



# EXIT REPORT PRI-CBO CONVERGENCE PROJECT, MAHARASHTRA

*November 7, 2023 - November 7, 2025*







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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AAP	Annual Action Plan
AWC	Anganwadi Centre
ALMSC	Anganwadi Level Monitoring and Support Committee
BLCC	Block Level Coordination Committee
BMMU	Block Mission Management Unit
BDO	Block development officer
BRG	Block Resource Group
BRP	Block Resource Person
CBO	Community-based organisation
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CLF	Cluster Level Federation
COO	Chief Operating Officer
CRP	Community Resource Person
DLCC	District Level Coordination Committee
DRP	District Resource Person
DPM	District Project Manager
EAP	Entitlement Access Plan
FLA	Field-level Assessment
GPPFT	Gram Panchayat Planning Facilitation Team
GPCC	Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee
GPDP	Gram Panchayat Development Plan

ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
IPH	Irrigation and Public Health
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
I-Mentor	Internal Mentor
KS-NRO	Kudumbashree National Resource Organisation
LRG	Local Resource Group
LRP	Local Resource Person
LVDC	Lady village development coordinator
MCLF	Model Cluster Level Federation
MH	Maharashtra
MRP	Mentor Resource Person
MSRLM	Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission
MGNREGS	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development
NHM	National Health Mission
NMMU	National Mission Management Unit
NRLM	National Rural Livelihood Mission
NRETP	National Rural Economic Transformation Project
PAE	Participatory Assessment of Entitlement
PESA	Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas

PRI-CBO	Panchayati Raj Institution-Community-Based Organisation
PGSRD	Public Goods, Services and Resource Development
PM	Program Manager
PL	Project Lead
PWD	Public Works Department
RD	Rural Development
RSETI	Rural Self Employment Training Institute
SAMETI	State Agriculture Management and Extension Training Institute
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDP	Social Development Plan
SECC	Socio-Economic & Caste Census
SHG	Self Help Group
SIIB	Social Inclusion Institution Building
SIRD	State Institute of Rural Development
SLCC	State Level Coordination Committee
SLO	State Level Orientation
SOF	State Operational Framework
SPC	State Project Coordinator
SMM	State Mission Manager
SMC	School Management Committee
SMMU	State Mission Management Unit

SRP	State Resource Person
SRLM	State Rural Livelihood Mission
ToT	Training of Trainers
UCs	Utilization certificates
VO	Village Organisation
VOCC	Village Organisation Coordination Committee
VHSNC	Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Committee
VPRP	Village Prosperity Resilience Plan
WERs	Women Elected Representatives
YP	Young Professional

## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The PRI-CBO Convergence Project in Maharashtra was implemented to strengthen institutional collaboration between Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Community Based Organisations (CBOs) in order to promote an inclusive, participatory, and sustainable local governance. The project focused on improving village level planning processes, enhancing community participation, and strengthening institutional platforms for collective decision making.

The PRI-CBO Convergence Project commenced with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Umed-MSRLM and Kudumbashree NRO on 7 November 2023. The first phase aimed at universalizing convergence across 12 districts, 24 blocks, and 1,922 Gram Panchayats. Initially planned for a duration of 18 months, the project period was extended by six months, with completion scheduled for November 2025, enabling conclusion and consolidation of key institutional and capacity building interventions.

Over the implementation period, the project systematically built capacities of stakeholders across multiple levels of institutions. A strong cadre structure comprising the District Resource Persons, Block Resource Persons, and Local Resource Persons was developed and trained to facilitate convergence processes, support participatory planning, and strengthen grassroots institutions. Core thematic focus areas included preparation of the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan for 2024-25 and 2025-26, awareness on Civic literacy, MGNREGS entitlements, and strengthening of convergence platforms such as Village Organisation Coordination Committees, Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees, and Citizens Committees including SMC, ALMSC, and VHSNC.

Under the project, significant progress was achieved in institutional outreach and coverage. Village Prosperity Resilience Plans were prepared and formally submitted in all 1,922 Gram Panchayats by February 2025. VOCC and GPCC orientations were conducted across all intervention blocks and Gram Panchayats, resulting in the formation and orientation of 1,591 Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees and 553 Village Organisation Coordination Committees by November 2025. The GPCC platforms brought together PRI representatives, CBO members, and line department officials to support joint planning and coordinated action at the local level.

Citizens' Committee profiling was completed across all 24 blocks, covering over 5,700 committees including ALMSC, SMC, and VHSNC, and providing a clear understanding of their functional status and strengthening needs. Based on this, Local Resource Persons supported on-ground strengthening by facilitating regular meetings, improving participation, supporting action planning, and strengthening documentation and follow-up. As a result, a total of 5,318 Citizens' Committees including ALMSC, SMC, and VHSNC were strengthened during the project period, contributing to improved functioning of village-level public institutions.

Throughout Phase I, the project focused on strengthening institutional processes and

developing the capacity of human resources. A structured cadre system of District Resource Persons, Block Resource Persons, and Local Resource Persons enabled consistent facilitation of convergence processes across districts, blocks and gram panchayats. The orientation, formation, and strengthening of platforms such as Village Organisation Coordination Committees, Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees, and Citizens Committees helped establish regular spaces for dialogue, coordination, and collective planning. The successful preparation and submission of Village Prosperity Resilience Plans in all Gram Panchayats of intervention areas, further reflects the project's contribution to structured, inclusive, and evidence-based planning.

During the project period, 1,480 Convergence camps were conducted across quarters, with participation from 21 line departments, that enabled on the spot delivery of services and entitlements to 59,424 community members, and facilitated the integration of demands from Village Prosperity Resilience Plan into Gram Panchayat Development Plans.

Qualitative outcomes of the project were reflected in increased engagement of the community in the local governance processes. Over time, SHG women began actively participating in Gram Sabhas, raised concerns regarding their entitlements and services, and engaged with PRI representatives through different platforms. Platforms such as, GPCC also supported coordination of state level campaigns such as the Samruddha Panchayat Abhiyan, showcasing effective linkage between community institutions and local governance priorities. At the same time, the project faced several operational and administrative challenges. Despite constraints, the project maintained continuity through dedicated mentoring, on the field support, and adaptive implementation strategies.

One of the key achievements of the project was the intensive engagement in immersion blocks, where mentors provided continuous handholding support for nearly two years. This resulted in stronger institutional maturity, clearer role alignment among PRIs and CBOs, and regular functioning of convergence platforms. These immersion sites have evolved into demonstration models, where facilitation strategies, convergence mechanisms, and planning processes were strengthened and stabilised and revitalised. The learnings and practices emerging from these blocks provide valuable reference models for strengthening convergence in other Gram Panchayats.

Overall, the PRI-CBO Convergence Project has laid a strong foundation for institutional collaboration, participatory planning, and community led governance in Maharashtra. The institutional mechanisms, trained cadres, planning processes, and convergence platforms developed under the project present a scalable and sustainable model for strengthening PRI-CBO convergence across other parts of the state.

## II. BACKGROUND OF THE PRI-CBO CONVERGENCE PROJECT

The PRI-CBO Convergence Project was initiated under the DAY- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) to strengthen decentralised and participatory planning by fostering structured collaboration between Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs). While PRIs are constitutionally mandated institutions responsible for local governance and development planning, CBOs promoted under DAY-NRLM particularly SHGs and their federations possess strong presence at the grassroot level, social capital, and the ability to mobilise community participation. In the absence of formal convergence mechanisms, these institutions often functioned in parallel, resulting in limited integration of community priorities into Panchayat-led planning and implementation processes.

The conceptual foundation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project draws significantly from the experience of Kudumbashree in Kerala, where partnerships between SHGs and Gram Panchayats have been consciously fostered and institutionalised. The Kudumbashree model demonstrated that regular coordination platforms, structured participation of SHG women in Gram Sabhas and planning forums, and convergence through programmes such as MGNREGS can significantly improve inclusiveness, service delivery, and local governance outcomes. The experience also highlighted the importance of clearly defined institutional roles, mutual transparency, capacity building, and continuous engagement between PRIs and community-based organisations.

Based on these learnings, DAY-NRLM piloted the PRI-CBO Convergence Project between 2014 and 2023 across selected districts in 15 States, with technical support from Kudumbashree NRO. The pilot tested facilitation models, participatory planning tools, and coordination mechanisms to enable PRIs and CBOs to jointly identify priorities, plan interventions, and improve access to entitlements and services at the village level. The outcomes of the pilot laid down a strong foundation for strengthening institutional collaboration and guided the scale-up and Universation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project across States.

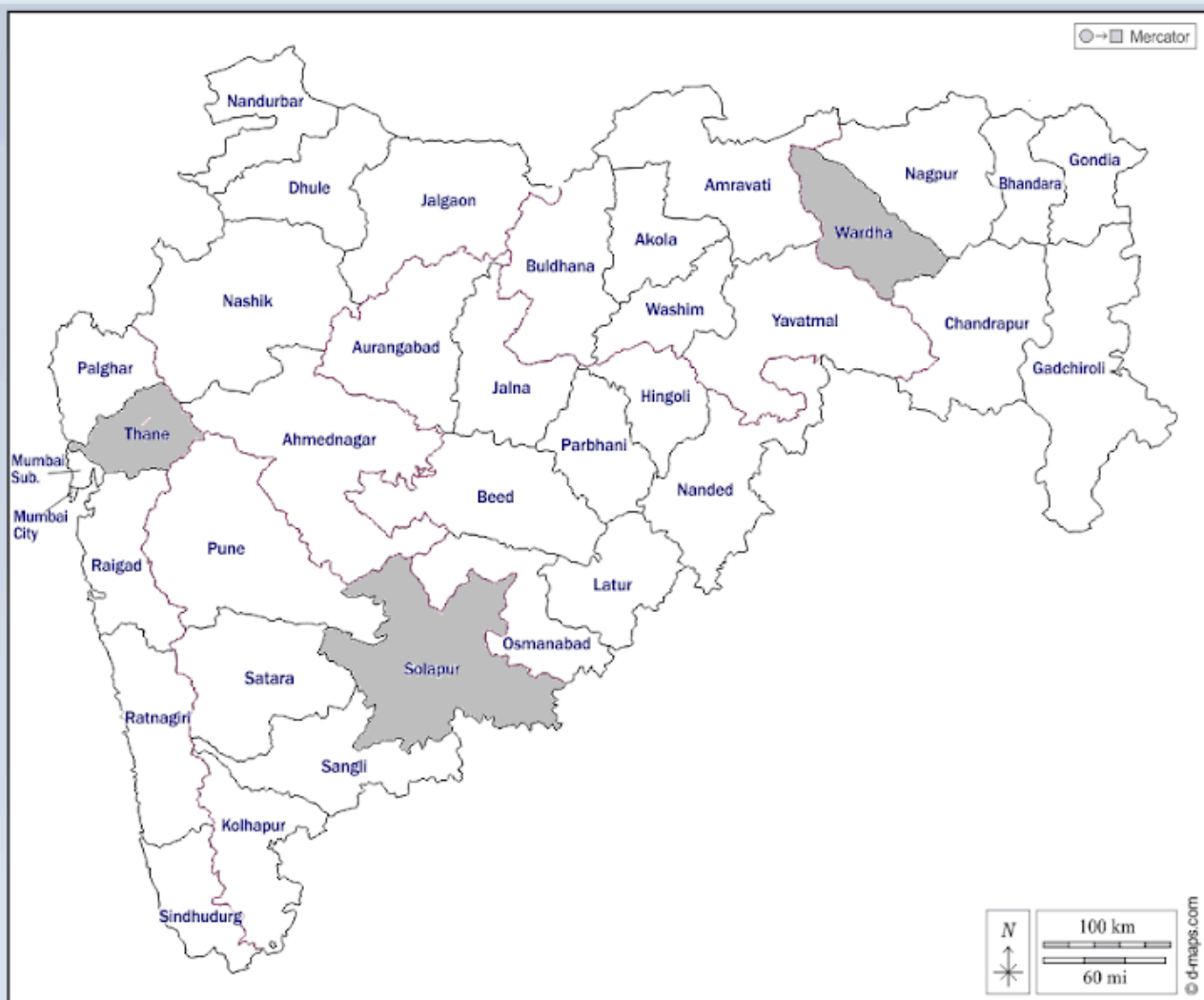
### Pilot Project in Maharashtra

The PRI-CBO Convergence Project was implemented in Maharashtra as a pilot between FY 2014-17. The Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission (MSRLM) selected three blocks to reflect the State's diverse geographical and socio-economic contexts:

- Shahapur (Thane District) - Located in the Konkan region, this block has a significant tribal population and is notified as a PESA (Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas) block.
- Deoli (Wardha District) - Situated in the Vidarbha region, Deoli represents an agro-based block.

- Mohol (Solapur District) – Located in South Maharashtra, Mohol was selected due to its drought-prone characteristics.

Implementation was designed in a phased manner, initially covering a cluster of 15-20 Gram Panchayats in each selected block.



Picture: Maharashtra State Map highlighting the Pilot intervention districts.  
(Solapur, Wardha and Thane)

### **Core Implementation Strategy in the Maharashtra Pilot**

The pilot built upon the existing strengths of Maharashtra’s Panchayati Raj system and the presence of federated Self-Help Groups. The core implementation strategy focused on institutional convergence, capacity building, and participatory planning.



### 3.1 LRG Training for PAE Members in Mohol Block, Maharashtra

Umed-MSRLM partnered with Kudumbashree as the National Resource Organization (NRO) for implementation support and technical guidance. Key focus areas include; improving access to entitlements through activities such as, Participatory Assessment of Entitlements (PAE), and Entitlement Access Plans (EAP), drawing from Kudumbashree's proven models. To strengthen local democratic platforms, the pilot strategy promoted Mahila Sabhas (mandatory women's meetings) as a stepping stone for women to raise their concerns in the Gram Sabha. Institutional mechanisms were further strengthened through the formation of "Jeevannonati Committees" (Livelihood Enhancement Committees), which aimed to ensure equitable allocation of resources and targeted support to poor and vulnerable families.

The Pilot emphasised on capacity building, with cadres such as Local Resource Groups (LRGs) developed at the Gram Panchayat level, and Block Resource Groups (BRGs) at the block level, to facilitate convergence and community mobilisation. At the block-level, mentors provided continuous handholding support, while professionals supported at the state level, guiding implementation and monitoring. During this phase, exposure visits to Kudumbashree were organized for diverse stakeholders, to provide a glimpse of how PRIs and CBOs converge in the state of Kerala. Some of the project activities included; sensitisation of PRI representatives and CBOs, awareness generation on key schemes such as MGNREGS, National Social Assistance schemes (including NBS), and Rajiv Gandhi Jeevan Dayee Arogya Yojana, and participatory planning processes to improve entitlement coverage and service delivery.



### 3.2 LRG Training for PAE Members in Mohol Block, Maharashtra

#### **Outcomes from Pilot Implementation**

The PRI-CBO Convergence Pilot in Maharashtra successfully established a relationship between local governance institutions and community-based organisations across Shahapur, Deoli, and Mohol blocks. The initiative led to a measurable increase in wage employment days under MGNREGS, improved access to incentives for individual asset construction, and enhanced coverage of various social assistance schemes.

Beyond material outcomes, the pilot resulted in significant political and social empowerment. Participation in Gram Sabhas increased, and Mahila Sabhas became institutionalized as critical platforms for poor and vulnerable groups to voice their concerns. Governance accountability was strengthened through new interfaces where CBOs presented demands to the Gram Sabha and actively participated in social audits of development schemes. Overall, the pilot succeeded in reclaiming and operationalizing the constitutional role of the Gram Sabha, promoting a sustainable people's network capable of negotiating improved service delivery and securing entitlements for the most vulnerable households.

### **III. Universisation OF THE PRI-CBO CONVERGENCE PROJECT**

The PRI-CBO Convergence Project was implemented as a pilot in 15 states from FY 2014-2022 to strengthen convergence between Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) and to deepen community participation in local governance processes. The pilot demonstrated tangible improvements in participatory planning and coordination with line departments at the local level. Based on the positive outcomes of the pilot, the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) decided to roll-out the Universalisation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project across States, with the objective of institutionalising convergence processes within the NRLM framework and strengthening state-level ownership.

A review of the pilot phase by DAY-NRLM provided strong quantitative evidence for scaling up and identified key intervention areas for Universalisation. The review noted that the pilot focused on intensive resource deployment, with limited scalability, that resulted in effective practices emerging out of specific locations. It further highlighted the need to transition from a centrally driven implementation approach to a model led by State Rural Livelihoods Missions (SRLMs) to ensure sustainability.

Accordingly, DAY-NRLM initiated the Universalisation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project from FY 2023 with Kudumbashree NRO as a technical and knowledge partner. Under this model, SRLMs served as the primary implementation agencies, responsible for on-ground execution and integration with state systems, while Kudumbashree NRO functioned as the National Resource Organisation, providing guided technical support. The strategy of Universalisation was designed to ensure the implementation of a uniform framework across states, while allowing flexibility for contextual adaptation. Technical support from Kudumbashree NRO was provided in the form of capacity building, mentoring, and exposure-based learning through Immersion Blocks to enable effective adoption and institutionalisation of convergence processes.

#### **Objectives of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project Universalisation**

- Develop the democratic ability of the SHG federation to improve local participatory planning.
- Develop a pool of state and local resource networks to facilitate activities on the field.
- Increase in the engagement with local governments and line departments to enhance the service delivery mechanism within the community.
- Strengthen institutional platforms of convergence like coordination committees at different levels.

Key components of the strategy included:

1. **Phased Roll-Out:** Implementation was carried out in a phased manner across States, prioritising districts based on preparedness and readiness for convergence.
2. **Institutional and Technical Support:** The National Resource Organisation deployed dedicated Mentor Resource Person to selected Immersion Blocks, transforming them into model sites. These Blocks served as model sites where NRO provided hands-on technical guidance, mentoring, and capacity-building to SRLMs and field teams, ensuring effective implementation and replication of best practices across other blocks.
3. **National Workshop:** A workshop at the national level was organised to disseminate guidelines, share best practices, and build consensus on the Universalisation approach. In this workshop, some States formalised their participation by signing MoUs, marking the start of their engagement in the convergence initiative.
4. **Preparatory Activities:** Before formal engagement through MoUs, several preparatory activities were undertaken to ensure institutional readiness and smooth implementation. These include conducting a scoping study, organising a State Operational Framework (SOF) workshop, finalising the SOF document, cadre policy and carrying out a baseline survey.
5. **Development of Cadres:** A local resource pool was created at multiple levels- DRPs, BRPs, and LRPs- to support field-level implementation, convergence facilitation, and capacity-building. States also developed their state resource pool to ensure phased expansion and sustainability.
6. **Standardised Processes and Tools:** Concept notes, operational guidelines, advisories, and standardised tools were developed and issued by the Ministry to guide the States in planning, monitoring, and implementation.
7. **Strengthening Institutional Architecture:** Institutional platforms were strengthened at State, district, and block levels to enable effective coordination, planning, and monitoring of convergence processes.

## **IV. Universalization OF THE PRI-CBO CONVERGENCE PROJECT, MAHARASHTRA**

The Universalisation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project in Maharashtra was initiated following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UMED-Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission (UMED-MSRLM) and Kudumbashree-NRO on 7 November 2023. Under this partnership, UMED-MSRLM serves as the implementing agency, while Kudumbashree-NRO provides technical and knowledge support, offering mentoring, guidance, and capacity-building to ensure effective implementation of PRI-CBO Convergence Project across the state.

Despite the constitutional mandate for decentralised governance, collaboration between Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and community institutions has remained limited in many areas. PRIs often lack sustained community engagement, while CBOs—especially SHG federations possess strong grassroots presence but limited integration with formal planning processes. The PRI-CBO Convergence Project addressed this gap by institutionalising collaboration, combining the governance authority of PRIs with the strength of mobilising, local knowledge, and collective voices of SHG federations. This convergence strengthened participatory planning, ensured inclusion of community priorities, and improved service delivery at the Gram Panchayat level.

Maharashtra had previously piloted a PRI-CBO Convergence initiative in Solapur, Thane, and Wardha districts (2015-17), which demonstrated the potential of PRI-CBO collaboration to enhance community participation and planning outcomes. The Universalisation of the project provided an opportunity to systematically embed this approach across the state, ensuring that community-identified needs are reflected in the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) through processes such as the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP).

The project was implemented under the SIIB thematic framework of UMED-MSRLM and followed the cadre policy, with trained cadres responsible for field-level facilitation. Mentors deployed at the regional level supported cadres in capacity building and process facilitation, while a state-level professional provided technical guidance, policy liaison, and oversight. The first phase of the project spanned 18 months, divided into six quarters, with a structured set of activities to strengthen PRI-CBO convergence, institutionalising participatory planning, and enhancing community engagement in governance.

## V. OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERVENTION

- To strengthen the democratic and participatory capacities of SHG federations for effective involvement in local planning and governance processes.
- To develop a robust pool of state- and local-level resource persons (DRPs, BRPs, and LRPs) capable of facilitating convergence activities in the field.
- To enhance engagement and coordination between SHG federations, PRIs, and line departments to improve service delivery within the community.
- To create and strengthen institutional platforms such as Village Organisation Coordination Committees (VOCCs) and Gram Panchayat Convergence Committees (GPCCs), and to revive and operationalise convergence forums at state, district, and block levels (SLCC, DLCC, and BLCC).



## VI. PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES COMPLETED BEFORE ROLL OUT

To enable a systematic roll-out of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, a series of preparatory activities were undertaken at the State, District, and Block levels. These activities ensured institutional readiness, strengthened coordination among stakeholders, and established a strong foundation for field implementation.

Sr. no.	Activities	Description
A	Finalization of blocks and districts for roll-out	January' 2023 during Annual Action Plan Preparation
B	Scoping Study	10th-17th April' 2023
C	SoF Workshop and Finalization of SoF	SoF Workshop: 18th and 19th May' 2023 Finalisation of SoF- July 2023
D	Baseline Survey	July- August 2024
E	Signing of MoU	7th November 2023
F	Finalization of Cadre Policy	Jan 2024

Table: Details of Preparatory Activities conducted

### A. Finalization of Districts and Blocks for Roll-Out

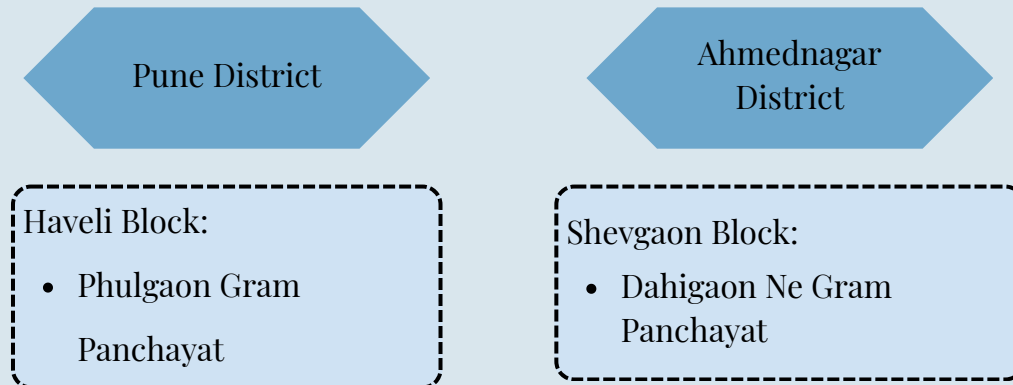
In March 2023, the State Mission undertook a comprehensive discussion to finalise districts and blocks for the Universalisation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. The selection focused on UMED expansion districts and blocks identified under phased rollout plans, prioritising areas with established community institutions, functional SHG structures, and trained cadres. Considerations such as feasibility of field engagement, accessibility, and availability of institutional support were taken into account to ensure effective mentoring, supervision, and implementation throughout the project period.

### B. Scoping Study

Before initiating the scoping study, several preparatory activities were undertaken to ensure a structured and well-coordinated process. The Kudumbashree NRO allotted a dedicated team of mentors along with the Professional for conducting the detailed scoping study. A schedule for the study was jointly finalised in consultation with the SMMU, outlining the districts, blocks, and Gram Panchayats to be visited, along with timelines, objectives. The SMMU facilitated coordination with the District and Block Mission Management Units to ensure field-level readiness, availability of key stakeholders, and smooth logistical arrangements.

With these preparatory steps completed, the scoping study commenced from 10th April to 17th April 2023, starting from the State level and gradually moving down to the district, block, and Gram Panchayat levels.

The scoping study was conducted in Maharashtra across two districts:



The study team met with all relevant stakeholders, including PRI representatives, SHG federations, frontline staff, and key line departments such as Women & Child Development (WCD), Health, Education, Rural Development, Education, Social Welfare, Panchayati Raj department and SIRD- Yashada. The scoping study generated qualitative and quantitative insights, which served as critical inputs for designing the convergence strategy, identifying feasibility and saturation indicators, and refining training modules and implementation processes.

### Major Findings of the Scoping Study

- Strong PRI structure and governance systems existed in Maharashtra, with well-established administrative mechanisms at district and block levels, though coordination was affected in areas where PRI elections were pending.
- CBO networks were expanding, but maturity varied across districts. While SHGs, VOs, and CLFs were active, institutional engagement of SHG federations in governance processes remained limited and largely informal.
- SHG participation in Gram Sabhas and planning processes was present, but integration of Village Prosperity Resilience Plans into Gram Panchayat Development Plans was weak due to limited follow-up and absence of structured convergence platforms.
- Line departments have existing convergence mechanisms, especially between Health and ICDS through coordination, but SHGs were not systematically involved as institutions and participated mostly as individuals.
- Opportunities for convergence were identified in sectors such as nutrition, health,

- education, social welfare, and livelihoods, where SHGs could support mobilisation, monitoring, and service delivery.
- Capacity building support from YASHADA-State Institute of Rural Development presented strong potential for PRI-CBO convergence through joint training, module development, and cascading capacity building sessions.
- Key gaps identified include limited institutional recognition of SHGs, uneven maturity of federations, shortage of frontline workers in some sectors, and absence of formalised convergence mechanisms at village and block levels.

A comprehensive scoping study report was developed by the Kudumbashree NRO team, consolidating field observations, stakeholder feedback, and recommendations for strengthening the roll-out. The final report was submitted to the State as well as the National Mission Management Unit for their perusal.

### **C. State Operational Framework (SoF) Workshop and SoF document Finalization**

Prior to conducting the SoF workshop, initial coordination was held with the State Mission team to finalize suitable dates for the workshop and to outline the agenda, thematic focus areas, and expected outcomes. The NRO team worked closely with the SMMU to refine the workshop flow, structure the sessions, and prepare technical presentations, field insights, and discussion notes.

The state-level SoF workshop was organized on 18-19 May 2023, with participation from the State Mission, NRO mentors, district, block staff, and SIRD officials. The workshop served as a platform for detailed discussions on project components such as orientations, training and implementation. Following the orientation sessions during the workshop, a dedicated committee was constituted to draft and finalize the SoF. The committee continued to meet after the workshop, holding multiple rounds of discussions to refine the structure, content, and implementation strategy of the document. After the SoF was completed, the State Mission team presented it to the NMMU for review. The document was formally approved by the NMMU in July 2023. Henceforth, the finalized SoF served as the guiding framework for all stakeholders involved in the project.

### **D. Baseline Survey**

A comprehensive baseline survey for the PRI-CBO Convergence Project in Maharashtra was conducted by IPSOS Pvt. Ltd, an DAY-NRLM accredited agency, in Kalamb Block, Yavatmal District and Tuljapur Block, Dharashiv District during July-August 2024. The survey assessed the status of PRI-CBO convergence mechanisms, citizen committees, MGNREGA participation, VPRP processes, and community-level service delivery using

### **Key Findings:**

- **SHG Profile:** Majority of members were 26–35 years old, with about one-third of SHGs active for over 10 years, indicating stability and maturity.
- **Awareness and Access to Government Schemes:** Around 45% of members accessed schemes, mainly through Gram Panchayats (86%), with variation across blocks.
- **Participatory Planning:** Awareness of VPRP and GPPFT was moderate, but only 42% actively participated in planning processes.
- **Committee Engagement:** Awareness of local committees (VHSNC 73%, SMC 66%, ALMSC 58%) was high, yet actual participation was low.
- **MGNREGS & Gram Sabha Participation:** Awareness was moderate; 33% had never attended Gram Sabha meetings, citing household responsibilities and time constraints.
- **Training and Capacity Building:** Only 29% of members had received PRI-CBO convergence training, though those trained found it highly effective.
- **Engagement with Local Government:** Members had strong familiarity with elected representatives (>90%) and participated in joint initiatives, particularly health and hygiene campaigns.

While SHG members demonstrated strong awareness of governance structures and elected representatives, there was a clear gap between knowledge and active participation, underscoring the need for targeted capacity building and facilitation support to strengthen PRI-CBO convergence.

### **E. MoU Signing & Partnership Establishment**

The implementation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project in Maharashtra formally commenced with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UMED-Maharashtra State Rural Livelihood Mission (UMED-MSRLM) and the Kudumbashree National Resource Organisation (KS-NRO) on 7 November 2023. This MoU established a clear institutional partnership, outlining the roles and responsibilities of both organisations for the Universalisation of the project in the state. activities within the DAY-NRLM framework. Kudumbashree National Resource Organisation (KS-NRO) was engaged as the technical and knowledge partner, providing strategic guidance, process design, and capacity-building support. activities within the DAY-NRLM framework. Kudumbashree National Resource Organisation (KS-NRO) was engaged as the technical and knowledge partner, providing strategic guidance, process design, and capacity-building support. The MoU enabled the deployment of mentor resource persons from Kudumbashree-NRO to support immersion blocks, strengthen community cadres, and facilitate effective convergence between PRIs and CBOs.

## **F. Finalization of Cadre Policy**

A comprehensive cadre policy was drafted and finalized in January 2024 through detailed discussions between the SMMU team and the Kudumbashree NRO team to establish a strong governance framework for project cadres. The policy clearly outlined the roles and responsibilities of each cadre, along with selection criteria, performance expectations, and structured monitoring and reporting mechanisms. It also defined honorarium norms, attendance and work-day systems, and the procedures for periodic review and performance evaluation, ensuring transparency, uniformity, and consistency across districts. The final cadre policy was approved by the MSRLM Administrative officers and subsequently disseminated to all districts in January 2024 for implementation.

The structure and responsibilities of the cadres are as follows:

### **1. District Resource Person (DRP)**

- **Role:** Responsible for overseeing district-level convergence activities.
- **Engagement:** 2 days per month dedicated to training, totaling 36 days over the 18-month project period, in accordance with the cadre policy.
- **Primary responsibilities:** Support capacity building of Block level cadres, monitor district convergence processes, and provide technical guidance.

### **2. Block Resource Person (BRP)**

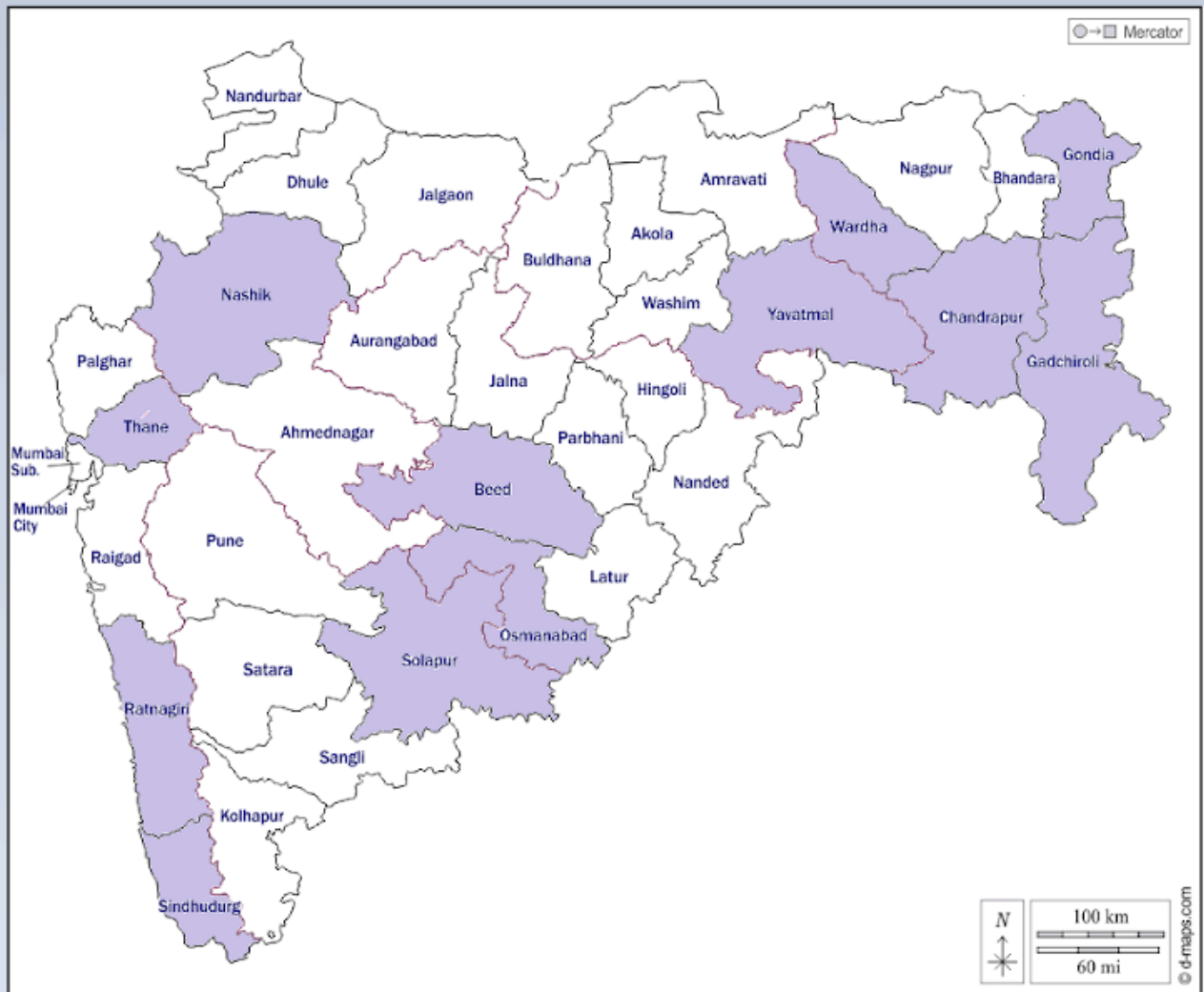
- **Role:** Responsible for block-level convergence activities.
- **Engagement:** 15 days per month.
- **Primary responsibilities:** Strengthen PRI-CBO coordination at the block level, and capacity building support for Local Resource Persons at GP-level implementation.

