

## From the land of Tapasya to the land of Valour

— Ekal In Southern Uttar Pradesh —





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# EKAL PRAYAS

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## Awake, Arise and Achieve



Dear Reader,

Under the Ekal Abhiyan, the Southern Uttar Pradesh Division extends from the sacred confluence at Prayagraj to the ascetic land of Kaushambi, and from the holy soil of Chitrakoot to the valiant region of Bundelkhand. From a religious, cultural, historical, and geographical perspective, the division is full of diversity; yet all Ekal Abhiyan activities here continue to move forward smoothly and effectively.

In this month's Ground Zero report, you will not only learn about the various ongoing activities in the division but also about the individuals and communities who have benefitted from Ekal's initiatives—reaching places where government aid had not yet arrived.

This year marks the centenary of the establishment of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). The selfless dedication, penance, and devotion of its countless unnamed volunteers have once again illuminated India's glorious cultural and social heritage on the world stage. Each of them deserves heartfelt reverence. The belief that "the Sangh is society, and society is the Sangh" stands reaffirmed. On this occasion, Sri Narendra Kumar, Akhil Bharatiya Sah-Prchar Pramukh, inspired society with his enlightening thoughts.

The Mahila Department of Ekal Bharat Lok Shiksha Parishad organized "Krishnamayi Meera," where the Padma Shri awardees, the renowned duo Vidushi Nalini-Kamalini, mesmerized everyone with their soulful performance. The Ekal annual national convention 2025 was held in the United States, where Ekal volunteers from India and abroad came together to discuss present challenges and plans.

The organizational journey of Sri Ramesh Kumar Maheshwari, National President of Ekal Vanbandhu Parishad and a successful entrepreneur, continues to inspire everyone. Despite his extremely busy schedule, his dedication to Ekal Abhiyan remains exemplary. His concern for volunteers and his transparent evaluation of ground-level activities make him an outstanding organizer and leader.

In addition to all this, the past two months have witnessed significant progress in Ekal's mission through organizational meetings, social activities, forest visits, and cultural and social programmes.

During October, we all celebrated Diwali. I hope each one of you lit a lamp in the name of the nation — for its progress and prosperity. My heartfelt greetings and blessings to all. With that, we shall meet again in the next issue.

Yours

**Manju Didi**

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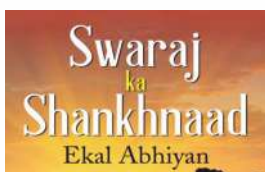
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Siddhartha Shankar Gautam

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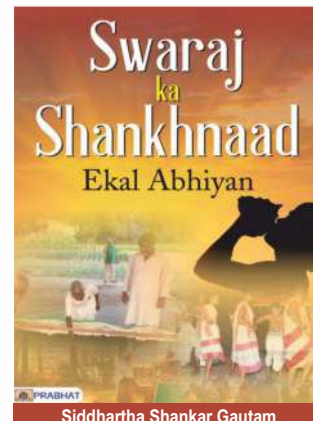


**Continued...**

From 2005 onwards, Ekal started focusing on the self-dependence of villages. A target was set that four lakh villages should be prepared with education, health, development, and awareness, and be equipped with the cultural values of the land, so that they could become truly self-reliant. The day this target is achieved, India will undoubtedly emerge as a leading country of the world. This dream has filled full-time Ekal workers with renewed vigour, and each one of them

The third and most important part of Ekal is its Central Working Committee. It is divided into three parts:

1. **Gram Sangathan Kendriya Samiti (Village Organization Central Committee or GSKS)**
2. **Akhil Bharatiya Pratinidhi Mandal (All India Representative Board or ABPM)**
3. **Kendriya Yojna Core (Central Yojna Core or CYC)**



Similarly, to evaluate and assist with decisions to be made at lower levels of the organization, a **Board of Representatives** is formed. The board ensures that the decisions taken by the Central Working Committee are implemented at all levels of the organization. It also reviews these decisions at the implementation level and, if required, makes suitable improvements. In fact, such boards of representatives have been constituted almost at all levels of the organization. At the national level is the **Akhil Bharatiya Pratinidhi**



## The Organizational Base of Ekal Abhiyan

is taking responsibility for five to seven Ekal schools, ensuring that villages become self-dependent as early as possible. This dream-inspired mission has been named '**Gram Swabhiman Dayitva**.' As part of this pledged responsibility, every dedicated worker tours his or her adopted village, carefully examines the functioning of the Ekal schools directly or indirectly, and then visits every household in the village along with members of the village committee to listen to the problems and challenges faced by the villagers.

The Central Working Committee ensures that all rules and regulations of the mission are followed properly. It is the mind of the mission. It thinks, deliberates, and then takes decisions concerning the mission. The **Central Yojna Core** works with volunteers, designs programmes for them, assesses all aspects, and then submits its proposals to the Central Committee of the Village Organization. The village committee meticulously scrutinizes these proposals and then sends them back to the Central Working Committee, which takes the final decision on them.

**Mandal (All India Representative Board or ABPM); then follow the Kendriya Karyakari Mandal (Central Working Board), Sambhag Karyakari Mandal (Divisional Officers Board), Bhaag Karyakari Mandal (Section Officers Board), and Anchal Karyakari Mandal (Zonal Working Board).** All these boards have competent office-bearers and dedicated volunteers. They converge into a group that supervises their work and ensures that the assigned projects run smoothly and are completed successfully.





The top decision-making body in the Ekal organization is the **Central Working Committee**. The lower decision-making bodies are the **Abhiyan Samitis (Mission Committees)** that are formed by the CWC. These committees, hierarchically, are: **Sambhag Abhiyan Samiti (Department Mission Committee)**, **Bhag Abhiyan Samiti (Sub-Division Mission Committee)**, **Anchal Abhiyan Samiti (Zonal Mission Committee)**, and **Sanch Abhiyan Samiti (Cluster/Block Mission Committee)**. The Abhiyan Samiti consists of volunteers from urban organizations, rural organizations, as well as full-time volunteers. The coordination among these three types of committed workers helps in making sound decisions and preparing blueprints for their successful implementation. Each committee has the authority to send its suggestions and proposals to its senior committee. Besides, the Abhiyan Samiti enjoys the following rights: they can take all decisions pertaining to the selection of workers, their promotion, allocation of various tasks, and ensuring that all decisions taken by the CWC are effectively implemented. The senior members have granted decision-making powers to the committees so that volunteers at all levels feel empowered and trusted. The volunteers thus develop a strong sense that the organization believes in their capability to complete projects successfully.

In 2012, the working mechanism of the Ekal system was transformed in an unprecedented way. Considering the possibility that Ekal might otherwise evolve into a complex web of overlapping committees, it was decided to establish a single umbrella body that would oversee all Ekal organizations.

Thus, the **Ekal Abhiyan Trust** came into being. All the working Ekal units were linked to this trust. The CWC of this trust created various new Abhiyan Samitis, and it was mandated that all newly formed committees would have to be reorganized every two years. It was also resolved that these committees would shoulder the responsibility of controlling and supervising the working of the Ekal cadres who operate under them.

Ekal has deliberately used terms like **Karyakarini** and **Samiti** for a technical reason. Both words denote differences in the functioning of committees. All Ekal units at the urban and rural levels form their own working committees that aim to connect people from all sections of society with Ekal. Meanwhile, the committees formed by the Ekal Abhiyan Trust are limited in number and function as decision-making groups for various Ekal units. The committees formed at the zone, division, and unit levels essentially perform the following five functions:

1. To act as a communication bridge between the Centre and the village.
2. To sign off on all projects and allocated funds at every level so that accountability and responsibility are ensured.
3. To safeguard the quality of Ekal schools by acquiring requisite knowledge and arranging proper training for teachers.
4. To maintain financial discipline within the committee itself and ensure that all units under it follow similar protocols. The committee also ensures that the schoolteacher is paid on time and that the members, preferably women attached to the committee regularly check on the well-being of the teacher's family in a cordial manner.

Additionally, the committee must encourage its workers to become self-dependent and create livelihood opportunities in the villages.

5. To enhance the workability of a volunteer by boosting his or her morale. The best way to achieve this is to appoint a committee member as a **Guardian (Abhibhavak)** and seek his advice in the functioning of the committee.

Thus, Ekal has carried the blessings of this land since the very beginning of its mission. The uniqueness of this mission lies in the fact that it was not designed and directed from the top but emerged organically from the grassroots. Whatever experiences were gathered while working in the villages gradually evolved into the working mechanism of Ekal. The **Ekal Abhiyan Trust** formulates its policies, and its **Central Working Committee** implements them through the rural organization. Ekal has an aura that naturally attracts students and villagers towards it—an innate charisma lacking in most government welfare schemes.

In 1990, the first booklet was written on the Ekal Abhiyan. This publication made it clear that Ekal was devoted to providing functional education to villagers and vanvasis and to winning their hearts through dedicated efforts. It declared that Ekal would unite villagers to bring about meaningful change in their lives and uplift their standard of living. Once these villagers are awakened in the truest sense, the country will be able to resolve many of its long-persisting problems, which have continued only due to a weak rural structure. **Ekal is steadily and firmly moving in this very direction.** ■

*(To be Continued...)*





# Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh

## A Century of National Devotion



On Vijayadashami (October 2, 2025), the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh completed 100 years since its

establishment. The Sangh's journey of completing a century has not been easy. The Swayamsevaks, through their hard work, sacrifice, and dedication, overcame numerous oppositions and obstacles to earn the acceptance and support of society. Moreover, the cooperation and encouragement of countless individuals and institutions in society have made this journey smoother.

### **Sangh Founder - Dr. Hedgewar:**

The Sangh was founded by Dr. Keshav Baliram Hedgewar on Vijayadashami of Vikram Samvat 1982 (September 27, 1925) at Nagpur (Maharashtra). Dr. Hedgewar, the founder of the Sangh, was a born patriot. He was actively involved in all movements related to India's freedom struggle. During his medical studies in Kolkata, he was an active member of the Anushilan Samiti.

