

# E-SAMBANDH

Issue no: 80



January- March '25

## CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

### BUILDING FUTURE-READY CLASSROOMS

#### UNITING TECHNOLOGY, LITERACY, AND SKILLS

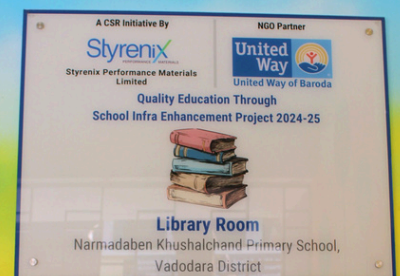


In partnership with Styrenix Performance Materials Private Limited, the educational landscape was transformed at Narmadaben Khushalchand Primary School, Vadodara. This initiative introduced two state-of-the-art Smart Digital Classrooms equipped with interactive smart panels, a well-stocked Library Room to foster a love for reading, and a fully functional Computer Lab to enhance digital literacy.

This impact was made possible with the support of Ms. Apurva Melag (Executive, Legal & Secretarial, Styrenix Performance Materials Private Limited), the dedicated United Way of Baroda team, including Ms. Ritu Atthwal (CSR Assistant Manager) and Mr. Sunny Devnani (Project Coordinator), as well as the cooperation of Principal Mr. Nigam Sir, school staff, and students. Together, we are paving the way for a brighter and more empowered future.



To further support early childhood education, essential teaching-learning materials were also provided, creating a holistic and engaging academic environment. By integrating advanced technology and resources, this initiative bridges the gap between traditional and modern education, fostering curiosity, digital literacy, and skill development among students.



# BUILDING FOUNDATIONS FOR YOUNG LEARNERS

## CREATING SPACES FOR HOLISTIC GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

In collaboration with Mahindra Accelo, a newly constructed Anganwadi Centre was inaugurated at Namisara Village, Savli, Vadodara. This initiative goes beyond infrastructure, fostering a nurturing and child-friendly environment for holistic development.

The centre is equipped with a television for interactive learning, a water purifier for safe drinking water, over 50 teaching-learning materials, storage cabinets, comfortable seating, and a green environment.



The inauguration was attended by dignitaries from Mahindra Accelo, including Mrs. Nora Bhatia, Mr. Laxman Mahale, Mr. Sachin Gandhi, and Mr. Mridul Chaturvedi. Other notable attendees included PO-ICDS Vadodara, Ms. Savitri Nathji, CDPO Savli, and Mrs. Nilam Acharya, Executive Director of United Way of Baroda, along with her team. Over 20 villagers and 20 students celebrated this milestone in advancing early childhood education.

United Way of Baroda remains committed to empowering young learners and strengthening community education through quality infrastructure and innovative learning tools.

# SEEDS OF SUSTAINABILITY

## AN INITIATIVE FOR A GREENER FUTURE

Sun Pharma, in collaboration with United Way of Baroda, launched a sprawling 1,98,000 sq. ft. Miyawaki Forest at Rupapura, Halol. This ambitious initiative involves the plantation of 10,000 trees from 100 diverse species, contributing significantly to biodiversity conservation and carbon footprint reduction.

This monumental effort reflects a shared vision for a greener and healthier planet, fostering a legacy of environmental stewardship for future generations.



The Miyawaki technique ensures this forest will grow 10x faster, become 30x denser, and absorb more carbon, creating a lasting ecological impact. Demonstrating their commitment to environmental sustainability, 50 Sun Pharma volunteers participated in planting 2,500 trees during the drive.



# SUPPORTING MATERNAL HEALTHCARE

## EQUIPPING HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS FOR SAFER PREGNANCIES

Prakash Chemicals International Pvt. Ltd., in collaboration with United Way of Baroda, has taken a significant step toward enhancing maternal healthcare by donating 120 fetal dopplers to 40 Urban Primary Health Centers (UPHCs) and 80 Health & Wellness Centers (HWCs) across Vadodara. This initiative addresses a critical need identified during discussions with Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) officials to ensure safer pregnancies and timely interventions.



Fetal dopplers, effective from 8-12 weeks of pregnancy, play a vital role in early detection of fetal distress, reducing pregnancy-related complications, and enhancing prenatal care. Their portability and user-friendly design make them indispensable tools for healthcare providers, particularly in underserved areas.