### **3. Local Resource Person (LRP)**

- **Role:** Responsible for Gram Panchayat-level convergence activities.
- **Selection:** One LRP per Gram Panchayat, drawn from the pool of trained CRPs (Community Resource Persons).
- **Engagement:** 10 days per month.

## VII. DETAILS OF THE INTERVENTION AREA

The PRI-CBO Convergence Project was implemented across 12 districts and 24 blocks, covering 148 Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) and 1,922 Gram Panchayats. The selection of these districts and blocks was aligned with the UMED-MSRLM expansion plan and reflects a strategic focus on areas with strong and well-established community institutions.



Picture: Maharashtra State Map highlighting the Universalisation intervention districts.

The intervention districts were among the oldest operational districts of UMED-MSRLM, where Self-Help Group (SHG) institutions had evolved over time and demonstrated high levels of maturity and institutional stability. Several of the selected blocks were also NRETP (National Rural Economic Transformation Project) blocks, providing an enabling ecosystem for convergence with Panchayati Raj Institutions and line departments.

The district-, block-, Cluster Level Federation-, and Gram Panchayat-wise details of the intervention area were presented below, outlining the geographical spread and administrative coverage of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project under UMED-MSRLM.

Sr. no	Name Of District Of Districts	Name of Blocks	No. of Villages	No. of GPs	No. of SHG	No. of VO	No. of CLF
1	Beed	Parali	103	86	1750	106	6
		Ambejogai	104	100	1931	114	7
2	Chandrapur	Mul	106	49	1049	68	3
		Bhadravati	115	70	1296	83	4
3	Dharashiv	Tuljapur	119	104	2128	117	9
		Dharashiv	126	111	2736	130	12
4	Gadchiroli	Dhanora	227	61	1248	65	4
		Kurkheda	127	45	1537	66	5
5	Gondia	Arjuni Morgaon	152	70	2492	132	7
		Amgaon	75	57	1547	82	5
6	Nashik	Igatpuri	116	95	1540	95	4
		Trimbyak	124	84	1442	94	3
7	Ratnagiri	Sangameshwar	197	126	1994	138	7
		Ratnagiri	200	94	2243	126	10
8	Sindhudurg	Devgad	96	71	1251	79	7
		Sawantwadi	82	62	1624	85	9
9	Solapur	Dakshin Solapur	90	87	1746	90	6
		Uttar Solapur	40	36	1139	57	2
10	Thane	Murbad	203	126	2305	145	8
		Shahapur	229	110	2814	268	7

Sr. no	Name Of District Of Districts	Name of Blocks	No. of Villages	No. of GPs	No. of SHG	No. of VO	No. of CLF
11	Wardha	Wardha	156	75	2848	148	11
		Samudrapur	218	71	2068	140	6
12	Yavatmal	Kalamb	137	60	1453	86	3
		Ralegaon	129	73	1345	87	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>3271</b>	<b>1922</b>	<b>43526</b>	<b>2601</b>	<b>148</b>

Table: Details of intervention Area

• **Immersion Blocks under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project: Concept and Operational Details**

As part of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, four Immersion Blocks (IBs) had been identified to serve as intensive learning and demonstration sites for implementing convergence processes in a focused and structured manner. The Immersion Blocks identified under the project in Maharashtra were:

- Tuljapur Block, Dharashiv District
- Mul Block, Chandrapur District
- Kalamb Block, Yavatmal District
- Sawantwadi Block, Sindhudurg District

The selection of these Immersion Blocks was undertaken by UMED-MSRLM, with due consideration to regional diversity, administrative and governance contexts, and the maturity of community institutions. The four blocks represented different geographical regions of the State, encompassing varied socio-economic and local governance settings. Several of the selected blocks were also NRETP blocks, enabling the institutional ecosystem for demonstrating effective convergence between PRIs, CBOs, and line departments. This deliberate selection ensured that learnings from the Immersion Blocks were relevant, adaptable, and replicable across diverse contexts within the State.

These Immersion Blocks were designed as intensive learning and practice sites where PRI-CBO convergence processes were implemented in a comprehensive, hands-on manner. A total of four Mentor Resource Persons (MRPs) from Kudumbashree-NRO were deployed across the immersion blocks to provide sustained, process-oriented

capacity building and close handholding to community cadres, including District Resource Persons (DRPs), Block Resource Persons (BRPs), and Local Resource Persons (LRPs).

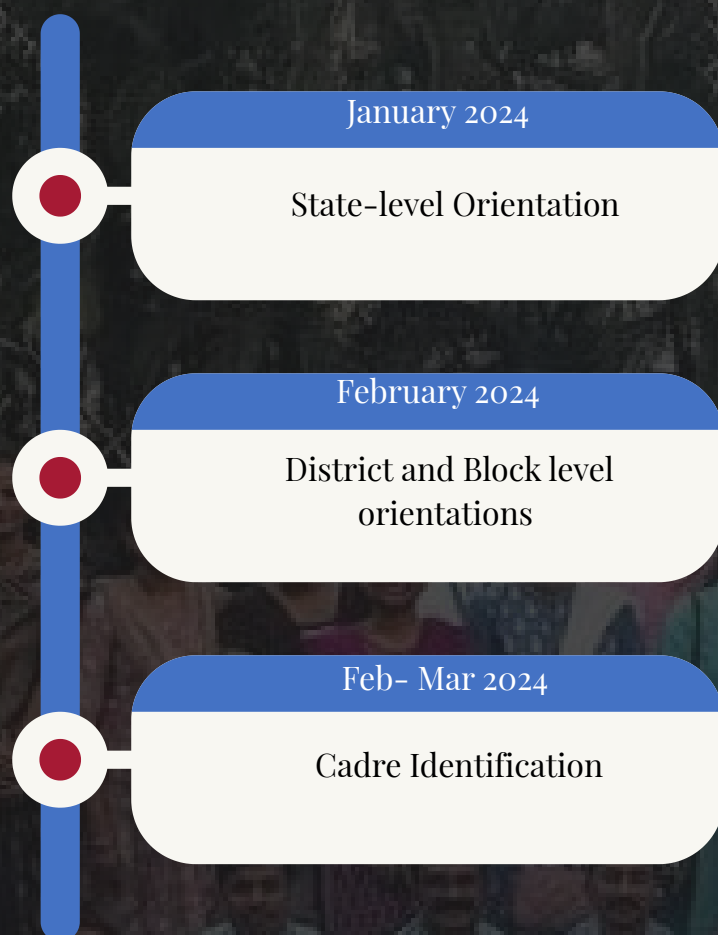
Each Mentor Resource Person was assigned a cluster of three districts. While mentors spent the majority of their time in the designated immersion blocks to ensure depth of engagement and rigorous implementation of convergence processes, they also extended structured mentoring and technical support to other districts under their purview. This arrangement enabled intensive learning in immersion blocks while simultaneously facilitating cross-district learning and scaled adoption of PRI-CBO convergence practices across Maharashtra.

The mentors supported cadres in community mobilisation, strengthening coordination between PRIs and CBOs, facilitating participatory planning processes, and supporting the preparation of Gram Panchayat-level plans. This immersive approach enabled cadres to internalise facilitation methodologies, build practical skills, and apply convergence tools effectively at the grassroots level.

In addition to implementation, the Immersion Blocks functioned as learning hubs for exposure visits, cross-learning, and replication of good practices across other project areas. Field-level activities under the project commenced in November 2023, marking the initiation of systematic capacity building and structured convergence efforts across the identified geographies.

## VIII. ACTIVITY TIMELINE - MAHARASHTRA

### Quarter 1 (Nov 2023-Jan 2024)



## Quarter 2 (Feb-Apr 2024)

Feb-  
Mar 2024

Cadre Identification

March  
2024

DRP, BRP trainings

## Quarter 3 (May-July 2024)

May  
2024

CLF manager orientation on the project

June-  
Aug 2024

CLF orientations on the project

## Quarter 4 (Aug-Oct 2024)

LRP trainings on Q1 Activities

Aug-Sept 2024

VO orientations on the project

Aug-Oct 2024

PRI Orientations on the project

Sept 2024-Jan 2025

Cadre Trainings on VPRP Preparations

Sept-Nov 2024

VPRP Plan Preparations

Nov 2024-Feb 2025

Convergence camp at Village level

Nov 2024-Feb 2025

## Quarter 5 (Nov 2024-Jan 2025)

Nov 2024-Feb 2025

VPRP Plan Preparations

January 2025

Cadre Trainings on GPDP, Gram Sabha and Functional Committees

January 2025

Training on Gram Sabha to CLF and VO

January 2025

Mobilisation for Gram Sabha

January 2025

Gram Sabha and presentation of plans

January 2025

State Review Meeting

Feb 2025- Ongoing

Line Department Meeting at State / District / Block

# Quarter 6 (Feb-Apr 2025)

Cadre Trainings on VOCC and GPCC

March 2025

Mar- Apr 2025

Orientation to CLFs and VOs on VOCC and GPCC

Formation of Village Organisation Coordination Committee (VOCC)

Apr- June 2025

## With 6 Months Extension

### Quarter 7 (May-July 2025)

May-  
June  
2025

Cadre Trainings on  
Citizens  
Committees

June  
2025-  
Ongoing

CBO Orientations  
on Citizens  
Committees

June  
2025-  
Ongoing

Strengthening of  
Citizens  
Committees

19th  
July  
2025

State Review  
meeting (Online)

July-  
Oct  
2025

VPRP 2025-26  
(ToTs, concept  
seeding and plan  
preparation)

## Quarter Q8 (Aug-Oct 2025)

Aug-Oct  
2025

MGNREGs concept seeding and plan preparation (Merged with VPRP CS)

Oct-Nov  
2025

‘Walking Down the Lane’- A  
Community Workshop



## **IX. ACTIVITY-WISE IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS**

### **1. Field Level Assessment (FLA) in the Immersion Blocks**

Four mentor resource persons from Kudumbashree-NRO were positioned in the immersion blocks on 8 December 2023, marking the initiation of field-level engagement under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. The mentors conducted a field level assessment across all four immersion blocks to develop a clear understanding of the local institutional context. The objective of this activity was to orient the mentors to the existing structure and functioning of Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) and Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), and to assess the readiness of the field for implementing PRI-CBO convergence processes.

During the familiarisation visits, mentors interacted with PRI representatives, SHG federations, community cadres, and other key stakeholders to review the status and functionality of various citizen and sectoral committees, including School Management Committees (SMCs), ALMSCs, Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committees (VHSNCs), Pani Purvatha Committees, and other relevant forums. This helped in identifying existing coordination mechanisms, participation levels, and gaps where convergence between PRIs and CBOs could be strengthened.

The field familiarisation was conducted over a period of seven days in December 2023. Following the completion of the field familiarisation, mentors prepared detailed Field Level Assessment (FLA) reports which served as important inputs for planning subsequent capacity-building activities and field interventions.

### **2. Demonstrations of PGSRD Plan in Immersion Blocks**

Due to the delay in the State-level orientation workshop, mentor resource persons from Kudumbashree-NRO actively engaged in field-based capacity-building activities during the interim period. As part of this engagement, mentors conducted demonstrations of the PGSRD plan under the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP) across all four immersion blocks. The objective was to utilise the available time productively while ensuring that field-level stakeholders were adequately prepared for participatory planning processes.

During December 2023 and January 2024, VPRP preparations were going on, mentors facilitated training sessions for community cadres, Cluster Level Federations (CLFs), and Village Organisations (VOs) on the preparation of PGSRD plans through participatory planning methods. The sessions focused on problem identification, prioritisation of community needs, resource mapping, and translating collective decisions into structured PGSRD plans aligned with the VPRP framework.



Pictures: Demonstrations of PGSRD Plan by Mentors in Immersion Blocks

### 3. State-level Orientation Workshop on the PRI-CBO Convergence Project

A two-day State-level Orientation Workshop was conducted on 23rd and 24th January 2024 at Navi Mumbai, to orient state, district, and block-level stakeholders to the project framework, implementation architecture, and their respective roles in the Universalisation of the PRI-CBO convergence project.

A total of 47 participants from 12 intervention districts and 24 blocks attended the workshop. The participants included 12 District Mission Managers (DMMs), District Managers (DM-IB) from Immersion Block as district nodal persons, Block Managers-Immersion Block (BM-IB) block nodal persons, and 9 Block Mission Managers (BMMs). Senior officials from the State Mission Management Unit (SMMU)-including the Deputy Director (General), MM-SIIB, and YP-SIIB-were also present and actively engaged in the proceedings.

The workshop commenced with introduction of participants and a clear articulation of objectives by MM-SIIB and YP-SIIB. The Deputy Director (General) highlighted the relevance and significance of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project in the context of strengthening decentralised governance in Maharashtra. Over the next two days, the Kudumbashree-NRO team facilitated detailed sessions covering the concept and framework of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project (Universalisation), experience sharing by mentors from the immersion blocks, learnings from earlier pilot initiatives, and discussions on the State Operational Framework (SoF), including key strategies, implementation architecture, cadre engagement, log frame and the proposed 18-month activity plan.

The workshop also included focused discussions on civic literacy, module familiarisation, and preparation of implementation calendars, along with presentations on preparatory activities to be undertaken at the field level. The programme concluded with a reflective discussion, feedback from participants, and certificate distribution. Active participation and engagement from all participants contributed to a shared understanding of project objectives and implementation processes, laying a strong foundation for coordinated field-level rollout.



Pictures: State-level Orientation Workshop at Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra

#### 4. District and Block-level Orientation on the PRI-CBO Convergence Project

District and Block-level orientation programmes were conducted for UMED-MSRLM functionaries to ensure a clear understanding of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project and to prepare field teams for effective implementation. Participants in the orientation included District Mission Managers (DMMs), District Mission-Immersion Block (DM-IB) nodal persons,



Block Mission Managers (BMMs), Block Mission-Immersion Block (BM-IB) nodal persons, CLF Managers, Community Coordinators (CCs), and community cadres. The objective of these orientations was to align district and block structures with the project's vision, implementation framework, and activity timelines, while clarifying roles and responsibilities at different levels.

The orientations were facilitated by Kudumbashree-NRO mentor resource persons, who delivered sessions on the concept and scope of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project (Universalisation), shared learnings from earlier pilot experiences, and discussed the relevance of PRI-CBO convergence in strengthening participatory local governance. Detailed discussions were held on the roles and responsibilities of the District Mission Management Unit (DMMU), Block Mission Management Unit (BMMU), and CLF Managers, with an emphasis on coordination, facilitation, and monitoring of convergence activities.

The sessions also covered the implementation architecture, cadre engagement strategy, the 18-month activity plan, and upcoming field-level activities. Specific support required from district and block teams for smooth execution—including coordination with PRIs, mobilisation of CBOs, and facilitation of planning processes was discussed in detail. The orientations helped build a shared understanding of the project and strengthened preparedness of district and block teams for effective field-level implementation.

Details of the orientation programmes are presented in the table below-

<b>Sr. no.</b>	<b>District orientation</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>No. of Participants</b>	<b>Block orientation</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>No. of Participants</b>
1	Dharashiv	27/06/2024	26	Dharashiv	24/06/2024	17
				Tuljapur	24/06/2024	18
2	Solapur	07/02/2024	35	North Solapur	07/02/2024	33
3	Beed (district & block combined)	07/02/2024	96	Parali, Ambejogai	07/02/2024	-
4	Yavatmal (district & block combined)	07/02/2024	30	Kalamb, Ralegaon	07/02/2024	-
5	Wardha (district & block combined)	22/07/2024	54	Wardha, Samudrapur	22/07/2024	-

Sr. no.	District orientation	Timeline	No. of Participants	Block orientation	Timeline	No. of Participants
6	Nashik	08/07/2024	15	Trimbakeshwar	15/07/2024	10
				Igatpuri	21/07/2024	10
7	Chandrapur	31/01/2024	13	Bhadravati	21/06/2024	20
				Mul	21/06/2024	13
8	Gadchiroli (district & block combined)	6/2/2024	26	Kurkheda, Dhanora	6/2/2024	-
9	Gondia (district & block combined)	24/07/2024	40	Arjuni Morgaon, Amgaon	24/07/2024	-
10	Sindhudurg	22/06/2024	38	Sawantwadi	01/07/2024	40
				Devgad	21/07/2024	11
11	Ratnagiri (district & block combined)	24/06/2024	32	Ratnagiri, Sangameshwar	24/06/2024	-
12	Thane (district & block combined)	23/06/2024	30	Murbad, Shahpur	23/06/2024	-
	<b>Total</b>		<b>435</b>			<b>139</b>

Table: Details of the District and Block level orientation programmes



Pictures: District and Block level orientation programmes on the PRI-CBO Convergence Project

## 5. DRP, BRP Identification

The identification of District Resource Persons (DRPs) and Block Resource Persons (BRPs) was undertaken in accordance with the approved cadre policy of the state, with the objective of ensuring availability of skilled and experienced human resources for effective implementation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. As per the policy, cadres at all three levels were drawn from the existing pool of trained community cadres under UMED-MSRLM, ensuring familiarity with community processes and institutional structures.

Under the project design, the engagement of DRPs was planned for a maximum of 36 days over the 18-month project period in the first phase, comprising 9 days of CLF-level training and 30 days of training and handholding support to CLF Managers. BRPs and LRPs were planned to be engaged for 15 days and 10 days respectively, based on the scope of their facilitation roles at block and village levels.

The process of identifying DRPs and BRPs was completed through a structured approach involving the invitation of applications, shortlisting based on prior work experience with UMED-MSRLM, and personal interviews, and was carried out during February-March 2024. Kudumbashree-NRO mentor resource persons were actively engaged in facilitating this process, providing technical inputs and supporting the assessment of candidates. Key selection criteria included understanding of SRLM systems, experience in working with CBOs, and familiarity with the structure and functioning of PRIs.

As a result of this process, a total of 12 DRPs, 24 BRPs were selected from the existing cadre pool. These cadres were positioned to play a critical role in cascading project orientations, facilitating PRI-CBO convergence processes, and supporting participatory planning activities at district, block, and Gram Panchayat levels.

## **6.DRP and BRP Training on Quarter 1 activities of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project**

A 15-day residential training programme for District Resource Persons (DRPs) and Block Resource Persons (BRPs) was organised to build strong conceptual clarity and practical skills required for implementing the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. The training was conducted from 5 March to 21 March 2024 in two batches simultaneously, enabling focused engagement while covering all intervention districts. Batch I was organised in Chandrapur district and covered 5 districts, with the participation of 5 DRPs and 10 BRPs. Batch II was conducted in Ratnagiri district and included participants from 7 districts, comprising 7 DRPs and 14 BRPs. In total, 36 participants (12 DRPs and 24 BRPs) underwent the intensive training programme.

The training was structured in three phases. The first phase (3 days) focused on building conceptual understanding of poverty, the structure and functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions, and the concept, objectives, and scope of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project (Universalisation). This phase aimed to strengthen the foundational understanding required for the facilitation of the project.

The second phase (7 days) was field immersion, where participants were placed in their respective districts, blocks, and Gram Panchayats. This phase provided an opportunity for hands-on learning regarding community institutions and PRI structures, enabling participants to observe convergence at the field level. The third phase (5 days) focused on developing practical competencies, including detailed discussions on the roles and responsibilities of DRPs, BRPs, and LRPs, project documentation requirements, and enhancement of technical and communication skills to support effective field facilitation.

All training sessions were conducted by the Kudumbashree-NRO team. Senior officials from UMED-MSRLM, including the Project Director (PD), District Mission Managers (DMMs), DM-IB, DM-MIS & ME, and Young Professionals (YPs) from the SMMU, participated at various points, delivering sessions on the UMED-MSRLM structure, its verticals, and ongoing programmes. The training methodology emphasised on participatory learning, with extensive group and individual activities, presentations, experience sharing, and interactions. Each session incorporated feedback, clarification of doubts, and reflections facilitated by the mentors. DRPs and BRPs also shared their key learnings and training takeaways in the presence of UMED-MSRLM officials. The training programme concluded with the distribution of certificates to all participating DRPs and BRPs, marking their readiness to undertake field-level responsibilities under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project.



Pictures: DRP, BRP training on  
Quarter I Activities

### **7. Local Resource Person (LRP) Identification**

The process of identifying Local Resource Persons (LRPs) was initiated under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. However, the process experienced a temporary delay due to the imposition of the Model Code of Conduct for the Lok Sabha elections, which restricted field-level mobilisation and related activities. During this period, Kudumbashree-NRO mentor resource persons returned to Kerala for a break from 24 March 2024 to 24 May 2024, resulting in a pause in ground-level facilitation support.

After the Model Code of Conduct was lifted, the LRP identification process was resumed and completed by May-June 2024, in line with the phased rollout of field activities and cadre engagement requirements. As per state cadre policy, the existing CRP cadre were designated to take on the role of LRPs and were allotted an additional 10 days for project-related responsibilities, which made the identification process easier. Gram Panchayats that had more than one Community Resource Person (CRP) were identified, and a selection process was followed to choose which CRPs would work as LRPs. This selection process was headed by the BMMU staff at the block-level, while in the immersion blocks, KS-NRO mentors provided support.

The LRPs were selected from existing cadres already active at the Gram Panchayat level, strictly in accordance with the cadre policy guidelines. Out of the total 1,922 Gram Panchayats, LRPs were identified in 1,894 Gram Panchayats where CRPs were available. In the remaining Gram Panchayats where CRPs were not available, the project activities were managed through support from CRPs of adjacent gram panchayats, who functioned as Local CRPs, and the same arrangement was extended for LRP responsibilities to ensure continuity of field-level facilitation.

## 8. CLF Manager Orientation on PRI-CBO Convergence Project and VPRP

Project orientation sessions were organised for CLF Managers and Community Coordinators (CCs) across all intervention blocks in June and July 2024. These sessions aimed to strengthen participants' understanding of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, its objectives, implementation framework, and their specific roles in effective rollout at the field level.

A total of 212 CLF Managers and CCs participated in the orientation. The sessions covered key aspects such as the concept of PRI-CBO convergence, roles and responsibilities of CLF Managers and CCs, coordination mechanisms with Gram Panchayats and line departments, and the importance of timely planning, documentation, and follow-up of VPRP-related activities. The orientations also provided a platform for interaction, experience sharing, and clarification of operational issues, enabling participants to align their ongoing work with project goals. Overall, the sessions enhanced clarity, preparedness, and confidence among CLF Managers and CCs to support effective implementation of project activities in their respective blocks.





Pictures: CLF Manager and Cluster Coordinator Orientation on the PRI-CBO Convergence Project and VPRP

#### 10. LRP Trainings on Q1 Activities of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project

Following the selection of one LRP per Gram Panchayat, LRP trainings were conducted as a 6-day program (4 days classroom + 2 days field immersion) to build their capacity on the PRI-CBO Convergence model, community mobilisation, and engagement with PRIs. The training included VO orientations on the project, which LRPs were expected to conduct in their villages after the completion of the training. While the sessions at the block level were facilitated and delivered by DRPs and BRPs, in the immersion blocks, the training sessions were jointly facilitated by mentors along with DRPs and BRPs to ensure hands-on guidance and proper dissemination of information.

As part of the training, LRPs were also tasked with village profiling, which enabled them to collect baseline data and gain a deeper understanding of local contexts, needs, and existing governance structures. A total of 1,787 LRPs were trained in batches across all intervention blocks, acquiring practical knowledge and skills to effectively facilitate convergence, VO orientations, and grassroots development activities in their respective Gram Panchayats. The remaining LRPs who could not attend the initial training were later oriented and trained at the CLF level, ensuring that all LRPs were fully prepared and ready to carry out convergence activities.



Picture: Local Resource Person (LRP) Trainings on Quarter I Activities

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**Pictures: Village Organisation (VO) Orientations on PRI-CBO Convergence Project and VPRP Concept Seeding**

## **12. DRP/BRP Training on VPRP Preparation Using Mobile Application**

In September 2024, an online training session was conducted for 12 DRPs and 24 BRPs on the VPRP mobile application. The KS-NRO team in coordination with the state nodal person conducted the sessions which aimed to build the capacity of participants to effectively use the mobile platform for preparing, consolidating, and ranking VPRP plans at different administrative levels.

The session provided a step-by-step demonstration of the app's functionalities, including data entry, plan consolidation, prioritization of community demands, and submission protocols. Participants were guided on how to ensure accuracy, consistency, and timely updating of VPRP data. The training also included practical exercises and hands-on practice, allowing DRPs and BRPs to familiarize themselves with real-time plan preparation and troubleshooting common issues on the platform. Through this training, DRPs and BRPs gained the technical skills and confidence to effectively submit VPRP on the portal, ensuring efficient planning, better coordination, and streamlined follow-up at the district, block, and GP levels. The session strengthened their ability to support field cadres and community members in adopting technology-enabled participatory planning processes.

## **12. Block level and Gram Panchayat Level PRI Orientation on the PRI-CBO Convergence Project**

Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) are one of the key stakeholders in the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. Their active engagement and understanding of the project were essential to ensure effective convergence, participatory planning, and the successful implementation of village-level development initiatives. Therefore, it was critical to orient PRI members on their roles, responsibilities, and the significance of working closely with CBO networks.

The key objectives of the PRI orientations were:

- To introduce PRI members to the concept and importance of collaboration with CBO networks, highlighting how convergence strengthens local governance and development outcomes.
- To familiarize them with the VPRP process and guide them on their role in integrating VPRP priorities into the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP).
- To build a clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of PRI members within the PRI-CBO convergence framework, ensuring accountability, active participation, and leadership in planning and implementation.

At the Block level, the orientation targeted Gram Panchayat Presidents and Secretaries, ensuring their active involvement in planning and convergence processes. The Block Development Officer (BDO) and Panchayat Extension Officer (PEO) chaired these workshops, providing institutional support and guidance. These block-level PRI orientation workshops were successfully completed across all 24 blocks, with a total of 1,031 PRI members, mainly Gram Panchayat Presidents, participating.

Following the block-level sessions, Gram Panchayat-level orientations were conducted in all 1,922 GPs between December 2024 and January 2025, facilitated by Local Resource

Persons. Approximately 15,000 PRI members, including Presidents, Secretaries, and Ward Members, participated in these orientations. These sessions involved direct engagement between PRI members and Village Organisation representatives, during which LRPs explained the project's objectives, convergence framework, roles, responsibilities and expectations from PRIs and CBOs. The orientations were interactive and ensured that the PRI members were well-equipped to actively lead and support convergence activities through a culture of participatory planning and collaborative governance at the village level.

Details of Block level & Gram Panchayat level PRI Orientations are as follows-

S . N O	Name Of District	Name of the Blocks	Date of Block Level PRI Orientation	No. of Participants in the BLO	Total no. of GP-level PRI Orientations to be completed	Total no. of GPs conducted PRI orientation
1	Beed	Parali	26/12/2024	85	86	86
		Ambejogai	16/12/2024	96	100	100
2	Chandrapur	Mul	12/9/2024	15	49	49
		Bhadravati	3/12/2024	26	70	70
3	Dharashiv	Tuljapur	18/12/2024	59	104	104
		Dharashiv	17/01/2025	72	111	111
4	Gadchiroli	Dhanora	23/12/2024	36	61	61
		Kurkheda	13/12/2024	18	45	45
5	Gondia	Arjuni Morgaon	9/12/2024	41	70	70
		Amgaon	13/12/2024	57	57	57
6	Nashik	Igatpuri	11/12/2024	23	95	95
		Trimbyak	23/01/2025	45	84	84

S. N O	Name Of District	Name of the Blocks	Date of Block Level PRI Orientation	No. of Participants in the BLO	Total no. of GP-level PRI Orientations to be completed	Total no. of GPs conducted PRI orientation
7	Ratnagiri	Sangameshwar	19/12/2024	26	93	93
		Ratnagiri	20/12/2024	36	123	123
8	Sindhudurg	Devgad	10/01/2025	37	62	62
		Sawantwadi	10/01/2025	23	71	71
9	Solapur	Dakshin Solapur	11/12/2024	37	36	36
		Uttar Solapur	10/12/2024	23	90	90
10	Thane	Murbad	03/01/2025	46	126	126
		Shahapur	19/12/2024	46	110	110
11	Wardha	Wardha	19/12/2024	48	75	75
		Samudrapur	20/12/2024	48	71	71
12	Yavatmal	Kalamb	10/12/2024	25	60	60
		Ralegaon	23/12/2024	63	73	73
<b>Total</b>				<b>1031</b>	<b>1922</b>	<b>1922</b>

Table: Details of Block level & Gram Panchayat level PRI Orientations





Pictures: Block level PRI Orientations on the project



Pictures: Gram Panchayat level PRI Orientation on the Project

#### 14. State-Level Training of Trainers (ToT) for DRPs and BRPs on Quarter 2- 3

A two-day state-level Training of Trainers (ToT) program for District Resource Persons and Block Resource Persons was conducted on October 25-26, 2024. The training sessions were jointly conducted by the Kudumbashree NRO team and the State Mission Management Unit (SMMU). The event was graced by Mr. Manoj Shetty, Deputy Director, and Ms. Kaveri, State Mission Manager, who provided guidance, encouragement, and motivation to all the participants.

A total of 35 participants attended the program. The training began with objective-setting and team introductions, followed by an interactive session on reading and interpreting the Constitution of India. A review of key topics from Quarter 1 training was conducted, along with an assessment of the current field situation. The program was designed to strengthen participants' understanding of planning, convergence, facilitation, and community engagement, and included the following major topics:

- Introduction to the GPDP and its preparation process
- Structure and role of the Gram Panchayat Planning Facilitation Team (Gram Panchayat Planning and Facilitation Team (GPPFT) & (Ward level Planning and Facilitation team (WPFT)
- Local Self Development Goals (LSDGs) and 9 thematic areas
- Role and significance of the Gram Sabha in participatory planning
- Self-introductions in English and personal goal-setting exercises
- History, significance, and preparation of VPRP, enriched by field experiences shared by mentors
- Inclusive livelihood planning and integration with convergence initiatives
- Importance and effective functioning of Village Organisation Coordination Committee (VOCC)
- Guidance on innovative local initiatives and observation exercises for Anganwadis, schools, health centers, and related committees

The training emphasized on practical learning, discussion, and reflection, ensuring that DRPs and BRPs were well-prepared to support the VPRP-GPDP integration process at the district and block levels. On the second day, a two-hour Basic Life Support (BLS) training session was conducted in convergence with the Apollo Hospital CSR team, led by Dr. Nitisha Waghulde, to promote health awareness and community preparedness. The session covered CPR, snakebite response, allergy management, burn and shock treatment, drowning response, handling faints and fits, and basic first aid and medication. The training concluded with a vote of thanks and a discussion on upcoming activities and expected timelines for effective field implementation. The program provided a comprehensive platform for knowledge sharing, skill enhancement, and convergence planning, equipping DRPs and BRPs to provide stronger support to LRPs, VOs, and PRIs in implementing the PRI-CBO Convergence Project.





Pictures: State-Level Training of Trainers (ToT) for DRPs and BRPs on Quarter II and III at Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra

### 15. LRP trainings on VPRP preparations

A LRP training on Village Prosperity Resilience Plan preparation was conducted, which covered participatory PGSRD mapping, Social Development Plan preparation, and Entitlement and Livelihoods planning through the mobile application in multiple batches at the block level in November, 2024. A total of 1,894 Local Resource Persons were trained across all intervention blocks. The training was jointly delivered by Block Mission staff, DRPs, and BRPs, with Kudumbashree NRO mentors actively involved in the immersion blocks to ensure process-based learning and quality facilitation. The sessions focused on step-by-step explanation of VPRP components, roles of LRPs in community facilitation, and hands-on demonstrations of the mobile application.

Special emphasis was placed on practical exercises, including live demos, practice sessions on mobile app data entry, demand consolidation, and prioritization, enabling LRPs to gain confidence in using the digital platform. Through these training, LRPs were equipped with the knowledge, technical skills, and facilitation abilities required to effectively lead VPRP preparation processes at the Gram Panchayat level.