In the year 1921, he was sentenced to one year of rigorous imprisonment for his participation in the Non-Cooperation Movement, and in 1930, he joined the Salt Satyagraha, for which he was imprisoned for nine months.

**Objective of the Sangh's Establishment:** The objective behind the establishment of the Sangh was to organize the entire Hindu society and to make India a capable and supremely glorious nation. To achieve this goal, there was a need for virtuous, disciplined, patriotic, upright, and dedicated workers. To create such workers, Dr. Hedgewar developed within the Sangh a simple, unique, yet highly effective daily method known as the "Shakha."

Through this system, the Sangh has produced millions of capable workers who, for the past 100 years, have been working in various spheres of social life to fulfill this objective.

**Expansion of Sangh Work:** Throughout this journey, the Sangh has crossed the paths of ridicule and opposition, ultimately earning society's

acceptance, support, and cooperation. The Sangh has succeeded in gaining the trust of society due to its noble foundation, excellent working system, and the selfless, patriotic, and harmonious conduct of its Swayamsevaks.

Today, the Sangh's work is visible everywhere and in all fields. At present, daily Shakhas are being held at 51,740 locations across 98 percent of the districts and 92 percent of the blocks in India, totaling 83,129 daily Shakhas. In addition, through 32,147 weekly meetings held at 26,460 other locations, the Sangh's nationwide work continues to expand steadily. Of these 83,129 daily Shakhas, 59 percent are student (youth) Shakhas.

**Steps Towards Social Transformation:** To achieve its goal, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh first established an organization in the initial phase. It worked to build confidence within society that the Hindu society can be organized, can walk together in one direction, step by step, and can raise the collective chant of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai."

The Sangh succeeded in this effort. In the Nagpur training camp of 1940, Swayamsevaks from every state of the country had gathered for training. Addressing the participants of that camp, Dr. Hedgewar had said,

"Today, before my eyes, I see a miniature form of the Hindu Nation."

When the clouds of Partition began to loom over the country, there was an extraordinary attraction and unshakable faith in society towards the Sangh. The



Swayamsevaks took upon themselves the protection of Hindu society, as well as the arrangements for food, shelter, and rehabilitation of refugees.

After independence, in 1948, due to political reasons, the then Congress government dared to impose a ban on the Sangh, attempting to suppress it. However, the Swayamsevaks compelled the government to yield by organizing peaceful Satyagrahas through democratic means, leading to the lifting of the ban on the Sangh.

The inspiration for India's freedom movement was based on the idea of "Swa" (the Self) — and it was essential that every sphere of national life be built upon that same foundation of Swa. With this vision, in the second phase, inspired by the Sangh, Swayamsevaks began to work in various fields such as education, students, labor, politics, agriculture, tribal welfare, arts, and others, through different organizations.

Today, more than 32 organizations like Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, Vidya Bharati, Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, Bharatiya Kisan Sangh, Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram, Seva Bharati, Sanskar Bharati, Laghu Udyog Bharati, Swadeshi Jagaran Manch, and Pragya Pravah are active in national life and are carrying out numerous successful experiments in social transformation within their respective fields.

**Service Activities:** Swayamsevaks always remain active in addressing social problems and challenges according to their ability and capacity. Filled with patriotism and a spirit of service, Swayamsevaks rush to the aid of society the moment they witness its suffering. That is why, even today, during any natural or other calamities, they reach the affected areas immediately and engage wholeheartedly in serving the people.

Not only during times of disaster, but Swayamsevaks also make continuous efforts, according to their capacity, to alleviate the deprivation, pain, and neglect visible in society. Therefore, in its third phase, the Sangh decided to give greater momentum and a more organized form to its service activities.

During the birth centenary year (1988–89) of the Sangh founder Dr. Hedgewar, funds were collected for this purpose. Today, with the cooperation of society, the Swayamsevaks are running 1,29,000 service projects across rural and urban areas focused on education, health, values (sanskar), and self-reliance for the underprivileged sections of society. In these efforts towards social transformation, the Swayamsevaks are receiving abundant cooperation and support from the community.

In addition to this, without depending on the administration or the government, Swayamsevaks are working under the concept of "Gram Vikas" (village development) — with the goal that all villagers together should undertake the holistic development of their own village.

They are also engaged in "Gau Sanrakshan Evam Sanvardhan" (cow protection and promotion) by preserving and improving Indian breeds of cows, while imparting training, awareness, and encouragement to farmers for organic farming.

**The Mantra of 5 Transformations (Panch Parivartan):** Swayamsevaks of the Sangh, while adopting the Sangh way of life within their families, continuously strive to bring about positive, socially aligned changes. Along with this, they regularly undertake various initiatives for broader social transformation.

After completing its centenary year, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh is entering the next phase of social transformation, which will be a large and extensive movement of social awakening. In this phase, Swayamsevak's will advance towards working in unison with the virtuous forces of society.

For this purpose, to create social awareness and to inspire individuals and families to bring these ideals into daily life, the Sangh will emphasize five key areas, collectively called "Panch Parivartan" (Five Transformations):

**Social Harmony (Samajik Samrasta), Environmental Protection and Enrichment (Paryavaran Sanrakshan evam Sanvardhan), Family Enlightenment (Kutumb Prabodhan), Self-reliant Living (Swa Aadharit Jeevan) and Sense of Civic Duty (Nagrik Kartavyabodh)**

These five themes are essential today for the unity, integrity, and welfare of humanity and society.

For the past hundred years, this great endeavor (Mahayajna) has been continuing uninterrupted. The objective of the Sangh's work is to bring enduring transformation in society by organizing the entire community to address the challenges and problems faced by the nation, and to build social systems suited to the needs of the era.

However, our country is vast, and no single organization can alone bring about permanent change. This period of Amrit Kaal calls upon us all to set aside our differences, unite, and work diligently to make our sacred motherland strong and supremely glorious. ■

**Narendra Kumar**  
Akhil Bharatiya Sah Prachar Pramukh,  
Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh







# Heartfelt Tribute

## Late Sri Snehpal Singh 'Babuji'

(Senior Pracharak, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and Guide, Ekal Abhiyan Uttarakhand)



Living a life of complete dedication to the organization, nurturing affection and warmth for every Karyakarta (volunteer), and setting a personal example of the ideal "Work first, self later" this was the essence of Snehpal Singh Babuji's life. He was always concerned about the organization whether it was the health of a Karyakarta, the activities of a center, or the progress of a region. All these matters were always in his thoughts.

When the Ekal Abhiyan was taking shape in Uttarakhand, he not only established the organization there but also created a close-knit family by personally connecting with everyone. His words were filled with inspiration, and his heart overflowed with affection. Anyone who met him felt that the organization was his very life and that the Karyakartas were his family.

The memory of my last meeting with him remains vivid. As chants of Bharat Mata ki Jai and Vande Mataram echoed alongside his funeral pyre, it felt as if this devoted son of Mother India was departing, leaving behind countless memories of patriotism.

His brother, Sri Ompal Ji himself a Pracharak in the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh said, "The organization itself will take care of his final journey." Indeed, this statement perfectly encapsulates his life. Such was the man whose final journey was carried with pride on the shoulders of Karyakartas, and whose cremation rites were performed by the dedicated volunteers of Ekal.

During a meeting I attended in Bengaluru, some Karyakartas from Nepal said, "If we are to strengthen the organization in Nepal, the responsibility should be given to Snehpal Ji." This remark stands as testimony to his capability, dedication, and inspiring personality.

My humble salutations to such a great soul. His penance, dedication, and unwavering commitment to the organization will forever remain a source of inspiration for all of us. The entire organization bows in reverence before him.

Om Shanti: Shanti: Shanti: ■



**(Rajesh Goyal)**  
Rashtriya Abhiyan Prabhari  
Convener, Ekal Core Committee





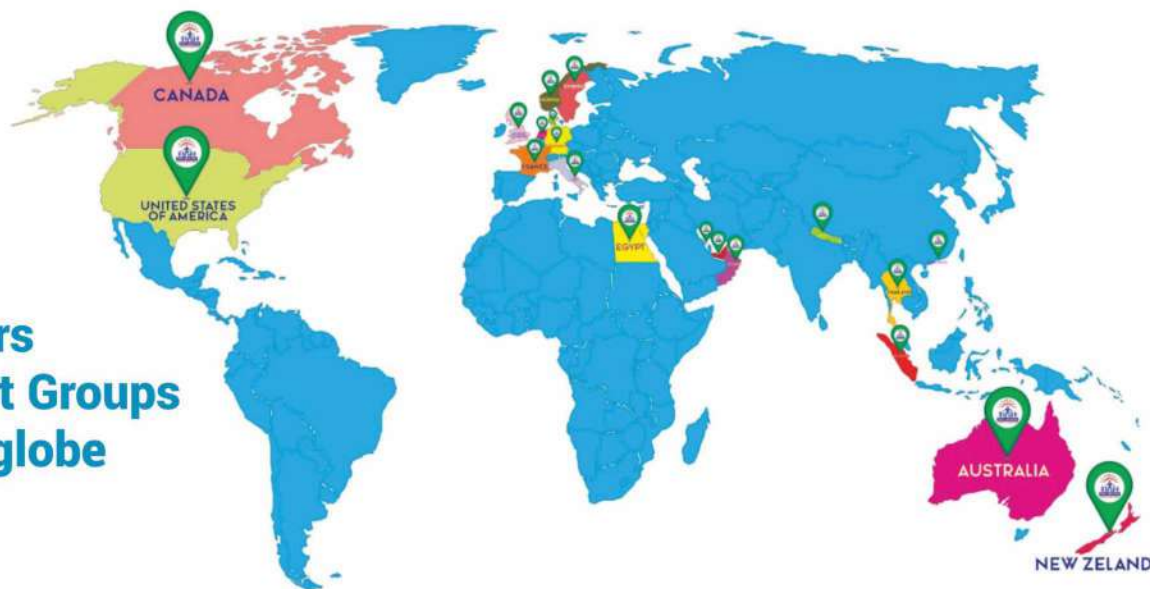


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# From the land of Tapasya to the land of Valour

## — Ekal In Southern Uttar Pradesh —



Under the Ekal Abhiyan, a total of 2,626 Ekal Vidyalayas are being operated across 10 Anchals and 109 Sanchs in the two regions of Southern Uttar Pradesh Division – Prayagraj and Bundelkhand. In these schools, 37,226 boys and 36,898 girls are receiving education and value-based learning. In 148 Ekal Vidyalayas of 6 Sanchs, e-learning through tablets is being provided. Through the management of one Integrated Village Development Programme (IVD), the Ekal Gramothan Foundation of India has created employment opportunities for villagers.

