manthan
kotri



ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

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MANTHAN
A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Manthan is a non–profit organization based in Kotri village, Roopangarh Tehsil, Kishangarh Block, Ajmer District, Rajasthan, India. Most of the villages where Manthan operates are on the banks of the Sambhar Salt Lake. It was started on August 22,1998, prior to which it was a field Centre (1981-1997) for the Social Work and Research Centre (SWRC) at Barefoot College, Tilonia headed by Bunker Roy. Manthan works on diverse local issues in 150 villages of Ajmer, Nagaur, Jaipur, Didwana-Kuchaman districts of Rajasthan. Manthan has also implemented solar electrification project in 6 states (Odisha, Gujrat, Rajasthan, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Bihar).

While working in the community for education, organisation recognised that water was the main basic need of the community as the areas are surrounded by Sambhar Salt Lake due to which ground water is salty. Besides this major issue, communities also face severe social, economic, political and other environmental challenges. Considering these challenges, Manthan started working on issues related to water conservation, health access, education facilities, energy and provision of basic amenities through the Back to Basic Program.

Our Vision

All the deprived and backward people should have access to quality and adequate resources and live a good life with justice and self-respect

Our Mission

Our Mission is to support communities through skill development, gender equality, health, youth leadership, social security, sanitation, livelihood and climate resilience for sustainable growth

MANTHAN PROGRAMMES 2024-25

S.NO.	PROGRAMME	UNIT	NO OF VILLAGES	BENEFICIARY COUNT
1	Talab - Save the Drop अभियान **Supported By MCKS Trust Fund** **Supported By Rebuild India Fund**	2	2	20000
2	Manthan Women Night School **Supported By American Jewish World Service (AJWS)**	3	3	110
3	Samruddhi - Right with Respect **Supported By Azim Premji Foundation**	5	20	30000
4	Water Tank **Supported By Donatekart, Rebuild India Fund**	14	4	110
5	Children Night School **Supported By Rebuild India Fund**	1	1	40
6	Pravah internship programme **Supported By Pravah India**	6		200
7	Youth Development Supported by Commutiny	4	80	600
8	Manthan Day School **Supported By Rebuild India Fund**	1	1	69
9	House Construction **Supported By Individual Donor**	3	2	20

TALAB
SAVE THE DROP अभियान

Saving Rainwater by building ponds

Supported By MCKS Trust Fund

The Sambhar region of Rajasthan was once gripped by a severe water crisis. With saline groundwater unfit for drinking or irrigation, agriculture had collapsed, unemployment soared, and migration to cities became a way of survival. Education levels were low, and traditional livelihoods had all but disappeared. To address this crisis, Manthan Sanstha, in collaboration with local villagers, launched a mission to revive traditional water conservation practices by constructing earthen ponds (talabs). So far, 24 large ponds have been built, together capable of storing 111 crore liters of rainwater annually. Over the past 12 years, these ponds have harvested and recharged 1,336 crore liters of rainwater, significantly improving groundwater table.

The transformation has been remarkable. Farming has resumed on once-barren lands, with farmers now cultivating two crops a year. Thousands of livestock and wildlife have access to drinking water. Traditional pottery-making, once abandoned due to scarcity, has been revived. Families are returning to their ancestral lands, and children are back in school. This grassroots initiative has not only restored livelihoods but also strengthened resilience against climate change — a true model of sustainable rural development.



RAINWATER HARVESTING PHASE - 2

Excavation of Gau Sagar and Jhag talab (Phase 2)





Photographs taken during the inauguration ceremony of Jhag and Nosal Talabs

In February and March 2025, Phase 2 of the water conservation initiative was launched through a collaborative effort between Manthan and the MCKS Trust Fund, Bangalore. This phase focused on the excavation of Gau Sagar Talab in Nosal village and Jhag Talab in Jhag village, promoting long-term sustainability. These two ponds hold special significance in the region's water conservation journey. Twelve years ago, during the initial phase of Manthan's work, 24 new ponds were constructed across various villages — including Jhag Talab and Gau Sagar Talab. Since then, their positive impact on agriculture, groundwater recharge, and biodiversity has been clearly visible. Recognizing both the strong community demand and the proven success of these ponds, they were prioritized for deepening, rejuvenation in Phase 2.