**Pictures: Block level LRP trainings on VPRP 2024-25 preparations**



### **16. Public Goods, Services, and Resource Development (PGSRD) preparation at the Gram Panchayat level**

The VPRP is the central activity under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, comprising four key plans, among which the Public Goods, Services, and Resource Development (PGSRD) plan is one of the important plans requiring field-level participation. The primary objective of the PGSRD planning exercise was to identify gaps in infrastructure, public services, and natural resource management at the Gram Panchayat level through a participatory mapping approach. This process aimed to promote inclusive, bottom-up planning, ensuring the active engagement of all community sections, with particular emphasis on women and marginalized groups.

## **Participatory Village Mapping Exercise**

The exercise of village mapping for PGSRD was conducted in 1,675 Gram Panchayats as part of the intervention from October 2024 to January 2025. Trained Local Resource Persons played a critical role in facilitating the mapping process. Prior to the exercise, LRPs held preparatory meetings with CBO members and PRI representatives to explain the objectives, gain support, and finalize schedules. On the day of the mapping, CBO members mobilized villagers, while PRI representatives provided logistical support, such as arranging venues and sharing existing village maps available. PRI members actively participated in facilitation, working alongside LRPs to ensure smooth and inclusive mapping. In the remaining GPs, the mapping exercises could not be conducted due to several reasons: some GPs lacked functional PRI bodies due to delayed elections, in some cases the GP leadership did not support the plan preparation, and in others, existing data from previous year's VPRP demands were already available. In those GPs, alternative measures were taken: discussions were held to identify new or pending demands.

A key highlight of the PGSRD process was the strong participation of women. Women came forward in large numbers, voicing their opinions and demands on public services, infrastructure, and development priorities. This showed the collective agency of women and promoted their active role in local governance. The mapping exercise was inclusive, involving a wide range of stakeholders: Gram Panchayat members, CBO representatives, frontline workers, community cadres, villagers, and even school students. This broad engagement helped capture diverse perspectives and community needs, ensuring that the planning process was representative and participatory.

At each GP, a visual village map was created using locally available materials such as rangoli powder, twigs, leaves, flowers, stones, and other natural resources. This creative approach facilitated easy understanding and engagement of all community members. The identified demands were documented and entered into a mobile application by LRPs for consolidation and further planning. Additionally, a hard copy of the demand list, stamped by the VO, accompanied with an acknowledgment receipt from the Gram Panchayat, was provided to the respective GPs. This dual documentation approach ensured systematic record-keeping, transparency, and easy follow-up of community demands in the VPRP process.

Overall, the PGSRD planning exercise effectively combined community participation, inclusive representation, and practical facilitation to ensure that the voice of the community, especially women and marginalized groups, was captured and integrated into the VPRP and GPDP. This process strengthened local ownership, participatory governance, and accountability in village development planning.



Pictures: Public Goods Services and Resource Development Plan and Social Development Pan Preparations across Gram Panchayats

### 17. Social Development Plan (SDP) Preparation

During the initial VO orientation sessions facilitated by LRPs, participants were introduced to the PRI-CBO Convergence Project and the VPRP framework. A focused session was conducted to explain the concept of the Social Development Plan (SDP). VOs were encouraged to identify and discuss one pressing social issue in their respective Gram Panchayats, and LRPs followed up with VOs to ensure the finalization of the issue for each GP, while providing guidance and support throughout the process.

The participatory SDP preparation was conducted across all Gram Panchayats in the intervention blocks, promoting inclusive, bottom-up planning to address key societal issues concerning the society. The primary objectives of SDP planning were to:

- Serve as a significant component of the VPRP, triggering awareness and leadership among VO members on social development issues.
- Engage PRI representatives and villagers in identifying, discussing, and addressing local social issues.

Following the identification of issues, VOs deliberated during their monthly meetings to prepare the SDP, outlining specific actions and community-led strategies to tackle the selected social issue. This process strengthened community ownership, collective problem-solving, and leadership among VO members, while ensuring the active involvement of local governance structures. The SDP preparation was successfully completed in all 2,598 VOs across the intervention areas, laying a strong foundation for community-driven social development interventions aligned with the VPRP framework.

Details of PGSRD and SDP plan preparations are as follows-

<b>S. N O</b>	<b>Name Of Districts</b>	<b>Name of the Blocks</b>	<b>Total no. of intervention GPs</b>	<b>Total no. of GPs completed PGSRD through Mapping</b>	<b>Total no. of GPs completed SDP Planning.</b>
1	Beed	Parali	86	86	86
		Ambejogai	100	96	100
2	Chandrapur	Mul	49	47	49
		Bhadravati	70	44	70
3	Dharashiv	Tuljapur	104	104	104
		Dharashiv	111	111	111
4	Gadchiroli	Dhanora	61	40	61
		Kurkheda	45	43	45
5	Gondia	Arjuni Morgaon	70	70	70
		Amgaon	57	57	57
6	Nashik	Igatpuri	95	82	95
		Trimbyak	84	64	84
7	Ratnagiri	Sangameshwar	126	71	126
		Ratnagiri	94	97	94

S. N O	Name Of Districts	Name of the Blocks	Total no. of intervention GPs	Total no. of GPs completed PGSRD through Mapping	Total no. of GPs completed SDP Planning.
8	Sindhudurg	Devgad	71	61	71
		Sawantwadi	62	51	62
9	Solapur	Dakshin Solapur	87	36	87
		Uttar Solapur	36	83	36
10	Thane	Murbad	126	100	126
		Shahapur	110	62	110
11	Wardha	Wardha	75	75	75
		Samudrapur	71	72	71
12	Yavatmal	Kalamb	60	60	60
		Ralegaon	73	63	73
<b>Total</b>			<b>1922</b>	<b>1675</b>	<b>1922</b>

Table: Details of PGSRD and SDP plan preparations are as follows

#### 18. VPRP Preparations through Mobile Application by LRPs

In the Immersion Blocks, Mentors provided hands-on guidance to DRPs, BRPs, and LRPs, demonstrating activities such as community mobilization, facilitation of CBO meetings, and demand collection in selected Gram Panchayats. This approach allowed DRP, BRPs and LRPs to observe, learn, and internalize the facilitation process before replicating these activities independently in other Gram Panchayats and Blocks. Mentors continued to provide handholding support during this replication phase to ensure quality and consistency.

Across all intervention areas, field-level facilitation of VPRP preparation was led by LRPs under the guidance of DRPs and BRPs. LRPs engaged extensively with SHG

members and the community to identify entitlements and livelihood-related demands, which were subsequently entered into the mobile application. The Kudumbashree NRO team ensured that the process remained participatory, community-driven, and aligned with the principles of convergence, reinforcing inclusive planning at every stage.

The VPRP preparation process faced several challenges:

- Some LRPs encountered technical difficulties with the mobile application, while others struggled due to low digital literacy.
- In areas with poor network connectivity, data entry was delayed.
- A few LRPs showed limited engagement or responsiveness, impacting the speed and quality of data collection in some Gram Panchayats.

Despite these challenges, a majority of cadres successfully mobilized the community, collected relevant demands, and completed submissions from September 2024 to January 2025 through the mobile app. To maintain momentum and ensure quality, the Kudumbashree NRO team provided continuous monitoring and support at all levels from national to district. This included field visits, regular check-ins, and follow-up calls, which helped resolve technical issues, motivate LRPs, and keep the process on track. The active mentoring and handholding ensured that the VPRP preparation remained participatory, systematic, and aligned with the project's objectives, ultimately strengthening community ownership and effective convergence with local governance.

#### **19. LRP Training on GPDP, Functional Committees, and Gram Sabhas**

A one-day block-level training on GPDP, GPPFT, and Gram Sabha processes was conducted for Local Resource Persons across all 24 intervention blocks in January 2025. The training aimed to strengthen LRPs' understanding of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) preparation process and their role in supporting effective and inclusive village-level planning. The training focused on key aspects of GPDP, including the structure and responsibilities of functional committees, particularly the Gram Panchayat Planning Facilitation Team (GPPFT), the process of GPDP preparation, sources and utilization of Panchayat funds, and the importance of conducting Gram Sabhas. Emphasis was placed on clarifying how community priorities, especially those emerging from the VPRP, could be formally presented and integrated into the GPDP through the Gram Sabha.

A core objective of the training was to equip LRPs to mobilise communities for Gram Sabha participation through Village Organisations (VOs). LRPs were oriented on practical mobilisation strategies, such as door-to-door outreach, VO meetings, focused-group discussions with SHG members, and coordination with PRI representatives, to ensure wide and inclusive participation in Gram Sabhas. Special attention was given to preparing communities to present and submit VPRP plans in the Gram Sabha scheduled

around 26th January, ensuring that community demands were formally recorded and considered in the GPDP. Through this training, LRPs were empowered to act as key facilitators and mobilisers, enabling CBOs to engage effectively with PRIs, strengthen community participation in Gram Sabhas, and support the systematic integration of VPRP priorities into the GPDP, thereby reinforcing participatory and accountable local governance.

## 20. Training on Gram Sabha for CLFs and VOs

Training sessions on the Gram Sabha were conducted for Cluster Level Federations and Village Organisations across all intervention areas to strengthen their understanding and active engagement in local governance and participatory planning. The training aimed to build clarity among CBO leaders on the GPDP preparation and importance of



Pictures: LRP Training on GPDP, Functional Committees, and Gram Sabhas mobilisation



the Gram Sabha as a constitutional platform, their roles in mobilising communities, and the processes through which community demands can be formally raised and addressed.

The sessions covered key aspects such as the GPRP preparations, purpose and significance of the Gram Sabha, roles and responsibilities of citizens, PRIs, CLFs, and VOs, and the procedures for presenting VPRP demands and integrating them into the GPDP. Emphasis was placed on practical strategies for mobilisation, including coordination with LRPs, door-to-door outreach, use of VO and CLF meetings for awareness generation, and inclusive participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups.

Interactive discussions, experience sharing, and real-life examples from the field were used to help participants understand how CLFs and VOs can act as mobilisers, facilitators, and advocates in Gram Sabha processes. The training focused on pre-Gram Sabha preparation, such as consolidating demands, prioritizing issues, and supporting effective participation during the meetings. In total, 148 CLFs and 2,598 VOs were covered through these training sessions. The sessions significantly enhanced the confidence, preparedness, and leadership of CBO members, enabling them to play a proactive role in mobilising communities, ensuring meaningful participation in Gram Sabhas, and strengthening inclusive and accountable local governance.



Pictures: Training on Gram Sabha for CLFs and VOs

## 21. Gram Sabha Mobilisation

To ensure wide participation in Gram Sabhas, encourage citizens to voice their demands, and strengthen awareness of civic rights and responsibilities, VOs, with the support of LRPs, implemented several innovative and community-friendly mobilisation strategies across intervention Gram Panchayats. LRPs and VO members organized rallies with posters and slogans, creatively conveying messages on the importance of Gram Sabha participation. Schoolchildren were actively involved in these rallies, adding visibility and generating enthusiasm within the community. To further strengthen civic awareness, skits and street plays focusing on civic literacy, rights, and entitlements were performed in public spaces, making the messages accessible and engaging for all sections of society.

In many Panchayats, door-to-door mobilisation was undertaken to personally invite households to the Gram Sabha. Special efforts were made to reach vulnerable and poor households, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups, ensuring that no one was left out of the planning process. Youth clubs were engaged to motivate young people to participate actively, while selfie points were set up in selected Panchayats to attract attention and create excitement, particularly among youth and first-time participants.

These collective and well-coordinated efforts led to a significant increase in Gram Sabha attendance, with a notable rise in the participation of SHG women during the Gram Sabhas held on January 26, 2025. The mobilisation directly contributed to the successful preparation of the GPDP, ensuring that community priorities were formally discussed and recorded. A key outcome of this initiative was the organisation of Mahila Sabhas prior to the main Gram Sabhas in several Panchayats. In these Mahila Sabhas, women participated in large numbers and confidently articulated their issues and demands, reflecting enhanced awareness, leadership, and ownership of local governance processes.

Overall, the Gram Sabha mobilisation by VOs emerged as a highly effective and impactful activity, strengthening inclusive participation, gender-responsive planning, and community ownership. It reinforced the role of CBOs as active partners in governance and marked a significant step toward vibrant, participatory, and accountable local self-governance.





Pictures: Gram Sabha Mobilisation Activities across Gram Panchayats for the 26 January 2025 Gram Sabha

## 22. VPRP Presentation and Submission in Gram Sabha

With a strong emphasis on ensuring that community priorities were formally placed before the Gram Sabha, VO members actively led the presentation and submission of demands outlined in the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP). Prior to the Gram Sabhas, VO members, with the support of LRPs, systematically consolidated and prioritised key demands and prepared chart papers, written representations, and covering letters to present them clearly and confidently. A consultative meeting with the PRI members was held to include the VPRP presentation and submission agenda in the coming gram sabha.

During the Gram Sabha meetings, VO members took the lead in presenting the VPRP demands, supported by LRPs. This process marked a significant milestone in the project, as many SHG women and VO representatives spoke publicly and raised community demands in front of large gatherings and PRI representatives for the first time. The visible confidence, collective strength, and sense of ownership displayed by the members reflected a meaningful shift in terms of participation and empowerment. Members expressed pride in being recognised as active contributors to the village planning process rather than being mere spectators and passive beneficiaries. By February 2025, VPRP plans were formally submitted in 1,922 Gram Panchayats, with acknowledgements obtained through official signatures and seals from the concerned Gram Panchayats. In most Panchayats, PRI members openly appreciated the efforts of SHG women and CBOs and assured them that the demands presented through the VPRP would be considered and integrated into the GPDP, based on feasibility and availability of resources.

This process strengthened the convergence between the PRIs and CBOs. It enhanced mutual trust, and reinforced the role of community institutions in local governance. The formal acceptance of VPRP submissions in the Gram Sabha not only validated the collective efforts of VO members but also established a strong foundation for follow-up, accountability, and continued community engagement in village development planning.



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**मावळणी येथे ग्रामसभा उत्साहात**  
 केरळ येथील चमुने घेतली भेट ; ग्रामसभेत सेल्फी पॉइंट टरला आकर्षक

कळंब, (ता. प्र.). कळंब तालुक्यातील मावळणी येथे ग्रामसभा आयोजित करण्यात आली होती. याप्रसंगी केरळ येथील चमुने या गावाची भेट घेतली. याच ग्रामसभेतील महिलांसाठी सेल्फी पॉइंटसुद्धा आकर्षणाचा विषय ठरला. ग्रामसभा सरपंच दीपाली जामुनकर यांच्या अध्यक्षतेखाली पार पडली. यावेळी ग्रामसभेत आधी उरलेले विषय तसेच उमेद राज्य ग्रामीण आजीविका अभियान





Pictures: Presentation and Submission of VPRP 2024-25 during the 26 January 2025 Gram Sabha

### **23. Stakeholder Visit to the Yavatmal District under PRI-CBO Convergence Project**

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project in Maharashtra, the team of Kudumbashree NRO and NMMU conducted field visits from 24 to 27 January 2025 to Kalamb and Ralegaon Blocks of Yavatmal District. The primary objective of the visit was to closely understand the on-ground implementation of project activities and to assess the level of engagement, coordination, and response of key stakeholders, including PRI members, CBO institutions, and project cadres.

During the visit, interactions were held with officials, CLF and VO representatives, PRI members, and field cadres. Stakeholders enthusiastically shared their experiences and reflections on the project. The discussions highlighted a growing confidence within the community to work closely with Gram Panchayats, a visible increase in women's participation in Gram Sabhas, and a strong sense of community ownership over the convergence process. On 26 January 2025, the team also attended the Gram Sabha held at Mavalani Gram Panchayat of Kalamb Block, which provided first-hand exposure to the active participation of community members, especially women, and the presentation of VPRP-related demands.

VO representatives reaffirmed that VPRP demands were regularly submitted to the Gram Panchayats, with consistent follow-up undertaken at the local level. The visit provided insights into operational challenges while clearly demonstrating the positive impact of the project on participatory planning and women's leadership.



Pictures: Snapshots from the NMMU and Kudumbashree NRO Team Visit to Yavatmal District under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project

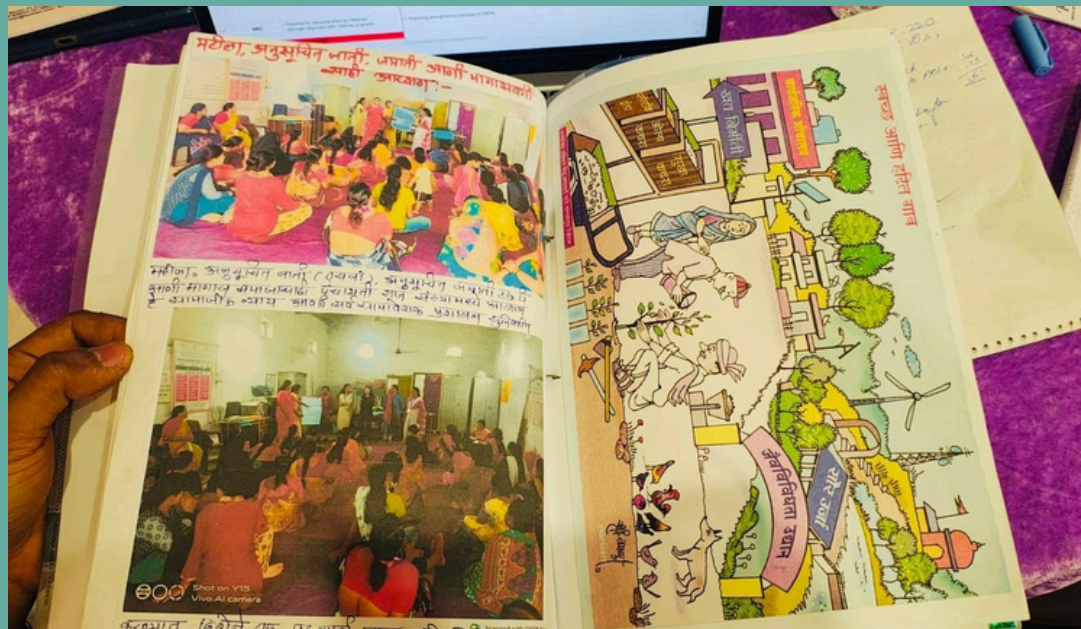
#### 24. State-Level Joint Review Meeting on PRI-CBO Convergence Project

A state-level joint review meeting was conducted on 29th-30th of January 2025 at CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai, with the participation of SMMU staff, DM-IBCB, BM-IBCB, DRPs, BRPs, Kudumbashree NRO Mentors and Professionals. The meeting was led by the Deputy Director, Umed-MSRLM, and facilitated by the State Mission Manager (SIIB).

The review focused on assessing the overall progress of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. All 12 districts presented detailed PPTs outlining the status of activities, progress of VPRP preparation and submission, innovative practices adopted at the district and block levels, and key challenges faced during implementation. The progress of VPRP integration was critically reviewed, and constructive feedback was provided to districts to strengthen execution and address gaps. The discussions were comprehensive and solution-oriented, offering valuable insights into block-level realities, which helped align future actions to accelerate progress on the ground.

Following the state-level review, an internal meeting between the Umed-MSRLM and Kudumbashree NRO team was held on 30th of January, 2025. This meeting focused on strategic planning aspects, including Phase I timeline finalisation, FY 2025-26 phasing-out plans, and proposed project amendments. The discussions helped strengthen coordination between the teams and provided clarity on the way forward for effective project closure and transitioning. Overall, the field visits and review meetings played a critical role in reinforcing convergence efforts, identifying implementation strengths and challenges, and setting a clear, coordinated roadmap for the next phase of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project in Maharashtra.





Pictures: A State-Level Joint Review Meeting was conducted on 29-30 January 2025 at CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai.

## 25. Coordination Committee Meetings / Line Department Orientations

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, institutional platforms for convergence were established at the State, District, and Block levels to strengthen coordination among line departments and enable a coordinated response to the demands emerging from the Village Prosperity Resilience Plans (VPRPs).

Accordingly, State-Level, District-Level, and Block-Level Coordination Committees (SLCCs, DLCCs, and BLCCs) were constituted during the project period. The SLCC was formally constituted with representation from key state-level line departments to provide strategic guidance and policy-level convergence. However, due to administrative and scheduling constraints, the SLCC meeting could not be conducted within the project timeline. The SLCC meeting was proposed to be taken up in the coming period to further strengthen state-level convergence and oversight.

At the District and Block levels, DLCCs and BLCCs were constituted to operationalise convergence on the ground. The District-Level Coordination Committees (DLCCs) were chaired by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Project Director (PD), Zilla Parishad. Members of the DLCCs included district-level officers such as the District Agriculture Officer, District Health Officer, District Programme Officer (Women and Child Development), District Social Welfare Officer, Executive Engineer (Water and Sanitation), Education Officer, and officials from other relevant line departments.

The Block-Level Coordination Committees (BLCCs) were chaired by the Block Development Officer (BDO). Members included block-level functionaries such as Block Agriculture Officer, Block Medical Officer, Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), Block Education Officer, Junior Engineer (Rural Water Supply and Sanitation), Block Social Welfare Officer, and representatives from other concerned departments.

As part of the project implementation, the first round of Coordination Committee meetings, also referred to as Line Department Orientations, was conducted across project districts and blocks. As of November 2025, these orientations were successfully organised in 8 districts (district-level orientations) and 22 blocks (block-level orientations). The remaining district and block-level orientations could not be conducted during the project period due to administrative reasons. Through these meetings, 132 district-level line department officials participated in district-level orientations, while 344 block-level officials were oriented through BLCC meetings. These orientations helped strengthen inter-departmental understanding and coordination for effective convergence around VPRP priorities.



The Coordination Committee meetings served as an important platform for inter-departmental dialogue and cross-learning. A detailed presentation was shared during the meetings, covering the objectives of the Coordination Committees, an overview of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, the VPRP preparation process, and an analysis of key community demands emerging from the plans. Participating departments shared information on relevant government schemes, programmes, and services that could be aligned with VPRP demands. Overall, the establishment and functioning of the Coordination Committees laid a strong institutional foundation for convergence, strengthened collaboration between government departments and community institutions, and created an enabling framework for addressing VPRP priorities through existing government schemes and services.



Pictures: District and Block-Level Coordination Committee Meetings and Line Department Orientations on PRI-CBO Convergence and VPRP



## 26. Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP 2024-25) Follow up and Achievements

To fulfill the demands raised in the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP) of FY 2024-25 by CBO members, consistent efforts across quarters were made to ensure convergence with the Gram Panchayat and concerned line departments. The information and support shared by departments in the coordination committee meetings are being systematically utilized to drive materialisation efforts, ensuring targeted and efficient implementation of key initiatives.

### Entitlement

- For entitlement-related demands (such as Aadhar, Eshram cards, health schemes, etc.), convergence camps were organized in collaboration with the Gram Panchayat and line departments. In these camps:
- The Gram Panchayat provided official communication and logistical support.
- Community-Based Organizations facilitated community mobilization, ensured the presence of eligible beneficiaries, and provided human resource support for camp facilitation. Lunch and refreshments were arranged for the participants at the venue.
- Line departments extended full cooperation by deputing officials to the camps, delivering services on the spot.

These joint efforts led to the on-the-ground delivery of entitlements and resolution of community issues effectively and transparently. Between December 2024 to November 2025, a total of 1480 Convergence Camps were organized across various Gram Panchayats in the intervention area, directly benefiting 59,424 people. These camps served as a platform where community members could access multiple services and schemes in one place, making it easier for them to receive timely support. In retrospect, the outcomes observed during the project timeline were linked to the ongoing Samruddha Panchayat Abhiyan. One of the key objectives of the Abhiyan was to ensure that the maximum number of people receive their entitlements on time. In order to achieve this, local cadres and VO members worked very closely with the Gram Panchayats and actively supported them in planning, organizing, and conducting these convergence camps. This close coordination with the PRIs was beneficial in reaching more beneficiaries. Overall, the Convergence Camps not only brought essential entitlements and livelihood services closer to people but created a strong platform for addressing social concerns of the community.

The details of these achievements are given below-

### Consolidated VPRP Achievement during December 2024 to November 2025

I) Entitlement		Dec 2024- Nov 2025	
Sr. No.	Name of the Activity	No. Of GPs	No. Of Beneficiaries
1	Convergence Camp (Health Department, Agriculture Department, Women and Child Development department, Social Welfare department, Banks, Police Department, Panchayat Raj Department, MSME department, Animal Husbandry department etc.)	1480 (Consolidated number GPs where conducted the camp)	59424 (Consolidated number from Camps)
2	Kisan Card Enrollment	555	7068
3	Job Card	984	19744
4	PMSBY Enrollments	1358	22350
5	PMJJBY Enrollments	1122	20727
6	Caste Certificate	126	664
7	Income Certificate	23	715
8	Ration Card	664	4694
9	Abha Card	580	8229
10	Ayushman Card	1090	26829
11	Udyam Adhar	764	5590
12	Kamgar Yogana	146	2687
13	Disability Pension	231	604
14	Widow Pension	299	1166
15	Ujwala Gas	140	6952
16	Vayovandan Yojana	66	348
17	Dustbin	583	7327

Table 03: VPRP Achievement consolidated details

# Impact Theme 2: Bringing Entitlements and Services to the Doorstep







Convergence Camps brought together the Gram Panchayat, CBOs, and multiple government departments to deliver services directly to the community.

**1,480**  
Convergence Camps

**59,424**  
People Benefited

**21**  
Line Departments Participated



-  **26,829** individuals received **Ayushman Health Cards**.
-  **22,350** individuals enrolled in **PMSBY Insurance**.
-  **19,744** individuals received **MGNREGA Job Cards**.
-  **18,226** individuals attended **Livelihood Training Sessions**.
-  **6,952** households received **Ujwala Gas Connections**.
-  **7,068** farmers received **Kisan Credit Cards**.

The first camp in Kosombi, Chandrapur, reached over 180 villagers, detecting undiagnosed health issues and serving as a model that scaled statewide.

NotebookLM

Picture: Impact of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project showcased through an infographic highlighting improved service delivery.

*Data Source Note: Data has been compiled from DRP and BRP reports submitted to Mentor Resource Persons and consolidated at the State level. The same data was shared by field teams with district and block officials based on field movement registers. No external database was used; all information is drawn from field-level reporting under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project.*





Time: 08-03-2025 13:39  
Note: PRI-CBOConvarganceअंतर्गत जागतिक महिला दिनानिमित्त आरोग्य शिबिर





Pictures: Convergence camp conducted across blocks for entitlement related services

## B. Livelihoods

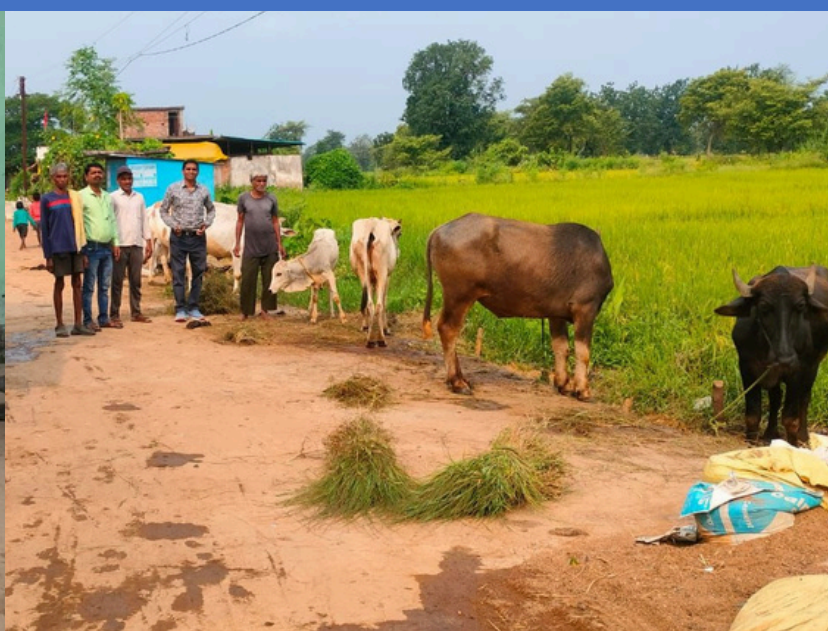
In addition to entitlement-based services, different line departments such as Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Rural Self Employment Training Institute (RSETI) and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) have actively participated in the convergence process to extend livelihood-related support to the rural population. Farmers were a major target group for our project, and successfully received a wide range of benefits. These included the provision of agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilisers, and bio-fertilisers, as well as demonstrations on improved cultivation practices.

Technical sessions were conducted on topics such as crop diversification, organic farming, horticulture development, fodder management, and animal health care. Many farmers were linked with schemes providing credit facilities, subsidies, and training opportunities, thereby enabling them to adopt improved technologies and increase their productivity. Entrepreneurial individuals were connected to RSETI and MSME initiatives, giving them access to skill training, business planning support, and financial linkages for small enterprises. Such interventions were expected to create sustainable livelihood opportunities and enhance income security for rural households.

<b>(II) Livelihoods</b>			
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name of the Activity</b>	<b>No. Of GPs</b>	<b>No. Of Beneficiaries</b>
1	Distribution of farm equipments	359	4624
2	Livelihoods training by departments	1217	18226
3	Farmer ID	1217	2984
4	Egram card	1217	9069
5	Vaccination to Goat	1217	12874
6	Cow Shelter	1217	193

Table 04: VPRP Livelihoods component achievement consolidated details

*Data Source Note: Data has been compiled from DRP and BRP reports, verified by Mentor Resource Persons (MRPs) and approved by BMMU & DMMU.*





Pictures: Animal Vaccination in Gram Panchayat level camp



Powered by NoteCam

Power



Latitude: 20.090911  
Longitude: 79.73679  
Elevation: 199 55+3 58 m



Picture: Farm-based training sessions and agricultural services provided by the Agriculture Department across various intervention districts





Pictures: Distribution of livelihood-related equipment by line departments as part of convergence initiatives at the field level.

### C. Social Development Plan (SDP)

Apart from the initiatives undertaken under the project for supporting livelihood, several social development programs were conducted in the Gram Panchayats, spearheaded by CLF and VO members. These programs were put together with intention, guided by the issues that emerged during the VPRP process. Some of the pressing issues included child marriage, lack of awareness among adolescents about health and education, increasing misuse of mobile phones among youth, poor sanitation practices, and other health-related challenges faced by the community.

To address these issues, awareness campaigns and educational sessions were organized in collaboration with the Gram Panchayat and relevant line departments such as Health, Education, and Women & Child Development. For example, sessions on the prevention of child marriage highlighted the legal, social, and health implications of early marriage, while programs for adolescents focused on reproductive health, life skills, and career awareness. Campaigns on mobile misuse encouraged responsible use of technology, digital safety, and the importance of balancing studies and social media. On the sanitation and health front, community drives were conducted to promote use of toilets, safe drinking water practices, personal hygiene, menstrual hygiene awareness, and preventive health care.

These social development initiatives went beyond spreading awareness. It encouraged community dialogue, participation of youth and women, and collective action to find local solutions. As a result, many community members became conscious of these persistent issues, and the programs pushed to bring about a gradual shift in attitudes and practices.

(III) Social Development activities			
Sr. No.	Name of the Activity	No. Of GPs/	No. Of Beneficiaries
1	Adult Literacy classes	1158 classes	9813
2	Balsabha formations	1572 (Balsabhas Formed)	30927
3	Karate Class	18	374
4	Cyber Crime awareness program in convergence with Police department	579	14234
5	Adolescent Awareness Club formation	618	11328
6	Cleaning drives	984	25440
7	Awareness programme against child marriage	245	5563
8	Adolescent Girls Awareness Programme	204	5100
9	Sanitation awareness programme	463	14666

Table 05: VPRP SDP component achievement consolidated details

*Data Source Note: Data has been compiled from DRP and BRP reports submitted to Mentor Resource Persons and consolidated at the State level. The same data was shared by field teams with district and block officials based on field movement registers. No external database was used; all information is drawn from field-level reporting under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project.*

- **Women’s Safety Audit - Sawantwadi Block, Sindhudurg District**

The Women’s Safety Audit conducted in Sawantwadi Block as part of the social development initiative in convergence with the Maharashtra Stree Mukti Parishad provided an important opportunity to view public transport spaces through a gender-sensitive lens. The collective involvement of PRI representatives and Community-Based Organisation members, along with the Mahila Parishad audit team, reinforced the value of participatory approaches in understanding safety beyond infrastructure alone.

An audit conducted at a railway station and bus stand revealed how women’s experiences of safety differ with time, lighting, crowd presence, and monitoring

arrangements. Interactions with rickshaw drivers, vendors, passengers, and the Senior Commercial Supervisor, Mr. Madhukar Matondkar, disclosed practical concerns and everyday realities that are often overlooked in routine assessments. The audit brought into attention several gaps in facilities, accessibility, and safety measures, particularly those affecting women, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities.

This endeavour was equally significant for the PRI and CBO members, who realised the need for gender-sensitive planning that should be integrated into public service delivery. The preparation and submission of the audit report to the concerned department and the Hon'ble Minister marked an important step in translating community observations into formal recommendations. The audit reaffirmed that women's safety in public spaces required continuous attention, coordination across institutions, and sustained follow-up to ensure that identified concerns lead to meaningful improvements on the ground.

