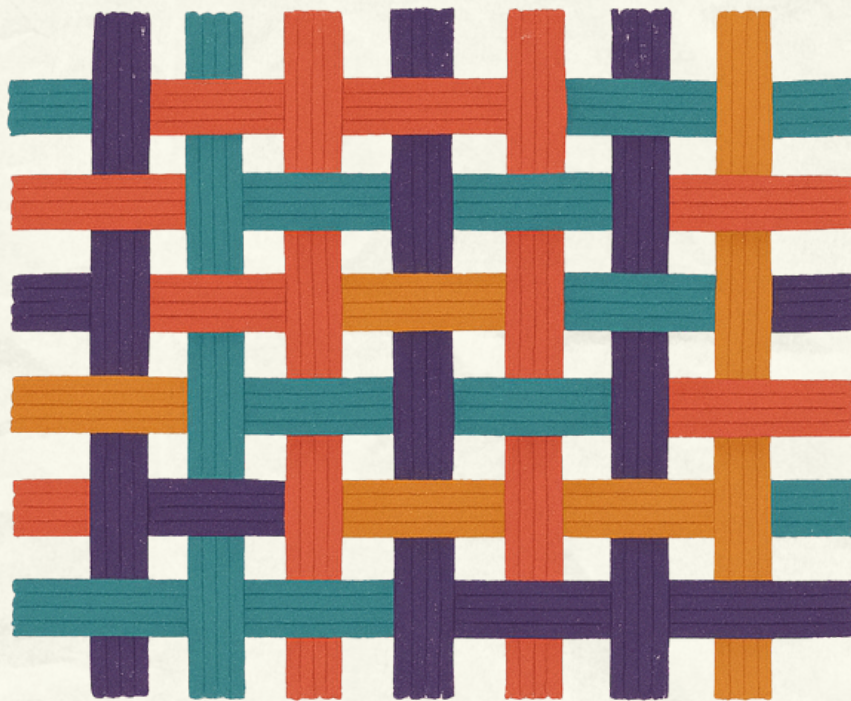


# Annual Report

## SAWF IN

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25



# RESOURCING FEMINIST FUTURES

South Asia Women Foundation India

## 2024-25

# CONTENTS

1. The Year Gone By .....	1-2
2. About SAWF IN .....	3-7
3. Strengthening Women and Trans people led initiatives .....	8-40
3.1 Grants (Provided solely through domestic funds/ local contributions) .....	9-20
3.1.1 Udaan – Building Economic Resilience and Leadership of Women Artisans	
3.1.2 Diya Welfare Society – Strengthening Feminist Leadership in Chitrakoot and Banda, Uttar Pradesh	
3.2. Fellowships (Provided solely through domestic funds/ local contributions) .....	21-40
3.2.1 Parvaaz Legal Fellowship for Feminist Lawyering	
3.2.2 Economic and Environmental Justice Fellowship for grassroots feminist leaders	
3.2.3 Urja Fellowship for transgender entrepreneurs	
4. Building Feminist Futures and Research Studies .....	41-44
4.1 Capacity Strengthening and Building Feminist Futures through Grassroots Leadership .....	41-42
4.2 Surfacing evidence through research studies and knowledge briefs Philanthropy for .....	43-44
• Climate Change Action and Gender Equality in India	
• Philanthropy for Transgender persons	
• Philanthropy for Advancing Gender Equality in India	
5. Critical Conversations for Resourcing Gender Equality .....	45-48
5.1 Convening of women’s funds and allies .....	46
5.2 Convenings to unpack good practices to end GBV .....	46
5.3 Curating critical discussions on sustainability and gender .....	47
5.4 Strengthening eco systems around access to justice .....	47
5.5 Convening of intermediary platforms on gender funding .....	48
6. Unlocking Domestic Philanthropy for Resourcing Gender Equality .....	49
6.1 Bringing the spotlight on Women Philanthropists .....	49
6.2 Building a Repository of Women-led Organisations .....	49
7. Learning, Networking and Collaboration .....	50-52
7.1 Internal Team Processes .....	50
7.2 Network Engagements .....	51
7.3 FMEAL and Resource Mobilisation Collaborative .....	52
8. Financial Statements .....	53-57
9. Partners and Supporters .....	58
10. Governance .....	59
11. Registration Details .....	60



## 1. The Year Gone by



**Anuradha Rajan,  
Honorary Executive Director**

2024-2025 was a year filled with promise and the unfurling of many possibilities. SAWF IN established her first communication office in New Delhi, in August 2024. Our agenda of advancing the leadership of women in all their diversity, deepened with the expansion of our Parvaaz Programme as well as the onboarding of many more partnerships in the arena of economic resilience building of women and transgender individuals.

