

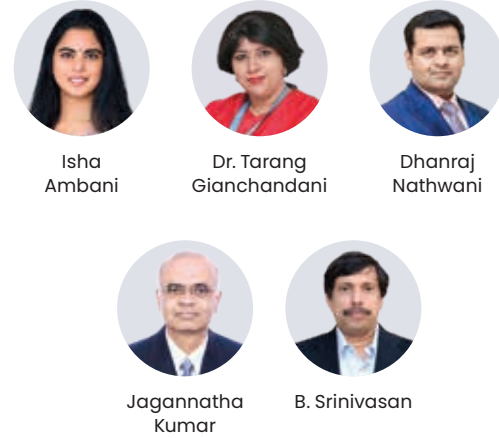
# We Care

For an inclusive ecosystem  
For digital transformation  
For sustainable value creation

For an empowered workforce  
For a greener planet  
For societal well-being

## Vision

At Reliance Foundation, our vision is to build an inclusive India by pioneering a holistic model to address our nation's multifaceted development challenges, and contribute to its collective aspirations. Central to our philosophy is the commitment to enhance the quality of life of people from marginalised and vulnerable communities, by empowering them and catalysing change through innovative and sustainable solutions. Our steadfast endeavour is to create replicable and scalable models of development through an integrated approach in the true Reliance spirit of maximising societal value for all, and making it a movement.



Our aim is to support, secure and empower the lives, dreams and hopes of especially the most-at-need communities. Reliance has come together as one family in this mission of service, with empathy and concern because we care for this nation and we will do everything possible to build a strong future.



## Highlights FY 2021-22

**5.75+** crore

People reached through CSR activities\*


**50,600+**

Villages served through CSR initiatives\*

\*Since inception figures

# Contents



 **COVID-19**  
Outreach and support  
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 **Rural Transformation**

A long-term programme that addresses all the critical development indicators like rural livelihoods, water, food and nutrition, women's empowerment and access to knowledge resources.

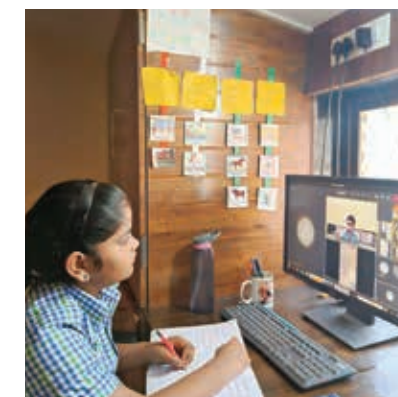
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 **Health**

Reliance has invested in developing a multi-tiered health response system, leveraging our health infrastructure and resources to meet challenges to public health that arise from time to time.

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 **Education**

We aim to provide opportunities for the young to develop themselves into future citizens who contribute to society.

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 **Sports for Development**

Our initiatives in sports offer a platform for budding athletes across India to develop their talent and prowess in various sporting segments.

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 **Disaster Response**

We provide quick response to mitigate the effect of natural disasters. This includes early warnings, mobilisation and distribution of relief materials, supporting the local government to help communities affected by disasters, including post-disaster relief.

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# Guided by Empathy



The past two years have been about ‘seva’ or service to humanity. While the year 2021 started off with a lot of hope, it also marked the severest second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic – the largest humanitarian crisis that has affected the world and our country.

Team Reliance came together as one family in this mission of service. Through the pandemic, Reliance worked to fulfil the emerging, urgent needs of the nation during the unforeseen pandemic situation while working to empower communities to rebuild their lives. This was not about Corporate Social Responsibility. This was about saving, securing and reviving lives, and dreams and hopes for a better future.



## Summary of FY 2021-22

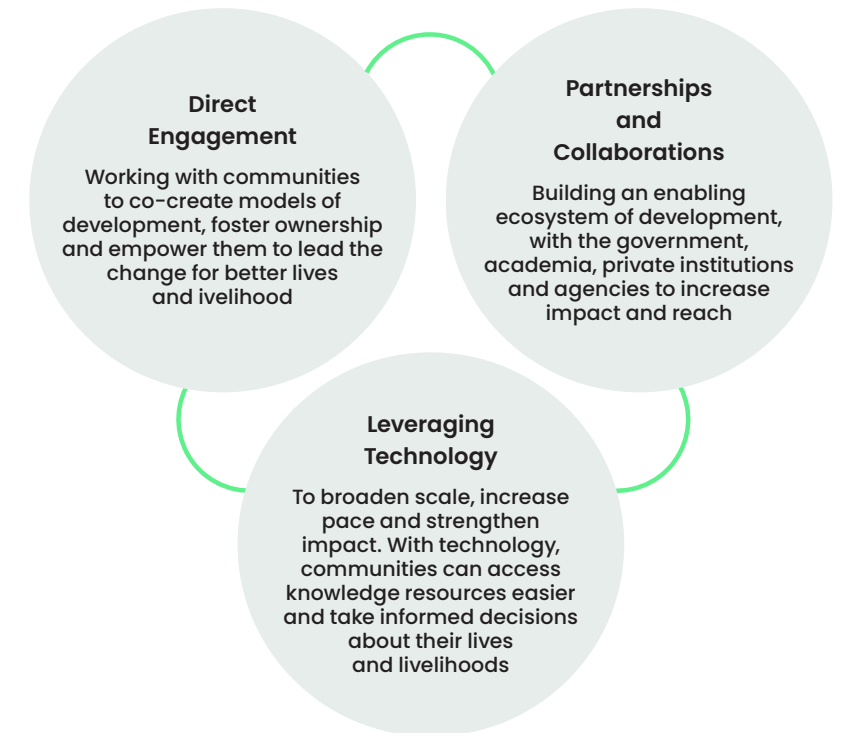
During FY 2021-22, Reliance undertook a range of initiatives through its pillars of work including Rural Transformation, Health, Education, Disaster Response along with Sports for Development initiatives. Most importantly, its COVID-19 response to support the nation and its people, was rolled out through five missions, continued pivoted and intensified through the year, based on the urgent and emerging needs. Mission Oxygen and Mission Vaccine Suraksha were rolled out to meet the needs of the nation for medical oxygen and community vaccinations. The other missions including Mission Anna Seva, Mission COVID Infra and Mission Employee Care were strengthened and sustained, based on the emerging COVID-19 situation.

Across India, Reliance worked to support community development, institution strengthening and quality education in schools and to better lives of communities while enabling quality healthcare delivery, especially during the pandemic-induced circumstances.

Reliance works to create transformational change across India, to build a stronger, inclusive nation by enabling lives and livelihoods. Reliance supports the most marginalised communities, contributing to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, Agenda 2030. During FY 2021-22, Reliance contributed ₹ 1,186 crore towards supporting a number of need-based, impactful CSR initiatives.

The initiatives were spearheaded by Reliance Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Reliance Industries Limited, led by Smt. Nita M. Ambani, Founder and Chairperson, Reliance Foundation. All through the year, the concerted action reinforced the promise that every available resource would be deployed to meet the needs of the most vulnerable communities across India.

Reliance applies a three-pronged strategy to enhance its CSR interventions.



**Direct Engagement**  
Working with communities to co-create models of development, foster ownership and empower them to lead the change for better lives and livelihood

**Partnerships and Collaborations**  
Building an enabling ecosystem of development, with the government, academia, private institutions and agencies to increase impact and reach

**Leveraging Technology**  
To broaden scale, increase pace and strengthen impact. With technology, communities can access knowledge resources easier and take informed decisions about their lives and livelihoods

While Reliance Foundation has been addressing India’s development challenges with innovative and sustainable solutions since 2010, the positive impact created through a multi-pronged approach during the critical time of the pandemic, went beyond delivering solutions to facilitating better management of the crisis and helping communities re-learn new skills towards improving their quality of life.

Through FY 2021-22, Reliance put social responsibility initiatives, health and well-being of communities at the top of its agenda. This went beyond supporting employees as well as their extended families and was aimed at caring for the most-at-need across India in the face of an emergency. Collaborations and partnerships were strengthened to scale up delivery and enhance the impact of the social response.



# Report on Corporate Social Responsibility

## Key intervention areas and impact

**COVID-19**  
outreach and support since the start of the pandemic

**1,000** MT  
oxygen produced every day for 1+ lakh patients

**8.5+** crore  
meals distributed to over **43+ lakh** beneficiaries

**1.4+** crore  
reusable masks distributed to caregivers and underprivileged people

**2,000+**  
beds for COVID care set up and supported across various locations

**44+** lakh  
persons provided advisories on COVID appropriate behaviour, livelihoods and social benefits

**27+** lakh  
litres of free fuel dispensed to **70,000+** government-notified COVID emergency response vehicles

Enhanced India's COVID-19 testing capabilities by developing own confirmatory tests with

**15,000+**  
daily testing capacity



Enhancing agri-livelihoods, Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh

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- Empowered **50,600+** villages across India through various Rural Transformation initiatives
- Enhanced livelihood of additional **18+ lakh** farmers, fisherfolk and livestock owners (1.45 crore cumulatively); treated and supported 2+ lakh livestock animals during the year
- Created **121+ lakh** cubic metres (1,243+ lakh cubic metres since inception) of water harvesting capacity
- Strengthened **2,300+** grassroots institutions including Community-based Organisations (CBOs), Gram Panchayats, Self-Help Groups and FPOs
- Provided leadership training to **11,000+** elected representatives and village leaders
- Socially and economically empowered **22,000+** women members of SHGs and SHG federations by developing their leadership skills, entrepreneurial and livelihood skills
- Strengthened market access for nearly **70,000** farmers; helped 645 farmers sell perishable produce worth **₹ 1.46 crore** through digital linkages



MMU Shahdol

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- Provided over **3.5 lakh** health consultations (**73.6 lakh** since inception) through Mobile Medical Units (MMUs), Static Medical Units (SMUs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs)
- Screened **24,000+** women for anaemia and **9,900+** children for malnutrition; diagnosed and treated **12,800+** women and 538 children
- Conducted 857 corneal transplants (**20,400+** since inception) under Reliance Foundation Drishti
- Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital was ranked #1 in the western region and Mumbai city and #2 at the national level in Times of India Multi-Specialty Hospital Ranking Survey
- **77,500+** units of blood collected through blood donations camps donated to **2+ lakh** beneficiaries



Maths class in Nagothane English Medium School

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- Set up Jio Institute Campus at Ulwe, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra in 52+ acres; Institute will be commencing its academic sessions in 2022
- Provided quality education to **15,000+** children annually through 14 Reliance Foundation Schools; **754 teachers** and **126 administrative staff** of 13 RF schools have together completed 9,395 online courses and attended 12,903 webinars in various areas of academics and administration
- **Reliance Foundation Scholarships in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Sciences** were awarded in 2021 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of RF Scholarships were launched in 2021-22
- Partnered with **244 schools** across seven states for digital classrooms, impacting **1,700+ teachers** and **64,000+ students** since inception
- Through four editions, **nearly 38,000** impacted through Reliance Foundation's support for CENTA Teaching Professionals' Olympiad (TPO)



Supporting sports talent

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- **2.15+ crore** youth and children reached through different sports initiatives since inception
- **440+ coaches** involved in the grassroots efforts of RYFS trained and certified through 20 digital workshops in collaboration with the Association of Indian Football Coaches (AIFC).
- Reliance Foundation **scholarship** athletes bagged **12** international medals and **16** national medals in Archery, Badminton and Weightlifting; **6** athletes marked their spots in the India squad for Senior World Championships
- Through RF Junior NBA **1.1 crore** students were engaged across **34 cities** since the programme's inception
- **2,00,000+** underprivileged children positively impacted by Education and Sports for All (ESA) programme with partner NGOs since inception



Maruti Kore, Kolhapur, Maharashtra receiving emergency support

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- Provided early warning/post-disaster advisories to people across **18 states and two Union Territories**
- Responded to **eight disasters**, including cyclones and floods, across the country with support before, during and after extreme events
- Organised 22 virtual training sessions on Disaster Risk Reduction for **410 youth** volunteers across 7 disaster-prone states to enable them to respond quickly in a disaster situation.
- **1.7 lakh people (11.4+ lakh since inception)** provided relief support in the aftermath of natural disasters; **5,000+** animals treated in livestock camps in collaboration with Animal Husbandry Department



# COVID-19 Response

The COVID-19 pandemic, which brought unprecedented health and humanitarian challenges for India and the entire world in 2020, intensified during the second wave in 2021, hitting people's health and lives hard. Responding to this, the entire Reliance family stepped forward to support the nation in its hour of need. Right from the very start of the pandemic, Reliance came together to meet immediate needs and new challenges, scaling up as the pandemic intensified, especially during the second wave.

Even as the nation and the world faced the health and humanitarian crisis induced by the COVID-19 pandemic, Reliance took various initiatives to support the nation ranging from testing facilities, PPE manufacturing facilities and COVID-19 special wards for healthcare, all of which were urgent needs. Reliance also arranged for meals to meet emergency food requirements of the most vulnerable. Since then, from facilitating COVID-19 healthcare and treatment to arranging for medical oxygen and vaccination, at every stage the Reliance family has stepped forward to support the urgent needs of the nation including intensifying COVID response to address the needs of the hour.



Reliance responded to the urgent needs of the nation on a mission mode.



## Mission Anna Seva

Distributed **8.5+ crore** free meals for frontline workers and vulnerable communities



## Mission Oxygen

Providing free liquid medical oxygen to states; **1,000 MT** oxygen produced every day for **1+ lakh** patients.



## Mission COVID Infra

Strengthening hospital and healthcare facilities along with protection through masks distribution for vulnerable communities; **2,000+ beds** for COVID care set up and supported across various locations



## Mission Vaccine Suraksha

**40+ lakh** free vaccinations including for the most vulnerable communities



## Mission Employee Care

Supported extended families and off-role employees for comprehensive support beyond regular employee welfare initiatives



## COVID-19 RESPONSE

### Mission Oxygen

Providing crucial support to the nation to meet a sudden shortage of medical oxygen for COVID-19 patients, especially during the second wave, Reliance repurposed its factory in Jamnagar in record time to produce liquid medical oxygen. This was ramped up to meet the life-saving needs of 1,00,000 patients on a daily basis, delivered free of cost to various states. The facility contributed to 11% of India's total production of medical grade liquid oxygen.

**Though Reliance was not a manufacturer of medical-grade liquid oxygen, it became India's largest producer of this life-saving resource from a single location in order to stand with the country in its hour of need.** Under the personal supervision of Mr. Mukesh D. Ambani, Chairman and Managing Director, the manufacturing facility at Jamnagar in Gujarat **was repurposed to produce over 1,000 MT medical grade liquid oxygen** and increase transportation capacities. This two-pronged approach helped ensure swift and safe supply to various states and Union Territories across India.

**1,000** MT

Oxygen produced every day for 1+ lakh patients



Medical grade liquid oxygen has to be produced in liquid form at  $-183^{\circ}\text{C}$  with almost 99.5% purity, which poses extraordinary challenges and risks in production and maximising tonnage. **Reliance engineers worked tirelessly and through process optimisation and modifications of Cryogenic Air Separation Units, were able to maximise production of medical grade liquid oxygen in a very short span of time. To ensure swift transportation, Reliance engineers made logistical modifications to rail and road transport, such as laying parallel lines, using hoses, and loading up liquid tankers through pressure differential, since liquid oxygen pumps cannot be installed at short notice.**

Another crucial need was transportation capacity. **Reliance airlifted 32 ISO containers and additionally augmented transportation capacity for the country.** This was done in partnership with the Indian Air Force, Aramco and bp for sourcing and transportation. This helped fulfil a critical need in assured availability of medical grade liquid oxygen for the treatment of severely ill patients across the country. As part of Mission Oxygen, Reliance came together to help save lives, pulling all its facilities together for the nation.

Reliance plant locations provided immediate and swift support to meet location-specific needs.

**Jamnagar, Gujarat:** Recognising the need for revamping the oxygen supplies, Reliance repurposed the Jamnagar refinery to produce over 1,000 MT of high-purity medical grade liquid oxygen per day and became India's largest single location producer of medical grade oxygen

Within a matter of days, production was ramped up from zero to 1,000 MT of liquid medical oxygen to be distributed free across the country, serving the needs of 1 lakh patients per day.

**Vadodara, Gujarat:** In addition to various liquid medical oxygen production and distribution initiatives across the country, in Vadodara, Gujarat, to meet the sharp rise in oxygen demand in the country during the second wave of infections, 18.3 MT medical oxygen was supplied by Reliance's Vadodara Manufacturing Division to various locations.

**Gadimoga, Andhra Pradesh:** Through its operations in Gadimoga, Reliance established an oxygen plant in 10 days during May 2021 at the Government General Hospital, Kakinada. The hospital cared for more than 1,700 patients during the peak of the second wave.

**Jhajjar and Shadol, Madhya Pradesh:** As the demand for oxygen among patients recovering at home also increased during the second wave, Reliance in Jhajjar and Shadol provided 38 oxygen concentrators to social service organisations and the district administration.

In all, Reliance supplied 3,040 oxygen concentrators, 430 ventilators, 82 PSA plants to various government hospitals.

