



SILICON VALLEY CHAPTER

ANNUAL REPORT

2025





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Letter from the Coordinators

Dear Asha Community,

As we look back on 2025, we are filled with deep pride and gratitude for all that we have accomplished together. It has been a year defined by renewed energy, strategic growth, and the power of coming together for a common cause.

We are thrilled to share that Asha Silicon Valley's (SV) fundraising efforts have been spectacular. Together, we raised \$614,000, positively impacting nearly 36,000 children in India. A significant portion of this success is attributed to our Team Asha athletic programs, where we placed a major focus on increasing membership. The unwavering commitment of our coordinators, volunteers, and athletes has truly paid off, bringing our fundraising totals back to pre-COVID levels.

One of the proudest highlights of 2025 was the strengthened bond between our local chapters. In a landmark collaboration between the Silicon Valley and San Francisco chapters, we organized a spectacular two-day gala dinner and concert, *Gulzarish*. The event was a resounding success, raising nearly \$55,000 for our projects. It was heartwarming to see more than 250 guests in attendance, including many of our loyal returning patrons. This event proved that when our chapters work together, the impact is magnified.

Beyond our events, we made significant strides in securing corporate funding and organizing specific corporate giving initiatives, a crucial step toward diversifying and sustaining our financial future. Internally, our chapter was invigorated by a wave of new volunteers who stepped up to help with stewarding projects and chapter coordination. Their fresh ideas, combined with the wisdom of our returning volunteers, have provided a perfect balance of continuity and momentum.

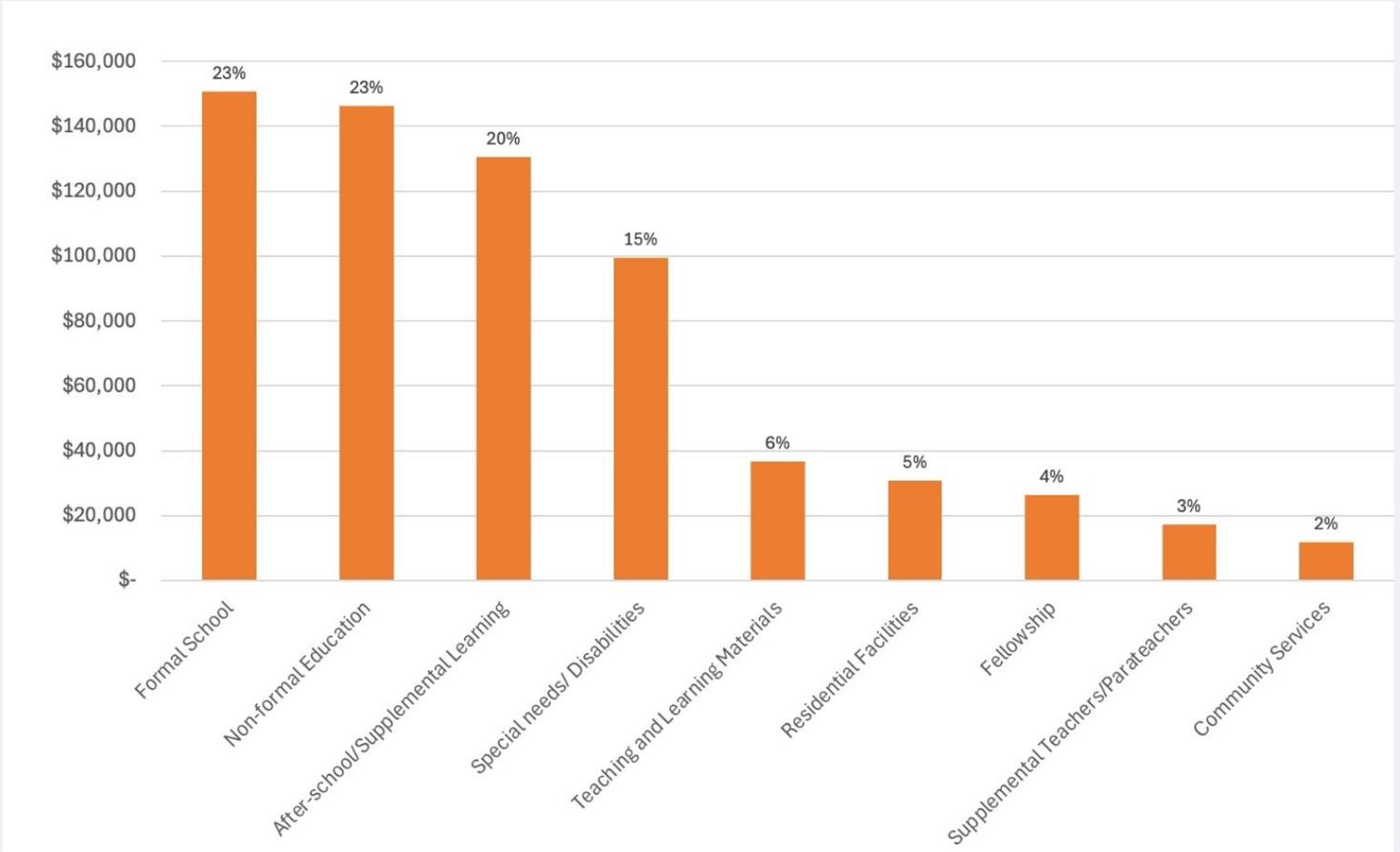
Through it all, the core of our mission remains constant. Connecting with our inspiring project partners during our weekly meetings continues to be the most meaningful part of our work. Each of them champions educational equity with an inspiring dedication that fuels our efforts here in the Bay Area.