With enthusiastic participation from local residents and generous financial support from the MCKS Trust Fund, excavation work was completed over 40 days using tractors and an LNT machine. In total, 12,434 soil trolleys — equivalent to 24,86,800 cubic feet — were removed, enhancing the combined water storage capacity of the ponds by 3.54 crore liters.
This renewed effort has not only restored the ponds but also strengthened the region's resilience to climate change. It stands as a testament to the power of community-led, sustainable water management, showcasing how long-term partnerships can revive vital resources and secure a better future for rural communities.

RAINWATER HARVESTING PHASE - 2

Strengthening Water Security Through Community Collaboration



Gau Sagar Talab - Nosal



Jhag Talab

Following the completion of Phase 2, Nosal Talab now has a rainwater storage capacity of 25,27,92,674 liters, while Jhag Talab can store up to 27,88,11,225 liters. These enhancements have significantly strengthened the region's ability to manage water for agriculture, livestock, and domestic use.

This initiative was implemented by Manthan, in close collaboration with the local community. A village-level committee was formed to oversee the project, ensuring community ownership, daily monitoring, and complete transparency at every stage.

The benefits are far-reaching. Together, the two ponds are now directly benefiting around 5,000 people and more than 20,000 domestic and wild animals in the surrounding areas. In Nosal village, the impact is particularly visible — a pipeline and motorized pump (tubewell) have been installed to draw water from Nosal Talab, enabling piped water supply.

This renewed effort has not only restored vital water bodies but also reinforced the region's resilience to climate change. It stands as a powerful example of how community-driven, sustainable water management, supported by committed partners, can deliver long-term ecological and social impact.

RAINWATER HARVESTING PHASE - 2

Excavation work in progress during Phase 2 pond deepening





Jhag Talab excavation work underway with support from local villagers





Nosal Talab during excavation – a collective effort toward water security

Ponds benefits for the community and environment



Agriculture and Livestock

The increased water storage capacity will ensure reliable access to water, supporting agriculture and livestock rearing. It will help revive dairy production and enable the cultivation of crops, vegetables, and fodder.



Biodiversity Conservation

The pond will serve as a crucial water source for migratory birds and wild animals, helping preserve local biodiversity.



Migration & Improved Livelihoods

The availability of water will reduce the need for families to migrate in search of resources. This will help stabilize the local economy and encourage families to remain in their villages, fostering long-term growth and resilience.

IMPACT
RAINWATER HARVESTING



Improved Education and Social Welfare

The reduction in migration will allow children to continue their education, improving learning opportunities. Women and girls will benefit from spending less time collecting water, leading to better health and overall well-being



Improved Education and Social Welfare

Enhancing the village pond boosts climate resilience by ensuring water availability during dry spells and buffering against erratic weather. Simultaneously, surrounding vegetation and tree planting promote carbon sequestration, reducing the village's carbon footprint and supporting long-term environmental sustainability through ecosystem restoration and soil health.



Installation of tubewell

After the restoration of Nosal Talab, a farmer installed a tubewell in his field, which now yields sweet water thanks to rainwater recharge. He has resumed farming on his land and is also earning a steady income by supplying water through tankers to nearby areas.

Success Stories of Nosal Talab



Tanker Supply Turned into Livelihood



Cow rearing boosts family income

Nosal Talab: A Journey from Struggle to Self-Reliance

After the first phase of excavation at Nosal Talab, a struggling family experienced a life-changing transformation. Earlier, they had limited access to water and very few livelihood options. But as groundwater recharged and clean, sweet water became available, a new opportunity emerged. For the past four years, the family has been earning a steady income by supplying water through a tanker to nearby villages.

They moved closer to the pond, began living on their own farmland, and installed a tubewell. With water now easily accessible, they built a small house, resumed farming, and started storing essentials for the future—something they had never imagined before.

Taking a step toward long-term sustainability, the family also started rearing four cows (pasudhan). This not only provided an additional source of income through milk but also reduced their dependence on external sources for livelihood.
Today, the family lives with dignity, confidence, and self-reliance, fully utilizing their land and natural resources. Nosal Talab has not just brought water—it has revived hope, empowered a rural household, and become a symbol of transformation for the entire community.

Traditional pottery revived due to talab



Narayan Prajapat making earthern pots



Narayan Prajapat in his farmland

Narayan Prajapat, a 65-year-old resident of Nosal village, lives with his two sons, their wives, and five grandchildren — a family of ten in total. He belongs to the traditional Prajapat community, known for its age-old craft of making earthen pots.