Medical grade oxygen being transported from Jamnagar, Gujarat

### Mission Anna Seva

**Reliance Foundation launched its key initiative, Mission Anna Seva – a pledge to serve Indians with the mission of providing meals.** Mission Anna Seva became the largest meal distribution programme by a corporate foundation anywhere in the world, supplying vulnerable communities with cooked meals, ready-to-eat food packets, food coupons, dry ration kits across 19 states and 4 Union Territories under this mission. This was facilitated by the expansive support of the Reliance Retail team across the country along with volunteers and partner organisations. A network of 200+ partners engaged in similar hunger alleviation programmes helped deliver relief kits and bulk rations for distribution among vulnerable people.

### A lifeline for migrants and the marginalised

Mission Anna Seva was also a lifeline for people returning to their native places from cities. Volunteers from across Reliance work sites in Mumbai, Silvassa, Vadodara, Patalganga, Hazira, Jhajjar, Shadol, Jamnagar, Dahej, Barabanki, Nagothane, Gadimoga and Hoshiarpur distributed meals in their respective locations as well.

Overall, 8.5+ crore meals were delivered to support marginalised communities, daily-wage earners and frontline workers across the country. A large network of NGOs, comprising 200+ partnering organisations, helped reach those most in need. The programme reached frontline workers carrying out essential COVID-19 services besides daily wage earners and migrant labourers, slum-dwellers, factory workers, and old-age home and orphanage residents.

Ration kit distribution under Mission Anna Seva



Mask distribution to transportation workers as part of Mission COVID Suraksha

**8.5+** crore

meals delivered

### Meals for truckers on the go

Meals were also distributed among truck drivers transporting essential items, who found it difficult to access food as restaurants were shut due to the lockdown. Reliance petrol stations in West Bengal, Kerala and Odisha also reached out to distribute meals to truck drivers.

The Reliance family came together on a war footing, with Reliance Retail employees supporting packing, preparing and supplying provisions for the initiative.

**Muthupadi is an artisan from Madurai, Tamil Nadu.** He lives in Chindamani village with more than 100 other artisan families. Playing musical instruments in wedding ceremonies, temple functions, or performing karagattam (dance), etc., is the main livelihood for the people of the village. During the COVID-19 lockdown, these families were left to fend for themselves.

Reliance Foundation identified the families and supported them with basic amenities like food, groceries, masks and sanitisers. In addition, Reliance Foundation arranged for the community members to avail nearby COVID-19 vaccination facilities, transporting them to the centre as well.





## COVID-19 RESPONSE



The COVID-19 care facility at NSCI, Mumbai



Vaccination drive being organised at SCI, Mumbai

### Mission COVID Infra

To help meet the sudden demand for specialised healthcare facilities during COVID-19, Reliance Foundation set up medical, quarantine and intensive care facilities, providing for over 2,000 COVID-19 hospital beds across different locations in India. These included a dedicated COVID-19 care facility at the National Sports Club of India, Worli, Mumbai, managed by the Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital, and Gujarat's first paediatric COVID-19 hospital at Jamnagar.

### Ensuring uninterrupted emergency services

To ensure uninterrupted emergency services, Reliance provided free fuel to government notified vehicles and ambulances to ease the transportation of COVID-19 patients. Reliance Foundation provided over 27 lakh litres of free fuel, supporting 70,000+ ambulances across 332 districts in 21 states and 3 UTs. The mission to distribute free fuel for ambulances across 21 states was taken up between May and September 2021 during the second COVID wave, providing a much-needed boost to emergency response services.

### Mission COVID Suraksha

To raise awareness on prevention and safety, Mission COVID Suraksha focused on the distribution of 1.4 crore masks across India to frontline warriors and communities across 26 states and Union Territories, along with raising awareness on the importance of COVID-safe behaviour. Reliance Foundation in co-ordination with Reliance Retail distributed masks to police personnel and municipal workers in several parts of the country.

While continuing to spread awareness on COVID prevention through personal protection, distancing and hand hygiene, Reliance provided protective equipment, from masks to PPE kits, to frontline workers and others with high risk of exposure. In addition, over 9.5 lakh sanitisers, 5+ lakh ORS packets and 2+ lakh gloves were distributed across 20 states and Union Territories. In Jamnagar alone 50,000 numbers each of PPE kits, N95 rubber gloves for medical examination were handed over to the Guru Gobind Singh Hospital.

### Free COVID consultation

Reliance Foundation also launched a free COVID consultation initiative that was rolled out through the Jio Health Hub. This was to enable people to access medical advice from the convenience of their homes. Reliance also provided support to employees and family members for testing, treatment and continued care.

### Strengthening health infrastructure

In a first for Gujarat, a fully equipped 230-bed paediatric COVID-care hospital was inaugurated by Sh. Bhupendrabhai Patel, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat. The hospital is equipped with 24x7 oxygen supply, 30 PICUs (Paediatric), 22 MICUs (Medical) and 10 NICUs (Neonatal). The paediatric hospital augments COVID care facilities in the region that also include a 400-bed hospital set up in less than a week during the unprecedented second wave. In Shahdol, Reliance supported the establishment and operation of two COVID-care centres in the district.



### Mission Vaccine Suraksha

To boost the nation's COVID-19 vaccination drive, Reliance also launched Mission Vaccine Suraksha in April 2021, as a mark of commitment to protect the larger community. Mission Vaccine Suraksha enabled free COVID-19 vaccination across the country, covering communities, employees and families across the country. Vaccine doses were also provided through outreach efforts to vulnerable communities in different locations.

Reliance collaborated with local authorities and governments through its Mission Vaccine Suraksha initiative under the overall 'We Care' umbrella. This included free vaccination doses provided to the governments of Kerala, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra besides various other national and regional organisations to speed up the vaccination drive.

Mission Vaccine Suraksha aimed to reach every last mile resident, including people with disabilities, the elderly, homeless and those in far-flung locations, with free COVID-19 vaccination. This initiative continues as vaccination is still the only available protection from coronavirus, thus contributing towards the country's vaccination mission. Reliance Foundation also conducted vaccination drives across India such as in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Kerala, among other states. These drives supported several vulnerable groups in accessing COVID-19 vaccination.

**40+** lakh

Vaccination doses provided free of cost by Reliance to support the nation in its vaccination mission



**Paban (90) and Maya Rani Ghosh (74) from Badkulla, Nadia in West Bengal** could not access the COVID-19 vaccinations, as they had no mobile phones. Nor could they visit any vaccination centre due to their age. It was when Reliance Foundation visited their village for COVID-19 vaccination awareness, that the couple's names were registered on the CoWin app, following which they could get vaccinated safely.

**For Swami Naidu, a fisherman from Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh,** navigating the CoWin app was easy, but he was unable to get any vaccination slots as these were invariably always full. This added to the growing anxiety he felt during the second wave, which saw an unprecedented rise in cases. After connecting with the local Reliance Foundation team, Swami was able to book a slot and get vaccinated at a hospital located less than 5 km from his home.



## COVID-19 RESPONSE

### Mission Employee Care

Mission Employee Care was launched with the spirit of ensuring that every single member of the Reliance family and their near and dear ones were supported and protected through the pandemic.

The initiatives launched by the Reliance leadership included a range of measures from testing, to treatment to nearly 24 lakh free COVID-19 vaccination for all employees and their extended family members. Health and mental wellness were emphasised along with continued support to the families of all the employees who lost their lives due to the pandemic.



Vaccination drive for employees and their families

~24 lakh

free vaccination doses provided to RIL employees and family members

### Supporting rural communities during the pandemic

During COVID-19 pandemic, Reliance Foundation Information Services connected rural livelihood practitioners with government officials and experts (scientists, researchers) to address issues that were faced while enrolling for various government schemes, agriculture and allied services inputs. Together with various stakeholders the Information Services created awareness, supported employment drives to meet temporary paramedical staffing requirements, helped provide medicines and met other necessities such as supporting oxygen plants.

### Emphasising on enhanced prevention efforts

During the first wave, the emphasis was on ensuring market linkages for rural communities and delivery of information, agricultural inputs and basic essentials including nutrition. The focus during the second and third wave was on sustained campaign towards protection and enhanced prevention through vaccination and adherence to COVID-19 safe behaviour while carrying out usual livelihood activities.

Reliance Foundation also provided specialist help and advice to Gram Panchayat leaders and other rural community groups on various schemes for financial support and livelihood opportunities through virtual conferences for farmers, fishermen, livestock owners and migrant labourers. These services helped reach close to 44+ lakh people in rural India with continued livelihood support.

44+ lakh

people reached through advisories on covid appropriate behaviours, livelihoods and social benefits



Awareness programme on hand washing in Shahdol

### Reliance Foundation's Mobile Medical Units also helped raise awareness about precautionary measures in rural communities while serving continued healthcare.

The Foundation's 12 MMUs operated in Shahdol in Madhya Pradesh, Nagothane in Maharashtra, Jhajjar in Haryana and Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh, Jamnagar, Vadodara and Hazira in Gujarat. They provided medical services and eased pressure on the local health infrastructure. They also raised community awareness on vital precautionary measures such as social distancing, mask-wearing and hand-washing. During the year, over 2.4 lakh consultations were provided through MMUs and camps at the villages.

2.4+ lakh

consultations provided through MMUs, CHCs and camps during the year

### Monitoring Programme implementation virtually

Due to the challenges created by the pandemic, the Reliance team began implementing and monitoring the health programme virtually. This included coordinating with various NGOs supporting Reliance Foundation's mission in various ways, from supporting vaccination to providing dry rations, setting up community kitchens for daily wage earners to providing masks and sanitisers to first responders and other daily service commuters. The mission aimed to meet the changing and crucial needs of the hour.

### COVID-19 preparedness across communities

With the COVID-19 pandemic spreading across the country, ensuring that communities even in the remotest corners had access to information and safety became the need of the hour. Intensifying COVID-19 awareness and safety measures, Reliance Foundation, along with its partners, ensured coverage for as many vulnerable communities as possible.

The nation-wide initiatives towards vaccination, food distribution or skill-building were carried out by various partner organisations. For instance, Sewa International organised vaccination camps in Chikamagalur district in Karnataka, vaccinating more than 2,300 people. In order to support women from COVID-19 affected families, Sewa International conducted skill training for women in tailoring and weaving in the cities of Chamarajanagar and Hubli in Karnataka and in Phulia village in West Bengal.

Arpan distributed 3,551 ration kits, in addition to providing counselling services to those experiencing anxiety, stress or other COVID-19 induced issues.

### Joining hands with the community and administration in Patan to fight COVID-19

During the second wave of COVID-19 in the villages of Patan, Gujarat, village leaders, Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres faced immense challenges in managing the influx of cases. The district administration of Patan along with Reliance Foundation conducted a multi-location audio conference with 398 Sarpanches of the villages in Patan on April 26, 2021 while the Patan District Collector briefed the Sarpanches on the guidelines to be followed. Information was provided on how to define village level containment zones, and implement lockdown in villages. The Sarpanches were also instructed to expedite vaccination

drives at the village level. Within a week of the meeting, the health centre in the village received 20 oxygen bottles, six additional beds and a grant to install an oxygen plant. Reliance Foundation assisted the district administration in reaching more than 1,890 people in 17 villages by mobilising volunteers and vaccination drives. These efforts started swiftly, and were sustained through the year to enable Patan to become a model of participatory governance to push back COVID-19. This was also an example of community-led efforts that helped pick up the momentum not just for the district administration but also for other locations.



Tele-Conference with Sarpanches in Patan

87%

adopted COVID appropriate preventive behaviour after receiving advisory

90%

encouraged to get themselves or family vaccinated

70%

expressed willingness to share information among family and peers



# Rural Transformation



Under its Rural Transformation programme, Reliance Foundation provides 360-degree support to help transform rural communities. Reliance Foundation is implementing this through various approaches including innovation for social impact, livelihood enhancement, nutrition security, water & ecological security, women empowerment, governance and market linkages.

Since 2010, in collaboration with different social impact organisations, private and government stakeholders, Reliance Foundation has catalysed change across multiple levels to transform the lives of low-income communities by empowering them with opportunities. Digital technology, knowledge and information services are important components of Rural Transformation, building skills and helping communities take informed decisions.



Reliance Foundation Information Services Advisories reach communities through multiple modes including mobile phone services, social media platforms, audio-video conferences besides television, radio and helplines. Through its stream of volunteers, staff and partners, Reliance Foundation sources accurate and relevant information and democratise it.

## Highlights FY 2021-22

Livelihoods of 18+ lakh farmers, livestock owners and fisher-folk enhanced during the year

More than 121 lakh cubic metres of water harvesting capacity created, assuring irrigation to over 5,600 ha of land for at least two cropping seasons

Helped 10,896 rural households meet nutritional needs, supported them in establishing RNGs

22,000+ members of SHGs trained in leadership and livelihood for self-employment

## Livelihood Enhancement

Reliance Foundation works to de-risk rural communities from economic vulnerability through agriculture and allied activities, enable market linkages, increase income from fishing, encourage entrepreneurship and diversify livelihoods.

In the past decade, Reliance Foundation has supported farming communities, livestock owners and fishing communities in tapping new livelihood opportunities with innovative and sustainable solutions.

Through intensive skill based trainings and capacity development workshops, Reliance Foundation has helped women Self-help Group (SHG) members acquire entrepreneurial skills and become self-reliant as well as resilient.

Reliance Nutrition Gardens (RNGs), a low-cost kitchen garden model, not only helps rural communities become nutrition secure, but also provides scope for improving income by making home-grown fruits and vegetables accessible to communities.

Where farm-based livelihoods are affected by water scarcity, Reliance Foundation, along with its partner organisations, works to make communities water secure and resilient through water conservation and harvesting.



Improving income through inland fishery, Chhindwara, MP

Reliance Foundation's Information Services reach fishing communities across the coastal expanse of India through multiple digital modes, providing accurate, relevant and timely information that makes fishing safe and profitable. During the pandemic, Reliance Foundation continued to support rural communities with market linkages, ensuring that livelihoods could be safely sustained.

**~8,900**

youth provided skill trainings in retail and 7,612 (85%) trained youth were linked to employment opportunities in the retail sector



Poultry farming in Itarsi, MP



## RURAL TRANSFORMATION

### Empowering rural India with technology solutions

Digital technology solutions catalyse change and help communities make informed decisions. Information services provide communities an opportunity to enhance their lives both in terms of improving their livelihoods while also accessing their entitlements. **Reliance Foundation Information Services reach communities through diverse modes including mobile phone services and social media platforms besides television, radio and toll-free helplines.** Reliance has over 1,000 partners from which it sources accurate and relevant information and democratise it. This information, in 10 Indian languages, reaches 11.4+ million individuals in over 45,400 villages across 19 states and two Union Territories.

Reliance Foundation helps farmers enhance crop yields and safeguard livestock. Given the context of restrictions to physical movements and pandemic-induced lockdowns, in 2021-22, digital advisories proved especially helpful as farmers received timely information on various agriculture and livestock management practices. In 2021-22, the programme addressed nearly 2.8 lakh queries related to weather (agro-livestock-marine), government schemes, and various crop and livestock management issues. Reliance Foundation conducts livestock camps in partnership with the Animal Husbandry Department or other health institutions to diagnose and treat animals, and provide relevant veterinary services. In FY 2021-22, over 2 lakh animals were treated through livestock camps (7.4+ lakh animals treated since inception). Farmers were also given free medicines and counselling for improving livestock health.

### Empowering fisherfolk: Digital solutions make fishing safer and sustainable

**Reliance Foundation endeavours to make fishing safer, sustainable and more profitable for marine fisherfolk along India's expansive coastline with information support from the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) and Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).** The Machli app provides real time updates on weather and oceanographic parameters for all major landing centres. During FY 2021-22, information was provided in ten languages including English.



### International recognition for Machli app

Recognising the app, the World Summit Awards, a global platform that steers the spotlight on digital content contributing towards achieving the UN SDGs, slotted the Machli app among 2021's top 40 innovations from across the world and one of the only two from India. The award echoes the commitment of Reliance Foundation to reduce the digital divide, notably at a time when the pandemic has made the digital medium more important than ever. The award is also a testament to the longstanding collaboration that Reliance Foundation has with India's national ocean and surface weather monitoring agencies, such as Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) and India Meteorological Department.

### Impact through local partnerships

**In alignment with UN SDG 8, 'Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all', Reliance Foundation works to enhance and strengthen livelihoods of rural communities.** It promotes sustainable agricultural practices to enhance farm productivity and farm diversification with horticulture and other agri-allied activities like poultry, dairy, fisheries, goat rearing, etc., is encouraged to enhance rural household incomes.

Reliance Foundation has established strategic linkages for agri-inputs, technical knowledge and package of practices amongst others that contribute to income enhancement. Further, Reliance Foundation seeks to empower rural youth through various skilling and entrepreneurship development trainings and job fairs by adopting a convergence approach. During FY 2021-22, Reliance Foundation supported 42,000 individuals to improve their livelihoods through farm and non-farm based initiatives. These interventions are implemented in collaboration with agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry departments, agriculture universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, District Industry Centre and other organisations, thereby creating an ecosystem of convergence and cooperation. Nearly 8,900 youth were provided skills training in retail and 7,612 (85%) trained youth were linked to employment opportunities in the retail sector.

An assessment of information advisories provided to farming communities under the RFIS programme shows a 55% increase in net farming income owing to yield improvements, loss aversion and improved input efficiency. Livestock farmers in the assessment reported an 82% income increase while boat owners and other fishing workforce personnel reported a 45% and 43% net income increase, respectively.



