

Gramin Vikas Samiti

Budget Renewal

2026 - 2027

Presented on: June 17th, 2026
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1098”Project

Empowering Children Together: Asha for Education's Supported to GVS

Gramin Vikas Samiti (GVS)

40 Narottam Nagar Chopra Khurad Damoh (M.P.) India

Agenda

- Objectives of GVS
- Case count by Category
- Impact stories
- What's working well, What are their current needs?
- New avenues and goals for 2026-2027
- Budget request

Objectives of GVS

GVS, established in 1972 in Damoh, MP, provides various services to vulnerable children in need, in Damoh district of Madhya Pradesh. The primary areas of support provided by GVS are:

#1 Emergency assistance and response to 1098 calls -

- I. GVS supported the needs of children who called 1098, the national Childline number over the years. Children call with a wide range of issues such as **abuse, neglect, loneliness, harassment, family issues, medical needs, food, child labor, child marriage, school problems, runaway and lost children, among others**
- II. In 2023, the national Childline number 1098 was handed over to individual States for faster coordination and delivery of services. This led to a gap in emergency CPS since state governments were not adequately mobilized, trained and prepared to handle the cases.
- III. GVS plays a crucial role in bridging the gap to ensure immediate assistance to children
- IV. Bridging the gap includes assisting Govt agencies by:
 - A. Providing manpower on the ground to the district (2 permanent GVS workers are assigned to assist the Government at this time).
 - B. Training of Govt employees
 - C. Connecting the dots between various agencies and police to provide long-term, sustainable help
 - D. Collecting and providing data to district officials to track and monitor cases
 - E. Advocating for policies and initiatives to protect and support children
 - F. Partnering to develop holistic child protection strategies

Objectives of GVS

#2 Child rights - Facilitation and advocacy of Right to Education, protection, health services and other government benefits

#3 Child Marriage prevention - Immediate intervention and longer term strategies for prevention of child marriage. This is a hard problem to tackle, deeply rooted in societal beliefs.

#4 Identity documents facilitation - Birth certificates, Aadhar card, health benefits, girl child benefits, PDS rations among others.

#5 Advocacy, Awareness and Prevention campaigns on various issues in collaboration with district officials

The core strategy of the Gramin Vikas Samiti (GVS) has been to work through effective coordination with various government departments and institutions such as the District Administration, Child & Women Development (CWD) Department, Police Department, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), and other relevant departments

Case Count

Item #	Case Category	Total cases (2025-2026)	Total cases (2024-2025)	Notes
1	Child Marriage	21	16	More cases reported with growing awareness
2	Child Safety & Protection	42	42	
3	Child Sexual Abuse	6	2	Driven by greater awareness that such cases should be reported. Impact of outreach efforts
4	Missing Children	18	25	
5	Child Beggary	20	14	At least 50% of registered cases ended in school enrollment. Their papers were processed enabling them to access a host of government provisions.
6	Substance Abuse	6	16	Abuse hasn't decreased. GVS sends cases to Govt agencies and police. These 6 are those where GVS is involved in taking to conclusion at the request of the Govt
7	Scholarships	4	9	
8	Counseling	21	12	GVS seeing more cases related to online harassment, phone addiction and social media abuse. There is more focus on digital responsibility counseling.

Case Count

Item #	Case Category	Total cases (2025-2026)	Total cases (2024-2025)	Comments
9	Nutrition	17		
10	Maternal Health Support	2	7	
11	Medical Assistance	14	102	The number of registered cases by GVS dropped because they now refer them to PHCs that are available every 20 kms.
12	Birth Certificate	7	12	
13	Aadhar card Enrollment	158	12	When GVS went into slums and hard to reach areas, a lot more need was uncovered. Investment in outreach (last year's goal) has also driven up these numbers

Impact by Case Category

Substance Abuse

- 6 drug-related cases were registered, of which 3 involved boys and 3 involved girls.
- Drugs, Solutions, Whiteners were being consumed by children.
- Counseling was provided to children and their families against use of drugs and re-enrollment in school
- GVS hands over the cases to the DPO (District Protection Officer) and the police
- GVS maintains records of these interventions and subsequent records of how many enrolled in school or by how much cases dropped.

