

Sewa Sandesh

*August: A Month of Achievements,
Actions & Aspirations*

August, 2026

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Editors Note

Sewa in Action: Connecting People, Creating Change

Namaste Sewa Parivaar,

Sewa comes alive when people come together with a shared commitment to serve. Every health camp, every classroom strengthened, every community engaged and every helping hand extended is a reminder that meaningful change begins with action.

This edition of Sewa Sandesh brings together stories from across diverse communities and geographies, reflecting the many ways in which Sewa International turns this spirit into action. From reaching remote and border communities through healthcare and education, to strengthening tribal communities, supporting children and responding to disaster situations, each initiative begins with understanding a need and coming together to address it.

At the heart of these efforts are people- our volunteers, fellows, community members, partners, donors and supporters. Their collective efforts create connections that go beyond programmes and projects. They build trust, strengthen communities and create opportunities for people to move forward with greater confidence and dignity.

The stories in this edition remind us that change does not always begin with something large. Sometimes, it begins with a health check-up, a conversation, a child returning to school, a community coming together, or a helping hand reaching someone in a difficult moment. When these actions are sustained and multiplied, they become a force for lasting transformation.

As we continue our journey of Sewa, we remain committed to connecting people, strengthening communities and creating change- one action, one life and one community at a time. Because when people come together in the spirit of Sewa, every action has the power to create change.

Thank you



Jineshlal R.V.
Executive Director
(Sewa International)

A NEW STEP TOWARDS HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES IN TRIPURA: MMU INAUGURATION

A new chapter in community healthcare began on 2nd August as Sewa International, in collaboration with Veedol Care Ltd., inaugurated a Mobile Healthcare Unit at Chinta Lohar Sadan, Jubaraj Nagar Block, North Tripura. The ceremony was graced by the District Magistrate and Collector of North Tripura as the Chief Guest. The mobile unit will help bring essential healthcare services closer to communities that face barriers in accessing medical facilities. For Sewa International, this marks an important milestone as we expand our healthcare outreach in Tripura. With every new step, we move closer to ensuring that quality healthcare reaches those who need it most.





SEWA REACHES FLOOD-AFFECTED FAMILIES IN ASSAM

When floods wash away homes and livelihoods, timely support can bring hope to families facing their most difficult days. In August, Sewa International, with the support of IndusInd Bank and Axis Bank, extended relief to flood-affected communities across Sivasagar, Charaideo and Jorhat districts of Assam. Around 7,600 Relief and Ration kits were distributed through door-to-door efforts in Nimai Jan, Namtula, and Robi Gaon, reaching hundreds of affected households, while additional relief kits were handed over at the DC Office, Sivasagar. Sewa volunteers worked closely with local teams to ensure essential supplies reached families who had lost homes and livestock. In times of adversity, Sewa stands with communities—bringing essential support, compassion, and hope when it matters most.



ANUBHUTI CAMP 2026: LEARNING, LEADERSHIP & SMILES

The first SAC Anubhuti Camp of the year brought together 61 students from three schools in Anandabazar, Tripura, for two days of learning, connection, and joyful experiences. Organised under Sewa International's Sponsor a Child initiative, the camp focused on personality development, leadership, and value-based learning through engaging activities and interactive games. Day 1 began with rapport-building activities that helped students break the ice, open up, and connect with one another. In India's "First Villages," the camp created a space where children could learn, express themselves, and grow with confidence. Sometimes, the first step towards growth begins with a simple smile, a new friendship, and the courage to open up.



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE

Strengthening community resilience requires collaboration, knowledge, and the collective experience of institutions working on the ground. At ICP, Thapar House, Delhi, Sewa International Secretary Shri Shyam Ji met senior IPS officer and Director of Bharat Ki Soch, Shri R. K. Pachnanda Ji. With his extensive experience as former DG-NDRF and DG-ITBP, the discussion explored opportunities for collaboration in disaster preparedness, response, community resilience, research, and knowledge sharing. The interaction marked a meaningful step towards bringing expertise and grassroots experience together. Together, we can build communities that are better prepared, more resilient, and stronger in the face of disasters.



