



## Highlights

**114 DPO Leaders trained on Formation & Management of DPO, Rights-Based Advocacy, and Basic Rehabilitation Services**

**5,492 Women sensitised on Health & Hygiene through health camps, reproductive health training sessions, and self-examination for breast cancer**

**65,058 People Participated in the “We Ring The Bell” Campaign, including 223 schools, 2,169 teachers, and 205 ASHA workers across 12 states**

**337 Women Farmers trained on Sustainable and Organic Farming Practices**

**1,200 Women gathered to celebrate International Women’s Day**

**215 new women joined the Thrift and Credit Cooperatives**

## Capacity Building of DPO Leaders

JVS organised five training sessions on Formation, Strengthening & Management of DPOs, Right-based Advocacy, and Basic Rehabilitation services. A total of 114 DPO leaders from 10 states participated in these training sessions. These training sessions proved highly effective in equipping

DPO leaders with the necessary skills and knowledge to lead and manage their organisations efficiently. These leaders felt the need to engage in advocacy and policy implementation activities at different levels in their respective states. The training sessions also enhanced their capacities in organisational management, governance and empowering them to access resources, build partnerships, and sustain operations that promote the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities. The training session on rights-based advocacy focused on promoting social justice, addressing systemic discrimination and holding the stakeholders accountable for implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). The participants learned about advocacy methodologies and practical tools such as filing RTIs, PIL etc.



## Capacity Building of DPO Leaders on Basic Rehabilitation Services

JVS believe in building strong and capable leaders within Disabled People's Organizations (DPOs) to drive sustainable change in their communities. In our commitment to the rehabilitation of children and youngsters with disabilities, a two-day capacity-building programme was organized for 25 DPO leaders. The training

programme focused on empowering these emerging leaders with essential skills in early identification of disabilities and developmental delays, basic rehabilitation techniques, and services. Under expert guidance the participants not only learned key intervention strategies but also engaged in hands-on practice sessions to build their confidence and competence. Beyond technical skills, the training programme emphasized on critical role the DPO leaders play in supporting parents and caregivers.



These efforts are aimed at strengthening the DPO leadership, ensuring they become catalysts for inclusive development and champions of rights, care, and rehabilitation services.

### **Promoting Sustainable Farming Techniques and Practices**

A series of activities, including workshops, training sessions, awareness programs, and exposure meetings were organised by JVS during this quarter focusing on natural and organic farming and sustainable agriculture practices. The sessions on Sustainable Agriculture Practices focused on eco-friendly methods to improve soil health and crop productivity such as crop rotation, permaculture, crop waste management, and composting using plant and animal materials.

Dr. Shivam Chaubey and Mr. Vinit Kumar facilitated these sessions on the topics. The farmers learned how crop rotation helps maintain soil fertility and control pests, while permaculture promotes water conservation and biodiversity. A hands-on demonstration on composting enabled the participants learn how natural fertilisers can reduce dependence on chemical inputs. A total of 337 women farmers participated in these training programs. Their enthusiastic involvement and interest in adopting sustainable farming methods mark a significant step toward greener, healthier, and more self-reliant farming communities.



### **Women Farmers' Exposure Visit to the ICAR-Indian Institute of Vegetable Research (IIVR)**

On March 18, a one-day exposure visit was organized for 30 women farmers to the ICAR-Indian Institute of Vegetable Research (IIVR) in Varanasi. The visit aimed to enhance their awareness of natural and organic farming, introduce them to modern agricultural techniques, and promote climate-resilient farming practices.

The women engaged in interactive sessions and participated in field demonstrations, gaining hands-on experience in sustainable agriculture methods.



A key highlight was an insightful session on seed production techniques led by Dr. T. Chaubey, Principal Scientist at IIVR. The participants also explored different models of protected cultivation, including net houses and polyhouses, and learned about advanced vegetable seed production practices. This exposure not only expanded their technical knowledge but also inspired them to adopt more sustainable and innovative approaches in farming activities. This initiative represents a meaningful step toward empowering women farmers with skills, knowledge, and confidence to drive agricultural innovation among women farmers.

### **Promoting Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health**

As part of the Safe Motherhood Project, 2851 women were reached through 36 health camps to address reproductive health issues, with a special focus on menstrual hygiene, contraception, and prenatal care. These health camps have significantly strengthened community awareness around maternal and reproductive health. Early identification of health risks and timely referrals are helping women and young girls access better healthcare, contributing to safer pregnancies, healthier families, and stronger communities. Self-examination awareness for breast cancer was yet another initiative under the health domain, where 30 villages were selected for the activity. In the process, two women were identified and referred to the district TATA Cancer Care Hospital for further intervention, of which one person underwent surgery and the other has completed the diagnostic tests and is currently under treatment.