Additionally, three tailoring centres and two Ekal on Wheels units are providing employment-oriented training. Within the division, 30 Vyas Kathakars, including two Rath Kathas, are actively spreading religious and cultural awareness. Across the entire division, 10,994 nutrition gardens (Poshan Vatika) and 5,711 soak pits have been constructed. With the inspiration of the Ekal Abhiyan, 52,164 trees have been planted, and villagers are ensuring their proper maintenance.

In 59 villages across 2 Sanchs, 29 Aarogya Sevikas are working to take care of villagers' health and well-being. During my travel across the division, I visited 8 out of the 10 Anchals, witnessed firsthand the Panchmukhi Shiksha (five-dimensional education) of Ekal Abhiyan, interacted with villagers, and recorded what I saw and heard.

After reading this “Ground Zero” report, you too will feel gratified to know that the Ekal Abhiyan has left its indelible mark—from the land of confluence (Sangam) to the land of Buddha, and from the valiant soil of Alha-Udal to the holy land of Sri Ram at Chitrakoot.







## Nurturing Childhood through Education and Values



Ekal Vidyalaya operating in village Mansi Khurd

In the Bundelkhand region, Ekal Vidyalaya began its operations in Jhansi anchal in 2013. At present, 223 Ekal Vidyalayas are being run across 10 sanchs (clusters) of this anchal. As one enters the village of Tilaiha in the Barusaagar sanch, signs reading “Ekal Vidyalaya this way” can be seen everywhere — from mud-brick houses to

electric poles. Following these signs leads you precisely to the place where, every evening from 3 to 6 p.m., the Ekal Vidyalaya operates.

Thirty-five-year-old Acharya Pratibha Kumari, a well-educated woman (B.A., D.Led), imparts her knowledge and experience wholeheartedly to the children. Though all thirty students attending the Ekal Vidyalaya also go to the government school in the village, here they receive not only education but also moral and value-based learning with practical life lessons.

Four-year-olds Shivansh, Mehak, Mahi, Kanha, and Sanskar; five-year-olds Aryan, Divyansh, and Roshni; seven-year-olds Prince, Anjali, and Poorvi — and many others — attend the Ekal Vidyalaya with great enthusiasm. Under Sanskar Shiksha (value-based education), they are taught Saraswati Vandana, Omkar, Matri Pranam, Hanuman

## E-Education Sparks a New Interest in Learning

Although the standard of education in India's rural areas has improved, government schools still lag in the use of technology. In such a scenario, where many government-school children do not even see a computer until grade 10, Ekal Vidyalaya children — as young as four or five — are already learning through tablets

under the E-Shiksha (digital learning) initiative.

The Ekal Vidyalayas in the Pratapgarh anchal of the Prayagraj region began operations in 2008. Today, 255 Ekal Vidyalayas are being run across 10 sanchs of this anchal. Among them, the Patti sanch has been designated as the E-Shiksha sanch, where tablet-based education is being provided in the Ekal Vidyalayas of 30 villages — including Nauhi, Mahdaha, Usrauli, Sahaspur, Pahlmapur, Raipur, and Bardi.

Thirty-five-year-old Acharya Sharda Devi, trained in E-Shiksha, teaches her students using tablets with the proficiency of a skilled educator. Sanch Pramukh Ms. Rajni Saroj also supports her during her visits.

In the Ekal Vidyalaya of Mahdaha village, 30 children are enrolled, and all feel delighted to study using tablets. The new technology has increased their curiosity and interest in learning. Most of these children also attend government schools and proudly speak about the Ekal Vidyalaya's E-Shiksha initiative there.

Village Head Sri Sharda Prasad, former Pradhan Sri Mata Prasad, committee members Sri Vijay Kumar and Sri Balmukund, along with other villagers, regularly review the functioning of the Ekal Vidyalaya. As a result, the educational level and practical understanding of these children are notably higher than that of their peers in government schools.



Ekal Vidyalaya operating in village Mahdaha through the e-education system







Chalisa, and the importance of respecting elders. Under Shiksha (academic learning), they study materials aligned with their school curriculum, while also learning life skills and the art of joyful living through play — guiding them toward becoming good citizens in the future. Yoga, Pranayam, and traditional games are also part of the Ekal Vidyalaya curriculum.

Similarly, in the Prayagraj region, 293 Ekal Vidyalayas are being run

across 11 sanchs of the Phoolpur anchal. During my field visit, I reached the Ekal Vidyalaya at village Mansi Khurd in the Phoolpur sanch, where children greeted me enthusiastically with “Jai Sri Ram!” Among the eager learners were Irfan, Kanha, Shabnam, Anurag, Anupam, Fatima Bano, Vansh, Vrisha, Garima, Kartik, Aryan, and Alfiya.

Acharya Sunita Devi (B.A. in Sanskrit) teaches them with heartfelt dedication. The children of committee

member Ms. Sanju Devi also study in the Ekal Vidyalaya. Another committee member, Ms. Vinita Pushpakar, shared that the Ekal Vidyalaya’s method of teaching deeply reinforces moral and cultural values in children. Through games and interactive learning, they acquire knowledge effortlessly. The school also welcomes children who do not attend government schools, and after learning here, they attain the same level of education as their peers in formal institutions.

## Rural Prosperity Through Self-Reliance - The Success of IVD



In Karma village of Chaka sanch, located in the Yamunapar anchal of the Prayagraj region, the Ekal Gramothan Foundation of India has been successfully running an Integrated Village Development (IVD) programme. Under this initiative, multiple vocational and developmental activities are carried out — including sewing centers, computer training centers, Ekal on Wheel, beautician courses, farmer outreach and training programmes, production of organic manure, construction of organic pits, farmer meetings, creation of nutrition gardens, tree plantation drives, and observance of World Environment Day. In addition, one-month vocational courses in

plumbing (22 trainees) and electrical work (32 trainees) were also conducted.

Since its inception on April 14, 2019, the IVD center has empowered 439 women through tailoring courses, 655 children through computer training, and 32 girls through beautician training. A total of 1,278 farmers have received organic farming training, 80 organic pits have been built, and 1,278 nutrition gardens have been established across the region. Through IVD, a satellite center has also been set up in Balapur village, where 320 girls have already completed sewing training. Today, the IVD center in Karma has extended its reach to nearly 60 villages.

IVD Project Manager Sri Shubham Kushwaha shared that plans are underway to launch a three-month course in personality development and communication skills through the IVD programme.

The IVD center also houses the Swami Vivekananda Youth Club Study Center, established under the guidance of IVD Chairperson Smt Shashi Poddar.



The center’s library contains biographies of great personalities, books on history, tourism, religion, and culture — available for everyone to read within the premises (though borrowing books outside is not permitted).

Five “Kisan Mitras” (Farmer Friends) have been appointed to connect with local farmers, guide them in organic farming practices, and inform them about IVD schemes. The Kisan Mitras — Sri Kashi Prasad, Sri Pramod Kumar Goswami, and Sri Narendra Kushwaha — work actively under the guidance of Farmer Trainer Sri Sujeet Kumar Namdeo, bridging knowledge and empowerment across the villages.





## These Women Are Becoming Economic Pillars for Their Families

In the Bharatkoop Sanch of the Chitrakoot Anchal under the Bundelkhand region, a Women Empowerment Center — a Tailoring Training Center — is being operated. The center's coordinator, Sri Mahendra Singh, shared that the Bharatkoop tailoring center has been running since April 10, 2023, equipped with seven sewing machines. A total of 20 girls are learning stitching in two batches daily.

Additionally, through this center, a sub-center with five sewing machines has been functioning in Bhainsaundha since February 2025, where 20 girls receive daily training. Apart from this, satellite centers have also been established in Baglai, Raipurwa, and Dholbaja Badri ka Purwa villages, each with two sewing machines, training 10 girls daily at each location.

Through these centers, Ekal Abhiyan has earned a respected reputation in Bharatkoop, continuously receiving strong community support. Around 20 nearby villages have now become directly connected with Ekal Abhiyan through these initiatives.

The tailoring instructor, Ms. Shyamkali Vishwakarma, has been training girls since the center's inception. To date, she has trained over 150 girls in tailoring. Alongside teaching at the center, Ms. Shyamkali also undertakes stitching work from her home, earning a decent income.



Sewing center operating in Bharatkoop

During my visit to the Bharatkoop center, I met Ms. Ram Mani (18 years), Ms. Pooja Devi (17 years), Ms. Parvati (35 years), and Ms. Gudiya (16 years) — all trained under Ms. Shyamkali. Each of them now earns 2,000– 4,000 per month through tailoring work from home, supporting their families' livelihoods. All these women come from farming families, and their additional earnings provide vital financial stability to their households.

Similarly, in the Kanpur Anchal, a tailoring center has been running since November 2020, where more than 150 girls have received training under Ms. Sangeeta Devi, who also serves as an Ekal Vidyalaya Acharya.

## Rural Children Getting Computer Training through Ekal on Wheel



In the Kanpur region of Bundelkhand, the Ekal on Wheel initiative has been operational since 2022 with the objective of providing computer education to rural children. The bus, equipped with nine laptops, enables eighteen students to learn computers at a time. Trainer Sri Saurabh Kumar shared that so far, 557 children from the region have been trained through 39 batches. At present, Ekal on Wheel is running three batches, two of which are for students at government schools in Tikra and Maksudabad.