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## सावंतवाडी रेल्वे स्थानकावर महिला सुरक्षतेसाठी सेफ्टी ऑडिट संपन्न

युवा कोकण / सावंतवाडी - महिलांना सुरक्षित प्रवासाचे वातावरण मिळावे या उद्देशाने महाराष्ट्र राज्य ग्रामीण जीवनोन्नती अभियान आणि PRI -CBO कन्वर्जंस प्रोजेक्ट अंतर्गत महाराष्ट्र सी मुक्ती परिषदेने रविवार २९ जून रोजी सावंतवाडी रेल्वे स्थानकावर महिलांच्या सुरक्षिततेबाबत विशेष सेफ्टी ऑडिट ( सुरक्षा पडताळणी ) कार्यक्रमाचे आयोजन केले होते. हे महत्त्वपूर्ण अभियान सकाळी आणि रात्री अशा दोन सत्रात राबवण्यात आले. या सेफ्टी ऑडिटमध्ये रेल्वे स्थानकावरील विविध पैलूंची बारकाईने तपासणी करण्यात आली. शिक्षायालक कामगार प्रवासी दुकानदार यांच्याशी संवाद साधण्यात आला. तसेच चरित्र वाणिज्य पर्यवेक्षक मधुकर मालोडकर यांच्याशी विशेष चर्चा करण्यात आली. सुरक्षिततेच्या दृष्टीने महत्त्वाच्या असलेल्या भिंतीवरील सूचना फलक सीलीटीव्ही कॅमेरे प्रसाधनगृह वॉजिंग रूम जनरल वॉइटिंग रूम पिण्याच्या पाण्याची सोय आणि रेल्वे ट्रॅकवरील स्वच्छतेची प्रत्यक्ष पाहणी करण्यात आली. यावेळी श्री सिद्धेश्वर ग्रामोत्कर्ष मंडळ तळवडे ( NGO ) संस्थेचे संचालक नारायण परब केरळच्या कुर्दुब मॅटर गिरीजा DRP श्रावणी वेटे LRP चैतली गावडे परी ग्रामसंघ सचिव सी. वैष्णवी कोषाध्यक्ष रसिक पारकर CRP बागवळ आणि नव संजीवनी आरोगी बांदिवडेकर तसेच CRP सी. राधिका यांच्यासह अनेक मान्यवर उपस्थित होते. महिलांच्या सुरक्षिततेसाठी अशा प्रकारच्या उपक्रमांची गरज अधोरेखित झाली असून भविष्यातही असे उपक्रम राबविण्याचे आश्चर्यन अभियोजकांनी वक्त.

सावंतवाडी रेल्वे स्थानकावर महिला सुरक्षतेसाठी सेफ्टी ऑडिट संपन्न



Pictures: Women's Safety Audit field snippets and newspaper clipping reporting on the initiative.



Galaxy S23 Ultra



Pictures: Adult Literacy Classes being conducted across various blocks, promoting basic literacy among community members.



vivo V40 | ZEISS  
02/23/2025, 10:43



Pictures: Bal Sabha meetings conducted across various blocks



## बालसभेत तहसीलदार बनले कवी

पाडलोसमध्ये आयोजन : गोष्टी सांगत जिंकली मने; केरळातीलही मान्यवर उपस्थित



असा नैतिक विचार गावचे, अंगणवाडी सेविका रुद्रा कुकर, पालक अर्पिता गावडे, केरळ येथील मेरू निरिंका संगीत, उमेद प्रभाकर बालसभेच्या प्रिंसीपल मुद्राकर, पाडलोस विद्यापीठातून साह्याद्री सोमावतीचे वार्डन वैभवराव विठ्ठल नाईक, माजी संघालक आनंद कुमल आदी उपस्थित होते. साह्याद्री तालुक्यात

### पाडलोसचे केरळमध्ये जातूक

बालसभेच्या पाडलोसच्या विद्यार्थ्यांनी एकाही बाबी सादर करावी होती. त्याच पाठ्यावर केरळमध्ये आता केले जाणारे काम आहे. या कुलीन राज्यात केरळमध्ये देव पाडलोस ओम गणेश बालसभेचे केरळमध्ये सोदाय खंडीकर बोकुल करवून आल्याचे निरिंका संगीत यांनी सांगितले.

पंचांग राज संघ आता मुद्राकर अर्पिता संगीत अंशुला ओम गणेश बालसभेचे अंशुला कुकर यांनी केले. प्रशासिक नेत्र नाईक यांनी हा आचार सोबत गावडे यांनी केले.

Sindhudurg Edition

## पाडलोस बालसभेत विद्यार्थ्यांनी मांडली एसटीची समस्या

मुद्रा : पुढारी वृत्तसेवा

मुद्रा हायस्कूलमध्ये जगाच्या विद्यार्थ्यांना गेले अनेक दिवस अनिश्चित एसटीचा फटका बसत आहे. देव दिवाळीपूर्वी नेमण्याचा फरक नसल्यामुळे विद्यार्थ्यांनी मोठ्या निमित्ताने शाळातून विद्यार्थ्यांनी सांगितले. आज साह्याद्रीच्या विद्यार्थ्यांनी एसटी कमी, अशी मागणी उपस्थित घेतली होती.

पाडलोस - देऊळवाडी येथे पंचांग राज संघ आता मुद्राकर अर्पिता संगीत अंशुला ओम गणेश बालसभेचे अंशुला कुकर यांनी केले. पाडलोस विद्यापीठातून साह्याद्री सोमावतीचे वार्डन वैभवराव विठ्ठल नाईक, माजी संघालक आनंद कुमल आदी उपस्थित होते. साह्याद्री तालुक्यात



पाडलोस : ओम गणेश बालसभेस गावडतील उपस्थित भूषे.

### एसटीचा नेमका मार्ग कोणता?

नेवरी साह्याद्री पाडलोस मार्ग साह्याद्री असा फरक असल्याची एसटी बस नेवरी येते. पंतू देव दिवाळीपूर्वी साह्याद्री -बांदा निगुडे गावठेचे असा बॉर्डर असल्याची एसटी आल्याने विद्यार्थ्यांचा गोंधळ उडाला. भूपर म्हणजे ही एसटी त्या मार्ग न जगा पाडलोस मार्ग पुढे रवाना झाली होती, असे विद्यार्थ्यांनी सांगितले.

निष्पत्ती माहिती, मोबाइलचे पॅरिअम, 'यूटू टव-वॉड टव' चा संदर्भित विचार गावडे व नेत्र नाईक यांनी माहिती दिली. हा प्रत्येक महिन्याच्या पहिल्या दिवशी बालसभा अखंडित करवून

वेळार असल्याचे सोबत गावडे यांनी सांगितले. बाल सभेचे सुरुवातीला मांडली गावडे यांनी हा सारिका गावडे यांनी प्रशासिक केले. त्याची माहिती

## प्रत्येक गावामध्ये बालसभा व्हाव्यात

तहसीलदार श्रीधर पाटील : पाडलोसमध्ये ओम गणेश बालसभेस सदिच्छा भेट

मुद्रा : पुढारी वृत्तसेवा

पाडलोस गावडतील मुले एका पेडन 'ओम गणेश बालसभा' हा पंचांग राज संघ राबवत आहेत. पहिल्यांदाच अशी बालसभा मोठ्या आठ, अक्षय्यांच्या आठवड्यात राबवण्यात येणारी आहे. असे उद्गार साह्याद्री तहसीलदार श्रीधर पाटील यांनी काढले.



पाडलोस : ओम गणेश बालसभेच्या सदस्यांसमवेत साह्याद्री तहसीलदार श्रीधर पाटील. सोबत उदयराव गनु ग्रेटकर, पालक, प्रभव आदी.

पाडलोस-देऊळवाडी येथे पंचांग राज संघ आता मुद्राकर अर्पिता संगीत अंशुला ओम गणेश बालसभेचे अंशुला कुकर यांनी केले. पाडलोस विद्यापीठातून साह्याद्री सोमावतीचे वार्डन वैभवराव विठ्ठल नाईक, माजी संघालक आनंद कुमल आदी उपस्थित होते. साह्याद्री तालुक्यात

उदयराव गनु ग्रेटकर, माझेवा प्रभा बालसभेचे प्रिंसीपल मुद्राकर, पाडलोस ही त्याची सारण तालुक्यात अर्थव्यवस्था सुट्टी सोबत गावडे, जिला पहिले जगा नं. १ वर अर्थव्यवस्था देऊन गावडे, पाडलोस साह्याद्री सोमावती वार्डन वैभवराव विठ्ठल नाईक, उदयराव विठ्ठल नाईक, आशासिका विद्या गावडे, पालक

हा काही विद्यार्थ्यांनी संघकाळातून येथे एसटीचा फरक वेगळ्या असल्याचे सांगितले. आशासिका विद्या गावडे यांनी आरंभ विषय माहिती दिली.

सुरुवातीला सोबत गावडे यांनी केले. प्रशासिक मुद्रा कुकर यांनी केले बालसभेचे मान्य सांगितले. नेत्र नाईक यांनी मंत्री दिवाळीतून मार्गदर्शन करत आपण मान्य. मी पुढार घेईन!

तहसीलदार श्रीधर पाटील यांनी केले. प्रशासिक मुद्रा कुकर यांनी केले बालसभेचे मान्य सांगितले. नेत्र नाईक यांनी मंत्री दिवाळीतून मार्गदर्शन करत आपण मान्य. मी पुढार घेईन!

## Note on Newspaper cutting: Bal Sabha Activities in Padlos, Sawantwadi Block, Sindhudurg District

A series of activities under Bal Sabha (Children's Assembly) were organised in Padlos village, Deogad Taluka, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra, under the initiative "Om Ganesh Bal Sabha." These activities received coverage in the Pudhari newspaper at different points during 2025, highlighting the growing participation of children in village-level platforms. The newspaper reports noted that children participating in the Bal Sabha voiced their concerns, including challenges related to access to school facilities and public services. Through the Bal Sabha, children were provided a platform to collectively express their concerns and share their views in a structured manner. One of the reports highlighted that Bal Sabha meetings were organised regularly, with active participation of children, Anganwadi workers, community members, and representatives of local institutions. The Bal Sabhas focused on health awareness, education, good habits, and responsible use of mobile phones, focusing on issues that are relevant to the daily lives of children.

The coverage further mentioned the presence of the Tahsildar of Deogad, who interacted with the children during a Bal Sabha session. In this interaction, children were encouraged to speak confidently, think creatively, and express their opinions openly. In one instance, children symbolically took on leadership roles during the Bal Sabha, which helped them gain a deeper understanding of local governance and administrative processes. The Tahsildar stated that every Gram Panchayat should have an active Bal Sabha to ensure children's participation and to provide them with a platform to express their views and concerns. Another report highlighted the expansion of Bal Sabha initiatives across villages in the taluka, with Padlos serving as a model example. Cultural activities, group discussions, and collective learning exercises were conducted to make the Bal Sabha engaging and meaningful for children of different age groups.

Overall, the newspaper coverage reflects that the Bal Sabha in Padlos had emerged as a participatory platform, enabling children to voice their issues, learn about civic responsibilities, and engage with local administration and community structures in a supportive environment.



Picture: Adolescent awareness sessions on Menstrual Hygiene, Personal Safety, and Personality Development



Picture: Village Organisation members leading cleanliness drives in public spaces, actively joined by community members



Pictures: Joint Shramdan (Collective Voluntary Service) activity carried out by PRI and CBO members under the Samruddha Panchayat Raj Abhiyan in intervention Gram Panchayats.



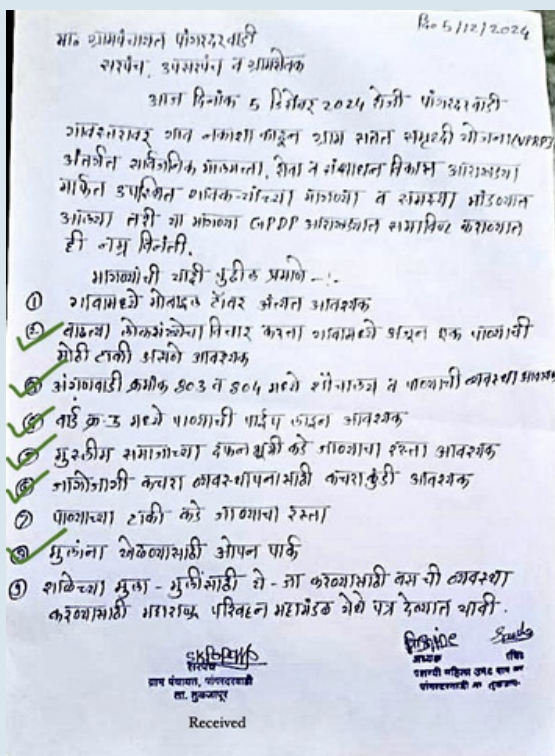
#### D. Public Goods Services and Resource Development Plan (PGSRD)

The planning exercise for PGSRD was undertaken across intervention GPs to identify gaps in infrastructure, services, and natural resources through participatory village mapping. A highlight of the process was the active participation of women and marginalized groups, who voiced their priorities on public services, infrastructure, and areas of development. This ensured that the planning process was reflective of the collective voice of the community. Through the PGSRD planning exercise, a wide range of community-level demands were identified across Gram Panchayats.

These demands were consolidated into structured demand plans, prepared in hard copy with clear prioritisation carried out by the community members. The demand plans were formally submitted with signatures and official stamps of the Gram Panchayat and the Village Organisation (VO), ensuring institutional validation and ownership.

The finalised PGSRD demand plans were submitted to the respective Gram Panchayats, with copies retained at the VO level to facilitate systematic follow-up. Following the Gram Sabha held on 26 January 2025, Local Resource Persons (LRPs) actively engaged with Gram Panchayat officials to track the status of these demands. LRP accessed the approved Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP) for 2025 through the E-Gram Swaraj Portal and verified the extent to which VPRP and PGSRD demands had been incorporated.

In the immersion blocks, LRPs worked closely with Gram Panchayats to review the approved GPDPs and assessed demand integration. This verification process confirmed that a majority of the PGSRD demands raised through the VPRP process were successfully integrated into the GPDP. This systematic follow-up strengthened accountability, ensured alignment between community priorities and Panchayat planning, and reinforced the role of CBOs in influencing formal planning and budgeting processes at the Gram Panchayat level.



ग्रामपंचायत कार्यालय, पांगरदरवाडी ता. तुळजापूर जि. धाराशिव  
आमचा गाव आमचा विकास (GPDP) अंतर्गत

लोकसंख्या: 1926  
SC- 85

TIED	715,180.00
UNTIED	476,780.00
<b>GRANT TOTAL</b>	<b>1,191,960.00</b>

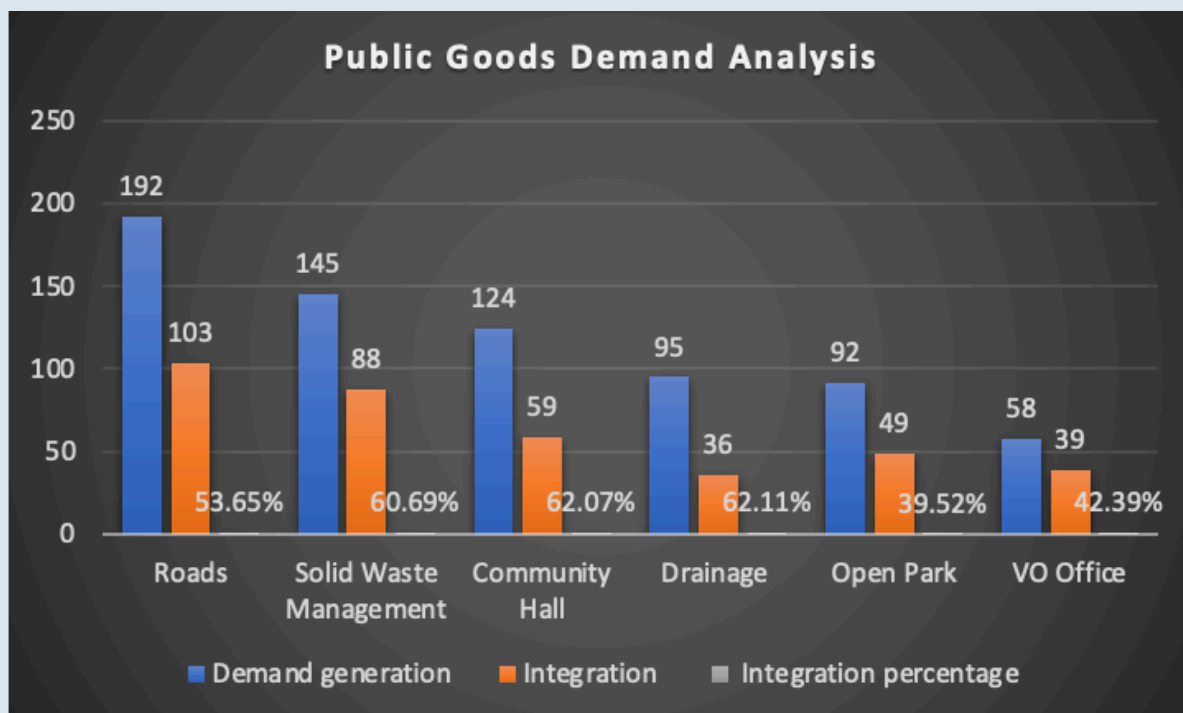
ग्रामसभा दिनांक :	ठरव क्रमांक :-	02	
ग्रामपंचायत स्तरावरील वार्षिक विकास आराखडा (वित्त आयोग बंधित व अबंधित निधीचे 1.2 पट निधी पकडून) सन -		2025-2026	
अ.क्र.	तपशील	कामाचे नाव	एकूण निधी
1	बंधित निधी (60%)	A 30% - स्वच्छता व हागणवारीमुक्त गावाचा दर्जा राखणे	
		1 सांडपाणी घनकचरा व्यवस्थापन अंतर्गत सर्व कामे, घंटागाडी, डस्टबिन, सार्वजनिक टिकाणी मुतारी-सौचालय व्यवस्था करणे, फवारणी - धुसकणी	357,590.00
		B 30% - पिण्याचे पाणीपुरवठा, पावसाचे पाणी संकलन आणि पुनर्वापर	
		1 पाणी पुरवठा टाकी दुरुस्ती, विहीर-बोअर पाणी पुरवठा दुरुस्ती विषयक सर्व कामे, पाईपलाईन, मोटार बसविणे, TLC खरेदी करणे	357,590.00
		<b>एकूण रक्कम :-</b>	<b>715,180.00</b>
2	अबंधित निधी (40%)	A अंगणवाडी ISO करणे व सर्व अनुषंगिक कामे	47,678.00
		B शिक्षण- जि.प.शाळा ISO करणे सर्व कामे, LCD खरेदी, प्रयोगशाळा साहित्य खरेदी करणे	47,678.00
		C TLC खरेदी, फवारणी-धुसकणी, बंदिस्त गटार	47,678.00
		D अपंग निधी	23,839.00
		E मागासवर्गीय वस्तीमध्ये रस्ता दुरुस्ती पाणी पुरवठा, लाईटची सोय करणे	23,839.00
		F 10% - आपले सरकार सेवा केंद्र - ASSK	47,678.00
		G गार्डन तयार करणे, सिमेंट रस्ता दुरुस्ती, सभागृह दुरुस्ती, CCTV बसविणे	238,390.00
		<b>एकूण रक्कम :-</b>	<b>476,780.00</b>

Pictures: Community-prioritised PGSRD demand plan submitted by the VO in the Gram Sabha and its integration reflected in the approved GPDP accessed through the E-Gram Swaraj Portal, Pangardarwadi Gram Panchayat, Tuljapur Block, Maharashtra.

**Public Goods and Resource development demand analysis of immersion blocks  
(Total 280 GPs)**

Public Goods Demand Analysis				
SL No.	Type of Demands	Demand generation	Integregation	Integregation percentage
1	Roads	192	103	53.65%
2	Solid Waste Management	145	88	60.69%
3	Community Hall	124	59	62.07%
4	Drainage	95	36	62.11%
5	Open Park	92	49	39.52%
6	VO Office	58	39	42.39%

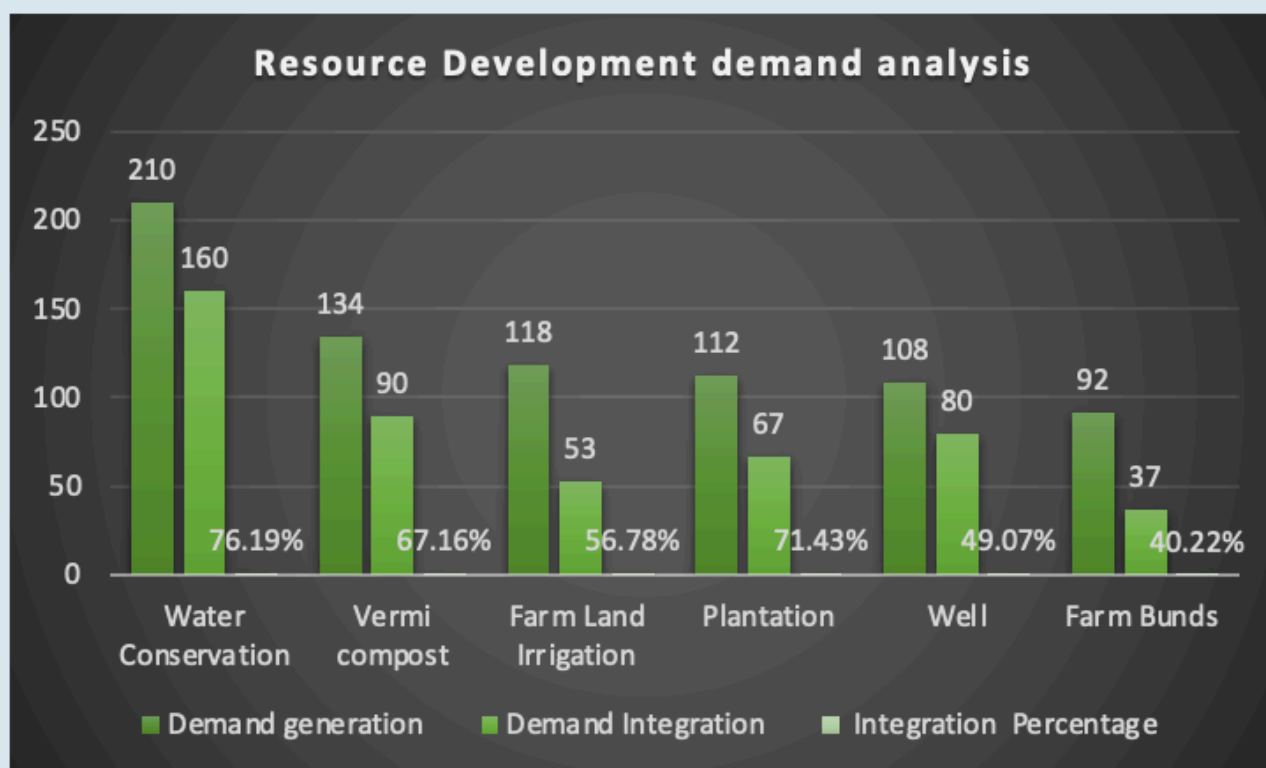
Table o6 (i): VPRP Public Goods component achievement consolidated details



Picture: Graphical Analysis of Public Goods Demands in VPRPs across Four Immersion Blocks

Resource Development Demand Analysis				
Sl. no	Type of Demands	Demand generation	Demand Integration	Integration Percentage
1	Water Conservation	210	160	76.19%
2	Vermicompost	134	90	67.16%
3	Farmland Irrigation	118	53	56.78%
4	Plantation	112	67	71.43%
5	Well	108	80	49.07%
6	Farm Bunds	92	37	40.22%

Table o6 (ii): VPRP Resources development component achievement consolidated details



Picture: Graphical Analysis of Resource Development Demands in VPRPs across Four Immersion Blocks

*Data Source: Public Goods and Resource Development demand plans prepared by Village Organizations in the Immersion Block, and the e-Gram Swaraj Portal of the Government of India for verification of integration.*



Picture: Various infrastructure works proposed through the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan and integrated into the GPDP have been initiated and completed in several GPs

### **27. DRP and BRP Training on VOCC, GPCC, and Citizens' Committee Strengthening**

A three-day residential training programme for District Resource Persons and Block Resource Persons was successfully conducted from 17th to 19th March 2025 at Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra. The training aimed to strengthen the technical, facilitation, and planning capacities of the cadres to effectively support institutional convergence and

community-led governance processes under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. The training was delivered by the Kudumbashree-NRO team, and was facilitated by the State Mission Manager, SIIB, ensuring institutional coordination and alignment with state-level priorities.

The training focused on strengthening key convergence platforms and community institutions, with detailed sessions covering the following themes:

1. Formation and functioning of VOCC (Village Organisation Coordination Committee)
2. Formation and strengthening of GPCC (Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee)
3. Data management and reporting, including hands-on training in MS Excel
4. Citizens' Committee strengthening, with a focus on key sectoral committees such as:
  - Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) - Anganwadi level monitoring and support committee (ALMSC)
  - National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) - Village Health Sanitation & Nutrition Committee (NRHM)
  - Sarwa Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) - School Management Committee (SMC)
5. Orientation on government schemes and scope for convergence with VPRP demands.
6. Case study writing and documentation for capturing field-level best practices and learnings.
7. Evaluation exercise to assess participants' understanding and knowledge uptake
8. District-wise planning, including timeline preparation and target setting for upcoming activities.

A total of 30 resource persons from 12 districts participated in the training. The sessions were highly interactive and included presentations, group work, practical exercises, and experience sharing, enabling participants to link conceptual understanding with field realities. The training concluded with district-wise action planning and reflections, reinforcing clarity on roles and responsibilities in strengthening VOCCs, GPCCs, and citizen-level committees. A similar capacity-building programme was conducted in two phases for LRPs, ensuring continuity and uniformity in institutional strengthening across all levels.

Overall, the training enhanced the confidence, technical skills, and facilitation abilities of DRPs and BRPs, equipping them to play an effective role in promoting convergence, participatory planning, and community engagement at the Gram Panchayat level.



Pictures: DRP and BRP Training on VOCC, GPCC, and Citizens' Committee Strengthening at Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra

## 28. LRP Trainings on VOCC and GPCC orientation and formation

To ensure effective formation of Village Organisation Coordination Committees and Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees at the Gram Panchayat level, targeted training programmes were conducted for Local Resource Persons during April-May 2025. The LRP training on VOCC and GPCC orientation and formation were completed across all 24 intervention blocks, with a total of 1,874 LRPs trained.

The training focused on building a clear understanding of the concept, objectives, structure, steps and processes related to VOCC and GPCC functioning, starting from orientation to formations. LRPs were oriented on their roles and responsibilities in facilitating convergence activities, strengthening coordination among Village Organisations, PRI members, and line departments representatives, and supporting collective planning and follow-up. A key component of the training was mock sessions on VOCC and GPCC orientations and formations, where LRPs practiced conducting meetings, explaining concepts to VO and PRI members, and facilitating committee formation. These mock exercises helped LRPs gain hands-on experience, improve facilitation skills, and build confidence to manage real field-level processes

independently. In addition, LRPs were assigned a field-based task on Citizens' Committee profiling, to be carried out in their respective Gram Panchayats, enabling them to apply the learning in practice and develop a deeper understanding of the status and functioning of existing community institutions. Special emphasis was placed on community mobilisation techniques, participatory facilitation methods, and ensuring inclusive representation during committee formation. The training significantly enhanced the capacity of LRPs to lead VOCC and GPCC effectively at the Gram Panchayat level.



## 29. Citizens' Committee Profiling by Local Resource Persons (LRPs)

As part of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, an initiative on profiling Citizens' Committees was undertaken to assess the status and functioning of key community-level institutions in Gram Panchayats. To ensure uniformity and systematic data collection, the State Team developed and shared a standard profiling format with all Local Resource Persons. The format included a detailed questionnaire covering all three Citizens' Committees-ALMSC, VHSNC and SMC. LRPs were oriented to use this format to carry out in-depth profiling in their respective Gram Panchayats. The objective was to understand the current status, composition, functionality, regularity of meeting, record maintenance, and level of community participation in these committees, rather than relying solely on information communicated from the apex level.

During the profiling process, LRPs visited village-level institutions, including Anganwadi centres, schools, and health centres. They reviewed available documents such as meeting registers, attendance records, resolutions, and activity reports. In addition to document verification, LRPs interacted directly with committee members, frontline workers, and institutional functionaries to understand how the committees were functioning in practice, the challenges they faced, and the extent of their involvement in local planning and service delivery. This field-based approach enabled LRPs to gain first-hand insights into both the strengths and gaps in the functioning of Citizens' Committees. The exercise helped identify issues such as irregular meetings, limited awareness of roles and responsibilities, inadequate record-keeping, and low community participation in some locations, while highlighting good practices where committees were active and functional.

The profiling activity was successfully completed by all LRPs across 24 blocks during April–May 2025. Upon completion, the compiled profiling reports were submitted to the respective Block teams, providing an evidence base for planning future orientations, strengthening interventions, and targeted handholding support. LRPs shared that this exercise was a significant learning experience for them. Through direct engagement with institutions and community members, they developed a deeper understanding of grassroots governance structures, practical functioning of Citizens’ Committees, and the importance of convergence at the village level.

### **30. CLF and VO Orientations on Village Organisation Coordination Committee (VOCC)**

In Maharashtra, the state has approved guidelines for the formation of Village Organisation Coordination Committees and Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees to strengthen institutional convergence and coordination at the Gram Panchayat level. As part of this initiative, VOCCs were prioritised in Gram Panchayats where multiple Village Organisations are functioning. Out of the 1,922 intervention Gram Panchayats, 553 GPs have more than one VO. To strengthen coordination among these VOs and enable collective planning, a structured orientation programme was undertaken to explain the concept, need, objectives, and role of VOCCs in overall village development. The CLF-level orientations on VOCCs were conducted by District Resource Persons and Block Resource Persons, while VO-level orientations were facilitated by Local Resource Persons. These orientations were conducted during the period of June–July 2025 and were completed across all 148 CLFs and 553 eligible Gram Panchayats (where more than one VO exists). The orientation sessions helped CLF and VO members gain a clearer understanding of the purpose and functioning of VOCCs. Members recognised VOCCs as an important platform for collective planning, improved coordination among VOs, consolidation of demands, and joint action on common village-level issues. The process laid down a strong foundation for VOCC formation and for strengthening community institutions to engage more effectively with Panchayats and line departments.

### **31. CLF and VO Orientations on Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee (GPCC)**

The Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee orientations were successfully completed across all 148 Cluster Level Federations and 1,922 Gram Panchayats. These orientations were conducted to strengthen collaboration between Gram Panchayats, Community-Based Organisations and line department representatives, with a strong focus on inclusive local governance, participatory planning, and effective convergence at the village level. The CLF-level orientations on GPCC were conducted by District Resource Persons and Block Resource Persons, between the period of June–July 2025. The orientations explained the concept, purpose, structure, and functioning of GPCCs, highlighting their role as a convergence platform that brings together representatives from VO, Gram Panchayat members, and village-level representatives of line

departments. Emphasis was placed on how GPCCs could support coordinated planning, streamline convergence efforts, and ensure that community priorities emerging from VPRPs are addressed in a systematic manner.

Through these sessions, GPCC members gained clarity on their roles and responsibilities and developed a shared understanding of how the committee can function as a joint decision-making and coordination forum. The orientation process reinforced the importance of collective action between PRIs and CBOs and laid a strong foundation for GPCCs to effectively support local development planning, implementation, and follow-up at the Gram Panchayat level.

### **32. Village Organisation Coordination Committee (VOCC) Formations**

Following detailed orientations conducted by Local Resource Persons on the concept, purpose, and benefits of the Village Organisation Coordination Committee, the process of VOCC formation was initiated across the intervention areas. With the active facilitation of LRPs and continued guidance and support from DRPs and BRPs, VOCCs were successfully formed in 545 Gram Panchayats by September 2025. The VOCC brought together representatives from multiple Village Organisations (VOs) within a Gram Panchayat, providing a common and structured platform for dialogue, coordination, and collective decision-making. VO members responded positively to this initiative, as it enabled them from working in isolation to functioning collaboratively on shared village-level concerns.

Previously, individual VOs submitted their demands separately to the Gram Panchayat, which diluted their collective voice. Through the VOCC, VOs were able to consolidate demands, prioritise issues, and present them in a coordinated manner to the Gram Panchayat and relevant line departments. This collective approach strengthened their visibility, bargaining power, and recognition within Panchayat processes. Beyond demand consolidation, VOCCs emerged as a platform for planning and supporting social development initiatives, tracking the implementation of schemes, and jointly addressing common challenges related to health, education, livelihoods, and social issues. Women members, in particular, reported greater confidence and comfort in articulating their concerns when represented collectively through the VOCC.

Overall, the formation of VOCCs strengthened collective leadership and solidarity among SHG women. The platform gradually enhanced their engagement with local governance structures and enabled meaningful participation in village planning and development processes. Therefore, VOCCs evolved not only as coordination mechanisms but also as spaces for leadership development, mutual learning, and stronger community-panchayat collaboration.

**Purpose:**

- Strengthen coordination among multiple VO in a Gram Panchayat.
- Enable collective engagement with the Panchayat.
- Facilitate convergence for better implementation of schemes.

**Key Functions:**

- Support VPRP preparation & integration into GPDP.
- Promote women's participation & social inclusion.
- Liaise with Gram Panchayat & departments.
- Strengthen community-level committees (VHSNC, SMC, ALMSC).



