

# NEWS UPDATE

JAN-MAR 2026

“Teaching is only demonstrating that it is possible. Learning is making it possible for yourself. – Paulo Coelho”



As we close FY 2025-26, we pause at a moment of reflection and renewed purpose—where, what we have achieved tells what we must do next. This year has been shaped by resilience, learning, and a deep commitment to advancing equitable access across the communities we serve. Each initiative undertaken and every challenge navigated has strengthened our resolve to create meaningful, lasting impact.

In this edition, we bring together key milestones, stories from the field, and the collective efforts that have defined the past year. They stand as a testament to the power of partnerships, compassion, and consistent action. As we look ahead, we remain committed to building this momentum with responsibility and hope for a more inclusive future.

## ***Learning Grows Deeper When It Grows Together***

Our partner organisations Katha, Learning Initiatives for India (LIFI) and Teach for India implemented innovative learning and assessment tools which strengthen foundational literacy and higher order learning. They built student leadership in small but meaningful ways. Katha groups children by learning levels and maturity rather than age or grade) and uses Story Pedagogy™, which weaves across all subjects. During the quarter, LIFI conducted end-of-year **group assessments** across Grades 1 to 5 to capture children's learning outcomes. Teach for India fellows created consistent opportunities for students to take ownership of their learning while participating more actively in classroom and school spaces.



1. Students at Katha Lab School participating in cluster learning model (Katha)
2. Students at municipal school in Delhi taking group reading assessment (LIFI)
3. Students helping each other read in a TFI classroom (TFI)

## ***When Young Indian Women Rise, Communities Thrive***

Our partner organisation initiatives KARM Fellowship for Young Indian Women, Azad Kishori, RISE by Girl Rising are transformative programs focused on empowering young Indian women by helping them achieve their professional aspirations and realise their full potential. The KARM Fellowship nurtures employability and transformation of how young women perceive themselves, their opportunities, and their responsibilities. This lays the foundation for confident, independent individuals. Azad Kishori program covers menstrual health, sexual and reproductive health, gender equality and other vocational training to prepare girls for a brighter future. RISE project has reached more than 2,331 adolescents across seven government schools. It delivers a curriculum that builds not only academic knowledge but also confidence, critical thinking, and life skills.



1. Young Indian women attend KARM conclave
2. Azad Kishoris participating in leadership camp
3. Students participating in Girl Rising utsav

## **Beyond School Hours**



Our partner organisation Parikrma, designed to provide additional support and enhanced learning to students beyond regular school hours. It offered a structured environment where students could complete their homework, clarify doubts, and reinforced classroom learning. The program also promoted discipline, confidence, and independent learning habits. Additionally, it ensured continued learning for students in a safe environment

## **From Beneficiaries To Leaders—Driving Continuity**

During the past quarter, our partner organisations Teach for India (TFI) and Foster and Forge (F&F) Foundation focussed on deepening connections across the ecosystem while creating meaningful opportunities for Alumni. TFI launched a 3-month Alumni Fellow Mentorship initiative, supporting 85 Fellows through 1:1 mentorship by 41 Alumni. F&F organized quarterly Mentor Circles with alumni of the Beacon Educator Fellowship creating a sustainable network of change leaders.



1. Alumni Beacons have stepped forward to mentor the new Beacon
2. Exploring Career Pathways Through Organization Immersions with Alumni Support

## ***A Building Which Is Inclusive, Understanding And Empowering***

The Center for Influence and Inclusion was handed over to the students and teachers at Latika Roy Foundation on 10th March 2026. The building represents a fundamentally different way of thinking about how space can enable learning, dignity, and participation. Our NGO partner Latika's CEO Jo Chopra, says, *"Every child, regardless of ability, deserves to grow up in a place where they're valued and able to participate fully in community life."*



## ***The State of Advisory Boards in India's Social Sector***

***The advisory boards are here to solve challenges, to ideate, to nudge the agenda forward of the organisation - Tara Singh Vachani***

Following the launch of report supported by Max India Foundation: 'The State of Advisory Boards in India's Social Sector, our partner organisation Indian Leaders for Social Sector convened a gathering on 13 March 2026 to reflect on the insights emerging from the study and what they mean for nonprofit leadership today. During a panel discussion on The Future of Nonprofit Boards in India, panelists reflected on how boards can meaningfully support organisations while respecting leadership autonomy.



## **Give To Gain**

On International Women's Day this quarter, Antara employees highlighted how intentional acts of support, access, and empathy create lasting value for individuals, organisations, and communities alike. In this spirit, Antara partnered with Max India Foundation (MIF) in collaboration with KATHA to create a community impact initiative for women from under-served communities and their children. The day focused on emotional well-being, learning, and joyful engagement.



*Antara volunteers engaging students and mothers through interactive sessions*

## **Safeguarding a child's right to education**



A Grade 5 student had been absent from school for an extended period, and repeated attempts to contact the family were initially unsuccessful. Community outreach later revealed a difficult home situation. The student's mother had left the family, father struggled with alcoholism, was frequently abusive. Recognising the urgency of the case, a low income private school, supported by Max India Foundation through The Education Alliance, undertook repeated counselling and follow-up with the father. This sustained engagement began to rebuild communication and cooperation. The student resumed regular attendance from 19 February and is now receiving both academic and emotional support in school.

**In quarter 4 FY 2025-26, MIF supported the education of 2 lakh+ students, 37500+ teachers. 42.47 lakh beneficiaries have been impacted since 2019 under MIF 2.0**

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