Years ago, due to acute water scarcity, Narayan was forced to abandon pottery. His land had turned barren and unproductive, as salinity from the Sambhar region made groundwater unusable. With no local livelihood, his sons migrated to cities in search of work. The family's traditional craft faded, and their ancestral land lay unused.

In 2012–13, under the "Water for Life" Manthan initiative, the Gau Sagar Talab was constructed in Nosal village, with a storage capacity of 27 crore liters annually. The pond collected rainwater, which helped recharge groundwater and improve its quality.

Narayan took a leap of faith and installed a tubewell on his farm. To his joy, the water was sweet and usable. He began farming again and eventually built a small house on his farmland near the talab. Slowly, he revived his traditional pottery work, once again making earthen pots.

For the past six years, Narayan and his family have been living on their land with pride and self-reliance. His son and daughter-in-law now support the farming, while the grandchildren go to school regularly. Migration is no longer necessary. The family is earning, farming, and living with dignity. Narayan says: "It feels like we've started a new life, walking on a new path. I am living with self-respect, doing what my ancestors did."

About Women Night School

Supported By American Jewish World Service

The Women's Night School is envisioned as a vibrant space that revives and expands learning opportunities for the women of the Kalbeliya community. Its curriculum is thoughtfully designed to connect the community with the evolving world and to empower women toward independence. Beyond reading and writing, learners are encouraged to understand their rights, open bank accounts, access government schemes, build practical skills, and even start their own businesses. The school also serves as a safe space where women can learn and relax.

A unique aspect of the Women's Night School is its participatory approach — learners are actively involved in shaping and running the school. Their aspirations and the challenges they face form the foundation of the curriculum, making learning meaningful and relevant.
The school follows a learner-centric model that emphasizes gamification, hands-on activities, and real-life problem solving. Learning extends beyond the classroom, encouraging students to engage with both their immediate surroundings and the wider world. Local experts are invited to conduct sessions on topics such as government schemes, microfinance, health, and banking.
To ensure accountability and continuous improvement, the school is overseen by a Village Education Committee, which regularly reviews its functioning and recommends changes based on the community's evolving needs.

S.NO.	ACTIVITIES	NO	NO OF VILLAGES	BENEFICIARY COUNT
1	Puppet shows	2	2	200
2	Curriculum with women participation	3	3	110
3	Monthly Meetings	10	3	110
4	Health / Workshop	5	3	110
5	Important Day celebration	5	3	300

Women Night Schools in Ajmer, Kuchaman - Didwana Dists (24-25)

During the 2024–25 session, three Women's Night Schools are actively running in the districts of Ajmer and Kuchaman-Didwana. These schools are located in:

1. Kalbeliya Basti, Parbatsar
2. Kalbeliya Basti, Bherwai
3. Banjara Basti, Roopangarh

A total of 110 women learners are currently participating in these schools. The primary focus of the Women's Night Schools is to help learners acquire basic reading and writing skills, along with health education, leadership development, and awareness of local issues and government schemes. By the end of the year, learners are encouraged and supported to start small businesses, helping them move toward self-reliance and improved livelihoods.
These schools aim to empower women from marginalized communities by providing the knowledge and skills needed to actively participate in their families, communities, and local governance.



A Glimpse of the Ongoing Class at the Women's Night School in Roopangarh

Community identification, teacher training, and school openings



Community identification

The Manthan team conducted a month-long survey and selected three villages — Bherwai, Banjara Basti (Roopangarh), and Kalbeliya Basti (Parbatsar) — with a focus on married women from nomadic tribes. These communities lacked basic amenities and access to education. Community mapping and participant identification were carried out to align with the project's goal of empowering marginalized women.



Teacher training

Women's Night School teachers were trained to use interactive methods, including reading, writing, and activity-based learning. They were guided on effective strategies to engage women learners and also gained a clear understanding of Women's Night School concept & its role in community education.



Women Night school openings

In the 2024–25 session, three schools were opened in Kalbeliya Basti (Bherwai), Kalbeliya Basti (Parbatsar), and Banjara Basti (Roopangarh). A total of 110 learners are currently enrolled, and the number is steadily increasing, with a focus on health, education, and overall development. The schools were inaugurated by Padmashree Gulabo Sapera.

Interactive Learning Activities in Women Night School Classroom





Photographs of women actively engaged in learning during class sessions.





