to be labors after growing up then why not





now. This mindset and drop out after middle school have led them into a systematic cycle of poverty and unemployment. It's crucial to break this chain and empower the youth of this community. Vikasalya is trying to handhold kids from early age, support them with after-school program, and train them to fight for a dignified life. Our aim is to ensure that each of these kids completes their studies and get a job

At present, we have 30+ primary school kids enrolled with us and we will be handholding them till their education years to ensure complete education and jobs for them.



Celebrate together, Jharkhand Karnataka & Rajasthan

Festivals are brighter when celebrated together and what could bring more brightness than smiles on these little faces. Team Vikasalaya celebrated **Ramnavmi** with kids and enjoyed a festive feast with them. In Rajasthan, our team celebrated **makar sakranti** with school children, made kites and shared snacks with them. In Karnataka, our team celebrated **Christmas** with slum kids.



Soap Distribution & Health awareness campaign

A simple practice of handwashing with soap can rule out the possibility of many infections in kids. India loses more than 1.6 million kids every year to Diarrhea. We sensitize the rural community on practices of handwashing. For sensitization, we distributed soaps to the kids in rural Rajasthan and gave handwash awareness sessions.



Rangoli Competition in Rajasthan

A rangoli competition was conducted in government school of rural Udaipur. This competition was a part of learn while playing project of Vikasalaya where we believe that every kid is special and has own ways of expressing their thoughts and talents.



Baseline Survey in Muniguda, Odisha

A Baseline survey was performed in Muniguda block of Odisha. It was found that child and maternal mortality rate is extremely high in this block. The area badly needs healthcare support, clothes support, education and ration support etc. Any further intervention could not be planned due to the lack of funds.



Waste recycle activity Rajasthan

As part of the ongoing *Play & Learn* program, waste recycling activities were regularly conducted in Mada village, rural Rajasthan. Children were continuously engaged in learning how to repurpose old newspapers, clothes, and threads creatively, fostering environmental awareness and resourcefulness. This initiative aimed to instill sustainable habits through enjoyable, hands-on experiences.



Hand paint activities in Rajasthan



One of the key activities this year was a hand-painting session at a government school, designed to combine creative expression with foundational learning. This activity encouraged children to explore their artistic abilities, enhancing their motor skills and building confidence. By integrating playful methods into education, the session created a vibrant atmosphere that promoted active engagement and a joyful approach to learning.



Stitching workshop Rajasthan

As part of our women empowerment and skill development program, women in Dhinkli village of Rajasthan were given stitching training. Our consultant designers trained them to stitch handbags and different products from recycled fabric. They were also updated about offline as well as online marketing mechanism.



Painting competition in Rajasthan

As part of the ongoing *Play and Learn* project, a painting competition was held at the school to encourage creativity and self-expression among students. This regular activity provided a platform for children to showcase their artistic talents in a fun, engaging setting. All participants received refreshments, and prizes were awarded, adding excitement and recognition to the experience and reinforcing the joy of learning through play.

