



ANNUAL REPORT
OF
SNEHAVARDHINI SOCIAL
TRUST
(2025–2026)

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TRUST
Roha Raigad

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INTRODUCTION



Snehavardhini Social Trust has been working for the holistic development of the Katkari tribal community in Varse, Roha Taluka, Raigad District, reaching nearly 5,000 families through diverse community-based interventions. Our journey has always been guided by the vision of restoring dignity and creating opportunities for marginalized families to lead better, more fulfilling lives.

Reflecting on this year fills us with immense joy as we witness the transformation within the communities we serve. In the early stages, our efforts focused on meeting basic needs—ensuring access to essential support systems and helping families move toward stability. As these needs were gradually addressed, our work evolved to higher levels of development: education, empowerment, self-reliance, and community leadership, inspired by Abraham Maslow’s philosophy of human development.

Education remains at the heart of our mission, complemented by initiatives in women’s empowerment, livelihood development, health awareness, child protection, and strengthening community leadership. Together, these interventions aim to create sustainable change within tribal communities.

This year, our efforts were carried forward by a dedicated team of 22 teachers conducting supplementary classes and 3 social workers engaging closely with families to ensure holistic development. Our reach extended to 25 villages, amplifying the impact of our initiatives.

This annual report captures the journey, achievements, and impact of the year as we continue working toward building empowered families, educated children, and self-reliant communities.

MISSION

We are committed to empowering people through capacity building, with a special focus on the tribal communities of Raigad District. Guided by a preferential concern for these marginalized groups and a deep respect for the environment, we strive to foster sustainable development and holistic progress.

VISION

We envision the holistic empowerment of marginalized communities, fostering dignity, self-reliance, and sustainable progress

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

This year has been a journey of reflection, gratitude, and renewed commitment for Snehavardhini Social Trust. For over 36 years, we have walked alongside the Katkari tribal community in Roha, striving for their holistic development through education, livelihood opportunities, access to government schemes, and community empowerment. Looking back, we are deeply grateful to witness how consistent efforts can bring meaningful change in the lives of vulnerable families.

One of our most significant achievements this year has been in the field of education. Through supplementary classes in villages, children who once had limited access to learning are now attending school regularly and showing improved academic performance. Several students have progressed to higher secondary education, some girls have entered college, and youth from the community are beginning to explore professional opportunities. Alongside academics, we have emphasized life skills, leadership, and awareness sessions —helping children grow with confidence and preparing them to face the future with resilience.

Another major achievement this year has been in livelihood development. In the aftermath of COVID-19, many families faced severe economic hardships and were forced to migrate for survival. To address this, we introduced livelihood opportunities within the villages. Today, many women are earning through goat rearing, poultry farming, catering training, and other small income-generating activities. Notably, five more families have been supported this year to stop migration and begin sustainable livelihoods in their own villages.

A special appreciation goes to our dedicated teachers and staff members, who have been true bridge-builders between the organization and the community. Each day, they travel to remote villages, motivate children to continue their education, support families, and patiently guide students through their challenges. Their compassion and commitment have played a vital role in transforming the lives of many children.

We also reached a significant milestone in helping families access government schemes and entitlements. Many families received housing benefits, Aadhaar cards, ration support, and other essential documents. One inspiring example was helping a differently-abled girl obtain her Aadhaar card after years of struggle. This single document opened the door to essential services and benefits, showing how even one intervention can restore dignity and hope.

While we celebrate these achievements, we also acknowledge the challenges that remain—migration, irregular school attendance, and limited resources. Yet, these challenges only strengthen our resolve to continue serving with dedication. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our committed staff, teachers, donors, partner organizations, and community members whose trust and active participation make this mission possible.

In the coming year, we aim to strengthen education for more children, expand livelihood opportunities for additional families, ensure greater access to government schemes, and continue building self-reliant and empowered communities.

Together, we move forward with hope and determination

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Snehavardhini Social Trust carried out a wide range of activities throughout the year across education, Children's Parliament, women's empowerment, youth development, Gavki, access to government schemes, teacher support, environment, nutrition and ration, and livelihood. These initiatives led to several inspiring success stories, while also presenting significant challenges along the way.

1. Education

“Dream, dream, dream. Dreams transform into thoughts and thoughts result in action.” — A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

Education lies at the heart of Snehavardhini Social Trust’s mission. Guided by our unique philosophy of the Pedagogy of the Heart, we strive to nurture children not only academically but also emotionally—helping them grow with confidence, discipline, and strong values. Recognizing that many Katkari children are first-generation learners, our approach emphasizes encouragement, care, and a supportive environment to sustain their educational journey.

To strengthen academic performance, regular supplementary classes were conducted Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, before children attended their Zilla Parishad school sessions. These two-hour classes focused on foundational skills in reading, writing, mathematics, and overall classroom preparedness.

Monthly examinations were introduced. We believe education must connect with life and nature. Children participated in outdoor learning experiences under the open sky, exploring rivers, air, the environment, and the five elements of life. These activities nurtured curiosity, observation, and practical understanding while deepening their bond with nature.

Through these efforts, we continue to create an environment where children learn with joy, build confidence, and prepare themselves for a brighter future.

Used to track progress and reduce exam-related anxiety. These assessments helped teachers identify individual learning gaps and provide targeted support. Over time, children began to face tests with greater confidence and actively engage in their studies.