**Structure:**

- 3 OB members per VO.
- Elects Coordinator & Bookkeeper.

Picture: Village Organisation Coordination Committee (VOCC) framework and operational details in accordance with the guidelines approved by Umed-MSRLM.



**33. Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee (GPCC) Formations**

Following the orientations on GPCC to VO and PRI Members, the process of forming Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees at the Gram Panchayat level was initiated. The target for GPCC formation in Maharashtra was 1740 (GPs where the Panchayat body was functional). The response from stakeholders were mostly positive, with the majority of the gram panchayats expressing their support for the GPCC platform so far. The committee had representatives from the VOs, Gram Panchayat and village level representatives of line departments to coordinate efforts, streamline convergence activities, and ensure comprehensive planning at the GP level.

The GPCC directly involved Gram Panchayats and PRI functionaries, its formation required close coordination with the Panchayati Raj (PR) Department. In several districts, Gram Panchayat bodies sought formal communication in the form of a Government Resolution (GR) or an official directive from the PR Department, to clearly

# Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee (GPCC)

## Purpose:

- Act as a bridge between Gram Panchayat, community institutions & govt. departments.
- Enhance democratic participation & community ownership.

## Key Functions:

- Hold quarterly meetings on local issues.
- Align VPRP with GPDP.
- Disseminate govt. schemes.
- Promote SHG engagement & support vulnerable groups.
- Drive SDG-aligned local development.



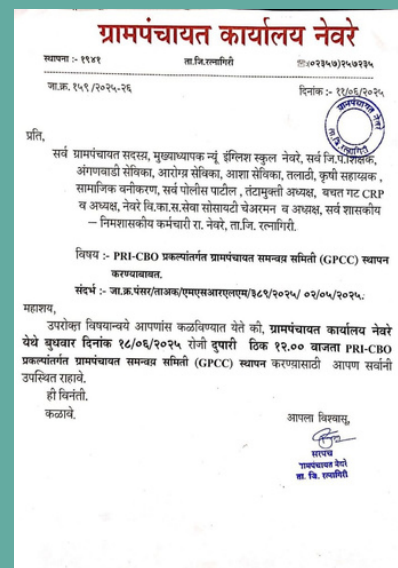
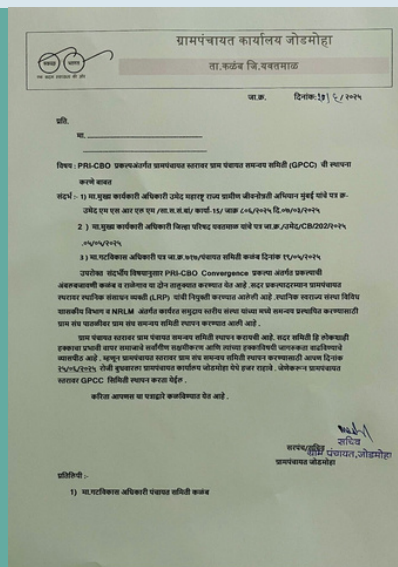
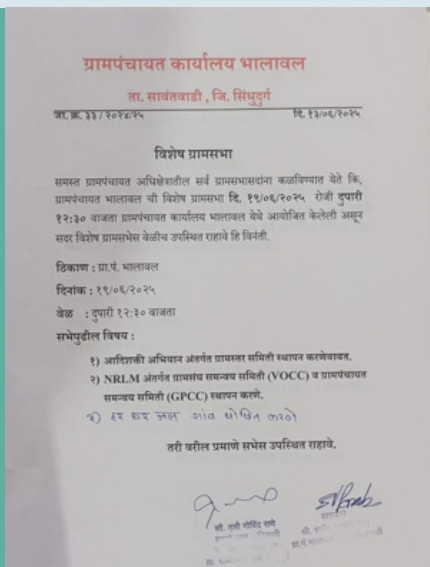
## Structure:

- Led by Sarpanch & VO President
- Members: Panchayat reps, VO, line depts., SHG leaders, local experts.

Picture: Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee (GPCC) framework and operational details in accordance with the guidelines approved by Umed-MSRLM.

authorise and legitimise the constitution of GPCCs. This required the undertaking of a collaborative institutional effort between UMED-MSRLM and the PR Department, which, in some locations, resulted in delays in the formation process.

Despite these procedural and administrative challenges, As of November 2025, GPCCs were formed in 1591 GPs, with active involvement from VO representatives, PRI members, and line department representatives. The number of GPCCs formed under the project presented an impressive number. Establishing such coordination platforms across a large and diverse state like Maharashtra reflects strong institutional effort, community engagement, and progress toward strengthening PRI-CBO convergence. The GPCCs that were formed emerged as important platforms for joint planning, convergence with line departments, and inclusive local governance.



Pictures: Official Gram Panchayat letters issued for the formation of Gram Panchayat Citizens Committees (GPCCs).

The GPCCs played a key role in achieving the objectives of the Samruddha Panchayat Abhiyan, a Chief Minister's flagship program that ran from 17th September to 31st December with seven core objectives that aligned closely with the goals of the project, including promoting convergence and participatory governance at the Gram Panchayat level. Through joint planning by PRIs, CBOs, and line departments, the GPCCs facilitated the collaborative planning meeting of the campaign thereby contributing significantly to the campaign's vision.

The presence of GPCCs made the process of planning and organizing campaign activities, such as awareness camps, much easier. Gram Panchayat members were able to quickly coordinate and respond, sharing updates via GPCC WhatsApp groups as soon as they received information about the campaign. This ensured timely execution and active participation in all planned activities under the Panchayat Samruddha Abhiyan.

The Special Gram Sabha held on 17th of September witnessed the successful fulfillment of the quorum mainly due to the proactive mobilization efforts of CBO members, who reached out to villagers and encouraged their participation. This reflected the effectiveness of the GPCC platform in strengthening community engagement and ensuring inclusive decision-making. Furthermore, in several Gram Panchayats, special GPCC meetings were convened by the Panchayat members specifically to discuss the agenda and plan for implementation of campaign activities. These meetings provided a structured forum for VOs, PRI members, and line department representatives to coordinate tasks, clarify responsibilities, and ensure timely execution of the Panchayat Samruddha Abhiyan initiatives, thereby enhancing both planning efficiency and community ownership of the campaign.

Additionally, Convergence Camps, strengthening of Citizens Committee and initiatives under social development plan are still ongoing in collaboration with various departments and community institutions, working towards further strengthening the participatory development process at the village level.





Picture: GPCC formation and meeting in various Gram Panchayats of the intervention Block

#### 34. DRP and BRP Online Refresher Training on Citizens Committee Strengthening

An online refresher training on strengthening Citizens Committee was conducted on 18th May, 2025. The objective of the session was to reinforce the understanding of the topic among District Resource Persons and Block Resource Persons, and to provide clarity on the plan for strengthening Citizens Committees. During the online session, a recap of all the components covered in March was done. The session had a dedicated doubt-clearing segment, allowing cadres to seek clarifications and share their queries. Additionally, the DRPs- BRPs were oriented on the next steps, including the training they were expected to deliver to Local Resource Persons on the strengthening of the Citizens Committee .

### 35. Two-days Residential LRP Training on Citizens Committee Strengthening

A two-day residential training programme for Local Resource Persons was organized at the Block level to build their capacity on strengthening three key citizens committees: the School Management Committee (SMC), the Anganwadi Level Monitoring and Support Committee (ALMSC), and the Village Health, Sanitation, and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC). In April 2025, LRPs had completed the profiling of citizens committee, which gave them a basic understanding of the existing functioning and challenges of these committees in their respective areas. Building on these findings, the residential training programme focused on equipping them with step-by-step strategies to strengthen these committees effectively.

The LRPs were oriented on:

- Developing and executing action plans for strengthening each committee.
- Ensuring active community participation and facilitating meaningful discussions during committee meetings.
- Monitoring and ensuring that monthly committee meetings were conducted regularly with full participation of all members.

The decision to conduct the training as a residential programme was to address earlier logistical challenges, such as the long-distance travel from remote GPs to training venues. By providing accommodation and meals, LRPs were able to completely focus on the training content and engage in team-building activities, enhancing peer learning and collaboration. To enrich their learning experience, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials were used, including videos showing effective committee functioning and practical indicators of ideal institutional practices.

Additionally, department officials were invited to these training sessions to provide technical orientation on the respective Citizens Committees.

- Officials from the Women and Child Development Department oriented LRPs on the ALMSC
- The Health Department provided guidance on the VHSNC
- The Education Department oriented LRPs on the functioning and strengthening of the SMC

This approach ensured that LRPs received accurate and department-specific inputs, enabling them to align their efforts to institutional expectations, thematic requirements, and the current status of committee functioning. In immersion blocks, officials from these departments actively participated and oriented LRPs on the status, challenges, and future plans, further enhancing the relevance and quality of the training. As of June 2025, residential training for LRPs were successfully completed in all 24 blocks. The training sessions were facilitated by block and district staff, with District Resource Persons and Block Resource Persons leading the sessions, supported by mentors.



Picture: 2 days Residential LRP Training on Citizens Committee Strengthening across districts



### **36. Citizens Committee Strengthening: Concept, Relevance, and Field Implementation**

Citizens Committees—namely the School Management Committee (SMC), Anganwadi Level Monitoring and Support Committee (ALMSC), and Village Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC) were critical institutional platforms at the Gram Panchayat level for ensuring community participation, monitoring service delivery, and strengthening accountability in key sectors such as education, nutrition, health, and sanitation. Effective functioning of these committees was essential for translating community needs into actionable outcomes and for improving last-mile delivery of government services.

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, strengthening Citizens Committees was closely aligned with the objectives of participatory planning and convergence. These committees served as important forums through which community priorities identified through the VPRP were discussed, followed up, and linked with concerned line departments. Strengthening their functionality directly contributed to improved coordination between PRIs, community institutions, and service delivery systems. Across the project geography, a total of 1,922 Gram Panchayats had all three Citizens Committees—SMC, ALMSC, and VHSNC—amounting to 5,766 committees in total. While these committees were constituted, field observations indicated that not all of them were fully active or functional. Common gaps included irregular meetings, limited participation of members, weak documentation, and inadequate follow-up on decisions taken. In response to these issues, the project focused on improving regularity of meetings, promoting active participation, and strengthening collective decision-making processes.

#### **Preparatory Work and Capacity Building of LRPs**

As an initial step, Citizens Committee profiling was carried out by LRPs between April–May 2025 using a structured format provided by the State Team. This exercise helped LRPs understand the existing status, composition, meeting practices, and challenges faced by SMCs, ALMSCs, and VHSNCs in their respective Gram Panchayats. The profiling exercise laid a strong foundation for subsequent capacity-building and field-level interventions. Building on this groundwork, LRPs initiated field-level interventions to strengthen the functioning of the three Citizens Committees—SMC, ALMSC, and VHSNC—by applying the strategies and tools learnt during their capacity-building sessions. At the Gram Panchayat level, LRPs supported committees through a structured approach aimed at improving regularity, participation, and effectiveness of meetings.

On the ground, LRPs worked closely with committee members to:

- Support the preparation and implementation of committee-specific action plans based on local needs and priorities

- Facilitate regular conduct of monthly committee meetings and improve adherence to meeting schedules
- Encourage inclusive and active participation of all members, including women representatives and frontline functionaries
- Guide committees in conducting focused discussions and collective decision-making on key service delivery issues
- Assist in documenting meeting proceedings, tracking resolutions, and following up on agreed actions with concerned stakeholders

Through continuous handholding and facilitation, LRPs helped committees move beyond formal meetings towards purposeful engagement, thereby strengthening their role in monitoring services and addressing community concerns in a structured manner.

### **Line Department Engagement and Technical Inputs**

To ensure technical accuracy and strengthen convergence, blocks invited concerned line department officials to the training programmes. Accordingly:

- **Women and Child Development Department officials** oriented LRPs on ALMSC roles and functioning
- **Health Department officials** provided guidance on VHSNC mandates and processes
- **Education Department officials** oriented LRPs on SMC roles, responsibilities, and expectations

In immersion blocks, officials from the line department actively participated and shared insights on current challenges, departmental priorities, and future plans, which further enhanced the relevance and practical value of the training. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials—including videos demonstrating effective committee functioning and key indicators of strong institutional practices were used to reinforce learning and provide practical reference points for LRPs.

### **Impacts of Coordination Committee meetings**

During the district and block-level Coordination Committee meetings, the status of Citizens Committees was presented by the teams, which created a strong sense of urgency among the line departments to take on responsibility for strengthening these committees. For the first time in years, what had remained an ignored or low-priority area, suddenly transformed into the centre of attention.

A striking example emerged from the Sindhudurg district, where, after the district team presented the condition of ALMSCs, SMCs, and VHSNCs, the ZP CEO intervened, questioning why the committees were in such poor shape. The CEO directed all line departments to extend full support to the Mission staff and KS-NRO team and field staff in strengthening these committees. The WCD Department official immediately acknowledged the gaps, stating openly that the committees needed urgent strengthening and committed that, “In the next three months, we will change the picture together.”

Similar situations were observed in Nashik and several other districts. Since Citizens Committees had not been regularly discussed earlier, the presentation of their status brought hidden gaps to the forefront, such as committees having old or inactive members, meetings not happening, members being unaware of their roles, or unawareness about being members of such a committee. To address this, during the LRP training at the block level, officials from all the three line departments were invited to share the current status of committees, discuss challenges, and provide their inputs on strengthening the institutional functioning. These discussions led to a joint decision that committees which were completely inactive or structurally weak should be reformed and reconstituted.

Following this, with active support from line department officials at the block level:

- Committees in such GPs were reformed and reconstituted.
- New members were oriented wherever required.
- Orientation sessions were conducted for all committees to ensure members clearly understood their roles, responsibilities, and the functioning process.

As a result, there has been a visible improvement on the ground, with reactivated committees, more regular meetings, and a stronger sense of ownership among the members.



Picture: Impact of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project showcased through an infographic highlighting strengthened institutions and citizens committees

## **Field Roll-out of Citizens Committee Strengthening**

Following the completion of LRP training, Citizens Committee strengthening activities were initiated in the field from June 2025 onwards. LRPs began facilitating committee meetings, supporting action planning, encouraging regular participation, and guiding committees towards a structured and outcome-oriented functioning. A total of 1,922 Gram Panchayats had all three Citizens Committees-ALMSC, SMC and VHSNC which amounted to 5,766 committees in total, but not all of them were fully active and functional. The project focused on strengthening these committees and making them fully functional, with a key emphasis on improving the conduct of meetings, ensuring active participation and strengthening decision making.

As of November 2025, ALMSC meetings had been held in 1,902 GPs, SMC meetings in 1,805 GPs, and VHSNC meetings in 1,611 GPs, meaning that a total of 5318 committee meetings had been conducted. Apart from the regular meetings, Whatsapp groups were created to communicate and stay connected on a daily basis. Members of these committees were not only attending meetings but were actively contributing to discussions, taking decisions, and providing inputs for institutional development.

The remaining 448 committees were being supported through awareness and mobilization efforts to ensure full functionality. The project's work through Local Resource Persons has been instrumental in making these committees fully functional and effective. By facilitating training, orientation, and support, LRPs have enabled Citizens Committees to take informed decisions that strengthen local institutions, improve governance, and enhance service delivery at the village level. Strengthening these committees directly contributed to the institutional strengthening objective of the Samruddha Panchayat Abhiyan, as active and functional Citizens Committees empower Gram Panchayats to make informed decisions, improve governance, and ensure effective delivery of services at the village level. Strengthening these committees goes beyond mere participation, it is a crucial step towards empowering and strengthening public institutions at the grassroots level.

- **Strengthening/ reformation of Citizens Committees**

During the assessment of Citizens' Committees, it was observed that several committees were inactive, with members selected many years ago and no regular meetings taking place. To ensure effective functioning, there was a clear need to reform and revitalise these committees by bringing in new and active members. After discussions with block-level line departments and concerned officials, it was decided that the LRP would visit the institutions, verify the current status of the committees, and facilitate their reformation. The LRP, together with ASHA/Anganwadi workers, CBO representatives, and PRI members, supported the selection of new committee members, followed by an orientation and role clarity session for all newly constituted committees

to ensure smooth and effective functioning.

Additionally, after schools reopened following the summer vacation, SMCs across many Gram Panchayats were due for their routine reconstitution. During this period, LRPs played an active role in supporting the schools and education department in reforming these committees. This contributed significantly to the high number of SMC reformations, as LRPs ensured timely coordination, mobilisation of parents, and smooth completion of the reconstitution process. Through this process, a significant number of Citizens' Committees were successfully reformed and made functional again.

### Status of Citizens Committee Reformation

Citizens Committee Reformation		
Sr. no.	Name of the Citizens committee	No. of Reformation/Recon
1	ALMSC	188
2	VHSNC	79
3	SMC	185

Table : Reformation status of Citizens' Committees

### Outcomes of Citizens Committee Strengthening

#### 1. School Management Committee

- Activation of SMC and joint decision-making, resulting in functional committees that regularly involve LRP and VO members support during meetings.
- Improved school infrastructure and facilities through SMC committee discussions, leading to actions such as repairing floor, ceiling, toilets, cleaning school grounds, building compounds, plantation drives and establishing kitchen/nutri gardens within schools.
- Improved quality of Mid-Day Meals, with committees regularly monitoring food preparation, cleanliness, and serving practices, leading to better nutrition and hygiene standards for school children.
- Better learning environment for children, such as operational school libraries, additional tuition support, and community-led contributions to educational resources.
- Community-supported teacher engagement, where committee discussions facilitated the appointment of temporary teachers through GP and community contributions until regular teachers are posted.

- Enhanced support for students, including distribution of bicycles for schoolchildren, provision of water filters, and distribution of toys in Anganwadis through PGSRD demand process.
- Improved school digital access, where committees mobilized resources from GP, parents, and teachers to procure a computer for school use.
- Higher community ownership in school and Anganwadi activities, visible in increased participation and contributions during special day celebrations and school events.
- Clean and disciplined school surroundings, with committees facilitating removal of informal activities (e.g., livestock tying, parking) from school premises and restoring it for proper educational use.
- Creation of safe and child-friendly environments, including repairs, cleanliness activities, plantation drives, and improved use of open spaces within school campuses.
- Expansion of community learning opportunities, with multiple small libraries started in public places, some of which also offer tuition for children.
- Strengthened intergenerational engagement, where school students, elderly groups, and citizens meet jointly to discuss community issues, promoting collective responsibility.



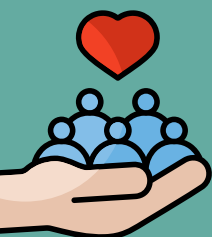
Picture: School Management Committee (SMC) meetings in schools across intervention districts

## 2. Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC)

- Improved coordination among GP members, ASHA, AWW, ANM, SHG representatives and school teachers.
- VHSNC members became aware of their roles in local health, sanitation and nutrition planning.
- Successful organisation of a Cancer Screening Camp through VHSNC-GPCC convergence. For instance, In Chichala Gram Panchayat of Chandrapur district, women were initially hesitant to attend screening camps due to fear and stigma around cancer. However, after the VHSNC collectively decided to take this up and mobilised SHG members, a successful cancer detection camp was organised. As a result, 29 women were screened for cervical cancer, 62 women received oral examinations, and 86 adolescent girls underwent haemoglobin testing.
- Increased community awareness and enhanced community participation on nutrition, hygiene, menstrual health and preventive care through health education sessions.
- Regular monthly meetings of adolescent girls' groups initiated and strengthened.
- Regular monthly meetings were conducted and village-level health and sanitation plans were prepared.
- Improved follow-up with the Health Department for improvement in service delivery.



Picture: Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC) Meetings



### 3. Anganwadi Level Monitoring and Support Committee (ALMSC)

- Regular and active ALMSC meetings started taking place, with improved participation from mothers, SHG members, and community representatives, leading to a more systematic and collective monitoring of services provided by Anganwadis.
- Improved quality of supplementary nutrition was ensured, as ALMSCs closely monitored food preparation, distribution, hygiene practices, and growth monitoring activities.
- Anganwadi infrastructure had improved through cleanliness drives, minor repairs, painting, and ensuring availability of drinking water and sanitation facilities, supported by community involvement.
- Early childhood care received immediate attention, with ALMSCs supporting pre-school activities, ensuring regular attendance of children, and facilitating provision of play and learning materials.
- Monitoring of health and nutrition services become more effective, including immunisation, VHND activities, anaemia testing, tracking of malnourished children, and follow-up of high-risk households.
- Active celebration of Poshan Maah/Poshan Pakhwada became a norm, with ALMSCs leading community-driven activities such as nutrition rallies, recipe demonstrations, and awareness sessions on maternal and child health.
- Community ownership had increased significantly, visible through contributions for improving anganwadi spaces, supporting frontline workers like AWWs, and taking collective responsibility for service delivery gaps.
- Better linkages between VHSNC and GPCC enabled joint planning for health-nutrition activities, improved convergence, and faster problem resolution at the grassroots level.
- Support for adolescent girls was strengthened, with awareness sessions on menstrual hygiene, anaemia prevention, life skills, and counselling facilitated through the anganwadi platform.
- Safe and child-friendly spaces were improved, with ALMSCs ensuring clean play areas, wall paintings, and availability of toys and learning materials.
- ICDS services began functioning effectively, supported by an active ALMSC monitoring. Currently, VHSNDs are organized regularly and with increased community participation. Poshan Pakhwada is celebrated extensively from March to June, engaging community members in nutrition-focused awareness and behaviour-change activities.



Picture: ALMSC Committee meetings held across intervention areas to review progress and strengthen coordination



Picture: Poshan Pandharwada celebrated under the Poshan Abhiyan across various Anganwadi Centres, with active participation of ALMSC members



Picture: Beautification and enhancement of the Anganwadi Centres across Gram Panchayats



### Challenges in Citizens' Committee Reformation and Strengthening

- Hesitation and weak response from some Gram Panchayats, resulting in delays in initiating or supporting committee activities.
- Low cooperation from ASHA and Anganwadi workers, affecting LRP efforts in committee verification, reformation, and meeting facilitation.
- Inactive and outdated committees, with members selected a long time back, and no regular meetings, requiring significant effort to reform and revitalise.
- Limited awareness among community members about the purpose, roles, and importance of Citizens' Committees.
- Irregular participation of members, leading to inconsistent decision-making and follow-up on community issues.
- Competing responsibilities of frontline workers and PRI members, making it difficult to ensure their consistent engagement in committee meetings.

- Initial resistance to changing committee members, especially where long-term members were hesitant to step aside and make space for new members.
- Difficulty in mobilizing community participation, especially in or bigger or dispersed villages.
- Limited support from some line departments, slowing down coordination and follow-up actions emerging from committee discussions.
- Low confidence of new committee members, requiring continuous handholding to ensure active participation and decision-making.
- Logistical challenges, such as scheduling meetings at suitable times and ensuring the presence of all stakeholders.
- Weak documentation and record-keeping, making it harder to track meeting outcomes and improvements.

### **37. ToT for the DRPs & BRPs on VPRP 2025-26, MGNREGS and Capacity Building of the Elected Women Representatives (EWRs)**

A 3-day residential Training of Trainers (ToT) for District Resource Persons and Block Resource Persons was organised from 29-31 July 2025 at KStar Hotel, Navi Mumbai under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. The training sessions were facilitated by the State Project Coordinator (SPC), Senior Mentor Resource Person Kudumbashree NRO, and the mentors from the immersion blocks, while the introductory and concluding sessions were conducted by the SMM-IBCB, MSRLM. A total of 32 participants attended the training, including 11 DRPs and 21 BRPs. The workshop was graced by four Cohort-13 State Project Coordinators from Kudumbashree NRO, immersing themselves in the project activities to understand the contextualisation and implementation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project in Maharashtra.

#### **Key Focus Areas of the training**

- Strengthening participants' understanding of VPRP components-Entitlement, Livelihood, PGSRDP, and Social Development Plans.
- Building conceptual and practical clarity on MGNREGA, including permissible works, entitlements, and roles of PRI functionaries.
- Preparing participants to deliver EWR capacity-building sessions on leadership, gender, and governance.
- Enhancing skills for effective digital data entry and use of the VPRP mobile application.
- Building facilitation skills through participatory methods, games, energizers, and peer-learning activities.

## Session Highlights

### Day 1 - VPRP process refresher and Technical Inputs & Digital Practice

- Workshop inauguration and project overview, covering key milestones such as cadre training, orientations, and the status of VOCC/GPCC/Citizen Committees.
- Detailed session on VPRP pillars with hands-on practice for preparing Entitlement and livelihoods Plans, PGSRD, and Social Development Plans using the VPRP mobile app.
- Live app demonstration facilitated by participants familiar with the Application.
- Baseline test (25 marks) conducted to assess initial understanding.
- Participants assigned tasks to prepare MGNREGA quiz questions and practice app-based entries.

### Day 2 - MGNREGA, Gender & Leadership training

- Participant-led MGNREGA knowledge quiz, enabling peer learning and reinforcing key concepts.
- In-depth session on MGNREGS processes, permissible works, rights and entitlements, and role clarity of PRIs and CBOs, facilitated through a sticky note role-sorting activity.
- A gender-awareness module using reflective games and discussions to prepare DRPs/BRPs for gender-sensitive EWR training.
- Leadership development session focusing on attributes of effective leaders, aligned to EWR roles.

### Day 3 - Advanced App Training, District Sharing & Way Forward

- Feedback interaction with the SMM, highlighting priorities such as 100% SHG saturation in VPRP, strong LRP support, and revival of inactive SHGs.
- Advanced training on SHG ranking, VO-level entries, PGSRD, and Social Development Plan preparation in the app.
- District-wise presentations on progress, good practices, challenges, and strategies.
- Post-test conducted to measure knowledge improvement.
- Concluding debrief with SPC and mentors, focusing on follow-up needs and strengthening upcoming block-level training.

Overall, the three-day Training of Trainers (ToT) was well-structured, highly participatory, and effective in strengthening the technical, facilitation, and planning capacities of DRPs and BRPs. The combination of conceptual inputs, hands-on digital practice, participatory exercises, and peer learning enabled participants to gain clarity and confidence on the

VPRP 2025-26 process, MGNREGS implementation, and capacity building of Elected Women Representatives. The pre and post-test assessments reflected a clear improvement in participants' understanding, while district-wise sharing helped identify practical strategies and priorities for the next phase of implementation.

Building on the learnings from this ToT, similar training was conducted for Local Resource Persons at the block level to ensure uniform dissemination of information, effective roll-out of VPRP preparation, MGNREGS facilitation, and EWR capacity-building activities at the grassroots level. This cascading approach will help strengthen convergence, improve implementation quality, and support community-led planning across intervention Gram Panchayats.



Picture: Glimpses from State level DRP and BRP Cadre ToT programme at Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra

### 38. Two-day Residential Block-level LRP Training on VPRP 2025-26 and MGNREGS

A two-day residential training programme for Local Resource Persons on the preparation of VPRPs for 2025-26 and MGNREGS entitlement awareness was organised from August 2025, by the respective Block Mission Management Units under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project (Universalisation). The primary objective of the training was to strengthen the technical understanding of LRPs on the VPRP process, enhance their facilitation skills for participatory village-level planning, and build their capacity to guide community members in accessing and effectively utilising MGNREGS entitlements.

The training was facilitated by block-level teams comprising Block Resource Persons (BRPs) and mentors from Kudumbashree NRO. It adopted a blended learning model, combining conceptual sessions with practical demonstrations on the VPRP mobile application, group work, and interactive activities. The residential format ensured focused participation by overcoming challenges related to long-distance travel from remote Gram Panchayats and by creating a conducive environment for peer learning and experience sharing.

In line with directions from the State Mission, block teams were instructed to invite officials from the MGNREGS department, particularly Assistant Programme Officers (APOs), to strengthen coordination at the block level. Accordingly, APOs participated in the training and provided detailed orientations on MGNREGS provisions, entitlements, permissible works, and operational processes. These sessions facilitated discussions on block-specific planning and collaboration mechanisms between MGNREGS functionaries and community institutions, enabling better integration of MGNREGS into village-level planning through the VPRP. As of November 2025, the two-day residential LRP trainings on VPRP and MGNREGS were successfully completed in all 24 blocks, significantly enhancing the preparedness of LRPs to support community-led planning and convergence at the grassroots level.





Pictures: Two-day Residential Block-level LRP Training on VPRP 2025-26 and MGNREGS

### 39. Cluster Level Federation (CLF) Concept Seeding on VPRP 2025-26 and MGNREGS

To strengthen the understanding and leadership role of Cluster Level Federation members, concept seeding sessions on VPRP 2025-26 preparation and MGNREGS entitlements were conducted by District Resource Persons and Block Resource Persons. The primary objective of these sessions was to familiarise CLF leaders with the components of the VPRP, their critical role in mobilising Self-Help Groups and Village Organisations for participatory village-level planning, and the importance of integrating community demands with MGNREGS provisions to ensure convergence and effective service delivery. The sessions emphasised on practical strategies for CLF leaders to support LRPs and VOs during the VPRP preparation cycle, including facilitation of community consultations, guiding SHG members on demand collection, and ensuring participatory decision-making. Leaders were oriented on how to monitor progress, coordinate with Panchayati Raj Institutions, and strengthen linkages between community priorities and government schemes.

The concept seeding was conducted in an interactive manner, using discussions, case examples, and participatory exercises, which helped CLF members internalise their role as facilitators and enablers of convergence. The activity not only enhanced knowledge but also boosted confidence among CLF leaders to actively guide and support the grassroots-level VPRP process. As of November 2025, the concept seeding activity has been successfully completed across all 148 CLFs, laying a strong foundation for effective mobilisation, planning, and implementation of VPRPs at the village level.



Picture: Glimpses of CLF level Concept Seeding on MGNREGS and VPRP 2025-26

#### 40. Village Organization (VO) Concept Seeding on VPRP 2025-26 and MGNREGS

Following the training of Local Resource Persons, Village Organization level concept seeding sessions were conducted by LRPs to prepare VOs for the upcoming VPRP 2025-26 plan preparation to strengthen their understanding of VPRP and MGNREGS entitlements. The sessions aimed to familiarise VO members with the four pillars of the VPRP, with focus on the Entitlement, Livelihood, Public Goods Services and Resource Development Plan (PGSRD) and Social Development Plan (SDP) components, ensuring that VOs were equipped to support SHGs in identifying community needs, consolidating demands, and preparing village-level plans.

The concept seeding sessions emphasised on the role of VOs in mobilising SHGs for plan preparation, facilitating participatory planning, and supporting demand generation under VPRP. Members were guided on how to leverage community institutions

effectively to strengthen convergence with government schemes and enhance service delivery at the village level.

The sessions were highly interactive, using discussions, practical examples, and participatory exercises to ensure that VO members gained clarity on their facilitation role and responsibilities in the VPRP process. This activity helped build confidence among VO leaders to actively guide SHGs and play a critical role in participatory planning and implementation.

As of November 2025, the VO concept seeding on VPRP and MGNREGS has been successfully completed across all 2,598 Village Organizations, laying a strong foundation for effective SHG mobilisation, demand generation, and convergence-driven VPRP implementation.



Picture: Glimpses of VO level Concept Seeding on MGNREGS and VPRP 2025-26

#### 41. Community Workshop- Walking down the lane

As the PRI-CBO Convergence project was nearing completion, (originally signed on 7th November for an 18-month period, ending on 7th May and later extended by six months until 7th November) the “Walking Down the Lane” Community Workshops are being conducted at the CLF, Block, and District levels to help stakeholders reflect on their

convergence journey and prepare for sustained implementation beyond external support.

The “Walking Down the Lane” Community Workshops are being conducted at the CLF, Block, and District levels to help stakeholders reflect on their Convergence journey and collectively plan for sustaining the programme after the gradual withdrawal of field-level support from Kudumbashree NRO.

The overall objectives of the workshops are:

- To review and reflect on convergence activities undertaken so far.
- To assess the progress, achievements, and challenges across villages/GPs.
- To assess and strengthen ownership among CLFs, BMMUs, and DMMUs for continuing convergence work independently.
- To prepare a realistic, sustainability-focused activity calendar at each level.
- To showcase best practices and innovations through exhibitions and presentations.

These workshops serve as a transition platform where community institutions and mission teams internalise their roles for ensuring continuity beyond the project period. The status of the CLF, Block, and District-level Community Workshops is presented in the table below.