The programme has been contracted with the Office of the Basic Education Officer until March 2026, under which computer classes for these schools are conducted inside the Ekal on Wheel bus. Once the contract with these schools ends, new schools will be contacted for future collaborations. The third batch is currently running for rural children in Bhikar village.







## Ekal E-Rickshaw: A Mobile Computer Training Centre

An innovative initiative has been launched in Kanpur under the leadership of Dr. Anuradha Varshney, Head of the Women's Department of Kanpur Chapter, with the department's support — a moving computer training centre set up in an e-rickshaw.

Started on July 17, 2024, this project is named the E-Rickshaw Digital Literacy Training Programme. The e-rickshaw is equipped with 10 laptops, which are charged within the vehicle itself, and is accompanied by a trainer. The e-rickshaw visits both government and non-government

schools under contract and conducts computer classes for children using these laptops.

So far, it has reached 12 government schools across 12 villages, training 654 children through 17 batches. Currently, five batches of students are undergoing computer training. The programme is implemented in collaboration with IIT Kanpur, under which children who complete their training are awarded certificates issued by IIT Kanpur. So far, 480 children have received certificates, and the remaining 174

students will be awarded shortly. This Ekal E-Rickshaw is truly a mobile digital classroom, taking technology and learning directly to the doorsteps of rural children.



Beautician, Computer & Tailoring Training – IVD's Pathway to Empowerment

The beautician course, launched just three months ago at the IVD center in Karma, is already transforming lives. The instructor, Ms. Aastha Dubey, is herself a proud graduate of the same center, having earlier completed both sewing and computer training there. The current batch consists of 32 young women, many of whom have a long association with the IVD center — learning sewing and computer skills before now advancing to beauty training.

The computer training lab, a cornerstone of IVD's vocational initiative, is led by Sri Shivam Kumar, who has been associated with the center since 2019. In recognition of his dedication and skill development work, he was honored with the "National Builder Award 2025" by the Rotary Club. Beyond teaching, Sri Shivam actively assists his students in finding employment opportunities after training.

Several of his students have gone on to achieve remarkable success:

- Sri Anuj Patel, now the Office Head at Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of India, Prayagraj Chapter, also completed advanced courses in Tally and accounting here.
- Sri Abhishek Patel, after completing computer and advanced training, became a computer instructor at GRC Gajraula and now teaches underprivileged children in his village.
- Sri Ankush Yadav joined the team as an Ekal on Wheel trainer.
- Sri Brajesh Gautam turned his digital training into a thriving e-commerce business, earning a substantial income through online product marketing.

The tailoring center, run for the past three years by Ms. Savita Sahu, currently trains 25 girls across three batches. Her former students — Ms. Shanti, Ms. Bharti, Ms. Nisha Yadav, Ms.

Indu Patel, Ms. Radha Kotary, Ms. Deeksha Kothari, and Ms. Divya Patel — have successfully started their own small tailoring businesses, contributing meaningfully to their families' income.

To further support self-reliance, 19 economically disadvantaged girls were provided with sewing machines free of cost, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder their pursuit of skill and livelihood. Additionally, three girls received bicycles through Rotary Club Midtown, Prayagraj, enabling them to commute easily to the center for training.

IVD Karma — Lighting the Lamp of Self-Reliance Across Villages

The IVD Center at Karma has ignited such a strong spirit of self-reliance in the region that boys and girls from even distant villages eagerly participate in its various programme. The center requires no external publicity — those who once become part of it naturally inspire and bring others along. In the truest sense, these very villagers have become the real brand ambassadors of IVD.





## Arogya Project — A Blessing for Rural Health



In 28 villages of Bithoor Sanch, under the Kanpur Division of Bundelkhand region, the Arogya Project has been successfully running for the past four years under the Ekal Arogya Foundation of India. Through the consistent efforts of the project, the use of toilets in villages has significantly increased — today, over 70% of the villagers have begun using toilets built in their own homes.

The Ekal Arogya Sevikas (health volunteers) actively spread awareness among villagers about disease prevention and the use of herbal medicines. Many nutrition gardens and herbal gardens have also been established across villages, promoting healthy living and self-sustainability.

During my visit, I had the opportunity to meet Arogya Project workers and interact with villagers in Pratappur village, gaining first-hand insights into their experiences and the project's impact. Arogya Sevika Ms. Kiran has been efficiently managing

project activities not only in Pratappur but also in the neighbouring Meetanpur village.

Ms. Kiran shared that Pratappur has a population of around 500 people. The village has a government school up to grade five but no health center. Although one doctor is available, he remains overburdened with work — thus, attending to the community's health needs has become the primary responsibility of the Arogya Sevikas. She also mentioned that an Anaemia Control Program is being implemented in the village.

Sanch Coordinator Ms. Kalpana Yadav informed that currently 14 Arogya Sevikas are working across 28 villages to ensure the smooth functioning of the project. Meanwhile, Regional Arogya Project Head Ms. Janki Sharma shared that a total of 29 Arogya Sevikas are serving in 59 villages across the two Sanches of Bithoor and Maitha under the Kanpur region.

In Bithoor Sanch, the Sevikas have undertaken several impactful activities, including establishing 55 herbal gardens, 19 nutrition gardens, organizing 3 awareness rallies, creating 2 organic pits, writing 16 wall messages, motivating 131 families to adopt toilet use, providing home remedies to 293 villagers, conducting telemedicine screenings for 313 villagers, and planting trees at 25 different locations.

Arogya Sevika Ms. Kiran also manages data collection and screening through the Telemedicine App and Arogya App. She has been equipped with basic medical instruments provided by the project, enabling her to conduct routine health check-ups such as blood pressure, temperature, blood sugar, and weight monitoring. Her presence in the village has proved immensely beneficial — resolving most of the community's common health issues locally and promptly.







## Honoring the Soldiers - Ekal Abhiyan on the Field of Gratitude

To honour the brave soldiers who have dedicated their lives to the defence and service of the nation, Ekal Bharat Lok Shiksha Parishad, Kanpur Chapter, organized a Soldier Felicitation Ceremony in the village of Kakwan, under Kakwan Sanch. During the ceremony, the following veterans and soldiers were honoured for their invaluable service: Sri Aditya Pratap Singh, Sri Ram Asrey, Sri Rampal Singh, Sri Upendra Singh, Sri Sudheer, Sri Nishant, Sri Balster, Havaladar Fauji, Sri Harmohan, Sri Ram Sewak, Sri Shivshankar, and Sri Rambabu Pandey. Families of some serving soldiers were also felicitated on the occasion.

The event was graced by Committee Chairperson Dr. Anuradha Varshney, Dr. Ankur Singh, Smt. Chhaya Gupta, Smt. Neeta, Sri Ram Kripal, Regional Abhiyan Head Sri Lalit Kumar, Sanch Pramukh Smt. Disha Singh,



Ex-servicemen, villagers and Ekal organization officials present at the felicitation ceremony

along with several Ekal Acharyas, office-bearers, and villagers.

The ceremony commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by ex-servicemen and committee dignitaries. Village Head Sri Raju Bhaiya lauded this noble initiative of the Ekal Abhiyan and extended heartfelt thanks to everyone involved. The event was jointly conducted by Regional Abhiyan Head Sri Lalit Kumar and Chapter Office In-charge Sri Ashish. Delivering the welcome address, Dr. Ankur Singh remarked,

"This ceremony is dedicated to those valiant warriors who placed their motherland above all else and safeguarded our nation's borders. Though we can never truly repay their service, devotion, and courage, we can at least express our deep gratitude

through this gesture of honour." He further shared that in Kakwan Sanch, this is the third major event following the Van Yatra and tree plantation drive, each receiving active support from the villagers.

"This clearly signifies that Ekal Abhiyan has now become one with the village community," he said. "In the coming days, we plan to initiate village development activities focused on women's self-reliance and empowerment in the Sanch villages." At this occasion, Dr. Anuradha Varshney, Head of the Women's Wing, Kanpur Chapter, said: "Today, we have gathered to honour those brave hearts and their families who devoted their very lives in service to the Motherland. Their valour and sacrifice remain a beacon of inspiration for all of us."



## Awakening Social Consciousness through Satsang and Katha

In the Chitrakoot Anchal of Bundelkhand Bhāg, Southern Uttar Pradesh, 215 Ekal Vidyalayas are being operated across 10 Sanchs, where 6,584 children are receiving not just education, but also moral and cultural values. Beyond education,

this Anchal places special emphasis on value-based and cultural enrichment activities.

During my visit, I reached the village Nibhour under Baberu Sanch to witness the activities of the Sri Hari

Rath Yojana firsthand. There, I met Sri Akhilesh Kumar, Head of the Sri Hari Rath initiative, who shared that the programme has been running in Bundelkhand since 2019, yielding deeply positive results.





Villagers of Nibhour village took out a Kalash Yatra

A great deal of work has been done in the region to foster social harmony. Several village temples have been renovated with the joint efforts of the Ekal Gram Samiti and local villagers. The arrival of the Sri Hari Rath rekindles the villagers' connection with Sanatan Dharma, encouraging them to rediscover their spiritual roots.

In August 2025, the Rath visited 20 villages, where Gram Devata Pujan (worship of village deities) was organized, attended by 170 villagers.

Similarly, village festivals were celebrated in 20 villages with participation from 1,005 villagers. During these events, 16 villagers took an oath to give up intoxicants, 129 families joined the 'Hanuman Parivar', and 171 villagers received copies of the Hanuman Chalisa.

Despite heavy rain, villagers of Nibhour joyfully participated in a Kalash Yatra organized as part of the Sri Hari Rath programme. Over 50 villagers, carrying sacred pots on their heads,

joined the two-kilometer-long procession, culminating in worship at the village temple before the Sri Ram Darbar installed in the Rath. After the Aarti of Bharat Mata, everyone received the tilak, tied sacred threads (Kalawa), accepted prasad, and returned home with devotion and delight.