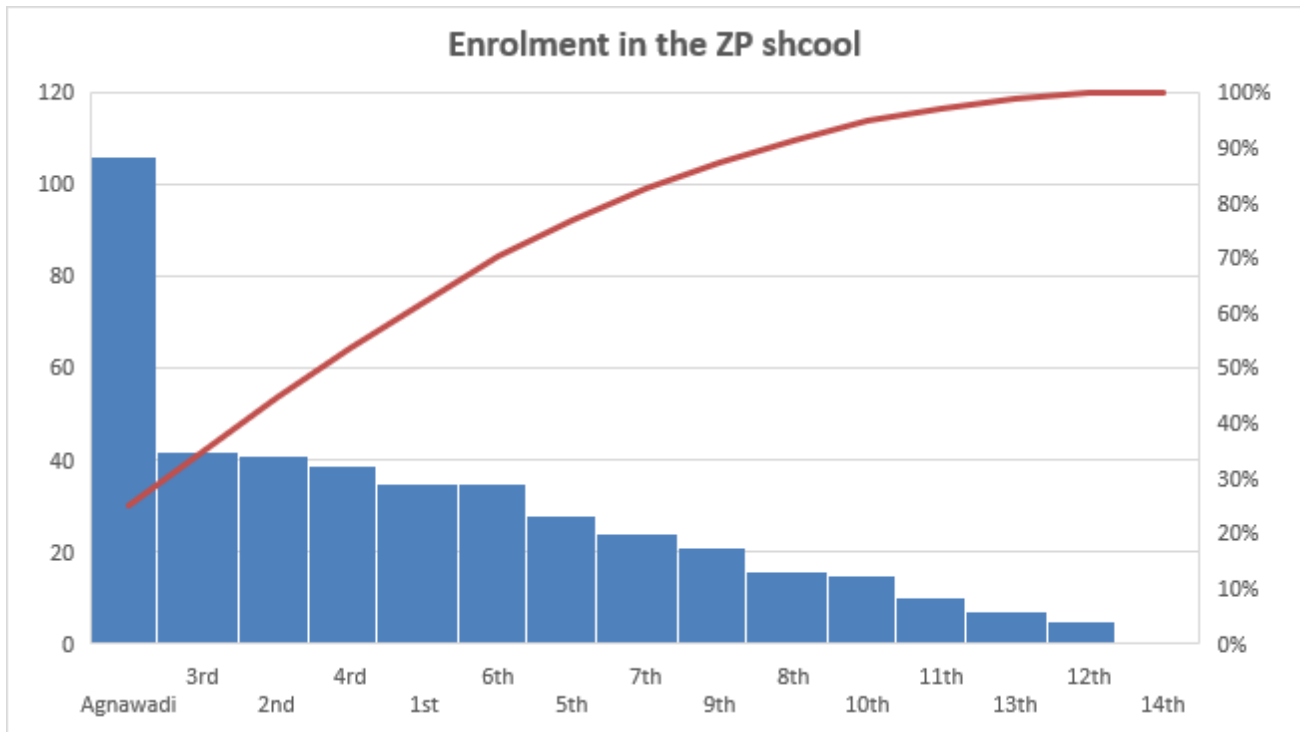
Learning extended beyond classroom walls. We believe education must connect with life and nature. Children participated in outdoor learning experiences under the open sky, exploring rivers, air, the environment, and the five elements of life. These activities nurtured curiosity, observation, and practical understanding while deepening their bond with nature.

Through these efforts, we continue to create an environment where children learn with joy, build confidence, and prepare themselves for a brighter future.



The following chart will help us to know how many children are enrolled in the school and drop out.

Anganwadi	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	14 th
106	35	41	42	39	28	35	24	16	21	15	10	5	7	0	0



Drop out and migrated in the village: In this year we had 41 children are drop outs.

Children's Parliament

At Snehavardhini Social Trust, we believe children are not just beneficiaries of development but active leaders capable of driving positive change in their communities. To nurture leadership and civic responsibility, Children's Parliament sessions were conducted every Saturday across our centres.

Through these sessions, children learned about their rights, the importance of education, child protection, and their role as responsible citizens. They were encouraged to identify issues affecting their communities and develop the confidence to raise their voices for change.

As part of this initiative, children visited local Gram Panchayats to understand governance systems and decision-making at the village level. Centre-wise and village-level groups were formed, with elected student leaders representing their peers and addressing local concerns.

The Children's Parliament became a platform for collective action. In two villages, children submitted applications regarding poor road conditions and the need for a fan in the community temple (Samaj Mandir). Their efforts led to the installation of a fan, while the road proposal is under review. In another two villages, children successfully addressed issues related to public toilets and street lights, motivating them to take an active role in village development.

Beyond infrastructure, children also raised awareness about child marriage and the importance of education. Despite challenges such as seasonal migration disrupting schooling, the Children's Parliament continues to empower children with leadership skills, awareness, and confidence to advocate for their rights.

In November, we celebrated Children's Month with the initiative "Four Hours Away from Home", aimed at reducing mobile addiction and promoting games. Children engaged in creative indoor and outdoor activities that encouraged teamwork, creativity, and physical fitness. The success of this initiative inspired its introduction in other villages, ensuring more children benefit from constructive and joyful engagement.

The Children's Parliament has grown into a powerful platform for creating young leaders—aware, responsible, and committed to building brighter futures for themselves and their communities.



Adolescents (Kishori Groups)

Snehavardhini Social Trust recognizes that adolescent girls require special guidance, care, and awareness during their formative years. To support their holistic development, Kishori group sessions were conducted every Saturday across our centers, creating a safe and supportive space for girls to learn, share, and grow together.

These sessions focused on key aspects of health, well-being, and personal development. Special awareness programs on menstrual health and hygiene helped girls understand challenges related to menstruation and how to care for their health effectively. Nutrition and healthy eating habits were emphasized, enabling them to appreciate the importance of proper food for physical growth and overall well-being.