<b>S. N O</b>	<b>Name of District of Districts</b>	<b>District-level Community Workshop</b>	<b>Name of Blocks</b>	<b>Block-level Community Workshop (Status and Date)</b>	<b>Target CLF level Workshop</b>	<b>Achievement CLF level Workshop</b>	<b>Timeline for CLF Community Workshops</b>
1	Beed	Not yet conducted	Parali	Not yet conducted	6	4	01/11/2025 to 07/11/2025
			Ambe jogai	Not yet conducted	7	7	01/11/2025 to 07/11/2025

S · N O	Name of District of Districts	Distri- ct- level Com munit y Work shop	Name of Blocks	Block- level Communit y Workshop (Status and Date)	Target CLF level Workshop	Achievement CLF level Workshop	Timeline for CLF Community Workshops
2	Chandrapur	7/11/2025	Mul	6/11/2025	3	3	27/10/2025 to 29/10/2025
			Bhadravati	6/11/2025	4	4	28/10/2025 to 01/11/2025
3	Dhara shiv	Not yet conducted	Tuljapur	7/11/2025	9	9	01/11/2025 to 06/11/2025
			Dharashiv	Not yet Conducted	12	12	01/11/2025 to 12/11/2025
4	Gadchiroli	21/11/2025	Dhanora	7/11/2025	4	4	03/11/2025 to 06/11/2025
			Kurkheda	6/11/2025	5	5	02/11/2025 to 4/11/2025
5	Gondia	14/11/2025	Arjuni Morgaon	12/11/2025	7	7	31/10/2025 to 04/11/2025
			Amgaon	12/11/2025	5	5	06/11/2025 to 10/11/2025
6	Nashik	Not yet conducted	Igatpuri	10/11/2025	4	4	01/11/2025 to 07/11/2025
			Trimbyak	8/11/2025	3	3	01/11/2025 to 07/11/2025

S.NO	Name of District of Districts	District-level Community Workshop	Name of Blocks	Block-level Community Workshop (Status and Date)	Target CLF level Workshop	Achievement CLF level Workshop	Timeline for CLF Community Workshops
8	Sindhudurg	6/11/2025	Devgad	03/11/2025	7	7	27/10/2025 to 01/10/2025
			Sawantwadi	04/11/2025	9	9	22/10/2025 to 01/11/2025
9	Solapur	11/11/2025	Dakshin Solapur	06/11/2025	6	6	01/11/2025 to 07/11/2025
			Uttar Solapur	07/11/2025	2	2	01/11/2025 to 07/11/2025
10	Thane	Not yet conducted	Murbad	Not yet conducted	8	8	01/12/2025 to 07/11/2025
			Shahapur	Not yet conducted	7	7	-
11	Wardha	04/11/2025	Wardha	30/10/2025	11	11	21/10/2025 to 30/10/2025
			Samudrapur	29/10/2025	6	6	21/10/2025 to 30/10/2025
12	Yavatmal	06/11/2025	Kalamb	31/10/2025	3	3	21/10/2025 to 31/10/2025
			Ralegaon	31/10/2025	3	3	21/10/2025 to 31/10/2025
Total	12	8	24	19	148	131	-

Table 8: Status of Community Workshops



Pictures: Various-level Community Workshops- “Walking Down the Lane” across intervention districts

- **Stakeholder Visit to the Block-Level Community Workshop - Sawantwadi Block, Sindhudurg**

As part of the project, community workshops are being conducted at the CLF, block, and district levels. In this context, the Block Level Community Workshop at Sawantwadi, District Sindhudurg, was held on 04 November 2025.

The Chief Operating Officer, the Program Manager and Project Lead Kudumbashree NRO, attended the workshop to have an understanding of the community aspirations in taking the project forward. From UMED-MSRLM, the State Program Manager and District Mission Manager also participated and shared valuable insights, reinforcing the importance of convergence-led governance.

During the workshop, representatives from the Block Mission Management Unit, CLF, and project cadres including DRPs, BRPs, and LRPs, presented the key activities undertaken during the project period and shared their field-level experiences. Elected representatives from local self-governance institutions-Sarpanch, Up-Sarpanch, and Panchayat Members-and officials from various government departments also contributed their perspectives on convergence efforts.

A Gallery Walk displayed major achievements and success stories from the field, offering participants an opportunity to learn from practical examples. Project-related documents such as committee registers, convergence plans, monitoring formats, and achievement data were showcased. Additionally, Balasabha registers, adult literacy materials, IEC tools, and community awareness charts were exhibited, reflecting the depth and diversity of community interventions.

The exhibition highlighted the systematic efforts, innovations, and strong collaboration between women's collectives and Gram Panchayats, demonstrating the project's role in advancing inclusive and participatory local development.





Picture: Stakeholder Visit to the Block-Level Community Workshop - Sawantwadi Block, Sindhudurg

## सावंतवाडीत 'जनप्रतिनिधी-समुदाय संस्था समन्वय' प्रकल्पाची तालुकास्तरीय कार्यशाळा संपन्न

सावंतवाडीत 'जनप्रतिनिधी-समुदाय संस्था समन्वय' प्रकल्पाची तालुकास्तरीय कार्यशाळा संपन्न

सावंतवाडी (प्रतिनिधी):

जनप्रतिनिधी-समुदाय संस्था समन्वय प्रकल्पांतर्गत तालुकास्तरीय मूल्यमापन कार्यशाळा सावंतवाडीत आयोजित करण्यात आली. या कार्यशाळेत गावपातळीवरील उपक्रमांचा सखोल आढावा घेण्यात आला.

प्रार्थना आणि दीपप्रज्वलन करून कार्यशाळेची सुरुवात झाली. जिल्हा व्यवस्थापक (संस्था विकास व क्षमता वांधणी) स्वाती यांनी कार्यशाळेची प्रस्तावना केली. तळवडेच्या स्थानिक संसाधन व्यक्ती श्रीमती मयुरी दळवी यांनी एका प्रातिनिधिक सादरीकरणाद्वारे आपल्या कामाचा आढावा घेतला. बालसभा सदस्य कौस्तुभ गावडे आणि प्रथमेश परब यांनी या प्रकल्पातील आपले अनुभव सांगितले. अक्षरज्योती योजनेच्या लाभार्थी भारती माणगावकर यांनीही आपले मनोगत



व्यक्त केले. सातुळी-बावळाटच्या सरपंच सोनाली परब, तळवडेचे ग्रा.पं. सदस्य केशव परब आणि भालावलच्या ग्रा.पं. अधिकारी तुपती राणे यांनी प्रकल्पांतर्गत गावपातळीवर राबवलेल्या उपक्रमांचे अनुभव कथन केले.

यावेळी कुटुंबश्री राष्ट्रीय संसाधन संस्था, केरळचे मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी प्रशांत यांनी गॅलरी वॉक

दरम्यान उपक्रमांवर चर्चा केली. त्यानंतर जिल्हा अभियान व्यवस्थापक पवार सर, राज्य व्यवस्थापक प्रसाद सर यांनी अमूल्य मार्गदर्शन केले.

या कार्यशाळेला कुटुंबश्री राष्ट्रीय संसाधन संस्था केरळचे प्रशांत पी, प्रिया पॉल, सम्यक लोहकरे, श्वेता पांडे, महाराष्ट्र राज्याचे प्रसाद कांबळे, सिंधुदुर्गचे वैभव पवार, निलेश वालावलकर, नितीन

जावळे हे मान्यवर उपस्थित होते. यासोबतच माजगाव, आंबेगाव, वेलें, सातोळी-बावळाट, आंबोली, डिगणे-डोंगरपाल, आरोदा, धाकोरे, तळवडे, वाफोली, शेलें या ग्रामपंचायतींचे सरपंच, उपसरपंच, सदस्य आणि ग्रामपंचायत अधिकारी, सर्व समुदायस्तरीय संघाचे पदाधिकारी, तसेच इतर पदाधिकारी मोठ्या संख्येने उपस्थित होते.

*Note on Newspaper coverage: The Pudhari newspaper reported on the taluka-level community workshop of the "PRI-CBO Convergence Project" held in Sawantwadi, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra. The workshop was organised to review and discuss initiatives implemented at the village level through coordination between PRI representatives and community-based institutions. Participants included representatives from Gram Panchayats, community organisations, project functionaries from Kudumbashree NRO*

*Kerala, and State, district and block level SRLM officials. The workshop provided a platform to share experiences, discuss challenges, and strengthen coordination for more effective local governance and community-led development.*

- **Overall Experience from the Community Workshops**

The community workshops across districts have become powerful platforms for learning, reflection, and strengthening convergence. These workshops require substantial preparation, and it has been impressive to see the BMMU and DMMU teams working collectively, holding multiple meetings with cadres and CBO members to plan each event. This collaborative groundwork has significantly improved the quality and ownership of the workshops.

At the CLF level, the presence and active participation of Cluster Coordinators and CLF Managers have been especially notable. Many of them are attending workshops of neighbouring CLFs within the same block to observe, learn, and improve their own sessions. This has created a healthy, motivating sense of competition among CLFs to design more meaningful and engaging workshops. CLF members are visibly taking ownership, coordinating, planning, and executing different parts of the programme with confidence. Their strong awareness of all activities in their Gram Panchayats, including committee formations and convergence efforts, enables them to clearly articulate how these interventions have strengthened their relationship with the Panchayats.

The participation of Gram Panchayat representatives in the CLF workshops has also been remarkable. Beyond attendance, they were actively involved in discussions, sharing experiences of how convergence with CBOs has helped in the implementation of various initiatives. They also highlighted the importance of these activities in advancing the goals of the Samruddha Panchayat Abhiyan, and the way they are collectively working towards achieving the campaign's objectives.

The block-level workshops were equally systematic and well-organised. Administrative leaders such as Block Development Officers, Panchayat Extension Officers, Line department functionaries, and, at the district level, the ZP CEO and PD, all chaired or attended the sessions. Select PRI members, CLF representatives, and LRPs enriched the discussions with grounded insights. The experience-sharing segments were often the most powerful moments—participants shared stories that provided deep, new perspectives on what convergence truly means on the ground.

Local Resource Persons also shared inspiring personal journeys. Many explained that earlier, in their CRP role, their work was mostly confined to SHGs. They interacted mostly with women in their groups and rarely spoke in mixed gatherings or in front of men. They often felt they had less knowledge or lacked the confidence to speak publicly.

However, through the PRI-CBO convergence project, they began engaging regularly with Gram Panchayat members and the larger community. This exposure helped them build strong relationships and a wide network of contacts in the GP. Over time, they developed the confidence to speak in front of the entire village, including men, during Gram Sabhas, place demands, ask questions, and articulate community needs.

A testimony of a LRP from Solapur reflected the impact of the project:

“Earlier we were known only within SHGs, but now, when we go to any place in the Gram Panchayat even the Panchayat office people offer us a chair and speak to us respectfully. This is what we have earned. We worked sincerely for inclusion and development, and the project gave us confidence. Through us, it has empowered many others in the village.”

*These stories reinforce that the community workshops are not just formal meetings; they are spaces where confidence is built, relationships are strengthened, and grassroots leadership is nurtured. They have shown how convergence is transforming not only systems but also people, making governance more inclusive and participatory.*



सोलापुर जिल्हा पुल आउट 03-11-2025

## गुळवंचीत मुख्यमंत्री समृद्ध पंचायतराज अभियानात ग्रामस्थांची 'उमेद' चमकली

प्रतिनिधी | उत्तर सोलापूर

गाव एकवटलं... लोक सहभागी झाले... आणि खऱ्या अर्थाने विकासाची गंगा वाहू लागली. मुख्यमंत्री समृद्ध पंचायतराज अभियानांतर्गत गुळवंची ग्रामस्थांनी एक वेगळ्याच आदर्श घालून दिला आहे. शासनाच्या या उपक्रमाला गावकऱ्यांच्या स्वबळाच्या, एकतेच्या आणि कार्यतत्परतेचा सुंदर संगम लाभला आहे.

आज या अभियानाचा सहवा आठवडा साजरा झाला आणि गावाच्या दैवतांपैकी एक असलेल्या श्री प्रभाकर स्वामी महाराज मंदिर परिसराची स्वच्छता मोहीम मोठ्या उत्साहात राबवण्यात आली. मंदिर परिसर



नव्या तेजानं उजळला, आणि गावकऱ्यांच्या डोळ्यांत समाधानाची चमक दिसली. या उपक्रमात उमेद समूहाच्या नूतन बोराडे, रंजना कोरके, मंदाकिनी पिरके, सविता उडणशिवे, होसाबाई पांडरे, विजया बोराडे, तुळसा खडके यांसह ग्रामस्थ सामाजिक कार्यकर्ते महेश कोरके, शहाजी बोराडे, शहाजी नवगिरे, दिलीप राठोड, गणेश शिंदे, आप्पा कोरके, अमोल बोराडे, विश्वजीत देशमुख, सौदागर बोराडे यांनी श्रमदान केले. या कार्यांमार्गे ग्रामपंचायतचा ठसा उमटवणारे गावचे सरपंच सुनिल जाधव आणि ग्रामपंचायत अधिकारी मीनाक्षी सरवदे यांचेही सक्रिय मार्गदर्शन लाभले. गुळवंचीकरांच्या या एकजूटीच्या आणि स्वच्छतेच्या कार्यामुळे संपूर्ण तालुक्यात गावाचे कौतुक होत आहे. हे फक्त अभियान नाही, तर गुळवंचीच्या विकासाचा उत्सव आहे, अशी भावना ग्रामस्थांनी व्यक्त केली.

## पुण्य नगरी

### पंचायतराज आणि उमेद यांच्यातील समन्वयाने विकासकामात गतिशीलता

प्रकल्पसंदर्भ करतानाही उत्तरीय नवन गावचे प्रतिबद्ध



भद्रावती - राणी तिराई प्रचलसंग, चंद्रपूरचे छात्रा वतीने पंचनखोडा येथील प्रभागसंगण कार्यालयात प्रभागसंगण कार्यशाळेचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. यावेळी सरपंच नवन गावचे यांनी प्रकल्पाच्या कामाविषयी समाधान व्यक्त करून या प्रकल्पामुळे पंचायतराज संस्था व उमेद अंतर्गत विविध संस्था मधील समन्वयाने विकासकामात गतिशीलता निर्माण झाल्याचे मत व्यक्त केले.

गावचे प्रभाग संघ अध्यक्ष उषा रोडे, अरुण चौधरी, मंगेश किनांबे, हस विकास अधिकाारी प्रकाश म्हाटे, प्रभास समन्वयक हर्षा नागुरे, विद्यासा मून, मीनाक्षी जमराडे उमेदच्या सारदार रण्य श्रेणिके वीरनेनेची अर्थिकाच्या मध्यस्थानु प्रत्येकी केरळ यांच्या मनीलंनल लक्ष्मण अभियान व्यवस्थापन कक्ष पंचायत समितीच्या कार्यक्षेत्रातील पंचनखोडा, मुंबोली प्रकल्पातील गावामध्ये पंचायत राज संस्था व समुदायकार आधारित संस्था

प्रकल्पांतर्गत ऑगस्ट २०२४ च्या सुद्धा विविध उपक्रम राबविण्यात आले. पंचायत राज संस्था व उमेद अंतर्गत विविध समुदाय आधारित संस्था, ग्रामीण विकाससमिती कार्यरत विविध विभाग वीरनेनेने समन्वय वाढवून वीरिटी मिळवून घेईताना सधमीकरण करणे हा या प्रकल्पाचा उद्देश आहे.

या माध्यमातून प्रकल्प कलाकामात राबविण्यात आलेले विविध उपक्रम व टप्पे, बदल, परतकथा, निरपे उपलब्धी, गाव निवास कामाचे पोस्टिंग प्रदर्शन, अनुभव देवाण पोषण, कृतीसंगम योजना, प्रभागसंगण सारंगे परिणयकालीन निवेदन अद्येचे साररीकरण करण्यात आले. प्रकल्पांतर्गत विविध उपक्रमांमुळे गावचे सदरकांना सामाजिक न्याय व विकास प्रक्रियेतील सहभाग

काढ, प्रसिध्द विकासा कामे मारी लागणे, ग्रामस्था उपरिस्थती, विकासा कामाचे निवेदननात लोक लोकसहभाग, यारुबंधी, विविध योजनाविकषी उदरगुती व राब, माहिती व याल कल्याण निधी कोण वार आदी घाणले घेतल विरानु आणे. वाररीकरणानंतर लक्ष्मण अधिपान व्यवस्थापक अरुण चौधरी यांनी झालेले घेतल घाणत राहणे गरजेचे असुन असलेला उर्णावाविकषी जाणीव करून दिली. या कार्यशाळेला स्वागतिक स्वागत्य संस्थांचे पदाधिकारी, ग्रामसंगण प्रतिनिधी, स्वागतिक संस्थांघन ज्योती, कॅड, लक्ष्मणक अदी उपरिस्थित होते. संवालय प्रभाग व्यवस्थापक स्वाती राठोडे यांनी केले. प्रास्ताविक हर्षा नागुरे यांनी केले.

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### Note on Solapur & Chandrapur Newspaper Coverage

These news articles highlight the visible impact of the PRI-CBO Convergence efforts across Solapur and Chandrapur districts. The Solapur report specifically showcases how Community-Based Organisation networks are actively participating in the Samruddha Panchayat Raj Abhiyan, contributing to stronger planning, improved service delivery, and faster implementation of development activities at the village level. The Chandrapur



## **Note on Gondia & Sindhudurg Newspaper Coverage**

The newspaper coverage highlights the progress of PRI-CBO Convergence activities in Gondia and Sindhudurg district. Reports specifically feature CLF-level community workshops, which saw enthusiastic participation not only from community members but also from Gram Panchayat representatives, including the Sarpanch and Panchayat members. The articles showcase how these workshops were conducted in an engaging and participatory manner, with active involvement from all stakeholders. Gram Panchayat leaders expressed that, thanks to the strengthened CBO networks, the planning and execution of Gram Panchayat works have become faster and more efficient.

### **42. Status of EWR Training as per the State Operational Framework**

According to the State Operational Framework (SoF) prepared by the MSRLM team, the Training of Elected Women Representatives (EWRs), planned as a key activity for Quarter 6, could not be conducted at the block level within the project timeline. Although the activity was scheduled in the final quarter, it could not be implemented due to the non-availability of an empanelled training agency. Subsequently, based on a decision taken by SRLM, the activity was temporarily put on hold, the revised completion timeline is yet to be discussed and finalised.

However, it is important to note that DRPs and BRPs have already been trained on all relevant topics and are capable of facilitating these sessions independently if required. This ensures that the training can still be conducted smoothly once the State gives further directions.

## X. CHALLENGES

The implementation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project across multiple quarters encountered several operational, administrative, and capacity-related challenges that influenced the pace and efficiency of project activities. These challenges were observed across quarters, with certain variations in each period.

### 1. Cadre-Related Challenges

- **Honorarium/Payment Delays:** Timely disbursement of payments for DRPs, BRPs, and LRPs was occasionally delayed, affecting consistent field participation and motivation.
- **Limited Working Days for DRPs:** With only two working days per month, DRPs had limited opportunities to provide on-ground guidance and follow-up support.
- **Cadre Attrition and Replacement:** In some districts, replacements for discontinued DRPs, BRPs, or LRPs were either delayed or not optimally selected. Certain newly appointed cadres required additional support to strengthen communication, facilitation, and technical skills.
- **Capacity and Engagement Gaps:** Some cadres required further mentoring, particularly in VPRP preparation, mobile application usage, and participatory facilitation. Limited digital literacy, technical challenges, and network connectivity issues also occasionally hindered timely data entry and field engagement.

### 2. Administrative and Institutional Challenges

- **Administrative Transitions:** The project initially operated under the Convergence vertical and was later shifted to the SIIB vertical. This transition caused delay and required additional time to adjust processes.
- **Multi-Tasking of Project Teams:** State, district, and block teams managed multiple responsibilities, which occasionally limited the time available for supervision, mentoring, and follow-up activities.
- **Partial Participation of SRLM Staff:** Due to competing commitments, participation in certain training, orientations, and review meetings was sometimes partial.
- **Delays in Approvals and Communications at various levels:** Some activities, such as PRI and Line Department orientations and GPCC formations, required more official letters or directives, the absence of which occasionally caused procedural delays.
- **Dependence on Collaborative Guidelines:** Formation of GPCCs required official communication from the PRI Department, as MSRLM-issued guidelines alone were insufficient for some Gram Panchayats, necessitating careful collaborative coordination.
- **Absence of Elected PRI body at Gram Panchayats:** Pending elections in certain districts (e.g., Nashik, Wardha, Yavatmal) left GP bodies inactive, which affected timely formation of GPCCs, VPRP submissions, and field-level coordination.

### 3. Operational Challenges

- Delays Due to External Events: Activities in the initial quarters were impacted by events such as model code of conduct, elections, strikes and other large-scale events, which temporarily affected field mobilization.
- Variation Across Locations: Certain non-immersion blocks and areas with repeated cadre replacements experienced slower progress and limited continuity in implementation.
- Technical and Field Support Limitations: App-based data entry, SHG ranking, and compilation of plans occasionally required additional mentoring support.
- Limited Local Ownership: In some districts, district and block officials showed limited engagement in activities, issuing necessary letters, and facilitating community mobilization. Field visits by officials were also infrequent, which affected on-ground follow-up and support.

### 4. Coordination and Convergence Challenges

- Scheduling Delays: Administrative procedures at the district and block levels occasionally delayed the timely conduct of convergence-dependent activities, such as PRI orientations, Line Department meetings, and Citizens Committee strengthening training, thereby affecting overall implementation timelines.
- GPCC Formation: The formation of Gram Panchayat Citizens Committees faced procedural delays due to initial hesitation among Gram Panchayats and the requirement for official sanction, leading to uneven adoption across blocks.
- Inter-Departmental Coordination: Participation and prioritization by line departments varied across locations, occasionally limiting effective convergence and joint planning.
- State-Level Convergence: Several planned state-level coordination initiatives could not be conducted, including the State-Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) meeting, convergence workshops with institutions such as SIRD and Yashada, and the issuance of official communications to line departments regarding Citizens Committee strengthening.

#### **Overall Observation:**

Despite the administrative, operational related challenges, the project achieved significant milestones, including successful VOCC and GPCC formations, effective VPRP submissions in Gram Sabha, and enhanced community engagement in Citizens Committees and overall activities. Moving forward, addressing these challenges through strengthened mentoring, clear communications, targeted refresher training, and structured monthly review mechanisms will further enhance the quality, efficiency, and sustainability of project outcomes.

## XI. SUGGESTED IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

To further strengthen the implementation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project and to address operational challenges observed during the project period, the following enabling measures and institutional support from SRLM are recommended:

- **State-Level Communication for Pending Activities:** The State may consider issuing a consolidated communication to districts and blocks outlining key pending activities, such as GPCC formation, coordination committee meetings, and community workshops with clear responsibilities and timelines.
- **Timely Release of Honorariums:** Prompt and regular release of honorariums for DRPs, BRPs, and LRPs is essential to sustain their motivation and ensure consistent field engagement in project activities.
- **Extension of DRP Working Days:** Extending the number of working days for DRPs will allow for deeper field engagement and better mentoring of cadres.
- **Regular Performance Assessment:** Periodic assessment of DRPs, BRPs, and LRPs should be institutionalised to evaluate performance, identify capacity gaps, and plan need-based refresher training and mentoring support.
- **Clear Emphasis on Implementation Roles:** The State may consistently reinforce that District and Block officials are the primary implementation partners of the project, ensuring clarity in roles, shared accountability, and stronger ownership at the field level.
- **Quarterly Orientation on Action Plans:** An online orientation meeting on the quarterly action plan may be conducted for District and Block Nodal Officers before the start of each quarter to ensure common understanding of priorities, timelines, and expected outcomes.
- **Advance Circulation of Quarterly Action Plans:** Circulation of a formal quarterly action plan letter by the State to all districts prior to the commencement of each quarter will help ensure clarity, preparedness, and timely implementation of planned activities at the field level.
- **Strengthened Review Mechanisms:** As stated in the MoU, a Joint State-Level Review Meeting may be conducted periodically to review progress and address bottlenecks. In addition, regular quarterly review meetings at the state, district, and block levels involving all relevant stakeholders will be beneficial in strengthening coordination, accountability, and sustained commitment to project goals.

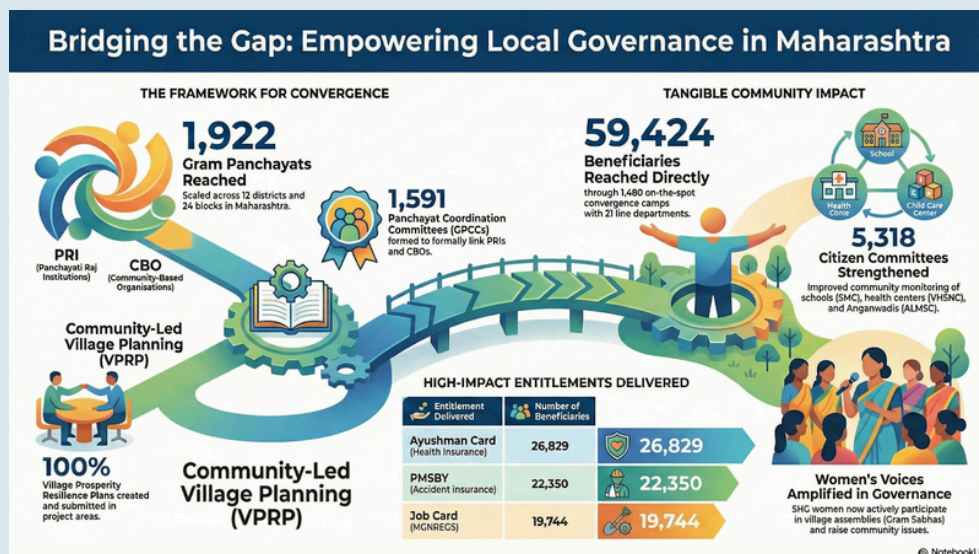
- **State-Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) Meetings:** Conducting regular SLCC meetings will provide a critical platform for strategic convergence, inter-departmental coordination, and policy-level guidance. Active participation of key line departments at the state level will strengthen follow-up on VPRP demands and support systematic implementation of Citizens Committee strengthening initiatives.
- **Formal Endorsement for GPCC Roll-out:** To ensure smooth, uniform, and timely formation of Gram Panchayat Citizens Committees (GPCCs), a formal communication or directive from the PRI Department is essential. Such endorsement will address field-level hesitation, standardise processes across districts, and facilitate stronger cooperation from Gram Panchayats.
- **Convergence with SIRD-Yashada:** Strengthening convergence with SIRD-Yashada will be beneficial for PRI-related capacity building. Collaboration can support structured training modules, exposure visits, and leadership development programmes for elected representatives and PRI functionaries.

Collectively, these measures will significantly enhance implementation efficiency, reinforce institutional ownership, and contribute to the long-term sustainability and impact of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project.

## XII. CONCLUSION

The Phase I implementation of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project in Maharashtra marks a meaningful step towards strengthening institutional collaboration and community participation within local governance systems. By systematically engaging Panchayati Raj Institutions, Community Based Organisations, and line departments, the project has contributed to creating a more coordinated and participatory ecosystem for planning and decision-making at the Gram Panchayat level.

Throughout Phase I, the project focused on building durable institutional processes and human resource capacities. A structured cadre system comprising District Resource Persons, Block Resource Persons, and Local Resource Persons enabled consistent facilitation of convergence processes across districts, blocks and gram panchayats. The orientation, formation, and strengthening of platforms such as Village Organisation Coordination Committees, Gram Panchayat Citizens Committees, and Citizens Committees helped establish regular spaces for dialogue, coordination, and collective planning. The successful preparation and submission of Village Prosperity Resilience Plans in all intervention Gram Panchayats further reflects the project's contribution to structured, inclusive, and evidence-based planning.



Picture: Impact of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project showcased through an infographic highlighting strengthened institutions and improved service delivery.

A key strength of the project was the intensive engagement in immersion blocks, where mentors provided continuous handholding support over nearly two years. This sustained facilitation resulted in stronger institutional maturity, clearer role alignment among PRIs and CBOs, and more regular functioning of convergence platforms. These immersion sites have evolved into demonstration models, where facilitation approaches, convergence mechanisms, and planning processes were refined and stabilised. The learnings and practices emerging from these blocks provide valuable

reference models for strengthening convergence in other Gram Panchayats.

The project also played an enabling role in advancing the objectives of the state-led Samruddha Panchayat Abhiyan. By strengthening Gram Panchayat-level coordination, improving community participation, and supporting structured planning processes, the project directly complemented the campaign's seven objectives. Enhanced functioning of Gram Sabhas and Citizens Committees contributed to improved transparency and accountability. The integration of Public Goods, Services, and Resource Development priorities into VPRPs and GPDPs supported holistic village development. Increased awareness of entitlements, particularly under MGNREGS and social sector schemes, strengthened service access and livelihood security. The active participation of SHG women and community institutions reinforced social inclusion and collective ownership, aligning closely with the campaign's emphasis on participatory and responsive governance.

Strengthening of statutory Citizens Committees further supported improvements in service delivery and monitoring in education, health, nutrition, and early childhood care. Regular meetings, improved documentation, and follow-up on resolutions enabled these committees to function more effectively as grassroots accountability platforms. Convergence camps and coordinated engagements with line departments facilitated timely service delivery and helped translate community priorities into actionable outcomes, supporting multiple dimensions of the Samruddha Panchayat vision.

The implementation experience also generated valuable institutional learning, particularly on the importance of sustained mentoring, clear administrative communication, and coordinated engagement across departments. The gradual alignment of systems, roles, and processes over the implementation period has helped reinforce institutional ownership and laid the groundwork for deeper convergence in subsequent phases.

In conclusion, Phase I of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project has established a strong foundation for collaborative governance and participatory planning across Maharashtra's Gram Panchayats. The capacity developed within immersion blocks, the strengthened community and PRI institutions, and the alignment with key state initiatives such as the Samruddha Panchayat Abhiyan collectively position the project as a scalable and sustainable model. With continued institutional support and strategic follow-up, the convergence processes initiated during Phase I can be further consolidated to support responsive, inclusive, and resilient local governance across the state.

### XIII. PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

Sl. No.	Activity	Current Status	Key Gaps / Issues	Action Required from SRLM	Expected Timeline
1	<b>VPRP 2024-25 and VPRP 2025-26 Demand Achievements &amp; Innovative Activities</b>	Ongoing	Some VPRP demands yet to be addressed through convergence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directing districts to review pending VPRP demands</li> <li>• Facilitate convergence with line departments &amp; GPs</li> <li>• Integrate pending demands into GPDP/ departmental plans</li> <li>• Monitor through monthly reviews and field visits</li> </ul>	Continuous (Monthly review and follow-up)
2	<b>District Coordination Committee Meetings / Line Department Orientations</b>	Ongoing (4 districts pending)	Administrative delays; availability and priority of district officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reissuing a letter for pending districts</li> <li>• Conducting virtual meetings with the remaining districts to know the reasons and plan the next steps</li> <li>• Attaching the minutes &amp; action points in the letter.</li> </ul>	Immediate - within the next 1-2 months

Sl. No.	Activity	Current Status	Key Gaps / Issues	Action Required from SRLM	Expected Timeline
3	<b>GPCC Formation</b>	Ongoing (1591 GPs completed)	GPCCs pending in 149 Gram Panchayats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing directions to districts to complete GPCC formation in all remaining Gram Panchayats within the stipulated timeline.</li> <li>• Ensuring the orientation of GPCC members on the VPRP and convergence,</li> <li>• Issue instructions for LRPs and VO members to facilitate and support regular quarterly GPCC meetings.</li> <li>• Mandate Cluster Coordinators to periodically review the functioning of GPCCs within their respective clusters and provide necessary handholding.</li> <li>• Direct CLFs and VOs to include GPCC functioning as a standing agenda item in their meetings for regular review and follow-up.</li> </ul>	Next 2-3 months

Sl. No.	Activity	Current Status	Key Gaps / Issues	Action Required from SRLM	Expected Timeline
4	<b>Citizens Committee Strengthening</b>	Ongoing (448 meetings pending)	Pending meetings across some GPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directing the districts to complete pending Citizens Committee meetings and orientations in all remaining GPs.</li> <li>• Directing LRPs and VO members to facilitate regular meetings and follow-up actions.</li> <li>• Cluster Coordinators to review the committee functioning at the cluster level.</li> <li>• Include Citizens Committee review as a standing agenda item in CLF and VO meetings.</li> </ul>	Next 2 months

Sl. No.	Activity	Current Status	Key Gaps / Issues	Action Required from SRLM	Expected Timeline
5	<b>Community Workshops (CLF, Block &amp; District levels)</b>	Ongoing (4 districts pending)	Workshops not completed in all districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct online review meetings with districts to understand the impact, outcomes, and stories emerging from the community workshops.</li> <li>• Share revised timelines with pending districts for completion of community workshops and submission of district-level project reports.</li> </ul>	By next quarter
6	<b>EWR Training as per State Operational Framework</b>	Not yet scheduled	Agency empanelment pending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speeding up the agency empanelling process for EWR training.</li> <li>• Finalize and release the state-level EWR training calendar at the earliest.</li> <li>• Prioritize districts with newly elected EWRs</li> <li>• Conduct online DRP/BRP refresher sessions on key training topics prior to the EWR training.</li> </ul>	Post-empanelment

Sl. No.	Activity	Current Status	Key Gaps / Issues	Action Required from SRLM	Expected Timeline
7	<b>Monitoring, Review &amp; Reporting</b>	Ongoing	Need stronger follow-up & escalation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutionalize monthly state/district reviews</li> <li>• Ensure standardized reporting from districts</li> <li>• Address bottlenecks requiring state intervention</li> </ul>	Ongoing

## XIV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We place on record our sincere appreciation to the State Rural Livelihoods Mission (SRLM) for its guidance, cooperation, and continued support throughout the implementation of the project. The active engagement and timely inputs provided by the SRLM team were critical to the effective execution and successful completion of project activities.

We also acknowledge the valuable contributions of all stakeholders, partner institutions, and field functionaries who supported the project at various stages. Their coordination, commitment, and willingness to share insights and experiences significantly strengthened the quality and outcomes of the initiative.

We further acknowledge the dedicated efforts of the entire project team, whose sustained commitment, teamwork, and field-level engagement ensured smooth implementation of the project.