### Banana: no longer a tricky crop to grow!

The predominant variety of banana cultivated in India is Cavendish banana, which is also the most consumed fruit in the world. Banana is a tricky crop to grow as it requires a specific type of irrigation and is grown in the 'monoculture system', an intensive method where usually the same variety of banana is grown shoulder to shoulder. This concentration of a single crop attracts scores of pests, impacting plant health and livelihoods. And with so many plants in such a small space, disease spreads rapidly.

Ajit Khilare an experimental farmer from the village of Pir Pimpalgaon, Jalna district, depends entirely on agriculture to earn his livelihood. Owner of five acres of irrigated land, Ajit has worked diligently to make his banana field flourish even though Marathwada is a drought prone area. His farming method being traditional, initially, the income generated was not very satisfactory. Ajit has been following Reliance Foundation's

advisories since 2019. The advisories are shared on his mobile phone and through the toll-free number. With this new information, he now knows how to cultivate and manage bananas better. He also receives valuable information through Reliance Foundation's WhatsApp group. In 2021, he planted bananas in 1.5 acres, which resulted in nearly a thousand bunches. He sold the fruit in the nearby market as well as to some

nearby traders at the price of ₹ 500 per bunch, earning a total income of ₹ 5 lakh and making a net profit of ₹ 4.2 lakh. He says the information available through Reliance Foundation's toll free number and WhatsApp plays an important role in the management of his crop and he is grateful to the Reliance Foundation Information Services that helped him make a profit.



Ajit Khilare in his banana plantation at Pir Pimpalgaon



### Farmer finds dairy business profitable by adopting scientific livestock management practices

Nanji Patel, a resident of Badawali village in Udaipur district, began dairy farming in 2018. He has six buffalos but was struggling to manage his cattle due to the lack of proper knowledge on dairy management.



RFIS-Nanji Patel

From 2019, Nanji began listening to the Reliance Foundation's voice messages regularly and following its awareness programmes. He used this information to better manage the dairy. To seek further guidance, he called the helpline service at least two to three times a month to discuss his problems with dairy experts and get their opinion. He also attended a few programmes in 2021 where he got to interact with experts. Nanji learnt to mix calcium in the right ratio to improve the quality of milk. Through these programmes, he was also able to resolve his queries on the treatment of seasonal diseases

like fever and cold, Mastitis, timely deworming and vaccinations. "Now I am involved in dairy farming in a profitable way," says Nanji, "My expenses have come down by 20%, my daily milk yield has gone up 25% and my monthly profit has increased four times. The business has become highly profitable to me."

Thus technology-based services run by Reliance Foundation have become a true friend for farmers like Nanji. Receiving timely information through voice messages and helpline numbers has reduced the costs and increased yield.



## RURAL TRANSFORMATION



### Refat Saikh brings in the Guppy: enter income, exit mosquitoes

Refat Saikh – a middle aged member of Water Users’ Association (WUA) from Khajuria village of Murshidabad District, West Bengal – has been involved in inland fishing for over five years.

In 2021, for the very first time, WUA was given the sanction to culture Guppy fish commercially. But lacking experience and technical knowledge, Refat and the other fisherfolk of the association remained hesitant. Drain Guppy fish, more popularly known as Mosquitofish or *Gambusia affinis*, is one of the most successful and widely used biological control agents that feed on mosquito larvae. Local government officials let the fish out in sewage areas, open ponds, or drains to commence this activity.

Meanwhile, Refat came across Reliance Foundation Information Services (RFIS) efforts through a rural propaganda programme mid-2021, where he learnt the entire

process of cultivating Guppy fish. As a result, he made a net profit of about ₹ 48,000 by cultivating about 60,000 Guppies in a matter of just two months for the very first time in his career. He says, “Now, I have realised how technical knowledge at the right time and from the right source helps farmers improve livelihoods. With the doorstep information which I received

from the RFIS helpline, I have not only gathered skills in fishing, but also gained in confidence – because the Reliance Foundation team is with me to solve any problem”.

Today Refat is known as a problem solver in his community, to which he offers fishing solutions in consultation with Reliance Foundation’s fisheries experts.



Refat Saikh: gaining from technical knowledge at the right time



### Sivasankaran’s story from being a beneficiary to a partner

The Bay of Bengal, one of the world’s busiest shipping lanes, is home to many fisherfolk from Samanathanpettai village in Nagapattinam district, Tamil Nadu. The only fisherman in his household, Sivasankaran’s journey with Reliance Foundation began in 2012.



Sivasankaran: extending a helping hand

“I started fishing in the sea at a young age when there was no forecast available on the state of the ocean, and we incurred losses, often returning empty handed from trips. This situation changed from since 2012 because we began receiving advisories on wind direction, wind speed, wave height, rough sea, cyclone and potential fishing zone information through mobile voice messages.”

Sivasankaran introduced over 90% of the fishermen in his village to Reliance Foundation Information Services, making him more than a beneficiary. Rather, he was a true partner helping others in his community.

“In November 2021, we received weather forecast advisories well in advance. Had we sailed without the advisories, I would have lost my trawler boat worth ₹ 80 lakh and the fibre boat worth ₹ 2 lakh. Armed with support from Reliance Foundation, I feel so much more confident.”

The coast of Tamil Nadu has seen seven major cyclones over the last decade. Sivasankaran reflects that during the period, the weather forecast from Reliance Foundation- INCOIS really helped his community make crucial decisions. In particular, the toll-free helpline number and the ingenious Machli app were a boon to the community during the difficult period.

### Action to combat climate change

Reliance Foundation follows a systems-level approach to making agrarian communities sustainably adaptive and resilient to climate change. It is a multi-pronged process that involves:

- Various soil nutrient and moisture conservation measures like deep ploughing, bunding and land levelling, yield enhancement efforts such as introduction of stress tolerant crops, System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and plastic mulching are employed to augment farm productivity sustainably. Meanwhile, vermicomposting, application of farmyard manure, crop rotation and intercropping have helped in maintaining soil health with reduced dependence on inorganic fertiliser, which, in turn, lowers greenhouse emissions of a farm.
- Carbon sequestration through enhancing green cover and development of green belt areas. In FY 2021-22, 6+ lakh saplings were planted and 70 ha green belt area created.
- To overcome water stress, various water conservation and harvesting measures were implemented. Villages are supported in water budgeting for effective water planning and management. In 2021-22, 121+ lakh cubic metre of water harvesting capacity was created and 508 villages were supported in water budgeting. As a result, 5,600 ha was sustainably brought under irrigation.

2,50,000

saplings planted along the banks of water bodies on August 15, 2021

- Focus on creation of income generating activities other than farming. High dependence of agrarian communities, especially marginal farmers, on crop-based incomes increases their vulnerability to climate shocks. Thus, diversification of income sources is a cushion against such shocks. Small and marginal farmers have been encouraged to take up agri-allied and non-crop based livelihoods such as livestock rearing, goat-rearing, poultry, bee keeping, nursery raising, mushroom cultivation and vermicomposting, tailoring, etc. In FY 2021-22, 42,000 people were supported in diversifying their livelihoods.
- Information asymmetry in communities is another major constraint to climate resilience. Digital platforms are leveraged to build capacities of the communities to make timely decisions in tune with climatic conditions, improve the productivity of rural assets and enable them to move up the

value chain for higher income generation and knowledge empowerment. Information on crop management, livestock care, weather, schemes, subsidies and technology are provided. In FY 2021-22, 53+ lakh people received advisories, which have an adoption rate of over 80%.

- Strengthening of rural institutions for joint action to climate resilience. Gram Panchayats, Farmer Producer Organisations and SHGs are being empowered through trainings and handholding to work collectively for building community resilience against climate change.

### Improving soil health

Reliance Foundation extended support to Bhau Saheb Bhuskare Smriti Lok Nyas in setting up a soil testing laboratory at Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh to help farmers. This will enable farmers plan their crops better and improve farm productivity.



Community meeting in progress, Uttarakhand



## RURAL TRANSFORMATION

### Water Security

Reliance Foundation's interventions in the water space is aligned with SDG 1, 'Zero Hunger', SDG 6 'Clean Water and Sanitation' and SDG 13 'Climate Action'. Land and water are the two major sources of livelihood for the vast majority of India's rural population. However, due to inadequate, high-cost water harvesting solutions and climate change, agriculture and livestock based livelihoods are struggling. In order to address the issues of water scarcity, which impact food security and income, Reliance Foundation works with rural communities to improve water availability for drinking, irrigation and livestock needs while also balancing the climate change/ ecological needs of the area.

Reliance Foundation collaborates with village communities to implement need-based, low-cost sustainable water solutions by providing them techno-managerial support in planning and designing water interventions at the local level. Capacity building of representatives and leaders of community institutions such as Gram Panchayats, SHGs, youth groups, etc. on water conservation is provided for sustainability. The overall aim of



Community-driven water harvesting structure, Itarsi, MP

such interventions is to ensure that the community has access to water harvesting technologies and is able to manage the resources in an efficient manner. Need-based catalytic gap funding support for water interventions aimed at harvesting rainwater and recharging ground water aquifer is also provided.

Reliance Foundation adopts a collaborative approach of public-private partnerships to achieve impact at scale. Throughout the year, technical support was provided to Gram Panchayats

for effective water planning and implementation of schemes to create water harvesting structures and drinking water facilities.

During the year, Reliance Foundation supported water harvesting solutions across 11 states, ranging from farm ponds and common village ponds to check dams, well recharge or traditional structures like Chal-Khals depending on the topography, soil quality, and availability of materials, thus contributing towards water conservation and climate resilience.

In FY 2021-22, 508 villages were supported in water budgeting for effective water planning and management, construction and repair to create 121+ lakh cubic metres of water harvesting capacity, bringing 5,600 hectares under assured irrigation, bringing change in cropping pattern and increasing agricultural income. Further, Reliance Foundation has improved drinking water access in 364 villages by providing families access to water in close proximity of their houses, contributing significantly in improving the quality of life and lowering the drudgery of women and girls engaged in fetching water.



Water management in Ramsinghpura, Jaipur



### Power of the people resolves water crisis in Kharwan, Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand

Kharwan Gram Panchayat in Uttarkashi, is home to 110 families. Hill farming and animal husbandry are primary livelihood sources. The village suffered from an acute water crisis, which worsened due to two damaged canals, a major source of irrigation, during road construction. Reliance Foundation initiated its engagement with the Gram Panchayat by mobilising the community through multiple campaigns. To address water scarcity, Jagdamba Devi, village Sarpanch, along with 30 women and youth volunteers from the village worked relentlessly for 28 days to reconstruct the 1.5 km long irrigation canal through shramdaan between May-June 2021. This inspiring display of community participation has ensured water for irrigation, benefiting 85 households in the village.



Jagdamba Devi, Village Sarpanch, Kharwan

“ We did shramdaan in our village and solved the water crisis. We think this is the best way to bring ownership in the community. This has been possible only because of the villagers under the guidance of Reliance Foundation. ”



Collective action in Uttarkashi



## RURAL TRANSFORMATION

### Impacts from water security

Reliance Foundation is deeply committed to building water resilient rural communities through its work with community members, Gram Panchayat leaders and local partners. Reliance Foundation has been working on water interventions over the past 10 years to secure lives and livelihoods of rural communities. One of the biggest challenges faced by communities, especially women living in remote areas, has been the unavailability of water sources in close proximity to their homes. As per an impact study conducted in 2021, Reliance Foundation has helped 89% of families with access to water near their doorstep in intervention areas, thereby enabling them to spend far less time in fetching water for domestic purpose. In addition to this, 54% farmers in intervention areas have adopted efficient irrigation methods to optimise water and 84% have not faced water scarcity in recent years.

The average annual income among the study group of farmers where Reliance Foundation works was thrice the income reported by the control group in areas where Reliance Foundation did not intervene. Increased water availability, assured irrigation and sustained returns for the study group farmers also meant lower levels of distressed migration, which was less than half of what was observed in the non-intervention



Farmer irrigating his field, Pratapgarh Badla, Chhindwara, MP

### Rural Transformation through exemplary partnerships: Paani Foundation

Reliance Foundation and Paani Foundation have been working at the grassroots to help communities tackle drought, achieve water security and make agriculture as well as other means of livelihoods in rural India environmentally sustainable.

During the year, villagers from across Maharashtra came together in one of India's largest initiatives on decentralised well census and well water measurement. Led by residents from 734 villages, 36,237 wells and 24,395 bore-wells were counted. Additionally, 7,359 unique wells were also measured and 18,649 measurements taken.

The water initiatives are part of a larger holistic approach to environmental sustainability. Other efforts that were taken up under the partnership include:

- Crop survey and planning for 600 villages
- A massive plantation drive starting August 15 that saw villagers offering shramdaan and planting saplings along the banks of water bodies. Over 1,50,000 bamboo saplings and over 1,00,000 saplings of other varieties were planted across 39 talukas
- In an effort to scale ecological restoration through native plant species, four Miyawaki forests have been created in villages of Jaipur, Pimpri and Warud. Additionally, over 60 villages built nurseries and 614 villages created protected grasslands
- Women in Motha village, Amravati district, experimented with a vermicomposting unit that will serve as a model for other SHGs. Similarly, farmers of Jaipur and Garavadi in Satara attempted cultivating residue-free vegetables
- An Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) programme was designed for corporates to achieve ESG goals, a movement to fight climate change



Improving access to irrigation, Pratapgarh Badla, Chhindwara, MP



Mangala Lakshman from Boral Village, Bidar, Karnataka in his Reliance Nutrition Garden

### Nutrition Security

In alignment with UN SDG 2 'End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture', Reliance Foundation promotes Reliance Nutrition Gardens (RNGs) to address the nutritional gap in rural communities, especially among women and children. The RNG is a backyard, cost-effective kitchen garden, wherein fruits and vegetables are grown using a multi-tier cropping system. As a low cost initiative, it has helped provide fresh fruits and vegetables, grown naturally, to rural households across the country. Community members have been directly engaged in Reliance Foundation's nutrition awareness programmes through a mix of campaigns, training sessions, etc.

During FY 2021-22, Reliance Foundation facilitated the establishment of 10,896 RNGs across 11 states. Reliance Foundation supported the 'Rashtriya Poshan Maah' initiative, creating awareness on various aspects of nutrition for over 30,900 individuals by undertaking mass campaigns connecting with Anganwadis and frontline workers of the ICDS-WCD Department, Gram Panchayats, Krishi Vigyan Kendras amongst other stakeholders.

**10,896**

Reliance Nutrition Gardens set up across 11 states in FY 2021-22



Reliance Nutrition Garden at Jamai, Chhindwara, MP

### Strengthening Governance

Aligned with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) 16, 'Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions', and 17, 'Partnerships for the Goals', Reliance Foundation is intensively engaged with 965 Gram Panchayats (GPs) across 11 states for their institutional strengthening in cooperation with Block and District Panchayats. Reliance Foundation has contributed towards the preparation of an inclusive as well as participatory development plan in the form of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDs), ensuring ownership and effective implementation of plans made by Gram Sabha members.

During FY 2021-22, Reliance Foundation-mentored Gram Sabhas and Gram Panchayats collectively undertook various initiatives for creating public amenities, water conservation, livelihood enhancement and women empowerment. By utilising provisions under the 15<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission and schemes such as MGNREGA, these institutions were able to deliver their goals and fulfil the aspirations of the people they serve. In addition, by facilitating linkages and access to social security schemes such as Widow Pension, Old Age Pension, Job Cards, Soil Health Cards, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima (e-Shram), Reliance Foundation facilitated social entitlements for many households. This helped Gram Panchayats align their efforts with state specific initiatives such as Seva Setu programme in Gujarat, Aapke Adhikar Aapki Sarkar Aapke Dwar Abhiyan in Jharkhand, Prashashan

**11,000+**

elected representatives and village volunteers capacitated as 'Change agents and leaders' across India



## RURAL TRANSFORMATION

Gaon Ke Sang Abhiyan in Rajasthan, etc. ensuring access to benefits. In doing so, Reliance Foundation contributed towards effective implementation of these schemes at the ground level.

During FY 2021-22, Reliance Foundation, through capacity building efforts, trained 5,800+ elected representatives and 5,400 village volunteers as 'Change agents and leaders' to strengthen local governance, convergence and resource mobilisation for greater economic development and social justice. **In over 900 Gram Panchayats, ₹ 76+ crore was leveraged through convergence with government departments and developmental agencies** to achieve holistic development outcomes facilitated by Reliance Foundation.

### Community-led campaigns

Reliance Foundation contributed to climate action through community-led green drives on World Environment Day, during which 13.8 lakh people across 19 states were sensitised on climate change and 2 lakh saplings were planted through community contribution and collaboration to increase climate resilience. Reliance Foundation also contributed towards a nationwide Clean India drive reaching over 20,000 people from 544 villages on cleanliness, WASH and plastic waste management.

**13.8** lakh

sensitised on climate change across 19 states on World Environment Day in 2021

### Supporting women entrepreneurs across rural India

**In keeping with SDG 5 to ensure 'Gender Equality', Reliance Foundation has been working extensively with Women Self Help Groups (W-SHGs). During FY 2021-22, Reliance Foundation worked with 1,315 W-SHGs and 973 SHGs received support and accessed finance to the tune of ₹ 19 crore; thus helping women take up various livelihood opportunities.**

Over 11,564 women were provided various information and capacity building inputs on gender equality, leadership, diverse livelihood options and government schemes. During the year, 5,882 SHG members were supported with end-to-end mentorship, linkages with banks, government departments and local markets. This support improved their existing livelihoods and helped them establish different farm and non-farm micro-enterprises. This increased participation of women in household and rural economy, helped break gender barriers in accessing markets and increased share of women in family's income, providing them financial independence. By actively supporting these SHGs, Reliance Foundation has helped many women to come together and become entrepreneurs both at the individual and group level in areas such as bangle making, vegetable cultivation, detergent manufacturing, tailoring, floriculture, food processing, vermicomposting, vegetable and fruit nurseries, poultry, dairy, goat rearing, setting up petty shops etc.