Sessions on social media awareness guided them to use digital platforms responsibly, recognizing both positive opportunities and potential risks. In addition, discussions on saving habits, self-confidence, personal care, and life skills prepared them to face future challenges with resilience and responsibility.

Through interactive activities, discussions, and creative learning methods, the girls gained practical tools to navigate everyday situations. These sessions have helped them become more confident, self-aware, and prepared for the future. They are learning to value themselves, make informed choices, and grow into strong individuals who can contribute positively to their families and communities.



PARENTS' MEETINGS

Parents are a child's first teachers, shaping their values, habits, and outlook. Children are like clay—absorbing the words, actions, and behaviors of those around them. Recognizing this, we organized monthly parents' meetings to strengthen family support and build a strong bridge for children's education.

During these sessions, parents shared their joy in sending their children to the centre or hostel, expressing their hopes that their children would have better opportunities and not face the same struggles they endured. Meetings were held in villages, sometimes with children present and sometimes without, creating space for open dialogue and mutual understanding.

Parents appreciated these interactions with the centre team, which not only deepened trust but also encouraged active participation in their children's learning journey. Together, we also engaged in various activities during these sessions, making them both meaningful and enjoyable.



WOMEN

“Behind every successful community is a group of determined women working for change.”

Snehavardhini Social Trust has consistently worked with women to enhance their lifestyles, instill confidence, and foster self-reliance. Our aim is to empower women to recognize their potential and become active contributors to their families and communities.

Currently, 35 Women’s Self-Help Groups (SHGs) have been formed and registered with the Panchayat Samiti. Through these groups, women have received capacity-building trainings that helped them acquire new skills and strengthen their livelihoods.

To reduce seasonal migration and ensure sustainable income, livelihood support has been extended to several women. Many have taken up goat rearing, poultry farming, catering, and other small-scale income-generating activities. In June, women were provided with seeds for cultivation, benefiting many families. In one village, a women’s group collectively cultivated paddy rice. Despite facing losses, they showed resilience, gained valuable experience, and remained motivated for future efforts.

Some women have also started honey bee farming, while others ventured into catering, successfully completing two catering orders. In November, a cake-making training was organized for 25 women from different villages, where they learned to prepare around 10 varieties of cakes, including nutritious options, along with icing and decoration techniques. This creative initiative enhanced their skills and opened new livelihood opportunities.

To strengthen unity and provide recreation, a picnic was organized for nearly 215 women. Games and activities created joyful moments and helped build stronger bonds. Many expressed happiness, as it was a rare opportunity to relax and enjoy themselves.

Through these initiatives, women are becoming more confident, financially independent, and actively engaged in driving positive change within their villages.

WOMEN



GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

Development is not about factories, dams and roads. Development is about people.” — Julius Nyerere

This year, Snehavardhini Social Trust worked closely with government departments to help tribal families access their rights and benefit from various schemes. Compared to previous years, our collaboration with government offices grew stronger, enabling many families to receive both personal and community-level support.

To inspire children as future leaders, visits to government offices were organized. These experiences helped them understand governance systems, decision-making processes, and their responsibilities as citizens.

Through consistent follow-up with officials, several villages benefited from the 15% Nidhi fund, receiving grinders, mats, road repairs, Samaj Mandir improvements, and other essential resources for both community and household use. These interventions strengthened village infrastructure and addressed basic needs.

Identity documentation was another key focus. An Aadhaar camp was organized for children, resulting in 35 Aadhaar cards being issued—critical for school admissions, scholarships, and government benefits. A particularly inspiring achievement was helping a differently-abled girl finally secure her Aadhaar card after years of struggle. This small document opened doors to essential services and restored dignity and hope for her family.

Housing support was also prioritized. Nearly 250 housing applications were submitted, with several already approved and others under process. We continue to follow up to ensure deserving families receive safe housing.

Additionally, awareness sessions were conducted in villages to educate families about schemes related to education, health, livelihood, pensions, and other entitlements. These efforts built trust within communities and ensured more families could access the support available to them.