SAWF IN also took forward her role of holding spaces for critical conversations around gender equality, with diverse stakeholders from the philanthropic eco system. These dialogue based forums, are emerging as significant platforms for sharing and exchange of good practices around ending gender based inequalities, around responsive funding practices, and highlighting issues where resources can be most effectively deployed to end gender discrimination.

While we have taken large strides in centering women led initiatives and field programmes aimed at ending gender based inequalities, we are also cognizant of the many agendas we have to navigate, to be more effective role as a national women's fund.

The role of women's funds in bringing attention to underserved agendas and issues gained much momentum through various evidence based backgrounders, we produced this year. Our research on unpacking the landscape of women led organisations enabled us to start building a much needed repository of high-impact organisations that have done exemplary work in shifting regressive gender norms. Through our research on women in philanthropy we were able to realize one of our core objectives of creating knowledge in the field of gender funding.

Our work around offering accompaniment support to women leaders and change makers in the form of training and capacity building enabled us to offer much needed support in areas such as financial management, documentation and effective communication. Through this critical role, SAWF IN was able to strengthen field functionaries and curate effective platforms for collective reflection and analysis.

*Our strength and motivation is drawn from women and LGBTQI+ change leaders at the grassroots and our advisors, well-wishers and our Board, all of whom keep us inspired and motivated in realizing our purpose.*

## 2. About SAWF IN

South Asia Women Foundation India (SAWF IN) is a national women's fund committed to advancing resource justice by ensuring more and better resources flow to grassroots initiatives led by women and trans persons across India. We work with the belief that supporting women and trans\* persons-led initiatives and strengthening their leadership is critical to achieving gender equality and transformative change.

Women and trans\* person leaders engaged in transforming gender relations and building women's claims to various resources, work with limited resources or support mechanisms.

In most cases they are not equipped to access knowledge and information, social networks and financial support which are crucial for ongoing efforts and sustainability. To address this, SAWF IN works with the mandate of promoting and strengthening philanthropic engagement with the issue of gender equality and of building a stronger ecosystem to support the issue.

Our role is to ensure that excluded and dispossessed women and trans\* groups working on the margins but addressing complex issues such as ending gender-based violence and enhancing economic resilience can access resources for the priorities they identify and the agendas they want to pursue.

By surfacing research and insights and organising convenings and reflective sessions SAWF IN makes efforts to engage with philanthropy to support and empower women and gender non-binary people, especially those from marginalised communities. SAWF IN supports women's and trans\* persons' leadership as well as their efforts that dismantle barriers to gender equality and non-discrimination.

SAWF IN makes grants and offers fellowships solely from local contributions/domestic funds raised from Indian entities and individuals. Foreign contributions are utilised strictly for SAWF IN's direct implementation programmes around research, dissemination, capability enhancement and accompaniment support.

By harnessing knowledge and cultivating feminist leadership and mobilising financial resources SAWF IN (influences philanthropic efforts towards more gender just, sustained, and context-aligned funding.



### Our Vision

SAWF IN makes grants and offers fellowships solely from local contributions/domestic funds raised from Indian entities and individuals.

Foreign contributions are utilised strictly for SAWF IN's direct implementation programmes around research, dissemination, capability enhancement and accompaniment support.

### Our Mission:

To accomplish this, we inform philanthropic practices and mobilise financial and other resources to support initiatives led by women and gender non-binary persons, towards the realisation of their rights.

### Our Values:

The values of Transparency, Respect, Trust and Equality shape SAWF IN's partnerships with grantees, and resourcing with clear accountability to the feminist ecosystems.

These values also inform SAWF IN's engagement with funders and philanthropic actors, intermediaries and other organisations engaged in advancing gender equality.