At first glance, such an event may appear ordinary—but in truth, it is profoundly significant. In many rural regions, due to growing disdain or ignorance toward Sanatan traditions, both internal and external forces are attempting to alienate simple villagers from their faith, rituals, and values.

The Ekal Sri Hari Satsang Samiti is playing a vital role in protecting villagers from such influences and reconnecting them with their cultural and spiritual heritage. Alongside, the Samiti also works actively to promote social harmony and eradicate social evils and superstitions.

## Devotional Ambience Created by the Ekal Sri Ram Katha

On the first day of Navratri, under the auspices of the Srihari Satsang Samiti, a one-day Ekal Sri Ram Katha was organized in village Bani Khas of West Sarira Sanch, under the Kaushambi Anchal. A large number of villagers attended the event. All six Vyas Kathakars of the Anchal — Sri Suraj Bhan, Sri Nagendra, Sri Girish Chandra, Sri Man Singh, Sri Bal Govind, and Sri Sushil Kumar — mesmerized everyone with their devotional bhajans.

The complete arrangements for the Sri Ram Katha were made by Gram Pradhan Amarnath Saroj and the Gram Samiti. After the conclusion of the Katha, prasad was distributed among all



participants. The entire village was enveloped in a devotional atmosphere due to this event.

In managing the Sri Ram Katha, Anchal Abhiyan Pramukh Sri Sanjay Kumar Sahu, Anchal Samiti Vice

President Sri Ramakant Dwivedi, Sanch Pramukh Smt. Ranjana Srivastava, and other dedicated workers played an effective role. These spiritual gatherings help foster harmony, social unity, and collective spirit among the villagers.







## Acharya Excelling in Both Education and Organic Farming



Near the organic pit in the village, Acharya Vimla Devi and regional activity head Mahesh Kumar

In the Hamirpur Anchal of Bundelkhand region, 235 Ekal Vidyalayas are being run across 10 Sanchs. In village Jaisukhpur of Kadura Sanch, Ekal Acharya Smt. Vimla Devi not only manages her school effectively but also leads an awareness campaign promoting organic farming in her village.

Anchal Activity Head Sri Mahesh Kumar, himself a farmer trained in organic agricultural practices, mentors Smt. Vimla Devi in the nuances of organic methods. Together, they conduct training sessions for other farming families in the village.

At her own home, Smt. Vimla Devi has developed a Poshan Vatika (nutritional garden) where she grows vegetables for her family using organic methods. She has also created an organic compost pit. Additionally, she prepares Jeevamrit — a natural bio-fertilizer — by mixing cow urine, dung, gram flour, jaggery, and soil, covering it in an earthen pot for 48 hours before use in her garden.

She also teaches local women how to make Jeevamrit and, through her consistent efforts, has inspired

every household in the village to establish their own Poshan Vatika.

During my visit, I witnessed an Ekal Vidyalaya session in this village. The children attend with great enthusiasm. Three-and-a-half-year-old Prince comes to school with his brother. Observing Acharya Vimla Devi's teaching, he has already learned the Hindi and English alphabets and counting to thirty. He even sings Ekal songs confidently, performing before other children without hesitation.

**Siddharth Shankar Gautam**  
Prachar-Prasar Prabhari,  
Ekal Abhiyan

(Assistance: Om Prakash, Vishnupati, Prahlad Pratap, Rajendra Kumar, Rajkumar, Mangeshwar, Manoj Kumar, Sagar Sharma, Ram Bahadur, Sripal, Keshav Singh)

All data and figures mentioned in this article are as of August 31, 2025



The youngest student of the Ekal school-Prince







Sri Subhash Gupta



The morning session featured updates from key dignitaries from India: Sri Rajesh Goyal, Abhiyan Prabhari, who provided strategic guidance and updates from India, Dr. Lalan Sharma, Abhiyan Pramukh, Sri Ramesh Maheshwari, President, FTS & AFI. Sri Naresh Jain, Trustee, EGF. Sri Bhaskar Sharma, Executive Director, EGF. Sri Ashok Arora, President EVFI. Each shared insights into their respective

The Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of USA successfully hosted its Annual National Conference (ENC) from Friday, October 3, to Sunday, October 5, 2025, at the Holiday Inn, Orlando, Florida. This flagship event brought together over 150 delegates, including volunteers, Chapter and Regional Presidents, Executive Committee members, Board Directors and advisors, and distinguished guests from Ekal India organizations.

**Arrival and Welcome:** The delegates began arriving on Thursday, October 2, many of them early. The actual proceedings began in the evening, marked by informal interactions fostering camaraderie and mutual learning among participants. Despite geographical distances, the shared commitment to Ekal's mission created a strong sense of unity and pride. All delegates travelled at their own expense, underscoring their dedication to the Ekal cause.

**Board of Directors Meeting – Friday, October 3, 2025:** The full-day Board Meeting commenced at 8:00 a.m. with the recitation of "Om." The Board comprises prominent members of the Indian diaspora entrepreneurs, professionals, physicians, and long-time Ekal volunteers.

## Strengthening the Spirit of Ekal

# The Annual National Conference 2025

October 3–5, 2025 | Holiday Inn, Orlando, Florida

organizations, followed by a spirited Q&A session.

Sri Kamlesh Shah presented a report of the progress in the impact assessment for the Integrated Village Development (IVD) initiative, detailing the RFP process and the selection of the implementing organization. The Board approved the next phase of the project.

Sri Subra David, President, Ekal USA, highlighted the milestone year, with EVF USA on track to raise \$12 million surpassing the \$10 million annual average of the past five years.

Further presentations included those by Sri Bhaskar Sharma on EGF's future direction; Sri Aum Patel on the Donor Portal; and Sri Subhash Gupta, Ms. Pooja, and Ms. Manisha Jain on

accounting and operations emphasizing Ekal USA's commitment to transparency.

**Board Transitions:** As per tradition, three Directors retired after three years of exemplary service: Dr. Rakesh Gupta, Smt. Meena Subramanyam, and Smt. Madhu Bansal.

The Nominating Committee, led by Sri Subhash Gupta, Chairman, Board of Advisors, elected three accomplished individuals as new Board Members, which was approved by the vote of the Board of Directors. These were Sri Suresh Iyer, Sri Kamlesh Shah, and Sri Yogesh Patel. The retiring Board Members were honoured, and the new Directors were warmly welcomed.

**Conference Sessions:** The ENC officially began after the Board meeting,



Ekal Yuva, USA team







Smt. Manju Srivastava



Dignitaries from India



Ma. Saumitra Gokhale

with presentations from the eleven Regional Presidents of North America. They shared regional updates, challenges, lessons learned, and best practices—fostering a collaborative learning environment.

The Guest Speaker, Smt. Manju Srivastava, one of the founder members of Ekal, a Trustee and Chairperson of Ekal Sansthan delivered an inspiring speech recounting Ekal's journey and its evolution into the world's largest grassroots NGO. She emphasized that those who forget the history of sacrifices and challenges that Ekal went through to reach its pinnacle of glory, miss the future vision and mission of Ekal.

**Saturday Highlights - October 4, 2025:** The day began with a virtual Vanyatra, led by Sri Bhaskar Sharma, offering delegates an immersive experience of Ekal's work in tribal villages. The session showcased confident, educated youth, generating a deep sense of pride and satisfaction among attendees.

**Awards and Recognitions:** Sri Subhash Gupta received a surprise Lifetime Achievement Award, with his wife Smt. Saroj Gupta present for the emotional tribute. Smt. Ranjini Saigal was honoured for her twelve years of service as Executive Director.

**Interactive Sessions:** Dr. Subra David and Dr. Rakesh Gupta addressed delegates' questions with detailed responses. Sri Rajesh Goyal provided a comprehensive update on Abhiyan-level initiatives, followed by additional insights from Sri Ramesh Maheshwari, Dr. Lalan Sharma, Sri Bhaskar Sharma, and Sri Ashok Arora.

**Operational Insights:** Sri Rajat Sharma, Event Committee Chair, reviewed the 2025 events and outlined the plans for 2026. The Houston office team discussed donor engagement strategies and operational challenges.

**Youth Engagement:** The launch of Yuva Udaan 2025 marked a significant milestone. Youth volunteers shared their experiences, including internships and

village visits, highlighting their growing role in advancing Ekal's mission.

**Gala Planning:** Sri Subra David and Smt. Manisha Jain previewed the upcoming galas scheduled for October 2025.

**Keynote Address:** Ma. Saumitra Gokhale, HSS Vishwa Vibhag Sanyojak delivered a powerful keynote address, describing Ekal's work as divine service. He emphasized the transformative impact of education and skill development in tribal communities, contributing to a stronger and Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

**Conclusion:** Sunday, October 5, 2025: The conference concluded with reflections on a highly successful and energizing weekend. Delegates departed with renewed commitment, deeper connections, and a shared vision for Ekal's future. ■

**Sri Kamlesh Shah and Manisha Jain**  
Board Member and  
Executive Director, EVF USA



Team USA celebrating success of the event



# EKAL RUN

## A Race Towards Health and Service

The Ekal Run was grandly organized by FTS Yuva Indore at Yash Technologies, Super Corridor.

Aimed at promoting health, service, and public awareness, the event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of over 750 runners.

The chief guest, Ms. Pooja Garg — an international para-athlete and adventure biker — graced the occasion and motivated the participants with her inspiring words.

Also present were National Coordinator Smt Rasu Jain, former President Smt Sarita Mundra, and representatives from various FTS chapters including Sri Ramavatar Jaju, Sri Navin Khandelwal, and Smt Meena Garg.

Smt Deepika Maheshwari (Secretary) and Smt Preeti Khandelwal expressed that the dedicated efforts of the FTS Yuva team played a vital role in making the event a grand success. It was through the team's tireless commitment and coordination that the event achieved its objectives.