Picture: Block-level Community Workshop held in Sawantwadi Block of Sindhudurg district, attended by the COO of Kudumbashree NRO.

## XV.ANNEXURES I- CASE STUDIES

### **Title: “Kadam Se Kadam, Vibhag Sang Jan” A Panchayat-Level Convergence Camp for Inclusive Service Delivery**

Kosombi Gram Panchayat, Mul Block, Chandrapur District, Maharashtra

#### **Context**

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, Umed-Maharashtra SRLM partnered with Kudumbashree NRO to improve last-mile service delivery by strengthening collaboration between Gram Panchayats, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), and government departments. The Kosombi convergence camp marked the first major and impactful on-ground effort in Chandrapur district.

#### **Activity**

The camp was rooted in participatory planning through the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP), where CBOs led community consultations to identify demands—ranging from pensions, ration cards, health access, and demands for livelihood support. These were formally submitted by the CBO members in the Gram Sabha.

Following this, the Mahakali Village Organization, with support from Kudumbashree’s Mentor Resource Person, proposed a convergence camp to address the demands collectively. The Gram Panchayat formally approached the Revenue department and Panchayat Samiti, they issued circulars to departments like Health, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Tribal Welfare etc.

On-ground coordination was shared responsibility: the Gram Panchayat managed venue and logistics, while CBOs led mobilization through door-to-door outreach, youth volunteers, and digital invites. The event was successfully held on 21st March 2025, with departmental helpdesks providing services directly at the Gram Panchayat premises.

#### **Impact**

Over 180 villagers accessed health check-ups; several undiagnosed cases of anemia and early-stage cancers were detected and referred for treatment—potentially saving lives. Farmers received support related to farming, tribal families applied for essential certificates, and many applied for Pension and health card services. The initiative empowered SHG women to formally engage with authorities, increasing their confidence and agency in local governance.



## Way Forward

The success of Kosombi led to 30 more camps in Mul block and a statewide scale-up. From Dec 2024 to Nov 2025, 1480 convergence camps were held across 12 districts, benefiting over 59,424 people. The Health Department's active involvement led to early TB detection and treatment in some villages, which have now been declared TB-free. The Kosombi model proved that convergence at the grassroots leads to transformative, inclusive development.

## **Title: From Paper to Panchayat - When People Plan, Progress Follows**

*Pangardarwadi, Tuljapur Block, Dharashiv District, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, Umed-Maharashtra SRLM and Kudumbashree NRO promote participatory planning and stronger collaboration between Panchayats and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs). The Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP) process enables rural communities-especially women-to voice their development priorities formally and systematically.

### **Activity**

Under the VPRP process in Pangardarwadi Gram Panchayat, a Participatory Village Mapping under the PGSRD exercise brought together CBOs, Gram Panchayat members, women, and youth to identify service gaps and infrastructure needs. Through inclusive discussion, nine priority demands emerged. These ranged from transport access and infrastructure to social services.

To push these demands beyond planning, the Village Organization led an intensive mobilization campaign-rallies, posters, and door-to-door outreach ensured high participation in the Gram Sabha. During the Sabha, the VPRP-with maps and priorities-was formally submitted and stamped by the Panchayat, officially recognizing the community's voice.

CBO members along with Local Resource Person maintained consistent follow-up with the Gram Panchayat, ensuring integration of the community's demands into the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP).

### **Impact**

Six of the nine demands were included in the official GPDP with a sanctioned budget of ₹10.25 lakh. Work has begun on several projects. Notably, a demand for water tank has been approved under the 30% reserved sanitation fund in the GPDP plan. This approval is expected to resolve a major water-related concern that the community has been facing. Also a direct bus service was approved after girls raised safety and access concerns-reducing their daily 3 km walk and improving school attendance.

The process also empowered SHG members and youth to engage confidently in local governance, shifting community participation from symbolic to substantial.



**Title: Empowering Children through Balsabha: Towards a Child-Friendly Village**  
*PRI-CBO Convergence Initiative - Sawantwadi Block, Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra*

## **Context**

Started in December 2023 under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project by MSRLM and Kudumbashree NRO, Sawantwadi Block identified rising concerns about children's unregulated mobile use, affecting learning and social behaviour. Under the Social Development component of the VPRP, Village Organizations (VOs) raised this as a community priority, prompting the adaptation of the Balsabha model-inspired by Kerala-as a structured solution.

## **Activity**

In Sawantwadi Block, Balsabhas were formed in 63 Gram Panchayats, engaging children aged 6-18 as active participants in village life. Facilitated by Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and supported by PRIs and line departments-including Health, ICDS, Education, Police, and Agriculture-the children were trained to conduct structured meetings, maintain records, prepare agendas, and discuss local development issues.

These weekly Balsabha meetings quickly evolved into vibrant platforms where children confidently voiced their concerns and aspirations-demanding safe playgrounds, functional libraries, and greater awareness on health and hygiene. Their growing sense of agency was evident when, in 17 Gram Panchayats, Balsabha members formally invited the Gram Panchayat Sarpanch to attend their sessions. The response was remarkable. Moved by the children's clarity, courage, and commitment, local leaders engaged in meaningful dialogue-listening, responding, and acknowledging that children, too, are vital stakeholders in village governance.

## **Impact**

Several Gram Panchayats incorporated child-specific needs into the Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs)-allocating funds for playgrounds, gardens, open gym, and library renovation etc. The initiative aligns with the goal of building Child-Friendly Villages, promoting child participation as one of the core components of local governance.

## **Way Forward**

After success in Sawantwadi, the Balsabha model has scaled to 1572 GPs across 24 blocks,

engaging over 30,927 children. What began as a behaviour intervention has evolved into a grassroots governance shift—where children are not just seen but heard, not just included but empowered.



## **Title: “Gram Sabha to Gram Vikas: A Journey Together”**

*GPDP-Based Fund Allocation for Persons with Disabilities*

*North Solapur Block, Solapur District, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, social inclusion is a key focus. In North Solapur Block, limited awareness and utilisation of the mandated 5% GPDP fund for persons with disabilities was identified. Trained through a PRI-CBO convergence workshop, CLF leaders took proactive steps to bridge this gap using a rights-based approach.

### **Activity**

With support from mentors and CBO members, SHG women mapped and verified 114 persons with disabilities across 7 Gram Panchayats. Through mobilisation, VO and CLF members raised awareness, facilitated community discussions, and ensured strong presence of eligible families during the Gram Sabha. In many cases, they pooled resources to arrange transport for those unable to attend.

The VPRP was presented alongside a clear list of demands for disability inclusion, with a strong call to allocate the 5% GPDP fund by the Gram Panchayat.

### **Impact**

A total of ₹3.26 lakh was allocated across seven Gram Panchayats, directly benefiting 114 persons with disabilities. In one Panchayat alone, ₹1.2 lakh was disbursed to 40 individuals, each receiving ₹3,000. In several other Gram Panchayats, the funds were used creatively to meet specific needs-home appliances like mixers, fans, and water filters etc were distributed, while some individuals received support for livelihood activities, enabling them to contribute economically to their households. The allocation of GPDP funds not only offered material assistance but also sent a strong message: inclusion is a right.

### **Way Forward**

The model is now being firmly institutionalised, with Village Organizations (VOs) and Cluster Level Federations (CLFs) continuing to raise and follow up on issues of inclusion. Strengthened convergence with departments such as Health, Social Welfare, and MGNREGA will enable more holistic support-ranging from assistive aids and pensions to inclusive infrastructure. Disability inclusion is no longer optional-it is becoming an essential and integrated part of village planning and governance in Maharashtra.

# ग्रामपंचायत कार्यालय, भोगांव.

स्थापना-१९६५



## **Title: “Chhoti Chhoti Baatein, Bade Badlav”**

*Community-Driven Plastic Pollution Management under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project  
Kalamb Block, Yavatmal District*

### **Context**

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, plastic waste and open burning emerged as a silent but critical issue in Kalamb Block. Women-led SHGs revealed during orientation meetings that plastic was routinely used for lighting cooking fires, unknowingly putting health and the environment at risk. This opened the door for collective action.

### **Activity**

With support from Kudumbashree NRO and MSRLM, a six-month convergence plan was co-created with Gram Panchayats. The strategy combined awareness, behavioral change (4Rs), and interdepartmental convergence. Key actions included:

- VO-led distribution of steel utensils for SHG federation to reduce single-use plastics
- Cotton bags distributed during festivals to promote eco-friendly celebrations
- School rallies, slogan campaigns, and early morning patrols by GP for Open Defecation (ODF) monitoring under SBM.
- Construction of public toilets and activation of waste facilities under SBM
- Collaboration with MGNREGA to propose soak pits, compost units, and biogas plants

### **Impact**

The burning of plastic has significantly reduced because of awareness drives. Communities are now slowly understanding the health hazards of waste mismanagement, and Gram Panchayats are integrating waste-related infrastructure into the GPDPs. VOs and SHGs are leading in awareness, advocacy, and practical solutions related to waste management. When one SHG member becomes aware, an entire household becomes informed. And when many SHG members act together, the whole village begins to change.

### **Way Forward**

Plans are underway to scale this initiative to 10 model Gram Panchayats in Kalamb Block with the support of District and Block administrative officials, focusing on waste-to-wealth microenterprises, improved solid and liquid waste management, and school-based environmental education. What began as a conversation has sparked a movement-transforming waste into opportunity and awareness into action.



## **Title: Samuhik Prayas Se Swachhta ka Samadhan- A Women centric Sanitation Initiative**

*Ashta Gram Panchayat, Bhadrawati Block, Chandrapur District, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, Umed-Maharashtra SRLM in collaboration with Kudumbashree NRO has been working to strengthen women's participation in local governance and ensure community-driven solutions to pressing issues.

In Ashta village, with a population of about 2,200-2,300, women faced long-standing challenges around sanitation. Despite having schools, Anganwadi centers, and a health sub-center, issues related to women's health, sanitation, and safety were not adequately reflected in formal planning processes and the absence of community toilets forced women to defecate in the open, posing risks to their safety, health, and dignity. Platforms such as the Village Health, Nutrition and Sanitation Committee (VHNSC), Citizens' Committees existed, but their potential to amplify women's voices was not fully realised.

Minakshi Ramu Jamdade, like many women in the village, was initially hesitant to speak in public forums. With the introduction of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, discussions around governance, participation, and the role of GPCC, VHNSC and Citizens' Committees were initiated. Through repeated orientations, exposure, and mentoring by LRPs, BRPs, and DRPs, Minakshi gradually understood how these platforms could be used to address community concerns in a structured and collective manner.

### **Activity**

During focused discussions facilitated through women's groups and in Committee meetings, sanitation emerged as a pressing concern. The lack of toilet facilities forced women to go out in the open, particularly during early mornings and late nights, compromising their health, safety, and dignity. These shared experiences were documented and discussed within the VHNSC, framing sanitation as a public health and safety issue rather than a private problem.

With support from the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, Minakshi and other women mobilised in a large number to place the issue before the Gram Sabha. The VHNSC played a key role in linking sanitation with health and hygiene, and also helped consolidate community consensus. Through awareness sessions and orientations, women gained confidence to speak in the Gram Sabha. The problem of toilets was formally raised as a priority demand in the Gram Sabha. Through continuous dialogue with elected representatives and Panchayat functionaries, the issue was prioritised, and



the Gram Sabha passed a resolution to construct a community toilet for women. With public participation and Gram Panchayat support, construction began and was completed successfully.

### **Impact**

The construction of the community toilet marked a significant shift in the everyday lives of women in Ashta village. What was once a daily source of fear, discomfort, and indignity has been replaced with a safe and accessible sanitation facility. Women no longer face the physical risks or emotional stress associated with open defecation, leading to noticeable improvements in personal safety, health, and hygiene practices across the village.

Beyond the physical infrastructure, the process triggered a deeper institutional and social transformation. The Citizens' Committee emerged as an active and trusted platform for discussing health, nutrition, and sanitation concerns, enabling structured dialogue between the community and the Gram Panchayat. Women who had previously remained silent in public forums began participating confidently in Gram Sabha discussions, breaking long-standing social barriers and asserting their right to be heard.

This collective success encouraged the community to identify and address other village-level issues through dialogue and cooperation. SHG women, in particular, developed confidence and leadership skills, allowing them to engage more effectively with Gram Panchayat representatives and government departments.

## Way Forward

The Ashta village experience highlights the importance of strengthening Gram Panchayat level Committees as functional platforms within the PRI-CBO Convergence framework. Minakshi Ramu Jamdade and other women continue to actively engage through these committees to ensure that health, nutrition, sanitation, and safety issues remain central to village planning. Sustained capacity building of committee members, regular meetings, and stronger linkages with the Gram Panchayat will be crucial for institutionalising inclusive governance and ensuring long-term improvements in community well-being.



## **Title: “Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees: Strengthening Local Convergence in Sawantwadi Block”**

*Sawantwadi Block, Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

In Sawantwadi Block, there was a growing need for a platform that could bring together Gram Panchayats, SHG federation, and Line departments representatives to discuss and address local issues collectively. The lack of coordination often led to duplication of efforts and limited community participation. To overcome this, Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees (GPCCs) were introduced under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project as a bridge to promote collaboration and convergence, ensure democratic participation, and enhance community ownership in local governance.

### **Activity**

The concept of GPCC was first piloted in one Gram Panchayat, where the Panchayat body appreciated the platform’s potential. Seeing its usefulness, the members themselves decided to convene a Special Gram Sabha to invite nominations for GPCC formation. This experience built confidence among other Panchayats and set the stage for wider adoption.

Subsequently, in all 62 Gram Panchayats of Sawantwadi Block, GPCCs were successfully formed. The process was driven by constructive dialogue—Gram Panchayat members discussed the benefits of GPCCs, realized their importance in coordination, and cooperated in their establishment.

GPCCs, co-led by the Sarpanch and VO President, are meeting regularly, reviewing VPRP demands, aligning them with GPDP, sharing scheme updates, encouraging community participation in local governance, and supporting vulnerable households, with Gram Panchayat actively engaging VO members.

### **Outcome**

- **Sawantwadi Block:** All 62 Gram Panchayats achieved 100% GPCC formation, showing strong ownership and collective participation.
- **State Level:** Against a target of 1,740 GPCCs, 1,390 have been formed as of August 2025.

This progress reflects the growing recognition of GPCCs as an effective mechanism and platform to improve convergence between PRI and CBOs, ensure accountability, and strengthen community-driven development.

## Way Forward

Looking ahead, the priority is to achieve full GPCC coverage across the state by supporting the remaining Gram Panchayats. Equally important is to strengthen the quality and regularity of quarterly meetings so that discussions lead to meaningful decisions. With these steps, GPCCs can evolve into vibrant platforms that drive inclusive, accountable, and sustainable local development.



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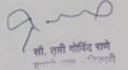
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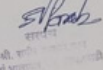
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सभेपुढील विषय :

- १) आदिशक्ती अभियान अंतर्गत ग्रामस्तर समिती स्थापन करणेबाबत.
- २) NRLM अंतर्गत ग्रामसंघ समन्वय समिती (VOCC) व ग्रामपंचायत समन्वय समिती (GPCC) स्थापन करणे.
- ३) दर घर नस्य गांव धोषित करणे

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श्री. प्रतिक पाटील  
ग्रामपंचायत कार्यालय  
ता. सावंतवाडी, जि. सिंधुदुर्ग

  
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## **Title: Grassroots Empowerment through the PRI-CBO Project**

*Gonde Dumla Gram Panchayat, Igatpuri Block, Nashik district, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

This case study is based on the experience of Smt. Monali Janardhan Laad, a grassroots community leader who dedicated herself to social work after overcoming personal and livelihood-related challenges. Her journey reflects the transformation enabled by the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, which provided her with practical exposure, constitutional understanding, and confidence to work closely with women and community institutions.

Before the project intervention, limited awareness about government schemes, rights, and eligibility criteria was common, particularly among illiterate and marginalised households. Although women attended Gram Sabha meetings, their participation was largely passive, with very few speaking up or influencing decisions. Smt. Laad observed this silence even among women in her own family. The PRI-CBO Project became a turning point by strengthening awareness around the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, women's rights, and the role of citizens in local governance, enabling women to transition from silent participants to active decision-makers.

### **Activity**

As part of the Mukhyamantri Samruddha Panchayat Raj Abhiyan, a Special Gram Sabha was organised on 17 September 2025 at Gonde Dumala village. The Gram Sabha served as a strong democratic platform where ambitious and long-pending village issues were discussed openly and resolved through formal resolutions.

Key activities and discussions during the Gram Sabha included:

- Approval of eight internal village roads, including two roads from previous year and VPRP demands
- Fulfilment of an earlier VPRP demand through free uniform distribution for Anganwadi children
- Decision to organise ration card camps, Ayushman Bharat card camps, insurance camps, and 100 percent health check-ups for women
- Fixing 23 September 2025 for a village-wide health check-up camp
- Detailed discussions on village cleanliness and solid waste management, followed by preparation of an action plan
- Decisions to digitise Anganwadi centres and schools, including installation of CCTV cameras in schools

A significant breakthrough occurred around the long-pending demand of office space for two Village Organisations (Gram Sanghs) formed under the UMEED Maharashtra

State Rural Livelihood Mission. Despite repeated demands over the last five years, the Gram Panchayat had earlier cited lack of space as a reason for rejection, leading to disappointment and loss of hope among women.

Through continuous PRI-CBO interventions such as Gram Sabha strengthening, women's mobilisation, and awareness on constitutional rights, women were prepared to take collective action. For the first time, ten women SHGs collectively brought a formal resolution to the Gram Sabha, demanding office space for their Gram Sanghs. Women attended the Gram Sabha in large numbers, exceeding male participation, and jointly presented their demands with unity and confidence.

During the meeting, detailed information was shared with the Gram Sabha Chairperson, Administrator, and department officials about UMEED, the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, and related institutional mechanisms such as Citizen Committees, VPRP, VOCC, and GPC. With the consent of all stakeholders, the long-pending demand was finally approved, and office keys were formally handed over to Udaan and Umang Mahila Gram Sanghs.

### Impact

- Multiple VPRP demands were integrated and approved through Gram Sabha resolutions
- Long-pending demand for office space for two women Gram Sanghs was fulfilled after five years
- Women participated in the Gram Sabha in unprecedented numbers, demonstrating confidence and collective strength
- Women emerged as agenda-setters, not just participants, in village planning
- Strengthened trust in Gram Sabha as a space for genuine decision-making
- Renewed hope and motivation among women to engage in village development and governance



## Way Forward

The PRI-CBO Project will continue to serve as a platform to help communities overcome social, economic, mental, and institutional barriers. Future efforts will focus on:

1. Strengthening Gram Sabhas as inclusive and accountable decision-making forums
2. Enhancing awareness on rights, entitlements, and government schemes
3. Increasing meaningful public and women's participation in GPDP and VPRP processes
4. Promoting health awareness and discouraging harmful practices such as plastic usage
5. Strengthening village cleanliness and waste management systems through community participation
6. Ensuring women receive the practical benefit of 50 percent reservation, beyond policy provisions
7. Enhancing women's leadership and decision-making roles in local governance

This case shows that when women are informed, organised, and supported through PRI-CBO convergence, grassroots democracy becomes active, inclusive, and transformative.



**Title: “Sangharsh Se Samadhan” - Enabling Rights through PRI-CBO Convergence**  
*Hindale Village, Devgad Block, Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra*

## **Context**

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project in Devgad Block, women were first made aware of their rights under the 73rd Constitutional Amendment. This awareness empowered them to raise issues related to basic entitlements and workers’ welfare in their village.

## **Intervention**

In Hindale village, around 45 mason workers were unable to access benefits under the *Banchakam and Kamgar Yojana* as their landowner refused to sign the renewal certificate. Local Resource Person (LRP) Anuja Jadhav, through the PRI-CBO platform, coordinated between the Gram Panchayat and Taluka-level authorities. With the support of the Sarpanch and Panchayat Samiti, and through continuous follow-up by community members, the issue was resolved, enabling construction workers to access the scheme.

Similarly, several families were facing difficulties in accessing food grains through the Public Distribution System (PDS). With the efforts of LRP Anuja Jadhav and PRI member Bhai Mare, 192 families received ration supplies and low-income certificates. The initiative also gained support from Hon. MLA Nitesh Rane, who assured continued cooperation in addressing such community concerns.

## **Outcome**

- 45 mason workers received access to benefits under the construction worker welfare scheme.
- 192 families secured ration supplies and low-income certificates.
- Strengthened collaboration between PRI members, community institutions, and elected representatives.
- Enhanced community confidence in using PRI-CBO Convergence platforms for problem-solving.

## **Way Forward**

The case highlights how grassroots awareness, proactive LRPs, and PRI-CBO Convergence mechanisms can unlock entitlements and ensure citizens access their due rights. In the coming period, women will continue to plan and prioritize their livelihood and development needs through the GPDP. It is hoped that Gram Panchayats will actively support them, as many women are now gaining the confidence to speak up for their rights and participate in decision-making for their families and communities.



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## **Title: “उपजीविका संधीनी सशक्त महिला” - PRI-CBO Convergence Project**

*Sangameshwar Block,, Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, women in the villages were encouraged to identify their livelihood needs and priorities through the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP). These needs were then compiled and submitted in Gram sabha to be part of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). With support from the 15th Finance Commission, some of the livelihood-related demands of women were approved and funded. The initiative aimed to help women start or strengthen small livelihoods and support their families.

### **Activity**

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, women’s SHGs across villages were consulted to identify their livelihood needs through the VPRP and GPDP planning. Once approved under the 15th Finance Commission, resources were allocated and distributed to support income-generating activities. Women were guided on using the equipment effectively, linking their livelihood activities with family welfare, children’s education, and health awareness, while PRI members and local coordinators monitored progress and provided ongoing support.

### **Outcome / Achievements**

- 31 SHGs in Makhajan village (*Pragati Mahila*, 365 families) received a papad-making machine worth ₹70,000.
- 18 women in Kond Asurde village (*Siddhivinayak* Gram Sangh) received a home bell worth ₹18,000 for household livelihoods.
- 6 SHGs in Dhamapur village (*Krishnaahi Mahila*) received 6 sewing machines (₹76,000) and a spice grinding machine (₹45,000).
- Women were able to enhance income, support family well-being, improve children’s education, and raise awareness about health.

### **Way Forward**

In the coming period, women will continue to plan and prioritize their livelihood and development needs through the GPDP. It is hoped that Gram Panchayats will actively support them, as many women are now gaining the confidence to speak up for their rights and participate in decision-making for their families and communities.



## **Title: “Mahila Sashaktikaran aur Upjeevika” - PRI-CBO Convergence Project**

*Devgad Block, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

In Devgad block, provisions for women’s livelihood promotion were already included in the Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDPs) of several Gram Panchayats. However, these provisions remained largely underutilised due to limited collective mobilisation of women and weak demand articulation in Gram Sabhas. Women’s participation in planning forums was largely passive, and livelihood-related demands were rarely raised collectively.

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, focused efforts were undertaken to strengthen women’s collectives, mobilise SHGs and Village Organisations (VOs), and enable women to engage meaningfully with Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). Through structured processes such as Gram Sabha mobilisation, PGSARD mapping, and preparation of Village Prosperity Resilience Plans (VPRPs), women’s livelihood needs were systematically identified and brought into local planning spaces.

### **Activity**

As part of the project, a taluka-level orientation of Sarpanchs was organised in Devgad block on **9 January 2025**. This was followed by village-level interactions led by Kudumbashree-NRO mentor **Ms. Girija Santosh Mandam**, who engaged directly with SHG members, VO representatives, and Gram Panchayat functionaries. Drawing on practical examples of women-led livelihood initiatives from Kerala, the mentor emphasised collective planning, demand articulation, and effective engagement with Gram Panchayats.

Across the block, intensive Gram Sabha mobilisation, Public Goods, Services and Resource development mapping, and VPRP processes were carried out. These activities enabled women’s collectives to identify livelihood priorities and place organised demands before Gram Sabhas. As a result, multiple Gram Panchayats in Devgad block approved livelihood-support assets for SHGs and women’s collectives from GPDP and other Panchayat funds.

### **Outcome**

PRI-CBO convergence processes led to tangible livelihood support across several Gram Panchayats in Devgad block:

- **Dabhole Gram Panchayat:** Five sewing machines approved for the Village Organisation.
- **Padel Gram Panchayat:** Sewing machines provided to widowed women from GP funds.

- Kuvale–Rembavali Gram Panchayat: One sewing machine and one pico-fall machine approved for Rameshwar Mahila Gramsangh.
- Kunkeshwar Gram Panchayat: Two women’s groups (UMED and MAVIM) received 500 plates, 500 glasses, and 1,000 bowls.
- Vaghotan Gram Panchayat: Computer, Xerox machine, and printer approved from 15th Finance Commission funds.
- Pural Gram Panchayat: Papad-making and agarbatti-making machines approved; this Gram Panchayat conducted a successful Gram Sabha for the first time.
- Talwade Gram Panchayat: Masala grinding machine approved.
- Chandoshi Gram Panchayat: Utensil set approved.
- Tiralot Gram Panchayat: Patravali (leaf-plate) making machine approved.

Overall, women SHG members transitioned from passive participation to active claimants of GPDP resources, resulting in enhanced confidence, improved access to livelihood assets, and stronger engagement in village-level economic planning.

### Way Forward

The Devgad block experience shows that strengthening women’s collective voice is critical to activating GPDP provisions for livelihoods. Going forward, SHGs and VOs will be supported to systematically identify livelihood opportunities, place collective demands during Gram Sabhas, and track approvals and utilisation of GPDP funds. Continued PRI-CBO convergence will help institutionalise women’s participation in local economic planning and ensure sustained, gender-responsive livelihood support across Gram Panchayats in the block.



## **Title: “Women’s Participation Driving Village Development” - PRI-CBO Convergence Project**

*Dehari Talekh, Murbad, Block, Thane District, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

The PRI-CBO Convergence Project was implemented in Maharashtra from 2023 to 2025. In Thane district, the project began in 116 Gram Panchayats of Murbad block and operated for 24 months. The project aims to strengthen coordination between local governance institutions and self-help groups, enabling community members to actively participate in planning, implementation, and monitoring of government schemes. In Dehari Talekh, a revenue village with a population of 1,411 (760 men, 651 women, 228 households), women had historically not participated in Gram Sabha meetings, and some long-standing community issues, such as the dilapidated crematorium, remained unresolved.

### **Activity**

On 22nd July 2024, I attended a two-day LRP training where mentors and project staff provided an overview of PRI-CBO Convergence, including the importance of women’s participation in village development, government schemes, VPRP, GPDP, and employment guarantee programs. After the training, I conducted awareness sessions in Dehari Talekh, informing the village Mahila Sangh about their rights, available schemes, and the role of Gram Sabha in village development.

On 29th December 2024, a PRI orientation was conducted in the Gram Panchayat office with Sarpanch, ward members, Gram Sevak, AWW, ASHA, and VO members. The objectives of PRI-CBO Convergence were explained, emphasizing the importance of collaboration between PRI and CBO to reduce poverty and develop the village. Women were guided on linking their VPRP demands with GPDP planning.

On 27th January 2025, a Gram Sabha was held with 97 women and 19 men attending. Villagers reviewed the village map, identifying issues such as internal roads, drainage, garbage pits, street lighting, borewells, school repairs, Anganwadi issues, and the long-standing crematorium problem.

What marked a significant shift in the process was the focused community mobilisation efforts, which strengthened the Gram Sabha as a meaningful platform for participation. These efforts helped build women’s confidence and conviction to engage actively in village-level decision-making. As a result, women not only attended the Gram Sabha in large numbers but chose to speak openly, articulate their concerns with clarity, and collectively prioritise their demands. Their visible presence and unified voice



transformed the Gram Sabha from a routine procedural meeting into a genuine decision-making forum, compelling the Gram Panchayat to formally acknowledge, record, and act upon the community's demands.

### **Outcome / Achievements**

- Women actively participated in Gram Sabha meetings for the first time, contributing to planning and decision-making.
- Infrastructure improvements initiated: internal road work, cleaning of village ponds under Vasundhara scheme, and street lights installed using 15th Finance Commission funds.
- Selfie points and historical information boards set up to promote local tourism.
- Water supply repairs approved with funding of ₹46 lakh under the water supply scheme.
- Livelihood support for women: ₹80,000 allocated from 15th Finance Commission funds for Mahila Sangh initiatives.
- Crematorium renovation approved with ₹8.4 lakh and construction work began in March 2025.
- Strengthened linkages between Gram Panchayat, Mahila Sangh, and PRI-CBO Convergence mechanisms for sustainable village development.

### **Way Forward**

Women will continue to actively participate in village planning and prioritize development needs through VPRP and GPDP. With ongoing support from the Gram Panchayat, women are expected to gain confidence to raise issues, propose solutions, and ensure effective implementation of community development projects. This increased engagement will strengthen local governance and support long-term village progress.



# नियोजनातून प्रत्यक्षात झालेली कामे

आधीचा स्मशान

नंतरचा स्मशानभूमी



आधीचे रस्ते

आताचे रस्ते



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## **Title: VPRP-GPDP Integration through PRI-CBO Convergence in Potagwahan Gram Panchayat, Maharashtra**

*Potagwahan Gram Panchayat, Mul Block, Chandrapur district, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

Potagwahan Gram Panchayat, in Mul Block of Chandrapur district, is part of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. Prior to the VPRP process, several infrastructure and service gaps, such as poor school infrastructure, lack of safe access around the Anganwadi centre, inadequate drinking water facilities in the new settlement, and insufficient village drainage remained unaddressed due to limited articulation of community demands in formal GPDP processes.

To address this gap, Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) were supported to prepare a Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP) through participatory processes, with the objective of systematically linking community priorities to the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP).

### **Activity (Process Followed)**

- Women SHG members, VO representatives, and community members jointly identified village development priorities through VPRP meetings and village-level consultations.
- The prioritised demands were formally placed before the Gram Sabha and approved through democratic processes.
- Through structured PRI-CBO convergence, CBO leaders coordinated with elected PRI representatives and Panchayat functionaries to facilitate technical vetting and inclusion of the approved demands into the GPDP.
- The Gram Panchayat implemented the integrated demands through GPDP provisions and convergence with relevant line departments.

Key demands raised and realised:

- Painting and maintenance of the school building
- Construction of gattu (paving) in front of the Anganwadi centre
- Installation of a drinking water tank in the newly developed settlement
- Construction of village drainage (nali)

“

“पोटगव्हाण ग्रामपंचायत मध्ये ज्या मागण्या केल्या होत्या त्या मागण्या माझ्या पूर्ण झाल्या आहे - शाळेत कालरींग, अंगणवाडी समोर गट्टू बसवणे, नवीन वस्ती मध्ये पाण्याची टाक्की बसवणे व गावात नाल्या बांधणे.”

--LRP Mul Block

”

## Impact

- 100% integration and realisation of community demands (4 out of 4) through GPDP
- Improved learning environment for children
- Enhanced safety and cleanliness around the Anganwadi centre
- Improved access to drinking water in the new settlement
- Better sanitation and drainage within the village

## Way Forward

The Potagwahan case states that explicit identification of local issues through VPRP, followed by structured PRI-CBO convergence, enables seamless movement of community demands from VPRP » Gram Sabha » GPDP » implementation. Institutionalising this approach can strengthen GPDP responsiveness, improve demand realisation rates, and deepen community ownership across Gram Panchayats.





**Title: “महिलाओं की सहभागिता से ग्राम विकास की पहल”**  
*South Solapur Block, Solapur District, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

UMED - Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission is being implemented with the objective of strengthening Self-Help Groups, promoting women’s economic and social empowerment, and increasing people’s participation in village development. Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, Gram Panchayats and PRIs are brought together with Community-Based Organisations to increase women’s participation in village-level decision-making, strengthen Gram Sabha processes, and ensure that the benefits of various government schemes reach villagers directly. From 2024, the PRI-CBO Convergence Project has been implemented in South Solapur Block, where local resource persons have supported awareness generation and mobilisation at the village level.

### **Activity**

Through the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, information about government schemes was shared with villagers, and special Gram Sabhas for women as well as independent women’s Gram Sabhas were organised. Women accessed Mission funds to start livelihood activities and used CIP funds for goat rearing. Bank loans were also available to initiate various livelihood activities. At the village level, coordination between the Gram Panchayat and women’s collectives was strengthened through the formation of GPCCs. Applications were submitted to the Gram Panchayat, Gram Sevak, and Sarpanch for allocation of space for the Gram Sangh office. Solid waste management activities were initiated, internal road works were undertaken in Ward No. 2, and support of ₹500 per woman was provided for waste management activities, along with the placement of waste collection bins. The Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Award was distributed to women engaged in village development work.

### **Impact**

As a result of these interventions, solutions to various village-level issues and challenges began to emerge through collective action. Women’s participation increased across village development activities, and awareness among villagers regarding government schemes improved. Solid waste management initiatives contributed to better cleanliness in the village, while recognition through the Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Award motivated women to continue their engagement in community work.

## **Way Forward**

Going forward, the focus will remain on continued follow-up of village-level issues through GPCCs and women's collectives, strengthening monitoring of scheme implementation, and facilitating easier access to government schemes for villagers. New development initiatives will be planned through PRI-CBO convergence, with ongoing efforts such as GPCC functioning, demand for Gram Sangh office space, Anganwadi development, and livelihood support through Mission funds.