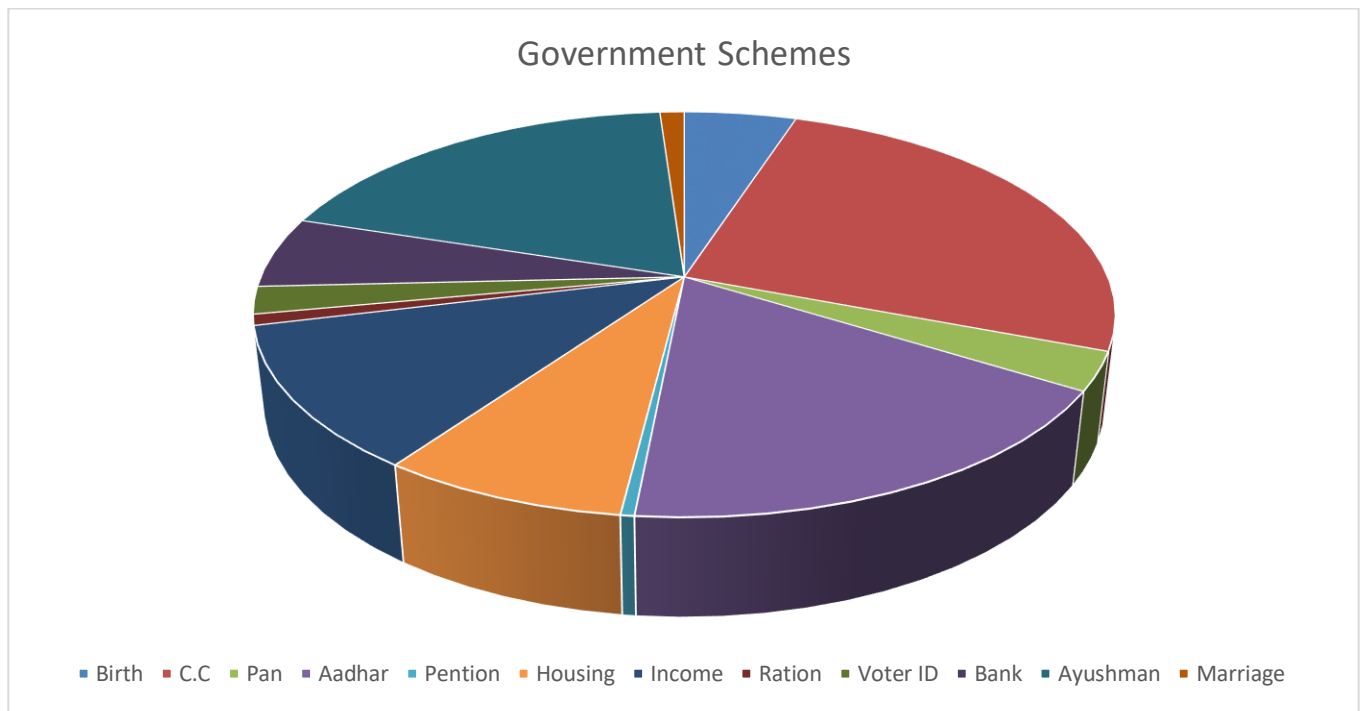
GOVERNMENT SCHEMES



This year’s progress reflects how strong partnerships with government systems can transform lives—bringing dignity, opportunity, and hope to marginalized families.

This following chart you will get how many things we have got.

Birth	C.C	Pan	Aadhar	Pension	Housing	Income	Ration	Voter ID	Bank	Ayush man	Marriage	Death
23	118	14	81	2	36	52	4	10	26	87	5	14



GAVKI (VILLAGE MEETINGS)

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” — Henry Ford

Snehavardhini Social Trust organized monthly Gavki meetings across all villages on fixed dates. These gatherings became vital platforms where community members discussed village issues, government schemes, land rights, and other developmental concerns. They also served as spaces to motivate people to take collective responsibility for solving their own challenges.

This year, land-related issues were a major focus in nearly five villages. Many families were unaware of their land rights and lacked proper documentation. Through continuous discussions and follow-up, one village successfully collected all necessary land records, including the 7/12 extract, for their government-allotted land. As a result, families were able to cultivate rice on their own land. Women played a particularly strong role in this process, taking initiative and actively participating despite the challenges. With the support of Gavki leaders, this milestone was achieved.

Another significant achievement emerged in Killa village, where the community had long struggled without a Samaj Mandir (community hall). Despite repeated election promises, no action was taken. During a Gavki meeting, youth raised the issue, and the community collectively agreed on its importance. Encouraged to act in unity, members began identifying procedures and applying for the Samaj Mandir. The Gavki group even contributed funds for travel and related expenses to complete the process. Most of the required steps have now been completed, and the community is hopeful of receiving their Samaj Mandir in the coming year.

In addition, villagers collectively contributed ₹5,000 to celebrate Dhan Utsav from October 1st to 7th. The funds were used meaningfully— community members visited a beggars’ remand home and provided food items to residents. The heartfelt interactions during this visit fostered compassion and strengthened the community’s sense of social responsibility.

Through regular Gavki meetings, people are becoming more aware of their rights, land issues, and available government schemes. With guidance from leaders like Mr. Sachin Wagh, who explained land-related procedures, these meetings have strengthened unity, leadership, and problem-solving skills across villages



YOUTH

“Give the youth the right opportunities, and they will build a better world.”

Working with youth has always been both rewarding and challenging for Snehavardhini Social Trust. To channel their energy and potential, we have formed 10 Youth Self-Help Groups (SHGs) that conduct regular meetings. These gatherings provide a platform to engage young people in discussions on forming sports associations, exploring livelihood opportunities, and taking responsibility within their communities.

A significant number of youths are actively employed—many migrate for work, while nearly half are engaged in company-based jobs. Encouragingly, we see a growing sense of awareness and responsibility among them as they begin to contribute to community development.

However, challenges remain. Migration often disrupts consistency in participation and activities, while frequent job changes and issues such as alcohol consumption affect their stability and overall growth. Despite these hurdles, the youth are gradually stepping forward, and with continued support, they hold the promise of becoming strong leaders and change-makers for their communities.



HEALTH

“Take care of your body. It’s the only place you have to live.” — Jim Rohn

Snehavardhini Social Trust has placed special focus on addressing both major and minor health concerns within the tribal community. Our two social workers, along with dedicated teachers, have taken strong initiatives to ensure healthcare support reaches even the most remote areas.

This year, a general health check-up camp was organized, benefiting around 65 men and women. A medical team from Mumbai conducted the camp with warmth and care, making the experience supportive and reassuring for participants. We also collaborated with ASHA workers, who led sessions on general health, yoga, and Ayurveda during a three-day program. This not only provided valuable learning for the community but also helped our staff build a strong network with ASHA workers.

Monthly awareness sessions were conducted on hygiene, nutrition, and menstrual health, ensuring families received consistent guidance on preventive care. In addition, individual support was extended in critical cases. For example, we assisted Gulab Waghmare, a widow suffering from severe leg pain even after an earlier surgery, by supporting her through a second operation and recovery. Similarly, we continue to provide emotional and occasional financial support to Barki Walekar, who is battling cancer.

