

Touching Lives Reliance for India

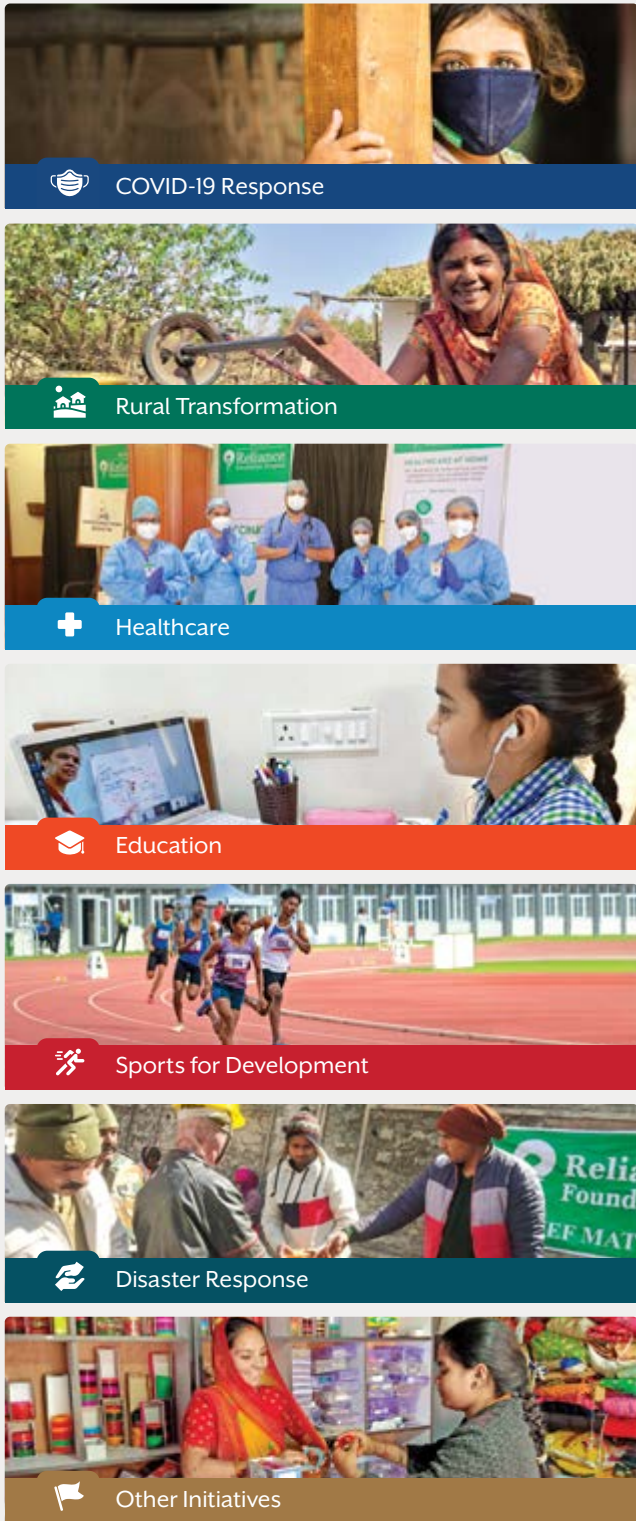


Reliance Foundation

Annual Report 2020-21

KEY INTERVENTION AREAS

Reliance Foundation works to create transformational change across India, to build a stronger, inclusive nation by enabling lives and livelihoods. Reliance Foundation supports the most marginalised communities, thereby contributing to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, the 2030 Agenda.



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We care, and we are with you, every step of the way

This is our promise to the nation

Reliance Foundation is committed to bringing about sustainable and inclusive change across the length and breadth of India, especially in the lives of the most marginalised and vulnerable sections of society. We are humbled to have impacted over 5.1 crore (51 million)* people in over 44,700 villages across the country. As Reliance Foundation enters the second decade of its journey that started in 2010, we will continue to increase the intensity and scale of our work towards our vision of a self-reliant and prosperous India.



New challenges emerged as India, and the world, faced one of the greatest humanitarian crises of the past century. The COVID-19 pandemic has put the health, lives and livelihoods of all, especially vulnerable communities, at even greater risk. To combat the virus, we needed a robust healthcare infrastructure, a strong supply chain of essentials, and uninterrupted digital connectivity, especially to our rural communities. The entire Reliance family rose to the challenge and was at the forefront of the nation's fight against the pandemic. We did all that we could do to help India face and overcome these unprecedented challenges, and we did so urgently.

Our comprehensive support to push back the COVID-19 pandemic was implemented in the form of Five Missions – Mission Oxygen, Mission COVID Infra, Mission Anna Seva, Mission Employee Care, and Mission Vaccine Suraksha.

Through our Mission Oxygen, we provided medical-grade liquid oxygen to various states, free-of-cost. Though Reliance has traditionally never produced medical oxygen, we repurposed our facility at Jamnagar in record time to help India breathe. We are producing over 11% of India's medical-grade oxygen production, meeting the needs one lakh patients on a daily basis and extending crucial support during a critical period in our country. Reliance Foundation also helped in providing oxygen generators and concentrators to hospitals across the country, with our teams working tirelessly to help our fellow Indians in this hour of need.

To bolster India's healthcare infrastructure and extend support to our medical staff, Reliance Foundation's **Mission COVID Infra** set up and **managed 2,000+ beds across multiple locations** including Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. In partnership with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, we managed over 875 beds in Mumbai, along with ICU facilities and healthcare personnel. This was the largest contribution to COVID care in Mumbai by a philanthropic organisation. Through the Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital, we provided much needed human resource, infrastructure and technical support.

Safety from COVID-19 is a nation-wide priority. Our mask distribution initiative – **Mission COVID Suraksha** – aimed to build awareness and safe behaviour among communities. It has, to date, provided over **one crore reusable cloth masks** along with sanitisers and awareness messages, to some of the most vulnerable communities – frontline workers, daily wage labourers, street vendors and public transport service providers. We are humbled to be able to support their safety and livelihoods through this initiative. Our commitment to the greatest mission of all – **Mission Anna Seva** – started when the pandemic first hit us in 2020. To combat the humanitarian crisis arising out of the pandemic, our volunteers worked selflessly and tirelessly to ensure that no member of the society goes hungry. This commitment took the form of the largest meal distribution programme by a corporate foundation anywhere in the world. Today, through our Mission Anna Seva, we have so far delivered over 8.5 crore meals to vulnerable communities across the nation.

We Care. And caring for our Reliance family was our top priority. **Mission Employee Care** provided support to members of our extended Reliance Family. Despite our best efforts, we lost some precious members of our Reliance Family in this difficult time. From paying deceased employee's salary to the dependent members for five years, to financing their children's education till graduation, and providing medical coverage to the family for life, we remain committed to supporting their families and ensuring their continued well-being. We also provided a lump sum of Rs 10 lakh to families of off-roll employees, who we lost to COVID-19. There can be no replacement for a beloved family member, but we will do everything possible to fulfil the dreams they saw together.

The most effective and efficient way out of the crisis is Mass Vaccination. We have rolled out India's largest vaccination drive by a corporate entity – '**Mission Vaccine Suraksha**'. Our vaccination centres across the country, are ensuring that we care for and protect our fellow Indians, supporting the nation's fight against the pandemic. We have completed over 10 lakh vaccinations till the end of July, of our present and past employees, associates and family members, and have extended this mission to vulnerable communities across the country

to strengthen the nation's hand of protection.

While our top priority this year was COVID relief, we ensured that we continued all our other developmental work as well. Our **Rural Transformation** teams also worked tirelessly to support communities to stay safe and secure. Through our livelihoods redoubling efforts, we reached over **39 lakh+** people even amidst the pandemic restrictions.

Using the power of digital, our Disaster Response initiatives helped rural communities safeguard their lives and livelihoods from the natural calamities that affected India last year, be it the floods in Uttarakhand, or the cyclones on our eastern and western coasts. The Reliance Foundation Disaster Response initiatives have supported 10 lakh people so far throughout the country in partnership with government agencies. We are grateful to have helped save lives at that crucial time.

Education and Sports for All is central to our vision of a healthy and happy India. A step forward in this direction is the new **Reliance Foundation Scholarships** that were launched this year for undergraduate and postgraduates studying Artificial Intelligence and Computer Sciences. The first cohort of 76 talented students are from top science and engineering institutes across the country. It is our vision that this scholarship will nurture and empower India's brightest youth who have potential to build new technology solutions for the benefit of Indian society. We are also very happy that despite the pandemic and resulting restrictions, the Jio Institute 'Greenfield Institute of Eminence' will be ready to commence academic sessions soon promising world-class education and facilities to young Indians. To date, we have reached out to over **21.5 million children** through our grassroots initiatives in various sports all across India.

The pandemic did not dampen our spirits and efforts to build star sports performers. Reliance Foundation-supported sportspersons had historic wins on the international events in weightlifting. We are happy to run **India's best residential football academy** recognised by the All India Football Federation. **Reliance Foundation Young Champs** announced collaboration with online scouting company AISCOOT

for remote scouting of players in June 2021. Athletes from our Reliance Foundation Odisha High Performance Centre registered impressive growth in their sporting journey to keep up the momentum towards grooming high performers. Our Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine department at the Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital continues to provide specialised support to athletes.

Empowerment for women and the girl child has always been at the heart of our social outreach. Earlier this year, we launched some unique initiatives to strengthen support, solidarity, and sisterhood amongst women across age groups and from all walks of life. For the first time in India, the **One Stop Breast Clinic** launched at the Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital will provide a comprehensive breast cancer diagnosis within hours and offer world class treatment and clinical expertise. In partnership with United States Agency for International Development (USAID), we launched the **WomenConnect India Challenge** to identify innovative solutions to bridge the gender digital divide and empower women. Ten organisations have been identified to work on innovative solutions to empower three lakh women and girls across 18 states in India. On International Women's Day 2021, we launched a digital movement for women called '**Her Circle**' – a one-of-its-kind inclusive, collaborative, interactive, and socially-conscious platform for women.

As people across India rebuild their lives, Reliance Foundation is committed to scale up, sustain and stand with the nation to overcome this crisis and every other challenge. With care and empathy, we promise our wholehearted support to every Indian, especially our most vulnerable communities, and we will continue to work tirelessly until India emerges from this challenge, stronger than ever before.

Together we always have, and we will overcome.

Nita M. Ambani

Nita Ambani

Founder and Chairperson
Reliance Foundation

Touching Lives Reliance for India

Reliance Foundation has been working towards the singular goal of building a more equitable nation since 2010. With the vision of empowering the most at need through social development, Reliance Foundation actively collaborates with social impact organisations, private and government stakeholders. Reliance Foundation's work through its partnerships has brought about lasting change across different sectors and regions in India. With the support of committed professionals involved in its various programmes, Reliance Foundation is aiming to create replicable and scalable models of development, accessible to all.

As India faced an unprecedented health and humanitarian crisis, Reliance Foundation and the entire Reliance family displayed a front of immense solidarity, creating solutions to help adversely affected households and individuals and cushioning them from shock and distress.

Led by Founder and Chairperson Smt. Nita M Ambani, Reliance Foundation played a significant role in addressing development challenges and also the new struggles thrown up by the pandemic. During a challenging year, Reliance Foundation's contributions included providing 1,000 MT medical oxygen to patients on a daily basis and distributing 8.5 crore meals to over 41 lakh beneficiaries apart from providing other need-based support to push back the pandemic. From contributing ₹ 561 crore to the PM-CARES Fund, state and other relief funds to building India's very first COVID-19 facility, which has now been scaled to over 2,000 beds across different locations, RIL Group walked hand in

hand with other partners and the Government of India in its fight against the pandemic.

#CoronaHaregaIndiaJeetega, which began as a campaign, has now become a movement as we walked that extra mile to support the needs of the communities we serve.

During FY 2020-21, Reliance Foundation also continued to support programmes across diverse themes ranging from *Rural Transformation, Sports for Development, Health, Education to Disaster Response*.

The three-pronged strategy of Reliance Foundation includes *direct engagement, collaborations through partnerships and leveraging technology* to create an ecosystem of development, comprising leaders of tomorrow who nudge communities to a more sustainable future.

Note: Reported data for overall reach and COVID-19 support in this chapter are as of 31 July 2021. Remaining reported data are as of 31 March 2021



Impact since inception



5.1+ crore

People reached through various development interventions



44,700+

Villages served

Since 2010, Reliance Foundation has been creating a positive impact in society, reaching all segments of the population, providing both access and opportunity to communities to improve their quality of life.

Aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the 2030 agenda, Reliance Foundation aspires to create transformational change all across India.

Rural Transformation

Reliance Foundation under its Rural Transformation programme has provided sustainable solutions around water, nutrition and livelihood security to communities across India.

Enhanced livelihoods of over

1.26 crore

Fishers, farmers and livestock owners and empowered 44,700+ villages

Created

1,100+ lakh

Cubic metres of water harvesting capacity

Health

Reliance Foundation is committed to strengthening and supporting the nation's public health infrastructure through comprehensive, subsidised healthcare systems and high-quality services.

70 lakh

Health consultations conducted through public health interventions

1.6 lakh

Vision screening consultations since inception and 19,500+ corneal transplants supported under Reliance Foundation Drishti since 2003

Disaster Response

Reliance Foundation's response-ready teams mitigate disaster, minimise damage and enhance community resilience. By leveraging technology, it helps communities come together and take informed decisions.

10+ lakh

People supported by relief activities in 14 states in the aftermath of natural disasters

35+

Cyclones and floods responded to

Education

With an aim to develop world-class educational institutions to transform the country's education system, Reliance Foundation has invested in various innovative projects for equitable access to education.

3.5+ lakh

Children impacted through various education initiatives

Partnered with

244 schools

Across seven states for digital classrooms impacting 1,700+ teachers and 64,000+ students

Sports for Development

Reliance Foundation's Sports for Development programme encourages learning and builds leadership skills amongst the children and youth of India.

Reached over

2.15 crore

Youth and children through various sports initiatives

Education and Sports for All initiative has impacted the lives of

2+ lakh

Underprivileged children

*Since inception, as on 31 March 2021, for all the figures in this section



A child with RF mask in Indore, Madhya Pradesh

COVID-19 Response

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the largest humanitarian crisis in recent times, has been felt across the world, affecting every aspect of life. In India, the national lockdown from March 2020 to curb the spread of the virus, continued throughout the year, although restrictions were lifted in phases. Relief measures were provided by the government to support marginalised communities. Meanwhile, rural communities faced inbound migration as family members returned home. Farm activities continued intermittently, with constraints in market linkages, transportation and supply of inputs.

Given the far-reaching impact of the pandemic, there was an urgent need for coordinated efforts on several fronts – the government, the social sector and private partners. Reliance Foundation consolidated its strength and prioritised COVID relief efforts, extending help wherever possible. While COVID relief was given top priority during the year, Reliance Foundation ensured that it continued other development work as well, so as to soften the impact of the pandemic on the communities it works with.

Key highlights of FY 2020-21

India's first COVID-19 facility with 250 beds set up at Seven Hills, Mumbai. This has been scaled up to over 2,000 beds at various locations across the country, including a 600-bed COVID-19 care facility in Jamnagar, Gujarat

1,000 MT medical oxygen per day, provided free of cost to states, equivalent to the daily requirement of 1,00,000+ patients

8.5+ crore

Meals delivered through Mission Anna Seva

1.3+ crore

Reusable masks distributed to 99+ lakh beneficiaries across 22 states and 2 Union Territories

27+ lakh litres

Free fuel provided to 70,000+ notified emergency response vehicles

39+ lakh

Individuals reached with advisories on COVID-19, government schemes and livelihood opportunities

UN SDGs IMPACTED



Note: All reported data figures in this chapter are as of 31 July 2021.

Supporting the nation through the pandemic

To support COVID-19 relief work, Reliance Foundation drew on its vast experience of emergency response and disaster management, deploying the combined strength of 6,00,000+ members of the Reliance family to mobilise on-ground response and leverage material resources to support government and community efforts across the country.



Medical grade oxygen being transported from Jamnagar, Gujarat

Our endeavours to support COVID-19 relief work
See More Here



Reliance Foundation launched FIVE Missions as part of its efforts against COVID-19

Mission Oxygen

India faced an acute shortage of oxygen as soon as COVID-19 cases began to surge earlier this year. While Reliance does not produce medical-grade liquid oxygen, when the need arose, within days the Jamnagar refinery was repurposed to produce high-purity medical-grade liquid oxygen and, in two weeks, the production was ramped up to 1,100 metric tonnes per day.

To ensure smooth flow of supply, Reliance procured 100 new medical-grade oxygen tankers both from within India and other parts of the world, such as Germany, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, the Netherlands, Belgium, Thailand, Indonesia, and pushed them into service within two weeks. Reliance Foundation also helped in installing Oxygen Generators in several hospitals across the country to strengthen oxygen availability.

Reliance produced over 11% of India's medical-grade liquid oxygen to meet the needs of one lakh patients on a daily basis

The highest by a single company at a single location

Mission COVID Infra

A 360-degree approach was adopted to deal with the existing and emerging challenges. Recognising the pressure on the public health system, Reliance strengthened India's health infrastructure by building new treatment and quarantine facilities and drawing on its existing healthcare initiatives. Primary medical care was augmented through Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) and tertiary care through hospitals.

Reliance Foundation rapidly scaled up its healthcare initiatives against COVID-19, setting up the first dedicated COVID-19 hospital in India in collaboration with the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) and Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital. The 100-bed facility at Seven Hills, Mumbai, set up in just two weeks, was soon scaled up to 250 beds.

In 2021, in response to the sudden surge in COVID-19 cases, Reliance Foundation further scaled it up to a 875-bed facility dedicated to COVID-19 care in Mumbai while setting up additional facilities in Jamnagar and other locations, supporting 2,000+ beds overall.

Reliance Foundation set up the first dedicated COVID-19 hospital in India

In collaboration with BMC in Mumbai

Reliance Foundation set-up and is managing over 2,000 beds

Dedicated to COVID-19 care across various locations in India



The COVID-19 care facility at NSCI, Mumbai

Expanding India's quarantine and home care capacity

During the first phase of the pandemic, Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital set up quarantine facilities in Mumbai to add to the nation's capacity at a crucial juncture. A fully-equipped isolation facility in Lodhivali, Maharashtra, was handed over to the district authorities.

Reliance Foundation also set up a COVID-19 quarantine ward at Spandan Hospital, Mumbai.