None of this would be possible without the support of our incredible Asha community. Your contributions are at the heart of everything we do, and together, we are creating lasting change in the lives of countless children.

With heartfelt thanks and optimism for the journey ahead,

Asha SV Coordination Team

Asha SV Disbursements by Project Types (Oct 1, 2024 - Sept 30, 2025)



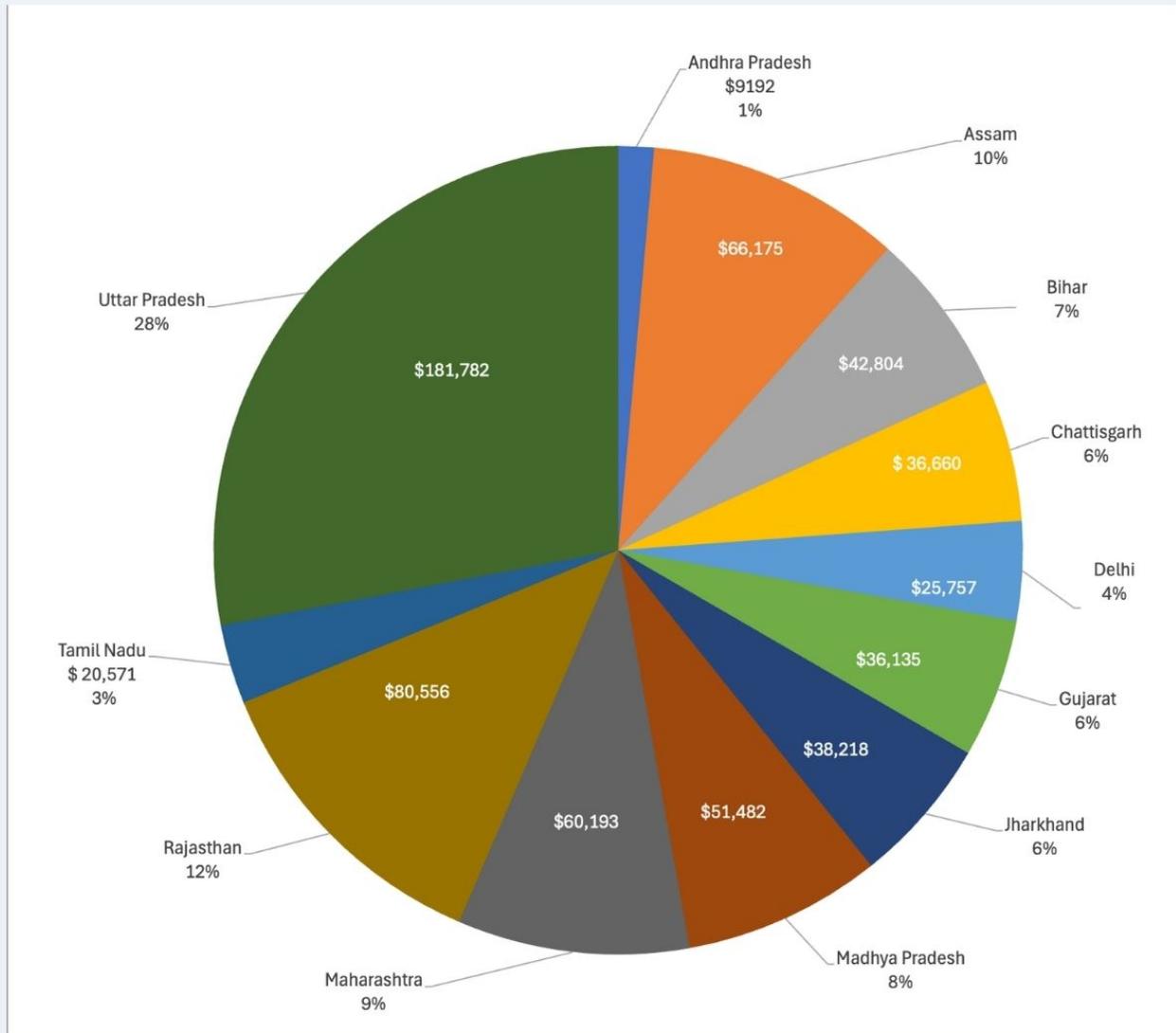
Asha SV Financial Summary for Oct 1, 2024 - Sept 30, 2025

