

ANNUAL UPDATE

INDIA

LUNKARANSAR



Together with your sponsorship, children and families are making positive changes in Lunkaransar. Learn more about the valuable ways we work with children and communities.

This year, families acted as leaders in their communities. As a result of parents' involvement and advocacy, preschool enrolment increased, as did the transition of children from preschool to primary school. Both mothers and fathers played a key role in facilitating children's access to education.

In addition, families can now stay safe from heat stroke and dehydration, with new supplies and systems for storing drinking water.



1,170

Mothers advocated for early childhood education



3,600

Yong women trained in vocational skills



150

Education kits distributed on National Girl Child Day

“PLAN IDENTIFIED ME AS VULNERABLE TO CHILD MARRIAGE. (THEN) I WAS ENROLED IN CLASS. I AM HAPPY AND THANKFUL.”

Aarati, 14-year-old Sponsored Child





NAME: KANCHAN

AGE: 19 YEARS OLD

**DREAMS TO BE: A
POLICE OFFICER**

“MY PARENTS SACRIFICED A LOT. IT IS TIME I START WITH SOMETHING THAT SUPPORTS MY JOURNEY.”

Meet Kanchan

Like the child you sponsor, Kanchan is making steps towards achieving her goals and building a stronger future for herself.

Kanchan is an outstanding student who loves to read. Her favourite subject is history, and she's passionate about Indian culture. And while cultural norms may disregard girls' education, Kanchan is on the path to a bright future.

Facing Obstacles – With Support

Kanchan's large family didn't believe girls need to attend higher education, and discouraged her from taking Service Commission exams to get a government job.

Yet Kanchan is active in her Plan India community. She participated in the International Day of the Girl Takeover Event, and has a leadership position. She also has access to Plan India's Paramarsh resources.

Paramarsh is a unique service for career guidance and counselling services, enabling at-risk young women like Kanchan to make informed life choices. Through the programme, Kanchan and her parents participated in a series of dialogues to help facilitate a supportive environment for Kanchan to pursue her dreams.

Leading by Example

Yet even with her parents' eventual approval and Kanchan's acceptance into college, the financial obstacles were still high. Through Paramarsh resources, Kanchan was able to start her academic journey towards higher education: She received a scholarship from the International School of Canada for a 6-month-long course. Now Kanchan is enrolled as an undergraduate in Political Science with Honours from the School of Open Learning University.

In leading by example, Kanchan will help create change in her community so that other girls can pursue their dreams.



Kanchan is a role model

OUR PROJECTS IN LUNKARANSAR ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



With resources and access to clean water, families in Lunkaransar can better protect their health – especially in the summer.

ACCESSING SAFE WATER



Clean water is vital for health and hygiene. Yet there is a shortage of safe, clean drinking water in Lunkaransar. For families, this is an ongoing issue, as many people lack the resources and knowledge of safe water storage. This leads to health issues, and increased risk of heat stroke, diarrhoea and dehydration.

Facilities to safely store drinking water in the summer is one way to address this critical issue. This year, 1,527 families received 15-20 litre food-grade water storage containers with lids, and participated in training sessions on safe water storage.

16-year-old sponsored child Gomati says: “We are now maintaining a clean water facility in our home for the kitchen and a safe drinking water facility. The Plan India staff who visited our village to consult on this issue were truly beneficial for us.”



BUILDING A SMART START



Early childhood education helps children learn and grow, and builds important skills for formal school. This year, families participated in the Neev project, which creates awareness of early childhood education.

Parents learned the importance of early childhood education and the concept of learning through play – and how to enrol their children and manage the transition to formal schooling. Fathers’ groups were formed to ensure the participation of men in helping children with basic math and reading. In addition, 13 parent groups were formed to promote home-based learning with sustainable teaching materials.

As a result of parents’ advocacy, both preschool enrolment and transition from preschool to primary school increased.

“I appreciate the work of Plan India on promoting early childhood education. Project interventions increased awareness among the community members on the early childhood education services.”

- Mangi (28) from Lunkaransar



YOUR SUPPORT MEANS BETTER FUTURES



The best is yet to come – and together we will continue to work for a brighter future for the children in Lunkaransar.

- Many girls and young women lack information and resources for managing their menstrual health. We will continue building awareness of menstrual health management with youth, empowering them with knowledge to share with girls' groups and in schools.
- 33% of girls in the region marry before age 18. We will continue to raise awareness of the impacts of child marriage through education and advocacy.
- Only 49% of girls remain in secondary school. We will continue to support the collective efforts by Adolescent Groups, school management committees and parents to increase enrolment and retention in schools.

Thank you for your continued support.



“In the coming year, we will continue to work with more children. Your support is helping children to progress towards realising their full potential. Thank you.”

Fateh Singh
Programme Area Manager

THE PLAN EFFECT



Your sponsorship commitment is turned into effective long-term change – providing help for self-help. We involve children at the centre of all projects, bringing effective and sustainable solutions to families and communities. With Plan's Effect, your commitment helps empower communities to transform their lives and futures.

THE LAST 12 MONTHS



NOVEMBER



924

Preschoolers celebrated Children's Day

JANUARY



150

Young women attended vocational training

FEBRUARY



152

Fathers attended Play Day events with their children

APRIL



954

Parents learned about early childhood education