SAWF IN's feminist strategy focuses on shifting power and resources to historically excluded communities through four interconnected approaches:

- Accompaniment and Grant making (Provided solely through domestic funds/ local contributions): We provide multi-year fellowships and small grants alongside mentorship, capacity strengthening, and strategic support—centring trust, care, and accountability.
- Critical Convenings: We create intergenerational, cross-community spaces for reflection, renewal, and strategy-building to strengthen feminist ecosystems.
- Evidence and Discourse Building: Through participatory research, Feminist Monitoring Evaluation And Learning and storytelling, we surface the wisdom and insights from the communities at the centre of the work and challenge dominant frameworks that privilege only quantification and scale.
- Engaging Philanthropy: We engage with the philanthropic ecosystem to shift norms toward equity, care, and accountability. As part of Prospera – the International Network of Women's Funds – we amplify feminist voices in regional and global philanthropic discourse.

### 3. Strengthening Women and Trans\* people led initiatives

As a national women's fund, SAWF IN supports organisations and initiatives led by women and trans\* persons through grants and fellowships (provided solely through domestic funds/ local contributions), recognising them as critical drivers of social and systemic change. Through this work, SAWF IN refines and demonstrates feminist funding principles – flexibility, trust, care, and accountability – showing how responsive resourcing and accompaniment can catalyse progress toward gender equality. Central to this approach is unlocking domestic funding to sustain grassroots feminist organisations and advance gender-transformative agendas within broader efforts for rights and social justice.

SAWF IN's support through *accompaniment, capacity building, and strategic mentoring places* emphasis on maintaining integrity in statutory compliances and supporting organisations to strengthen their internal systems and strategy development to ensure that women-led organisations remain both *resilient and well-equipped* to sustain their *transformative agendas*.

Our strategy over the past year deepened the commitment to feminist leadership, access to justice, and strengthening economic resilience and environmental sustainability. Recognising that work towards gender equality is neither linear, nor easily captured through standard and conventional measurement metrics,

SAWF IN brings focus on process indicators and progress towards outcomes.





## Udaan initiative - Building Economic Resilience For Women Artisans

The Udaan initiative, supported by Christian Dior Trading India Private Limited since 2023, continued to advance women's economic leadership among rural and marginalised women artisans.

Through partnerships with Pragati Path Foundation (PPF) in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh and Bhojpur Mahila Kala Kendra (BMKK) in Bihar, SAWF IN extended flexible, trust-based support aimed at strengthening leadership, economic independence, and feminist knowledge among women artisans. PPF and BMKK work at the grassroots to enhance artisan skills, support income-generating initiatives, and foster women's leadership in both economic and social spheres. The programme reached 360 women artisans across the two states between October 2023 and March 2025.

The activities included community-led leadership development workshops, training sessions on market linkages, capacity building in handicrafts and traditional arts, and support in navigating entitlements and institutional linkages.

The year also saw active peer exchange between the two organisations, fostering collaboration, sharing of design ideas, and strengthening market strategies. The peer engagement calls and learning visits by SAWF IN encouraged cross-learning between organisations and artisan groups and reinforced the need for sustained efforts in leadership development and social norm change.

Linkages with government schemes further expanded access to resources and opportunities for the artisans, deepening their participation in both local and broader markets.

The year marked significant progress in enhancing the visibility, recognition, and economic stature of women artisans. Both BMKK and PPF strengthened their organisational perspectives on working with women artisans, enabling them to position artisans not merely as workers, but as entrepreneurs and leaders in their craft.

### Business Development and Entrepreneurship:

Over the year, core team members of both organisations participated in business development and entrepreneurship training through practice-oriented sessions and follow-up.

Topics of learning included costing, product design and branding, sustainable packaging, development of product catalogues, promotional materials, and market research. This helped the organisations to facilitate targeted capacity building processes with women artisans conducted in local languages and delivered through hands-on exercises, enabling application of new concepts.



Following this, artisans explored new colour palettes, experimentation and development of new products through fusion of materials and techniques, reached new markets and diversified their customer base, while also identifying opportunities to access government resources.

The introduction of innovative design ideas, along with sustainable packaging practices, led to the creation of new products and expanded market opportunities.

## Capturing shifts through endline surveys

Endline surveys were undertaken by both organisations in February to March 2025 to understand the change initiated in lives of women artisans through the programme. SAWF IN provided support on designing of survey questionnaire and orienting the data collection teams on online tools for data collection. Analysis of the data and report writing was also undertaken by SAWF IN and respective reports were shared with the organisations.