Scholarships:

- GVS provided assistance to 4 scholarship-related cases (3 boys, 1 girl) where children either did not have enough guidance to fill out their application, have the right documents or did not have the ability to work across various departments.
- GVS also assisted in connecting these children with scholarship schemes.
- All children were able to successfully file their applications and are currently pursuing their studies with the help of these scholarships

Impact

Counseling:

- A total of 21 counseling cases were registered. In these cases, children and their families sought assistance to address a variety of issues.
- The following problems were primarily identified:
 - Low school attendance and grades
 - Digital addiction, online harassment -counseling provided on appropriate use of mobile phones, discipline, time management, and positive activities. Parents were guided to continuously monitor and support their children.
 - Wandering aimlessly
 - Drug addiction and beggary
- Individual and group counseling sessions were conducted with children and their families. Children were motivated to study and advised to attend school regularly and parents were educated on strategies to protect their children from the above.

Impact

Maternal Health Support:

GVS supported 2 pregnant women who sought assistance for health checkups. They belonged to economically disadvantaged families.

- GVS connected them to the nearest hospital.
- The women were counseled and encouraged to undergo regular check-up (ANC). Necessary tests, vaccinations and treatment were conducted
- Families were provided with health-related information, necessary guidance, and reassurance. After the examination, both women were found to be in a normal and satisfactory condition.

Child Beggary:

20 cases of begging were registered - 12 girls and 8 boys. In these cases, GVS, in coordination with the district administration, took the following actions:

- Children were identified and counseled on the spot to prevent begging
- Families of the children were contacted and counseled on sending their children to school
- They were then referred to the DPO, who then follow up on subsequent steps such as facilitating identity documents and connecting them to Govt services.

Impact

Medical assistance

- A total of 12 cases related to medical assistance, children sought assistance via phone. In these cases, children needed high fever, accidents, serious health conditions and other emergencies.
- In all these cases, the GVS team responded promptly and sensitively, assisting the children in reaching the hospital.
- Assured consultation with a doctor and appropriate treatment as needed.
- Through timely intervention and appropriate treatment, all the children were successfully treated and their health improved.
- The children returned safe and healthy, bringing relief and satisfaction to the families. The quick response ensured the safety of their lives and effectively resolved the emergency.

Child Sexual Abuse:

- A total of 6 serious cases of child sexual abuse (CSA) and rape were reported during the year. In all cases, the victims were supported in receiving medical care, availing compensation and ongoing counseling.
- On the legal front, they were support in filing police complaints, learning about their legal rights, cooperating with police (i.e, not retract their statements), and giving testimony, thus ensuring legal action.

Case study: Missing Child Reunification

Hemantha - 13 year old girl who lives with her grandmother. Her mother has passed away and her father works as a laborer in another state.

- She accompanied her grandmother who was admitted to the hospital. While alone, a man made her unconscious (possibly by making her sniff a cloth) and took her about 100 kms away, to Damoh. The girl was then abandoned there in an unconscious state.
- The police found her and tried to get her to talk but she was not communicative and felt ill.
- The police enlisted GVS's help who arrived and were able to talk to the girl, get her background information, presented to the CWC for the mandatory medical exam,, feed her and contacted the grandmother
- The grandmother was too poor to take a train. GVS paid for her ticket and brought her to the CWC, to reclaim Hemantha.



Intervention in the Ragpicker community in Damoh

- GVS undertook study of a community of ragpickers near Damoh
- Children were found in large part to lack any official documentation or access to schooling.
- GVS contacted the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) and sought support in connecting children to their rights, who suggested that identity documents were the first step.
- GVS then coordinated with the District Program Officer of the Women and Child Development Department. With their support, the names of the slum children were registered in the government records of the Anganwadi.
- Birth certificates and Aadhar cards were then provided through the Public Service Center.
- 7 children received birth certificates and Aadhaar cards and became eligible for government schemes and services.
- Children from many families began receiving benefits from the Public Distribution System (PDS) by linking them to ration cards.

Through proper guidance, GVS helped not just provide food and schooling but a formal Identity through which they can access services all their lives.