SHAPING THE FUTURE OF INDIA'S BORDER REGIONS: PARLIAMENTARY POLICY DIALOGUE AT IHC, DELHI

Strengthening India's border regions requires a shared vision and collective action. Sewa International organised a Parliamentary Policy Dialogue at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, bringing together around 45 participants, including Hon'ble Union Minister Shri Ajay Tamta Ji, Members of Parliament representing border areas, policymakers, academicians, and senior professionals. Centred on the theme "The Shared Role of Public Representatives and Civil Society in the Development of Border Regions," the dialogue explored the challenges, priorities, and aspirations of border communities. The platform enabled meaningful exchange of ground-level experiences and policy perspectives, paving the way for stronger collaboration. Together, we can turn shared understanding into collective action for resilient and sustainable border communities.

CELEBRATING FREEDOM, INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS

Under Project SATHI, Independence Day competitions were conducted across all 10 intervention schools, engaging 1,385 students through story, quiz, and speech competitions. The activities encouraged students to explore India's freedom struggle, learn about lesser-known freedom fighters, and discover Uttarakhand's rich historical and cultural heritage. With 1,054 students participating in the quiz, 215 in storytelling, and 116 in speeches, the initiative created an engaging platform for learning and expression. Students were recognised and rewarded for their participation and achievements. By connecting the stories of our past with the aspirations of our young generation, SATHI is nurturing informed, confident, and patriotic citizens.

Sewa International Parivar wishes you a

HAPPY
Independence Day





NOURISHING HOPE FOR TB-AFFECTED FAMILIES

In the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, a new partnership is bringing nutritional support closer to families affected by tuberculosis. Sewa International, in collaboration with the State TB Cell and State Bank of India's Port Blair Regional Office, will implement a five-month Nutritional Kit Distribution Programme across South Andaman and North & Middle Andaman districts. The initiative will provide monthly nutritional support to 37 TB-affected families each month, helping them meet essential nutritional needs during their treatment journey. This collaboration reflects the power of coordinated efforts between government, civil society, and community partners. Together, we are ensuring that care extends beyond treatment to nourishment, dignity, and hope.

RAKSHA BANDHAN: BUILDING BONDS OF GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

Under Project SATHI, students in Kotdwar, Uttarakhand, turned creativity into a meaningful expression of gratitude by making Rakhis using home and recycled materials. Some Rakhis were sent to the local unit of the Garhwal Rifles, while students of Arya Kanya Inter College visited the local police station and tied handmade Rakhis to police personnel.

The team also set up a Rakhi stall at a Rakshabandhan function, promoting the Swadeshi spirit, community interaction, and future collaboration, with proceeds going to the girls who made the Rakhis. The celebrations created a joyful connection between students, the community, and those who serve the nation. Through SATHI, a simple Rakhi became a thread of gratitude, service, and stronger community bonds.



STAND WITH NEPAL: EVERY HELPING HAND MATTERS

On 26 August 2026, devastating floods along the Bhotekoshi River struck Nepal's Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading and surrounding districts, leaving behind immense loss and destruction. More than 100 lives have been lost, over 1,000 people remain unaccounted for, and homes, schools, hospitals, roads and bridges have been severely damaged. Thousands of families are now facing an urgent need for food, shelter, clean drinking water and medical assistance.

Sewa International Nepal has launched a Disaster Response and Relief Action to provide immediate support to affected families, with a focus on essential supplies, medicines, shelter and assistance for children, women and the elderly.

You can help us reach more families in need. Your contribution can provide essential relief to those who have lost their homes and livelihoods and are struggling to rebuild their lives.

DONATE NOW

FROM FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO CAREER CONFIDENCE

A new journey towards informed career choices began with the first pilot session of SAC Career Connect, bringing together 16 students from the Science, Commerce, and Arts streams. The session encouraged students to look beyond academics and understand their interests, strengths, skills, and aspirations. The initiative aims to help students build communication skills, explore career pathways, and make future decisions with greater clarity and confidence. As a new initiative for the SAC Team, this pilot marks the beginning of a journey shaped by learning and student needs. Because supporting a student's future means not just opening doors, but helping them find the right path through them.



SERVING THOSE WHO SAFEGUARD OUR BORDERS

During its regular monthly visit to Kamalpur Village near the India-Bangladesh border in Tripura, Sewa International's Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) provided health check-ups to members of the local community. The camp also welcomed BSF personnel, creating a meaningful opportunity for interaction with those who stand steadfastly in service of the nation.

Executive Director, Sh Jinesh Lal RV shared with the personnel the breadth of Sewa International's work across healthcare, education, livelihoods, disaster response and community development. The BSF personnel appreciated the organisation's efforts to reach underserved communities across the country.