The event witnessed the presence of esteemed dignitaries from Prakash Chemicals International Pvt. Ltd, including Manish Shah (Managing Director), Ami Shah (Director), Ujjwal Shah (Director), Pinakin Shah (Director), and Himani Shah. Other notable attendees included Dr. Devesh Patel (Chief Health Officer, VMC), Dr. Smita Vasava (Chief Medical Officer, VMC), and Hemant Shah (Trustee, United Way of Baroda).



This impactful contribution reflects Prakash Chemicals' dedication to grassroots healthcare improvements and its commitment to creating healthier communities. Together, we continue to drive impactful change, strengthening maternal health services and ensuring better outcomes for mothers and babies across the city.

# FLOWING TOWARD HEALTHIER FUTURE

## ACCESS TO CLEAN & SAFE DRINKING WATER

In collaboration with our CSR partners - Mahindra Accelo and Kemtron Technologies Pvt. Ltd., we proudly inaugurated two solar-powered Water ATMs, marking a significant step toward ensuring clean and safe drinking water for rural communities.



### Natvaranagar Village, Savli

With a capacity of 500 LPH and zero water wastage, this Water ATM benefits over 4,000 villagers and 10 nearby villages, significantly improving health and hygiene standards.

The event was graced by dignitaries from Mahindra Accelo, including Mrs. Nora Bhatia (Vice President), Mr. Laxman Mahale (General Manager), Mr. Sachin Gandhi (Senior Manager), and Mr. Mridul Chaturvedi (CSR Project Coordinator), alongside the Sarpanch, Deputy Sarpanch, and enthusiastic participation from villagers and school students.



### Dhabasa Village

The 750 LPH Water ATM at Dhabasa village, supported by Kemtron Technologies, provides safe drinking water to over 20,000 people across Dhabasa and five nearby villages. This vital resource enhances sustainable water access, promoting healthier lifestyles for rural families.

The inaugural event was graced by Mrs. Niyati Antani, Finance Controller of Kemtron Technologies Pvt. Ltd., and Mrs. Nilam Acharya, Executive Director of United Way of Baroda.

The initiatives highlight our unwavering commitment to enhancing rural health and hygiene through sustainable water access, demonstrating the power of effective CSR partnerships and community-driven solutions to create a lasting social impact.

# BRINGING PRECISION TO EYE CARE

## A VISIONARY STEP TOWARDS BETTER HEALTHCARE

United Way of Baroda, in collaboration with Styrenix Performance Materials Private Limited, strengthened eye care services at Kalol Referral Hospital by donating a cutting-edge Auto Refractometer AR-860 with Keratometer. This advanced equipment enhances the hospital's ability to provide precise and efficient eye examinations, significantly benefiting the community.



This initiative underscores a shared commitment to improving healthcare accessibility and quality. United Way of Baroda expresses heartfelt gratitude to Styrenix and the medical professionals at Kalol Referral Hospital for their efforts in transforming lives through better eye care.

# EMPOWERING REHABILITATION

## SKILL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION TO TRANSFORM LIVES

A milestone was achieved at Vadodara Central Jail, where United Way of Baroda, in collaboration with Finolex - Mukul Madhav Foundation, implemented a comprehensive Plumbing Training Program to empower inmates with vocational skills. Supported by ITI Tarsali as the Knowledge Partner and the Government of Gujarat, the program combines theoretical learning, hands-on training, and personalized mentoring to enhance employability and support reintegration into society.

A convocation ceremony was organized for certificate distribution, where 78 inmates were recognized for successfully completing their training. The event was graced by esteemed dignitaries, including Mrs. Nilam Acharya (Executive Director, United Way of Baroda), Mr. Nitul Barot (Head CSR, Finolex), Mr. Kalpesh Parmar (HR Head, Finolex), Ms. Usha Rada, IPS (Superintendent, Vadodara Central Jail), Mr. A.R. Shastri (Principal, ITI Tarsali), and Mr. Mahesh Rathod (Welfare Officer, Vadodara Central Jail).



The inmates, who also received a stipend of ₹6,785 from the Government of Gujarat, gained valuable skills that empower them to rebuild their lives with dignity and confidence. United Way of Baroda remains committed to driving rehabilitation through skill development, fostering independence, and creating a brighter future for all.