Funds raised: \$614,000

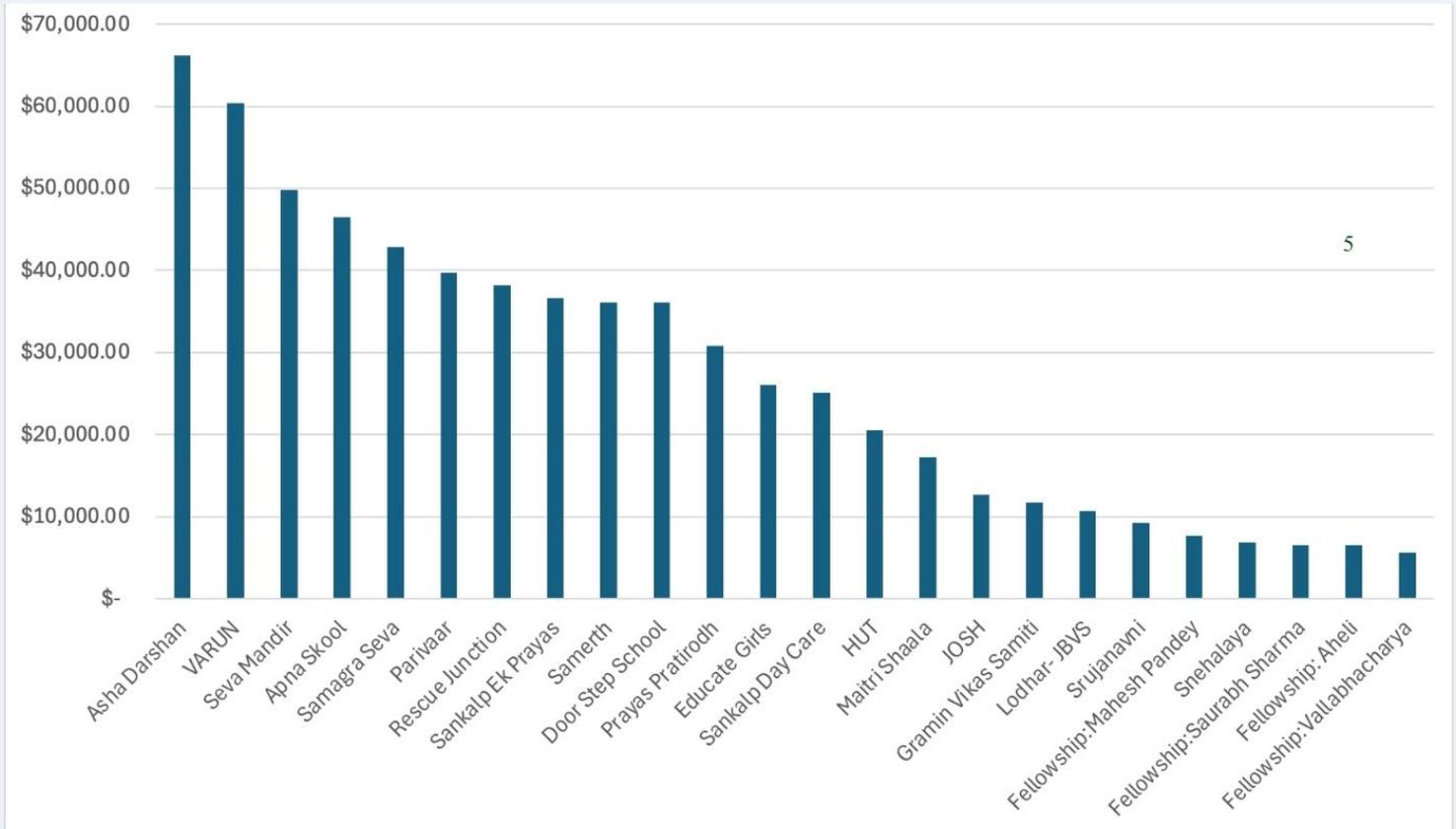
Funds Disbursed: \$621,000

No. of children impacted: 36,000

Asha SV Disbursements by State (Oct 1, 2024 - Sept 30, 2025)



Asha SV Disbursements by Project (Oct 1, 2024 - Sept 30, 2025)



At Asha, we believe everyone deserves a chance to get educated. Our non-profit is run entirely by volunteers who are passionate about educating underprivileged children in India. This was possible through 24 project partners across 12 states, receiving over \$614,000 in grants from Asha Silicon Valley.

Are you interested in volunteering with us? Mail us at
sv@ashanet.org to learn more.

You can also participate in Team Asha Programs (Run, Bike, Hike, Triathlon) to help raise funds.

Success Stories from our Projects

Rani's Journey: From Brick Kilns to Big Dreams

Rani, a student of Apna Skool, comes from a migrant family that has spent decades working in brick kilns. After the early loss of her mother, Lakhia ji, Rani was raised by her father, Rajendra (Bhadon Munda), who migrates each year with his family from Jharkhand to the brick kilns of Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh for nearly eight months of work. This migrant lifestyle meant that, for many years, the children in the family were unable to enroll in formal schooling.

Rani began her education at Apna Skool, an informal learning center run by Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti at the brick kilns. She studied there from Classes 1 to 5, building the academic foundation that would transform her future. With continued support from Apna Skool, she progressed to formal schooling and completed Class 8 in 2022 at Adarsh Inter College in Kanpur. In 2024, she was admitted to Kasturba Gandhi Balika Awasiya Vidyalaya in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh.

A bright and determined student, Rani scored 75.16% with First Division in her Class 10 Uttar Pradesh Madhyamik Shiksha Parishad Board examination. She is now studying in Class 11 at Kasturba +2 High School in Ranchi, Jharkhand, where she stays in the residential hostel. Rani enjoys reading and drawing, and she dreams of becoming a police officer after completing her studies.

As a first-generation learner, Rani's journey stands as an inspiration for many girls from migrant and marginalized communities. Her story reflects how access to education, combined with determination and support, can create new opportunities and transform lives.



About Apna Skool

Apna Skool is one of our longest-running projects, supported by Asha for Education for over 25 years. The program focuses on providing educational access and continuity for children of migrant brick-kiln workers who otherwise miss out on formal schooling due to seasonal migration.