The interaction was a heartening reminder that Sewa connects communities, strengthens bonds and reaches those who serve others. Sewa International remains grateful for every opportunity to serve the communities living along India's borders and those who tirelessly safeguard them.

WHERE EDUCATION MEETS TRADITION

For the Jamatia community of Tripura, education is not only about learning from books- it is also about preserving a rich cultural heritage passed down through generations. The traditional Hoda, spiritual and community leaders of the Jamatia society, have played an important role in nurturing education, values and cultural identity for centuries.

Recognising this unique connection, a team from Sewa International, along with Executive Director Sh. Jinesh Lal R.V., visited a primary school in the Karamchara Village Committee area of Dhalai district. Discussions with the School Management Committee highlighted challenges including student attendance, teacher shortages, inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to books and other essential resources.

For children in these remote communities, schools serve a dual purpose- providing access to modern education while keeping them connected to their cultural roots and traditions. Sewa International remains committed to strengthening such educational spaces and ensuring that children can learn, grow and carry their heritage forward with pride.





BUILDING A BRIGHTER, SAFER FUTURE FOR GIRLS!

Bringing vital changes to 3 schools across the states of Delhi NCR & Arunachal Pradesh, new safe, and gender-segregated toilet blocks were constructed and handed over alongside the organisation of comprehensive Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) trainings and formation of student-led WASH clubs. At NSCBV (Injono school) in the state of Arunachal Pradesh, four gender segregated toilets were handed over and SHE flow kits were distributed in partnership with RIWATCH. Duplicating these critical hygiene and awareness efforts in Delhi NCR, a total of nine new toilets at Upper Primary School (Bishrakh) and Composite School (Challera) were constructed and handed over to the school. Additionally, 16 toilet blocks were completed across four schools in Gujarat to provide adolescent girls, a safe and dignified space, reduce school absenteeism and dropout rates among adolescent girls, with construction already underway at 11 more schools across five states to sustain this momentum for adolescent well-being.

PARTNERING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW: ENHANCING HYGIENE AND EDUCATION IN GSS CHITOLLI IN VIRATNAGAR, RAJASTHAN

A grand inauguration of the newly constructed toilet facilities was completed in GSS Chitolli, Viratnagar, Rajasthan in the presence of esteemed Sewa USA donors- Sh Shailesh ji & Smt Dimple ji. Along with it, various other activities- an Environment themed painting competition, a Personality Development Workshop on Yoga, promoting good health and self- improvement and a SHE Flow Kit distribution, for providing kits containing reusable sanitary napkins and essential hygiene materials to 65 adolescent girls, were organised in the respective school, marking the completion of all SHE activities in the respective school.



BUILDING A HEALTHIER TOMORROW: MHM TRAINING OF TRAINERS

Under the SHE project, two impactful Training of Trainers (ToT) sessions focused on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) were successfully completed across the states of Karnataka and J&K in both offline and online modes.

In Mysuru, Karnataka, an in-person training brought together 20 master trainers from 10 schools, alongside Sewa volunteers, education department representatives, and retired government officials, to build the practical skills of the trainers needed to lead effective MHM training sessions in their respective schools. In Jammu & Kashmir, an interactive online session was conducted for all 6 teacher coordinators across 3 schools. The session detailed the utilisation of the MHM activity workbook and planned school activities for adolescent girls, providing a clear roadmap for implementation to the trainers.



CELEBRATING NATIONAL OBSERVANCE DAYS NATIONAL DEWORMING DAY ACTIVITIES

Led by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, National Deworming Day is a nationwide effort, observed bi-annually every year with the objective of creating a worm-free India through focus on improving child health, nutrition and growth among children and adolescent girls.

The SHE project and its various initiatives perfectly aligns with this objective and aims to prioritise and improve the well-being and growth of adolescent girls. Regular deworming plays an important role in protecting children and adolescent girls from infections caused by contaminated water, soil, food and poor hygiene practices. To mark both 'Deworming Day' and 'Independence Day', 74 SHE Clubs across 6 blocks in the districts of Rudrapur and Chamoli, Uttarakhand organised a one-day activity-based training session. Led by the Cluster Coordinators, the event empowered young girls with crucial facts about how worms enter the body, their health impacts, and practical prevention steps of worm infestations. A 'Tree of Freedom' activity encouraged girls to reflect on their rights, goals and future choices.