Nutrition awareness campaign in an SHG in Sendhwa MP

Reliance Foundation has facilitated and provided technical support towards enabling over 1,300 SHGs. Out of these, 18 SHGs are part of the MGNREGA-SHG convergence model, establishing vermicomposting and nursery group enterprise to generate income as well as to promote sustainable agricultural practices in Rajkot and Patan districts of Gujarat. This has contributed towards entrepreneurship development and livelihood promotion for women.

### Bridging the gender-digital divide

To promote women's participation in the digital space, and build skills that will help bridge the digital gender divide, pilot testing of a digital tool kit was carried out with 200 SHGs.

In FY 2021-22, Reliance Foundation focused on livelihood trainings in collaboration with various agencies for the economic empowerment of women with end-to-end mentorship, bank and government linkages. Mentoring and trainings were conducted virtually or through small groups with utmost care for safety. This enabled women to use various digital platforms like WhatsApp to get timely solutions on diverse agricultural and livestock practices and improve their livelihood. Over 10,000 women have been provided information on backyard poultry, organic farm practices and nutrition garden development.

With its commitment to gender equity, Reliance Foundation has consistently carried out several activities in and around its various plant locations.

**5,882**

SHG members were supported with end-to-end mentorship, linkages with banks, government departments and schemes

### Livelihood opportunities through Swashray

Women's groups in Jamnagar under the Swashray initiative prepare healthy and savoury food products for sale at Reliance Greens, local markets and new generation vending machines. The groups gain regular customers by sustaining quality and by catering to changing seasons, festivities and occasions. During FY 2021-22, the groups earned ₹ 22 lakh. In Karodiya and Udera villages, Vadodara, Gujarat, women's groups are part of an entrepreneurship development programme run by Reliance Foundation. This year, women involved in making handmade products and imitation jewellery made brisk sales during a four-day sale organised in Vadodara, while 80 women were trained in sewing.

Women groups in Jamnagar and Vadodara have been supporting the fight against COVID-19 by making cloth masks. During FY 2021-22, 70,000+ masks were prepared. This also helped the women earn some income during the strained pandemic period. For instance, a 20-member **SHG group in Vadodara made a turnover of ₹ 38 lakh even during the pandemic through multiple micro-enterprises. In tune with the spirit of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Reliance Foundation is training this group to get onto a digital marketing platform.**



Nitalben from Modasa, Gujarat gains financial independence through tailoring



### Promoting organic farming to further state's livelihood mission



#### Empowering women with farming know-how

In Sehore, Reliance Foundation Information Services has supported women farmers of SHGs registered under the Madhya Pradesh Rural Livelihood Mission (MPRLM) to fulfil the agenda of the state government's organic farming mission. These women farmers, mostly associated with SHGs such as Jyoti SHG, Ma Gouri SHG, Mahila SHG and Radha SHG, are availing Reliance Foundation's digital services such as iVMS, helpline number, WhatsApp group and the Jio meet app to attend and participate in various technical programmes, audio conferences, awareness sessions and receive advisories.

Before associating with Reliance Foundation, these women were dependent on local shops and other farmers for technical advice and knowledge. They felt that even after applying the information, they were neither being able to produce good quality crops nor adequate yield. They became acquainted with RFIS's digital platforms and services when Reliance Foundation organised an organic farming awareness programme in the village where farmers of various SHGs under the livelihood mission were invited. Since then, these women have been regularly receiving and

applying organic farming advice from Reliance Foundation on-field to receive the best results.

In another instance, Durga Bai Malviya grew chilli plants on her 10 decimal land. Her crop got infected, due to which the leaves were wilting and plants drying. She was looking for information on some organic remedy when she called Reliance Foundation's helpline number. She also posted pictures of her infected plants on 'Reliance Foundation – sustainable organic farming – Sehore', a WhatsApp group where she discussed her issues. With expert advice on how to save her infected plants, Durga Bai was not only able to sell her chilli produce, but also earn a profit.

These women farmers say, "Since we have adopted organic farming, our input costs have decreased. We are regularly taking information and advice from the Reliance Foundation helpline and feel that we are more self-reliant than before. Our families have also started supporting our endeavour. Our financial condition has changed for the better and we would like to thank Reliance Foundation for making our livelihoods sustainable."



## RURAL TRANSFORMATION



Crop aggregation at a Farmer Producer Organisation in Netrang, Gujarat

### Market Linkages

**In alignment with UN SDG 9 'Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation', Reliance Foundation is engaged intensively with over 100 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs).** The engagement models vary as per the need and evolution of the FPOs, with an approach to handhold and strengthen them. Of the 100, 25 FPOs were established by farmers from across Reliance Foundation's programmes. Some of these FPOs have also demonstrated a cascading impact on the local ecosystem, providing capacity building, marketing and operational support to 30 other FPOs around them.

During FY 2021-22, these FPOs transacted with over 55,700 farmers for a value of ₹ 114+ crore. The FPOs helped farmers sell their farm produce at better prices, helped them save costs on agri-inputs

(seeds, fertilisers etc.) and offered farm mechanisation services at costs lower than the market. In the process, farmers earned incremental gains to the tune of ₹ 14+ crore from engaging with these FPOs. During the year, Reliance Foundation also helped these FPOs raise funds from key government schemes such as the SMART project of the government of Maharashtra, RIDF fund from NABARD and the Equity Grants Scheme of Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC).

Another approach has been to bridge critical information gaps that inhibit the development of existing FPOs in the country. Over 50 FPOs are being supported with a bouquet of services such as information on market prices, central and state government schemes, reminders about compliance, linking to market players and advisory on agronomical aspects. These information unlocks opportunities for these FPOs and helps them make better decisions.



Crop grading at a Farmer Producer Organisation in Netrang, Gujarat



### The cumin miracle: Banas Farmer Producer Company

Radhanpur in Patan district of Gujarat is a big centre for some of the best quality cumin produced in India. However, small farmers of the region seldom benefited from this, despite being only 100 kms away from Asia's largest spice market – Unjha.

This was because farmers in Radhanpur produced on an average 500-600 kg per farmer, whereas the minimum transport volume required for a truck is 1,000 kg. Banas Farmer Producer Company (FPC) has been helping more than 4,000 farmers address problems like these by aggregating their produce and selling it at the national markets and to major corporate houses to get better returns.

The FPC started a new initiative – to train its farmers to grow cumin with low pesticide residue. The FPC tied up with key market players to enable its farmers to learn 'Integrated Pest Management, which helped the FPC offer 15-20% higher prices to its farmers

vis-à-vis what they were offered for normal cumin. The FPC is also sharing profits with its members as dividends. For FY 2020-21, the FPC shared ₹ 3 lakh as dividends with its members, a motivating experience for other small farmers across the country.



Processed cumin stocked at Radhanpur



### FPO cashes in on cashew, leveraging market linkages

The Ramapachodavaram Mutually Aided Cooperative Society of East Godavari, based in Andhra Pradesh and established in 2017, primarily deals with cashew and mangoes.

The FPO was struggling to market cashews at a profitable price due to the lack of transport facilities for farmers. Middle agents would procure the produce at a rate of ₹ 7,700 per quintal, which was lower than the market price. Reliance Foundation organised meetings with the Board of Directors to understand the need to strengthen the company while informing them about the core areas of Reliance Foundation Information Services' work. The FPO then requested Reliance Foundation to extend support in marketing cashews besides providing information sharing and other support.

To address these challenges, Reliance Foundation, in collaboration with a local

processing plant, Balaji Traders, began a conversation around the direct procurement of cashews at the existing market price from farmers' doorsteps. Following this, a facilitation meeting was organised between the FPO members and Balaji Traders on April 01, 2021, where the latter agreed to buy the cashew without any grading at the market price of ₹ 7,900 per quintal. They also ensured collection of produce at the

farmer's doorstep, resolving a tricky bottleneck.

In just over two months, the FPO was able to find a trader who ensured purchase of cashews on a regular basis. During May and June 2021, the FPO members sold 92 quintals of cashew (20 quintals during May and 72 quintals in the first week of June) to Balaji Traders and earned an income of ₹ 7 lakh.



Recalibrating the cashew trade at Ramapachodavaram, Andhra Pradesh



## Health



Reliance Foundation is committed to enhancing the healthcare ecosystem through community health initiatives, health outreach to vulnerable communities, while making primary, secondary and tertiary quality healthcare services accessible to all.

These services are complemented by quaternary care at the Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre.

Through its health initiatives and services, **Reliance Foundation has touched the lives of 25.8+ lakh people since inception.**



Ensuring access to quality healthcare services at the community level, is the base of Reliance Foundation's 'Health for All' approach. The health outreach programme, taking healthcare to communities' doorsteps, is one of the pillars of this approach.

Through Mobile Medical Units equipped with the latest technologies for diagnosis and treatment, Static Medical Units that can offer specialist care besides specialised outreach programmes for preventive and therapeutic healthcare management, Reliance Foundation is contributing its efforts to tackle challenges including preventable blindness, anaemia, malnutrition, HIV and TB.



Medical Unit, Shahdol, continued to support crucial primary care

### Community health

From building awareness to setting up healthcare infrastructure, Reliance has been contributing to public healthcare through numerous activities. These activities focus on preventative healthcare and well-being, emergency medical support and supplementary support in areas like nutrition. Reliance's health outreach programme provides primary health services to underprivileged communities across plant locations in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh through 12 MMUs, Community Health Centres (CHCs) and several health camps.

**~3 lakh**

consultations were provided through mobile medical units (MMUs) and camps, during the year

**To reduce the response time of public healthcare institutions during emergencies in Dwarka and Khambhaliya, two ambulances with life support facilities were handed over to the respective municipalities through the Jamnagar plant.**

An ambulance with advance support facilities was also provided at Suvali Primary Care Centre (PHC) in Hazira for the benefit of 10 villages dependent on the PHC for primary healthcare. A similar effort in Shahdol was made for the district police. Sufficient attention is also devoted to eye care. Since inception, 1.67+ lakh consultations have been conducted, with 15,800+ people being provided with spectacles free of cost after detection of refractive error.

In FY 2021-22, 6,000+ consultations were conducted for vision-related issues, of which 1,800+ individuals were detected with refractive error and were provided with spectacles.

MMUs operating across plant locations have been instrumental in providing vital care during the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic in rural India and have been creating awareness to reduce transmission. In addition to COVID- related care, health check-ups for children and antenatal as well as postnatal care for women continued through the MMU in Shahdol. An MMU in Nagothane has been conducting screening for COVID-19 throughout the year.

During FY 2021-22, important health days became occasions to create awareness. A diabetes screening camp was organised on World Diabetes Day (November 14) in Jamnagar for 12 neighbouring villages. World Menstrual Hygiene Day (May 28) was observed in Nagothane and Jamnagar through awareness sessions for adolescents and women. Awareness of CPR during cardiac



## HEALTH

emergencies and its demonstration was taken up in Nagothane on World Heart Day (September 29).

Several long-running initiatives to lower malnutrition and create awareness on good nutrition continued by engaging communities around plant locations. In Shahdol, as part of Poshan Maah, three awareness-cum-health check-up camps for adolescent girls were organised to instill awareness on malnutrition and the importance of a balanced diet. Students who were identified as anaemic were provided supplements.

Reliance Foundation is committed to improving support and care for people living with HIV through testing, treatment and nutritional programmes. Free community screenings for tuberculosis and support with treatment and follow-ups are also provided.



Vaccination drive at Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital

Reliance Foundation hospitals in Lodhivali, Jamnagar and Hazira offer free treatment and support to 8,000+ people with HIV, including children. Additionally, 1,798 nutrition kits were provided to HIV affected children in Hazira and Jamnagar.

### Reliance Foundation Drishti

Initiated in 2003, the mission of the Drishti programme is improving and restoring the vision of people in most-at-need communities. In partnership with the National Association for the Blind (NAB), Aravind Eye Care and Sankara Eye Foundation, Reliance Foundation Drishti has been supporting free corneal transplants since 2003.

**Reliance Foundation is the only Indian corporate foundation that has supported 20,400+ corneal transplants since inception, a milestone achieved in FY 2021-22.**

To increase awareness of the importance of eye donation, the programme has been conducting Drishti Art Competitions from 2004 and Drishti Essay Competitions from 2008 annually for children and grandchildren of employees across all Reliance offices and locations.

Supported **20,400+** corneal transplants under RF Drishti, till date

From 2020 onwards and in FY 2021-22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the competitions were organised online.

Reliance Foundation Drishti publishes India's only fortnightly international Braille newspaper in Hindi in association with the NAB. Prior to the pandemic, the newspaper had a circulation of over 4,200 copies and a readership of around 24,000 visually impaired readers across India and 15 other countries. The physical printing of the newspaper, which was stopped due to the pandemic, was resumed last year and by March 2022 the circulation and readership crossed pre-pandemic levels. Along with this newspaper, on World Braille Day on January 4 every year, a Braille table calendar is also distributed to readers.

**In 2022, Drishti's fortnightly international Braille newspaper completed 10 years of publication.** The newspaper covers news and updates from the world of sports, business, education, current affairs and entertainment. The newspaper also features recipes and reader contributions like poems and articles. From 2015, Reliance Foundation

has been conducting an essay competition for its readers of the newspaper.

The Drishti programme works in close collaboration with other organisations from time to time. During Diwali every year, Drishti supports Sunrise Candles, an NGO run by Shri Bhavesh Bhatia, based in Mahabaleshwar. Bhavesh is visually impaired and has 45 visually impaired semi-skilled staff. In 2021, Reliance Foundation purchased torans (decorative craft for the home) from the NGO as Diwali gifts, ringing in the festive spirit.



Community vaccination drive at Dhule, Maharashtra

### Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre

Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre (RFH) is a 345-bed Quaternary Care multi-specialty hospital in Mumbai. A world-class institution that caters to the healthcare requirements of all in the society RFH sets for itself the most stringent global clinical benchmarks that it has always exceeded. The hospital maintained 92% patient satisfaction level and a Net Promoter Score of 73 this year, which is higher than many other renowned healthcare institutions across the world.

**17,000** Tele-consultations

**85,690+** Out Patient Consultation

**20,000+** In Patient Admissions

**18** Liver **12** Heart and **32** Renal Transplant

In FY 2021-22, RFH recorded a rise in the number of admissions, OPD consultations and surgeries over the previous year, attesting to the growing preference for the hospital as both primary and advanced care facility. While the number of high end procedures continues to rise, an increasing number of short-stay procedures (370 during FY 2021-22) like Total Knee Replacement, Urology, General Surgery, etc., are being performed to provide advanced care in less time with faster recovery.



Community health checkup in a Mobile Medical Unit

RFH continued providing remote services to circumvent the challenge of restricted physical movement during lockdowns following the second wave of COVID-19; over 17,000 tele-consultations were provided.

Going above and beyond the call of duty has been the norm at RFH. Since its inception, the hospital has engaged with communities by conducting preventive health screenings for diabetes, hypertension, anaemia and malnutrition. These outreach efforts contribute to reducing the burden of chronic health conditions. In the present year, these efforts also led to increased vaccine uptake by lowering hesitancy.

RFH is able to provide the best in healthcare at an affordable cost by frequently upgrading or adding to its capacity at scale. With increased focus on automation and AI for efficiency gains across specialities, **during FY 2021-22, RFH operationalised the highly advanced Da Vinci XI Robotic System, Lokomat Gait Robot and Diego Tyro Robot for upper and lower body rehab, Cori Joint Replacement Robot and Rapid AI, a stroke imaging solution.**

In addition, RFH operationalised specialised MRI equipment, a first in Asia. Advanced cardiac intervention procedures like Excimer Laser and OCT imaging were initiated for high degree of precision in heart care. Moreover, 5G technology was tested for tele critical care, tele ER and smart ultrasonography among other functions.



Community vaccination drive at Kandivali, Mumbai

### Awards & Recognition

**India Today Healthgiri Award 2021 - Recognising RFH for Best Vaccine Delivery Programme by a Private Hospital**

**TOI Multi-Specialty Ranking 2021 - #1 in Mumbai and West India; #2 at the National Level**

**Awarded Most Trusted Hospital 2021 by Reader's Digest**

**Mid-Day Powerful Women Award** presented to Dr. Tarang Gianchandani, CEO RFH, for her splendid contribution to the State of Maharashtra

**Mid-Day Maharashtra Gaurav Award 2021 for Iconic Multi-Specialty Hospital and Iconic Vaccine Delivery Programme**



## HEALTH



### Five-year-old gets a new lease of life with heart transplant

Baby Lavanya was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy due to a leak in her heart's mitral valve.

After a mitral valve repair procedure failed to yield the desired outcome, Lavanya was listed for a heart transplant. When a donor heart became available in Indore, the team of doctors under Dr Anvay Mulay, Director, Advanced Cardiac Surgery and Heart Transplant, decided to go ahead following risk stratification and taking into consideration the long ischemia time. Baby Lavanya underwent a heart transplant performed by Dr Mulay and his team. She is now doing well.