Through the HGP initiative, we have continued to organize diverse health-related programs, strengthening awareness and improving the overall well-being of the community.



ENVIRONMENT:

“The Earth is what we all have in common—protecting it begins with small actions taken together.”

We celebrated Environment Month by conducting awareness sessions and promoting eco-friendly practices within the community. We distributed a variety of vegetable seeds to encourage families to grow their own nutritious food, along with fruit plant saplings to support long-term sustainability. Plants were also distributed across eight ZP schools and at a government hospital to promote greenery and environmental responsibility.

The Balsand, children actively participated by receiving vegetable seeds and learning about cultivation. In Khamb, children took a remarkable initiative by cleaning an area where waste was regularly dumped by the community; they transformed it into a clean and green space by planting and maintaining it beautifully. Their interest and ownership have been inspiring, and they continue to carry out cleanliness activities every month.



LIVELIHOOD

“Give a person a skill, and you give them a future.”

Snehavardhini Social Trust has focused on empowering women, youth, and community members to build sustainable sources of income. This year, nearly ₹15,00,000 was invested in diverse livelihood initiatives, including the distribution of plants, seeds, and other essential resources. In one village, a group began producing oil every month, creating a steady income stream.

From September to December, we participated in sales exhibitions in Mumbai alongside women who prepared a variety of edible products. Visits to six parishes provided them with valuable exposure, new learning experiences, and motivation to expand their small businesses within their villages.

In Killa village, a catering unit was established with 10 women registered for training. Five of them are now actively taking orders, having successfully completed two catering assignments. This achievement boosted their confidence and encouraged them to continue.

In Khargaon, eco-tourism was promoted as a livelihood program for the tribal community. This year, 14 groups from Mumbai, Kerala, and nearby areas of Roha visited the village, enjoying its natural beauty and peaceful environment while generating income opportunities for local families.

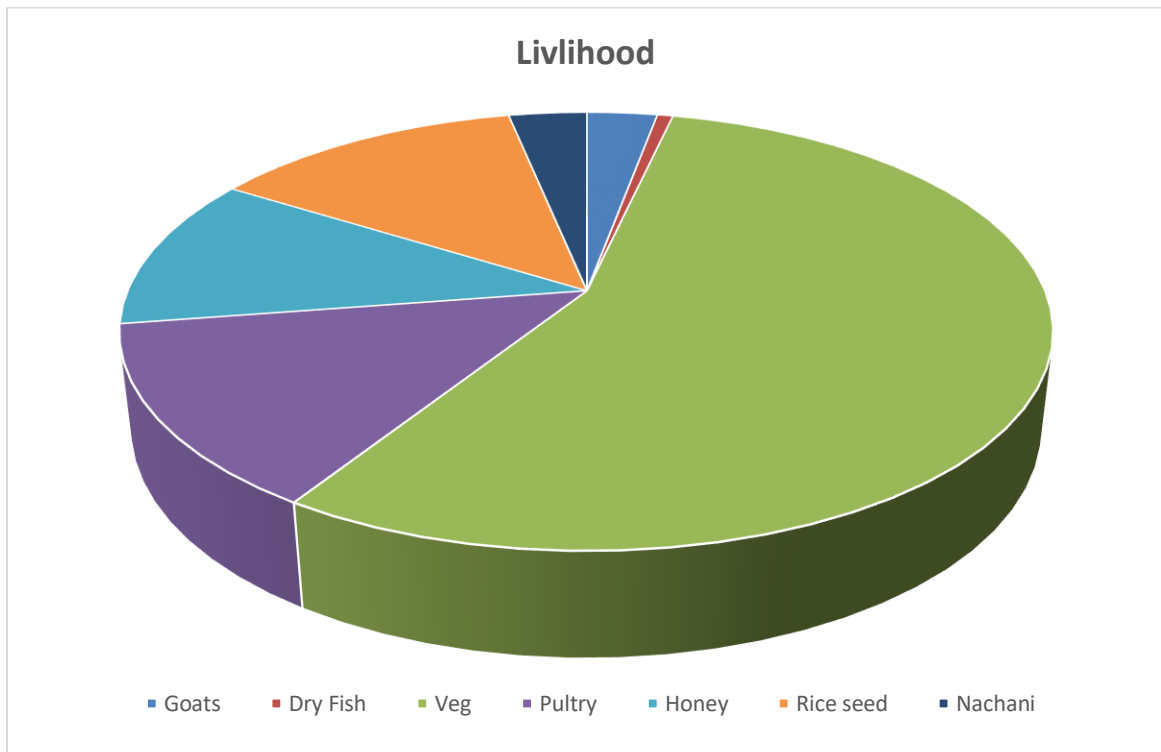
Additionally, three women completed a certified beautician course with 40 hours of training, enabling them to start small businesses in their villages. Families were also supported through the provision of animals and other livelihood resources, helping them become more self-reliant and reducing migration.

Through these initiatives, many families are steadily moving toward sustainable livelihoods and greater economic stability within their own communities.

LIVELIHOOD



Goat	Dry Fish	Veg	Poultry	Honey	Rice seed	Nachani
9	2	172	42	35	40	10



8. TEACHERS:

“Teachers plant the seeds of knowledge that grow forever.”

The teachers of Snehavardhini Social Trust are the backbone of the organization. They are not only educators but also mentors and motivators who guide children and inspire the wider community. Their role extends far beyond the classroom—whether shaping young minds or accompanying patients to hospitals, they embody dedication and compassion.

This year, we conducted capacity-building sessions for teachers on a wide range of important topics, including POCSO and POSH, environmental awareness, team building, self-respect and respect for others, the importance of the Constitution, understanding India’s culture, and appreciating diversity. On Teachers’ Day, each teacher was felicitated with deep respect, honoring their commitment and service.