Located in the suburbs of Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Apna Skool serves economically disadvantaged children, helping them build foundational learning skills and transition into formal schools. A contribution of \$80 can support one child's education for an entire year. For more information about supporting this project, please contact the project steward.

Project Steward: Yogita Thakur-
butani.yogita@gmail.com



Vanshika's Journey Back to Education - Joint Operation for Social Help (JOSH), Delhi

At just 17 years old, Vanshika has already faced significant challenges in her educational journey. After dropping out of school, she found herself at a crossroads, unsure of what the future held. However, her determination to continue her education led her to JOSH, a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering youth. Through their support, Vanshika has enrolled in the National Open School to complete her 10th grade, marking a pivotal moment in her life. This opportunity has not only reignited her passion for learning but has also laid a foundation for her future aspirations.

The impact of JOSH on Vanshika's life extends beyond academics. The organization has provided her with a nurturing environment where she can develop and hone her skills. Vanshika actively participates in various community-focused activities organized by JOSH, which have significantly boosted her confidence. These experiences have allowed her to engage with her community and understand the importance of giving back. The transformation in her demeanor is evident, as she now approaches challenges with a newfound sense of self-assurance.

<https://ashanet.org/project/?pid=1322>

In addition to her academic pursuits, Vanshika's involvement with JOSH has sparked the emergence of her leadership qualities. By taking part in initiatives that address community issues, she has learned to work collaboratively and lead by example. Her peers and mentors have noticed her ability to inspire and motivate others, which has further strengthened her resolve to make a difference. Vanshika's journey is a testament to the power of community support and the potential that lies within every individual to effect change.

Looking ahead, Vanshika envisions a future where she can utilize her education and leadership skills to positively impact those around her. Her story is one of resilience and hope, illustrating that with the right support and opportunities, any obstacle can be overcome. Vanshika serves as an inspiration to many, proving that it is never too late to pursue one's dreams and that the path to success is often paved with determination and the willingness to embrace new opportunities.

For more details contact the project steward: Shaibal Dutta
shaibal.dutta68@gmail.com

VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION FOR RURAL UPLIFTMENT AND NETWORKING - VARUN, Uttar Pradesh

Asha SV has been supporting construction and operation of a girl's hostel at Naugarh, Uttar Pradesh.

Need for the Hostel:

- Government schools are not easily accessible from the remote villages in this region.
- The only nearby option is in Naugarh (the district headquarters), which requires accommodation; while a boys' hostel exists through a religious organization, no facility was available for girls.
- Asha, with the support of its volunteers and donors, stepped in to help fill this gap.



Site Visits

Project site visits offer a unique opportunity for volunteers to learn more about the ground realities in India. Many of our volunteers who have visited the projects have shared their experiences as inspiring and life-changing. Children at the projects we support and our partners look forward to site visits by Asha volunteers as opportunity to meet those who care. All Asha projects require site visits: (a) before the start of a project, prior to the decision to fund it, and (b) every 18 months during the period of support, or every 24 months if the project is located in a rural area, i.e., more than 50 km from an urban center.



Asha SV volunteers Kajal Gaglani and Gaurav Kapoor at **Parivaar, Madhya Pradesh** in Jan 2025.

For more details contact the project steward Medha Joshi:
joshi.medha@gmail.com
<https://ashanet.org/project/?pid=1318>

HUMAN UPLIFT TRUST, Tamil Nadu



Human Uplift Trust is a non-profit organization that runs a home and school for orphaned children, Dalit children, and children living with AIDS in the Perambalur region near Tiruchirappalli (Trichy), Tamil Nadu.

My family and I arrived at the Vidhyashram campus around 10 AM and were welcomed by Dr. Indhra (wife of Dr. Raja Venkatesh) and Nirmal Kumar. Classes were in session during our visit, and we were taken through the classrooms in Asha Classroom Block II. The block has about 14 classrooms and currently serves 97 students.