We have done paediatric transplants before, but Baby Lavanya's case was a little tricky. The donor size, blood group and longer ischemia time were making it a difficult decision to make. Hence, we had to bank on our instincts and previous experience to take a decision. We knew that going ahead with the transplant was the only way to save her life.

Dr Mulay, Director, Advance Diagnostics



Our teams have once again demonstrated the importance of an experienced multi-disciplinary team approach coupled with determination to ensure patient centric care. Seeing Baby Lavanya's courage at a tender age reinfuses in us all a strong sense of purpose. It is success stories like these that aid us in keeping faith and deliver excellence in quaternary care.

Dr Tarang Gianchandani, CEO, RFH



Baby Lavanya did well after the transplant. She is on a few blood pressure medications, but now can lead a healthy life like any other child. The ICU nurses have pampered her all the while and have taken extremely good care to get her to this stage. Our nutritionists ensured she got proper diet to get the desired nutrition. The physiotherapists have worked round-the-clock to get her back on her feet.

Dr Talha Meeran,  
Transplant Cardiologist and Heart Failure Consultant,  
Advanced Cardiac Surgery and Heart Transplant at RFH



### Western India's first end-to-end robotic gastric bypass surgery performed at Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital

Ayaan Hasan, a 19-year-old who weighed 152 kg with a BMI of 72.3, had sleep apnoea, hypertension and pre-diabetes. He was discharged a day after he underwent the Roux-en-Y gastric bypass procedure performed by Dr Muffazal Lakdawala, Director, Department of General Surgery and Minimal Access Surgical Sciences at RFH.

Ayaan has since lost 22 kg. He has reported improved sleep and is off hypertension medication. The Da Vinci Xi robot that was newly acquired by RFH is used for these procedures.

A small pouch is created in the stomach during Roux-en-Y gastric bypass. The pouch is then connected directly to the small intestine, helping the ingested food bypass a major portion of the stomach and the start of the small intestine. The bypass results in sustained weight loss and resolution of obesity related issues.



We are extremely glad to bring this unique end-to-end robotic solution to our country. This will benefit a lot of people as India has the third largest number of persons afflicted with obesity in the world, and the second largest in terms of diabetes. These diseases not only shorten lifespan but also increase medical costs.

Dr Lakdawala, Director,  
Minimal Access Surgical Science & General Surgery

Commenting on robotics assisted surgery, Dr Lakdawala said, "With the latest Da Vinci Xi technology, surgeons themselves can do the entire surgery, including stapling, sealing and suturing. It takes away surgical fatigue from the surgeon. In the coming years, RAS technology will play a key role in training surgeons to further improve their skills with AI backed algorithms, thus leading to better clinical outcomes for patients."

### Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital performs western India's first MitraClip procedure

Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital performed the first case of MitraClip in western India to fix the heart's mitral valve without opening it. Two patients who underwent the procedure were discharged within 48 hours of undergoing it.

MitraClip is a revolutionary treatment to repair a leaking mitral valve by clipping the two leaflets of the valve at the site of leak. Mitral valve leakages are usually caused by heart blockages, dilatation of heart chambers, valve leaflet prolapse, among other reasons. MitraClip treatment is possible with encouraging outcomes in most such cases.

The procedure reduces valve regurgitation and improves the quality of life by decreasing incidence of breathlessness and hospitalisation, favourably reducing heart size and greatly reducing the need for a risky open-heart surgery.

The procedures at RFH were done by a team of doctors comprising cardiologists Dr Maulik Parekh, Dr Nihar Mehta, Dr A.B. Mehta and Dr R. Handa, and anaesthetists Dr Harvesp Panthak and Dr Kritika Sharma.

### Eight-month old super baby beats complex heart syndrome

Eight-month baby Malhar Karkare had severe shortage of oxygen in his blood due to Blue Baby Syndrome. When medications were proving less effective than necessary, a complex heart surgery was performed. Baby Malhar was convalescing well for 6-8 hours following the procedure when he developed sudden cardiac arrest. All conventional cardiopulmonary resuscitative measures started immediately and the chest cavity was opened for direct internal cardiac massage, which continued for 20 minutes with medicinal support. Malhar bounced back and began to recover steadily. He was discharged without any neurological issues and with normal investigative reports. He is now on his way to being a spirited toddler.

This case reinforces RFH's belief that timely and precise interventions save lives. A team led by Dr Shivaprakash Krishnanaik, Director, Paediatric Cardiac Sciences at RFH provided the medical care to Malhar.



### Deep Brain Stimulation Surgery for Parkinson's disease patient

Parkinson's disease was making movement increasingly difficult for 65-year-old Harkishan Kawa. Though medication improved his symptoms, the disease progressed over the years and required increasing doses of medication. The accompanying side effects prompted Dr Arun Shah, Director of Neurosciences at RFH, to evaluate Harkishan for Deep Brain Stimulation.

In a first at RFH, Harkishan underwent the procedure in December 2021. Before the procedure, he was either immobile or experiencing abnormal excessive movements. Following the procedure, he is able to walk without difficulty. His improved condition has resulted in significant reduction of medication requirement without major side effects.



We are always at the forefront of providing patients access to world-class services, infrastructure and clinical outcomes. We treat all our patients with care, compassion and commitment.

Dr Tarang Gianchandani, CEO, RFH





## HEALTH

### Other health initiatives

Healthcare and access to health for all has been a critical priority for Reliance Foundation and all its partner organisations.

Recognising cancer as a major health hazard reaching epidemic scale in the country, **Reliance Foundation, in partnership with Dr. Abaji Thatte Sewa Aur Anusandhan Sanstha, established state-of-the-art facilities for diagnosis, prevention and treatment of cancer in Nagpur.** A total of 20% beds in the hospital are reserved for economically disadvantaged patients who they are treated free of cost.

In partnership with Indian Head Injury Foundation, Reliance Foundation supports underprivileged victims of neuro trauma including:

- Neuro rehab for survivors which has increased from 50 monitored sessions per day to 70 such sessions per day across three centres in Delhi, Jaipur and Patna with qualified therapists
- Awareness programmes on the adoption and importance of preventive measures like use of helmets, seatbelts for children and other road users conducted for 3,000 persons
- Primary trauma care courses for 600 road users to enable them to safely evacuate the injured to hospitals in the golden hour



Vaccination drive at Kandivali for the elderly

The initiative catered to around 15,000 people and targeted two wheeler riders pillion riders and children along with bus and taxi drivers, pedestrians and cyclists in the age group of 12-45 years.

In order to reduce the burden of cancer and to provide preventive services at the grassroots level, Reliance Foundation supported the Rajasthan Medicare Relief Society with a preventive oncology van. The running cost and liabilities of this van will be borne by the National Health Mission or the government medical

college concerned. This van is a one-stop solution for screening common cancers, and is fully equipped with:

- Chest X-ray machine for lung cancer
- Mammography for breast cancer
- Colposcopy for cervical cancer
- Hopkins Endoscope for oral cancer
- Screening and software for online reporting of all imaging by experts

It is expected to cover up to 50% of female and about 25% of male cancer burden in the region, effectively reducing morbidity, mortality and treatment costs of cancer patients.



Critical healthcare facilities for COVID-19 at NSCI, Mumbai

Reliance is also working with several blood banks such as the Indian Red Cross Society, Indian Medical Association, Rotary Blood Bank, Surat Raktadan Kendra and Research, Rotary Noida Research and the Voluntary Health Services across the country. During FY 2021-22, Reliance conducted 791 blood donation camps, leading to the collection of 77,500+ units of blood for 2 lakh+

beneficiaries including thalassemia patients, army personnel, jail inmates and BPL card holders. In addition, free health check-up camps are organised for thalassemia patients and felicitation programmes are conducted to motivate people for voluntary donation.

### Sanitation and menstrual hygiene

A major reason for poor attendance among girls in school has been the lack of clean toilet facilities. In order to address this critical issue, Sewa International installed seven toilets in two schools in Kangpokpi and Imphal in Manipur, along with water connections and overhead tanks. Menstrual hygiene sessions were also conducted with more than 350 girls studying in schools in Kashmir and Viratnagar, Rajasthan.



COVID-19 quarantine facility at NSCI, Mumbai



Spreading awareness on menstrual hygiene product

**77,500+** units  
of blood collected through  
791 blood donation camps



# Education



Education is one of the key pillars of Reliance's vision for India and is critical to the country's social and economic progress. Reliance supports an array of educational initiatives, spanning primary, secondary and tertiary education.



Education is all about igniting young minds and enabling them to attain their fullest potential.

Smt. Nita Ambani, Founder Chairperson, Reliance Foundation Institution of Education & Research



Reliance wants to build an institution that will strengthen its mission to empower young Indians, and young people from across the globe, to develop solutions for a sustainable and better future for mankind.

Shri Mukesh Ambani, Chairman & Managing Director, Reliance Industries Limited

## About Jio Institute

Jio Institute is a multi-disciplinary higher education institute set up as a philanthropic initiative by Reliance Industries Ltd. and Reliance Foundation. The Institute is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence by bringing together global scholars and thought leaders and providing an enriching student experience through world-class education, relevant research platforms, and a culture of innovation. Our founders, Smt. Nita Ambani, and Shri Mukesh Ambani firmly believe in the power of youth to transform India. The founders' transformational precedents across sectors and their unwavering faith in the potential of India's youth form the core of the Institute's genesis and initiatives. The institute's visionary leadership aims to nurture aspirations and provide platforms for the entrepreneurial spirit. Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar, Padma Vibhushan, Former Director General, CSIR, Govt, is the Chancellor of Jio Institute, Dr. Dipak Jain, Former Dean, Kellogg School of Management, USA, Former Dean, INSEAD, France, is the Vice-Chancellor and Dr. Guruswami (Ravi) Ravichandran, California Institute of Technology will be the Provost from July 1, 2022.

In July 2022, Jio Institute will begin two inaugural Post Graduate Programmes in Artificial Intelligence & Data Science (AI & DS) and Digital Media

& Marketing Communications (DM & MC). In the long run, the Institute will introduce programmes in the areas of Computing & Engineering, Architecture & Urban Planning, Media, Communications & Journalism, Arts, Humanities & Science, Management & Entrepreneurship, Law, Governance & Policy and Medicine.

## Campus development

Set in a serene environment overlooking the sea, Jio Institute's 52-acre digitally-enabled campus in Ulwe, Navi Mumbai harmoniously combines nature and state-of-the-art infrastructure. The campus has several open spaces including walkways, lawns as well as an amphitheatre and is well-connected to different parts of Mumbai through road, rail and waterway. It is situated near the upcoming Navi Mumbai International Airport and Mumbai Trans-Harbour Link.

The campus has smart classrooms, equipped with interactive screens with two-repeater displays, a projector system, a high-frequency microphone and broadcasting capabilities besides lecture recording and virtual conferencing provision.

The campus also has multi-purpose halls equipped with a projector system connected with a server along with high-frequency microphones for seamless interaction, as well as broadcasting capabilities.

To ensure hands-on and application-based learning throughout the programmes, students will have access to state-of-the-art laboratories which comprise Media Studio, Production Control Lab, Audio Editing Bay, Video Editing Bay, Robotics Lab, AR/VR Lab and Computer Vision Lab.

## Sports & Recreation

To explore, participate and stay fit, students have several sporting avenues ranging from athletic track and field facilities to sports including basketball, lawn tennis, cricket, cycling and indoor sports facilities, a gymnasium and a state-of-the-art fitness and yoga centre.



Jio Institute, a multi-disciplinary, research focused higher education institution



## EDUCATION

### Jio Institute Digital Library

The Jio Institute Digital Library (JDL) is a 21<sup>st</sup> century world-class research library, state-of-the-art learning resource, and an innovation centre to help learners excel in their academic, professional and research areas. JDL has a rich and expanding collection of electronic and print resources, assuring a 24X7 service to students, researchers and faculty. JDL is presently working on several special collections such as Indian Arts, Architecture, Culture and History, COVID-19 Archive, and History of Mumbai. The aim is to build a growing corpus of images, curated literature, art forms, rare materials, scholarly lectures, images and research papers around these themes.

**2,000+**

professionals from across the world attended Jio Institute masterclasses in FY 2021-22

### Admission announcement

In March 2022, Jio Institute began inviting applications for its one-year full-time Post Graduate Programmes (PGP) in the emerging areas of Artificial Intelligence & Data Science and Digital Media & Marketing Communications. The PGP in AI & DS aims to instill theoretical capabilities and provide the know-how to create practical solutions for enterprises and society. The PGP in DM & MC will help students acquire knowledge on how to manage the customer experience in the digital age by innovatively engaging, serving and communicating with them.

The AI & DS Programme is designed for early-career professionals who aspire to become full-stack data scientists – well equipped for a variety of roles depending on their choices and temperament including AI Researchers, Data Scientists as well as Industrial and Societal Entrepreneurs. The DM & MC Programme is designed

for early-career professionals who aspire to build a career in areas such as Marketing Communications, Brand Consulting, Digital Marketing, Marketing Analytics, and Consumer Research.

More information will be found on the official website [www.jioinstitute.edu.in](http://www.jioinstitute.edu.in).

### Two PGPs full time Post Graduate Programmes in Artificial Intelligence & Data Science (AI & DS) and Digital Media and Marketing Communications (DM & MC) to begin in 2022



Dr. Shailesh Kumar, Programme mentor for Artificial Intelligence & Data Science

### Faculty at Jio Institute

The programme mentors for Digital Media & Marketing Communications are Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Dipak Jain, Former Dean, Kellogg School of Management, USA, Former Dean, INSEAD, France, and Dr. Frank Mulhern, Associate Dean of Research and Executive Director of Academic programmes in San Francisco, Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University, USA. The programme mentors for Artificial Intelligence & Data Science are Dr. Larry Birnbaum Professor, Computer Science, Northwestern University, USA and Dr. Shailesh Kumar, Chief Data Scientist, Center of Excellence in AI/ML, Reliance Jio. Faculty at Jio Institute comprises academic scholars and thought leaders from globally renowned institutions such as MIT, Northwestern University, NTU, Singapore, Georgia State University, University of Houston, USA, Allen Institute for AI, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA, etc.

### Key activities undertaken in FY 2021-22:

#### Executive Education & Faculty Development

Jio Institute conducted four Executive Education Programmes (EEP) in AI & DS and DM & MC during FY 2021-22 on focus areas 'From Automation to Intelligence: Shaping the Modern Enterprise' and 'The Digital Media Ecosystem' with 30 senior corporate executives in each batch. Jio Institute also conducted two Faculty Development Programmes attended by 1,000+ members from the academia, which were guided by eminent academicians of international repute and industry experts.

#### Outreach initiatives

Jio Institute conducted a series of masterclasses, symposiums, workshops, webinars, panel discussions and fireside chats aimed at encouraging conversations on diverse and relevant issues. These sessions were attended by 2,000+ professionals from different parts of the world. Jio Institute conducted nine such sessions, featuring renowned speakers across academia, research and industry from around the world.

An exhaustive list of our past and upcoming events can be accessed on <https://jioinstitute.edu.in/events>.

Scan the QR Code to visit our website



Dr. Dipak Jain, Programme mentor for Digital Media & Marketing



## EDUCATION

The aim is to develop world-class educational institutions that serve as models for transforming the country's education system. Reliance also seeks to nurture and equip India's youth and future global leaders to develop solutions to various challenges and, in parallel, ensure equitable access to education and learning at the bottom of the pyramid.

Dhirubhai Ambani International School (DAIS) provides world-class education to over 1,080 children every year, with about 170 teachers experienced in national and international curricula. DAIS prepares students for ICSE, IGCSE, and IB Diploma examinations and is a member of the Cambridge International Primary Programme, with excellent results in the Board examinations and outstanding university placements.

### Dhirubhai Ambani International School (DAIS)

In 2020-21, students achieved an average score of 96.52% in ICSE Board examinations; in IGCSE 92.6% of all grades achieved were A\*s and As; and in IB Diploma, the average score was 41.1 points. DAIS graduates have earned admission to 22 of the top 30 universities worldwide. Students continue to excel in sports, arts, and other co-curricular activities at the district, state, national and international levels.

In 2021, the Robotics team, 'Team Elev8' won the Imagery Award at the regional level competition for visual aesthetic integration. As a part of the outreach efforts, the

Robotics team has been training over 500 students from robotics teams of 25 schools in India and abroad as well as 12 NGOs. They have also been invited by the 'Atal Innovation Mission', the skill-building initiative of Niti Aayog, to conduct a course on CAD.

In academic years 2020-21 and 2021-22, DAIS has largely functioned as a virtual school, with teachers and students leveraging innovative digital instructional and learning practices. The school has already started in-person classes after the physical reopening of the school campus.



Dhirubhai Ambani International School, Mumbai

### DAIS Awards & Recognition in 2021-22

**#1 International School in India** by **EducationWorld** for the ninth consecutive year (2013 to 2021)

**Schools of Eminence Award** with the highest rating of **A++** by **EducationWorld**

**#1 'National + International Curriculum'** School in Mumbai by the Times of India for the seventh consecutive year (2015 to 2021)

**Microsoft Showcase School** (joining a select league of schools for their vision and innovation in teaching and learning)

**#1 International School in India** by **Education Today**

Among the **Top IB Schools Globally**

### Reliance Foundation Schools

The 13 Reliance Foundation Schools (RFS) located in Jamnagar, Surat, Vadodara, Dahej, Koparkhairane, Lodhivali, Nagothane, and Mouda, impart quality education to nearly 14,000 children annually.