Intervention after a natural disaster

Location: Tendukheda Block, Damoh District (Rani Durgavati Tiger Reserve Area) **Date of incident:** Aug 2025 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWXjkXCTvEQ>)

- Devastating floods affected villages adjacent to the Rani Durgavati Tiger Reserve in the remote Tendukheda Block of Damoh District in the middle of the night, destroying crops, grains, livestock and homes.
- Gramin Vikas Samiti (GVS) attempted to reach the scene, but high water and poor roads prevented access for nearly a day. The team eventually reached the village to assess the situation.
- They found a girl, Rama (14) whose condition was dire after the flood. She didn't have clothes other than what she was wearing, and a large part of her herd of goats was swept away. She was caring for the surviving handful of goats, her family's sole source of survival.
- Upon reaching the village, they realized that several children had no documents and hence were not able to access Govt services like health, education, PDS.
- GVS conducted a detailed survey in the villages and found 165 children lacking documentation.
- GVS presented it to the District Collector and the administration, who then organized a special camp to immediately procure those documents thereby enabling 165 children and their families to access Govt services.

What is working well

- **Strong Government collaboration** - Examples quoted earlier where children had no identity proof and GVS helped set up camps to get their identity cards in partnership with the district collector, CWD and e-governance officer.
- **Police-Children trust building efforts** - GVS and the police department organized outreach programs to reduce the fear of police in children and their families
- **Burden-sharing with the Govt** - GVS is able to refer more cases to Govt agencies rather than do their work like in earlier years
- **Better data collection and analysis** to help craft better child protection strategies with the district officers and the police
- **Exploration of new communities and services** - GVS is exploring hidden/invisible communities in need such as very remote villages or ragpicker communities to expand their services



Damoh Superintendent of Police
gracing a police - children trust
building exercise organized by
GVS

What are their needs?

1. Additional case worker - costs 2.5 lakh per year. This will help as GVS is expanding its scope of work
2. Furniture - the office needs more furniture, and they estimate it may cost upto 1 lakh INR
3. Laptops - they would like 2 additional laptops to do their work more efficiently and carry it on the field. These cost 45,000 Rs. each. 2 laptops have been added to the budget request.

Goals for 2026-2027

- **Develop focus areas - cluster of villages.**

- Driven by the flooding experience in Jhamra, GVS wants to create a cluster of villages with severely overlooked communities such as Adivasis, people in remote villages and SC/ST communities to ensure access to basic amenities.
- Creating a cluster of focus will give them consistent access and connection to those communities.
- GVS identified 3 development blocks in Damoh district: **Batiagarh, Damoh, and Tendukheda**. This includes:
 - Tribal village of Ghugus in Batiagarh block, village of Jhamra in Tendukheda block
 - Village of Panji (a village inhabited by the Gadulia Lohars) in the semi-nomadic tribal community
 - Village of Tejgarh, populated by the Gadulia Lohars
- GVS collected on the names, identities, and document status of children and their families in the Damoh block (Kishan Talaiya & Tilon) and shared them with the District Collector
- Aadhar camps were organized throughout the district and 158 children were enrolled
- GVS wants to continue this work across the other villages in these Development blocks.

Goals for 2026-2027

- **Expand Community Outreach:**
 - Expand awareness campaigns, targeted interventions and Outreach, capitalizing on the partnership established with the police and Govt agencies.
- **Strengthen Govt resources:**
 - Support district and State government to mobilize and train personnel. Last year, 2 GVS personnel supported these efforts part-time and it has now been scaled to full-time.

FYIs:

- Site visit planned at the end of June, early July. Mahesh Pande (SV Fellow in Kanpur) will conduct the visit.
- Biju (project steward for Seva Mandir) will take over the GVS project as well after this renewal.

Budget request - 2026-2027

Cost Items	Last year's Budget	Increase	Cost (INR) 2026-2027	
TOTAL RECURRING PROGRAM COST				
1098 and other emergency support - 12 months (@2547.92/month)	₹27,795.00	₹2,780.00	₹30,575.00	
1 Driver salary for 12 months (@17720.42/month)	₹210,540.00	₹2,105.00	₹212,645.00	
1 Counsellor salary 12 months (@24200/month)	₹264,000.00	₹26,400.00	₹290,400.00	
*Operational cost 12 months (@39458.33/month) Outreach & Counseling programs, Clinics, Documentation	₹430,455.00	₹43,045.00	₹473,500.00	
Partial funding for 1 Counsellor	₹0.00		₹90,000.00	
Other costs (Admin, office supplies, internet and mobile bills, misc.) for 12 months (@8392.50/month)			₹100,710.00	
Total Program Cost	₹932,790.00		₹1,197,830.00	
ONE-TIME COST				
2 laptops (new request)			₹90,000.00	
Total Budget Request (Recurring + One-time Cost)	₹1,016,737.00	₹181,093.00	₹1,287,830.00	\$13,667.00