

YOUR ANNUAL UPDATE

Thanks to your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Gairsain. Learn more about the valuable ways your support has benefitted them.

This past year, thousands of families gained crucial knowledge on how to protect themselves from COVID-19 and how to prevent and treat tuberculosis. And more than 5,200 people were supported to receive their COVID-19 vaccines.

8,000 girls are now able to take charge of their bodies thanks to training on menstrual hygiene management. Girls and boys in 40 villages are also protected from child marriage, as parents and community leaders improved their understanding of children's rights.

Your sponsorship will ensure even more success for children in Gairsain.



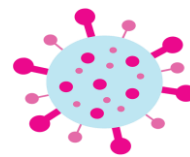
3,245

Families received food and hygiene kits



548

Children are continuing their education with scholarships



3,300

Children were supported to access digital education



COVID-19'S IMPACT IN INDIA

Hear from Meenaskhi about how COVID-19 has impacted her community.

"I was afraid to take the COVID-19 vaccine because I thought I would get sick and die. Then Plan visited our community and shared information about the vaccine and the benefits. I decided to take the first dose and I was fine. I motivated my friends, and now I am fully vaccinated. Thank you Plan International."

CASE STORY: REACHING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE



NAME: TARANNUM

AGE: 12 YEARS OLD

HOBBY: READING



"I always wanted to go to a big school and do well for myself and my family, but my parents could not afford the fees and I didn't have the necessary identity papers. Plan International helped us get documents for admission, and now I am confident I can fulfil my dreams."

Meet Tarannum

Like your sponsored child, Tarannum has been empowered by Plan International to change her life. Tarannum has top marks in her grade, and she's excited about what the future holds for her. She and her three siblings are all enrolled at good schools and can access government programmes, thanks to their new identity cards.

I Am Here

Tarannum's parents moved to Delhi in search of work. Her father was the only earner, and it was hard for him to make ends meet.

Government supports for income and food existed, but the family didn't have the proper identity cards. The documents were also needed for admission into secondary school.

After joining Plan International's child sponsorship programme, Tarannum learned about the importance of having identity documents to claim her rights and access the supports she's entitled to.

Tarannum and her family now have their identity cards, and they can play an active role as full citizens in their community.

Family Support

COVID-19 has been hard on Tarannum. Her father lost his job, and it became a struggle to provide food for the family, even with government programmes.

While distributing face masks and hygiene kits to help keep children and families safe from the virus, Plan International also provided financial support. Through this support, Tarannum's parents were able to purchase nutritious food for her and her siblings.

Tarannum is dreaming big for her future, and her parents are giving her all the support she needs to reach her goals.



Tarannum on her way to school

WE CURRENTLY WORK WITH 1,894 CHILDREN IN GAIRSAIN

OUR PROJECTS IN GAIRSAIN ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



600 children took part in creative activities at school

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION



Around one in four children in Gairsain do not know how to read or write. During the pandemic, schools were closed down and many students lost valuable learning time.

To help children come back to school and thrive, new libraries have been equipped with books and creative learning materials. And 327 children also attended remedial classes so they can catch up on their lessons and open the door to a brighter future.

More than 1,000 children took part in children's groups where they learnt about gender equality and girls' rights. During a month-long campaign on menstrual hygiene, 8,000 girls and young women improved their knowledge about their bodies and how to use period products.

Girls and boys are now able to learn and play in safe and inclusive environments.

SAYING NO TO EARLY MARRIAGE



Child marriage cases increased during COVID-19 in Gairsain as parents struggled to provide for their families. Girls are disproportionately forced into early marriage, which is a violation of their rights and prevents them from reaching their full potential.

Through brochures, door-to-door visits and local performances, over 4,500 people in 40 villages improved their knowledge on the harms of child marriage. And 456 members of child protection committees strengthened their commitment to ending this practice.

More than 900 people also took part in community events to celebrate International Girls' Day and International Women's Day, where they learnt more about girls' rights and gender equality.



"Plan is raising awareness in my village about child marriage through street plays and community meetings to make villages child-marriage free. Now most of the people of my village have pledged to stop child marriage. We thank Plan for this programme."
- Nikita (17) from Gairsain

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



FUTURE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS



20%

of children under the age of 5 are severely malnourished



27%

of girls do not use sanitary menstrual products



24%

of children do not know how to read or write



Your support helps girls and boys to stand up for their futures.

- We will continue to raise awareness of girls' rights and strengthen child protection committees to reduce cases of early and forced marriage in Gairsain.
- We will also empower girls to take charge of their bodies through training on menstrual hygiene.
- Many children have low literacy skills, which often force them to drop out of school. We will increase access to remedial classes and improve the quality of libraries so children can read and learn in inspiring spaces.
- One in five young children are malnourished in Gairsain. We will work to support mothers with the knowledge they need to provide nutritious food so their children can grow up healthy and strong.

We know the best is yet to come, and together we will continue to work for a brighter, happier future for the children in Gairsain.



"Through your regular support, our programmes on quality education, health awareness, disaster response, and child protection are improving the lives of children and young people in the remote area of Gairsain. I am sincerely thankful for you."

Gopal Thapliyal
Programme Area Manager, Gairsain

YOUR GENEROSITY WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CHILDREN IN STANDING UP FOR THEIR FUTURE AND RIGHTS