The schools are affiliated to CBSE, Gujarat State Board, and Maharashtra State Board and offer education from Kindergarten to Class 12. In the academic year 2020-21, 44% students secured 90% and above in CBSE Class 10 Board exams; and 41% students scored above 90% in CBSE Class 12 Board examinations.

**In April 2020, Reliance Foundation Schools transitioned to virtual teaching and learning, rising to the challenge of continuing to provide quality education in the pandemic.**

This has been made possible with significant upgradation of the digital infrastructure and the introduction of various digital platforms, applications, and resources. With the holistic development of children as the overarching goal, all Reliance Foundation schools have emphasised academics as well as co-curricular activities and sports. Through online counselling sessions and support, Reliance Foundation schools have taken extra care of the mental health and well-being of students.

With the physical reopening of the schools in a phased manner, classes are being held in a hybrid mode with the safety of students and staff as a top priority. The schools also provide enhanced opportunities for students to play and, thus, improve their physical and mental well-being.

Apart from academics, students excelled in co-scholastic, sporting, and co-curricular pursuits, winning awards and recognition in competitions at the district, state, national and international levels.

The 754 teachers and 126 administrative staff of Reliance Foundation Schools have together completed 9,395 online courses and have attended 12,903 webinars in various areas of academics and administration.

**22,000+**

online courses and webinars attended by teachers and staff of Reliance Foundation Schools

**15,000**

children receive quality education each year at 14 RF schools including DAIS

### Key achievements of Reliance Foundation Schools (RFS) for academic year 2021-22

Individual student recognition ranged from five-year old Evelyn Iris creating a national record by identifying 26 pictures of inventors while Lavanya Maske won a gold medal at the National level Thai boxing competition. Other children also brought accolades in fields ranging from Kudo International to IT Quiz, and space challenge to coding.

RFS Koparkhairane won the 'Top Ten Schools Award', for sending the largest number of entries to the All-India School Contest - 2021, conducted by Indian Centre for Plastics in the Environment (ICPE) from May 1 to July 31, 2021.

Dr. Kishor Nikhare of RFS Mouda has received the National Best Teacher Award 2022 in the 15<sup>th</sup> National Maths Convention by All India Ramanujan Maths Club (AIRMC) VIPNET - an autonomous organisation of the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India.

**7 international awards, 27 national awards, and 125 awards at zonal, state, and district levels at various events.**



Ongoing class at Nagothane English Medium School



## EDUCATION

### Reliance Foundation Scholarships

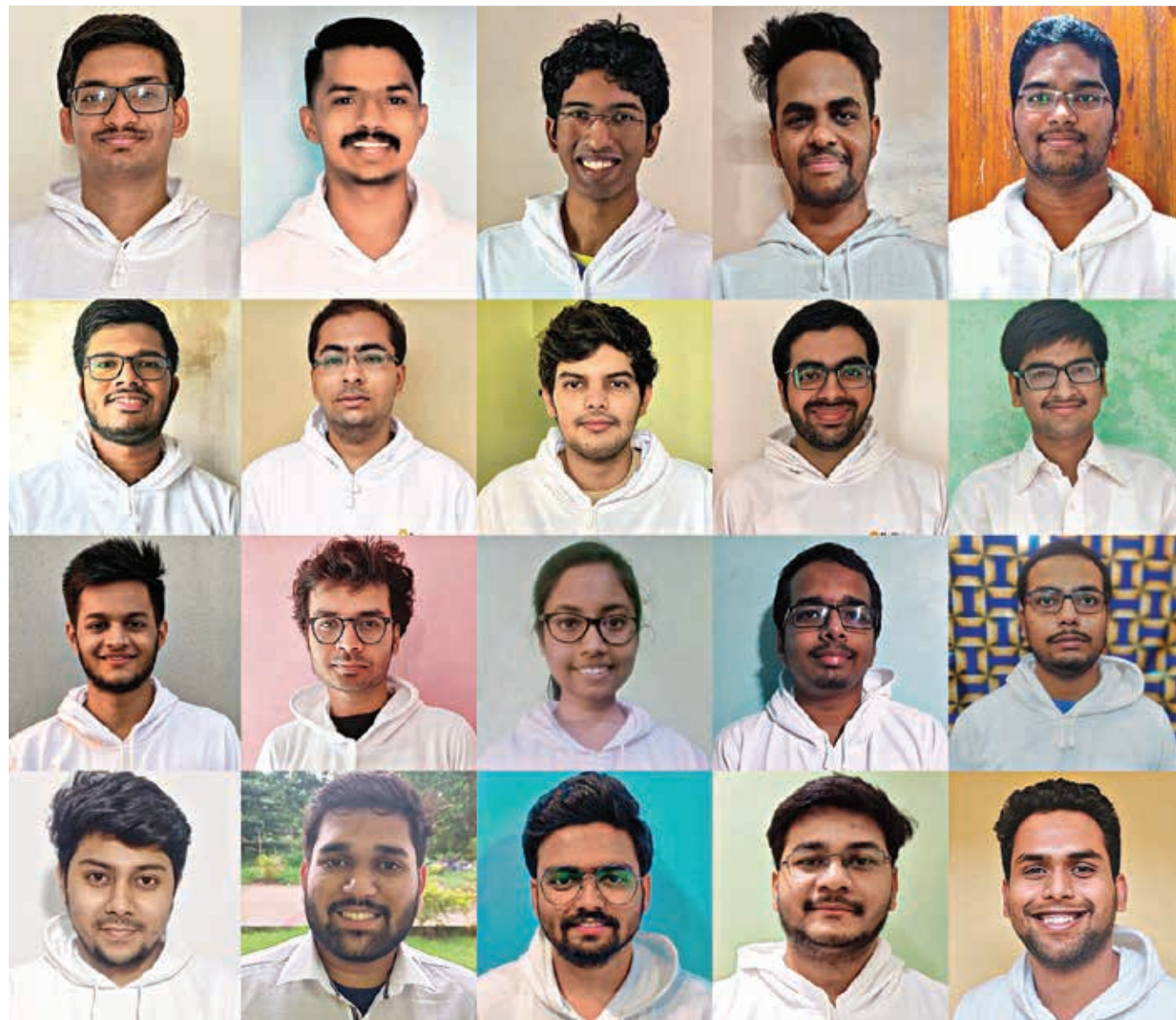
In 2020-21, the Reliance Foundation Scholarships (RFS) were launched with the aim of enabling and propelling India's brightest youth, who are uniquely positioned to lead India's technologically driven growth to become the future leaders of tomorrow. In August 2021, Reliance Foundation welcomed its first cohort of 76 scholars, studying Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science at the undergraduate and postgraduate level in select institutes across India. Scholars were selected through a rigorous selection process, including

interviews with a panel of leading Indian and global experts in the field.

For the second cycle, Reliance Foundation expanded the scope of the scholarships. In 2022, 100 of India's brightest undergraduate and postgraduate students will be supported with a grant award of ₹ 4 lakh for undergraduate and ₹ 6 lakh for postgraduate students for the duration of the degree. Along with this, a strong development programme will help nurture their skills to innovate for social good. The second cycle of RFS encompasses a broader range of subject areas in the fields

of Artificial Intelligence, Computer Sciences, Mathematics & Computing, and Electrical and/or Electronics Engineering.

Reliance Foundation will nurture and support the selected scholars with a holistic development programme, including expert interactions, industry exposure and volunteering opportunities, creating a cohort of excellence every year.



Reliance Foundation scholars

### Dhirubhai Ambani Scholarships

In 1996, inspired by Reliance Founder-Chairman Shri Dhirubhai Ambani's belief that the best way to ensure the nation's progress is to invest in its youth, the Dhirubhai Ambani Scholarship (DAS) was established. DAS aims to encourage and assist meritorious students to pursue higher education and enhance the human resource potential in the country. Scholarships are awarded on a merit-cum-means basis to outstanding students from financially weak backgrounds for undergraduate education in any stream of their choice.

Since inception, DAS has supported 12,776 students on a pan-India level, including 50% female scholars and 20% specially-abled students. The programme has partnered with 27 State Boards, the CBSE Board, schools and junior colleges to identify top-ranking students for the scholarship.

Currently, 663 Dhirubhai Ambani Scholars are being supported until they finish their degree programmes in a range of subjects including Medicine, Engineering, Agriculture, Pharmacy, Management, Media, Computer Science, Law, Commerce, Arts and Sciences.

12,776

students supported by DAS since 1996, 50% of them female scholars and 20% specially-abled



### Sumitra Malagi - Reliance Foundation Postgraduate Scholar 2020-2021



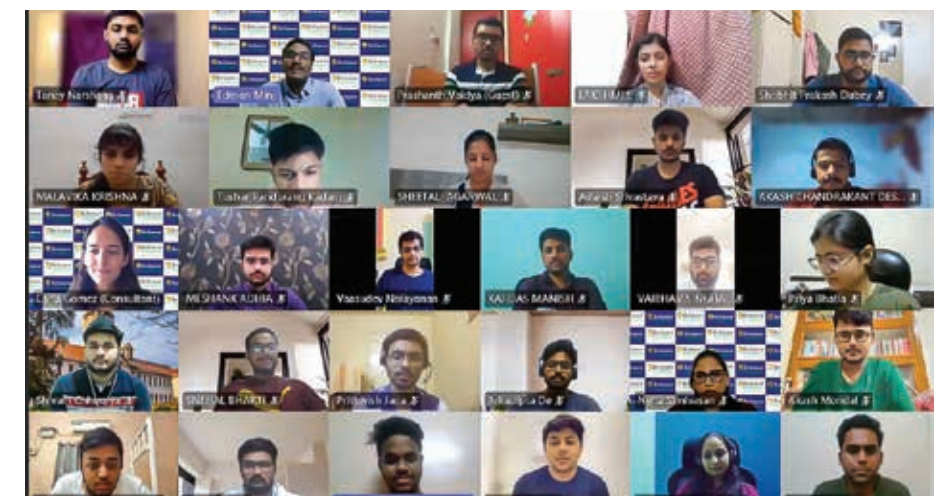
Sumitra Malagi  
IIT Hyderabad, M. Tech, Computer Science and Engineering

excellent communication skills and sound understanding of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning. "I was enthralled when I researched about my interviewer. I ecstatically told myself that I was being interviewed by one of the most eminent data scientists of India (Dr. Shailesh Kumar) and that was quite an experience in itself and that I should not feel disheartened if I am not selected!"

Sumitra grew up in modest surroundings and knew early on that education was the only means of achieving success. After completing her bachelor's degree, Sumitra worked as an Associate Network Infrastructure Engineer but soon realised that she needed to pursue a research-based Master's programme in order to develop her AI skills. She quit her job and decided to pursue a Master's degree at IIT Hyderabad. That's when she came to know about the Reliance Foundation Scholarships.

Sumitra applied and was interviewed for the Reliance Foundation Scholarships. She impressed the panellists with her

Much to Sumitra's delight, she was awarded a scholarship of ₹ 6 lakh for the duration of her PG programme. Sumitra also speaks enthusiastically about the scholarship programme's engagement and development sessions: "There are specially curated masterclasses and fireside chats throughout your scholarship tenure. You can also suggest topics on which you want a session to be organised. The sessions are a mixture of inspiration, guidance and education. For instance, one of the webinars was on how AI is being used at Jio; it gave us a glimpse of real-world application of concepts we were studying as part of our courses," says Sumitra.



RFS Welcome Event



## EDUCATION

### Reliance Foundation Teacher Awards (RFTA)

The Reliance Foundation Teacher Awards (RFTA) were instituted to recognise and celebrate India's teachers and motivate them to strive for excellence. The awards are conferred to the top 1,000 teachers who excel in the Teaching Professionals Olympiad (TPO), organised by the Centre for Teacher Accreditation (CENTA). Reliance Foundation provides a cash prize of ₹ 1 lakh to the top three national rank holders.

The RFTA ceremony was held on World Teacher's Day, October 5, 2021, which brought to the fore some inspiring stories of teachers from across India who faced the COVID-19 pandemic and adopted innovative means to reach out to their students.

The virtual ceremony included a panel discussion on 'The role of teachers during and after the

COVID-19 pandemic' featuring Reliance Foundation CEO Mr Jagannatha Kumar, CENTA CEO Ms Ramya Venkataraman and EducationWorld CEO Mr Bhavin Shah. The panel discussion was followed by a felicitation ceremony for the winners of RFTA 2020 and the launch of the RFTA and CENTA TPO 2021.



RFTA Subject Toppers

The TPO 2021 edition was conducted online over two rounds and saw active participation from 5,300 teachers. **Over the last four editions, Reliance Foundation has impacted nearly 38,000 teachers through its support to CENTA TPO.**

### Strengthening Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in India

Reliance aims to support early childhood care and education by strengthening Anganwadis (child care centres) in rural India, including curriculum development and capacity building for Anganwadi workers as well as providing toys for play-based learning, along with educational materials.



A model 'Nandghar'

In Silvassa, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Reliance has undertaken the refurbishment of 26 Anganwadi centres. Till date, 21 Anganwadis have been renovated and renamed Nandghar. These Anganwadis include a welcoming, painted exterior façade. In addition to the main room, the Anganwadis are also equipped with a smart TV, a modular kitchen and store area with access to purified drinking water, a toilet with a child-friendly handwashing area, and an outdoor play area with play equipment such as swings and slides. The Anganwadis also include a Reliance Nutrition Garden within the premises to supplement the nutritional requirements of children attending the Anganwadi.

Reliance is also refurbishing Anganwadis in Varanasi, incorporating local culture in its design – with murals inspired by the Sanjhi art form of Uttar Pradesh, while following Montessori principles. This includes movable and flexible furniture,

interactive and easy-to-reach areas for children, child-friendly toilet, modular kitchen with purified drinking water, playground area, and Building as a Learning Aid paintings. They will also include a Reliance Nutrition Garden to provide locally-grown, nutritious vegetables for the meals of the children.

Over the next year, Reliance Foundation is aiming to establish innovative, scalable models of excellence for early childhood development, to improve early childhood educational outcomes of pre-school children, especially from the marginalised communities in India, and to build a strong foundation for their lifelong learning and well-being.

### Education initiatives at plant locations

Reliance is focused on ensuring that children and youth in communities around its plant locations have access to quality education and learning support. Towards this end, numerous activities that cater to the learning needs of students and recognise their aspirations, infrastructure needs of schools and those of the administration are taken up throughout the year.

In FY 2021-22, Reliance undertook the construction of a primary school in Lalwadi of Jamnagar Municipal Corporation. The school was built along the lines of Building as a Learning Aid concept. Construction of a new building for Meghpar Government Primary School also began to replace an aging structure. **A 10 KW solar plant was installed at the government school in Ismailpur, Jhajjar, for uninterrupted power supply to the school's computer lab.**

The COVID-19 pandemic made remote and digital learning indispensable even as it exposed steep differences in the abilities of children to adapt. Reliance, through its plant locations, has worked to prevent learning disruption among

children either due to economic disadvantage or lack of digital/internet access. In Shahdol, remedial classes were organised in small batches for children without access to online learning. In Jamnagar, a group of students who had dropped out of school were tutored every day by volunteers and cleared NIOS Senior Secondary examinations. Reliance also distributed nearly 21,000 education materials to students across plant locations.



Student attending online classes at RF School Marathi Medium at Nagothane

### PDEU - Gujarat Energy Research

Reliance Foundation contributed towards the Endowment Fund of Pandit Deendayal Energy University (PDEU) for strengthening its education system and bringing it up to a world standard. PDEU was established by the Gujarat Energy and Research Management Institute (GERMI) as a premier institution of higher learning and scientific studies in India.

In 2018, the University, in its quest for academic and research excellence, decided to construct a new building with state-of-the-art digital and academic infrastructure to meet the requirements of postgraduate students, PhD scholars and other academic requirements. This new building is known as PDEU's Translational Research Centre (TREC) and acts as a hub for effective translation of research and innovative ideas into sustainable solutions in the areas of energy, health, water, and climate change.

Reliance has been guiding students in their choice of career through various initiatives, from knowledge building sessions with experts to coaching for clearing competitive examinations. The aim is in line with the aspirations of students to enter public service through defence, railways, banking, police and other avenues. Lakshya is an exemplary initiative in Nagothane through which aspirants receive both educational coaching and physical training. Such efforts are also underway in Shahdol, where 100 students availed coaching offline and online.

### Other education initiatives

#### Child safety initiatives

Child safety is an important issue, requiring specialised interventions to raise awareness on child abuse among children. Reliance Foundation supports Arpan, which works in the area of child protection. Through its Personal Safety Education programme, more than 1,600 children and adults were reached through identification and response to child sexual abuse. In addition, 1,950 zilla parishad teachers from Classes 1-8 were trained in the same programme. More than 18,000 users have also accessed digital learning resources on child safety.



# Sports for Development



Reliance Foundation Sports for Development is a platform that nurtures sporting talent from across India into high performers through multi-pronged programmes, and in the process helps India set the bar high in sports.

Reliance Foundation collaborates with various sporting bodies to organise trainings and competitions, the development or improvement of sporting infrastructure to world-class standards and to ensure that budding talent have the necessary equipment to perform. The sports initiatives are free and open to all and have reached the remotest parts of the country, touching the lives of 2.15 crore youngsters since inception.