The teachers also celebrated Dhan Utsav by visiting an old age home, where they spent meaningful time with residents, listened to their life experiences, and shared moments of care and compassion. This heartfelt interaction strengthened emotional bonds and brought joy to the elderly, enriching the teachers’ own sense of service.

Through these efforts, the teachers have not only enhanced their professional skills but also deepened their ability to contribute to both education and community development.



NUTRITION AND RATION

Snehavardhini Social Trust is deeply committed to improving the health and well-being of vulnerable communities through monthly nutrition support and essential care. The organization currently supports 35 elderly individuals who lack access to ration facilities due to missing documentation, ensuring they receive basic food supplies with dignity.

Special attention is also given to abandoned children and malnourished individuals, including mothers and children. Around 25 beneficiaries regularly receive nutritious food, accompanied by continuous follow-up and care to monitor their health and progress.

Through these sustained efforts, the Trust is working to reduce malnutrition, restore dignity, and ensure that the most vulnerable members of the community are not left behind.



4. OUTCOMES FROM THE ACTIVITIES

1. Education

- Children received focused support in foundational learning, resulting in visible academic improvement.
- Several students appeared for scholarship examinations with greater confidence and readiness.
- One girl achieved first rank in the scholarship exam, a remarkable milestone.
- Parents are increasingly aware and supportive of their children's education, actively engaging in exam preparation.

2. Women Empowerment

- Women actively participated in livelihood initiatives, strengthening their financial independence.
- Transformative change was seen in individuals like Shakun, who overcame silence in the face of domestic violence.
- With continuous support, she has grown confident, participates in sessions, and now raises her voice against injustice.
- Women are building strong networks of mutual support, fostering unity and resilience.

3. Youth Development

- Youth from Killa village have assumed leadership roles in addressing community issues.
- They are actively involved in follow-ups and contributing to local development efforts.
- A heightened sense of responsibility and ownership among youth is clearly evident.

4. Livelihood

- Women's participation in livelihood activities has significantly increased this year.
- Initiatives such as goat rearing and catering services are showing positive, sustainable results.
- These livelihood programs are helping families strengthen their economic stability and reduce dependency

5. NETWORKING NETWORKING

Snehavardhini Social Trust deeply values the support of its benefactors and networking partners who continuously strengthen our mission. Through active collaboration with NGOs and Government Organizations, we ensure effective program implementation and wider community impact.

- Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – Longstanding partners who provide resource persons and teachers, helping build the capacity and motivation of our staff.
- RJM (Religious of Jesus and Mary) – Working across nearly 27 centres, especially with tribal communities, they connect families to vital government schemes.
- DSV – Supporting 8 villages through CSR initiatives, with regular visits and follow-up to enhance program outcomes.
- CSA (Caritas Social Action – Archdiocese of Mumbai) – A funding partner enabling our work in nearly 12 villages.
- Government Offices – Key facilitators in ensuring community access to schemes and essential services.
- HPT (Health Program Team) – Consistently conducting health sessions and training two health promoters every quarter.
- Elppy Company - Has adopted two villages, supporting livelihood and educational initiatives for children. Together, we focus on community development, with a strong emphasis on women’s empowerment and sustainable livelihood programs.



6. SUCCESS STORY:

Sussces Story- 1

Bathsai is a village where Snehavardhini Social Trust has been serving for the past 16 years, with the Center for Social Action (CSA) extending support over the last 4 years. The community sustains itself through fishing, vegetable marketing, and daily wage labor outside the village, while most families continue to reside locally.

Last year, during a Bal Sansad (Children's Parliament) meeting, a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) was conducted to identify pressing issues. One major concern was the absence of toilet doors. Previously installed doors had been damaged during children's play, leaving toilets without privacy and rendering them unusable—particularly for women and adolescent girls.

In response, children and parents jointly submitted an application to the Gram Panchayat requesting new doors. Women in the village took the lead, persistently following up with the Panchayat office. Their determination paid off: this year, the Gram Panchayat sanctioned and installed new doors, restoring dignity and usability to the toilets.

Challenges Faced

- Lack of privacy and safety – Women and adolescent girls avoided toilets, leading to open defecation.
- Health risks – Open defecation increased exposure to poor hygiene and disease.
- Social stigma and discomfort – Women and girls faced embarrassment, especially during menstruation.
- Gendered burden – Many women waited until nightfall to relieve themselves, risking safety.

Outcomes

- Improved sanitation – Toilets are now functional, reducing open defecation.
- Women's empowerment – Persistent follow-up highlighted women's growing role in community decision-making.
- Enhanced privacy and dignity – Women and adolescent girls can now use toilets safely.

Better health and cleanliness – The initiative fostered a cleaner environment and improved overall well-being

6. SUCCESS STORY:



SUCCESS STORY -2

WORK WITH THE KATKARI TRIBAL COMMUNITY

Snehavardhini Social Trust has been working with the Katkari Tribal community for many years, focusing on education, women's empowerment, youth development, and governance. At present, the Trust is active in 24 villages, with 12 of these supported under the PLD and CSA programs.

Close collaboration with Zilla Parishad (ZP) schools has been central to improving children's education and confidence. Through Bal Sansad (Children's Parliament) activities, children have been consistently encouraged to express themselves and overcome stage fright. Teachers took a significant step forward by training children to speak confidently in public, particularly during competitions and gatherings.

On 15th August 2025, children from different villages participated in an elocution competition at the ZP school. Many spoke with confidence, and for the first time, some even delivered speeches in English.