Photographs taken during health classes and workshops at the women night school.

The Women's Night School operates six days a week, for three hours each night. Learners are taught basic Hindi reading and writing, mathematics, health awareness, and information about government schemes. Regular workshops are conducted, and leadership qualities are introduced in a simple, practical manner to encourage active community participation.

Election, exposure visits, and workshops at Women Night Schools



President Election

Every year, an election is held to choose a Women's Night School President for each center. This initiative is designed to nurture leadership qualities among women and empower them to take on community leadership roles. Through active participation, they gain practical experience of the election process and a deeper understanding of the importance of voting



Exposure visit

Learners from the Women's Night School in Bherwai performed their traditional dance at a state-level exposition and visited cultural and heritage sites in Jaipur. The experience offered valuable exposure, helping them gain confidence, reconnect with their cultural roots, and envision broader aspirations.



My Village, My Dreams

A workshop was organized with women night school learners to discuss challenges in the community and possible solutions. Women actively participated by drawing their villages and sharing their vision for a better future. The session focused on understanding development and how collective efforts can bring meaningful change to overcome local challenges.

Learning skills, entrepreneurship, and building self-reliant futures



Sarju Devi Kalbeliya

Sarju Devi, a resident of the Bairwai community, has transformed her life through Manthan's Night School education. Once unable to read or even recognize letters, she now manages her household and runs a successful small Kirana store — proving that determination can change lives.



Rameshwari Kalbeliya

Rameshwari Devi, a learner at the Women's Night School, has learned to read, write, perform basic calculations, and improve her stitching skills. With growing confidence, she opened her own bank account and began earning through tailoring. Recently, she even filed a complaint with the local panchayat regarding water supply.



Sanju Devi Kalbeliya

Once mocked by her husband for attending night school, she quietly stayed committed to learning. Over time, her confidence and skills grew—and with support from the school, she started an atta chakki at home. Today, she not only earns a steady income but also commands respect in her household. Her husband, once skeptical, is now her biggest supporter.

Samruddhi Project: "Samman ke Sath Adhikar"

Supported By Azim Premji Foundation

This project is a grassroots rural development initiative implemented in Kuchaman-Didwana district of Rajasthan, in Parbatsar block, covering 5 Panchayats and 20 villages. The project focuses on connecting marginalized and underserved communities with various government welfare schemes, ensuring that every person can access their rights with dignity.

The core aim is to increase awareness about government schemes and provide hands-on support. Field workers go door-to-door, organize community meetings, and work closely with Panchayati Raj Institutions. They help people identify eligible schemes, assist with form filling, prepare KYC documents, and track applications.

Beyond access to welfare schemes, the project also works to build leadership skills among rural residents, especially women and youth. It motivates people to become self-reliant and take collective action for the development of their communities.
“Samman ke Saath Adhikar” — Empowering people to claim their rights respectfully.
The Samruddhi Project is not just about services—it’s about building awareness, confidence, and sustainable progress at the grassroots level.



Photograph taken during KYC process for Old Age Pension

4404 Beneficiaries to Government Schemes in Parbatsar Block (FY 2024–25)

In collaboration with the Azim Premji Foundation and Manthan Sanstha, a focused initiative was undertaken in the financial year 2024–25 to connect marginalized individuals with national and Rajasthan state government welfare schemes. The program operates across 20 villages in five panchayats—Runija, Peepalad, Khidarpur, Gingoli, and Kinsariya—of Parbatsar block, Kuchaman-Didwana district. The team provides end-to-end support by identifying eligible beneficiaries, verifying documents, assisting with applications, and ensuring access to entitlements. As a result, more than 4404 people have directly benefited from schemes such as Old Age Pension, Ayushman Bharat, PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, Palanhar Yojana, and NREGA. To strengthen last-mile delivery, five local facilitation centers have been established under this collaborative effort.

S.NO.	ACTIVITIES	NO	NO OF VILLAGES	BENEFICIARY COUNT
1	Community awareness Puppet shows	20	20	2000
2	Community Meeting	150	20	7000
3	Monthly Meetings	12		10
4	Workshop - Mera ganv mera sapna	2	20	200
5	Important Day celebration	5	20	1500
6	Suvidha Kendra	5	5	30000

Activities of field staff under the Samruddhi Project

Under the Samruddhi Project, five young field staff members were selected to work within their own villages. They received training to effectively serve their communities and facilitate access to government schemes.