Meet Sewa Parivaar



Ankit Malik

Senior Program
Manager

My Journey So Far with Sewa International

Nearly a decade ago, I began my journey with Sewa International, and over the years, it has shaped both my professional growth and understanding of service. For the first five years, I coordinated the pan-India Skill Development Project – PMKK, along with special CSR projects, gaining valuable insights into the aspirations of young people across diverse communities. For the next five years, as Senior Program Manager, I managed pan-India operations, working with teams, partners, donors and communities to translate programmes into meaningful impact.

This journey has taught me that development is not just about programmes and numbers, but about people, relationships, trust and the difference we create in their lives. Today, Sewa is more than a workplace for me– it has been a school of life, teaching me leadership with humility, responsibility with compassion, and above all, the value of serving others.

What Does Seva Mean to Me?

For me, Seva is not simply a word; it is a way of living. I believe that Sewa Parmo Dharam– service is the highest duty–is about doing whatever is within our capacity with sincerity, compassion and responsibility. It means putting the needs of others before our own convenience, going the extra mile, and asking not “What will I get?” but “What can I contribute?” Over the years, I have learned that the true impact of Sewa cannot always be measured in numbers, but is often reflected in a child’s confidence, a family’s smile, a new opportunity, or simply the reassurance that someone is not alone. Sewa has taught me that our work becomes truly meaningful when it becomes useful to someone else, making service both a responsibility and a privilege.

One Recent Moment of Joy

The Assam Flood Response brought the true meaning of Sewa alive for me once again. Our teams reached affected communities across Jorhat, Sivasagar and Charaideo, distributing 7,600 food kits and 800 hygiene kits to approximately 7,600 families, despite difficult routes and challenging conditions. Yet, beyond the numbers, what stayed with me were the smiles, gratitude and resilience of the people we served. Seeing colleagues, volunteers and local communities come together with one shared purpose reminded me that Sewa is at its most powerful when we stand beside people in their moments of greatest need. The experience reaffirmed for me that while we may not be able to change an entire situation, we can always bring relief, dignity, hope and solidarity to someone who is struggling. For me, Sewa Parmo Dharam means serving when it is needed, standing with those who need support, and finding happiness in being useful to others.

Meet Sewa Fellow

From Discipline to Service: The Inspiring Journey of Sonali Prajapati

Some journeys begin with a clear purpose, while others take shape through experiences, learning and a growing understanding of people and communities. For Sonali Prajapati, the journey of service began with her association with the NCC as an NCC Cadet, where she developed discipline, teamwork, leadership, courage and a strong sense of responsibility. Her involvement in social and community-oriented activities earned her a Bravery Certificate from the Commanding Officer, an experience that strengthened her belief in the ability of young people to take initiative and contribute meaningfully to society. Academically, Sonali completed her B.Sc. in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics (PCM) before pursuing a Master of Social Work (MSW). Her internship and experience with the Chief Minister’s Internship Programme gave her practical exposure to grassroots development, community engagement, Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN), monitoring and evaluation, programme implementation and stakeholder coordination.

A major turning point in Sonali’s journey came when she became a Sewa Fellow (2024–26). Through the fellowship, she had the opportunity to live and work across Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and Assam, engaging with diverse communities and working primarily with children, adolescents and young people. Her work focused on mental well-being, counselling, education, life skills, gender equality, youth development and community engagement. She designed and facilitated sessions, supported counselling and programme planning, and contributed to monitoring, documentation, fundraising and coordination. Her experience taught her that education goes beyond academics– it is also about creating safe spaces, building confidence and giving young people opportunities to discover their potential.

The fellowship also encouraged Sonali to step beyond her comfort zone. Being selected for the Civil–Military Joint Adventure Trek to Jachep Tso in Arunachal Pradesh, reaching approximately 16,000 feet and unfurling the Indian flag, became a memorable experience that strengthened her resilience and confidence. Her participation in Policy BootCamp 2026 at Rishihood University further broadened her understanding of public policy, governance and development. Looking back, her journey– from NCC, to science, social work, grassroots experiences and the Sewa Fellowship– has shaped her into a more resilient, adaptable and purpose-driven leader. For Sonali, Sewa is about listening, learning and taking responsibility. She believes that change can begin with something as simple as a meaningful conversation, a child gaining confidence, or a young person finding someone who truly listens.



MS. Sonali Prajapati

Sewa Fellow
Batch: 2024–26

FELLOW

***Together, we've sketched stories of change,
etching hope into hearts. We want to express
our sincere gratitude for your continued support
and readership.***