# STRENGTHENING RURAL HEALTHCARE

## ENHANCING INFRASTRUCTURE PATIENT CARE



In collaboration with MRI Software, a vital medical equipment was donated to Atladara CHC, strengthening its healthcare infrastructure. The contribution included a phototherapy machine, fumigation machine, multipara monitor, and other essential supplies, ensuring improved healthcare services for the community.

This initiative highlights the commitment of United Way of Baroda and its partners to enhancing healthcare access and quality, paving the way for a healthier and more equitable future.



# KALA JUNCTION

## NURTURING TALENT, CULTURE, AND EXPRESSIONS

For over 23 years, Kala Junction has provided a platform for young minds to express their skills, creativity and knowledge. This year, the theme - **'Environmental Awareness'** inspired students to engage meaningfully through art, storytelling, and teamwork, making the event a true celebration of intellect and culture.

The 24th Kala Junction was a vibrant celebration of talent, uniting young minds and encouraging students to express their ideas through various creative formats.

Held on February 22, 2025, at the Medical College Auditorium, SSC Hospital, the event culminated in a grand Prize Distribution Ceremony, where 30 winners were awarded trophies and certificates.

This year's Kala Junction also showcased essential support to underprivileged children. These children were provided with educational kits and scholarships to support their academic journeys.

**800+**

Students participated

**55**

Schools and colleges came together to celebrate creativity and culture

**30**

Winners awarded in 9 Competitive Categories





# FUSION STUDY FOUNDATION: GET TOGETHER 2025

The Fusion Study Foundation (FSF) began 2025 with an inspiring Get-Together at Hotel Surya Palace, bringing together over **200 enthusiastic students** for a day focused on growth and transformation. Beyond the inspirational talk, the day celebrated community, learning, and self-improvement, setting a powerful tone for the year ahead.

## CHARTING A PATH TO SUCCESS

The highlight of the event was an engaging motivational session by Ms. Kanan Joshi on the theme, **"Unlocking Potential - A Journey to Transform, Grow, and Thrive."** The session offered students valuable insights and practical strategies to navigate their academic and personal journeys.



# EMPOWER HER, CELEBRATE HER

## SHOWCASING WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

United Way of Baroda proudly hosted the 'Empower Her, Celebrate Her' Exhibition on March 15th and 16th, 2025, in celebration of Women's Day. This special event provided a platform for talented women entrepreneurs and NGOs to showcase their creativity, entrepreneurial spirit, and high-quality products to a supportive audience.

The platform offered a remarkable opportunity to 23 entrepreneurs, including representatives from six affiliated NGOs, to showcase their creativity and entrepreneurial spirit. Collectively, they generated an impressive revenue of approximately ₹1 lakh during the event. Beyond sales, the exhibition fostered valuable networking opportunities, enabling entrepreneurs and NGOs to explore potential collaborations. It also heightened awareness among customers, paving the way for future engagements and sustained support.



**“It is a platform to showcase what we produce to grow our business”**

**-Ankita Pravasi**

**“An opportunity to expand the market & tap new audience even for future sales”**

**-Mittal Kachhiya**

**“Helpful in Branding and Networking for further business Collaborations”**

**-Pratha**

**TOTAL STALLS**

**23**

**REVENUE  
ENERATED**

**1 LAKHS**

**NGO'S  
PARTICIPATED**

**6**



The exhibition featured a variety of unique and skilfully crafted items, highlighting the dedication, passion, and innovation of local women-led businesses. This initiative not only celebrated entrepreneurial talent but also laid the foundation for lasting partnerships and community growth. United Way of Baroda remains committed to fostering opportunities for women to thrive and make a lasting impact.

# RECOGNITION CORNER



## NATIONAL NGO AWARD 2025

A LEGACY OF IMPACTFUL COMMUNITY SERVICE

United Way of Baroda was honored with the prestigious National NGO Award 2025 for its 37 years of dedicated service to society. The award, presented on January 23, 2025, in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, acknowledged the organization's relentless efforts in driving social change and creating lasting community impact. This recognition is a testament to the unwavering commitment and hard work of our supporters, donors, and volunteers, who have been instrumental in making our initiatives successful. Together, we continue to work towards a brighter and more equitable future for all.