As their first major activity, the staff conducted an in-depth survey across 20 villages, covering a total of 5,251 households. This survey helped identify individuals and families who had been excluded from various government welfare schemes. To raise awareness, puppet shows were organized as a creative and impactful communication tool. These shows educated villagers about government schemes and highlighted their importance. In addition to puppet shows, songs and cultural activities were used to positively mobilize the community. A total of 20 puppet shows were conducted across the 20 villages.

To enhance accessibility, five Suvidha Kendras (Help Centers) were set up at Panchayat headquarters. These centers assist villagers with information, documentation, and KYC processes related to various schemes. For those unable to visit the Suvidha Kendras, staff members provide door-to-door support, ensuring that beneficiaries can access government schemes directly from
their homes.



Puppet shows are raising awareness



Beneficiary at Suvidha Kendra

Strengthening communities through awareness & access



Village Camps for Government Scheme Access

We conduct village-level camps to prepare documents for individuals excluded from government schemes. In collaboration with panchayat, state, government departments, these camps aim to support underserved communities. Camps held in Piplad, Gingoli, and Runija panchayats provided essential assistance to residents, helping them access various government benefits and services.



Panchayat-Level Fairs

Five women's fairs were organized at the panchayat level in Piplad, Runija, Gingoli, Kinsariya, and Khidarpura, with around 500 women participating. These events provided a space for women to discuss community development, play games, learn about government schemes, and express their views freely in a dedicated space created for their empowerment and collective growth.



Celebrating Empowerment and Awareness with Rural Communities

Important days such as Labour Day, Women's Day, and International Youth Day were celebrated with rural communities. Women's Day was observed in Syampura, where 500 women and girls participated. They openly shared their views, highlighted the importance of education, and pledged to support girls in pursuing their studies actively and with confidence.

Collaborative Action for Grassroots Change



Azim Premji Foundation Donor Visit: Insights from the Ground

The Azim Premji Foundation team joined a field visit and community meeting as part of ongoing engagement efforts. Our team regularly organizes such meetings to understand local issues, exchange ideas, and work collaboratively with community members. These interactions help identify challenges, build mutual understanding, and drive positive change through collective action.



Working Together

For community welfare, regular meetings are held in every Panchayat with Gram Panchayat officials, attended by the Manthan team, the Sarpanch, the Secretary, and the ANM. These meetings focus on connecting eligible villagers to government schemes and sharing work plans to ensure better coordination and community development.



Local leaders for lasting impact

The Samruddhi Project team is a blend of young and experienced field workers, all belonging to their respective Panchayats. Even after the project ends, they will be equipped with training to continue serving their villages. Regular training sessions are conducted to further enhance their skills and ensure greater community impact.

Hamara Gaon, Hamare Sapne: A Collective Vision for Village Development



Women presenting needs for village development



Community engaged in discussions during workshop

A special workshop called ‘Hamara Gaon, Hamare Sapne’ was organized at the Manthan Sanstha campus to encourage rural communities to reflect on ways to improve their villages and develop leadership skills to approach the right authorities. The workshop brought together youth, women, and men from 20 villages.

Women from different villages drew pictures on chart paper to illustrate their vision for a better village. Their ideas included good roads, clean drinking water, CCTV cameras, proper hospitals, veterinary hospitals, libraries, quality education, employment opportunities, and playgrounds, which they presented to the group.

Participants then engaged in group discussions on how change is possible through education. They were encouraged to motivate children to study in every possible way. Villagers were also guided on how to write down their problems and submit them as written applications to elected representatives and the Panchayat.

The main aim was to bring the community together, raise awareness, and inspire collective thinking and action for local development. The workshop helped people gain confidence in sharing their views and becoming active contributors to village progress.

"Goals and Achievements: A Review of 2024–25"

Government Schemes	Goals (2024-25)	Achievements (2024-25)	Percentage
Social Security Pension	1000	1172	117.2%
Palanhaar	200	133	66.5%
Ration	100	757	757%
NREGA (new people included)	50	88	176%
Extra Work (NREGA)	1000	670	67%
Health Insurance	2000	1421	71.05%
PM Kisan yojna	50	87	174%
PM Awas yojna	50	76	152%
	Total	4404	



Manthan Children Night School

Supported By Individual Donor

In Rajasthan, children from marginalized and tribal communities such as Kalbelia, Bhopa, Bagariya, Banjara, and Gadia Lohar are unable to attend school due to the long distances from educational institutions. These children, living in small settlements called Dhaniyas, often spend their days helping with household chores, tending livestock, or caring for younger siblings, which prevents them from attending regular school. To bridge this educational gap, Manthan Sanstha launched the Night School program, specifically designed for children aged 5 to 14 who cannot attend school during the day. The program offers these children an opportunity to pursue basic education and gradually integrate into the mainstream school system.