## **VPRP-GPDP Integration through PRI-CBO Convergence in Sevagram Gram Panchayat, Maharashtra**

Sevagram Gram Panchayat, Wardha Block, Wardha District, Maharashtra

### **Context**

In Sevagram village of Wardha district, formal Gram Panchayat planning once felt distant from the everyday realities of its most vulnerable residents. Development plans existed, but the voices of poor households, women, and marginalised families rarely travelled far enough to influence the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). For Roshani Ganesh Sathokar, this distance mirrored her own life experiences. Born in nearby Allipur village into a family facing severe financial hardship, her early life was marked by struggle. After failing her 12th-grade examination and following a family crisis, she was married in 2011 to a cowherd, entering a household where income was uncertain and responsibilities were heavy.

With the birth of her child, financial pressures increased, and like many women in the village, Roshani's world remained confined to household boundaries. In 2013, her entry into the Jijamata Self-Help Group marked a quiet but important shift. Yet, despite growing community engagement, persistent village issues such as poor access to Anganwadi services, inadequate drainage, and gaps in basic welfare remained unresolved. These problems continued not because they were invisible, but because the community lacked a structured pathway to translate lived realities into formal planning and budgets.

### **Activity**

Roshani's association with the PRI-CBO Convergence Project transformed her from a hesitant SHG member into a confident Local Resource Person, capable of bridging the gap between the community and the Panchayat system. Through the Participatory Ground Situation Report and Development (PGSRD) process, she facilitated village mapping exercises using rangoli on open ground. These visual tools helped villagers collectively identify gaps in health, water, housing, and sanitation, making abstract problems visible and shared.

Building on this collective understanding, Roshani supported the preparation of the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP), systematically converting community needs into clearly articulated demands. These demands were then placed before the Gram Sabha and taken forward for inclusion in the GPDP. Beyond planning, she worked tirelessly to revive village-level institutions. Going door to door, she reactivated the School Management Committee and the Anganwadi Monitoring Committee, ensuring parents became active participants in decision-making. A particularly meaningful initiative emerged on Independence Day in 2025, when the community collectively

decided to repair old bicycles for school-going children instead of selling them as scrap, reinforcing both dignity and access to education.

Roshani also ensured inclusion of often-overlooked groups. She organised meetings with elderly residents to understand their welfare needs and facilitated the formation of a Kishori Gat, creating a safe space for adolescent girls to discuss education, health, and aspirations. Recognising the importance of sustainable livelihoods, she sought training in regenerative agriculture from the Paani Foundation and experts, promoting low-cost and sustainable farming practices within the community.

### Impact

The convergence of participatory planning and institutional engagement brought visible and lasting change to Sevagram. For Roshani herself, the transformation was deeply personal. Her goat-rearing activity expanded from a single goat to a small herd, contributing to household income and reshaping family dynamics. Witnessing her determination and success, her husband's attitude evolved, and he began supporting her work and education. Roshani went on to clear her 12th-grade examination while serving as an LRP, redefining failure as a stepping stone rather than a limitation.

At the community level, the VPRP process led to tangible outcomes. Eight women secured housing support under the Gharkul scheme, and eleven community demands were formally accepted in the 2025-26 government budget. Access to social security improved, with health cards issued to over two hundred households and job cards provided to families in need. Special



support was extended to destitute women who had previously remained outside the welfare net. Roshani's disciplined and inclusive approach earned recognition from Block and District Resource Persons, who noted the clarity, organisation, and effectiveness of the processes she facilitated.

### Way Forward

Roshani continues to see the PRI-CBO Convergence Project not as a completed intervention, but as an ongoing responsibility towards her village. She remains committed to strengthening platforms such as the Village Health, Nutrition, and Sanitation Committee and other village institutions, ensuring that no household is left unheard. Her journey demonstrates how participatory tools like VPRP, when combined with committed community leadership, can transform governance from a distant system into a responsive and human process. As Roshani believes, the path ahead is not about competing with others, but about continuously proving one's own potential-both for oneself and for the community.



## **Title: Women Leading Change: Addressing Alcohol Addiction through PRI-CBO Convergence**

*Arjuni Mor Taluka, Gondia District, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

Arjuni Mor Taluka in Gondia district is predominantly a tribal region, where social and economic vulnerabilities are deeply rooted. During 2023-25, the PRI-CBO Convergence Project was implemented in the taluka with the objective of strengthening community participation in local governance and addressing poverty-related and social issues through structured planning processes. As part of the project, Gram Panchayat Coordination Committees (GPCCs) were formed at the Gram Panchayat level to ensure effective implementation of the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP).

Under the VPRP, as part of the Social Development Plan (SDP) various exercises, village-level issues were discussed in detail through GPCC meetings and women's group consultations. Across several villages, women consistently identified alcohol consumption as a major social problem. Alcohol abuse was leading to domestic conflict, financial instability, and social disturbance, severely affecting the well-being of families, particularly women and children.

### **Activity**

Alcohol consumption emerged as a common and critical issue across the Social Development Plans (SDPs) of almost every Gram Panchayat in Arjuni Mor Taluka. The concern was consistently raised by women during federation and village-level meetings. In response, Local Resource Persons (LRPs), with support from Block Resource Persons (BRPs), initiated discussions within villages and engaged elected PRI representatives to address the issue through formal governance platforms. However, early efforts faced resistance from individuals involved in alcohol consumption and sale, leading to conflict and discouragement among women leaders.

Given the widespread nature of the issue across all Gram Panchayats, a special review meeting of all LRPs was organised at the Block Mission Management Unit. The meeting was attended by the Kudumbashree NRO Mentor from Kerala, Block Mission Manager, BMMU staff, and DRPs and BRPs. The discussions reaffirmed alcohol addiction as a priority issue under the SDP framework and focused on identifying a uniform, practical, and non-confrontational strategy to address it. During this meeting, the concept of an Integrated De-addiction Centre was introduced, which provides one month of free treatment for alcohol-dependent individuals.

Following this, coordination was established with the de-addiction centre, and with the active support of PRI representatives, a plan was developed to conduct de-addiction awareness camps at the Gram Panchayat level. Gram Panchayats provided institutional

backing and facilitated community mobilisation, helping frame de-addiction as a collective social responsibility. Out of 71 Gram Panchayats in Arjuni Mor Taluka, awareness camps were organised in 32 Gram Panchayats. These camps received strong participation from women and community members, leading to the identification, counselling, and referral of alcohol-dependent individuals willing to undergo treatment.

## **Impact**

As a result of the awareness and mobilisation efforts, 14 alcohol-dependent individuals from different Gram Panchayats were admitted to the de-addiction centre and received one month of free treatment. Following treatment, these individuals showed significant improvement in their health and behaviour and stopped alcohol consumption. This change had a direct positive impact on their households, meaning that 14 families were freed from the social, economic, and emotional distress caused by alcohol abuse.

The impact extended beyond individual families. Improved household harmony, reduced conflict, and better financial management were reported by family members, particularly women. As alcohol consumption declined within these households, its negative influence on children and the wider community also reduced, helping prevent further spread of the problem. Women expressed a strong sense of relief and empowerment, as their collective voice translated into visible social change. Community trust in PRI-CBO convergence processes strengthened, and women's confidence to address sensitive social issues through formal institutional platforms increased. The beneficiary families expressed deep gratitude towards the project, LRPs, and the administration for enabling this life-changing intervention.

## **Way Forward**

The Arjuni Mor experience shows that PRI-CBO convergence, supported by VPRP and GPCC structures, can effectively address complex social issues. Going forward, the initiative can be expanded to the remaining Gram Panchayats in the taluka, with continued awareness programmes, follow-up counselling, and support mechanisms for recovered individuals. Strengthening GPCCs and women's collectives will be critical to sustaining de-addiction efforts and ensuring long-term social well-being. Institutionalising such community-led interventions can contribute significantly to inclusive and resilient rural development in tribal regions.



## **Title: “Kabhi Akeli Nahi”- A Journey of Dignity and Leadership through PRI-CBO Convergence**

*Tirth Khurd Gram Panchayat, Tuljapur Block, Dharashiv District, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

For most women in Thirth Kurd village, life revolved around *ghar, kheti, aur badi*. Public spaces like the Panchayat office felt distant and unwelcoming. Women’s voices were rarely heard, and their presence in Gram Sabha meetings was limited. For Sumati Eshwar Kanade, this exclusion mirrored her own personal struggles. Divorced within the first year of marriage and betrayed by an alcoholic husband, she returned to her parental home carrying deep emotional pain and social stigma. With no children and little support, her world felt confined and lonely.

Her entry into a Self-Help Group as a bookkeeper marked the beginning of change. Though she worked quietly and sincerely, confidence did not come easily. When women initially approached the Panchayat, they were often ignored. However, with the introduction of the UMED-supported PRI-CBO Convergence Project, spaces gradually opened for women to engage with governance systems and reclaim their dignity.

### **Activity**

Sumati’s discipline and honesty in maintaining SHG records caught the attention of the CLF Manager, who recommended her as a Local Resource Person (LRP) under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project. Through structured orientations led by Mentor Resource Persons, Sumati learned about the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP), Panchayat budgets, and women’s rights in local governance. For the first time, she understood that community issues could move from discussion to action.



She began mobilising women lane by lane, meeting SHGs, and encouraging participation. Village resource mapping exercises were conducted with the active presence of the Gram Sevak, Sarpanch, and line department officials. Community priorities were systematically documented through the VPRP and placed before the Gram Sabha for integration into the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). Over time, regular review meetings and clear instructions from block-level officials helped sensitise Panchayat functionaries, leading to improved recognition of women leaders. Where women were once neglected, they were now offered a chair and listened to with respect.

Alongside governance work, Sumati extended her leadership to social spaces. She began leading adult literacy classes for women at her home and organising Balasabha activities every Sunday. A portion of VO savings was set aside to support children's learning materials and prizes, ensuring sustained engagement.

### **Impact**

The changes brought visible and deeply personal transformations. In the last financial year, Sumati's village proposed 15 development demands, of which 10 were successfully integrated into the GPDP and are currently under implementation. Drinking water facilities were strengthened through the construction of a water tank, the Zilla Parishad school received safe drinking water, and long-pending drainage works were completed. These tangible outcomes strengthened community faith in participatory planning.

Equally significant was the social impact. Women who once hesitated to speak began participating actively in Gram Sabha meetings. When Sumati called for meetings, SHG women attended confidently and in large numbers. Adult women resumed learning through the Saksharata Varg, while children eagerly participated in Balasabha activities. The respect Sumati earned reflected a larger shift—she was no longer known by her past, but as a leader. As she proudly shares, “Earlier people knew me by my husband's name; today they say, ‘She is our LRP.’”

Her commitment was recognised through her selection as a Local Resource Person (LRP) under UMED, affirming both her leadership and the collective strength of women in the village.

### **Way Forward**

Sumati's journey demonstrates that PRI-CBO convergence is not only about development plans—it is about restoring confidence, dignity, and belonging. Going forward, she remains committed to strengthening women's participation in Gram Sabha meetings, sustaining Balasabha and adult literacy initiatives, and mentoring other women leaders. By deepening the use of VPRP and GPDP platforms and continuing convergence with Panchayat institutions, Sumati and women like her are ensuring that no woman feels unheard or alone again. Their story stands as a reminder that when systems open their doors, women step forward—not just to participate, but to lead.

## **Title: From Thumbprints to Signatures: Akshar Jyoti Empowering the Elderly in Nidha Gram Panchayat**

### **Context**

Nidha Gram Panchayat, located in Ralegaon Block of Yavatmal district, Maharashtra, became part of the PRI-CBO Convergence Project implemented with support from Kudumbashree-NRO. While village-level planning processes had gradually become more inclusive, one group remained largely invisible within formal systems—the elderly. Many senior citizens in Nidha had never attended school and continued to rely on thumbprints for official records, pension-related processes, SHG registers, and Gram Panchayat documentation. Simple everyday tasks, such as reading the destination on a bus or recognising numbers, required dependence on others.

This lack of basic literacy not only affected their functional independence but also their dignity and confidence. Interactions with elderly SHG members revealed a deeper challenge: social isolation and declining mental and physical well-being due to limited opportunities for engagement. Recognising this gap through PRI-CBO platforms, the need for an initiative focused on elderly empowerment emerged clearly within the village.

### **Activity**

In April 2025, the Akshar Jyoti initiative was launched in Nidha Gram Panchayat as part of the PRI-CBO convergence framework. The programme was facilitated by the Local Resource Person (LRP), with active support from the Gram Panchayat and Community-Based Organisations. Demonstrating strong institutional convergence, the Gram Panchayat provided a school classroom for daily evening literacy sessions, while Sunday classes were organised in the open school ground to create a relaxed and engaging learning environment.

The initiative focused on functional adult literacy for elderly participants aged 60 years and above. Sessions were designed to help them recognise alphabets and numbers, write their names, and gradually learn to sign instead of using thumbprints. Beyond literacy, the classes became a space for dialogue, laughter, and shared experiences. With collaboration from a local NGO, basic physical exercises and mental engagement activities were introduced to improve mobility, health, and overall well-being.

The LRP, supported by CBO members and Panchayat representatives, ensured regular attendance, personal encouragement, and a respectful learning atmosphere—allowing elderly participants to learn without fear or hesitation.

### **Impact**

The Akshar Jyoti initiative brought visible and meaningful change within a short period.

At least ten elderly participants successfully learned to write their names and signatures, marking a powerful shift from lifelong dependence on thumbprints to self-identification through writing. This change significantly improved their confidence while accessing Panchayat services, SHG platforms, and public systems.

Equally important were the social outcomes. The classes evolved into a vibrant platform for peer interaction, reducing loneliness and promoting a renewed sense of belonging. Elderly participants began looking forward to the sessions—not only to learn, but to connect. The integration of simple physical exercises improved mobility and mental alertness, reinforcing the idea that learning and health can go hand in hand.

At an institutional level, the Gram Panchayat’s decision to support the programme and initiate its inclusion in the GPDP for the coming financial year reflects ownership and sustainability. The initiative aligns strongly with Localised Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), demonstrating how PRI-CBO convergence can address age-specific vulnerabilities through locally grounded solutions.

## Way Forward

Akshar Jyoti in Nidha Gram Panchayat stands as a powerful example of inclusive development through convergence. Moving forward, the focus will be on expanding participation, sustaining regular classes, and deepening linkages with health and social welfare departments. The initiative envisions a future where elderly residents can read independently, sign documents with pride, navigate public spaces confidently, and engage actively in village life.

By embedding elderly literacy and well-being within Panchayat planning processes, Nidha GP has shown that empowerment is not limited by age. The journey from thumbprints to signatures is not merely about learning to write—it is about restoring dignity, independence, and a sense of self-worth among those who have contributed a lifetime to the village.



## **Title: Together for Tomorrow: How Mavalani's GPCC is Building a Clean and Green Village**

*Mavalani Gram Panchayat, Kalamb, Yavatmal district, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

Mavalani Gram Panchayat, located in Yavatmal district of Maharashtra, is a village of around 1,025 people spread across three wards. The Gram Panchayat, led by Sarpanch Smt. Dipali Vinayakrao Jamunkar and Up-Sarpanch Smt. Manisha Valmikarao, has consistently shown openness towards participatory governance. Despite this, the village faced persistent challenges related to hygiene, waste management, and open defecation, which directly affected public health and environmental sustainability.

Earlier, limited coordination between Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Community-Based Organisations (CBOs), and line departments resulted in fragmented efforts and reduced impact of development schemes. Recognising the need for a collective and community-driven platform, the Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee (GPCC) was formed on 19 June 2025 under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project supported by Kudumbashree-NRO. The GPCC was envisioned as a space where elected representatives, community institutions, and government functionaries could jointly plan and act. For the financial year 2025, the Panchayat adopted the vision of building a “Clean and Green Village”, aligned with Localised Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs).

### **Activity**

The GPCC was constituted with representation from PRI members, CBO leaders, ward members, and line department functionaries. The Sarpanch, herself an SHG member, played a catalytic role in ensuring regular interaction and coordination. To maintain continuity, digital platforms such as WhatsApp were actively used for sharing updates, planning activities, and mobilising community participation.



Through GPCC deliberations, a series of collective actions were undertaken. These included cleanliness and sanitation awareness rallies, mass plantation drives at the village school, and health camps in coordination with the Health Department. A unique community contribution campaign was initiated, where each household voluntarily contributed Rs 100 towards school renovation, showcasing a strong sense of ownership.

Creative and locally relevant clean-and-green initiatives were also introduced. SHG women began using the Material Collection Facility established under the Swachh Bharat Mission to manage plastic waste. Decorative items were crafted from coconut shells, and wall paintings promoting good hygiene practices were created across the village. To address open defecation, toilet construction was initiated with assured water supply, complemented by early morning awareness and monitoring by CBO women.

All major activities were discussed and approved in the Gram Sabha and integrated into the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP). Citizens' committees such as the Village Health, Nutrition and Sanitation Committee (VHNSC), School Management Committee (SMC), Women's Committee, and Dakshata Samiti played an active role in planning and implementation, ensuring convergence translated into action on the ground.

## **Impact**

The GPCC-led convergence in Mavalani resulted in visible and behavioural change across the village. Waste management practices improved significantly, with households—especially SHG women—segregating and storing plastic waste and depositing it at the Material Collection Facility. The village made steady progress towards becoming open defecation free, supported by toilet construction, water availability, and collective vigilance.

Environmental sustainability received a strong push through plantation drives, with nearly 200 trees planted on the school premises, enhancing green cover and awareness among children. The school refurbishment initiative, fully supported by community contributions, improved the learning environment and strengthened trust between citizens and the Panchayat.

Health camps increased access to basic medical services and awareness, while convergence with line departments ensured technical and institutional support. Most importantly, the GPCC emerged as a vibrant platform where PRIs, CBOs, and citizens' committees worked together, demonstrating that coordinated action leads to sustainable outcomes.

## Way Forward

Mavalani's experience shows that when convergence platforms like the GPCC are nurtured, village development moves beyond schemes to shared responsibility. Going forward, the Panchayat aims to deepen community engagement, strengthen citizens' committees, and expand clean-and-green initiatives across all wards. By continuing to integrate community priorities into the GPDP and maintaining strong coordination with line departments, Mavalani seeks to institutionalise participatory governance. The GPCC has not only bridged institutional gaps but also created a shared vision for the village. Mavalani's journey stands as a compelling example of how PRI-CBO convergence can transform local aspirations into collective action, embedding sustainability and inclusivity into everyday village life.

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## मावळणी येथे ग्रामसभा उत्साहात केरळ येथील चमूने घेतली भेट ; ग्रामसभेत सेल्फी पॉइंट टरला आकर्षक



कळंब, (ता. प्र.). कळंब तालुक्यातील मावळणी येथे ग्रामसभा आयोजित करण्यात आली होती. याप्रसंगी केरळ येथील चमूने या गावाची भेट घेतली. याच ग्रामसभेतील महिलांसाठी सेल्फी पॉइंटसुद्धा आकर्षणाचा विषय ठरला. ग्रामसभा सरपंच दीपाली जामुनकर यांच्या अध्यक्षतेखाली पार पडली. यावेळी ग्रामसभेत आधी ठरलेले विषय तसेच उमेद राज्य ग्रामीण आजीविका अभियान आणि कुटुंब श्री एनआरओ केरळ यांच्या संयुक्त विद्यमाने 'पंचायत राज संस्था आणि समुदाय आधारित संस्था यांचा कृती संगम' हा प्रकल्प राबविण्यात येत आहे. प्रकल्पांतर्गत केरळ हेड ऑफिसमधून प्रकल्प प्रमुख अरिंदम बोरा, एंझेलिया फ्रान्सिस यांनी भेट दिली. त्याचबरोबर लता टीएम, सम्यक लोहकरे आणि श्वेता पांडरे यांनी ग्रामसभेला भेट दिली. यावेळी सरपंच जामुनकर, उपसरपंच मनीषा काटे, प्रफुल्ल डोंगे, सुधाकर कोंबळे, शिला भोयर, शेवंता मडावी, सचिव सचिन खसाळे, तलाठी वट्टे, बिल्ट जमादार कडुकार, डॉ. सायली देशमुख, कृषिसहाय्यक चंदनशिवे, प्रतिभा यावगकर, अंजली दाभरे, प्रीती कोंबळे, जया ठाकरे, धनश्री उरकाडे, जया उरकुडे, रुपाली गणेशकर, ज्योस्तना भोंडे, राणी माने, लता बुरबुरे, राजुभाऊ मडावी, साधना भगत, सुनंदा भोंडेचदा मोहल्ले, शिक्षक वाटकर, माने, हरी भोंडे, संदीप भोंडे यांच्यासह गावकरी व महिला उपस्थित होत्या.

Yavatmal Plus Edition  
Jan 28, 2025 Page No. 4  
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## **Title: Building Bridges for Development: VPRP-GPDP Convergence Driving Community Transformation**

*Jamkhari Gram Panchayat, Amgaon Block, Gondia district, Maharashtra*

### **Context**

The village's development journey reflects the power of collective action strengthened through institutional convergence. What began in 1998 as a small community group of 20 members gradually evolved into a strong collective of 57 members, indicating growing trust, participation, and social capital. Despite this progress, gaps persisted in education infrastructure, early childhood care, health, sanitation, and inclusive participation in Gram Panchayat planning.

While issues such as school facilities and Anganwadi services directly affected children and women, community concerns often remained outside formal planning mechanisms. The PRI-CBO Convergence Project introduced a structured pathway to bridge this gap, ensuring that community voices could shape development priorities and influence public investment decisions.

### **Activity**

The convergence process was anchored in the preparation of the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP) through participatory consultations. Community members collectively identified priority issues across education, health and sanitation, and social inclusion. These discussions actively involved representatives from key citizens' committees, including the School Management Committee (SMC) and the Anganwadi Level Monitoring and Support Committee (ALMSC), ensuring that school-related and early childhood concerns were articulated with clarity and ownership.

The VPRP was then systematically integrated into the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), enabling institutional approval and access to government resources. The process was facilitated through convergence platforms such as the Village Organisation Coordination Committee (VOCC) and the Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee (GPCC), which brought together PRI representatives, CBO leaders, SMC and ALMSC members, and line department functionaries.

These platforms enabled joint planning, technical vetting, and continuous monitoring, transforming local planning into a collaborative and accountable process.

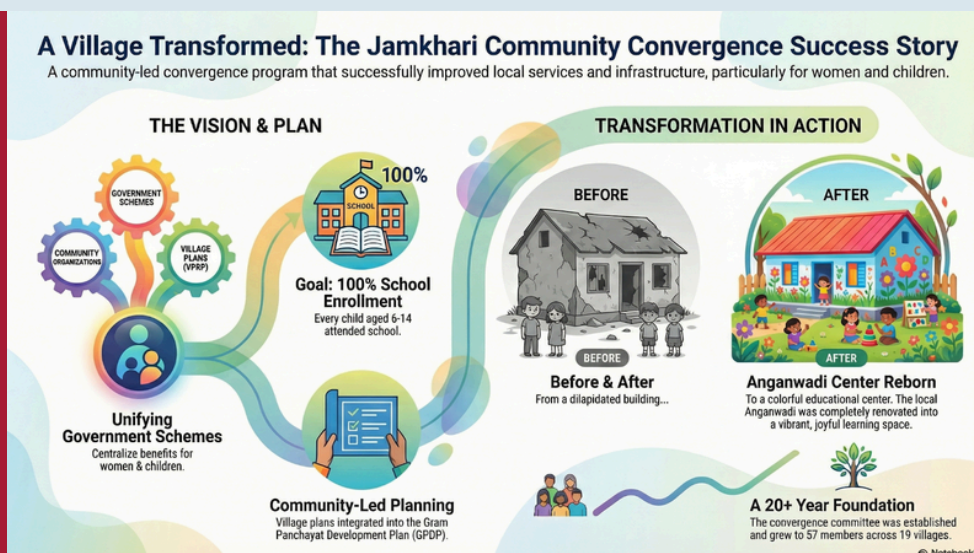
### **Impact**

The convergence approach led to visible improvements in village infrastructure and ,

service delivery. The Zilla Parishad Senior Primary School witnessed significant upgradation, creating a safer and more enabling learning environment for children aged 6-14. Active involvement of the SMC ensured that school-level needs were prioritised monitored, and addressed in a timely manner, contributing to improved attendance and community confidence in the education system.

Similarly, the Anganwadi Centre at Jamkhari underwent a major transformation into a vibrant “Anandwadi.” With guidance from the ALMSC, the centre was upgraded with educational wall paintings and improved facilities, enhancing early childhood care, nutrition awareness, and mothers’ engagement with Anganwadi services.

Beyond physical assets, the process strengthened community institutions. The expansion from 20 to 57 active members reflects increased participation and collective responsibility. Community members now engage confidently with Panchayat systems through formal platforms rather than informal appeals.



## Way Forward

This case demonstrates that effective convergence between community institutions and Panchayati Raj structures leads to more responsive and sustainable development outcomes. Going forward, continued strengthening of citizens’ committees such as the SMC and ALMSC, along with VOCC and GPCC, will be key to sustaining improvements in education and early childhood services.

By institutionalising the VPRP-GPDP linkage and ensuring regular engagement of sector-specific committees, the village can deepen accountability, improve service quality, and respond proactively to emerging needs. The experience offers a scalable model for other Gram Panchayats seeking to embed community priorities within formal governance systems.



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## XVI. ANNEXURES II- CASE STUDIES





Government of Maharashtra  
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department  
**Umed- Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission (MSRLM)**







**“Kadam Se  
Kadam, Vibhag  
Sang Jan”  
Panchayat- Level  
Convergence Camp  
For Inclusive Service Delivery.**

**Kosombi Gram Panchayat, Mul Block,  
Chandrapur District, Maharashtra**

### CONTEXT

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, Umed-Maharashtra SRLM partnered with Kudumbashree NRO to improve last-mile service delivery by strengthening collaboration between Gram Panchayats, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), and government departments. The Kosombi convergence camp marked the first major and impactful on-ground effort in Chandrapur district.

### ACTIVITY

The camp was rooted in participatory planning through the Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP), where CBOs led community consultations to identify demands ranging from pensions, ration cards, health access, and demands for livelihood support. These were formally submitted by the CBO members in the Gram Sabha.

Following this, the Mahakali Village Organization, with support from Kudumbashree's Mentor Resource Person, proposed a convergence camp to address the demands collectively. The Gram Panchayat formally approached the Revenue department and Panchayat Samiti, they issued circulars to departments like Health, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Tribal Welfare etc.

On-ground coordination was shared responsibility: the Gram Panchayat managed venue and logistics, while CBOs led mobilization through door-to-door outreach, youth volunteers, and digital invites. The event was successfully held on 21st March 2025, with departmental helpdesks providing services directly at the Gram Panchayat premises.

### IMPACT

Over 180 villagers accessed health check-ups; several undiagnosed cases of anemia and early-stage cancers were detected and referred for treatment-potentially saving lives. Farmers received support related to farming, tribal families applied for essential certificates, and many applied for Pension and health card services. The initiative empowered SHG women to formally engage with authorities, increasing their confidence and agency in local governance.

### WAY FORWARD

The success of Kosombi led to 30 more camps in Mul block and a statewide scale-up. From Dec 2024 to June 2025, 298 convergence camps were held across 12 districts, benefiting over 17,600 people. The Health Department's active involvement led to early TB detection and treatment in some villages, which have now been declared TB-free. The Kosombi model proved that convergence at the grassroots leads to transformative, inclusive development.





## Chhoti Chhoti Baatein, Bade Badlav

Community-Driven Plastic Pollution Management under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project  
Kalamb Block, Yavatmal District

### CONTEXT

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, plastic waste and open burning emerged as a silent but critical issue in Kalamb Block. Women-led SHGs revealed during orientation meetings that plastic was routinely used for lighting cooking fires, unknowingly putting health and the environment at risk. This opened the door for collective action.

### IMPACT

The burning of plastic has significantly reduced because of awareness drives. Communities are now slowly understanding the health hazards of waste mismanagement, and Gram Panchayats are integrating waste-related infrastructure into the GPDPs. VOs and SHGs are leading in awareness, advocacy, and practical solutions related to waste management. When one SHG member becomes aware, an entire household becomes informed. And when many SHG members act together, the whole village begins to change.

### ACTIVITY

With support from Kudumbashree NRO and MSRLM, a six-month convergence plan was co-created with Gram Panchayats. The strategy combined awareness, behavioral change (4Rs), and interdepartmental convergence.

#### Key actions included:

- VO-led distribution of steel utensils for SHG federation to reduce single-use plastics
- Cotton bags distributed during festivals to promote eco-friendly celebrations
- School rallies, slogan campaigns, and early morning patrols by GP for Open Defecation (ODF) monitoring under SBM.
- Construction of public toilets and activation of waste facilities under SBM
- Collaboration with MGNREGA to propose soak pits, compost units, and biogas plants

### WAY FORWARD

Plans are underway to scale this initiative to 10 model Gram Panchayats in Kalamb Block with the support of District and Block administrative officials, focusing on waste-to-wealth microenterprises, improved solid and liquid waste management, and school-based environmental education. What began as a conversation has sparked a movement—transforming waste into opportunity and awareness into action.





Government of Maharashtra  
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department  
Umed- Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission (MSRLM)



# From Paper To Panchayat

## When People Plan, Progress Follows

Pangardarwadi, Tuljapur Block, Dharashiv District, Maharashtra

### CONTEXT

Under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project, Umed-Maharashtra SRLM and Kudumbashree NRO promote participatory planning and stronger collaboration between Panchayats and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs). The Village Prosperity Resilience Plan (VPRP) process enables rural communities-especially women-to voice their development priorities formally and systematically.

### ACTIVITY

Under the VPRP process in Pangardarwadi Gram Panchayat, a Participatory Village Mapping under the PGSRD exercise brought together CBOs, Gram Panchayat members, women, and youth to identify service gaps and infrastructure needs. Through inclusive discussion, nine priority demands emerged. These ranged from transport access and infrastructure to social services. To push these demands beyond planning, the Village Organization led an intensive mobilization campaign-rallies, posters, and door-to-door outreach ensured high participation in the Gram Sabha. During the Sabha, the VPRP-with maps and priorities-was formally submitted and stamped by the Panchayat, officially recognizing the community's voice.

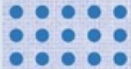
CBO members along with Local Resource Person maintained consistent follow-up with the Gram Panchayat, ensuring integration of the community's demands into the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP).

### WAY FORWARD

Pangardarwadi's story proves that when people plan, institutions respond. Participatory governance is not just a process-it's a path to visible, lasting change. Importantly, this is not an isolated example. Several other Gram Panchayats across Maharashtra have adopted the VPRP process, actively planned, followed up, and succeeded in getting their community demands integrated into the official development plans. The momentum built through such efforts is paving the way for more responsive, inclusive, and accountable rural governance across the state.

### IMPACT

Six of the nine demands were included in the official GPDP with a sanctioned budget of ₹10.25 lakh. Work has begun on several projects. Notably, a demand for water tank has been approved under the 30% reserved sanitation fund in the GPDP plan. This approval is expected to resolve a major water-related concern that the community has been facing. Also a direct bus service was approved after girls raised safety and access concerns-reducing their daily 3 km walk and improving school attendance. The process also empowered SHG members and youth to engage confidently in local governance, shifting community participation from symbolic to substantial.





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सिद्धि का, विस्तार का...



Government of Maharashtra  
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department  
**Umed- Maharashtra State Rural Livelihoods Mission (MSRLM)**



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## Empowering Children Through Balsabha: Towards A Child-friendly Village

PRI-CBO Convergence Initiative  
Sawantwadi Block, Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra



### CONTEXT

Started in December 2023 under the PRI-CBO Convergence Project by MSRLM and Kudumbashree NRO, Sawantwadi Block identified rising concerns about children's unregulated mobile use, affecting learning and social behaviour. Under the Social Development component of the VPRP, Village Organizations (VOs) raised this as a community priority, prompting the adaptation of the Balsabha model-inspired by Kerala-as a structured solution.

### ACTIVITY

In Sawantwadi Block, Balsabhas were formed in 63 Gram Panchayats, engaging children aged 6-18 as active participants in village life. Facilitated by Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and supported by PRIs and line departments-including Health, ICDS, Education, Police, and Agriculture-the children were trained to conduct structured meetings, maintain records, prepare agendas, and discuss local development issues.

These weekly Balsabha meetings quickly evolved into vibrant platforms where children confidently voiced their concerns and aspirations-demanding safe playgrounds, functional libraries, and greater awareness on health and hygiene. Their growing sense of agency was evident when, in 17 Gram Panchayats, Balsabha members formally invited the Gram Panchayat Sarpanch to attend their sessions. The response was remarkable. Moved by the children's clarity, courage, and commitment, local leaders engaged in meaningful dialogue-listening, responding, and acknowledging that children, too, are vital stakeholders in village governance.

### IMPACT

Several Gram Panchayats incorporated child-specific needs into the Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs)-allocating funds for playgrounds, gardens, open gym, and library renovation etc. The initiative aligns with the goal of building Child-Friendly Villages, promoting child participation as one of the core components of local governance.

### WAY FORWARD

After success in Sawantwadi, the Balsabha model has scaled to 170 GPs across 24 blocks, engaging over 4,700 children. What began as a behaviour intervention has evolved into a grassroots governance shift-where children are not just seen but heard, not just included but empowered.





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Kudumbashree  
National Resource  
Organisation