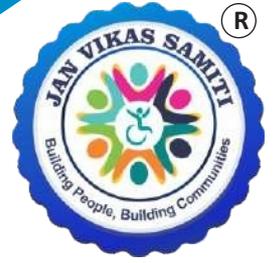


JVS SAMACHAR

≡ OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2025 ≡

• ISSUE 39 •



Highlights

6293 farmers and women entrepreneurs trained on agri and other livelihood activities

7,921 students from 40 schools sensitized on Disability Inclusion

1,214 blankets provided to 607 families to protect them severe winter

410 women workers empowered on legal rights, reproductive health, and domestic violence prevention

66 DPO leaders empowered on digital fund raising activities

36 wall paintings made on women workers' rights

34 Persons with Disabilities linked to sustainable self-employment

Aasra Center inaugurated at JVS campus on 18 December 2025

Empowering Women and Communities through Sustainable Agriculture, Financial Inclusion, and Entrepreneurship

JVS achieved over 5,000 participant engagements, driving a wave of inclusive growth across the Pindra and Keraket blocks. With a primary focus on women-led institutions and the meaningful inclusion of Persons with Disabilities, we are building a foundation for truly resilient rural livelihoods.



Key Achievements:

Access to Services: Established 46 village enrolment desks, supporting 787 entrepreneurs with loans, government schemes, and agri-inputs.

Capacity Building: 1,132 members participated in financial literacy and orientation sessions to master budgeting and business management.

Sustainable Farming: 998 farmers were trained in sustainable agriculture, crop management, and animal husbandry.

By strengthening local leadership through 19 strategic community meetings, JVS has ensured deep-rooted ownership of these initiatives. This quarter's success marks a significant step toward self-reliant, women-led economies and sustainable agricultural futures.

Women at the Forefront of Panchayat Governance

From October–December 2025, JVS strengthened women's leadership and democratic participation at the panchayat level through awareness programs, training, and community dialogues. The initiatives focused on empowering women and youth to engage in local governance and promote social and economic justice.



Highlights:

World Human Rights Day (10 Dec, Cholapur & Keraket): Reached 250 community members through discussions, human chains, and pamphlets, promoting dignity and equality.

Women-led Ward Meetings (Dharsauna): Women raised local issues, discussed MGNREGA challenges, and learned about

National Youth Day (12 Jan 2026, Munari): 40 participants discussed gender discrimination, substance abuse, and social justice; similar programs held at Cholapur and Keraket.

SHG Cluster Training (Rampur): Nine SHGs trained on leadership, sustainability, and linking self-employment with panchayat engagement.

These efforts have promoted inclusive, gender-just, and participatory governance, with women taking the lead in decision-making and accountability within their communities.

Exposure Visits Inspire Women Entrepreneurs in Agri and Non-Agri Sectors

JVS organized two exposure visits for 56 women participants to strengthen skills in animal husbandry, sustainable agriculture, and entrepreneurship. The visits combined hands-on learning with real-life success models, inspiring sustainable, income-generating livelihoods.

At the Rana Dairy Center, Jaunpur, participants explored a women-led dairy enterprise, learning modern practices in milk collection, quality control, processing, marketing, animal care, feed management, and basic financial record-keeping. The visit highlighted how women-managed dairy businesses can boost household income, nutrition, and economic confidence.

The second visit to Bankat village, Bhadohi showcased integrated farming, including goatry, fishery, crop farming, and soil testing.

Participants learned how diversified livelihoods and balanced nutrient management can increase productivity while reducing dependence on chemical fertilizers. These visits strengthened entrepreneurial skills, confidence, and sustainable practices, highlighting the potential of women-centered livelihood models to drive long-term income growth and community resilience



Garve Se Center: From Training to Self-Employment

The JVS Garve Se Center, in partnership with EnAble India and RSETI, Ayar, Varanasi, organized a 10-day Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) from 1 to 10 December 2025. Participants took part in interactive sessions such as motivational exercises, SWOT analysis, and village mapping to identify viable local business opportunities. They also received hands-on training in producing household products including dishwash, detergent powder, cleaners, handwash, agarbatti, dhupbatti, and soap, along with learning packaging, costing, quality control, and basic marketing. Sessions on banking procedures, government schemes, and enterprise planning supported participants in developing realistic livelihood pathways. Each participant prepared an individual enterprise plan suited to local self-employment. Following the programme, 34 persons with disabilities were linked to sustainable livelihood opportunities with ongoing mentorship. The programme concluded with certification, strengthening confidence, dignity, and economic independence.



Strengthening DPO Leadership Across North India

To strengthen leadership and sustainability of Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs), JVS organised three capacity-building workshops during November–December 2025 for 66 DPO leaders from 9 States.

The workshops focused on advocacy, access to government schemes and entitlements, and resource mobilisation, with practical sessions on proposal writing, budgeting, donor communication, and local and digital fundraising. Participants were introduced to online fundraising platforms, including Indian Partner Network, We Do Good, Give Do, and Daan Veda, and explored community-based and product-based fundraising strategies, including the use of social media. Facilitated by Mr. Moosa Azmi, Mr. Amit Yadav, and Mr. Banraplang Lyngdoh, the workshops strengthened organisational leadership, confidence, and advocacy capacity, enabling DPOs to mobilise resources effectively and better serve persons with disabilities



Celebrating Potential: International Girl Child Day 2025

JVS celebrated International Girl Child Day on 11 October 2025 at its office campus, bringing together nearly 1,000 girls from Harhua, Pindra, Badagaon, and Dobhi blocks of Varanasi. The event aimed to promote girls' empowerment and provide a platform to recognize their talents, confidence, and aspirations.