The Night School also promotes democratic values, health awareness, and leadership skills. Its curriculum emphasizes holistic development, encouraging children to learn through interactive and engaging methods. So far, over 1,540 children have benefitted from the initiative, with many continuing their education in government schools and colleges.



NIGHT SCHOOL

"From Games to Growth: Learning Journey of Night School Students"

40 students of the Night School have shown remarkable growth in their second year of learning. They actively participate in interactive games, which have boosted their confidence and deepened their interest in studies. This year, they have also started learning multiplication tables, marking a significant step forward in their academic journey. One of the most noticeable changes is their ability to sit with focus and engage in lessons—something many had never experienced before. Through group activities, they have learned to work together, building a sense of discipline and teamwork. This positive transformation in the children reflects a broader change within the community, where education is increasingly being embraced as a tool for empowerment and long-term development.



Children studying during school hours

Water Tank Project

Supported By Donatekart

Access to clean drinking water remains a critical challenge in Rajasthan, especially in areas like Sambhar, where communities are forced to rely on saline water sources. Recognizing this urgent need, Manthan Sanstha launched its Water Tank Initiative to support economically disadvantaged and socially marginalized communities such as the Bagoria, Kalbeliya, and Banjara. These communities often cannot afford to build water storage tanks in their homes, leaving them dependent on unsafe sources and unable to harvest and store rainwater for drinking.

To address this, Manthan Sanstha has successfully constructed 444 individual household water tanks, enabling families to collect and store clean rainwater. Notably, in the year 2024–25, the organization built 14 water tanks in Sanshi Basti, Parbatsar (Didwana–Kuchaman district), further expanding the program's reach and impact.

Before this initiative, women and girls spent hours each day fetching water from distant sources —often 1 to 2 kilometers away—waiting in long queues. This not only affected their health but also limited their time for household responsibilities, education, and income-generating work.





Community Challenges in Shashi Basti - Parbatsar



Struggles and Hopes

In Shashi Basti, Parbatsar, around 40 families comprising 240 people live. Most depend on daily wage work for survival. Women travel to towns like Roopangarh, Kuchaman, and Parbatsar to collect waste, earning just enough to feed their families each day—“earn today, eat today.” The community faces urgent needs for safe drinking water, a regular supply of essentials, education, and sustainable employment opportunities to improve their lives.



Water Crisis

In Shashi Basti, Parbatsar, there is a severe shortage of drinking water. Women walk long distances to fetch water for their families. Laxmi Devi, a differently abled woman, struggles the most as she cannot travel far. She often requests nearby factories for drinking water and somehow manages her daily needs with the little water she receives.



Community Identification

Seeing the serious water problem in Shashi Basti, Parbatsar, the Manthan Sanstha team organized a community meeting. During the discussion, 10 families were identified who do not have water tanks in their homes. These families face great difficulty in accessing safe drinking water, which directly affects their daily lives and basic needs.

Water tanks transform Shashi Basti



Shashi Basti Gets Lifeline

To address the drinking water problem in Shashi Basti, the construction of water tanks for 10 families was initiated. With the help of a JCB, the site was excavated, and local artisans built 10 strong and durable water tanks using stone, cement, and gravel. Families also contributed through labor, making this possible.



100,000 Liters Water Storage Built

After constructing 10 individual household water tanks in Shashi Basti, each with a 10,000-liter capacity, the community now has a total storage of 100,000 liters. Women no longer spend long hours fetching water and can use their extra time for other work. Children can attend school on time, and families now live with dignity and ease.



Water Tanks Bring Relief and Education

In Shashi Basti, the community fills their water tanks with clean drinking water supplied through tankers. This water is used for drinking and household needs. Families draw from the tanks as required, bringing significant relief. Earlier, children spent much of their day fetching water, but now girls can attend school, opening the path for positive change.