The comparisons between baseline and endline assessments reflected increases in income, social recognition, and confidence in decision-making and negotiation. Significant shifts were seen in among the 360 women (180 - PPF and 180 - BMKK) who participated in the survey:

- Increased income levels of most women artisans ( 159 women artisans from BMKK and 149 from PPF).
- 30 from BMKK and 6 from PPF had secured Artisan Cards and applications for Artisan Cards were facilitated for 102 women by BMKK and 107 women by PPF, respectively.
- Most women artisans had bank accounts in their name. 157 women from BMKK's area and 176 women from PPF's area reported saving in the past year.



**Case Study: Rita Devi — Bhojpur Mahila Kala Kendra (BMKK) Location: Chhotki Sanadiya, Bhojpur, Bihar**

Rita Devi left school after the 5th grade due to financial constraints and was married when she was 16 years old. Facing severe economic hardship, she began making Sujani products for the local market but lacked skills in quality and design. After attending awareness sessions and training with BMKK, she joined the Udaan programme in 2023. Within months, she became a master trainer, increasing her income by ₹3,000 per month. In 2024, she received the Daksh Desaj State Handicraft Award. Rita is now recognised as a role model in her village, preserving cultural heritage and advancing women's economic independence.

**Case Study: Pushpa— Pragati Path Foundation (PPF)**

**Location: Kashmiriganj, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh | Year: 2023–2025**

Pushpa, 32, comes from a family of traditional lacquerware artisans where women were excluded from product design. In November 2023, she joined PPF's Udaan programme, gaining skills in product innovation, organic colouring techniques, marketing, packaging, and labelling. In early 2025, she sold ₹12,000 worth of products at the Tamil Samagam programme at Banaras Hindi University, earning recognition as an artisan and a key contributor to her family's income. She now aims to expand her entrepreneurship through digital marketing and reach international markets.



**Business Training  
Development Workshop**

Diya Welfare Society (DWS) has worked for over fifteen years to advance its mission of building collective power, access to justice, and healing for women and girls in some of Uttar Pradesh's most marginalised communities through a blend of direct support, leadership development, access to government entitlements, and innovative partnerships.

Facing some of India's starkest challenges on gender equality—low literacy, persistent violence, and entrenched patriarchal norms—DWS's efforts have marked a turning point for thousands of women and girls. Chitrakoot and Banda remain emblematic of both severe gender disparities and remarkable grassroots potential. The sex ratio, low literacy levels (56% for women aged 15–49), and only 30% completing a decade of education set the context: women, especially Dalit and Adivasi, confront daily risks of violence and discrimination. Rural isolation, lack of transport, and community resistance to women's leadership further compound their vulnerability.

Over the year, DWS with continuing support from SAWF IN and Leiner Shoes Private Limited deepened its transformative work in Chitrakoot and Banda districts of Uttar Pradesh.

Working in partnership with SAWF IN since 2017, DWS demonstrates how social change can be catalysed through deep and sustained engagement, ensuring that women and girls gain the tools, confidence, and networks they need to shape safe, dignified futures for themselves and their communities.

In 2024, DWS initiated work in Banda with Muslim women and with Kol Adivasi women in response to requests from the women of these communities. In villages like Akbarpur, Raipurwa, Bandarkol, and Tharri, mobilisation remains slow, as resistance from men hinders women's participation. Through persistent efforts DWS' work is gradually taking root.



Expanding Reach and Building Local Leadership

DWS directly reaches 4,500 women and 250 girls. Awareness campaigns and community outreach influenced a further 7,000 individuals. Across 23 villages in Chitrakoot (16 panchayats) and 10 villages in Banda (6 panchayats), teams worked persistently — despite logistic barriers in reaching remote villages — to ensure continued engagement and build local leadership.

Regular meetings of Diya Mahila Manch and Kadam Yuva Manch (girls’ leadership groups) built solidarity and empowered participants. Weekly meetings were held in each group over the year, alongside stakeholder dialogues, workshops, and capacity-building sessions.



POCSO case in Banda



Nyay Kendra where community comes together to share and listen and discuss issues of gender based violence and rights.



Connecting community with government funds and programmes – Vishwakarma yojana for livelihoods support

DWS makes intentional efforts to engage men and boys in creating safer spaces. Even if only a portion of disruptive men feared collective repercussions, the change contributed to a measurable reduction in unchecked violence. Stakeholder dialogues brought together village elders, police, and service providers, focusing on systemic accountability and holistic change.