At the conclusion of the programme, all participants were honoured with medals, gift vouchers, e-certificates, and refreshments, spreading the message of "Health through Service."

The winners were felicitated with cash prizes, trophies, certificates, and gift hampers.



Participants taking part in the Ekal Run



Guests honoring the winners

## Names of the winner participants

### 1. Age Group: 12–18 Years (Boys)

1st Place: Bunty Akhade  
- 19.37 minutes  
2nd Place: Avneesh Singh  
- 20.01 minutes

### 2. Age Group: 12–18 Years (Girls)

1st Place: Richa Tripathi  
- 23.26 minutes  
2nd Place: Nelli Nagar  
- 27.31 minutes

### 3. Age Group: 18–35 Years (Men)

1st Place: Megh Parmar  
- 17.15 minutes  
2nd Place: Anurag Patel  
- 17.56 minutes

### 4. Age Group: 18-35 Years (Women)

1st Place: Reshma Gaur  
- 21.30 minutes  
2nd Place: Nandini Nagar  
- 27.33 minutes

### 5. Age Group: 35–50 Years (Men)

1st Place: Surendra Patel  
- 21.16 minutes  
2nd Place: Gajendra Maulya  
- 26.39 minutes

### 6. Age Group: 35–50 Years (Women)

1st Place: Dr. Sonia Shah  
- 33.06 minutes  
2nd Place: Kusum Patel  
- 39.01 minutes

### 7. Age Group: 50 Years and Above (Men)

1st Place: Amit Neema  
- 33.59 minutes  
2nd Place: Anand Verma  
- 38.57 minutes

### 8. Age Group: 50 Years and Above (Women)

1st Place: Dimple Thakkar  
- 37.03 minutes

**Media Section**  
FTS Yuva, Indore







**मात्र ₹ 30 हजार में एक एकल विद्यालय**  
एक वर्ष तक संचालित होता है, जिसमें 20-25 बच्चे पढ़ते हैं।

### Annual Donation

ONE SCHOOL	30,000/-
50 SCHOOL (PARAMVEER)	15,00,000/-
100 SCHOOL (SHATAKVEER)	30,00,000/-
1000 SCHOOL (MAHASHATAKVEER)	30,00,000/-

### Donation through website



[www.ekalblspindia.org](http://www.ekalblspindia.org)

### Donation through UPI



[blsp.98721761@hdfcbank](mailto:blsp.98721761@hdfcbank)

### Donation Under CSR - Account Details

**Bharat Lok Shiksha Parishad**  
**Union Bank Of India**  
**Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088**  
**A/C NO. 467902010123677**  
**IFSC code: UBIN0546798**

### Donation Under 80G - Account Details

**Bharat Lok Shiksha Parishad**  
**Union Bank Of India**  
**Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088**  
**A/C NO. 467902050000186**  
**IFSC code: UBIN0546798**

**चलो जलाएं शिक्षा का दीप वहां, जहां आज भी अंधेरा है...**

Central Office : NS- 15, FD Block Pitampura, Delhi – 110034

Web.- [www.ekalblspindia.org](http://www.ekalblspindia.org), Mail.- [info@blspindia.org](mailto:info@blspindia.org), Mob.- 9999399063, 8448386443, 7827207665





On October 31, 2025, celebrated as the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) across India, the spirit of oneness and national pride came alive at Ekal Bharat Manch 3.0 - an extraordinary media conclave organized by the Ekal Bharat Media Foundation, the dynamic media wing of Ekal Abhiyan.

The grand event brought together visionaries, journalists, thought leaders, and changemakers from across the nation, all under one roof, to celebrate



Sri Rajat Sharma receiving the Ekal Bharat Gaurav Award 2025

# ***Ekal Bharat Manch 3.0***

## ***A Grand Celebration of Unity, Media, and***

the power of media in shaping a united, self-reliant, and Viksit Bharat.

A Spectacular Start with Padma Sri Rajat Sharma: The day began with a thrilling and power-packed entry of none other than Padma Sri Rajat Sharma, India's most respected journalist and a living legend in the world of media. His presence electrified the audience, setting the perfect tone for what was to follow.

The inaugural session, a talk show on "The Role of Media in Uniting Bharat,"

featured an engaging conversation between Ma. Laxmi N. Goel, Chairman of Suncity and Director of Ekal Bharat, and Sri Rajat Sharma himself. This one-of-a-kind dialogue was a historic first in the chronicles of Ekal Abhiyan - never had such a high-profile, thought-provoking media discussion graced an Ekal stage.

Sri Rajat Sharma was honoured with the prestigious Ekal Bharat Gaurav Award 2025, recognizing his monumental contribution in bringing

positive transformation to Bharat through fearless journalism and inspiring storytelling.

In his heartfelt address, Sri Rajat Sharma praised the mission of Ekal Abhiyan, expressing deep admiration for its efforts in transforming rural education and empowering India's villages. He even pledged his continued support to the movement, saying he would always be available whenever Ekal called upon him - a moment that filled the audience with pride and emotion.

He also shared insightful thoughts about the growing influence and dangers of social media marketing, urging the audience to stay vigilant and use media responsibly in the digital age.

### **Debating India's Spiritual Strength**

The second session opened a deeply engaging and intellectual dialogue on "Can India's Spiritual and Cultural Roots Aid Us in Rising Globally?"



L to R - Sri Prafull Ketkar, Sri Gautam Khattar, Sri Satish K Singh and Sri Naresh Kumar







The session was chaired by Sri Naresh Kumar, Trustee of BLSP and EGF, and featured an illustrious panel of speakers - Sri Prafful Ketkar, Editor-in-Chief of Organiser; Senior Journalist Sri Satish K. Singh; and Sri Gautam Khattar, Spiritual Influencer.

What followed was an enlightening, high-energy debate that delved into how India's timeless spiritual heritage, cultural wisdom, and moral values can serve as guiding forces in global leadership and growth. The discussion was filled with insightful perspectives, inspiring the audience to take pride in India's ancient yet ever-relevant ethos.



L to R - Ku. Muskan Raghuvanshi, Smt. Madhuri Aggarwal, Ku. Bhakti Sharma and Dr. Aradhna Sharma

insightful, and full of pride. From village leadership to global stages, from spirituality to social action, the speakers embodied the vision of women leading Bharat's transformation story.

#### **Mind Over Matter: The Ageless Spirit**

The final session was a special keynote by Dr. Jitendra Adhia, a renowned Mind Coach and bestselling author, who captivated the audience with his talk on "How Health Supports Viksit Bharat and the Secret to Staying Ageless."



Dr. Jitendra Adhia

His interactive and motivational session left everyone inspired to focus on mental wellness, holistic living, and the power of positive thinking vital pillars for a healthy and developed nation.

#### **Unity, Celebration, and New Beginnings**

The event was graced by several dignitaries from Ekal Abhiyan, including Sri Rajesh Goyal, Sri Vinit Lohia, Sri Subhash C. Aggarwal, Sri Surender

Jindal, Sri Subhash Aggarwal, Sri Nand Kishor Aggarwal, Sri Ramesh Kanodia, Sri Praveen Arya, Sri Ajay Kedia, Sri Neeraj Raizada, Sri Akhil Gupta, Sri Rajiv Aggarwal, Sri Prem Asudani, and many more stalwarts whose presence added immense grace to the occasion.

**The evening closed with an exciting announcement:** Ekal Bharat Manch 4.0 coming next year, with a bigger bang, bolder ideas, and a unique new twist!

#### **The Essence of Ekal Bharat Manch 3.0**

Ekal Bharat Manch 3.0 wasn't just a conclave - it was a movement of minds and hearts, a celebration of unity through media, and a reaffirmation of India's eternal spirit of progress and pride. From powerful debates to emotional moments, from laughter to learning, the event embodied the true essence of **Ekal Bharat - one nation, one mission, one soul.**

Smt. Usha Jalan from Ranchi, Trustee of the Gramothan Foundation of India, and Sri Swapnil Verma, whose dedicated efforts and graceful anchoring added depth and vibrancy to the entire programme.

**Isha Jain**

CEO, Ekal Bharat Media Foundation



## **Viksit Bharat**

#### **LeadHERship: Women Powering Viksit Bharat**

The third session, titled "LeadHERship in Transforming Viksit Bharat," brought a wave of inspiration and emotion to the hall. It was an all-women panel, representing three generations of empowered Indian women - a beautiful reflection of India's evolving yet deeply rooted feminine strength.

The session was chaired by Dr. Aradhna Sharma, Director of Ekal Bharat and General Secretary of EGF, and included remarkable panellists - Smt. Madhuri Aggarwal, social activist and multi-role leader in Ekal Abhiyan, Ku. Bhakti Sharma, India's youngest Sarpanch and BJP Yuva member; and Ku. Muskan Raghuvanshi, a young and inspiring spiritual influencer.

Their discussion on how India's culture has inherently empowered women since ancient times was moving,



Organized under the auspices of the National Women's Division of Bharat Lok Shiksha Parishad, a magnificent dance drama titled "Krishnamayi Meera" was held at the O.P. Jindal Auditorium, Delhi. More than a cultural evening, it was a sacred endeavour—to connect people with the Ekal Abhiyan, to share its purpose, and to inspire collective support toward fulfilling the dreams of rural children across India.

In this mesmerizing confluence of music and dance, Padma Sri and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award laureates Vidushi Nalini-Kamalini brought Meera's devotion to life through an enchanting performance that immersed the entire audience in divine love and the blissful spirit of Krishna.

The event's success was made possible by the enthusiastic participation of Smt Sulochana Goel, Smt Kumkum Gupta, Smt Manju Agrawal, Smt Anubha Jain, Smt Sonal Rasivasiya (National Chairperson), Smt Seema Gupta (National President), Smt Anu Gupta (National Executive President), Smt Madhuri Agrawal (National Vice President), Smt Sneh Bansal (National Treasurer), and all chapter heads of the Delhi region, who played an active and vital role.