FY 2021-22 saw Reliance Foundation-supported athletes shine at international and national events, which resumed after being suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A carefully guided return to on-ground training and scouting was achieved successfully in some cases even as virtual training and instruction continued.



On-ground training at Reliance Foundation Odisha Athletics High Performance Centre

## Highlights FY 2021-22

Reliance Foundation scholarship athletes put up outstanding performances at national and international events, winning 28 medals in all. Athletes have their sights set on multiple international events including the Commonwealth and Asian Games

AI enabled technologies deployed to identify footballing talent and guide training of players

RFYC graduates make goal-scoring ISL debuts at Durand Cup

Learning continues virtually even as training and scouting resume on the ground in some programmes

## Reliance Foundation Youth Sports

**Started in 2016, Reliance Foundation Youth Sports (RFYS) aims to lay a strong foundation for India's sporting future through the development of sports in schools and colleges.** This is being done through inter-institutional competitions at all levels, scholarships for athletes, grants to institutions for sporting infrastructure as well as provisions for equipment and training of coaches. Today, RFYS is a prominent scouting platform for sporting talent in the country and has so far reached out to 90 lakh youth and children across 26 states and Union Territories.

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, RFYS continued conducting sessions virtually during FY 2021-22. Thirty virtual sessions on topics specific to football and athletics as well as on general topics such as fitness, nutrition, well-being of athletes, alongside identifying

opportunities for growth in sports, were held with the participation of 8,500+ attendees. These included Elite Series Workshops for athletics coaches conducted with experts from the Reliance Foundation Odisha Athletics High Performance Centre (HPC). Additionally, in collaboration with the Association of Indian Football Coaches (AIFC), **440+** coaches involved in the grassroots efforts of RFYS were trained and certified through **20** digital workshops in **multiple languages**.

**8,500+** attendees

across the 30 virtual sessions on a variety of sports training and related topics



## SPORTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

### Reliance Foundation Young Champs (RFYC)

Reliance Foundation Young Champs (RFYC) is a football academy that runs a full-scholarship based residency programme to help nurture young talent in India. It was started in 2015 and is now recognised as the best residential football academy in India by the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

**By setting up a world-class platform for training, and with strong emphasis on education, RFYC seeks to establish a robust pipeline of talented players for Indian football.**

Every year talent is scouted and new players are inducted into the academy. Graduates of the academy have been selected to play for professional clubs. **8,500+ attendees** across the 30 virtual sessions on variety of sport training and related topics.

After a year-long hiatus due to the pandemic, full-scale training resumed in a bio bubble at RFYC during FY 2021-22. This was accompanied by on-ground talent hunt that was complemented by scouting for players from their homes using AiSCOUT, an AI system that can gauge the ability and skills of a player. Following the scouting efforts and final selection camp, 19 new players were inducted to the programme during the year. RFYC alumni in the Indian Super League, Muhammed Nemil (FC Goa), Thoi Singh (Bengaluru FC) and Koustav Das (Hyderabad FC) debuted and scored goals for their clubs at the Durand Cup.

19

footballers selected and inducted in RFYC in FY 2021-22

### Impact Evaluation – RFYC

A comprehensive external evaluation of the RFYC programme found that:

- 80% young champs feel the coaches are never harsh
- 67% of young champs said that the sessions with the counselor/psychologist helped them deal with their anxiety and stress.
- 40% of them feel their academic performance has improved
- Reduced economic burden on families for professional football training (minimum savings of ₹5 lakh per annum)



RFYC AiSCOUT

### Embracing cutting-edge technology today for tomorrow's football

RFYC aims to be a platform where the brightest of India's footballing talent is identified and honed to a professional level. Technology is an important enabler in this pursuit. More specifically, AI has proven extremely useful in helping find new talent in times of restricted physical interactions and in providing players, their coaches, physios and analysts crucial inputs to improve their game.

The academy deployed AiSCOUT to identify talent when it was not possible to organise scouting camps. AiSCOUT gauges relevant attributes of a player following trials and analyses their skills from videos. This enabled RFYC to reach deeper and wider

into India than ever before while overcoming restrictions to talent discovery. Two players who applied to RFYC after trying out through AiSCOUT have made it to the final selection.

RFYC has also installed an AI-enabled analysis system at its Reliance Corporate Park facility to help coaches and analysts carefully evaluate individual as well as team performances. With its many benefits, the system is expected to make a marked difference at the academy.

### RFYC graduate Muhammed Nemil opens goal tally for FC Goa in style

Inducted into RFYC when he was 13, Muhammed Nemil quickly garnered attention and accolades with his dribbling, shooting, goal count and assists at home and beyond.

Nemil's achievements on the field put the Kozhikode youth on the radar of ISL clubs; he was signed by FC Goa after graduating from RFYC. He also earned an opportunity to train at the Marcet

High Performance Academy in Spain, which eventually led him to Barcelona's FE Grama's U-19 team.

Upon his return to FC Goa, Nemil netted his first goal for the club in style at the Durand Cup 2021, demonstrating his trademark ability to outwit defence with short bursts of speed and use of both feet.



Muhammed Nemil, RFYC graduate

### Reliance Foundation Jr NBA

The RF Jr. NBA initiative aims to tap India's basketball talent by identifying and supporting development of players during the school years. Since its inception in 2013, the programme has engaged with over **1.1 crore youth from 13,500 schools nationwide and trained over 13,000 physical education instructors.**

During FY 2021-22, a 12-week viewing series was organised which saw aspiring athletes interact with NBA and NBA G League players, legends and coaches. With 2,700 registrations, the series had a total digital reach of 3.3 million. Further, a Junior NBA Global Championships virtual clinic was conducted for 20 MVPs identified from the series.

3.3 million

digital reach of the 12-week viewing series conducted by Reliance Foundation Jr NBA



Reliance Foundation Jr. NBA athletes in action during a game in Mumbai



## SPORTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

### Reliance Foundation Olympic Initiative

The Reliance Foundation Olympics initiative began in 2019 with an aim to improve the country's performance at Olympics and other prestigious international events, and to eventually elevate India's sporting profile and enhance its engagement with the Olympic movement. Reliance Foundation is currently supporting 13 elite athletes under its Athlete Scholarship programme and works closely with coaches, the government and sports federations. Recognising the vital role sports science and medicine play in improving sporting performance, Reliance has dedicated assistance in these areas to the **scholarship** athletes and to the Athletics National Camps through the Athletics Federation of India.

In FY 2021-22, Reliance Foundation scholarship athletes bagged **12** international and **16** national medals in archery, badminton and weightlifting. Six athletes marked their spots in the India squad for Senior World Championships.

Reliance Foundation is the **development partner** of the Athletics Federation of India and **provides sports science and medicine support to Athletics National Camps**. During the year, six Reliance Foundation physiotherapists were deployed at the Athletics National Camps, two of whom accompanied the Indian contingent at the Tokyo Olympics to ensure continued support to participating athletes.



**In all, 21 athletes from the Athletics National Camps who were supported by Reliance Foundation qualified and participated in the Tokyo Olympic Games.**

**28** national and international medals won by scholarship athletes in archery, badminton and weightlifting



### Reliance Foundation Odisha Athletics High Performance Center

The High Performance Center (HPC) in Athletics was established in collaboration with the Odisha Government and began operating in 2019. It is currently training 50 athletes.

In FY 2021-22, HPC continued operations and training of athletes in strict adherence to safety protocols. A series of five competitions (sprint and middle distance) were held in the newly introduced Performance Graded Race format. Several HPC athletes recorded their personal best timings. As part of the training of elite athletes at the centre, a three-month high-altitude endurance camp was organised at Coonor.

### Weightlifters Jhilli Dalabehera and Achinta Sheuli shine at international events

Jhilli Dalabehera proved her mettle by winning two international medals during the year. She clinched gold in the 45 kg category at the Asian Weightlifting Championships and a silver in the 49 kg category at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships. Jhilli's story is one of grit, perseverance and hard work as the weightlifter from Odisha did not have an easy path to the sport. As she moved up the weight category, Jhilli continued working on herself after joining a part of the RF Olympics initiative. She has now cemented her place in the highly competitive world of weightlifting.

Achinta Sheuli bagged gold at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in the 73 kg category, qualifying directly for the 2022 Commonwealth Games. Achinta had bagged a silver at the Junior World Championships, breaking national weightlifting records while doing so. This West Bengal youngster's achievements have come on the back of the great odds he overcame as a teenager to make his mark in the



sport. With comprehensive support from the RF Olympics Initiative, Achinta is now vying for the top spot at the Commonwealth Games.

Alongside their medal winning performances in the international arena, Jhilli and Achinta excelled at the National Championships during 2021. They are among the weightlifters who are poised to make India immensely proud in the future.

HPC athletes continued to register winning performances at national events with 13 medals. This includes wins at National Open Athletics Championships (NOAC), the U-23 National Championship in Athletics, the National Federation Cup Junior (U-20) Athletics Championships, Indian Open Jumps Competition and the All India Inter University Athletics Championships for Men.



### Amlan Borgohain sprints his way to gold at NOAC

Amlan Borgohain achieved his personal best and broke a 14-year-old championship record to become the fifth fastest Indian ever. He also clinched silver in the 100m dash at NOAC, recording his personal best of 10.34 seconds.

Amlan, who aspired to be a footballer and admires Indian forward Sunil Chettri, joined RF Odisha Athletics HPC

in 2020 after being noticed during RFYS athletics tournaments.

The sprinter trains with James Hillier, Head Coach at HPC, who has helped him get fitter and improve his speed. Amlan now has his sights set on international events, including the Commonwealth Games and the Asian Games.

The benefits of a professionally managed programme run from the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, where athletes receive cutting-edge support in areas such as nutrition, psychology, weight training, flexibility, recovery and conditioning, have worked wonders for him. His PBs have consistently improved, with Amlan recording timings of 21.15 and 21.10 seconds in the internal 200 m Performance Graded Races at the HPC earlier this year. At Warangal, he was able to improve those timings further to 21.00 seconds in the heats and 20.75 seconds in the final.



# Disaster Response



With its topography and unique geographical location, India is highly susceptible to natural disasters. Floods, cyclones and earthquakes have a devastating impact on people, community infrastructure and the local economy. Reliance has a response-ready and experienced team that proactively works to mitigate disaster, minimise damage and enhance community resilience. This is done in collaboration with the government machinery and partners on the ground for early warning advisories and relief to affected communities. When required, rescue and rehabilitation support are also provided.



## Highlights FY 2021-22

### Disaster response

During FY 2021-22, Reliance Foundation responded to eight natural disasters supporting communities affected by floods and cyclones across 260 districts of 18 states, including Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Odisha, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand and two Union Territories, namely Puducherry, Daman & Diu.

### Quality accreditation

Reliance Foundation's Disaster Response initiative received the global ISO quality accreditation from British Standards Institution (BSI) for its processes in 2021.

### Flood relief

Over 41,500 households affected by disasters were provided relief kits including dry ration, clothing, hygiene kit, bedding, ready-to-eat-food, sanitisers, masks and blankets as part of post-Tauktae Cyclone response in Gujarat and post-flood response in Maharashtra and Kerala.

### Virtual training

Reliance Foundation organised 22 virtual training sessions on Disaster Risk Reduction, enabling 410 youth volunteers from various educational institutions across seven disaster-prone states.

Even as India grappled with the effect of COVID-19, in FY 2021-22 multiple disasters struck the Indian peninsula. Social distancing norms made it difficult to reach communities physically. However, overcoming the challenge, Reliance sent pre-warning advisories and continued to provide people with relevant information during and after disasters. Two successive cyclones made landfall on the east and west coasts of India.

**Reliance Foundation assisted the government in relaying audio advisories and in running public address campaigns on disaster preparedness and evacuation for at-risk coastal communities.** Help was also provided to revive livelihoods through post-disaster advisories on plant protection and livestock management.

Reliance Foundation's Information Services support farmers, livestock farmers, fisher folk and other informal sector workers with timely advisories to enable key communities to boost their income, upskill and transform their lives.

### Reliance Foundation's cyclone and flood relief work

To help people recover and rebuild their lives, Reliance Foundation supports communities affected by natural calamities in the immediate aftermath of disasters by directly engaging with them.

During the year, Reliance Foundation responded to flashfloods and cyclones across the country.

Relief work and other activities were organised in collaboration with government agencies such as Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries as well as in coordination with Jio and Reliance Retail Ventures Limited. Reliance Foundation mobilised its trained disaster response volunteers to swiftly and effectively respond to the community.

**17.5+ lakh**

people reached with preventive and supportive advisories related to disaster relief during FY 2021-22





## DISASTER RESPONSE

### Cyclone Tauktae

May 2021

Cyclone Tauktae, which developed in the Arabian Sea in the second week of May 2021, hit the western coastal areas of Gujarat, Goa, Maharashtra, Karnataka and the hinterland states of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh between May 17-19, 2021. Other states like Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Uttarakhand also experienced heavy rainfall. Tauktae affected the livelihoods of many by damaging property and infrastructure. Reliance Foundation Information Services, through its mobile audio services reached more than 4,35,000 people across these states with information on heavy rainfall, high wind, high wave, thunderstorm and lightning, pre- and post-cyclone cautionary measures on the management of agriculture, livestock, fisheries,

**4.35+** lakh

people received prior cyclone warning through RF Information Services

harvested grains and provided emergency contact numbers. Over 2,79,000 people across seven states (Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan) received pre-cyclone advisories. These included cyclone forecasting, pre-warning on heavy rainfall, thunderstorm and lightning and other safety precautions in partnership with IMD, Agriculture Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, line departments, Fisheries Department, INCOIS and the district administration.

**Over 2,38,000 people received post-cyclone advisories, across 10 states** (Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka,

**2.38** lakh

received post-cyclone advisories during Tauktae cyclone

Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand). These included inputs on disease management for various affected crops, water-logged soil fertility management, pre-warning on heavy rainfall and thunderstorm. Emergency contact of the District Disaster Management Authority was also shared with the Sarpanches of 186 villages and the people of Surendranagar and Patan districts of Gujarat. Over 4,600 dry ration kits were distributed to communities in the Union Territory of Diu, in Gir Somnath and Amreli districts through partner NGOs and the Panchayat between June 4-6, 2021.



"I am a resident of Gir Somnath district, Veraval Taluka, Bhidiya fish landing centre. I have been associated with Reliance Foundation's Information Services for the past few years. I am a member of the WhatsApp group of Veraval fish landing centre and have participated in various marine fisheries related field programmes. We received the Tauktae Cyclone forecast through the voice message service as well as the RFIS WhatsApp group. So, we did not send our

boats into the sea during the time and also recalled those that had gone out, thus saving our lives and livelihood. We moved our boats and other equipment to a safe place to limit damage. We hope to continue receiving support from Reliance Foundation regarding sea weather forecast and hurricane forecasts to reduce the risk to our livelihood."

**Vasrambhai Solanki, fisherman and President of Bhidiya Koli Samaj Boat Association**



Vasrambhai Solanki, Fisherman



"I am a resident of Ankolwadi village, Gir Somnath district, and I own a mango orchard. The mangoes were in harvest when I received a voice message and WhatsApp advisory two days prior to the Tauktae Cyclone. I immediately made arrangements to pluck and store

the mangoes and informed farmers in my neighbourhood. If I had not received the timely alert from Reliance Foundation, I would have suffered huge losses. Grateful for this timely alert."

**Dharmik Jayeshbhai Makani, farmer**



Dharmik Jayeshbhai Makani, Farmer

### Cyclone YAAS

May-June 2021

Category 1 Cyclone Yaas intensified around the same time as Tauktae Cyclone in 2021. Hitting the states of West Bengal and Odisha, this cyclonic storm lashed the eastern coast of India with ferocious wind and rain as it made landfall in Odisha, damaging homes and affecting the livelihoods of many. Reliance Foundation's **Information Services reached over 6,90,000 individuals across five states. Over 5,90,000 people received pre-cyclone alerts across five states to prepare and safeguard their livelihoods, while over 3,30,000 people received post-cyclone crop and fish pond management advisories across three states.**

Through video advisories, farmers were alerted to safeguard their harvested produce, postpone operations and house the livestock safely. Reliance Foundation went the extra mile to provide the district authorities with the support of trained Community Heroes - youth volunteers who evacuated over 11,800 people across 50 villages to the safety of cyclone shelters. **Nearly 2,800 livestock animals were also treated for various ailments with the technical support of the Department of Animal Husbandry, ensuring no livelihood loss for 365 farmers.**



Evacuation announcement on two wheeler

In Odisha and West Bengal, 45 multi-location audio conference sessions were organised. Affected communities were guided by experts on topics such as pre- and post-disaster crop management practices, livestock management and inland fish pond and feed management. Nine YouTube video modules on various precautionary measures were developed and uploaded for farmers, livestock farmers and fishermen. Reliance Foundation's toll-free helpline and interactive sessions resolved over 2,300 queries during this distressing time.

### Maharashtra floods

July 2021

A series of floods took place across Maharashtra in 2021. Heavy rainfall beginning July 22, 2021, hit the western districts of Maharashtra causing widespread damage to farms and infrastructure, disruption in communication and displacing families and livelihoods. The entire population of two villages, 100 families

in Ambavali, Ratnagiri district and 261 families in Kurle, Raigad district were evacuated and shifted to safe shelters in their villages due to landslide risk. Reliance Foundation distributed food kits and other essentials to all the families sheltered in safe places.