DWS continues to benefit from the flexible, multi-year funding and strategic partnership with SAWF-IN. The collaborative approach to reviews and assessments through feminist monitoring evaluation accountability and learning processes, centred change-makers as knowledge holders, prioritising community transformation over external metrics. Collective story-sharing, exposure visits, and alliances with local organisations amplified learning and impact.

There is ongoing resistance in some villages, requiring intensified negotiation and mobilisation. There is also low participation in remote sites due to transport and cultural barriers—especially among Adivasi girls.

A recurrent need is for ongoing support and capacity-building, particularly for new leaders and communities.

Despite these, the work is growing, core team leaders continue outreach, survivors rally around shared experiences, and the network of strengthening capacities, claiming spaces, healing, and economic empowerment expands.

**Healing Beyond Legal Aid :** Sushila, a survivor and resource group leader, reflected, —For women and girls, healing is more important than just getting legal aid. DWS is a space that helps us heal, giving strength to keep fighting against the odds. DWS recognises that many survivors needed empathy, counselling, and safe spaces as much as legal recourse.

**The Power of Economic Independence :** Gulshan, a widow, accessed government schemes thanks to DWS’s outreach, gaining a small plot of land and renewed security for her family. Shakuntala, a Manch member, observed, —When women can make decisions about earning, they gain financial independence and autonomy.

**Young Leaders Resisting Patriarchal Norms:** In the past year, 115 girls in the girls’ group actively resisted early and forced marriages, demanding the right to continue education. Some who had been forced to drop out after class 10 enrolled in pre-university or graduation courses.



**Legal Rights Awareness Datora**



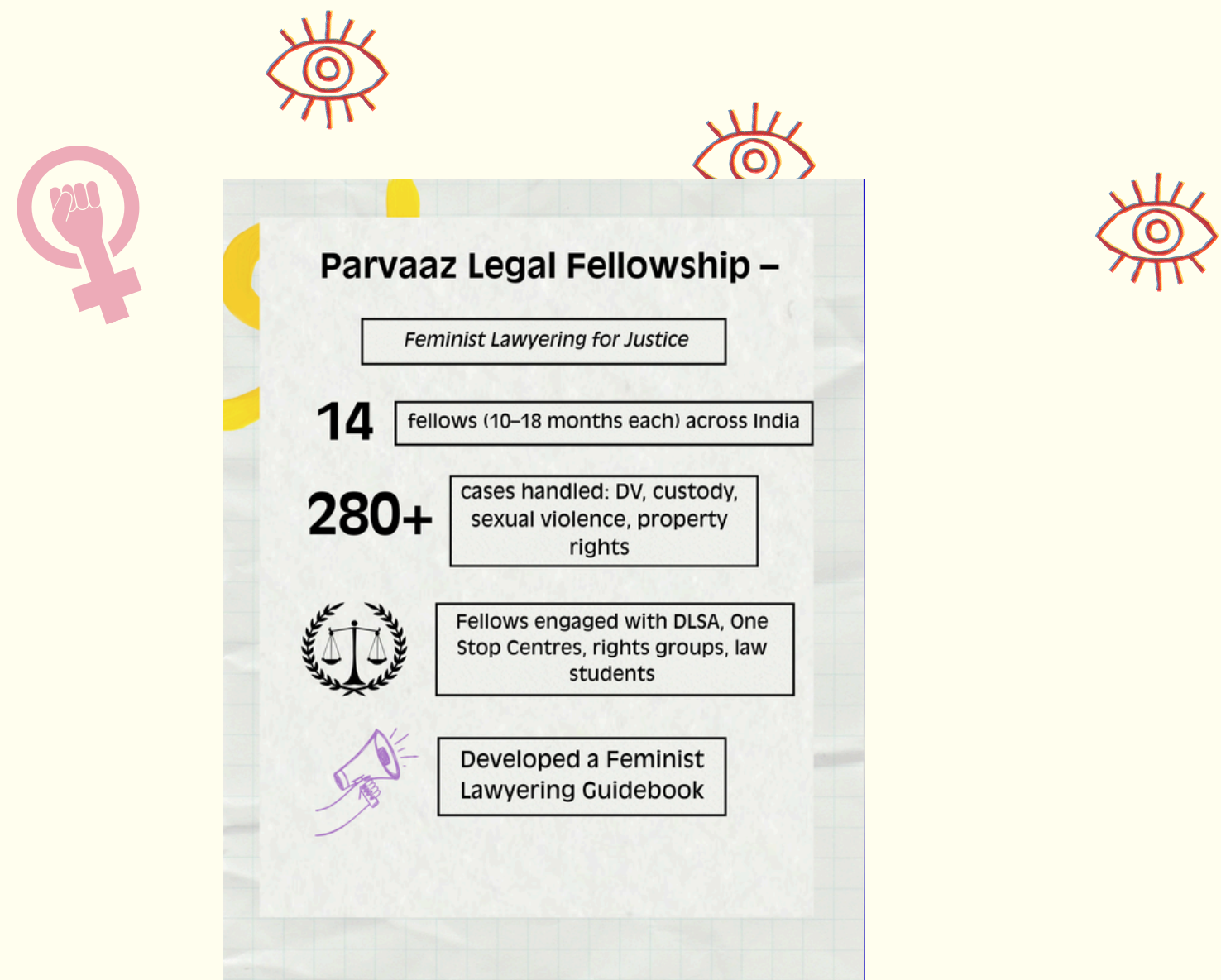
3.2. Fellowships (Provided solely through domestic funds/ local contributions)