The event was graced by Shri Tribhuvan Ramji, Hon'ble MLA of Ajgara, who motivated the girls to see themselves as the strength of the nation. Referring to inspiring figures such as Rani Durgavati, Rani Laxmibai, Sunita Williams, and Kalpana Chawla, he encouraged them to dream big and remain determined. Other dignitaries, including BDO Shri Badri Prasad Verma, Ms. Rashmi Upadhyay, and former Block Chief Shri Akhilesh Singh, also shared empowering messages. The celebration reaffirmed the importance of empowering the girl child by nurturing confidence, leadership, and potential for a more inclusive future.



Capacity Building: Women Workers for Change (WW4C)

From August to December 2025, 23 capacity-building sessions were organised under the Women Workers for Change (WW4C) project, reaching over 900 women workers in villages and urban settlements of Harahua and Chirai Gaon blocks, Varanasi. The sessions were held within communities to ensure accessibility for women engaged in informal and vulnerable work. The trainings focused on women's rights, sexual and reproductive health, prevention of domestic violence, sexual harassment, and dowry, financial literacy, and a reflective workshop titled My Work & My Identity. Participants were introduced to key legal frameworks such as the Domestic Violence Act (2005), the Dowry Prohibition Act, and the POSH Act, along with relevant government support schemes. Health sessions addressed menstrual hygiene, anaemia, nutrition, and reproductive health.

In addition, six Dance Movement Therapy (DMT) sessions supported women's physical and emotional well-being, helping build confidence, manage stress, and encourage self-care. Overall, the initiative enhanced awareness, resilience, and agency among women workers.



National Convention of JVS DPO Networks

JVS organised a three-day National Convention bringing together 40 leaders of Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs) from 8 states (West Bengal, Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Bihar). The convention provided a platform for sharing experiences, discussing challenges, and planning future actions. Leaders worked together to create action plans for both national and state-level campaigns. The convention strengthened collaboration, gave clear direction, and boosted confidence to drive real change for persons with disabilities across India.

Key Points from the Convention:

● National Priorities:

- Making railway stations and platforms accessible for persons with disabilities
- Ensuring caretaker allowances for persons with disabilities

● State Priorities:

- Implementing 25% increased budget in government schemes for persons with disabilities
- Providing unemployment allowances to support persons with disabilities



Walls that Speak: Visual Advocacy for Women Workers' Rights.

In 11 localities, the walls are now telling stories of empowerment. JVS commissioned 36 wall paintings to promote awareness on women workers' rights. These vibrant visuals translate complex ideas like equality, justice, health, and dignity into messages that everyone can understand.

The paintings act as daily reminders and spark conversations in communities, reinforcing lessons from workshops and strengthening support for local women's collectives. Through this creative approach, JVS has made rights awareness visible, engaging, and accessible at the grassroots level.



The campaign focused on building empathy and awareness among young people by engaging secondary school students in creative and reflective learning. On the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2025, JVS launched a month-long Disability Awareness and Inclusion Campaign themed “Disability Inclusion through Students' Perspectives.” The campaign focused on building empathy and awareness among young people by engaging secondary school students in creative and reflective learning.

Highlights:

- 40 schools participated (10 each from Varanasi, Bhadohi, Mirzapur, and Jaunpur)
- 7,921 students from Classes 9–12 were actively engaged
- Art Competition for Classes 9–10
- Quiz / Q&A Competition for Classes 11–12
- Regional Grand Finale on 17 December 2025 at JVS Campus, Murdaha, Varanasi

Through these activities, students explored ideas of inclusion, dignity, and respect for persons with disabilities, while expressing their views through art and dialogue. The campaign strengthened collaboration among schools and encouraged young people to become empathetic and informed advocates for equality.

Winter Relief: Warmth for 607 Vulnerable Families

The winter of 2025–26 brought severe cold waves and freezing nights to eastern Uttar Pradesh, creating serious hardship for poor and marginalised families in Varanasi and Ghazipur districts. Migrant brick-kiln workers and Musahar communities living in kutchha houses and temporary shelters were especially affected, with children, elderly persons, and women facing high health risks due to exposure to cold.

In response, JVS implemented the Winter Blanket Support Project from 29 December 2025 to 6 January 2026. Under the initiative, 1,214 winter blankets were distributed to 607 vulnerable families, providing immediate warmth and helping prevent cold-related illnesses during the peak winter period.

JVS extends heartfelt thanks to Friends of the IMS – UK and Hand in Hand Society – Germany for their timely support, which helped bring relief and dignity to the most vulnerable families during this critical season.



Engaging Students for Disability Awareness and Inclusion

On the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2025, JVS launched a month-long Disability Awareness and Inclusion Campaign themed “Disability Inclusion through Students' Perspectives.”



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