

ANNUAL UPDATE

INDIA

RANCHI



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

Students succeeded in school this year, as pupils improved their learning levels in maths, science and English.

Also this year, peer educators shared information on menstrual hygiene management, fostering communication, breaking taboos, and empowering girls and young women with accurate healthcare information.

As a result, young people – and their families – have a brighter future ahead.



2,861

Students celebrated Children's Day



510

Caregivers learned about menstrual health



3,007

Girls and boys received supplementary learning support

“PLAN IDENTIFIED ME AS VULNERABLE TO CHILD MARRIAGE. (THEN) I WAS ENROLLED 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 RANCHI ARE HELPING CHILDREN THRIVE



With the Menstrual Hygiene programme, girls and young women gained accurate information – then they shared that information with others through Peer Education.

BREAKING PERIOD TABOOS



Taboos, myths and discriminatory practices around menstruation make it difficult for girls and young women to have accurate information about their health.

The Menstrual Hygiene Education project aims to improve the knowledge, attitude and practice of menstrual health and hygiene. The project works closely with young people aged 10-24, their parents and caregivers.

Five awareness campaigns were organised with adolescent girls, parents and leaders such as teachers and health centre staff. Over 1,900 community-level sessions educated 18,382 participants. In addition, 80 Peer Educators learned about menstrual hygiene and how to share the knowledge with others. As a result, girls were empowered with accurate information and improved understanding.

EDUCATION FOR ALL



Supporting children's access to education is vital. This is especially important for children from marginalised communities, or children who are the first generation in their families to attend school.

Project Shikshantar provides supplementary support to students, identifying and engaging pupils who may face challenges because of gender and poverty.

Through the programme's learning support and educational materials initiatives, at-risk students were empowered to access, continue and complete their secondary school education and transition to senior secondary school. As a result, the learning levels of over 2,216 children improved in maths, science and English.

"I am better able to understand concepts as compared to previous years. I also participate in extracurricular activities such as Children's Day and National Science Day. My participation has increased my confidence." - **Alka (14) from Ranchi**



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 Ranchi.

- Many children work as domestic help, daily wage labourers and rag pickers. We will strengthen the Child Protection Committee in order to help children access their rights.
- Every fifth child in the region's government schools is deprived of proper education due to insufficient school resources. We will initiate a model school project, improve teacher training and support schools with hand-washing and hygienic toilets.
- According to the state health department, there are not enough healthcare centres to serve the communities. We will provide support with health and nutrition camps.

Thank you for your continued support.



“With your help, we have been achieving milestones in the past year that contributed to improving the well-being of children and families. Thank you for supporting our work.”

Abhijit Mukherjee
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



APRIL

920

Girls received dictionaries and science books



APRIL

149

Girls trained as Peer Educators



JUNE

800

Young women accessed vocational training



JULY

35

Leaders formed a child protection alliance