Other efforts to reduce reproductive health risks continued during this quarter through 65 training sessions conducted on reproductive health management and risk reduction. These sessions reached 2,641 women and adolescent girls. As a result, 98 pregnant women were successfully linked with ASHA and ANM workers for HIV testing, promoting early detection and preventive healthcare in the community. Through timely identification, referral, and treatment the project is focusing on health awareness, encouraging early diagnosis, and improving health outcomes for women in rural communities.

### Health Awareness through Street Plays and Movie Screenings

Street plays and movie screenings are powerful means of awareness creation in rural areas as they communicate critical health messages in a relatable and easy-to-understand manner. These methods are highly effective to break taboos, increase awareness, and encourage positive health-seeking behaviour that can lead to lasting improvements in rural communities. A total of 18 street plays were performed reaching 1,815 people across all age groups: men, women, adolescents, children, and senior citizens. The plays focused on menstrual health management, nutrition, breastfeeding, the importance of forming Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and financial inclusion. In addition, 25 educational movie shows were screened, reaching 1,019 women and adolescent girls. These screenings covered key topics like menstrual hygiene management (MHM), family planning, anemia, gender equality, WASH (water, sanitation, & hygiene), and STI/RTI awareness.



These engaging and interactive activities served as effective tools to spread health awareness and answer common questions and challenges of daily life.

### Training on Thrift & Credit Services

A one-day refresher training programme was organised for the project team on financial service to enhance their knowledge and understanding. The session was facilitated by Mr. Tapti Bhushan from Utkarsh Bank. The training covered key topics such as microcredit, savings, insurance, financial education, banking operations, customer targeting and creditworthiness. The project team gained greater clarity on financial services and felt better equipped to support the rural communities in accessing and managing the services of the credit and thrift cooperative societies.





## “We Ring The Bell” Campaign

Since its inception in 2012, the “We Ring the Bell” campaign has aimed to promote inclusive education and to ensure that children with disabilities are not just enrolled but also retained in mainstream schools. JVS, in collaboration with 29 local organisations, made a remarkable impact this year through the campaign from 15 March to 15 April 2025. The campaign witnessed the participation of a total of 65,058 persons, including 223 schools, 2,169 teachers, and 205 ASHA workers across 12 states. Together, they amplified a powerful call to action for inclusive, accessible, and welcoming learning environments for all children. The campaign captured the attention of 31 print and electronic media platforms. Media stories highlighted key issues such as lack of trained teachers, inadequate learning materials, and accessibility, bringing much-needed visibility to the challenges faced by children with disabilities. Beyond awareness, the campaign continues to foster real change. One of its key achievements this year has been the active involvement of parents of children with disabilities in School Management Committees. By equipping parents to advocate for their children’s rights, the campaign is helping to build a stronger and more inclusive education system. Thus, the “We Ring The Bell” campaign is not just promoting the idea of inclusive education, it is building the foundation for a more equitable and accessible education system for all children.



## Celebration of International Women’s Day

The celebration of the International Women’s Day on 07 March 2025 brought together over 1,200 women from Harahua, Pindra, Baragaon, and Kerakat blocks in Varanasi and Jaunpur districts. The event celebrated the strength, achievements, and hard work of women from different backgrounds, creating a joyful space for learning, sharing, and inspiration. The celebration included colourful cultural programs like folk songs, plays, group dances, and story telling of women who brought positive changes in their communities. Discussions were held on topics like financial independence, creating spaces for women, and encouraging leadership at the local level. Several women were honoured for their leadership qualities, business activities, and thrift practices. Mrs. Poonam Maurya, Varanasi District Panchayat President addressed the gathering and emphasised the importance of women's leadership and decision-making in building stronger communities. Mr. Anuj Kumar Singh, AGM, NABARD along with other special guests shared their support for women’s rights and leadership. The event witnessed JVS’s strong commitment to building a future where every woman has the chance to lead, grow, and succeed.



Connect with us @

Murdaha P.O. Varanasi  
U.P.-221202

0542-2626022



director@janvikassamiti.org  
mail@janvikassamiti.org  
www.janvikassamiti.org