The Reliance Foundation Disaster Management Team initiated its flood response between July 28-August 18 for people affected by the floods in Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara, Raigad and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra. Ready-to-eat food packets such as biscuits, namkeen (savoury snack), water bottles (1 lakh each) and essentials such as sanitisers (more than 34,000), masks (over 22,000) and blankets (more than 15,000) were distributed to farmers, daily wage labourers, street vendors and industrial workers. The relief work supported 35,000 households and was undertaken in association with the District Disaster Management Agencies, partner NGOs and volunteers in coordination with Reliance Retail and Jio.



Maruti Kore of June Pargaon village, Kolhapur district, was hit hard by the floods in July 2021. There was massive waterlogging in his village and he lost his home to the flood waters. His family was left with no food or water and their foodgrains were completely destroyed due to the rising increasing

water levels. "Reliance Foundation distributed food packets and water bottles during the period for which I will remain ever thankful. I would like to express my gratitude to the Reliance Foundation for helping us in this critical period," says Maruti.



Maruti Kore, Maharashtra



## DISASTER RESPONSE



### Kerala floods

October 2021

Low pressure over the south-east part of the Arabian Sea along the coast of Kerala caused high-intensity, incessant rains and landslides in October 2021. The worst-affected districts were Kottayam, Idukki and Pathanamthitta, where there was suffering due to loss of lives and damage to livelihoods and infrastructure.

Reliance Foundation disseminated disaster and climate warnings along with other health and sanitation advisories through its Information Services to prevent the spread of vector borne diseases among people and animals across 10 districts namely, Alappuzha, Ernakulam, Kannur, Kasaragod, Kollam, Kozhikkode, Malappuram, Thiruvananthapuram, Thrissur and Wayanad. Reliance Foundation put together an immediate flood relief response in coordination with the Kerala State Disaster Management Agency. Over 1,900 relief kits comprising clothing, hygiene kit and bedding were distributed across several districts among the most vulnerable informal sector workers.

**1,900+**

relief kits distributed across Kottayam, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha and Idukki districts



“My house was two feet above the ground, and yet it got flooded. The only source of income for the family is the old age pension provided by the government. We are grateful for the timely service provided by Reliance Foundation to us and to this village.”

**Thampikutty V N from Edakkunnam village, Kottayam district, Kerala**



### Tamil Nadu floods

November 2021

Heavy rains lashed several coastal districts of Tamil Nadu and many parts of the state witnessed severe flooding in November 2021. The low pressure that had built up caused disruptions across Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Reliance Foundation provided warnings to over 2.4 lakh individuals on heavy rainfall, weather based agro-advisory/high wave alerts, crop protection measures, information about government schemes on crop insurance and livestock care and management. **Over 1,050 people were informed on post-disaster crop protection**

“Our rented house was flooded; there was mud and dirt all around and our basic amenities like clothes and utensils were of no use. Our vegetable shop was completely destroyed. Essentials including mops given by Reliance Foundation to clean the house, floor cleaner, and supplies including clothes were very timely. We will never forget this great service.”

**Jasmine, from Koottickal village, Kanjirappally taluk, Kottayam district**



**measures, livestock health and disease management practices through interactive sessions. As many as 969 animals were treated** for various post-flood diseases and other health ailments through livestock camps.

**2.4+ lakh**

individuals informed on heavy rainfall and provided advisories on government schemes and protections measures during the floods in Tamil Nadu



Post-Jawad cyclone livestock treatment camp in West Bengal

### Jawad Cyclone

December 2021

The tropical cyclone Jawad caused major disruptions over Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal in December 2021, bringing heavy rainfall and strong winds. **Over 7.8 lakh people were reached through pre- and post-cyclone advisories. Over 6.6 lakh individuals received early (pre-cyclone) advisories** on the path of the cyclone, weather-based agro advisory / high wave alerts, crop protection measures, precautionary measures for pond management and livestock care. Similarly, over 4.6+ lakh people received post-cyclone advisories on heavy rainfall. They also received weather-based agro-advisory, advice on post-harvest management of field crop affected by heavy rain, fish pond management and livestock care and management. Around 4,600+ people were informed on

pre- and post-cyclone advisories on crop and livelihood management through interactive sessions while 1,185 animals were treated for various post-flood diseases and other health ailments through livestock camps.

### Andhra Pradesh and Telangana flood response

Over 3.3 lakh people received warnings on the weather, high wave alerts and advisory on agriculture and livestock management.

**Through the year, Reliance Foundation swiftly and unfailingly supported people before, during and after disasters to prevent loss of lives and livelihoods, provide relief and help them rebuild their lives.**

### ISO certification for Reliance Foundation disaster management programme

Reliance Foundation’s Disaster Response unit has received the ISO Certification 9001:2015 from the British Standards Institution (BSI) for its processes in 2021.

The certification recognises the Quality Management System adopted by an organisation and its adherence to ISO 9001 standards, and its capability to meet customer requirements as well as statutory and regulatory requirements.

This certificate was awarded after a thorough audit process involving RF’s Disaster Response Team at Reliance Corporate Park, Navi Mumbai, field teams at Bhubaneswar, Odisha and a series of virtual meetings with various stakeholders such as district disaster management agency, government agencies and NGOs. The process also included audit of capacity building of volunteers, disaster warning and advisories, disaster support services and vendor management.

RF Disaster Response is a social development initiative working specifically to assist the communities to prepare, respond and recover from the disasters across the large socio-economic-geographic conditions in the country. It is not possible to build a uniform strategy across the states due to a large number of factors such as the unpredictable nature of the disasters, community dynamics, stakeholder relationships etc. However SOPs have been developed in order to ensure the quality of the programme. This effort was supported by the RIL Internal Audit group, which helped in refining the quality system and to secure certification from the accreditation body.



# Other Initiatives



## Employee volunteering

Volunteering is a significant enabler to express and share gratitude, which is essential for developing resilience in challenging times. At Reliance, volunteering has been a key lever for building employee engagement and a sense of belonging within the Group.

Owing to the pandemic, Reliance Foundation continued with the virtual mode of volunteering. In FY 2021-22, volunteering was expanded to newer areas of engagement to address the requirements of the present as well as future challenges. The programmes were crafted and implemented to focus on harnessing the skills of Reliance's vast manpower resources and the expertise available within the organisation.

The objective of these programmes has been the holistic development of beneficiaries while concentrating on the thematic areas of education and capacity building of social organisations.

These programmes have also been in consonance with the goals of the Reliance Group of Industries and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as detailed by the United Nations (UN):

- Reliance Foundation continues to work extensively with two major beneficiary groups – children and youth. In FY 2021-22, the focus was also on building capacities of staff

## Empowering women and girls

Reliance Foundation is committed to empowering women to play a catalytic role in bringing about transformational economic, environmental and social change. Towards achieving the UN SDGs, Reliance has been striving to ensure women's effective participation and facilitate their leadership, besides taking efforts to bridge the gender divide. These interventions aim to support women so that

members of social organisations in locations across India

- For the third consecutive year, the Month of Good Deeds was celebrated to encourage the spirit of giving and sharing. Employees and family members from across divisions came forward to express their gratitude by sharing their skills and time. Over 4,400 children, youth, and staff members were reached through 22 engaging virtual sessions. NGOs from locations such as Giridih and Koderma (Jharkhand), Rourkela, Rajpura, Alibag and metro cities participated in these sessions
- In the second edition of the Jio Digital Monsoon Camp, employees and their family members conducted 30 virtual sessions for more than 5,300 children, who had joined from NGOs spread across locations such as Jammu and Srinagar, Latur, Tuticorin, Erode and others. Interesting sessions such as Zentangle art, landscape painting, language skills and others were organised by volunteers
- Volunteers from the Learning and Development team, who are professional trainers from

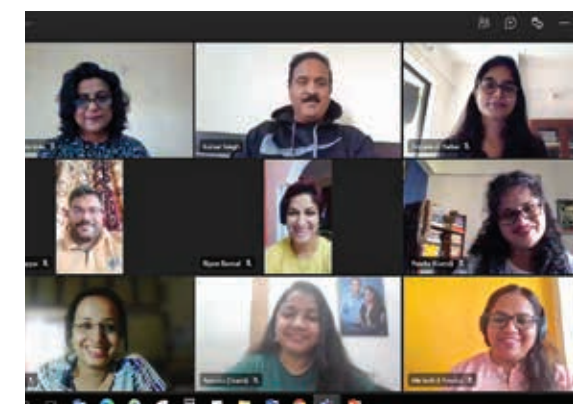
~21,000

children youth and staff members from Pan-India NGOs were reached through engaging virtual sessions

they can achieve their potential and gain agency over decisions that affect their lives. These also include bridging the technology gender divide, critical to women's empowerment. Efforts taken through the year reinforce this commitment. Empowered women mean a stronger and a better India and Reliance remains committed to strengthening the nation in all aspects.

Hydrocarbons and Retail divisions, trained 1,000 staff members from the NGOs. The topics covered were advanced Excel, report writing, stakeholder management etc. Staff members joined from metro cities, Nagapattinam, Shillong, Warangal, Begusarai and other locations

- Aligning with the goals of the Petrochemicals division, virtual sessions on raising awareness on plastic and waste segregation were organised jointly by expert volunteers, along with the Indian Centre for Plastics in the Environment (ICPE). The sessions were attended by over 3,800 children including students from Reliance Foundation Schools
- In FY 2021-22, volunteers also supported over 2,200 students from seven NGOs with supplementary classes and language skills as part of a spoken English and reading programme. This programme is being conducted by Reliance Foundation volunteers since last year
- National and international days of significance such as UN International Volunteer Day, Children's Day (India), World Environment Day, International Day of Women and Girls in Science and others were celebrated
- Thanks to the invaluable contribution of employees and their family members, more than 21,000 people have been reached in FY 2021-22



Virtual event on International Volunteer Day, December 5, 2022



## OTHER INITIATIVES

### Bridging the gender digital divide

#### Reliance Foundation and USAID WomenConnect Challenge India

Women must be actively included in development gains through digital technology, an increasingly important tool for education, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, civic participation and information. The WomenConnect Challenge India was launched in 2020 by Reliance Foundation and United States Agency for International Development (USAID). WomenConnect Challenge India is identifying and supporting

innovative solutions to empower women in India, facilitating their access to and use of digital technology to drive positive health, education and livelihood outcomes for themselves and their families. Through this programme, Reliance Foundation announced grants for 10 not-for-profit organisations between ₹ 75 lakh to 1 crore each for over a period of 12 to 15 months.

The programme focuses on building entrepreneurship skills, relevant digital literacy for low-literate users, edutainment-based courseware, mentoring and value-chain linkages and support for women working in agriculture. The project includes

working with communities and youth. Over 3 lakh women and girls across 17 states are being reached through various initiatives focused on increasing women's economic empowerment through technology.



### Support

Her Circle users have access to a panel of experts who provide guidance and advice on a host of topics such as health and nutrition, counselling, finance, dermatology, neonatology and pediatrics, gynecology, rehabilitation and sports medicine. In FY 2021-22, thousands of women reached out and sought help from experts. Her Circle receives upto 10 queries every day for these experts, while in the last six months of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a 50% increase in queries received every day.

### Communities

Her Circle fosters meaningful conversations among the online community so that people with shared interests can come together. With more than 30 dynamic communities across varied interest areas, Her Circle members help each other navigate through challenges with tools of transformation. In FY 2021-22, there were more than 55,000 participating in these conversations even while building their network via Her Circle.

~23,359

interactions on personal goals took place in FY 2021-22

### Partnerships

Her Circle was the exclusive digital media partner for FICCI & FLO's Greater 50 Conclave and Exhibition 2021. Her Circle is partnering with NITI Aayog in 2022 for events, webinars and entrepreneurial training programmes. In addition, Her Circle will be joining hands with UN Women in 2022 for events and campaigns.

### Growth

#### Jobs

Her Circle has jobs across various specialisations in different organisations listed to help users find opportunities that are best suited for their profiles. The platform has been promoting these opportunities on social media handles for better outreach. More than 5,000 people have applied for various positions through Her Circle.

#### Masterclasses

Her Circle users have exclusive access to masterclasses across various themes like dog training, food styling, radio jockeying, professional makeup and fitness training.

50+ million

Total reach of Her Circle, which is India's fastest growing digital platform for women

### More initiatives that made a difference

In addition to fulfilling CSR obligations through direct engagement, collaborations, partnerships and leveraging technology, Reliance Foundation since 2012 is also actively engaged in directing its resources through grants to support worthy causes or address a societal need. These initiatives are spread across India and reach well beyond Reliance Foundation's business locations, impacting specific concerns. Some key initiatives for FY 2021-22 are highlighted below:

#### Animal welfare

Reliance Foundation aims to develop a robust knowledge base through a study to better understand shared spaces between humans and leopards in Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP) and Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary (TWLS), a potentially high conflict landscape.

A project helmed by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) will provide clarity on three crucial aspects of leopards in this landscape i.e. their movement in and out of SGNP, their response to humans in terms of space use,



Wildlife Conservation Society, in partnership with RF, is promoting wildlife research at Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai

human-leopard interactions and people's response to the leopards in their areas. During FY 2021-22, the following key activities were conducted:

- A total of three leopards from SGNP, Tungareshwar Wildlife Sanctuary and their surrounding areas were radio collared
- Scientific knowledge and understanding were improved among more than 50 field staff
- A detailed report elaborating leopard home ranges and their interaction with people was submitted to the Maharashtra Forest Department
- These findings proved to be a valuable case study for other countries where urban carnivores are present as the SGNP landscape has an extremely high density of humans.

#### National Zoological Park

Reliance Foundation contributed towards animal welfare initiatives at the National Zoological Park, New Delhi by donating two multi-utility vehicles (battery carts) and two ISUZU cars. These have proved to be extremely reliable vehicles and are being extensively used in providing veterinary support and the distribution of ration for the animals.

In addition, a laptop, one portable X-ray machine and one digital radiography machine were also provided to the zoo authorities, which have been key to impacting the lives of zoo animals and rescued animals.



GPS tagging of leopards for tracking and scientific study near Sanjay Gandhi National Park

### Indian Herpetological Society

Reliance Foundation came forward to support the Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre in Pune, run by the Indian Herpetological Society. The Centre takes care of those animals that cannot survive in their natural habitat due to serious injuries. Overall, the extended support helped in successfully rescuing, treating and rehabilitating injured wild animals.

### Supporting local artisans

Encouraging local artisans and promoting art and culture are among the core programmes at Reliance Foundation. As part of this, Reliance Foundation works closely with organisations to further this goal.

Sewa International trained local women artisans to recycle waste polythene collected from villages into bags. In addition, the organisation trains women in Kutch, supporting them to become entrepreneurs who make ethnic wear.



Pichwai Painters from Nathdwara



# Awards

Reliance Foundation received **'Award for Corporate Leadership in ESG (Environmental, Social, & Governance)'** from The CSR Journal – Excellence Awards 2021.

At the prestigious Annual Sportstar Aces Awards, Reliance Foundation was conferred the 'Sports for Social Change (Chairperson's Choice)' Award instituted by The Hindu Media Group.



Reliance Foundation received the **CII DX Award 2021** under 'Innovation in CSR through Digital Transformation' category for improving rural livelihoods.

Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital won the **Mid Day Multispecialty Hospital Award** for 2021.



Jio Reliance Jio received **CHRO Innovation award for its Khayal Rakhna initiative** as the Best Employee Engagement Team of the Year. This programme included volunteering initiatives such as Jio Digital Monsoon camp where employees and their families could contribute for a social cause from the safety of their homes.

Reliance Foundation received the **Gold Globe® Business Excellence 2021 Award** for its Work from Home implementation, which includes Khayal Rakhna initiative.

Reliance Foundation was recognised as finalist under **'INNOVATION@ COVID 19'** category and received a 'certificate of recognition' at mBillionth South Asia Award 2021 for its initiative on **'Technology driven solutions for addressing supply chain and sustaining rural livelihoods'**.

Sir H.N. Reliance Foundation Hospital's vaccination programme won the **Best Vaccine Programme by a Private Hospital** at the India Today Healthgiri awards.

Reliance Foundation's Machli App announced **winner of World Summit Awards 2021** for providing digital solutions contributing to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Reliance won the **SHRM India HR Excellence Awards 2021** for 'Excellence in Community Impact,' that acknowledges the enduring impact made in society by addressing some of the key development challenges facing India with innovative and sustainable solutions. The award was announced during the annual SHRM India conference on December 2, 2021.



Machli, AI-based Mobile Application for marine fisherfolk conferred **mBillionth South Asia Award** for the year of 2020-21 in the category 'Agriculture & Environment' for providing a one-stop solution to all needs of the fishing community.

**Reliance Foundation bagged Olive Crown Award for its green initiatives.**

Reliance Foundation made significant efforts to promote ecological sustainability through resource conservation, promotion of biodiversity, and the use of cleaner energy sources.

In recognition of these efforts, the India chapter of the International Advertising Association (IAA) conferred the Olive Crown Award 2022 – Green NGO of the Year (Silver) to Reliance Foundation for its environmental initiatives aimed at conserving natural resources and promoting sustainability across India.

Reliance Foundation received the **Golden Peacock Award for Corporate Social Responsibility – 2021.**



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**Smt Nita M. Ambani**



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