- Praveen Waghmare (Nivi village) – 3rd Prize
- Shruti Koli (Khargaon village) – 2nd Prize in English
- Pooja Waghmare (Bathsai village) – 1st Prize

Children from other villages also participated. While not all won prizes, the experience gave them courage to speak before teachers, community members, and peers.

Outcomes

- Confidence building – Children gained the ability to speak in front of audiences.
- Language achievement – Several students successfully spoke in English for the first time.
- Inspiration – Prize winners motivated peers to participate more actively in future competitions.
- Visible teacher impact – Training and motivation efforts translated into stronger stage confidence and communication skills.

SUCCESS STORY -2
WORK WITH THE KATKARI TRIBAL COMMUNITY



SUCCESS STORY -3

A TWO-YEAR STRUGGLE FOR DIGNITY – MRS. TULSA LAXMAN PAWAR

VILLAGE: PALEBUDRUK POPULATION: 132 FAMILIES

At the foot of a quiet mountain lies Palebudruk, a small village where life is marked by hardship. Families survive through seasonal farming, daily wage labor, or migration to nearby towns. Every rupee counts.

Among them lives Mrs. Tulsa Laxman Pawar, a widow determined to live with dignity after the loss of her husband. With two married daughters, she wished not to depend entirely on others. Hoping for stability, she applied for the widow pension scheme with the support of Snehavardhini Social Trust. What should have been a straightforward process turned into a two-year ordeal.

Despite eligibility, her pension was delayed due to confusion with overlapping schemes like Ladki Bahin Yojana. Each visit to government offices meant travel expenses, long queues, and disappointment. Many times, she walked alone carrying her documents in a small plastic folder. Though her KYC was repeatedly completed, bank officials neglected her—assuming a poor, uneducated woman would not question them. Yet, her hope endured.

During this struggle, Shubhangi, the Wadi Prerika, stood by her side—accompanying her to offices, following up with officials, and encouraging her not to give up. Even when authorities delayed or gave unclear answers, Shubhangi persisted. Whenever the Centre Head or Animator visited, Tulsa would ask with anxious faith: “Will I get my pension?”

After countless applications, repeated KYC processes, and relentless follow-ups, her perseverance finally bore fruit. Two years later, Tulsa received her first pension amount. For her, it was more than financial support—it was a victory of dignity over neglect, patience over helplessness. Tears of relief marked the moment she felt secure again.

Today, Tulsa shares her journey with other women, inspiring them to fight for their rights and never lose hope.

Challenges Faced

- Repeated KYC procedures without progress
- Negligence from bank officials toward poor and uneducated villagers
- Confusion between overlapping government schemes
- Emotional stress and financial burden during follow-ups

Impact

- Widow pension successfully received after two years
- Increased confidence and awareness of entitlements
- Strengthened trust between the community and the organization
- Inspiration for other widows to claim their rightful benefits



SUCCESS STORY 4 FROM SILENT SUFFERING TO STRONG INDEPENDENCE – MRS. SHAKUN SANTOSH PAWAR

Mrs. Shakun Santosh Pawar, 45, endured years of hardship and emotional pain due to her husband's alcoholism and abuse. Even after her children married, her struggles at home continued, and she carried her suffering in silence.

One day, while sitting near the supplementary classes at the center, a teacher noticed her sadness and gently reached out. Though she tried to hide her pain, Shakun broke down in tears. That moment of empathy became a turning point. With encouragement, she resolved to reclaim her independence. Inspired by another woman, Mrs. Karuna, who faced similar challenges yet worked fearlessly, Shakun decided to step forward too.

When rice seeds were distributed for livelihood activities, Shakun volunteered to cultivate them—even without owning land. She worked tirelessly on borrowed fields and successfully harvested nearly 20 sacks of rice. Selling part of the produce earned her ₹5,000, while the rest supported her family's needs.

Today, Shakun stands as a symbol of resilience. She no longer lives in fear, and her confidence has grown through her work. Her journey is not just about survival—it is about reclaiming dignity, independence, and hope.

Impact:

- Transformed from silent suffering to independent livelihood.
- Earned income and secured food for her family.
- Inspired other women to face challenges with courage.
- Demonstrated that support and determination can break cycles of fear.



SUCCESS STORY 5: FAMILY INTO FARMING – REVALI VILLAGE

In Revali village, one family ventured into watermelon farming with high hopes. Their first attempt failed, leaving them discouraged and financially strained. For many, this would have been the end—but not for them.

Determined to try again, they shifted their approach and began cultivating a variety of vegetables on one acre of land. Every member of the family contributed, working together to nurture the crops and manage farm activities.

This time, their perseverance paid off. Diversified cultivation reduced risks and ensured stability. They sold their produce in the Vashi market, generating steady income and restoring their confidence.

What began as a setback became a powerful example of resilience and teamwork.

Outcome:

- Revived livelihood after initial failure.
- Diversified vegetable farming minimized risks.
- Steady income generated through market sales.
- Renewed confidence and belief in their abilities.



7. CHALLENGES

Education (Children & Adolescents)

- High dropout rates after 9th standard and above, with nearly 40 students already leaving school.
- Parental migration forces children to care for younger siblings, disrupting their education.
- Weak academic foundations make coping with higher-level studies difficult.
- Continuous dropouts and lack of guidance negatively affect confidence and mindset.
- Creative and engaging learning methods are being introduced to re-engage children in education.

Women's Empowerment

- Absence of strong, active women's groups in the community.
- Women manage well individually but struggle to work collectively.
- Lack of unity and "crab mentality" often hinder group progress and mutual support.
- With proper guidance and motivation, there is significant potential for growth.