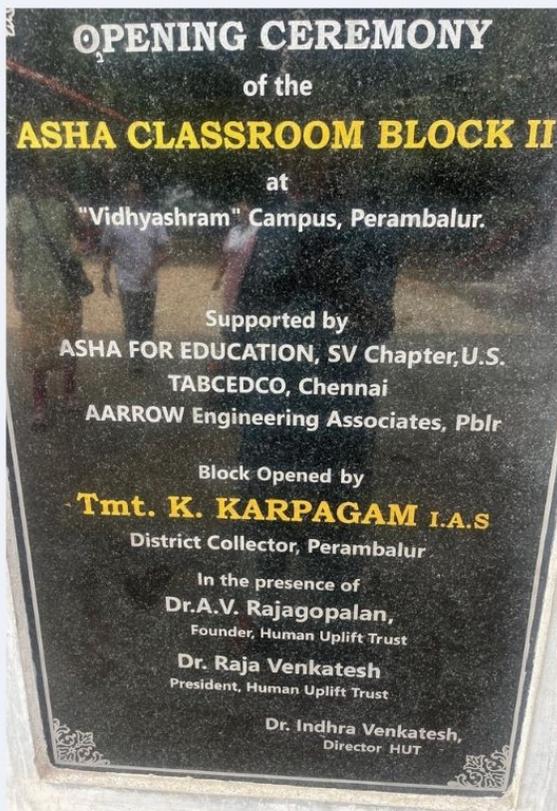
We interacted with teachers, students, and administrative staff, all of whom were very welcoming. The classrooms were well equipped, with educational displays and teaching materials designed to encourage curiosity and learning.

We also visited the student dormitories in the House of Hope shelter on campus. The facilities were simple, clean, and included lockers for students. In addition, we toured the kitchen, where nutritious meals are prepared daily, and noticed a good stock of fresh vegetables.

During our visit to the administration office, I reviewed their daily bookkeeping, student records, including health records and audit documents, all of which appeared to be well maintained. They have plans to add an English medium day school in 2026-2027 and are looking for funding for this project.

Site Visit Report by Bharathi Ramajayam
on Jan 22, 2025

For more details contact the project steward Zainab Jamal:
zainab2jamal@gmail.com
<https://ashanet.org/project/?pid=805>



Team Asha Events

Team Asha is a premier endurance sports training program. It provides personalized coaching, motivation, and support for individuals with a goal to run a half/full marathon or bike 100 km/100 miles, do a sprint/Olympic triathlon, hike or backpack summits as high as 14,000 feet. Since the year 2000, Team Asha has helped thousands of people realize their endurance aspirations while raising funds for underprivileged children in India.





Triathlon



South Bay Running



Bike Clinic



East Bay Running - Chicago Marathon



1st East Bay Biking Team at the start line at Santa Rosa (Giro Bello)



South Bay Biking



Destination Diablo

Gulzarish Shines Bright: Asha SV and Asha SF Unite for a Musical Evening!



From left to right: Sudhir, Sekar, Srinii, Ramya, Vijay, Shilpee, Bharathi, Savita, Sailaja, Vijayasree, Niranjana, Sunil, and Anish

October 3rd and 4th, 2025 were nights of unforgettable music, heartwarming generosity, and collaborative spirit as the Silicon Valley (SV) and San Francisco (SF) chapters of Asha for Education joined forces for the first time to host a collaborative event “Gulzarish,” a spectacular fundraising dinner and concert.

The evening was an absolute success, demonstrating the powerful impact a community can make when united. Volunteers from Asha SV, Asha SF, alongside enthusiastic student volunteers from Asha Berkeley, poured countless hours, days and weeks of dedication and attention to detail into making this event a success, and it showed in terms of the funds we raised!

We are thrilled to announce that Gulzarish 2025 raised an estimated USD 55,000 for Asha for Education.



Photo taken from Sankalp Ek Prayas (SEP) Site Visit Report, Mar 3, 2025. SEP-Asha SV's e-Merge and e-Uddan initiatives are bridging the digital divide in rural Chhattisgarh, delivering low-cost, high-impact digital education to over 13,700 students across 209 schools. For more details contact the project steward Ranjani Kumar:

ranjani.kumar@gmail.com

<https://ashanet.org/project/?pid=1320>