Smt Sonal Rasivasiya delivered an inspiring presentation on the Ekal Abhiyan's activities, achievements, and vision, leaving the audience deeply moved and motivated to contribute.

A special attraction of the evening was the Ekal Hut, where a live demonstration of an Ekal Vidyalaya (single-teacher school) was presented. The audience was touched to see children reciting lessons, playing, and



## Krishnamayi Meera

### A Grand Musical Evening by Ekal

learning joyfully in a setting that mirrored real village classrooms.

The event was graced by Sri Laxmi Narayan Goel, Chairman, Trust Board, BLSP, and blessed by the revered Acharya Mahamandaleshwar Anand Peethadheeshwar Swami Sri Balaknanda Maharaj. Distinguished guests included Lt. Col. Kamalpreet, international para-athlete and adventurer; Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja, international open-water swimmer; and Ms. Payal Kanodia, Chairperson, M3M Foundation. Many other eminent personalities from diverse walks of life attended the event, adding to its splendor.

In his benedictory address, Swami Sri Balaknanda Maharaj said, "No service can be greater than what Ekal is doing for education and nation-building. It is not merely education—it is a path of service, dedication, and spiritual discipline that is empowering India's next generation."

Sri Laxmi Narayan Goel emphasized, "Ekal is not just an organization; it is a powerful national movement. By running schools even in border regions, it is not only imparting education but also strengthening the security and unity of our nation."

Lt. Col. Kamalpreet added, "Just as soldiers guard our borders, Ekal strengthens the country's inner fabric by educating and nurturing children to become responsible citizens with strong values."

The event witnessed the gracious presence of Dr Lalan Sharma (Abhiyan Pramukh), Sri Deep Kumar, Sri Khemanand Sapkota (both Sah-Abhiyan Pramukh), members of the BLSP Trust Board, and senior office bearers from various chapters.

The programme was conducted with eloquence and warmth by Ms. Smriti Kuchhal (Chairperson, BLSP Sonipat Chapter) and Sri Siddharth Shankar Gautam (Prachar-Prasar Prabhari, Ekal Abhiyan).

This evening was not merely a cultural celebration—it was a resonant message that education remains the truest path to social and national upliftment. The grandeur of Krishnamayi Meera left every heart in the auditorium filled with renewed faith, devotion, and commitment toward the cause of Ekal Abhiyan.

**Media Devison**  
Ekal Bharat Lok Shiksha Parishad







# Ekal Gramothan Foundation: Empowering Bharat's Grassroots Renaissance

In the farthest corners of rural and tribal Bharat, where opportunities are scarce, a quiet revolution is unfolding. Since 2014, the Ekal Gramothan Foundation (EGF) a charitable trust under Ekal Abhiyan has been nurturing hope, dignity, and transformation. Guided by the values of Seva (Service), Shiksha (Education), and Swavlamban (Self-Reliance), EGF equips individuals not only with livelihood skills but also with confidence, identity, and purpose proving that Bharat's future is being shaped in its villages.



*Strengthening donor's trust through visits*

**A Ground-Level Mission with a Global Vision:** EGF blends deep-rooted community action with the global framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through seven development verticals, it supports at least ten of the seventeen SDGs—demonstrating how Bharat's villages can inspire global progress.

In just over a decade, EGF has reached more than 1.2 million individuals from rural, tribal, and marginalized communities through 267 projects across 971 centres. Between August and October alone, nine new centres were inaugurated—four Women Empowerment Centres, three Computer Training Labs, one Integrated Village Development, and one Skill Development Centre directly

benefiting nearly 9,000 people, with ripple effects touching tens of thousands more.

## Verticals of Empowerment: Building Bharat's Backbone

Each of EGF's seven verticals acts as a pillar of sustainable transformation:

- **Digital Literacy (CTL & Ekal on Wheels):** Brings technology to rural doorsteps, aligning with SDG 4 by empowering youth for the digital economy.
- **Sustainable Agriculture (OCT):** Promotes organic composting and eco-farming, advancing SDGs 2, 12, and 13.
- **Women Empowerment (WEC):** Builds skills and confidence in tailoring, beauty care, and entrepreneurship, supporting SDGs 1, 5, and 8.
- **Gramothan Resource Centres (GRCs):** Serve as one-stop hubs for training, tools, and transformation, aligned with SDGs 4, 10, and 11.
- **Integrated Village Development (IVD):** Weaves health, education,

and livelihood together for holistic growth, contributing to SDGs 3, 4, 8, and 17.

- **Vocational Empowerment (SDC):** Prepares youth and women for diverse, sustainable income streams.
- **Plantation Drives:** Advance environmental consciousness and biodiversity under SDGs 6 and 13.

## Strengthening Bonds through Donor Visits

EGF values transparency and partnership. Each visit included vibrant local programmes and certificate ceremonies. Donors expressed deep satisfaction and reaffirmed continued support for the coming year. Representatives from the Delhi office ensured smooth coordination, making every visit meaningful and inspiring.

Through skill, service, and spirit, Ekal Gramothan Foundation continues to sow the seeds of a self-reliant, confident, and vibrant Bharat—one village at a time. ■

**Media Section**  
Gramothan Foundation



CTL Umarpada, Gujarat





# Ekal Yuva Udaan 2025

## A Journey of Learning, Friendship, and Hope



The Ekal Yuva Udaan (EYU) program is a youth exchange initiative that connects students from the USA and India through skills, culture, and values. Its vision is to create a bridge where both sides give, learn, and take-home memories that last a lifetime.

From August 11–15, 2025, five students from the US joined this journey.

- **Myra Tyagi, Mihir Bhat, and Rohan Gandhi** - travelled to Songadh, Gujarat.
- **Mahi and Myra Bijoriya** - travelled to Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh.

**Songadh Gramothan Resource Center (GRC) - Technology, Arts, and New Discoveries:** For the Songadh team, the day began with a two-hour bus ride from Surat. Those rides became the first classroom - filled with conversations, anticipation, and curiosity about what awaited at the GRC. On arrival, every day began with a heartfelt welcome from the students

and staff, making the US students feel right at home.

**Myra Tyagi - Painting & First Friendships:** Myra, just 13, took on the role of an art teacher. She guided the GRC girls in painting, helping them express creativity for the very first time. At the same time, she also learnt Mehndi designs from the Indian girls — a small cultural exchange that broke the ice and created instant bonds.

“Even though it pushed me out of my comfort zone, I’m proud I did it. Everyone was so welcoming, and their smiles made me feel at home.” - Myra Tyagi

**Mihir Bhat - Technology & Problem-Solving:** Mihir introduced students to the world of Raspberry Pi, sensors, and coding. Together, they built projects with LEDs, buzzers, and motion detectors. The highlight was an Independence Day special tricolor LED project, symbolizing India’s flag glowing in the dark. Beyond technology, Mihir

also joined Rohan in teaching basketball, watching the children grow in confidence with every dribble and shot.

“It was more than just teaching programming or electronics. It was about sparking curiosity and showing how technology can be a tool for creativity.” – Mihir Bhat

**Rohan Gandhi - Sports & Community Connection:** Rohan brought basketball to Songadh - a sport completely new to the kids. Starting from basic dribbling and passing, he saw the children quickly pick up the game, their joy lighting up the court. Rohan also co-led computer sessions with Mihir, teaching coding and problem-solving. For him, the real magic was the **connection with the community** - sharing meals with families, visiting farms and cow shelters, and experiencing India’s warmth at every step.

“This trip wasn’t just about teaching computers or basketball. It







was about connection, culture, kindness, and community.” - **Rohan Gandhi**

**Vanyatra - Learning from Ekal Schools:** One of the most moving parts of the Songadh programme was the Vanyatra, where the team visited nearby Ekal schools in tribal villages.

Here, they met children with very few resources but an abundance of spirit. The US students watched performances of traditional songs, dances, and Sanskrit shlokas, all offered with joy and pride. The simplicity of the schools, the resilience of the children, and the warmth of the community left a deep impression on the US students and their parents.

**Paunar, Chhindwara – Art, Crochet, Dance, and Compassion:** In Madhya Pradesh, sisters **Mahi and Myra Bijoriya** carried the spirit of art and service to the classrooms of Paunar. Together, they transformed blank walls into murals, yarn into gifts of hope, and shy classrooms into lively spaces of dance and laughter.

**Mahi Bijoriya - Hats for Hope:** Mahi introduced her project “Hats for Hope”, teaching students how to crochet colorful hats and blankets for rural babies. Despite the difficulty, the kids kept trying and proudly held up their first creations. She also guided



Mahi and Myra Bijoriya class of art

them in painting a vibrant mural that now brightens their school walls.

“These students taught me humility and the joy of service. Helping them made me happy — their smiles really did make the whole trip worth it.” – *Mahi Bijoriya*

**Myra Bijoriya - Colors & Dance:** Myra led painting workshops where children created their first artworks and a handprint tricolor canvas as a symbol of unity. Along with Mahi, she also taught dance, and together they performed with the students on Independence Day, making it an unforgettable celebration.

“Even though these kids had fewer opportunities, their determination and creativity shone through. They inspired me more than I could ever inspire them.” - *Myra Bijoriya*

Across Songadh and Chhindwara, the EYU programme planted seeds of curiosity, creativity, and friendship:

- Indian children discovered new skills in coding, sports, painting, and crochet.
- US students absorbed India's traditions through Mehndi, Raksha

Bandhan, organic farming, and village hospitality.

- Together, they built friendships that overcame language and cultural barriers.
- Communities felt engaged and proud to host young change makers, sharing meals, stories, and laughter.