## BEST PRACTICES IN CSR AWARD 2025

POSITIVE CHANGE THROUGH MEANINGFUL PARTNERSHIPS

United Way of Baroda is proud to have been awarded the **'Best Practices in CSR Award'** at the prestigious CSR Convection hosted by Sakshamthad Foundation - Parul University. This recognition underscores our unwavering commitment to driving impactful initiatives and fostering sustainable community development.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our partners, supporters, and stakeholders who have been instrumental in enabling us to make a difference. We shall remain committed to building stronger communities through impactful CSR practices.

# KHUSHIYON KA UTSAV

## TURNING DREAMS INTO SMILES

United Way of Baroda made an effort to bring joy and bright smiles to children by fulfilling their heartfelt wishes through the 'Khushiyan ka Utsav' initiative. This celebration marked a magical beginning to the New Year, filled with cherished moments of happiness.



From thoughtful gifts to radiant smiles, the event showcased the transformative power of kindness. United Way of Baroda remains committed to spreading joy and creating lasting memories for children, inspiring hope and dreams for a brighter tomorrow.

# FOSTERING MENTAL WELLNESS

## DIALOGUE FOR PEACEFUL WELL-BEING



Under United Way of Baroda's Community Impact Program, the closing ceremony of Project Pahal's Mental Health Awareness Program, organized by VNM Foundation, unfolded at Maa Bharti Primary School. Students showcased their understanding of mental health through impactful skit dramas, addressing topics aimed at fostering awareness and empathy.

As part of this impactful initiative, mindful journals were distributed among students to encourage self-reflection and positive mental health practices. Project Pahal continues to emphasize the importance of prioritizing mental wellness, equipping students with tools and habits that will shape a healthier and brighter future.



# KSHITIJ

## A HEART-WARMING CELEBRATION OF INCLUSION AND JOY



Kshitij 2025, a heartfelt initiative by United Way of Baroda, brought together over 450 specially-abled individuals for a day of joy, inspiration, and celebration. Held during the Uttarayan festival, the event painted the skies with colorful kites and filled participants' hearts with boundless happiness. The day unfolded with soulful melodies, energetic dance performances, and moments of sheer wonder, symbolizing the spirit of inclusion and hope.

United Way of Baroda remains steadfast in its mission to foster an inclusive and supportive environment, celebrating the unique abilities and dreams of every individual.



It stood as a testament to the belief that "The sky is not the limit; it's where dreams take flight."

# MENSTRUAL HEALTH EDUCATION

## BREAKING THE SILENCE AND RAISING AWARENESS



In a country where 71% of girls remain unaware of menstruation before their first period, this initiative has educated over 500 adolescent girls in Government Primary Schools of Makarpura.

United Way of Baroda, in collaboration with Baroda Citizens Council, is taking bold strides toward empowering young girls by raising awareness about menstrual health and hygiene.

The program covered menstrual hygiene, reproductive health, and nutrition, addressing critical gaps in knowledge that often lead to confusion and fear. To provide practical support, sanitary pad vending machines and incinerators were installed in schools, ensuring sustainable solutions alongside education. This initiative not only promotes better health but also helps girls stay in school, manage menstruation with dignity, and focus on their education and aspirations.



United Way of Baroda remains dedicated to fostering an environment where no girl's potential is hindered by a lack of awareness or resources.

# TRANSFORMING PAEDIATRIC HEALTHCARE

## WITH ADVANCED PICU FACILITIES

As part of its Community Impact initiatives, United Way of Baroda donated advanced medical equipment worth ₹55 lakhs to establish a state-of-the-art Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at Kashiben Gordhandas Patel Children Hospital.

The new PICU, inaugurated on January 25, 2025, is equipped with cutting-edge tools, including bronchoscopy equipment, pediatric neurosurgery instruments, and emergency medical systems.

These advancements ensure comprehensive care for neonates and young children, reinforcing United Way of Baroda's commitment to shaping brighter and healthier futures for vulnerable children.



# RECOGNIZING ACADEMIC SCHOLARS

## ACKNOWLEDGING PERSEVERANCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS

United Way of Baroda proudly organized a Student Recognition Ceremony at Xavier Technical Institute to honor the exceptional achievements of scholarship recipients. These students, who have successfully secured employment with reputed companies, exemplify perseverance and dedication. The event included a felicitation ceremony where students received certificates as tokens of recognition for their hard work. A special T-shirt distribution ceremony added a personal touch, celebrating their success and achievements.



