

Hyderabad South India

Positive changes are happening in Hyderabad South. Learn more about how we're supporting children and girls' rights through our collaborative, equality-driven work.

Plan International has been a proud partner of communities in Hyderabad South since 2011.

In this part of India, 14% of students do not graduate from secondary school. Gender inequality plays a large role in continued education, which leads to continued inequalities down the line, such as child marriage, poverty, financial dependence and limited resources in instances of abuse. Today, less than 80% of women and girls in Hyderabad South can read.

This year, with your help, we worked with 21 primary schools to improve the reading and maths skills of young children. Between October and March, parents and caregivers met every month to discuss children's rights, including the right to an education.

"Thanks to Plan's continuing education programme, I am currently attending university."

– Mumak (17)



This year, 351 girls learned more about their rights.

Impact in Numbers

2,523

Young women know more about menstrual health

1,198

People learned more about girls' rights

16

Women have entered the workforce

Knowledge Is Power



NAME:

Nakshatra

AGE:

12 years old

DREAMS TO BE:

An engineer

"School is very important to me. I see how it helps children, especially girls, become independent and reach their goals."



Meet Nakshatra

Like many girls in Hyderabad South, Nakshatra is optimistic about achieving her goals and building a strong future.

Since Nakshatra's father died, the student has been living with her mother, aunt and sister. Their economic challenges and some powerful lessons in leadership are pushing Nakshatra to build a brighter future.

Determination for Education

Nakshatra and her sister are breaking a cycle in their family: unlike their aunt and mother, both girls are getting an education. Today, Nakshatra is in Grade 7, and her sister has completed Grade 10.

Most women in Nakshatra's community earn money as maids or as daily wage workers. Today, Nakshatra's family is in debt. Knowing the heavy weight of poverty, Nakshatra dreams of becoming an engineer so that she can support her family and buy them a new house or things like chairs and a bed for her mother. Nakshatra knows that education is a fundamental tool – not only to achieve her own goals, but also for all children, particularly girls.

Learning and Leading

Since 2023, Nakshatra and her sister have been members of Plan International's Children's Forum, a Youth Leadership Programme with a special focus on empowering young women.

As a member of the Children's Forum, Nakshatra is committed to getting children back to school. Until today, with Plan International's support, she helped four girls get back to school, including her older sister.



Nakshatra, her sister and their friends play carrom, an Indian board game.

We Currently Work With 2,549 Sponsored Children In Hyderabad South

Projects That Support Lasting Change

Budding Bookworms

Students have taken part in 342 tutoring sessions to catch up in maths and reading.

In our partner communities in Hyderabad South, financial concerns, migration and gender inequality means that education can sometimes take a backseat. At the same time, local schools are struggling: teachers are finding themselves with larger and larger class sizes, but limited resources.

With your help, we're working with more than 20 local primary schools to strengthen what we call the 'literacy and numeracy' skills of young children, putting them on a path to thrive throughout their education. To date, 191 students between the ages of 6 and 8 years old have demonstrated foundational skills in reading and maths. One local mum, Jhanbee, tells us, 'My husband and I did not attend school, and our daughter has started attending this year. Now, she's able to read and write on her own. She's always so excited to go to school.'



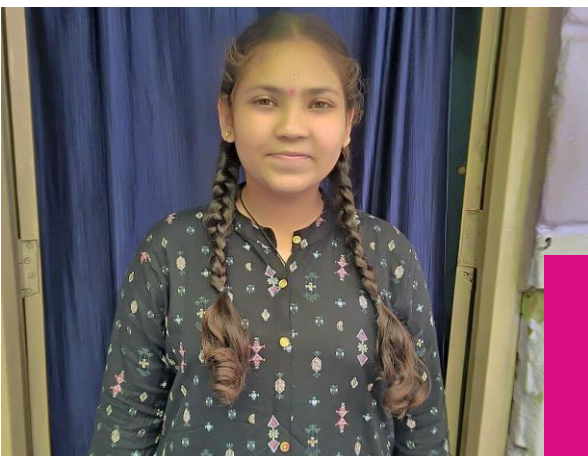
A Sponsored Child practises writing the alphabet.

191

Students are doing better in reading and maths



Women discuss identifying and reporting gender-based violence with Plan staff.



Sponsored Child Vennala can now list six laws that protect her rights.

You Can Count on Me

70% of households in Hyderabad South have experienced incidents of domestic violence.

Cycles of gender inequality in Hyderabad South can often cut short a girl's education, which can have consequences throughout a girl's – then woman's – life. Issues like child labour, child marriage and poverty disproportionately target women and girls. We are working with community members in Hyderabad South to build brighter futures.

To date, 3,382 girls and 1,814 boys have learned more about their rights, gender-based violence and government programmes for child protection and reporting abuse. 86 parents and local leaders have learned more about their children's rights, and we worked with community members to conduct safety audits in 13 communities. Finally, 16 women from low-income families developed financial independence through vocational training and employment as security guards.

"I know about six laws that protect women and children in India. I'm going to tell my friends about them."

– Vennala, 14-year-old, from Hyderabad

You're Supporting a More Equal Future



Young women with their new menstrual hygiene kits.

Together, we're working to create a more just world.

- As part of our work to help all children continue their educations, we will use technology-enabled learning systems and digital testing platforms to help students stay caught up and prepared for their exams.
- Almost 64% of adolescent girls in Hyderabad South are anaemic. We will break taboos around menstrual health and hygiene to discuss the importance of nutrition with young women.
- 10% of young women in Hyderabad South were married before their 18th birthday. We will facilitate judgment-free discussions among young people about girls' rights and gender-based violence.

Message from Plan Staff

"This year, our projects have focused on addressing gender inequality in education, healthcare and child safety. On behalf of children and families in Hyderabad South, thank you for your support, which impacts not only the lives of Sponsored Children, but everyone in these communities."



Abhilash K,
Programme Area
Manager,
Hyderabad South

The Plan Effect

Sponsored children are at the centre of everything we do, and they help plan our programmes based on what's important to them. Sponsors' donations are a gateway into a community. This helps build trust and credibility to attract even more funds from new sources. This makes more sustainable programmes possible in sponsorship communities. This powerful synergy is something we call The Plan Effect.

Progress in Numbers

21

Primary schools
have new literacy
programmes

44,488

Young people are
more prepared for
floods

748

Girls and women
practised
leadership skills

374,163

Children in India
are eating home-
grown vegetables