**The Ekal Yuva Udaan 2025** was more than an exchange programme - it was a celebration of youth, creativity, and compassion. For the US students, it was about stepping into India's villages and discovering resilience, warmth, and joy. For the Indian students, it was about experiencing new worlds of technology, sports, and art. As the tricolour flag rose on Independence Day, with dances, murals, and glowing smiles, and certificate distribution one thing was clear: **when young people come together with open hearts, they don't just exchange skills - they create bridges of friendship, hope, and shared humanity.** ■

**Shivani Patil**  
Ekal DRM Lead, USA



Rohan Gandhi for sports





# Sri Ramesh Kumar Maheshwari

## *A Visionary Leader Dedicated to Nation Building and Human Values*

### Early Life and Family Influence

Sri Ramesh Kumar Maheshwari was born on May 1, 1956, in the industrial city of Jamshedpur, Jharkhand—a city that reflects a perfect blend of progress, discipline, and social harmony. His birth in such an atmosphere perhaps sowed the first seeds of enterprise, service, and dedication that later defined his life.

His mother, Smt. Shanti Devi, was a deeply pious and compassionate lady, known for her helping nature and moral uprightness. She was a source of affection, discipline, and inspiration in his formative years. His father, Sri Nandkishore Maheshwari, was a respected businessman of Jamshedpur, known not only for his business acumen but also for his close association with social, cultural, and religious organizations. Together, his parents provided a home that valued honesty, devotion, and service—virtues that shaped Ramesh Ji's personality from an early age.

Growing up in such an inspiring environment, young Ramesh was introduced to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) Shakha during his childhood. There, under the guidance of principled teachers and mentors who instilled nationalist values, he learned the ideals of discipline, teamwork, and dedication to the nation. These formative experiences became the foundation of his lifelong journey of selfless service and leadership.



### Academic Pursuits and Professional Excellence

Ramesh Ji's academic journey reflected his quest for excellence and intellectual curiosity. After completing his early education in Jamshedpur, he obtained a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Ranchi University. Determined to equip himself with professional expertise, he pursued and successfully attained two of India's most prestigious qualifications in finance and management — Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCA) and Fellow Company Secretary (FCS). These qualifications not only enhanced his technical competence but also gave him a deep understanding of corporate governance, ethics, and financial discipline.

His professional career began with Gontermann-Peipers (India) Ltd., a renowned company in the field of engineering and manufacturing. Through sheer competence, hard work,

and dedication, he rose swiftly through the organizational ranks to become the President of the company. Later, in recognition of his leadership and professional integrity, he was appointed as an Independent Director (1995–1997).

Under his stewardship, the company underwent a remarkable transformation, emerging as one of Asia's top iron and steel roll manufacturers. His contributions were instrumental in helping the company achieve the prestigious EEPC Award for the Largest Exporter of Rolls, a recognition that symbolized industrial excellence and innovation.

What set him apart was his multi-dimensional management expertise, encompassing finance, accounts, commercial operations, marketing, technical coordination, and human resource development. His global exposure through international collaborations and business development helped him introduce modern practices and innovative strategies into the organization. His leadership style, rooted in integrity and inclusivity, inspired his team to achieve extraordinary results.

### Entrepreneurial Leadership and the Leadstone Group

After an illustrious corporate career, Ramesh Ji ventured into entrepreneurship, driven by his vision of creating value and contributing to the nation's industrial growth. He worked







as a technical and financial advisor to leading organizations, including Tata Group and various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). His expertise was sought for the execution of several turnkey projects in Vietnam, where his strategic insights and problem-solving skills brought significant success.

In 1997, he founded, along with family members, the Leadstone Group in Kolkata. The group began with a vision to become a responsible and innovative player in the non-ferrous metal industry. Today, Leadstone Group is a reputed name in the manufacture of lead alloys, oxides, and related products, with an annual turnover exceeding 300 crores.

Under his chairmanship, the company has earned recognition for quality, reliability, and technological excellence. It also undertakes turnkey projects, contributing to industrial growth and sustainable practices. His ability to blend professionalism with social consciousness has made Leadstone Group a model of ethical entrepreneurship.

In addition to his corporate responsibilities, Sri Maheshwari serves

as an Independent Director at M/s Manaksia Limited and as a Director in the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) of India. His expertise and insights continue to guide policy formulation, industry growth, and export development at national and international levels.

### Social Contributions

Sri Ramesh Maheshwari's journey with Ekal Abhiyan began in 2005 through his association with Friends of Tribals Society (FTS). Deeply committed to nation-building and social upliftment, he continues to serve in multiple leadership roles, including:

1. National President, Friends of Tribals Society (FTS) – 2025 to 2027
2. President, National Working Committee, Arogya Foundation of India
3. Trustee, Seva Bharati, New Alipore Trust
4. Trustee, Maheshwari Mandal, Jamshedpur

Through FTS, he supports the vision of Panchmukhi Shiksha (Holistic Education), reaching out to more than 100,000 villages across India through Acharyas, Sevabratis, Karyakartas, and volunteers.

### Vision for Bharat

A visionary and true nationalist at heart, Sri Maheshwari aligns deeply with the principles of Ekal Abhiyan and works tirelessly to enhance its impact across Bharat. His key focus areas include:

- Achieving excellence through continuous system upgrades and enhanced transparency.

- Building a strong cadre of dedicated and committed Karyakartas through Nagar Sangathan.
- Ensuring seamless coordination between chapters and grassroots field workers.
- Energizing Yuva and Mahila Shakti to propel the organization forward with dynamism.
- Working for the upliftment of people in urban bastis while inculcating values, Sanskar, and patriotism among urban children.

These initiatives collectively contribute to true social transformation and the realization of a strong, self-reliant Bharat.

### Commitment to Sustainable Growth and Social Innovation

Despite an illustrious professional life, Sri Maheshwari has always believed in integrating business excellence with social responsibility. Dedicated to recycling industries, especially lead and lithium, he remains keenly interested in emerging technologies for sustainability. The synergy between his technical acumen and altruistic spirit has driven his passion for leveraging AI and technology for social good, particularly for the upliftment of the underprivileged.

At Ekal and beyond, Sri Ramesh Kumar Maheshwari is known for his dedication, discipline, and unwavering commitment to systems and values. He stands as a towering figure in the Ekal fraternity, inspiring many through his leadership, integrity, and vision. ■

### Editorial Section





Freedom fighters stand upon two enduring pillars — spiritual conviction and political vision. Without one, the other remains incomplete. Just as Gandhi's political movement cannot be understood without his moral faith, Haipou Jadonang's life too reflects this inseparable harmony of spirit and resistance.

Jadonang called for a spiritual and social revival. He established the Heraka movement (meaning "Pure") to reform and purify ancestral Naga traditions. It emphasized the worship of Tingkao Ragwang, the Supreme God, and discouraged superstitions and unnecessary sacrifices.



## HAIPOU JADONANG

### An Untold Chapter of India's Freedom Struggle

Haipou Jadonang Malangmei (1905–1931), a Naga spiritual leader and political visionary from Manipur, founded the Heraka religious movement rooted in indigenous faith and declared himself the "Messiah King" of the Nagas. His movement spread widely across the Zeliangrong region, prior to the large-scale Christian conversions that transformed the area. Alongside his spiritual mission, Jadonang dreamt of an independent Naga kingdom - Makam Gwangdi or "Naga Raj" - a vision that inevitably brought him into conflict with the British colonial regime.

**Early Life:** Born on July 30, 1905, in Puiluan (then Kambiron) village of present-day Noney district, Jadonang belonged to the Malangmei clan of the Rongmei Naga tribe. He lost his father when he was just a year old, and his mother, Tabonliu, raised her children through farming. From early childhood, Jadonang displayed deep spiritual inclinations — spending hours in prayer and solitude. By the age of ten, he had gained fame across the Zeliangrong region for his dreams, prophecies, and knowledge of herbal healing. People from distant villages came to seek his guidance and listen to his teachings of renewal and faith.

**The Heraka Movement:** Disturbed by the rapid spread of Christianity, which he viewed as a form of foreign imperialism threatening traditional Naga culture,

This revival became intertwined with the awakening of a pan-Naga consciousness — one that would later inspire the Naga National Council and the modern National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN).

**Resistance Against Colonial Rule:** What began as a religious reform soon transformed into a movement of political awakening. Inspired by Gandhi's Non-Cooperation Movement, Jadonang urged the Nagas to unite beyond village rivalries and resist British oppression — which included forced labour, the annual 3 house tax, and harsh new laws.

In 1927, he planned to lead 200 Naga youths to Silchar to welcome Mahatma Gandhi, but Gandhi's visit was cancelled. By then, Jadonang had begun styling himself as the "King of the Nagas," moving through villages on horseback dressed in attire resembling colonial officers. In 1928, when a British officer demanded that he dismount and remove his hat, Jadonang refused — viewing it as a symbol of submission. His defiance led to his brief imprisonment in Tamenglong, which only heightened his popularity.

After his release, he organized a volunteer army named Riphien, which at its peak had 500 men and women trained in combat, intelligence gathering, and Heraka rituals. He also composed songs of freedom that were later popularized by his disciple, Rani Gaidinliu.

By early 1931, the British administration grew alarmed at reports of secret meetings and the collection of taxes by Jadonang's followers. Convinced that he was preparing for open rebellion, they decided to crush the movement. On February 19, 1931, Jadonang was arrested on his way back from the Bhuvan Caves and imprisoned in Silchar.

**Trial and Execution:** The British destroyed Heraka temples and publicly paraded Jadonang in chains to discredit his divine image. He was brought to Imphal Jail in March 1931. Accused of ordering the killing of four traders in 1930 — a charge his followers claimed was fabricated under coercion — Jadonang refused to confess or betray his movement.

On June 13, 1931, a colonial court sentenced him to death. On August 29, 1931, at dawn, Haipou Jadonang was hanged behind Imphal Jail near the Nambul River. He was only 26 years old.

**Legacy:** Though his life was cut short, Haipou Jadonang's vision of cultural renaissance and political unity ignited the spirit of Naga nationalism. His disciple, Rani Gaidinliu, carried his torch forward, ensuring that his dream of dignity, faith, and freedom remained alive in the consciousness of India's northeastern hills.

**Source**  
Wikipedia & Internet





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