United Way of Baroda remains committed to empowering individuals through education and career opportunities, ensuring a brighter future for all.

# GUIDING EXCELLENCE

## SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH STRATEGIES AND CONFIDENCE



On February 4, 2025, United Way of Baroda hosted a special Exam Preparation & Mentoring Session at Ambedkar Bhavan, Alkapuri, to empower students facing financial hardships ahead of their board exams.

The session, led by expert mentor Ms. Kanan Joshi, focused on stress-free exam techniques, time management strategies, and effective study habits. Topics included overcoming exam anxiety, smart revision methods, maintaining concentration, and balancing well-being.

Additionally, each student received an Exam Wishing Kit to boost confidence and motivation. United Way of Baroda's Executive Director, Mrs. Nilam Acharya, encouraged the students, reinforcing the organization's 20-year commitment to supporting young minds in their academic journeys.

# A STEP TOWARDS BETTER ELDERLY CARE

## PROMOTING HEALTHCARE ACCESS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



On February 12, 2025, United Way of Baroda organized a Senior Citizen Health Check-Up & Ayushman Card Camp at Vadil Parivar, Subhanpura. This initiative provided essential medical services to seniors aged 70 and above, ensuring they received the healthcare they deserve.

Supported by Shree Krishna Hospital, Karamsad, the camp offered free serum creatinine and lipid profile tests to around 40 senior citizens, empowering them with better access to healthcare services.

United Way of Baroda remains committed to fostering a healthier and happier community by addressing the unique needs of senior citizens.



# EQUIPPING WOMEN WITH SKILLS

## SKILLS FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

United Way of Baroda, in collaboration with Disha Charitable Trust, conducted vocational training programs in tailoring and beauty parlour skills. These initiatives empower women with practical skills, fostering financial independence and self-reliance.

Through focused training and hands-on learning, United Way of Baroda continues to support women's aspirations, creating lasting impacts and transforming lives.



# IGNITING CURIOSITY, EMPOWERING EDUCATORS

## SCIENCE EDUCATION THROUGH INNOVATIVE TEACHING



Under its Community Impact Program, United Way of Baroda hosted the Teacher Training Program as part of the Vigyan Express initiative, in collaboration with the Community Science Center. This inspiring event brought together 50 dedicated science teachers, including educators from 10 NPSS schools, for hands-on learning and innovation.

The program focused on enhancing teaching methodologies through practical science experiments, equipping teachers with tools to nurture a spirit of inquiry and curiosity in their classrooms. Participants received comprehensive science kits to make lessons more interactive and engaging for students.

By empowering educators with experiential teaching techniques, United Way of Baroda continues to foster a love for science among young learners, paving the way for a brighter, knowledge-driven future.



# POWERING THE SPIRIT OF SPORTSMANSHIP

## A DISPLAY OF TALENT, TEAMWORK, AND TRIUMPH

For the third consecutive year, the BalBhavan U-14 Boys emerged victorious at the Open Baroda Basketball Championship, powered by United Way of Baroda. The tournament, organized by the Baroda District Basketball Association, took place from January 16th to 19th, 2025, at BalBhavan.

BalBhavan's boys showcased remarkable dominance, winning every match with ease and securing the championship title by defeating NISV with an impressive final score of 55-26. In the Girls' section, New Era School triumphed in a nail-biting final, defeating NSA-A team by a razor-thin margin of 35-34, highlighting the competitive spirit and talent of the participants.

The championship trophies were presented by esteemed dignitaries, Mrs. Pritty Patel, Chairperson of United Way of Baroda, and Mr. Amit Goradia, CIC Chairman, adding a memorable touch to this celebration of sportsmanship and excellence.





**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

OFFICE ADDRESS:

1965, ALEMBIC CITY,  
ALEMBIC ROAD,  
BARODA, 390003

PHONE: 07984075303 | 07984051699

Email: [unitedwayofbaroda@unitedwayofbaroda.org](mailto:unitedwayofbaroda@unitedwayofbaroda.org)

[WWW.UNITEDWAYBARODA.ORG](http://WWW.UNITEDWAYBARODA.ORG)

FOLLOW US:

