

IMPACT STORIES FORMAT

Story Title	Empowering Lives: The Inspirational Journey of Goverdhan Singh Meena
Date	03/10/2024
Prepared by	Shyam Meena
Name of partner Organization	Gayatri Seva Sansthan
Name of Daksha/Daksh	Goverdhan Singh Meena
Name of SKB centre	Hari Singh Ji Ka Kheda
Cluster	Satola
Block	Chotisadri
District	Pratapgarh

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT:

Goverdhan Singh Meena, a 26-year-old resident of Hari Singh Ji Ka Kheda in Rajasthan's Pratapgarh district, joined the *Sakhion Ki Baadi* program in the Satola cluster of Chotisadri block. Despite his family's modest background, Goverdhan had a deep passion for education and became an integral part of the program as a *Daksh*, dedicating himself to teaching children in his community.

While working as a *Daksh*, Goverdhan demonstrated remarkable commitment by teaching students English, Hindi, and Mathematics, all while continuing his own studies. His teaching skills, punctuality, and strong rapport with the community allowed him to effectively engage both children and parents in the educational process, even in a region where school dropouts were common.

CHALLENGES FACED:

Goverdhan faced several challenges on his journey. Coming from a rural, economically disadvantaged background, it was difficult for him to juggle his responsibilities as a *Daksh* with his own personal commitments. The children in the center were often at risk of dropping out due to financial constraints, and convincing parents of the value of education, especially for girls, required constant effort. Goverdhan also had to walk 2 kilometers daily to the SKB center, navigating harsh weather conditions and limited access to resources.

INTERVENTION/ACTIVITIES:

Despite these obstacles, Goverdhan's dedication to his role never wavered. He benefited greatly from the *Daksha* training organized by IIFL and GSS, which provided him with new methods and techniques to improve his teaching effectiveness. Goverdhan used innovative strategies such as educational games, songs, and interactive learning materials to engage the students, making learning enjoyable and accessible for all.

In addition to teaching at the center, Goverdhan regularly visited the homes of *Sakhion Ki Baadi* children, ensuring their attendance and discussing their progress with parents. He also organized choupal meetings and engaged the broader community, highlighting the importance of education and addressing any concerns or challenges that arose.

OUTCOMES:

As a result of Goverdhan’s relentless efforts, the educational level of the children at the SKB center improved significantly. Attendance rates increased, and the community gradually began to value education more deeply, particularly for their daughters. Goverdhan became a respected figure in the village, and his work as a *Daksh* made a lasting impact on the lives of the children and families he worked with.

Goverdhan’s dedication to both his students and his personal growth eventually paid off. He secured a government job as a lineman in the electricity department, which brought financial stability to his family. His salary increased, and his success was celebrated by the community, who were inspired by his journey from an educator to a government employee.

Goverdhan continues to express his gratitude to the *Sakhion Ki Baadi* program, IIFL, and GSS for the support they provided in helping him develop his skills and transform his life. His hard work and determination have not only uplifted his own circumstances but have also brought positive change to his community.

GOOD QUALITY IMAGE: - 3-4 IMAGES (Attach below)