An isolation centre was created by Reliance Foundation at Hazira with fulltime doctors and medical staff. Meanwhile, support through beds and infrastructure was provided to care centres, including the COVID Care Centre, Bommuru at Amalapuram and the Government General Hospital, Kinada.

Isolation centres set up by Reliance Foundation

Supported by fulltime doctors and medical staff



COVID-19 care facility at Trident Hotel, Mumbai



Reliance Foundation's exclusive 10-bed dialysis centre at the Hindu Hriday Samrat Balasaheb Thackeray Trauma Care Hospital, Mumbai

Essential tertiary care

Many chronic illnesses require uninterrupted treatment. With medical facilities taken up with the treatment of COVID-19, patients found it hard to access treatments like dialysis.

To address this problem, Reliance Foundation set up an exclusive 10-bed dialysis centre at the Hindu Hriday Samrat Balasaheb Thackeray Trauma Care Hospital, Mumbai, in collaboration with the BMC for uninterrupted quality care for dialysis patients.



Reliance Foundation's MMUs in Shahdol, MP providing primary care and raising community awareness on COVID-19 protocols

Ensuring primary healthcare

Reliance Foundation's nine MMUs operated in Shahdol in Madhya Pradesh, Nagothane and Dahanu in Maharashtra, Jhajjar in Haryana and Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh, providing primary care and easing the pressure on the local health infrastructure.

The MMUs also raised community awareness on COVID-19 protocols such as social distancing, mask-wearing and hand-washing.

Reliance Foundation MMUs reached primary care to people

While creating awareness on COVID-19 protocols

Paediatric and Adult Critical Care Units enhanced at RFH for COVID-19 treatment



Dedicated COVID-19 care facility at National Sports Club of India (NSCI), Worli, Mumbai

To enhance preparedness against COVID-19 in Mumbai, Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital (RFH) increased adult, paediatric and ICU beds in the city to support the efforts of the Government of Maharashtra and the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).

Given the rise in COVID-19 cases among children and adolescents, RFH focused on augmenting its paediatric and specialised child-care facilities.

It is currently operating a 650-bed dedicated COVID care facility at National Sports Club of India (NSCI), Worli. Of the 650 beds, 100 are ICU beds equipped to provide paediatric care, with 20 beds exclusively earmarked for paediatric care.

The ICU beds are equipped with adult and paediatric ventilators, monitoring devices, dialysis support and oxygen supply for management of critical patients.

A team of over 500 frontline workers comprising doctors, nurses and non-medical professionals, have been deployed for the medical management of the patients. The facility also features tele-ICU centres to enable round-the-clock integrated medical management and cross-specialty consultation.

The expenses for the project – comprising beds, monitors, paediatric and adult ventilators and medical equipment – are borne by Reliance Foundation and patients admitted at NSCI are being treated absolutely free.

Supporting frontline research and trials

In the first phase of the pandemic, Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital was the only institution in Mumbai which was part of the multi-centre clinical PLACID trials run by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). This randomised controlled trial tried to assess the safety and efficacy of using plasma, taken from convalescing patients, to limit the damage caused by COVID-19 in patients recovering from the illness.

Mission COVID Suraksha

Reliance Foundation launched Mission COVID Suraksha, a programme to support the prevention of COVID-19. Initiated in November 2020, the campaign reinforced the importance of wearing a mask even as communities resumed livelihood activities.

Through Mission COVID Suraksha, Reliance Foundation reached out to an array of people – from street vendors and transport workers to local food stall workers and daily wagers. The objective was to help them carry out their role of providing essential services to the community in a manner that ensured their personal safety. The campaign intensified from March 2021 as several states saw a renewed spurt of COVID-19.

These measures were undertaken across the country, including near the manufacturing locations such as around Vadodara, villages around the Dahej Manufacturing Division, Bharuch Nagar Palika and Surat Municipal Corporation. Infrastructure support was provided to develop and upgrade healthcare medical facilities near plant locations at the Vadodara centre, together with providing diagnostic machines and ventilators. A quarantine centre at the Patalganga plant in Lodhivali, Raigad, was handed over to the District Collector.

Reliance Foundation evolved a participatory model, procuring masks stitched by Self-Help Groups and common interest groups in Nagothane, Vadodara and Shahdol. These gave them the much-needed income during the lockdown – and the masks were distributed across surrounding villages, Panchayats, RGSS, and government offices, including the District Collector, Municipal Commissioner and the Vadodara Member of Parliament.

Free fuel for emergency service vehicles

To support frontline workers across India, Reliance Foundation provided 27+ lakh litres of free fuel to 70,000+ government notified ambulances and vehicles engaged in COVID-19 services across 332 districts in 21 states and three Union Territories during this critical period.

Reliance Foundation provided 1.3+ crore masks to frontline warriors and communities

Across 22 states and two Union Territories to help them stay safe

A multi-lingual booklet, distributed with the mask

Informed users about the proper ways of wearing a mask and ensuring mask hygiene

Providing PPE kits

There was an urgent need to augment the country's stock of personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline workers as India did not have domestic production capacity to meet this need during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Amidst the increasing global shortage of kits, Reliance swung into action and imported supplies through a joint mission with the national carrier, Air India. Reliance also repurposed a manufacturing facility in Gujarat to make PPE, ramping up production within weeks to 1,00,000 kits per day.

Rapid testing is widely considered as the most accurate COVID-19 test and gives the government an up-to-date picture of the virus spread. This is taken into account while deciding on where and what public health efforts should be undertaken. In the initial phase of the pandemic, India had to rapidly enhance its testing capacity. Reliance Life Sciences is operating two COVID-19 RT-PCR and antibody testing labs at Navi Mumbai and Jamnagar.

Keeping COVID warriors and their families safe

Manisha Shambharkar from village Selu Kate, District Wardha, has been an ASHA worker for close to a decade. She provides crucial door-to-door services in her village, generating awareness on COVID-19, wearing a thin scarf on her rounds instead of a proper mask.



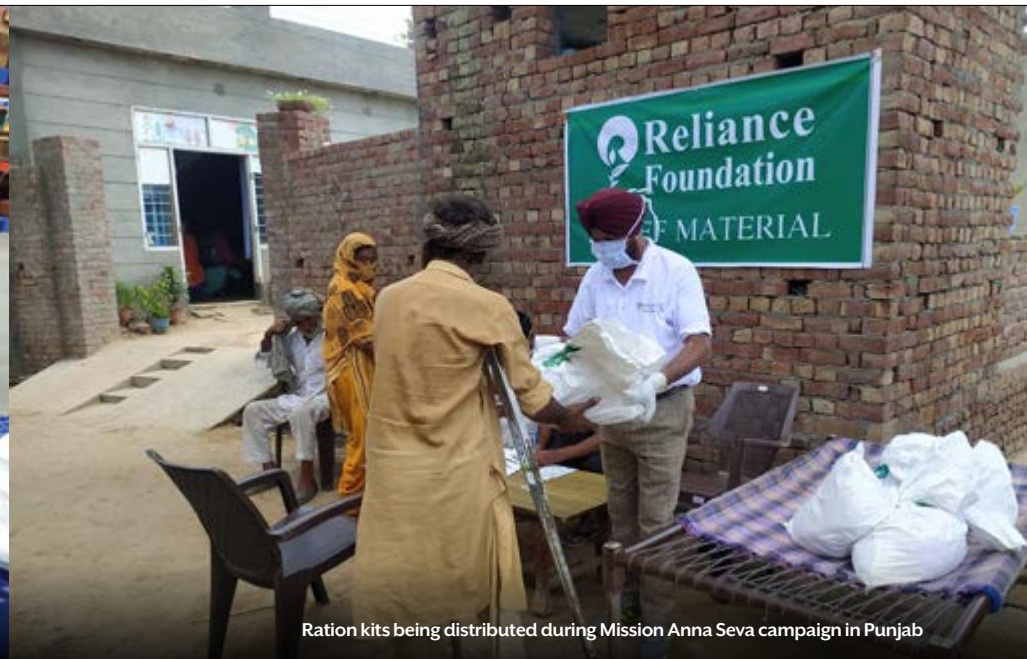
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For my daily survey for various health schemes of the government, I go from house to house in the village. So, I was always worried about myself and my family. But today, my family and I are safe after receiving masks from Reliance Foundation.

Manisha Shambharkar
Selu Kate, District Wardha



Ration kits being prepared by employees in Reliance Retail Distribution Centre at Bhiwandi, Thane



Ration kits being distributed during Mission Anna Seva campaign in Punjab

The programme reached out to communities across 100+ districts, 19 states and four Union Territories



8.5 crore

Meals delivered through Mission Anna Seva

COVID-19
Response

Mission Anna Seva

Reliance Foundation launched a massive programme to distribute meals to marginalised and under-resourced communities during the lockdown. The entire staff of Reliance Foundation and the larger Reliance family came together to support this mission on a war footing, with Reliance Retail employees playing a crucial role in packing, preparing and supplying provisions for the programme.

Reliance Foundation also supplied relief kits and bulk rations to 200+ partner NGOs engaged in similar hunger alleviation programmes in their respective locations.

The rations supplied by Reliance Foundation supported community kitchens serving meals to daily-wage labourers, the homeless and other marginalised people. They also served as a lifeline for migrant workers returning to their native places from the cities. Volunteers from across Reliance sites in Mumbai, Silvassa, Vadodara, Patalganga, Hazira, Jhajjar, Shahdol, Jamnagar, Dahej, Barabanki, Nagothane, Gadimoga and Hoshiarpur distributed meals in their respective locations.

Meals were also distributed to truck drivers transporting essential items. This came as a relief to the truckers who found it difficult to get food during the lockdown, with restaurants shut. Reliance petrol stations in West Bengal, Kerala and Odisha reached out to distribute meals to truck drivers.

Mission Anna Seva provided cooked meals, ready-to-eat food packets, food coupons, dry ration kits to communities across 100+ districts, 19 states and four Union Territories. Until July 31, 2021, Mission Anna Seva delivered 8.5+ crore meals.

This programme reached over 41 lakh people including daily-wage and migrant labourers, slum-dwellers, domestic workers, factory workers, and old-age home and orphanage residents.

Mission Anna Seva also provided critical support to frontline workers, including junior medical staff, police personnel and security forces who carried out essential COVID-19 services.

Pattachitra artist receives help of MAS

[See More Here](#)



Providing immediate relief



Nelima, in Visakhapatnam, receiving dry ration kits from Reliance Foundation

Nelima's father, Surya Narayana, used to work as a daily wage earner at a hotel while her mother worked as a sanitation worker at Simhachalam Temple, Visakhapatnam. Nelima lives with her mother and three siblings – two sisters and a brother. When she lost her father to COVID-19, her mother became the sole breadwinner of the family.



Reliance Foundation came forward and provided us dry ration kits. And this helped us run the kitchen for the entire week. I express my sincere gratitude.

Nelima
Visakhapatnam

But within a few days, she too had to stop going to work because of her illness, leaving the family in dire straits, with no income and no food.

Under Mission Anna Seva, Reliance Foundation was able to provide dry ration kits to the family, and thus much-needed assistance at a time the family had its back against the wall.

Care for animals during the pandemic

The disruption of supply chains and limited veterinary services and fodder supply during the lockdown affected animals and livestock. Stray animals too had a tough time finding food. Reliance Foundation helped arrange fodder for livestock in rural areas and grain feed for birds by partnering with NGOs, which helped Reliance Foundation reach out to distant quarters and distribute food for stray animals across India.

Reliance Foundation also supported the rescue of 1,000+ animals in distress through Wildlife SOS's rapid response hotline. A fleet of 20 animal ambulances provided fodder, feed and critical care for animals during the year.



Succour for the most vulnerable



Rakhal Roy, collecting a dry ration kit from Reliance Foundation in Purbasthali village, West Bengal

The lockdowns necessitated by COVID-19 took a heavy toll on livelihoods, threatened food security and particularly affected those with existing health conditions. Low-income groups, many of whom had migrated for work to distant locales, were the worst hit because they were without a support system in their new environs.

Rakhal Roy from Bhatra village of Purbasthali in Bardhaman district of West Bengal is a 72-year-old senior citizen. Rakhal Roy's eldest son suffers from physical ailments and can no longer work. So the family of three relies on the income of the younger son.



Reliance Foundation's support helped me a lot during these unprecedented times. This service of Reliance Foundation ensured me a week's food supply.

Rakhal
Purbasthali Village, Bardhaman district,
West Bengal

A migrant labourer, Rakhal's younger son lost his job during the second COVID-19 wave.

Meanwhile, Reliance Foundation's Mission Anna Seva had put together a list of vulnerable households and communities in the area where Rakhal worked. Fortunately, Rakhal's name figured on the list and he was soon able to receive a dry ration kit that helped him survive at a critical time when he found no one else to turn to.

Mission Anna Seva is the largest free meal programme by any corporate foundation globally.



Mission Employee Care

From the beginning of the pandemic, the RIL Group took extreme care to address the needs of employees within the organisation. From facilitating health check-ups and testing to providing vaccinations free of cost, it ensured that every Reliance employee was assured of the care and protection of the RIL's 'Employee Care' programme. Most of all, it ensured that the family of an employee, lost to COVID-19, had full support and protection of Reliance.

Reliance Foundation is committed to taking care of all the families of these employees, and attending to their education and healthcare needs. Under the Mission Employee Suraksha, Reliance will pay the family the salary of the deceased employee for the next five years and finance the children's education in India till graduation, along with ensuring lifetime continuity of medical coverage to the family.

Reliance is also committed to paying a lumpsum amount of ₹10 lakh to the families of its off-roll employees who succumbed to COVID-19. With such measures, Reliance Foundation is ensuring the security and well-being of the affected families of its employees.



Mission Vaccine Suraksha

Mass vaccination is India's urgent priority now. Through Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital, Reliance Foundation has rolled out a massive vaccination drive with over 171 vaccinations centres across the country, thus contributing significantly to India's drive for mass vaccination against COVID-19.



10 lakh+ people

Provided free COVID-19 vaccinations

Mission Employee Suraksha guarantees the family of the deceased employee

Last drawn salary for the next five years

Funding of children's education in India till graduation

Lifetime medical coverage for the family

₹10 lakh lumpsum payment to the family of the deceased off-roll employee

Free vaccination drive for communities

Starting March 5, 2021, the facility was first opened to those above 60 years of age and those in the 45-59 age group with comorbidities.

From April 1, it was extended to those above 45 years and from May 1, it was opened to all above 18 years of age. The vaccination arrangements were made with stringent COVID safety protocol in place.

A seamless online process was made available through JioHealthHub that leveraged the COWIN portal.



Helping rural communities cope with the pandemic

Rural communities were made aware of the safety measures against COVID-19 and equipped with information and support to guard against the virus as people returned to villages from their workplaces in distant parts of the country. This was done by working closely with local government institutions such as Gram Panchayats (GPs) and community organisations like women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs).



Equipping communities with knowledge and preparedness

When people started moving back to their homes in villages from their workplace, the challenge was to contain the spread of the virus in rural areas. Rural communities also had to deal with market disruptions. Reliance Foundation stepped in to provide specialised help and advice to GPs and other community groups on financial support and availing of livelihood promotion schemes announced by the government. Capacity-building support was also provided to help returning migrants access livelihood opportunities in farming, horticulture, animal husbandry and fisheries. Interim employment was provided to labourers, especially migrants.

In addition, the community was mobilised to provide emergency support and response. GPs and SHGs mentored by Reliance Foundation took the lead in creating awareness on COVID-19 and ensuring precautions. SHGs also took the initiative to stitch masks and distribute them to frontline workers.

7,600+ migrant labourers

Linked to wage employment opportunities



Red gram procurement under MSP at Jojna village, Bidar Cluster

Reinforcing community efforts against the economic fallout of COVID-19

Reliance Foundation mentored and worked with 30 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) to help re-establish market linkages disrupted by the pandemic. This helped farmers to continue aggregating, transporting and selling their produce at a fair price. FPOs also helped secure access to affordable, agricultural inputs like seeds and fertilisers for farmers. They reached out to producers and facilitated agricultural operations. They also facilitated sale of perishable items such as vegetables in the midst of transportation restrictions and established MSP procurement centres.

30

Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) worked with Reliance Foundation to help re-establish market linkages disrupted by the pandemic

COVID-19
Response

Digital tools support rural communities during the pandemic

Since the lockdown and the pandemic limited mobility, Reliance Foundation made full use of digital technology for providing various services.

Apart from information about the safety protocol, timely and crucial information was also provided about marketing produce and special schemes such as Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, subsidy for farm machinery and seed, emergency finance subsidy for registered dairy farmers, makeshift markets, transportation of agri-produce and so on. Online conferences were organised for farmers, fisherfolk and livestock owners to connect with agricultural experts, local officials and policymakers. This virtual support helped address concerns with timely advice on overcoming lockdown related challenges.



39+ lakh people

Reached through health advisories for farmers and information about relevant government schemes and livelihood opportunities disseminated in local languages through mobile phones



Pushpa Kohare in Yavatmal uses her phone to interact with Reliance Foundation Information Services health experts for advice for her goatery unit's health

Reliance capacities adapted to provide crucial COVID-19 support



Doorstep delivery of groceries by Reliance Retail Limited (before JioMart was launched) in northern India

Reliance Retail stores began home delivery services for senior citizens and expanded arrangements for order collection from stores in order to minimise risk of exposure for consumers and staff. As many as 736 grocery stores of Reliance Retail maintained a dependable supply of essentials, including staples, fruits, vegetables, bread and breakfast cereals.

About 40 crore people and organisations were provided uninterrupted digital connectivity by Reliance Jio. Reliance Jio also introduced a range of new digital tools to aid healthcare-from-home solutions, including a symptomchecker to enable users to monitor symptoms at home and prevent unnecessary pressure on the medical system.

Reliance Jio developed the JioHaptik chatbot to power the MyGov Corona helpdesk, which addresses queries around the coronavirus outbreak and disseminates verified information.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Reliance Foundation and the entire Reliance family has been providing support across a range of emergency needs from prevention, healthcare, emergency food requirements to livelihood support, through a sensitive, scaled-up, 360-degree response to help push back the pandemic.



RF gave many tribal women like Sumantra a reason to smile, by making drinking water available in Hoshangabad village, Madhya Pradesh

Rural Transformation

As India takes the lead in economic progress across the world, there lies great opportunity to promote inclusive growth in rural India. A resilient rural India can bring significant improvement in lives through breakthrough technology, ambitious government initiatives and increased awareness.