Details of 14 Newly Constructed Water Tanks in 2024-25

MANTHAN SANSTHA KOTRI
WATER TANK - 2024-25

Sr. No.	Name	Father/ Husband	Caste	Village	Family member	Contact No.	Photo
1	Munni Devi	Gulab	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	2	8905975356	
2	Laxmi	Gogaram	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	6	7023729342	
3	Shushila	Panchu ram	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	5	9256754512	
4	Manisha	Mukesh	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	2	7877804502	
5	Sarju Devi	Prakash	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	3	9660917793	

6	Jhoomli	Samandar	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	3	7410801570	
7	laxmi	Rajuram	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	4	9929146921	
8	Laxmi	Rupali	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	2	9982804018	
9	Malka	Pappu ram	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	4	9610217516	
10	Santosh	Hari Ram	Shanshi	Shanshi Dhani Nadava	5	9928442749	
11	Minaxi	Bodu Ram	Regar	Kardala	6	7823028077	
12	Narbada	Svodval	Nat	Kotri	6		

13	Norat	Suraj karan	Bagariya	Kotri	4		
14	Parhalad	Govt. English School	Nosal	Nosal	160	9785647425	



INTERNSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

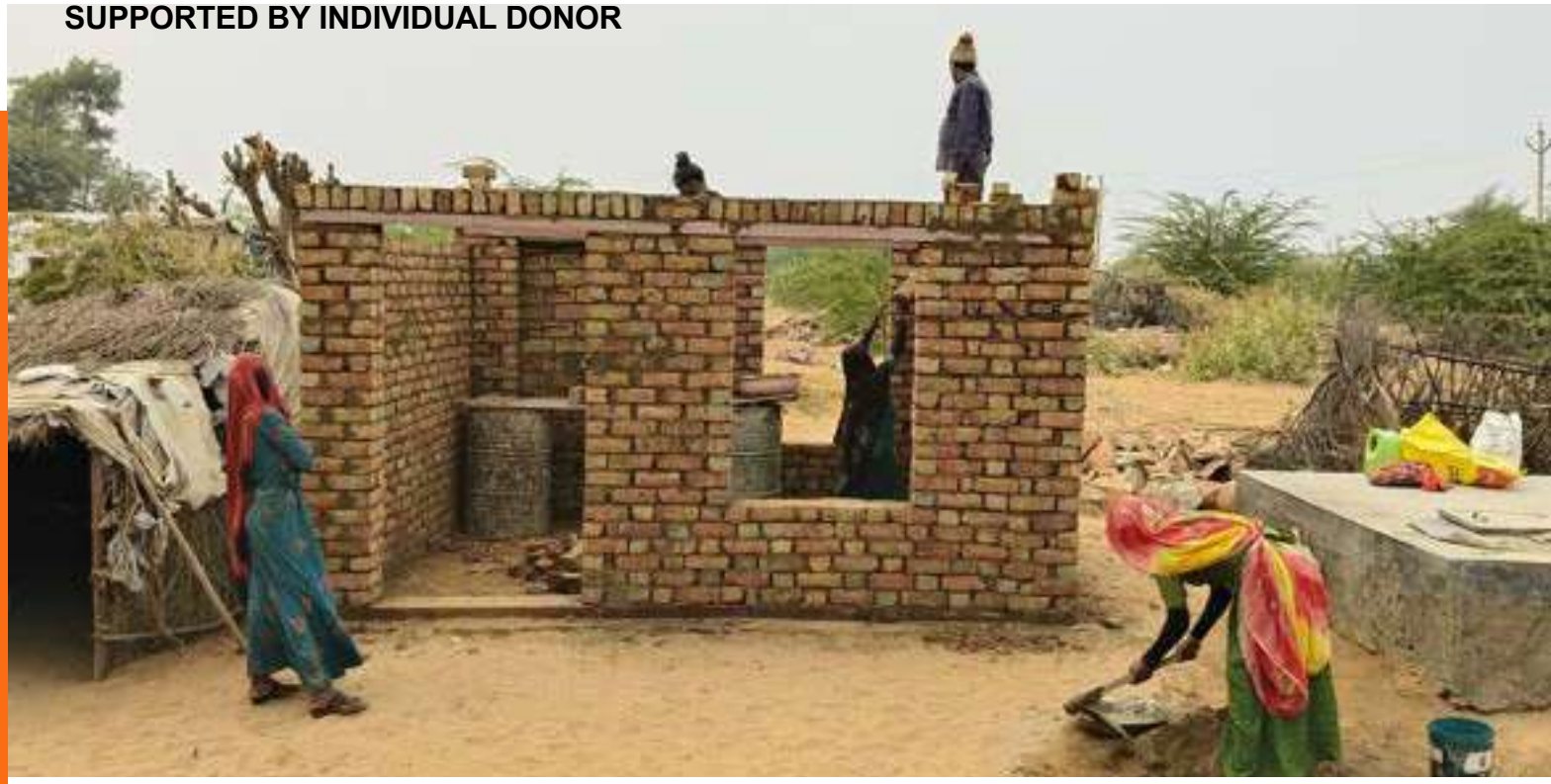




This year, over 150 fellows and interns visited Manthan, gaining hands-on exposure to fieldwork and rural communities. Students, corporate employees, and politicians closely observed community challenges, engaged with local residents, and developed a deeper understanding of grassroots issues, enhancing their learning and contributing meaningfully to our ongoing projects.

BUILDING HOMES

SUPPORTED BY INDIVIDUAL DONOR



Dignified Housing

At Manthan NGO, we believe that a home is more than just four walls—it is the foundation for security, dignity, and opportunity. Through our Back-to-Basics program, we are committed to ensuring that last-mile communities in the Sambhar region have access to safe and dignified housing.

3 New Homes Completed!

Three new houses have been successfully built—two in Bagariyo Ki Dhani (Aau village) and one in Bagariyo Ki Dhani (Jhakholai). This marks another step forward in our mission to uplift vulnerable families and provide them with the stability they deserve.





50 families in need have received dry ration kits, ensuring they have access to essential food supplies. This initiative is a step towards addressing food insecurity and providing immediate relief to vulnerable communities.

OUR TEAM



At Manthan, we have a diverse team of experienced professionals, community workers, and schoolteachers, guided by Founder and Director Mr. Teja Ram Mali and Operations Head Sanjay Malakar. Over the years, the team has developed strong capabilities in data collection, surveying, financial and project management, project reporting, Excel-based data analysis, community building, facilitation, and engagement with local communities.

WAY FORWARD

Manthan's Five-Year Community Development Vision

Over next five years, Manthan Sanstha has set ambitious targets to strengthen its impact in rural communities. The organization plans to construct or rejuvenate 10 traditional water ponds for rainwater storage and improved groundwater recharge. In addition, 500 household water tanks will be built for individual families, ensuring sustainable access to water. Through Women's Night School initiative, approximately 1,000 rural women will be empowered with literacy, awareness, and leadership skills. The Sanstha also aims to reconnect 1,000 out-of-school children with education through its Night Schools, providing them with opportunities for a brighter future. Furthermore, the organization intends to develop 100 women entrepreneurs, promoting self-reliance.

Manthan's potential projects for women

1. Providing basic digital literacy and mobile/computer skills
2. Providing vocational training to create livelihood opportunities
3. Providing mental health awareness and support
4. Enrolling children in school who are deprived of education
5. Connecting with government schemes and facilities
6. Providing access to government facilities to pregnant and lactating women, awareness of reproductive health
7. Emphasis on making ANM or other government health workers reach these dhanis and families
8. Connecting orphan children with foster scheme

FOUNDER SPEAK



When I began my journey in 1998, my vision was clear: education. I believed that knowledge could change lives, empower communities, and create a brighter future for the children of Sambhar. But soon, reality spoke louder than intentions. I saw children missing school, families struggling, and communities trapped in cycles of hardship. The root cause was not just poverty—it was water scarcity. Without water, agriculture suffered. Without agriculture, livelihoods collapsed. And when families were forced to focus on survival, education was the first to be sacrificed. That realization changed everything. To sustain education, we first had to restore the most basic source of life—water.

We began by reviving traditional wisdom: digging ponds, tanks, and watersheds, strengthening rainwater harvesting, and restoring what the land had once relied upon. These efforts were not just about storage—they were about resilience. Each pond filled meant farmers could stay in their fields, children could stay in classrooms, and communities could breathe easier knowing the future would not dry up. In the Sambhar region, where the land is fragile and rainfall uncertain, water conservation is not an option—it is essential. It is the foundation upon which education, health, and prosperity are built.

Looking back, I see the journey come full circle. What began with education has returned to education—but now with stronger roots, nourished by water.

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