Youth Development

- Difficulty in finding stable employment opportunities.
- Lack of direction and opportunities has led some youth toward harmful habits such as drinking.

Access to Government Schemes

- Community members face challenges in obtaining essential documents, especially birth certificates.
- Without birth certificates, many cannot apply for Aadhaar cards.
- Lack of basic documentation excludes families from government schemes and welfare benefits.
- This perpetuates a cycle of exclusion, leaving entitlements inaccessible.

Today, Tulsa shares her journey with other women, inspiring them to fight for their rights and never lose hope.

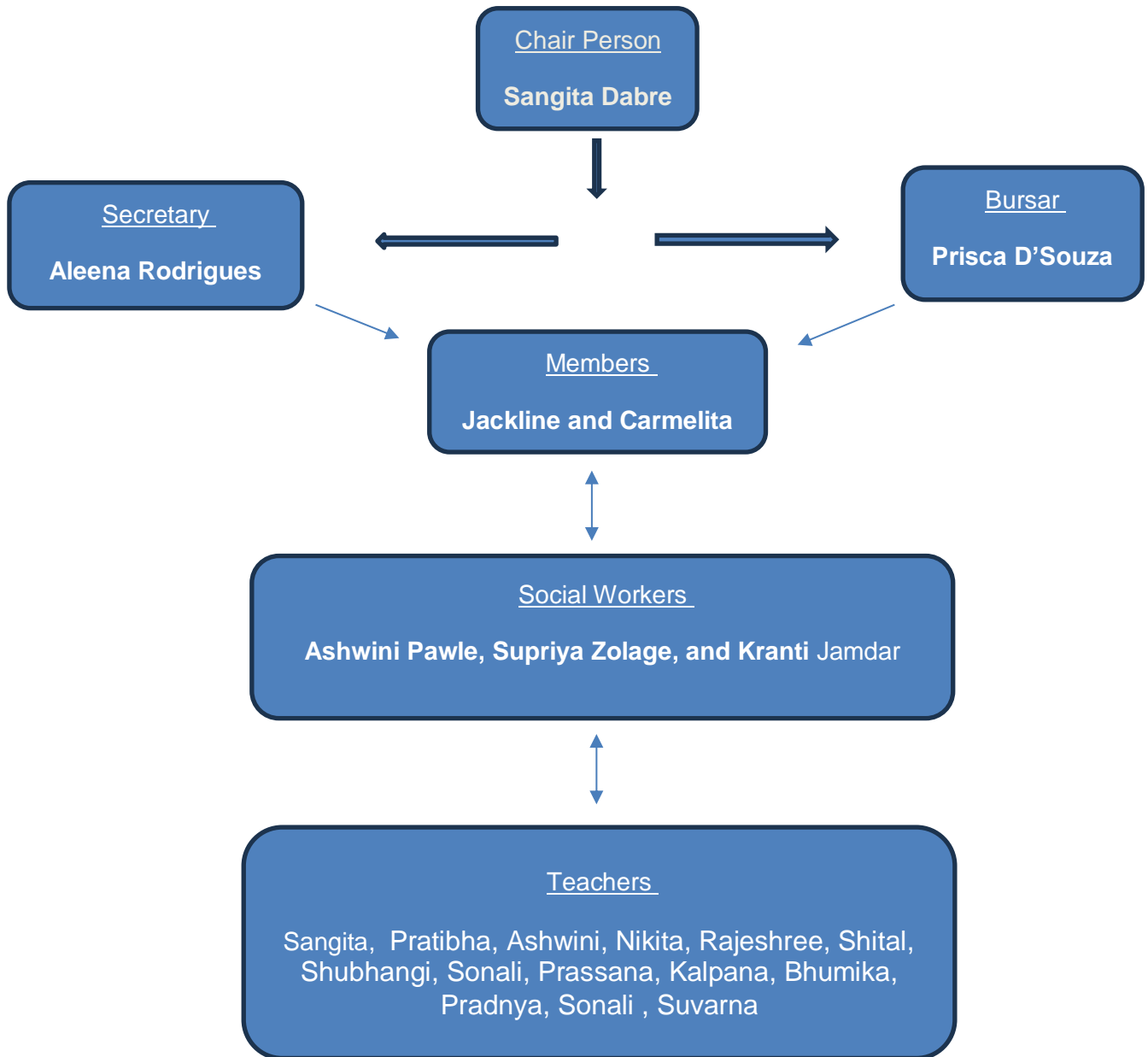
Challenges Faced

- Repeated KYC procedures without progress
- Negligence from bank officials toward poor and uneducated villagers
- Confusion between overlapping government schemes
- Emotional stress and financial burden during follow-ups

Impact

- Widow pension successfully received after two years
- Increased confidence and awareness of entitlements
- Strengthened trust between the community and the organization
- Inspiration for other widows to claim their rightful benefits

Snehavardhini Social Trust Team:



CONCLUSION

Snehavardhini Social Trust has worked with consistency and commitment across education, women's empowerment, youth development, Gavki, and access to government schemes, bringing meaningful change to community life. Throughout the year, numerous activities were carried out with dedication, even while facing challenges such as school dropouts, livelihood struggles, lack of collective unity, and limited access to basic entitlements.

Despite these difficulties, the resilience of the community—supported by continuous guidance, networking, and collaboration—has enabled steady progress with hope and determination. Small yet significant changes are visible: children gaining confidence in learning, women stepping into livelihood opportunities, and communities becoming more aware of their rights and responsibilities.

Building on these experiences, the Trust remains committed to nurturing stronger, more confident, and self-reliant communities in the years ahead.

PHOTOS



PHOTOS



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**We thank you for your continued support in our efforts
to contribute to SST.**

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