Reliance Foundation's Rural Transformation (RT) program provides 360-degree support to the pillars that can help transform rural communities – innovation for social impact, livelihood enhancement, nutrition security, water and ecological security, women empowerment, governance and market linkages. The RT program is aimed at helping rural communities gain more agency over their lives,

while addressing and bridging the aspirations with the help of resources, knowledge, timely interventions and innovative solutions. Under this program, Reliance Foundation has, over the last decade, collaborated with different social impact organisations, private and government stakeholders to catalyse change across levels.

In FY 2020-21, RF also rallied to support rural communities during the COVID-19 pandemic to help rural households withstand pandemic-induced shocks by tweaking service delivery to provide them livelihood opportunities and other support.

Transforming lives in rural India
See More Here



UN SDGs IMPACTED



Key highlights of FY 2020-21

17 lakh

Rural livelihoods enhanced, (1.26 crore cumulatively); treated and supported 1.9+ lakh livestock animals

131+ lakh

Cubic metres of water harvesting capacity created

10,000+

Elected representatives and village volunteer capacities built to strengthen local governance

10,000+

Reliance Nutrition Gardens set up to ensure nutrition security during the pandemic

8,800+

Unemployed youth received skill training online; 79% of them found placement, many of them their first job, earning on an average nearly ₹ 11,000 per month

1,700+

Women-run SHGs mentored for leadership by RF during the year

Innovations for improved rural lives and livelihoods

Reliance Foundation supports some of the most marginalised communities across rural India with innovative and sustainable solutions. Since 2010, Reliance Foundation has fostered positive social change by strengthening community structures, providing water, nutrition and livelihood security to communities it serves. These initiatives contributed to national priority missions through partnerships with agencies in the social development space. The agencies include Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETI), Rural Development and Self Employment Training Institute (RUDSETI), State Rural Livelihood Missions (SRLMs), Ministry of Fisheries, Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Department of Women and Child (DWCD), Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK), NGOs, line departments, universities and skilling centres.

Due to the pandemic, Reliance Foundation pivoted operations to ensure sustained support to communities so that livelihoods could continue safely and essentials could be accessed. It undertook a massive coordinated effort, leveraging existing skills and its prior experience of reaching millions of marginalised communities in India.

Supporting India's national priorities through Rural Transformation
See More Here



A women farmer listening to RFIS expert advisories for her pigeon pea crop in Maharashtra

Pillars of Reliance Foundation's Rural Transformation Programme

Innovation for Social Impact

Livelihood Enhancement

Market Linkages

Nutrition Security

Water and Ecological Security

Women Empowerment

Governance

Innovation for social impact

Empowering rural India with technology solutions

Digital technology solutions catalyse change and help communities take informed decisions. They also provide linkage to government schemes and initiatives for access to entitlements.

Reliance Foundation Information Services reach communities through multiple modes including mobile phone services, social media platforms, television, radio and helplines. Reliance Foundation has 1,000+ partners to source accurate and relevant information and democratise access and information use.

Reliance Foundation has also helped farmers enhance crop yields and safeguard livestock. This year, digital advisories proved especially handy as farmers received timely information on weather and pest attacks.

10.6+ million

Individuals reached by Reliance Foundation Information Services by making information accessible in 10 Indian languages across 39,000 villages in 19 states and two Union territories

A Digital Farm School

Was piloted in collaboration with Perunthalaivar Kamaraj Krishi Vigyan Kendra (PKKVK), Puducherry – the first KVK in the country – to provide expert guidance while ensuring social distancing



Vinayaga Moorthy, from Tamil Nadu, showing how Pheromon Drop helped him in saving his standing crops

Making fishing safer and sustainable

Reliance Foundation endeavours to make fishing more sustainable and profitable while ensuring safety for the 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).

Reliance Foundation endeavours to make fishing more sustainable and profitable while ensuring safety for the marine fisherfolk.

Machli app empowers fishers to take informed decisions, gain better profits



Milind Moreswar Marde in Dahanu taluka of Palghar district in Maharashtra uses the Machli app

The village of Dhakti Dahani, Palghar, Maharashtra is a fishing hub. For most fishers here, fishing is the primary source of livelihood. But like many others, for Milind Marde, frequent weather changes and cyclones have been a constant worry.

After learning about Reliance Foundation's Disaster Management Programme and the ingenious Machli app, which he began using, Milind has been able to increase his income sustainably. The app has been especially made for fishermen like him, and has been jointly developed by Reliance AI Centre for Excellence and Indian National Centre For Ocean Information Services (INCOIS). Through the app, Milind can easily access information about the weather and advisories for fishermen on his mobile.

He now receives daily weather updates that help him plan his ventures better. Apart from being a credible source of weather forecast, the app has broken the 'English exclusive' language barrier, delivering information in vernacular language, thus widening access to information. Today, the information relevant to Milind's work is enabling him to take informed decisions about his livelihood, lessen risks to his life and improve his earnings.



Livelihood enhancement

Reliance Foundation works to de-risk rural communities from economic vulnerability by promoting sustainable agriculture and allied activities, enabling market linkages, stabilising income from fishing, encouraging entrepreneurship and diversifying livelihoods. Reliance Foundation also focuses on upskilling the youth to increase their employability.

Market Linkages

This work is the culmination of economic and social transformation made possible by Reliance Foundation over the past decade in geographies characterised by low productivity because of water scarcity and land degradation.

Reliance Foundation has mentored 30 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) and initiatives to support 43,000+ marginalised farmers with improved market access. In FY 2020-21, the farmers supported through these FPOs recorded more than ₹ 94 crore in transactions and undertook pilot projects on mechanised paddy transplanting and drone usage. The FPOs were linked to national markets through digital commodity trading platforms and digitised FPO 'Point of Sales' transactions. The FPOs moved to higher value commodities, helping member farmers get better prices for agri-produce, save input and cultivation costs. Now, these Producer Organisations (POs) support other FPOs with a district knowledge sharing consortium.

During the lockdown, these FPOs helped farmers sell commodities, negotiate the cost of agricultural inputs, and linked farmers with government-run procurement centres and makeshift markets apart from supplying food to villagers in the absence of local markets.

During the year, Reliance Foundation also provided links with government schemes, e-pass for transporters and supported initiatives such as organising machinery for 5,952 farmers. These farmers were supported digitally to address their knowledge gap and were also linked to remunerative markets. As many as 29 FPOs and migrant workers were also linked under the Krishak Sasaktikaran Pariyojana, which is estimated to generate 3 lakh MGNREGS workdays, providing a total wage of ₹ 6.1 crore in one year. Reliance Foundation also facilitated digital platform linkages for other FPOs and those who reached out for assistance on supply chain challenges.



Members of Maa Sharda Mahila Kisan Producer Company supporting the tribal farmers; helping them get fair market price for their produce

48 FPOs

Completed E-NAM registration procedure with the support of Mandi Parishad in Uttar Pradesh

₹ 94 crore

Transactions undertaken by Reliance Foundation mentored FPOs in FY 2020-21

₹ 26.2 crore

Worth produce sold through Reliance Foundation's digital outreach programme

Reliance Foundation through such initiatives under rural transformation is striving to bring about change beyond farms, across communities, strengthening governance, upgrading nutrition along with opening up opportunities and empowering rural India to transform and prosper.

Mobilising through skill training

Reliance Foundation strives to empower young people with new skills and opportunities to improve their employability quotient. The goal is to de-risk livelihoods and develop India's human capital for a globally competitive workforce with access to information.



Pashu Sakhis from Deoghar district in Jharkhand

Reliance Foundation provides a platform for connecting youths with organisations, offering skilling programmes and employment opportunities. All-round skill training, career guidance and entrepreneurship training for micro-enterprises are conducted with the National Skill Development Mission. Coaching and resources to develop skills – including computer literacy and soft skills – were provided through partnerships that enhance employability. In FY 2020-21, skill training was extended to Pashu Sakhis, rural women entrepreneurs providing Paraveterinary services, to generate health and livestock health management awareness in post-flood Bihar.



Mithilesh Yadav from Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh, in his motorbike repairing shop

Reliance Foundation focuses on upskilling underprepared youth and those who have dropped out of school, connecting them to employment opportunities in the retail sector. In FY 2020-21, the programme made a transition from physical to virtual mode. Reliance Foundation worked with 39 skilling partners, who mobilised candidates and upskilled them, making them employable for the retail sector. The programme has its footprint in 20 states and 150+ cities.

8,800+

Unemployed received skill training online, during 2020-21; 79% of them were placed, for many of them it was their first job with an average earning of D 11,000 per month

Bringing the market to the doorstep

Reliance Foundation mentored Maa Sharda Mahila Kisan Producer Company Limited, a women-led FPO, which works for the cause of improving farmers' incomes in the catchment area of 17 remote villages in Panna District of Madhya Pradesh.

During the lockdown, this FPO procured 2,000 kg of Chironji (Calumpang Nuts) from farmers of eight tribal villages. As per their wish/need, these farmers were provided with rice equivalent to the value of the fruit. This initiative helped these tribal families meet their daily consumption needs as well as get a fair market price for their produce when accessibility to markets and essential food items was limited.

Tapping opportunities and reaping benefits



Anita Devi from Barmasiya village, Deoghar in her Marigold field

Deoghar, Jharkhand is known for its flourishing flower business. As the festive season begins, there is an increased demand for fresh flowers, a business opportunity that Anita Devi from Barmasiya village, Deoghar, has long sensed.

In collaboration with the local Krishi Vidyan Kendra, Reliance Foundation trained Anita and other SHG members in the cultivation of marigold flowers, accessing quality seeds, and imparting knowledge on transplanting, crop management and so on.

Soon after the training, Anita started growing her own marigold flowers and now makes significant profits. This has enabled her to support her family through the uncertain times of the pandemic. Being the first in her community to undertake such a venture, Anita has created a ripple effect with several other SHG members now following her lead. Her resilience and willingness to learn has made her an exemplary figure in her village.

Nutrition security

Rural nutrition has been a key focus area for Reliance Foundation. Reliance Nutrition Gardens (RNGs) provide rural families the support of a scientific, low cost, organic model of a multi-tier cropping system in which they can grow a variety of vegetables and fruits.

Reliance Foundation promotes RNGs to address malnutrition, especially among women and children, through the accessibility of a nutritious diet in their backyard. After meeting family needs, excess produce can be monetised to augment the family income. During the pandemic, when supply chains were disrupted, RNGs ensured food and nutrition security not only for the family but also for the community, offering fresh produce that was often shared among families. During the year, over 10,000 RNGs were set up to ensure nutrition security.

Reliance Foundation also supported the Rashtriya Poshan Maah - an initiative of the Government of India. In September 2020 in collaboration with Anganwadis and staff of the

Department of Women and Child Development reaching out to over 11,000 individuals.

Over 11,400 participants (85% female, including adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women) from 500 villages, across 11 states in India, learnt about nutrition and the RNGs. Other initiatives included training on augmenting agricultural productivity, enhancing fishing outcomes and encouraging poultry, livestock and dairy farming.

10,000+ RNGs

Set up to ensure nutrition security during FY 2020-21



Sartama Devi of Patara village, Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand

Breaking the cycle of child malnutrition

Anganwadi workers, a cohort of dedicated women community leaders, often lead growth and transformation in the villages. One such leader, Mahananda Phad of Kaarwadi village, Gangakhed, Maharashtra, wanted to ensure that every child in her community had access to quality nutrition. To make this dream a reality she transformed her own backyard into a Reliance Nutrition Garden (RNG).

Today her RNG gives her a bounty of 13 different types of vegetables that she incorporates in the everyday meals of her Anganwadi children.

By taking a small but meaningful step, she has bridged the nutritional gap, and she continues to ensure that no child in her community suffers from malnutrition. She also helps many families access the fresh produce from the kitchen garden and hopes that she will be able to motivate others to follow her example.

RNGs

Support communities with access to quality nutrition and are instrumental to growth and transformation in villages



Mahananda Phad of Kaarwadi village, Gangakhed, Maharashtra

Rural
Transformation

Making nutrition security a priority for the entire community

Sartama Devi of Patara village, Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand is an example of what happens when a woman decides to take the lead and help transform the entire community. A change maker, Sartama is leading the women in her village to create their very own Reliance Nutrition Gardens (RNGs). This move can not only help the women in her community access quality nutrition but also take a step towards micro entrepreneurship.

Under the RNG initiative, she leads a team of 94 members from the Him Patara Gram Sangathan and a Federation of 10 SHGs. She has successfully trained many under her tutelage to build their own nutrition gardens and has linked them to markets in an attempt to make them self-reliant. A social entrepreneur, she has also been leading her community in water

conservation efforts, teaching women on how to promote water storage and create compost pits for their kitchen gardens. Using an integrated approach Sartama promotes RNGs through convergence and collective action.

She has walked the extra mile to help her community with livelihood generation opportunities in mushroom cultivation, livestock rearing and vegetable cultivation. By harnessing the power of shramdaan (voluntary physical labour), she has also mobilised women to successfully clean water bodies in their villages and create 6,000 cubic metres of water harvesting capacity. We salute her grit and determination as she marches ahead, leading and becoming a role model for others.



An action-driven leader inspiring change, Sartama Devi, Uttarakhand
See More Here



Water and ecological security

Ensuring water security

Reliance Foundation works with communities to recharge groundwater reservoirs and ensure sustainable water solutions. A range of water harvesting structures are encouraged – *bori bandhan*, farm ponds, earthen dams, check dams, ferro-cement tanks and dams – as per the topography, soil quality and availability of materials. In FY 2020-21, the COVID-19 lockdown adversely impacted pre-monsoon water harvesting. But Reliance Foundation continued to motivate communities to continue their work, linking them to MGNREGS for employment while encouraging them to create water harvesting structures.

Water budgeting activities also continued, with Reliance Foundation providing remote mentorship during the year. It also provided training, handholding and troubleshooting support. With the rural economy opening up in Q2, the focus shifted to refurbishing dilapidated water harvesting structures.

131+ lakh cubic metres

Of water harvesting capacity created in FY 2020-21 (1,100+ lakh cubic metres total since inception)



A ferro cement dam at Juda Madaiyan village in Pawai, Panna

Strengthening ecological security

Reliance Foundation encourages local communities to collectively conserve natural resources. Since inception, 2.3+ crore saplings have been planted by Reliance Foundation across various sites in India to increase the green cover. Reliance Foundation also encourages the use of clean energy such as biogas and solar power along with holding workshops or providing mentoring on sustainable agricultural practices, pest management, soil nutrition management to help secure incomes while minimising costs and the environmental impact.



Creating conscious communities & conserving natural resources

See More Here



A small move becomes a movement



Women collective at work in Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand

Fast-depleting groundwater not only creates shortage of water supply but can also expose the population to poor quality of water. Twenty-four villages in Uttarkashi, Uttarakhand, came together under the leadership of SHGs and the local leadership for *shramdaan*, or voluntary labour contribution, at the Sharmali watershed to overcome the challenge of water scarcity. The community put together a simple cost-effective water conservation model suitable for hilly regions, supported by the local authorities, organisations and Reliance Foundation. To ensure maximum water conservation, the villagers built eight small structures known as *jalkunds*, which surround the drainage line, to prevent water and soil loss on the slopes and increase percolation. The *jalkunds* have since been nourishing the soil, preserving the water level and providing nearby villages access to clean water. These small changes in the infrastructure have enhanced the efficiency of the water conservation effort, ensuring year-round supplies to households in the area.

The exemplary display of leadership, ownership, and dedication that the community has shown through their *shramdaan* has inspired many other communities to take collective action for the well-being of the entire community. Led by women leaders and local organisations, water conservation is turning into a movement for larger change.

Making clean water a reality for the people of Gangakhed



Kanta Bai from Parbhani district, Maharashtra

For 55-year-old Kanta Bai from Parbhani district, Maharashtra, collecting water meant travelling long distances and waiting in long queues.

For the women and girls in this hamlet in the Deccan Plateau, the daily trudge also meant missing out on education and other livelihood opportunities. To improve water accessibility in the region, the local Gram Panchayats reached out to Reliance Foundation, which helped strengthen the existing water infrastructure and built new capacities to store water.

“

After the installation of a water tank in my village, women of our village no longer have to go far to fetch drinking water. The Gram Panchayat fills the tank on time. This has saved us a lot of time and reduced a lot of our workload.”

Kanta Bai
Parbhani district, Maharashtra

With the support of Reliance Foundation, 72 Gram Panchayats of the Palam and Gangakhed blocks worked day and night to construct 74 water tanks, with a total water storage capacity of 3.96 lakh litres of water.

In addition, 4,000 metres of running pipelines, were constructed to make sure that every household got access to water.

This transformational change was possible because of the synergy between Reliance Foundation and the people of Palam and Gangakhed, who wanted to change their circumstances.

Today, access to safe drinking water has enriched the lives of these people and opened their doors to many possibilities.

Helping drive the cleanliness mission

Reliance Foundation contributes to the Government of India's Swachhata Hi Seva drive, besides providing continued support to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

In FY 2020-21, Reliance Foundation campaigned across 11 states of India on cleanliness, organising mass awareness drives and encouraging communities to participate in mass cleaning activities. The awareness drives focused on stopping open defecation. Gram Panchayat representatives, SHG members, health functionaries, youth volunteers and the local administration actively engaged in *shramdaan* for Gram Safai. Various activities, such as cleaning village panchayat buildings, Anganwadi premises, schools, roads, areas surrounding drinking water sources and other public places were taken up.



317

Swachhata Shramdaan volunteering events



6,500

Participants contributed 16,000+ hours



11,000+

People across 245 Gram Panchayats participated in cleanliness activities



500+

SHGs participated in sensitisation events for behaviour change on toilet use

Women Empowerment

Reliance Foundation works to address gender inequality, especially in rural areas, conscious of the catalytic role of women in community development.



Geeta Baraskar of Mandikoh village, Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh talks of her RNG and how it inspired others to develop their own RNGs

[See More Here](#)



In FY 2020-21, Reliance Foundation focused on livelihood trainings in collaboration with NRLM & various agencies for the economic empowerment of 1,700+ Self-help Groups, with end-to-end mentorship, and providing bank and government department linkages. The SHGs took up diverse enterprises – from mushroom cultivation to nursery development, from livestock rearing to pisciculture.

Mentoring and trainings were conducted virtually or through small groups with utmost care for safety. During the pandemic, SHGs took the lead in supporting communities by stitching masks for frontline workers and providing ration for affected communities apart from conducting other activities.

1,700+

Women-run SHGs mentored by RF during the year



Sumitraben Vasava with members of Shivshakthi Mahila Juth SHG in Netrang, Gujarat

Promoting budding entrepreneurs

Sumitraben Vasava, a community champion, had always dreamt of leading her people to a better future. To turn her vision into reality, she and the other members of her SHG group, Shivshakthi Mahila Juth, decided to begin a collective agro-business in Netrang, Gujarat and reached out to Reliance Foundation for guidance.

Role of Reliance Foundation

Under a robust skill-building programme, facilitated by Reliance Foundation, the women fast built up their business skills and gained from multi-stakeholder interactions.

RF also linked them to livelihood finance opportunities and different markets to understand the scope of their business model. Using the support, the group today processes, packages and markets a bevy of products like drumstick, amla, giloy, and fenugreek, all using solar dryers. This was by no means an easy task for the women of Mahila Juth. They invested their savings and also took loans from external stakeholders.

Armed with the sound knowledge of running a profitable agro-business, the hardworking women have become shining examples for their community. The group is beginning to formalize their processes and take flight, armed with the sound knowledge of running a profitable agro-business, these hardworking women are slowly becoming shining examples for their community. Reliance Foundation salutes the determination of these budding entrepreneurs of Gujarat and is humbled to have played a role in their venture.

Governance

Reliance Foundation builds grassroots leadership by enhancing the capabilities of Gram Panchayats (GPs) for the effective implementation of local plans. During the year, Gram Sabhas and Panchayats mentored by Reliance Foundation took the lead in responding to challenges posed by the pandemic and addressing new emerging needs. Community members, with support from Reliance Foundation, helped set up community kitchens and arranged for food kit distribution.

Reliance Foundation has been guiding different Gram Panchayats (GP) and other community groups about various government schemes such as the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and **government's social security schemes, COVID-19 related government schemes, etc.** and has been creating awareness on the 15th Finance Commission guidelines and supporting Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP).

Through these measures, it is facilitating GPs' elected representatives and functionaries to leverage scheme benefits in collaboration with the government machinery, district officials and various departments, and ensuring that they reach the target communities.

During FY 2020-21, Reliance Foundation built capacities of 10,000+ elected representatives and village volunteers

In an attempt to strengthen local governance and push for economic development and social justice, Reliance Foundation trains elected representatives of different Gram Panchayats and other volunteers. These GPs then collaborate with departments and institutions like, Forest, Horticulture, Agriculture, KVK, Banks, other development agencies, etc. and invest their time in leading various community initiatives in their respective villages



P Swapna, the Sarpanch of Thimmajiwadi GP, Kamareddy, Telangana



Members of the Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital Vaccination team in Mumbai

Healthcare

Reliance Foundation is committed to 'Health for All'. This mission has propelled efforts at building and strengthening healthcare in the country. Since inception, Reliance Foundation has taken efforts to support health outreach and infrastructure towards better public health and quality medical services to marginalised communities.

Under Reliance Foundation's health initiatives, diverse specialised programmes have been designed to not just fortify India's public health infrastructure but also support various government initiatives on reproductive, maternal, neo-natal, child and adolescent health. Championing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Reliance Foundation also strives to make knowledge and services more accessible in order to improve the lives of millions of people.

Key highlights of FY 2020-21

2.3+ lakh

Health consultations provided through Mobile Medical Units (MMUs), Static Medical Units (SMUs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs)

One Stop Breast clinic launched at Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital

51,000

High-risk cases detected through the ASMAN app

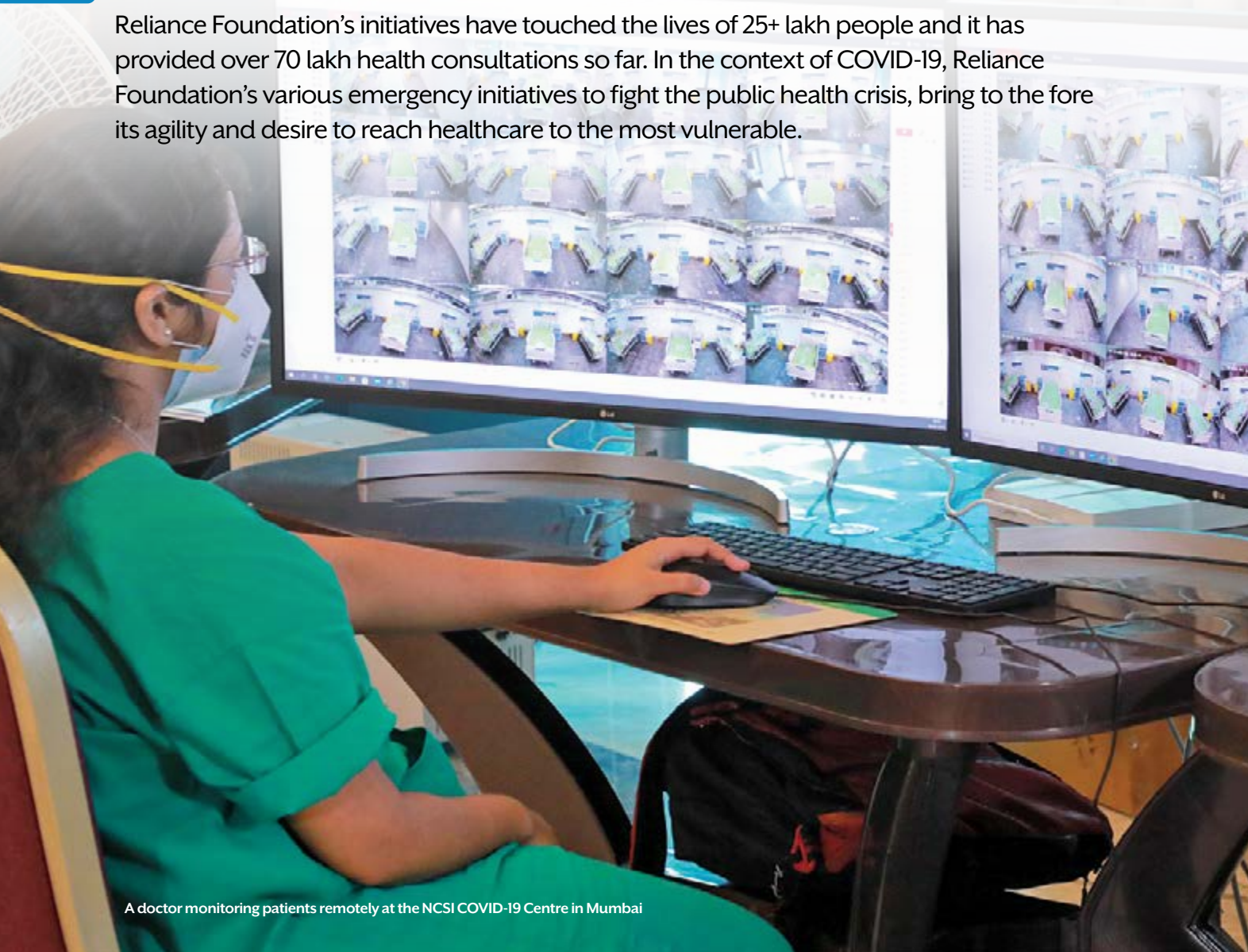
JCI accreditation received by Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital – the first Indian hospital to go through virtual accreditation

UN SDGs IMPACTED



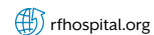
Strengthening access to healthcare

Reliance Foundation's initiatives have touched the lives of 25+ lakh people and it has provided over 70 lakh health consultations so far. In the context of COVID-19, Reliance Foundation's various emergency initiatives to fight the public health crisis, bring to the fore its agility and desire to reach healthcare to the most vulnerable.



A doctor monitoring patients remotely at the NCSI COVID-19 Centre in Mumbai

Providing world-class healthcare, strengthening public health



Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital and Research Centre (RFH) is a 345-bed multispecialty hospital in Mumbai that provides world-class healthcare to patients.

RFH strictly measures clinical outcomes and excels against the most stringent international benchmarks. A feedback mechanism has helped improve feedback across all services with a 87% patient satisfaction level through the year. The globally accepted principle of net promoter score for the year was maintained at 70% — higher than many renowned medical institutes. RFH's belief of care extends beyond treatment and aspires to achieve the best medical outcomes for all patients.

This was evident when two years ago, RFH graduated from a tertiary care hospital to a quaternary care institution with a 10% y-o-y growth in occupancy. All clinical departments and services reported growth.

The proliferation of the short-stay programmes helped RFH reduce average length of stay.

Despite increase in high-end surgeries, 393 short stay surgeries (less than 24 hours stay) were performed in FY 2020-21, including orthopaedics, obstetrics and gynaecology and others.

When physical access to healthcare became difficult during the lockdowns, RFH provided remote healthcare services. The Jio HealthHub, a telemedicine portal, connected patients to healthcare professionals for high-level advice right from their homes.

Through the year, RFH also conducted individual and group sessions on mental health for patients, hospital staff and the larger Reliance family, collectively impacting over 10,000 people. RFH is into creating one of India's finest academic programmes, which includes synergies with Reliance Life Science for research and innovation.

This is accredited by the National Board of Examination with courses across 13 specialties. It is guided by a Scientific Advisory Committee for Diplomate of National Board (DNB) students and supported by a cross-disciplinary global panel, with expertise in multiple disciplines.

The vision now is for a future ready hospital with investment in technology and capability building to keep pace with the fast changing healthcare ecosystem. In line with this vision, RFH is upgrading medical and non-medical capex, building efficiencies via automation, digitisation and implementing futuristic technologies.



One Stop Breast Clinic launch video
[See More Here](#)



The iconic Sir HN RF Hospital building in Mumbai



Jaison gets a new heart



Jaison Crasto, who contracted Coxsackievirus, was treated at the Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital

Navi Mumbai resident Jaison Crasto, 28, was working on a passenger cruise ship docked near Los Angeles when he first faced shortness of breath and cough during March 2020. He took the advice of one of the doctors on the ship and drank 2-3 litres of water a day, but this increased his breathing troubles.

After being taken to three different hospitals in LA, a battery of tests revealed that his heart was badly damaged.

In July, Jaison was taken to Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital in an unstable condition. Dr. Anvay Mulay, Director of Advanced Cardiac Surgery, found that Coxsackievirus, which usually enters the bloodstream from the stomach and causes permanent damage to the heart, had badly affected Jaison. Jaison was kept in the ICU and a pacemaker-like implant controlled his abnormal heart rate.

He still had no idea that he would need a heart transplant. But he did, and much to his surprise, 15 days later, the doctors at RFH told him that a heart that had come from Pune was waiting for him. This was the first inter-district heart transplant surgery undertaken during the pandemic. Two weeks after the surgery, on September 6, 2020, Jaison was discharged with a new heart.

Delivering healthcare, safety and hope on wheels

The Mobile Medical Units provide consultations to rural communities and in urban slums on diabetes and hypertension besides screening for malnutrition, anaemia and cancer prevention.

Reliance Foundation's **Public Health Outreach Program** is aimed at providing preventive and primary healthcare to underprivileged families across locations. During the year, over two lakh health consultations were provided across locations including Mumbai, Nagothane and Dahanu (Maharashtra), Shahdol (Madhya Pradesh), Jhajjar (Haryana) and Gazipur (Uttar Pradesh). Over 7,500 children (less than 5 years old) were screened for malnourishment and ~12,000 women and adolescent girls were screened for anaemia.

In Shahdol, Reliance Foundation's Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) has been steadily following up on women's healthcare needs through doorstep visits, providing them antenatal and prenatal care even during the lockdown. Regular health check-ups have been provided along with necessary medicines for malnourished and anaemic patients, as well as nutritional support with protein, calcium and iron supplements to malnourished children and women.

7,500+ young children

Screened for malnourishment in 2020-21

~12,000 women

Screened for anaemia in 2020-21

35,000 consultations

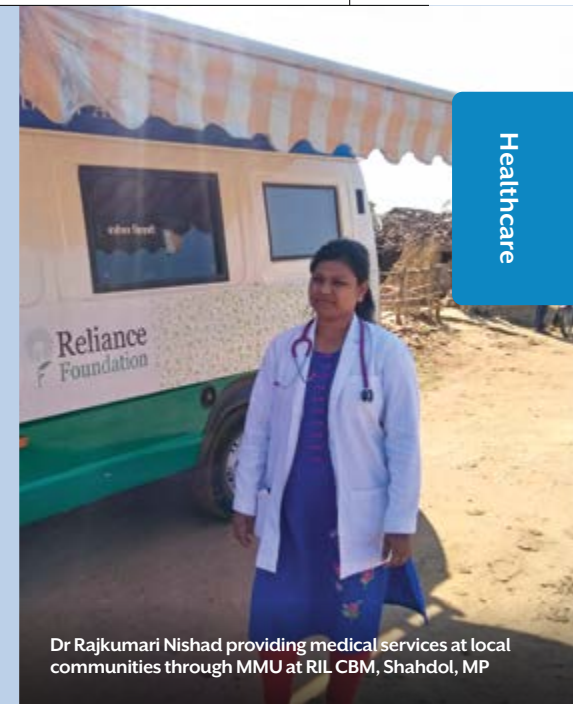
For 17,000+ people provided by Public Health Outreach Program in addition to COVID-19 care support

Healthcare and informed action

Over the past year-and-a-half, Reliance Foundation's front-line healthcare providers have amply proved how dissemination of proper knowledge, leadership and empathy can bring about a sea change in the health of any community.

Dr. Rajkumari Nishad from Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh handles 72 medical stations as part of Reliance Foundation's Mobile Medical Unit. Her everyday routine includes travelling to three villages and spending hours working with her community for raising awareness around safe hygiene practices, prenatal care and child malnutrition.

Her deep knowledge of local needs and the entire sector has directly contributed to her ability to ensure the well-being of school children, adults and Anganwadi beneficiaries. Dr. Nishad is a true champion, encouraging everyone in the community to approach her and her team members whenever any medical support is required. Under her leadership, many villages have come forward to seek quality healthcare and better knowledge of what will keep communities healthy.



Dr Rajkumari Nishad providing medical services at local communities through MMU at RIL CBM, Shahdol, MP



Poonam Baiga receiving medical support from an MMU at RIL CBM, Shahdol, MP

Ensuring safe deliveries during the pandemic

Poonam, a pregnant woman and her husband were migrant workers but when the pandemic struck, they returned to their native village, Katkona in Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh. As they were no longer working, they could not afford the medical expenses for Poonam.

The Reliance Foundation MMU team came to know about Poonam's condition and provided her with regular health check-ups, counselling, medicines and supplements. The team also followed up regularly to ensure her safety. Poonam had a healthy baby and continues to visit the MMU for nutrition advice and to take care of herself and her child.

The health outreach programme focuses on the twin problems of diabetes and hypertension besides undertaking screenings for the most common and

easily diagnosed cancers – that of the oral cavity, breast and cervical cancer.

The aim is to diagnose early in order to prevent end organ damage. An extensive anaemia and nutrition programme helps screen each visitor for anaemia and provide treatment for iron deficiency, and referral to others. Under the malnutrition programme, children under the age of 6 are screened and provided nutrition and counselling. Those diagnosed with malnutrition are treated accordingly.

During the past year, the health outreach programme carried out over 35,000 consultations of 17,000+ unique individuals in addition to providing constant COVID-19 care support. A majority of these patients were older adults and chronic diseases patients who need regular care.



Migrant labourer Poonam Baiga, MMU Shahdol
[See More Here](#)





Reliance Foundation operated MMUs in Shahdol, MP providing primary care and easing the pressure on local health infrastructure. The MMUs also raised community awareness on COVID-19 protocols such as social distancing, mask wearing and hand-washing

Community outreach

Free consultations, health awareness sessions, blood donation camps, wellness initiatives for children and the aged were carried out in FY 2020-21.

On special days, various community activities are undertaken by Reliance Foundation deploying various interactive methods to engage public attention and encourage positive health and health-seeking behaviours. For people living with HIV, over 19,500 specialised consultations were provided at Lodhivali and Hazira while 646 nutrition kits were distributed to HIV-positive children in Hazira and Jamnagar. The Reliance Anti-Retroviral Therapy Centre, run in collaboration with National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) and Maharashtra State AIDS Control Society at the Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital in Lodhivali, counselled over 10,000 people and provided free consultations to 4,373 people with HIV/AIDS.

On World Menstrual Hygiene Day (May 28, 2020) and International Women's Day (March 8, 2021) various women health and wellness initiatives were held. In Nagothane, 200 adolescent girls and SHG members were advised on menstrual hygiene, while in Dahej, a pocket-book in Gujarati was distributed to over 3,000 women and girls by Seva Rural in collaboration with UNICEF.

Reliance Foundation also conducted awareness programmes in Maharashtra for 300 women and 80 young people on common cancers.

Under its rehabilitation work, Reliance Foundation also provided financial assistance to the elderly, abandoned children and impoverished families of the Yanam Old Age Home in Puducherry. It assisted in holding a subsidised feeding programme for 2,000 (per day) aged people and people in need in Yanam and neighbouring villages through a mobile food truck.

Reliance Foundation provided masks and soaps apart from rice and vegetable kits to 40,000 families and sanitisers to 20,000 people in the neighbourhood of Yanam.

19,500 specialised consultations

For people with HIV in Lodhivali and Hazira

40,000 families

Received essentials kits in Yanam

Reliance Foundation's Drishti



The RF Drishti programme enabled students to express the India of their dreams through paintings

Reliance Foundation has helped improve and restore the vision of people from underprivileged segments of society through its Drishti programme.

In partnership with the National Association for the Blind (NAB), Aravind Eye Care and Sankara Eye Foundation, Drishti has supported 19,500+ corneal transplants since 2003, with 207 corneal transplants conducted in FY 2020-21.

The annual Drishti Art and Essay Competition for children and grandchildren of Reliance employees was conducted virtually with ~4,000 participants.

The international Hindi Braille newspaper, Reliance Drishti, published in association with NAB and a Braille table calendar for the visually impaired, reaches readers across India and 15 other countries. Circulation of the newspaper was halted during the lockdown and reactivated in November 2020 with a limited edition of 1,620 copies. Since then, efforts are on to gradually increase circulation.

At the community level, vision screening camps and mobile eye clinics are conducted regularly across plant locations. There have been 1.6 lakh consultations since inception and 14,000+ individuals have been detected with refractive error and provided spectacles.

1.6 lakh eye consultations

Conducted since inception

14,000+ individuals

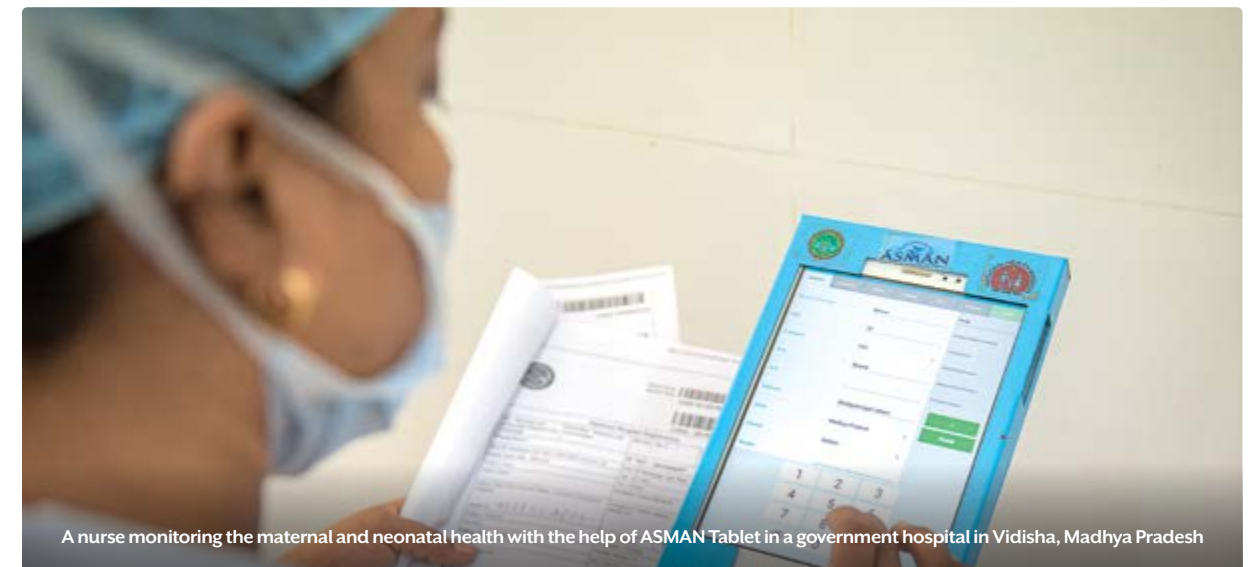
Have been detected with refractive errors since inception and provided spectacles

Blood donation drives

During the year, Reliance Foundation organised blood donation camps in two districts of Maharashtra that brought together over 200 community members. In addition to it, support was provided to several organisations, including the Indian Medical Association, Rotary Blood Bank, Surat Raktadan Kendra & Research, Rotary Noida Research and Social and the Voluntary Health Services. Across these places, Reliance conducted a total of 95 blood donation camps during FY 2020-21, leading to the collection of 45,260 units of blood for 73,700 beneficiaries.

45,260 units of blood

Collected for 73,700 beneficiaries across 95 blood donation camps during FY 2020-21



A nurse monitoring the maternal and neonatal health with the help of ASMAN Tablet in a government hospital in Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh

ASMAN – Technology to monitor maternal and neonatal health

A large percentage of maternal and neonatal mortality can be traced back to the critical period during child delivery. Alliance for Saving Mothers and Newborns (ASMAN) is an innovative facility-based decision and monitoring tool that helps bring down the mortality rate. This award-winning app enables healthcare workers to provide high quality care during the crucial 48-60-hour period around childbirth.

This unique and relevant health initiative of Reliance Foundation, undertaken in collaboration with Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, MSD for Mothers, Tata Trusts and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), is a perfect example of creating social impact by leveraging technology. The project, implemented in 81 government health facilities across eight districts in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan that face high delivery load, has helped over 7+ lakh mothers and newborns since its inception in 2015.

During 2020-21, the app registered over 1.36 lakh mothers, detecting 51,000 high risk cases. During the year of the pandemic, the programme team built the capacities of over 900 healthcare providers and extended remote support to the intervention facilities. COVID-19 guidelines were also built into the app for the front-end workforce.



ASMAN has won Special Jury Mention Award under the Excellence in Social Initiative category during the annual Healthcare Excellence Awards of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in September 2020.

7+ lakh mothers and their newborns

Helped by ASMAN since 2015

1.36+ lakh mothers

Registered on the app in 2020

Through these healthcare initiatives, Reliance Foundation aims to support the nation with state-of-the-art health infrastructure along with an array of primary to tertiary health services for wider public access to healthcare and towards improved public health.



Reliance Foundation School student attending online class in the COVID-19 pandemic

Education

Education is at the heart of Reliance Foundation's vision for India. Education has the power to create capable, imaginative, enterprising, self-reliant young leaders who can develop solutions for contemporary challenges.

Reliance Foundation aims to accelerate India's educational quotient by developing world-class institutions and initiatives that transform and strengthen the country's education system. It seeks to nurture and propel India's youth and future global leaders to engage with the challenges facing India while ensuring equitable access to education.

Key highlights of FY 2020-21

Launched Reliance Foundation Scholarships in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Sciences

50,000

Fresh midday meals daily capacity at the 2,965 sq m state-of-the-art kitchen for Jamnagar and 52 neighbouring villages

Jio Institute

Ready to commence academic sessions soon

4,100 hours

Of training was imparted to 763 teachers and 116 non-teaching staff

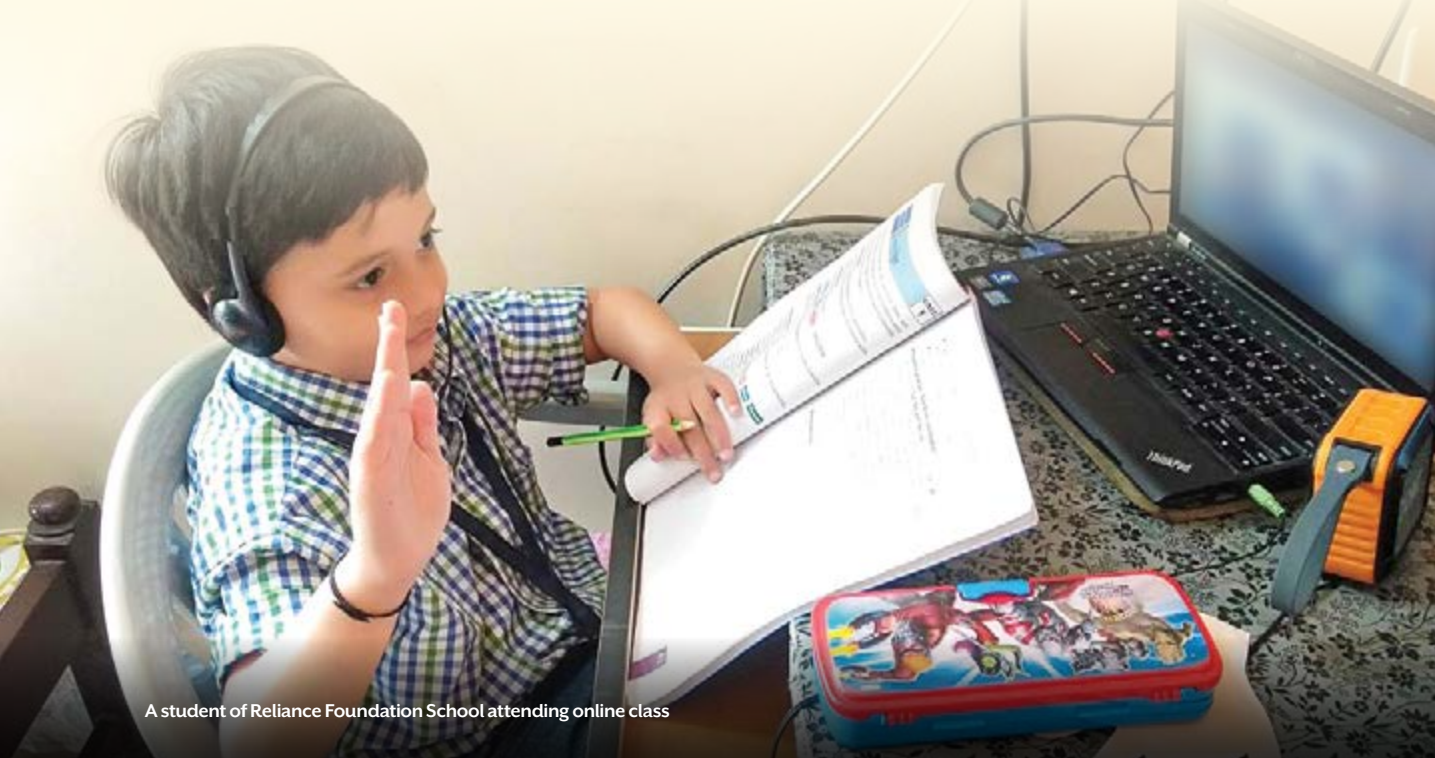
UN SDGs IMPACTED



Certain images in this section were taken before March 2020

Support through every stage

During FY 2020-21, when the pandemic disrupted education, Reliance Foundation continued to equip and invest in India's children and youth during these challenging times. From supporting early childhood education and development, to school education and higher education, Reliance Foundation provided support through scholarships, amenities and efforts to bridge the gap with an equity focus.



A student of Reliance Foundation School attending online class

Each year, Reliance Foundation provides high quality education to over 14,000 students in India through Reliance Foundation Schools. This year, the schools swiftly pivoted to digital learning in order to adapt to the need for remote classes for a homebound student community in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Reliance Foundation also nurtures excellence in teaching and during the year, as always, it supported teachers through its premier teaching awards, which went completely digital this year.

The Dhirubhai Ambani Scholarships (DAS) have supported 12,776 students to pursue secondary education of their choice since its inception in 1996. This year, Reliance Foundation Scholarships were launched in January 2021 to support India's brightest students in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Sciences – advanced technologies that are going to play a crucial role in India's technology-driven growth. Reliance Foundation also supported 15 NGOs working at the grassroots through the Education and Sports for All Initiative.

In parallel, Jio Institute was set up over FY 2020-21, and will be ready to commence academic sessions soon, creating a new ecosystem of cutting-edge research and innovation. The Jio Institute will be a world-class, multi-disciplinary, higher education and research institution in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra.



14,000+ students

Benefitted through high quality education provided by Reliance Foundation Schools, this year

Dhirubhai Ambani International School (DAIS)



DAIS provided students a seamless learning experience through virtual schooling through the pandemic.

The Dhirubhai Ambani International School (DAIS) is a world-class institution with ICSE, IGCSE, and IB Diploma curricula and is a member of the Cambridge International Primary Programme. It educates ~1,090 children every year, with about 158 teachers experienced in national and international curricula. In IB Diploma Examinations for the year, four students earned the perfect score of 45 and the School's average score was 39.8 points.

Virtual School @ DAIS

In light of the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic, DAIS did everything possible to give students a seamless learning experience, launching virtual schooling in April 2020. Teachers focused on various innovative pedagogical innovations, including differentiated learning instruction to make the virtual school experience effective and enjoyable. The school also successfully conducted assessment and evaluation with appropriate solutions and implemented its digital library plan. A number of physical education and co-curricular activities, community service and other initiatives were conducted virtually to give students a seamless learning experience. The school also carried out programmes under school-parent partnership.

Key achievements of DAIS: FY 2020-21

Ranked #1 International School in India by Education World for the eighth consecutive year (from 2013)

DAIS ranked among the Top 10 IB schools globally in 2020

The IB Diploma graduates of 2020 earned admission to 23 of the top 35 universities worldwide

During the year, students won 550 awards in various co-scholastic, sporting and co-curricular events at the state, national and international levels



Giving back to the Community

Community service is an important part of DAIS education, aiming to develop students as active and positive contributors to the community.

This year our students have offered online service activities through MS Teams. As part of the 'Service' aspect of the IB CAS (Creativity, Activity, and Service) programme, our Class II students undertook an online project of offering extracurricular activities for the students of Birsa Munda High School in Jharkhand, where most of the children belong to the tribal communities.

Through this project, our students could extend numerous opportunities to these tribal children to realise their dreams. This project has helped our students enhance their communication and leadership skills.



The virtual platform enabled our students to reach out to the children in remote villages, creating opportunities for them in various curricular and co-curricular activities. For DAIS students, this initiative provided a valuable learning experience and an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the community.

Sreeraman Ramanathan
CAS Co-ordinator, DAIS



The CAS project at Birsa Munda High School was a gratifying experience and expanded the scope of remote learning beyond our expectations. The opportunity to smile with the kids every week by engaging with them in various activities was a unique and memorable experience.

Kareena Shankta
Class II Student, DAIS

Reliance Foundation Schools



To equip teachers for virtual school during the pandemic, 4,100 hours of training was imparted to 763 teachers and 116 non-teaching staff of Reliance Foundation Schools on technology platforms.

There are 13 Reliance Foundation Schools in Jamnagar, Surat, Vadodara, Dahej, Lodhivali, Nagothane, Mouda and Koparkhairane that impart quality education to 14,000+ children annually.

The schools offer education from kindergarten to Class 12, and are affiliated to CBSE, Gujarat State Board and Maharashtra State Board.

In April 2020, Reliance Foundation Schools transitioned to virtual teaching and learning mode in response to the challenge of continuing to provide quality education for students during the pandemic.

During FY 2020-21, 763 teachers and 116 non-teaching staff were trained to use technology platforms in multiple sessions aggregating 4,100 training hours. Digital resources were curated and made available to all teachers and students through the school digital library.

With their focus on holistic development, the schools conducted academics and co-curricular activities virtually. Special emphasis was placed on the physical and mental well-being of students and the schools held online counselling sessions to ensure that.

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

Key achievements of Reliance Foundation Schools for FY 2020-21

- Three international awards, 57 national awards and 49 awards at zonal and state level at various events
- Reliance Foundation School Koparkhairane selected to participate in India's 1st Virtual Toy Fair 2021, organised by the Ministry of Textiles and Ministry of Education (February 27-March 2, 2021)
- Three teams of Reliance Foundation School Koparkhairane selected to participate in the Grand Finale of Toycathon 2021, an initiative of the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell
- In the 2020 CENTA Teaching Professionals' Olympiad (TPO), 24 Reliance Foundation School teachers qualified as rank holders
- Reliance Foundation School Koparkhairane was ranked #2 Best Co-Educational School in Navi Mumbai in the Education World India School Rankings

44% students of Reliance Foundation Schools secured 90% and above

in the CBSE Class 10 Board exams in 2020

41% students scored above 90%

in CBSE Class 12 Board exams in 2020

Reliance Foundation Digital Classrooms – upgrading schools

In partnership with the School Education Department of Madhya Pradesh, 75 schools in four districts in the state were upgraded in FY 2020-21.

The Reliance Foundation Digital Classrooms programme provides state-of-the-art digital education tools to government schools in remote locations of the country, to build capacities of teachers and improve the learning experience of students.

The programme has empowered 1,700+ teachers and impacted 64,000+ students in 244 schools across 34 districts in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Telangana.

700+ teachers trained, impacting ~22,000 students in 2020

Key achievements of the programme in FY 2020-21

In partnership with the Madhya Pradesh School Education Department, Reliance Foundation implemented the programme in 75 government schools across four districts

221 master trainers were virtually trained for training teachers in their respective schools, empowering 700+ teachers to facilitate digital learning for ~22,000 students

Nurturing young digital learners



Poonguzhali Ebinezer, a primary school teacher at KD Ambani Reliance Foundation School (KDARFS) in Jamnagar

Poonguzhali Ebinezer is a primary school teacher at KD Ambani Reliance Foundation School (KDARFS) in Jamnagar. She enjoys teaching and her classroom is always buzzing with energy. When the campus locked down, she was anxious, not so much about adapting to a new technology as about her students' response to virtual teaching.

Once the school shifted entirely to Microsoft Teams for education in March 2020, teachers' need for training emerged, even for a teacher like Poonguzhali, who is fairly conversant with the use of Microsoft Office Suite. A core task force was formed that included teacher master trainers and the school leadership team. This task force continually evaluated the situation and ensured extensive training for the 200 teachers of KDARFS.

Reliance Foundation lays significant emphasis on leveraging technology for developmental solutions. Today, all KDARFS teachers are adept at using several platforms – Microsoft Teams, Exam.net and Adobe Spark.



Teachers are worried about us, so they regularly teach us eye exercises and correct postures of sitting.

Bhavi B Soni
Student, Class 4



My main concern about online teaching was the lack of direct interaction with my students and how it would affect diverse learners, as every child has a unique way of receiving the information.

Poonguzhali Ebinezer
Primary school teacher, KDARFS, Jamnagar

Most encouraging has been students' response to the digital transformation. They were intrigued by the platforms and happy to explore the possibilities. They were also quick to sense the love and care of teachers and connected with them online just as they would in the physical classroom.



Our teachers truly gave their all in this difficult time. They learnt how to use a completely new way of teaching while they managed their own health and the welfare of their families. We understand how difficult it must have been to teach under the watchful eyes of parents who often listened in. But they learnt and quickly adapted, ensuring students also understood the new system.

Bhavin and Miral Soni
Bhavi's Parents

Our commitment to educate



Ayush Sameer Pingale with his family

Ayush Sameer Pingale is a 13-year-old, Class 8 student at Reliance Foundation School, Nagothane, Maharashtra. When the pandemic forced the school to close the campus, Ayush's schooling stopped because his family could not afford a second device. "Ayush missed classes for several days and we couldn't do anything at that time", says his teacher Parvin Pathan. Reliance Foundation gathered data on all such students in the system and decided to rectify the situation.

Ayush was provided a Jio smartphone and data connectivity to join the virtual school on Microsoft

Teams. Recordings of the classes he had missed were made available to him along with virtual support of his teachers. Young Ayush understands the opportunity he has received, "This initiative has empowered the poorest of the poor to avail the facility of online classes and get educated."

Sensitive to such needs, Reliance Foundation continues to work towards the vision to build an inclusive India, committed to bringing change in the lives of people from marginalised and vulnerable communities by empowering them.

Reliance Foundation Teacher Awards: recognising educators

The Reliance Foundation Teacher Awards (RFTA) was instituted to recognise India's teachers and motivate them to strive for excellence. In FY 2020-21, Reliance Foundation Teacher Awards ceremony was held virtually to recognise 1,000 teachers.

The award is conferred on the top 1,000 teachers who excel in the Teaching Professionals' Olympiad (TPO) organised by the Centre for Teacher Accreditation (CENTA).

The event was held virtually on October 5, 2020, during which the keynote address was delivered by Dr. Leena Wadia, Senior Fellow at the Observer Research Foundation and Member, Drafting Committee National Education Policy 2019. This was followed by felicitation of the RFTA 2019 winners and launch of RFTA and CENTA Teaching Professionals' Olympiad 2020. The TPO 2020 edition was conducted online over two rounds, with ~7,500 teachers.

~33,000 teachers

Impacted by Reliance Foundation's support of CENTA TPO over the past three editions

1,000 teachers

Awarded through RF Teacher Awards through CENTA TPO in 2020

Support towards mainstreaming students and children

Reliance undertakes various efforts around its plant locations to encourage education. This year, due to safety norms, plant locations continued education initiatives through digital platforms.

Reliance Foundation has been working towards reducing dropouts and absenteeism, and increasing learning outcomes.

In Shahdol (Madhya Pradesh) and Jhajjar (Haryana), students were provided coaching to prepare for competitive examinations in order to join reputed schools such as Jawahar Navodaya and Gyanodaya. Online education platforms

supported coaching for 150 students in Shahdol, 98 students in Jhajjar and 100 dropout students in Jamnagar.

In Nagothane (Maharashtra), Reliance connected online with youth for capacity building and skill enhancement. WhatsApp sessions provided guidance on career, educational scholarships and government schemes in villages.



A meritorious student felicitated by providing educational materials

~2,500 students

Benefited by education materials distributed by Reliance



RF Nandghar in Dandulfalia, Gujarat during its inauguration

Sprucing up Anganwadis

Reliance Foundation supports Anganwadis across rural India, boosting their infrastructure and providing educational toys and supplies. Last year, Reliance Foundation undertook renovation of 26 centres in Silvassa, Gujarat. Currently, eight Anganwadis are under renovation while 18 have been completed and renamed Nandghar.

Over the next year, there are plans to refurbish a further 100 centres in Maharashtra, benefiting 3,000 children, teachers and parents, besides helping in the training, capacity development and mentorship of Anganwadi workers. This will help provide children with a solid foundation for lifelong learning and well-being, while delivering nutrition and healthcare services.

18 Anganwadis

Renovated in Silvassa in 2020

8 Anganwadis

Undergoing renovation



Jamnagar Municipal Corporation and the Akshaya Patra Foundation set up a state-of-the-art kitchen which was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Vijaybhai Rupani

Promoting wholesome education

Nutrition and healthcare are a part of Reliance Foundation's education initiatives. It partnered with the Jamnagar Municipal Corporation and the Akshaya Patra Foundation to set up a state-of-the-art kitchen in an area of 2,965 sq m, which was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Vijaybhai Rupani. The facility has the capacity to provide 50,000 fresh, hygienic, nutritious and appetising midday meals daily for Jamnagar and 52 neighbouring villages.

50,000 midday meals

Daily capacity of the facility

2,965 sq m state-of-the-art kitchen

Created in Jamnagar

Equitable access to quality education



Riyanbanu Garasiya



Bhavini Suthar

Inayatbhai Jasubhai Garasiya lost his job in March 2020 during the lockdown. The five-member family, already facing financial difficulties, could not buy a smartphone to continue the education of the two girls, students of Reliance School Gujarati Medium, Vadodara. The only phone, an analogous phone, belonged to Inayatbhai on which he informed the school about his children's inability to attend the online classes.

Once the school had shared the data on students who were unable to attend online school due to lack of devices, Reliance Foundation offered to provide the phones. Parents were invited to collect the devices from school, and that is how Inayatbhai's daughters, Riyanbanu and Aksha, started attending online school. Provided the support they needed, the girls stepped up their efforts too.

I have noticed a perceptible change in Riyanbanu ever since she received the phone. She attends school regularly and her performance has improved too. I feel so proud to be working for an organisation that ensures that education is not compromised and that no child is deprived of the opportunity to learn.

Bhavini Suthar
Riyanbanu's Teacher

Equitable access to quality education is an important tenet for Reliance Foundation and sharing of devices and data is a step towards it. Students and teachers have gained a sense of belonging and pride following the initiative.

With the phones and data provided by the school, my sister and I have been able to continue our education. We are grateful to be a part of the Reliance Foundation family.

Riyanbanu Garasiya
Student, Reliance School (Gujarati medium)



Jio Institute: inspiring the next generation of leaders

Jio Institute was set up over FY 2020-21, and will be ready to commence academic sessions soon. Throughout the year, the Institute held events bringing together national and international scholars and thought leaders.

A multi-disciplinary, research-focused higher education institution, the Jio Institute was set up as a 'Greenfield Institution of Eminence' under UGC (Institute of Eminence Deemed to be University) Regulations, 2017 as issued by the Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India.

Jio Institute aspires to prepare the next generation of leaders by setting a new benchmark as an exemplary, internationally reputed academic institution that promotes research, innovation and entrepreneurship. The Institute's Governing Council includes eminent persons from the academia, industry, policy think tanks, social sector and multifarious other fields. It is advised by a Global Advisory Council (GAC) of globally renowned scholars and thought leaders who provide the direction for programme development, research, innovation and entrepreneurship. Dr. Raghunath A. Mashelkar, Padma Vibhushan, National Research Professor and Former Director General, CSIR, Government of India is the founding Chancellor of Jio Institute. Dr. Dipak Jain, former Dean, Kellogg School of Management, USA; former Dean, INSEAD, France is the founding Vice Chancellor.

Two Post-graduate programmes in Digital Media and Marketing Communications (DM & MC) and Artificial Intelligence and Data Science (AI & DS) will be launched soon. Both the programmes will incorporate cutting-edge academic research and innovative pedagogy.

In addition to the Institute's AI programme, the 'Centre of AI for All' will promote advanced research in AI technologies and their application in national priority areas such as agriculture, education, environment and healthcare while encouraging inter-disciplinary themes.

Jio Institute's state-of-the art campus at Ulwe, Navi Mumbai, is spread across 52 acres with 360,000 sq ft of built up area constituting its schools of study. The campus structure is simple, modular, flexible, green, accessible and digital first.

Jio Institute has signed MoUs with the University of Toronto, Canada, University of Manchester, UK, University of California, San Diego, USA and Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. The collaborations will foster students and faculty exchange, joint research and projects. Jio Institute is also developing a Jio Digital Library that will provide access to quality information and resources with global content from leading institutions and be an epicentre of knowledge creation through collaboration.

Outreach activities during FY 2020-21

In order to promote an ecosystem of collaborative knowledge-sharing and research, Jio Institute has been actively conducting masterclasses, live events, symposiums and workshops, bringing thought leaders to further the development of the higher education ecosystem in India. Throughout FY 2020-21, a number of events were conducted with active participation from national and international academic and research institutions, industry, government and think tanks.

These included masterclasses and symposia delivered in the field of AI, Data Science, Digital Marketing, Data-driven Marketing, Branding, Consumer Behaviour, Higher Education, and Governance and others by eminent speakers from Ivy League colleges and top world universities. The outreach programmes were well received and provided an intention to develop Jio Institute as a world-class university in India.

Key speakers at Jio Institute events

Dr. Frank Mulhern

Associate Dean of Research and Executive Director of Academic Programs in San Francisco, Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University, USA

Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau

President Emeritus, Caltech; Former President, KAUST; Former Provost, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA

Dr. Jeffrey Sachs

Professor and Director, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University, USA

Dr. Michael Keller

Vice Provost, Academic Council, Stanford University Libraries, Stanford University, USA

Dr. Rick Levin

President Emeritus, Yale University, USA

Dr. Subra Suresh

President, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore

Scholars from Ivy League colleges and top universities across the world participated in multiple events at Jio Institute in FY 2020-21

Pandit Deendayal Energy University

Continued endowment of the PDEU University in FY 2020-21.

Established as a private University in 2007, Pandit Deendayal Energy University (formerly Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University) in Gandhinagar, the university offers programmes in science, technology, management and humanities.

It aims to broaden opportunities for students and professionals by complementing core subject knowledge and helping students make a mark on the global stage. Reliance Foundation contributes every year towards endowment of the PDEU University.

Launched New Reliance Foundation Scholarships in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Sciences

Launched in 2020-21, the Reliance Foundation Scholarships in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Sciences, aims to support India's brightest youth, who are uniquely positioned to sit at the forefront of India's technologically driven growth, to become the future leaders of tomorrow. The scholarship provides financial and mentoring support to exceptional undergraduate and postgraduate scholars. Through this scholarship, Reliance Foundation will identify, nurture and empower India's brightest youth, who have the passion and ability to develop AI and

other new technologies for the benefit of all Indians. The scholarships intend to provide an enabling environment for the selected scholars to reach their full potential and are awarded following a rigorous selection process.

Up to 40 undergraduate and 40 postgraduate students

To benefit from the scholarship

Dhirubhai Ambani Scholarship

In accordance with Late Shri Dhirubhai Ambani's belief that the nation's best way to ensure progress is to invest in its youth, the Dhirubhai Ambani Scholarship (DAS) was initiated in 1996.

DAS encourages and assists meritorious students to pursue higher education and enhance the human resource potential of the country. The scholarships are awarded on a merit-cum-means basis to outstanding students from families of limited means to pursue undergraduate education in any stream of their choice.

Since its inception in 1996, the scholarship has supported 12,776 students on a pan-India level, including 50% female scholars and 20% specially-abled students.

Currently, the scholarship is supporting 731 students until they finish their undergraduate courses. The programme has partnered with 27 State Boards, the CBSE Board, schools and junior colleges to identify top-ranking students for the scholarship.

731 students

Currently supported by the programme across India

50%

Female scholars

12,776 students

Supported since inception

20%

Specially-abled scholars



Athletes receiving track training at the Reliance Foundation Odisha High Performance Centre

Sports for Development

UN SDGs IMPACTED



Reliance Foundation Sports for Development initiatives aim to leverage sports to create new growth opportunities for the children and youth of India. At the core of RF's efforts is the belief that when children learn and play, communities grow and countries prosper.

This is because of the profoundly enabling character of sports, which brings down social and cultural barriers while promoting physical and mental agility, character building, camaraderie and an environment of constant learning.

Leadership skills, teamwork, the passion to achieve and an unerring belief in one's abilities, all learnt on the field, have transformatory potential for both communities and the nation.

Key highlights of FY 2020-21

~250 coaches

Trained across 8 digital education workshops

4,000+

Participants to 30+ virtual sessions conducted on fitness, nutrition and well-being of athletes

Reliance Foundation Young Champs granted Two-Star Academy status by Asian Football Confederation

Supplementing growth through sports



RFYS Athletics Tournament 2019 held at Gachibowli Stadium in Hyderabad on 20 September 2019

Reliance Foundation undertakes a systematic process of identifying talent at the grassroots. Select children and youth are supported in their journey of learning, training, nutrition and health needs, besides exposure to national and international sports through competitions.

Reliance Foundation thus provides budding talent a platform to display and develop their sporting prowess. The aim is to build a nationwide sports culture for a fitter and more active India. Within India, Reliance Foundation collaborates with various national and state sports bodies to support training and competition besides contributing to infrastructure and equipment.



2.15 crore youth

Reached by Reliance Foundation since 2013



2+ lakh

Underprivileged children impacted through Education and Sports for All (ESA) programme since inception

Collaboration for sports promotion

Reliance Foundation believes in collaboration to achieve the nation's shared vision in sports excellence. Its aim is to create a world-class sporting ecosystem through partnerships with an array of international, national and state sports organisations. This also includes partnerships for scouting and developing sporting talent, improving training quality and infrastructure, with emphasis on health, nutrition and diet, besides addressing the overall needs of sportspersons. The collaboration helps create opportunities in the national and international sports arena, encouraging competitors to excel at the highest levels of global sport. The goal is to target sporting events all the way to the Olympics so as to ensure maximum exposure.

Overcoming the impediments of a pandemic

In FY 2020-21, while sporting activities were halted due to the coronavirus pandemic, Reliance Foundation increased emphasis on online skill enhancement and community engagement. Across its various sports verticals, Reliance Foundation provided training wherever it was feasible. It also offered a competitive environment amidst stringent safety protocols to help athletes better their national and international records.

Achievements of Reliance Foundation-supported athletes

In FY 2020-21, despite being constrained by the lack of competitions and training opportunities for a large part of the year, Reliance Foundation supported athletes put up encouraging performances

WEIGHTLIFTING



Deepak Lather won Gold at the Inter-services Championship, lifting a combined weight of 300 kg in the Men's 73 kg category. He established a meet record and earned the 'Best Lifter' award at the championship.



Achinta Sheuli won a Silver medal in the 73kg category at the Junior World Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent in May 2021.

BADMINTON



Dhruv Kapila improved his world ranking to a career best of 46 along with his doubles partner M.R. Arjun. He qualified for the Thailand Super 1000 and the All England Open 1000, two of the biggest tournaments on the international circuit.

ARCHERY



Ridhi Phor finished the four Olympic trials as the sixth best women's recurve archer in the country.

Reliance Foundation Youth Sports: revolutionising grassroots sports in India

rfyouthsports.com

The Reliance Foundation Youth Sports (RFYS) programme is currently in its fifth year. RFYS aims to make a transformational, long-term impact on the sporting ecosystem with a special focus on the school and college ecosystem. Through its initiatives, RFYS seeks to enable opportunities for kids across the country to chase their dreams of achieving sporting glory.

During FY 2020-21, RFYS conducted 8 Digital workshops in association with the Association of India Football Coaches (AIFC) and 30+ virtual sessions focused on fitness, nutrition, well-being of athletes and identifying opportunities for growth in football. These programmes were conducted for athletes and coaches in partnership with Indian Super League (ISL) clubs, National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), sports science specialists from the Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital and the UK Elite Sports Group (UKESG) among others, attracting more than 4,000 participants.

90+ lakh children across 10,000 schools and colleges

Reached through RFYS Programme since inception

250 coaches

Trained under the digital workshops



Coach Surmala Chanu of Nilmani English School, Imphal, briefing her team during halftime at the RFYS Football Tournament 2020 (National Finals Match, School Girls category) played between Nilmani English School, Imphal and St. Joseph's International School, Hisar at RCP Ground, Mumbai on 5 January 2020



“

The session was full of enthusiastic coaches and the level of interaction was very encouraging as they chose to be a part of the discussion rather than just listen to what the educator had to offer. With this kind of initiative, we will definitely see more coaches enrolling themselves to upgrade their knowledge and, in this process, we will have more coaches getting into grassroots level football. We can then reach out to more children and start training them early on.

Gumpe Rime
Former Indian footballer and goal-keeping coach

Teaching the teachers

RFYS-AIFC online workshops in FY 2020-21 got a thumbs-up from football coaches. Reliance Foundation Youth Sports (RFYS) conducted a series of four online workshops in association with the Association of Indian Football Coaches (AIFC) over the month of January 2021. Coaches from the East, South, North and West Zones, who participated in the sessions spread over three days, were provided the opportunity to upskill by qualified experts.

A total of 119 coaches from football institutes, schools and colleges, were provided deep insight into varied areas – expected code of conduct, how to impart life skills to their wards, intricacies of player scouting, planning training sessions and how to protect children under their watch from physical, emotional, psychological, sexual and financial exploitation and others.

Among the guest speakers, who shared their experience, were former international footballers such as Raman

Vijayan, and Naushad Moosa, Bengaluru FC manager. Thangboi Singto, Assistant Coach and Technical Director at Hyderabad FC, and Sanjoy Sen, Director of AIFC also conducted sessions. Among the experts who conducted the sessions were Gumpe Rime, a former Indian footballer and goal-keeping coach at RFYC academy in Navi Mumbai, and Shailesh Karkera, who has worked earlier with Dempo Sports Club as senior team manager and grassroots coordinator. The coaches believe that such sessions will be of great use to deepen the knowledge base of many young coaches.

With footballing activities on the ground yet to resume completely across India due to the ongoing challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the initiative was in line with RFYS's objective to have a positive impact on the ecosystem through skill enhancement of physical education (PE) teachers, infrastructure upgrades and community engagement programmes.



“

RFYS is one of the major stakeholders in Indian football today and being so widely involved in the grassroots, it will definitely be beneficial if we start having more such conversations to drive the development of Indian football.

Shailesh Karkera
Senior Team Manager

Reliance Foundation Young Champs: providing holistic learning in sports and academics

rfyoungchamps.org

Reliance Foundation Young Champs (RYFC) was conferred a Two-Star Academy status in FY 2020-21 by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC). RYFC is officially recognised as India's best residential football academy by the All India Football Federation (AIFF). The award of the Two-Star Academy status by AFC came on the back of the academy's established record in providing young sports talents one of the best sporting and coaching facilities. RYFC is one of the only two academies in India to get this recognition.

Each year, the academy offers full scholarships to the country's best aspiring football talents, selected through a pan-India scouting drive. With equal focus on academics and sports,

RYFC offers a holistic environment to youngsters to hone their skills amid world-class facilities and relentless training from accomplished staff and sports leaders.

In FY 2020-21, nine players from RYFC's first batch of graduates were offered professional contracts by ISL clubs on deals ranging from two to three years. During the year, in the absence of on-ground training, a comprehensive virtual programme was put in place that included virtual schooling and tuitions, apart from dedicated daily football-specific sessions. Support was also provided to children facing connectivity issues and financial assistance towards the larger vision of strengthening India's football ecosystem.

First time right: the star graduates of RYFC



The first batch of nine players who graduated from RYFC Academy signed contracts with leading Hero ISL clubs

Nine players, who graduated as the first batch from the RYFC Academy in Navi Mumbai, began their professional football career by signing contracts with leading Hero ISL clubs - Kerala Blasters FC, Chennaiyin FC, FC Goa, Bengaluru FC, Mumbai City FC, Hyderabad FC.

These players, who joined RYFC in 2015, when the academy was founded, are its first batch of students. With a vision to make India a footballing superpower, RYFC selects the best young talents through an all-India drive each year.

The role of Reliance Foundation Young Champs

RYFC offers talented athletes:

- Full scholarship at the academy, dedicating equal focus to academics and sports
- Training under the tutelage of experienced international and Indian coaches, and access to world-class facilities
- High-quality education at the nearby Reliance Foundation School, giving them a holistic learning environment together with additional support from dedicated departments of Sports Science and Sports Psychology



Nita M. Ambani
Founder and Chairperson,
Reliance Foundation

“

It is a matter of great pride and joy for us that our young champs from RYFC have embarked on their professional footballing journey with ISL. We started the academy in 2015 to provide a pathway for talented young players across India to build successful professional careers in the sport. These boys arrived at RYFC in their early teens and I am delighted that they step out today as highly skilled players, who have earned a place in the best football clubs in the country.

“In order to unlock the huge potential of Indian football, we need to create a world-class ecosystem. That has been our goal at RYFC over these last five years. Of course, these are still early days and a lot of hard work lies ahead for these boys at their respective clubs. But I am hopeful the training they have received in all aspects – from technical skills, physical fitness, and mental conditioning – will hold them in good stead. I am keeping my fingers crossed for their success!”

Reliance Foundation Jr NBA: promoting comprehensive youth development

In FY 2020-21, the programme hosted its first-ever live virtual clinic as part of a 12-week series. Launched in 2013, the Reliance Foundation Jr NBA Program is a youth development initiative that supports basketball at the grassroots, along with the core values upheld by the sport – teamwork, respect and determination – to positively impact the lives of boys and girls in India.

The 12-week virtual clinic series hosted by the programme featured NBA, WNBA and NBA G League players, legends and coaches, engaging participants in skill development, leadership and life skills sessions.

Some basketball legends who participated included NBA legends Sam Perkins and Nikoiz Tskitshvili; WNBA players Sydney Colson, Azura Stevens, Dearica Hamby and Ebony

Hoffman; and Roy Rana, Assistant Coach of the Sacramento Kings.

As part of the virtual programme, pre-recorded training videos and content were provided to PE teachers and coaches in the participating schools in order to enable year-round development of aspiring players through digital platforms.

**1.1 crore youth across
13,500 schools**

Trained under the Reliance Foundation Jr NBA Program

13,000+ instructors

Providing coaching under the Reliance Foundation Jr NBA Program worldwide

From Aizawl to Chicago



NBA Academy graduate Lalhnehpuia Chhakchhuak in action

Wonder boy Lalhnehpuia Chhakchhuak's remarkable journey

NBA Academy India graduate Lalhnehpuia Chhakchhuak recently enrolled at North Park University in Chicago, Illinois, for a college basketball programme in the US.

Lalhnehpuia Chhakchhuak was introduced to basketball at the tender age of 6. His mother had played for her school team in Kolkata and his father was an Executive Committee member of the Mizoram Basketball Association. As a 12-year-old, Lalhnehpuia represented Mizoram at the sub-junior nationals in Nashik. Winning the Most Valuable Player (MVP) award and a Gold medal at a state level inter-school tournament in 2016 and 2017, Lalhnehpuia clearly showed he was above-average.

The role of Reliance Foundation Jr. NBA Program

In 2018, Lalhnehpuia participated in the Reliance Foundation Jr. NBA Program in Aizawl. Scott Fleming, the Technical Director at NBA Academy India, was immediately impressed and invited him for tryouts, setting the foundation of his career.

“

I remember the Reliance Foundation Jr. NBA was held at an indoor stadium. When I went there, there were different stations where the coach could see our skills. I could see where I had to make improvements in my game and that experience was really important for me. It was a stepping stone for me to be a part of the NBA Academy, India.

Lalhnehpuia Chhakchhuak
Sportsperson

At 18, Lalhnehpuia has reached an exciting pit stop in his journey. He is the only the sixth male athlete from the NBA Academy India to opt for such a programme in the US. The 6'1" Guard represented NBA Academy India at the 2018 and 2019 NBA Academy Games in Australia and the US, respectively, as well as the Point Loma Nazarene Team Camp in San Diego in 2019.

“

We are certainly excited to add a player like Lalhnehpuia to our squad. In particular, we like his size at the guard position and as he continues to get stronger, we can envision how he can become an important piece within our Programme. His ability to play at the speed and pace he prefers to play at is an important characteristic for a guard to have.

Thomas Slyder
North Park Head Coach

Rural Sports: mainstreaming communities through sports

Despite the challenges thrown in its way by the pandemic, Reliance Foundation supported the organisation of the iconic Chirbatiya marathon amid strict COVID-19 protocols.

Chirbatiya Winter Hill Half-Marathon

During FY 2020-21, there was little opportunity for rural sports given the circumstances created by the pandemic. Nevertheless, Reliance Foundation ensured that Chirbatiya, a popular Monsoon Hill Half-Marathon, was held amid strict COVID-19 safety protocols.

The third edition of this rural marathon in Chirbatiya, Uttarakhand held on March 14, 2021, had the theme "Run for Hills". At 2,284 metres above sea level, this is one of the world's few high-altitude marathons. However, that's not the only thing that makes it unique. Chirbatiya has been a focus area of Reliance Foundation's Rural Transformation interventions since 2014; and this was the community members' idea to encourage sports and drive tourism in the region.

Ever since, the enthusiasm shown by the community, especially by women, has been a testimony to the power of sports in driving local engagement. In 2021, the event was held in collaboration with district authorities and other institutions, with COVID-19 precautions in place. The event has now become an indispensable part of the annual community calendar.



Community participating in the Chirbatiya Winter Hill Half-Marathon on 14 March 2021 in Uttarakhand.

Education and Sports for All: providing access to quality education and sports



Crowd cheering during the pre-season match between Sacramento Kings and Indiana Pacers in the first ever NBA India Games 2019 at NSCI in Mumbai, India on 4 October 2019

The Education and Sports for All (ESA) initiative was launched in 2010 to provide children access to quality education and sports in India. The ESA programme supports various initiatives through strategic partnerships with NGOs to provide holistic development and equal opportunities in education and sports to children. It also seeks to provide quality education through innovations. The ESA programme has positively impacted the lives of 2+ lakh underprivileged children since its inception.

During the pandemic in FY 2020-21, Reliance Foundation provided support to 15 NGOs that demonstrate a strong commitment to learning and development outcomes amongst children in order to fill gaps in education and youth sports in India. Reliance Foundation also arranges a special celebration for underprivileged children in Mumbai every year during Christmas. Together, this year, 1,500 children across Mumbai shared and spread the spirit of the festive season.

2+ lakh children from families of limited means

Positively impacted since the inception of the ESA programme

Olympics preparation: supporting sportspersons to reach for the sky

In addition to supporting preparation for international sporting events, in FY 2020-21, Reliance Foundation provided specialised coaching to strengthen India's Olympic aspirations in designated sports. To improve India's prospects at the Olympic Games and other prestigious international sporting events, Reliance Foundation has been supporting the efforts of athletes, coaches, the government, the Indian Olympic Association and National Sports Federations. Currently, it is supporting 11 athletes across archery, athletics, badminton and weightlifting and working closely with the Athletics Federation of India to help provide national athletes with useful knowledge in sports science and medicine with the help of experts stationed with them across the country. Working

in close partnership with the team at the Sir H N Reliance Hospital, the programme aims to consistently improve the performance of athletes so that they can bring glory to the country.

During the year, switching to additional online support, athletes supported by Reliance Foundation attended weekly education seminars on various topics including anti-doping, psychology, nutrition, money management and email etiquette. Athletes were also able to access specialised content on training, nutrition and psychology launched on various RFYS social media platforms.

Sparkling on the world stage



Achinta Sheuli with his Silver medal from Junior World Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent in May 2021

Reliance Foundation-supported Achinta Sheuli won a Silver medal in the 73kg category at the Junior World Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent in May 2021. He has now set his sights on winning Gold at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

Achinta hails from a modest background and acknowledges the enormous impact Reliance Foundation has had in his sporting career through his inclusion in the newly introduced Elite Athlete Scholarship Programme of RFYS. Before his performance at Tashkent, 19-year-old Achinta had successfully lifted a combined weight of 313 kg in the Snatch and Clean & Jerk categories, setting national records in both categories.

The role of Reliance Foundation

Reliance Foundation provided him with

- Financial support towards equipment, competitions, training and nutrition



“

Achinta is very sincere and committed to the sport. He is ambitious and wants to achieve big things for the country. I also find him to be very disciplined, both on and off the field. He is a quick learner and is able to grasp suggestions and implement them on the platform both during training and in competitions.

Vijay Sharma
National coach

“

The biggest challenge in weightlifting is to remain free of injury and make sure your nutrition is handled in a scientific manner. I am extremely grateful to the Sports Science and Medicine team from the Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital for keeping me fit and free of injury.

Achinta Sheuli
Sportsperson

- Dedicated sports physiotherapist and sports science specialists
- Support of specialists from the Rehabilitation and Sports Science Medicine team at the Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital in Mumbai, who focused on nutrition, strength building and conditioning, psychology and data management and analysis

Achinta, armed with a proven track record and a steely resolve to succeed, is now identifying his short and long-term goals. He wants to follow in the footsteps of his heroes – five-time World Champion Lü Xiaojun from China, Olympic and World Champion Sohrab Moradi from Iran and India's very own Olympic and World Champion, Mirabai Chanu.

His success earned him a job in the Indian Army and Achinta is determined to lift his family out of poverty. The challenges remain, but Achinta is now a sportsperson of international repute, backed by a support system that helped him realise the dreams that he once thought impossible.



Reliance Foundation Odisha Athletics High Performance Centre: aiming to be one of Asia's best

In FY 2020-21, the High Performance Centre (HPC) ensured training and a competitive atmosphere for athletes including Performance Graded Races, while maintaining strict COVID-19 protocols. The HPC in Athletics set up at the Kalinga stadium in Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with the Odisha Government, aims to be one of the most reputed sporting centres in Asia by 2024. At present, 29 athletes are being trained at the academy.

In FY 2020-21, the HPC ensured that the athletes were able to receive training while ensuring all safety protocols. Sprint and middle-distance competitions were organised for athletes by the HPC in the uniquely designed concept of Performance Graded Races. Unlike the usual practice, races at these competitions were graded entirely on timings achieved by the

athletes, irrespective of their age or sex. Athletes from the HPC registered an impressive 100 personal best timings over the four-competition series.

At the Junior National Championships in Guwahati, the first competition of the season, athletes from the HPC returned with three medals. Head Coach James Hillier and his team designed customised training programmes for each athlete depending on their specific needs.



SABITA'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Won the U-16 pentathlon Gold

At the Junior National Championships in Guntur, breaking the national record

Won Bronze in long jump

At the Reliance Foundation Youth Sports Championships in January 2020

Crossed 5.59 metres in long jump and completed the 80 m hurdles in 11.77 seconds, eclipsing her Personal Best (PB) records in both the events

At the Reliance Foundation Youth Sports Championships in January 2020



Sabita Toppo at Odisha HPC

“

My main target for this year is to compete at the Asian U-18 Championships for India. I am extremely happy with the training I am getting at the HPC.

I have improved immeasurably at everything including speed, strength and technique that wouldn't have been possible without the expert training I have received here and without it, I wouldn't have been able to win medals at these championships.

Sabita Toppo

An upcoming young athlete

During the National Junior Athletics Championships 2021, Sabita Toppo beat her personal best record in long jump and 80 m hurdles. She is a standout performer from the Reliance Foundation Odisha Athletics HPC Academy, making waves in athletics at the tender age of 15.

Sabita has been a natural athlete since school, winning several competitions, and earning a place at the State Sports Hostel in Sundergarh, Odisha. Her abilities also secured her a place at the Reliance Foundation Odisha Athletics HPC, where she began training under the guidance of expert coaches from August 2019.

Sabita delivered top-notch performances at the Sprint and Middle-Distance Fest at HPC

in Bhubaneswar in 2020. She was named the best female performer at the event, recording four personal bests in the six races she participated in.

The role of Reliance Foundation Odisha Athletics High-Performance Centre

The HPC provided Sabita with world-class coaching and all-round training to boost her development. Her coaching staff at the HPC are helping her prepare for the heptathlon category from next season onwards. Reliance Foundation is proud to enable many young girls in sports like Sabita to fly high by providing them top-notch training and facilities.

“

Sabita loves to compete. She has a great ability to raise her level in competition, which is an essential quality to have. As Sabita is still a young developing athlete, her programme is based around multi-events and developing all of the key skills that are a prerequisite in an elite athlete. We are trying to ingrain good technique and although we want some success now, we are very much taking a long-term view with Sabita.

James Hillier
Head Coach, Reliance Foundation Odisha High Performance Centre

Reliance Foundation believes in the role of sports in supporting holistic development of youth. The Sports for Development initiatives aim to broaden participation and interest in sports, provide resources and opportunities for sportspersons to nurture their aspirations, with the vision of unwavering commitment, and representing India at the highest levels of global sport.



Food distribution by Reliance Foundation volunteers during the Uttarakhand flash floods

Disaster Response

UN SDGs IMPACTED



Backed by a unique topography and 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. In the midst of a raging COVID-19 pandemic in FY 2020-21, India was affected by natural disasters that ranged from supercyclones to floods. With a coastline of 8,041 kilometres, India is exposed to nearly 10% of the world's tropical cyclones. Frequent landslides, together with avalanches, are among the major hydro-geological hazards that affect 15% of the landmass.

The Disaster Risk Reduction in India Status Report 2020, says that between 1991 and 2005, repeated disasters reduced India's GDP by 2%. Disasters leave a longer-term impact because they impair lives and livelihoods apart from affecting people's ability to sustain themselves and their families. Given these factors, it is extremely important to reach the affected and rehabilitate displaced populations so that the long-term effects of disasters can be minimised.

Key highlights of FY 2020-21

10+ lakh

Provided early warning/post disaster advisories across seven states and two Union Territories

Reaching urgent care to the affected

Vasrambhai Solanki, President, Bhidiya Koli Samaj Boat Association, Gujarat, received forecast about Tauktae cyclone through the voice message service as well as the RFIS's Fisherman WhatsApp group

**16 states, 3 UTs
and 132 districts***

Covered under RF Disaster Response

**10+ lakh
individuals***

Reached through disaster relief
kits and support services

**20+ lakh
people***

Received disaster
response advisories

35+*
Cyclones and floods
responded to

*Since Inception

Reliance Foundation Disaster Response works specifically to assist communities to prepare, respond and recover from disasters across varied socio-economic-geographic conditions in the country.

The programme has an experienced team that proactively looks to mitigate disaster, minimise damage and protect lives and livelihoods. The work is carried out in collaboration with the government machinery and partners to reach early warning advisories and relief to affected communities along with rescue and rehabilitation support.

Reliance Foundation provides warning and life-protecting information, including evacuation alerts prior to disasters. Reliance Foundation also provides pre-disaster advisories to safeguard livelihoods including fishing vessels, crops, agri produce and livestock resources. In the aftermath of severe disasters, Reliance Foundation teams reach out to people in affected areas, distributing immediate relief items through an inclusive and transparent process.

The contents of the relief kits are customised according to the socio-cultural contexts of the region. Nutrition standards are also taken into consideration while preparing dry ration and ready-to-eat food materials.

Reliance Foundation has also been continuously building capacities of local communities, volunteers and networks in improving disaster response activities and leveraging technology in disaster risk management.

Providing disaster relief amidst the pandemic

Even as India grappled with the effect of COVID-19, multiple disasters struck the Indian landmass. Social distancing norms made it difficult to reach communities physically. However, overcoming this challenge, Reliance Foundation 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 public address campaigns on disaster preparedness and evacuation for at-risk coastal communities. Reliance Foundation also provided post-disaster advisories on plant protection and livestock management, and pre- and post-disaster support through cyclones, floods, landslides and pest attacks.

Disaster Relief Material



READY-TO-EAT FOOD MATERIALS



DRINKING WATER



DRY RATION



STAPLES



SANITATION MATERIALS



KITCHEN UTENSILS



SHELTER KITS

Using Information Technology to minimise disaster impact

Reliance Foundation Information Services have been supporting people before, during and after cyclones through Information Technology (IT).

With the help of audio bridge conferences, WhatsApp, voice SMS and other IT services, RF reaches a large number of people within a short time, minimising risk and impact and protecting livelihoods.

During FY 2020-21, these services reached 10+ lakh people, together with pre/post-cyclone advisories, in coordination with the Indian Meteorological Department, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), the Department of Fisheries, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, District Disaster Management Authority, local administration and community-based organisations.

Mitigating Cyclone Amphan's widespread impact

May 2020

The first super cyclone in the Bay of Bengal region since 1999, Cyclone Amphan hit the Sundarbans, which is home to 4 million people, and affected large parts of West Bengal and Odisha in India and south-west Bangladesh.

Reliance Foundation initiated daily pre-warning advisories from May 15 onwards, reaching 2.2 lakh people in the cyclone path.

These advisories helped in their safe evacuation and safeguarding their assets and livelihoods from pre/post-cyclone measures, thereby minimising the impact on lives, agriculture, livestock and fisheries. The Reliance Foundation toll-free helpline facility was available 24x7 to answer cyclone-related queries.

5,369 animals treated through 18 livestock treatment camps

By RF in partnership with Animal Resources Development Departments of Odisha and West Bengal

2.2 lakh

People reached through pre-warning advisories

2,000 queries

Resolved overall through 24x7 RF toll-free helpline number

 **~89% individuals**

Averted loss of livelihood due to Reliance Foundation's early warning advisories that helped people take precaution in time*

* (A June 2020 study in 11 districts of Odisha and 10 districts of West Bengal affected by Cyclone Amphan)



Early warning advisories being shared by Reliance Foundation in Nadia district, West Bengal



Ranjan Kumar from Khanamara, Odisha sharing weather advisories (or information) with fellow farmers

Early warnings helped during Cyclone Amphan

I regularly receive information through voice messages and helpline suggestions from Reliance Foundation.

I always trust IMD weather advisory shared by Reliance Foundation because it has been accurate and useful to me in the past as well.

So, I prefer to use this valuable information of IMD through Reliance Foundation's various IT platforms.

I also share this information with my fellow farmers. Before Amphan cyclone, we were sensitised about Amphan forecasting, warning and advisories provided by IMD and it helped us a lot.

Due to the timely and accurate information received, we were able to save our lives, save our domestic animals as well as farm produces.

Based on early warning information of IMD shared by Reliance Foundation, 55 individuals from our region were shifted safely from thatched houses to nearby school building along with 12 animals. Seven farming families were able to save their harvested brinjal by storing them in safe place before the cyclone. I was also able to save my harvested paddy crop and stored it at a safe place. I am very thankful to IMD and Reliance Foundation for providing correct and timely information and helping us.

Ranjan Kumar Swain
Khanamara Village, Kandrapara district, Odisha

Community outreach to counter Cyclone Nivar

November 2020

Before Cyclone Nivar made landfall, Reliance Foundation provided pre-cyclone advisories, which reached 1.52 lakh individuals.

The outreach extended to Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and the Union Territory of Puducherry. Of these, 25 advisories on livelihood, IMD warnings and post-cyclone advisories reached 81,958 individuals. Short videos on precautionary measures were uploaded onto the RF Information Services YouTube channel. 655 livestock units of 170 livestock owners were treated by RF in partnership with the Animal Husbandry Department.

1.52 lakh

People reached through pre-warning advisories

Safety alerts save lives and livestock during Cyclone Burevi

November - December 2020

Early warning advisories from Reliance Foundation reached 1.7+ lakh farmers and fisherfolk across 33 districts of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry before Cyclone Burevi hit.

After the cyclone, 66,000+ people were sensitised through post-cyclone advisories in 16 districts of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Reliance Foundation also provided advisories on agriculture, livestock health management and safety in the sea for fisherfolk. 750+ livestock units of 100+ livestock farmers were treated by RF in partnership with the Animal Husbandry Department of Tamil Nadu.

Advisories to protect livelihoods through Cyclone Nisarga

June 2020

In Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa, 3.36 lakh individuals received the Nisarga Cyclone alert (pre-disaster preparatory message); 2,500+ families received information on the potential impact.

This was the result of the disaster preparedness and evacuation campaign in Palghar, Raigad and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra. As many as 71,000+ farmers, livestock owners and fisherfolk received advisories on livelihood-related precautions and 110 fishing communities received advisories on measures to minimise impact.

3.36 lakh

People reached through pre-warning advisories

Managing flood impact through post-disaster advisories

Livelihood management in the aftermath of the Godavari floods

Reliance Foundation supported farming communities to safeguard crops in the aftermath of the August 2020 floods in the Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh. Ten virtual programmes were held with Krishi Vigyan Kendras, the Agriculture Department, and Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University.

Additionally, 20,217 individuals were provided information on crop disease management. Among the diseases were bacterial leaf blight for paddy, wilt in red gram, micro nutrient boron deficiency in vegetables, root rot in chillies and pink bollworm in cotton.

Reducing impact of locust attacks

Locusts, known to leave a trail of destruction, attacked India for the second year in a row, after a gap of 26 years. The infestation was particularly alarming since it included swarms of young locusts, which are more lethal because they have a longer life cycle. According to estimates, a one sq km long swarm may contain as many as 40 million locusts which can potentially consume as much food as 35,000 people.

The infestation spread out across Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh starting April 2020. Reliance Foundation swiftly worked with a vast network of knowledge partners to access and process information crucial to controlling the number of pests and thus reducing the impact of these attacks.

2.7+ lakh

People informed about measures to control pests

Supporting disaster response teams through the Uttarakhand floods

A sudden flooding of Dhaul Ganga, Rishi Ganga and Alaknanda rivers on February 14, 2021 caused breakdown of road and telecommunication and large-scale devastation in the mountainous terrain. The region consists of NTPC's Tapovan-Vishnugad Hydel Project and the Rishi Ganga Hydel Project. Scores of labourers were trapped in tunnels as waters rushed in. To support the rescue teams, Reliance Foundation set up community kitchens with an inter-agency group of NGOs – Alaknanda Ghaati Shilpi Federation and Jan Maitri Yuva Vikas Samiti Joshimat. Together, the group provided daily meals and refreshments to 250+ members of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police, National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force, Uttarakhand Police, the Army and Border Roads Organisation, apart from the relatives of missing persons and local workers. Reliance Foundation provided support throughout the search operations from February 14-26, 2021.

The Reliance Foundation team also collaborated with the defence forces to transport relief materials through a temporary trolley ropeway in order to reach flood-affected families across the river. The team distributed masks to ensure the safety of the rescue operation workers.

250+ members

Of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police, National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force, Uttarakhand Police, the Army and Border Roads Organisation etc., provided with daily meals and refreshments

Uttarakhand Disaster Response with Jio
See More Here



RF volunteers distributing food as response to the Uttarakhand floods in February 2021



Rituraj, using the temporary ropeway, to provide ration kits in Uttarakhand

Going beyond the call of duty

“During the Uttarakhand flood disaster in February 2021, we had a great challenge to deliver work on the ground. However, we took up the challenge and accomplished the mission. The memory of the smiles of those for whom we worked are still with us.

Rituraj
Uttarakhand

Rituraj, a member of the Reliance Foundation team, voluntarily agreed to travel on a temporary ropeway to provide 150 ration kits to the affected people, who were living in extremely difficult conditions in the flooded high altitude terrain in Uttarakhand. This was ample proof of his complete dedication to his work and his empathy for the community in need. Rituraj worked for more than a week with a partner NGO and supported them in cooking and serving people under the 'Community Kitchen' initiative of Reliance Foundation.

Due to Rituraj's efforts along with those of others, Reliance Foundation was able to complete the relief work in Uttarakhand in a systematic and disciplined manner. Hard working and committed, Rituraj is an example of many of those Reliance Foundation team members who go beyond the call of duty to serve those in need.



Supporting virtual training of first responders

Youth and local community members are the potential first responders in a crisis. Reliance Foundation is equipping volunteers from disaster-prone areas with the necessary knowledge and training to support affected communities.

This initiative is aimed at encouraging humanitarian leadership by creating a ready and capable pool of human resources to mitigate disaster with informed actions. In 2019, physical training sessions were provided to college students. However, during FY 2020-21, the focus was on digital training, with 29 webinars being held in 18 districts across 12 states. 716 youth volunteers affiliated to various colleges, Nehru Yuva Kendras, Cyclone Shelter Management Committees and young and active fisherfolk attended the virtual sessions.

As witnessed during the **Mission Anna Seva campaign**, these training sessions helped lay people become effective volunteers who efficiently distributed food and dry rations to communities in need. College students trained by Reliance Foundation also supported the hunger alleviation movement with their time and efforts.

In addition to the youth, 26 Pashu Sakhis or para-vets took part in training this year. The trainings focused on livestock health management in a post-flood situation when livestock are particularly vulnerable.



Lokesh, supporting his community by getting trained in disaster response in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh



Shradhanjali supporting RF's disaster relief work

A beacon of hope for her community

Twenty-three-year-old Shradhanjali Pattanaik from the disaster-prone village of Mukundapur in Bhadrak district, Odisha became a role model for her community by actively participating in disaster relief work as a Reliance Foundation youth volunteer.

Always actively involved in community efforts, Shradhanjali, however, had limited initial exposure to information on disaster management. She resolved to get the matter addressed and began attending the physical and virtual training programmes run by Reliance Foundation. Equipped with the requisite knowledge on how to help disaster-affected communities,

Shradhanjali supported hundreds of families through cyclones like Amphan, and Fani besides tackling the COVID-19 situation.

She also supported Reliance Foundation's Mission COVID Suraksha by distributing masks and spreading awareness among 600+ community members.

Shradhanjali supports Reliance Foundation's work on disseminating early warning advisories, awareness building and evacuating vulnerable communities from high-risk neighbourhoods, besides pitching in for rescue work and managing disaster relief shelters.

“I was able to understand and deepen my knowledge in disaster management basics, the importance of volunteering, roles and responsibilities of a volunteer, as well as build skills to identify local hazards and vulnerabilities, learn survival skills and basic life saving techniques including fire safety and first aid. This programme helped me contribute better during disasters.”

Shradhanjali
Mukundapur Village, Bhadrak district, Odisha



Sitalben from Jasdan, Rajkot, Gujarat in her shop

Other Initiatives

UN SDGs IMPACTED



Key highlights of FY 2020-21

WomenConnect Challenge India

Launched by Reliance Foundation with USAID

15,000+

People reached through Employee
Volunteering Programme with
8,000+ hours of volunteering

HerCircle

Launched, creating safe spaces
for women to learn, grow and
share

4,800+

Animals treated by Reliance
Veterinary Hospital in FY 2020-21

Special initiatives for women: bridging the divide

Gender disparity manifests itself in various forms, including in social norms and cultural stereotypes, apart from unequal access to infrastructure and services. Women from marginalised sections of society face further barriers to essential services, which makes their development journey a difficult one.

Reliance Foundation believes that empowerment of women is essential for sustainable development and supports women in actualising their potential and gaining agency over decisions that affect their lives. Empowered women mean a stronger and better India. Technological interventions focused specifically on empowerment can support women in becoming equal citizens in an increasingly digital post-COVID-19 world.

Through its programmes, such as WomenConnect Challenge India and Her Circle, Reliance Foundation is working in the space of “Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality”, promoting women’s leadership, financial inclusion, entrepreneurship, skilling programmes and solidarity. Reliance Foundation empowers and supports women to play a catalytic role in society, positioning them to achieve transformational economic, environmental and social changes.



Reliance Foundation and the USAID WomenConnect Challenge India

WomenConnect Challenge India, launched by Reliance Foundation and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), aims to identify and nurture innovative solutions to close the gender digital divide and empower women with access to technology.

Apart from identifying and supporting innovative solutions to empower women in India, the programme will facilitate women’s access to and use of digital technology for positive health, education and livelihood outcomes for themselves and their families. Under this initiative, Reliance Foundation will support 10 not-for-profit organisations with grants for a period of 12-18 months to implement their solutions across India.

10 NGOs

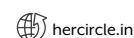
Will be awarded grants, for periods ranging from 12-18 months, to empower women in India by facilitating access to and use of digital technology

HerCircle platform

For women-centric content gained traction in FY 2020-21



Her Circle: a digital platform for women



A worldwide digital collective of women, Her Circle, was launched by Smt. Nita Mukesh Ambani on Women’s Day in 2021. This unique initiative synergises women’s power with the power of digital. Envisioned to be a worldwide digital collective of women — initially for Indian women — Her Circle will, in due course, be open to women from all over the globe. It is an all-encompassing content, social media and goal fulfilment platform that caters to the rapidly rising aspirations, ambitions, dreams and competencies of women from all social backgrounds.

Designed as a one-stop destination for engaging, women-related content, Her Circle provides women the space where they can share their life stories, provide inspiration, hope and resilience to others. It is private and safe, with an exclusive personal space devoted to medical and financial help. It also provides app-only trackers to inculcate and sustain the right habits like a supportive friend. Overall, HerCircle.in aims to accelerate women’s empowerment globally with a joyous and safe space for collaboration and mutual support.



Employee volunteering: engaging with children and youth through the pandemic

Activities in FY 2020-21, many of them run virtually, supported education and engagement of children and youth across India.



Reliance Foundation has a structured employee volunteering programme which gives employees and their family members an opportunity to address the most pressing needs of society. Volunteering initiatives focus on two thematic areas – education and environment – and range from skill-based volunteering (education programmes) to hands-on volunteering or shramdaan (clean-up drives or cooking at a community kitchen).

Volunteering initiatives moved partly to a digital mode during the pandemic. Many employees and their family members helped people in need by contributing their time, skills and support.



Provided with job-readiness training and career guidance by volunteers

Circle of Kindness

For the second edition of Month of Good Deeds in December 2020, employees and their families engaged in acts of kindness in the virtual mode by holding online skill-sharing sessions, audio recording of content, Feed-the-Needy (where possible) and other initiatives. Throughout December, 100 volunteers engaged in these activities, which included 24 skill-sharing workshops for children and women SHGs, connecting with 4,000+ individuals.

Volunteering activities during FY 2020-21

Focused on education and engagement activities for children and youth

Volunteers helped government school students cope with missed classes by providing supplementary classes over the phone

300+ students of government schools from low income group families and seven NGOs benefited from one-to-one teaching and doubt-solving sessions from June 2020

Volunteers recorded 320+ children’s audio stories and podcasts in seven Indian languages together with The Kahani Project shared with various NGOs

2,600+ youth from 12 NGOs across the country benefited from job-readiness training and career guidance workshops run by Reliance employees

Senior members from different teams held workshops for youth on career options in the Indian army and across retail, hospitality, and other sectors

17 virtual volunteering sessions conducted by employees and family members by way of the Jio Digital Monsoon Camp, including a virtual music concert; 2,300+ children from nine NGOs across the country connected through these activities

Protecting and caring for animals

The socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the need to give urgent attention to animal health and their need for adequate fodder and water.

Reliance Foundation has been working extensively to promote the welfare and healthcare of animals through the past year. In close collaboration with other stakeholders, Reliance Foundation has been promoting conservation, environmental protection and social responsibility towards wildlife through its initiatives. This all-inclusive holistic approach helps provide for care and protection of animals.

Care amidst the pandemic

Reliance Veterinary Hospital treated over 4,800 animals in FY 2021-21. The Reliance Veterinary Hospital in Padana, Gujarat has expanded its animal healthcare services to include laboratory facilities, X-ray unit, animal operation theatre, mobile animal van, isolation area and animal ambulance. Between March and September 2020, over 2,000 tele-

consultations were undertaken to address animal health issues and spread awareness around seasonal care of animals. Social platforms were used to provide consultations and to raise awareness on seasonal animal care and government schemes for animal husbandry through video sessions and webinars.



Reliance Veterinary Hospital in Padana, Gujarat also provides medical treatments to stray animals

ANIMAL WELFARE WORK

4,818 animals

Were treated through the hospital and mobile vans between September 2020-March 2021

4,428 animals

Provided medical treatment

309 animals

Treated for gynaecological issues

81 surgeries

Conducted on animals

Partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society to promote wildlife research

In its second phase, the research will be undertaking further study of leopard movement in the Sanjay Gandhi National Park.

Reliance Foundation, in partnership with Wildlife Conservation Society, has been working on a leopard collaring study project at the Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai.



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

Understanding leopards in an urban landscape and their interactions with people

Named 'Understanding leopards in an urban landscape and their interactions with people', the programme is already in its second phase, which will see three more leopards being collared. In the first phase, two leopards (a male and female) were collared successfully.



A wildlife SOS Elephant Hospital staff feeding fresh fruits to a recovering animal

Collaborating for wildlife protection

Reliance Foundation, in collaboration with Wildlife SOS, a conservation non-profit organisation; has been carrying out intensive work in caring for rescued elephants, including giving them medical attention.

During FY 2020-21, the Elephant Hospital expanded its capacity to provide care for four more rescued elephants who were brought to the shelter. The hospital provided immediate relief, crucial medical care and a nourishing diet for the animals. During the year, Reliance Foundation also supported a fleet of 20 animal ambulances that provided critical necessities such

as food, water and other dietary needs for animals and birds. Moreover, Reliance Foundation's animal care centre based in Mathura also continued to run its rapid response 24-hour hotline to provide guidance for caring for wildlife in distress throughout the pandemic.

Through these initiatives, Reliance Foundation is fulfilling its commitment to support animal welfare, wildlife and biodiversity conservation in India.

Moments of recognition

Reliance Foundation's work in the domains of COVID-19 response, water security, community impact and maternal health earned recognition from social and industry experts across the world.

Global recognition: Smt Nita Mukesh Ambani and Reliance Foundation recognised among top COVID-19 philanthropists of 2020

Town & Country, America's leading general interest magazine, featured Smt Nita Mukesh Ambani and Reliance Foundation among the Top Philanthropists of 2020, for saving lives and rehabilitating communities during the pandemic.

The magazine recognised Reliance Foundation's efforts in supporting frontline workers and vulnerable

communities, as well as its remarkable feat in setting up India's first dedicated COVID-19 hospital in just two weeks. Smt Ambani and Reliance Foundation were the only Indian entries on the list featuring prominent philanthropists such as Oprah Winfrey, Laurene Powell Jobs and Michael Bloomberg.

Speaking on Town & Country's recognition, **Smt Nita M. Ambani**, Founder and Chairperson of Reliance Foundation, said,

“

Crises almost always demand immediate and urgent attention, of relief, of resources, of ingenuity and most importantly of compassion.

Over the years, we have equipped ourselves at the Foundation and at Reliance Industries to respond to crises with immediate, multi-pronged as well as systematic and calibrated responses to make our effort impactful and sustained. We are pleased and humbled that our initiative is being recognised at the global level.

Our philanthropy is committed to support our government and our community whenever the need arises.



ICSI CSR Excellence Award to Reliance Industries Limited, 2020-21



COVID warriors of Sir HN Reliance Foundation Hospital & SevenHills Hospital felicitated for their contribution in fighting COVID-19

Other key awards during FY 2020-21



India Today-MDRA Special Healthgiri Award 2020

for Best Far Reaching Corporate Contribution for Wider Social Impact during COVID-19 pandemic



ICSI CSR Excellence Awards | 5th Edition

'Best Corporate' (Large category)



Silver Feather Awards

Dr. Tarang Gianchandani was awarded the Most Innovative CEO



CII National Awards

for Excellence in Water Management 2020 in 'Beyond the Fence' category



Midday Iconic Awards

'Iconic Multi-Specialist Hospital, Mumbai, and Iconic Hospital for Quality and Patient Safety'



National Awards for Excellence in Healthcare

'Best COVID-19 Hospital Serving Community & Best Multispecialty Hospital in Mumbai' awarded to Reliance Foundation Hospital



FICCI Healthcare Excellence Awards

Special Jury Mention Certificate in the 'Excellence in Social Initiative' category for Reliance's contributions under project ASMAN



Silver Feather Awards

'Best Multi-specialty Hospital, Best Hospital for Patient Safety, Best Non-COVID Hospital in Mumbai Regional' awarded to Reliance Foundation Hospital



Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation Felicitations

Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital for its contribution in fighting against COVID-19



Times of India Multispecialty Hospital Ranking Survey

Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital ranked #1 in Mumbai and west India and ranked #3 nationwide



Indian Red Cross Society Centenary Celebrations

Reliance Foundation awarded Certificate of Commendation



SHRM HR Excellence Awards 2020

Special recognition in the 'Excellence in Community Impact' category for Reliance Foundation's response to COVID-19, Mission Anna Seva campaign, Recycle4Life Campaign, Versova Beach and Mithi River clean-up drives, employee volunteering through mentoring of government school children, concerts with SOS Children's Village and Month of Good Deeds



Saathi Award

conferred on ART Center, Lodhivali for its contribution to 'Elimination of Mother to Child transmission of HIV & Syphilis' in Maharashtra



Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Andhra Pradesh

Reliance Foundation Information Services received Certificate of Appreciation for continuous efforts in transferring technology to farmers in agriculture and allied sectors during the COVID-19 pandemic



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