3.2.1 Parvaaz Legal Fellowship – Strengthening feminist lawyering

Despite constitutional guarantees, laws, and international norms, women and LGBTQIA+ individuals in India, especially at the grassroots, face persistent barriers to justice due to gender bias, institutional apathy, stereotyping, and intersectional discrimination, while limited legal awareness, inaccessible mechanisms, and structural exclusion within the legal profession—where representation of diverse women and trans persons is negligible—further restrict access; district-level women lawyers also face high attrition due to harassment, caregiving burdens, unsafe infrastructure, and limited opportunities, reinforcing leadership gaps, as normative inclusion without meaningful participation fails to guarantee gender equality shaped by patriarchal norms and systemic neglect, underscoring the need for community-rooted lawyers grounded in feminist values.

The Parvaaz Legal Fellowship, hosted by SAWF IN since 2017, was created to meet this need. It supports diverse women lawyers across underserved regions of India to strengthening feminist lawyering skills and practices, engage institutions effectively, and expand access to justice for marginalised communities.

Through access to legal resources, capacity building, peer learning, and financial support, the fellowship nurtures and encourages fellows as accountability actors, allies in larger efforts to build access to justice, and drivers of systemic change.



Parvaaz Legal Fellowship Annual Convening 2025





FY 2024–25 was a pivotal year for the Parvaaz Legal Fellowship, reflecting both its growth and increasing recognition. This year funding support increased from a single donor to a pool of three, enabling greater reach, resources, and programmatic innovation. The fellowship expanded its cohort, deepened its regional engagement, and piloted new elements such as short-term mentorship and structured peer learning, reinforcing its role as a critical platform for nurturing diverse women lawyers.

Design and Approach of the Fellowship

The Parvaaz Legal Fellowship integrates flexibility, trust, collaboration, solidarity and recognition of lived experience into its design, ensuring that fellows are resourced and supported to advance feminist lawyering and gender justice in ways that are contextually rooted and community responsive.



Financial and Technical Support:

Fellows receive living stipends and technical support—including access to legal databases and resources—to dedicate time to learning, outreach, research, and quality engagement with underserved communities, reflecting SAWF IN’s commitment to valuing the time and labour of diverse women lawyers.

Snapshot of FY 2024–25: 14 fellows were hosted (7 for a period of 10 months each and 7 for a period of 18 months each): four in the Northeast supported by Priya Paul, and ten from other regions supported through a flexible three-year grant (2023- 2026) from Rohini Nilekani Philanthropy Foundation. A new three-year grant (2024- 2027) from Azim Premji Foundation has also been added to the pool, which will further support deepen the fellowship’s design and reach.

Capacity Strengthening:

Central to the fellowship’s design is building the skills, perspectives, and confidence of fellows through participatory, practice-oriented learning that combines expert-led sessions, mentorship, and self-led research opportunities to equip them for practicing feminist lawyering in diverse and challenging contexts.



Snapshot of FY 2024–25: Fellows participated in six expert-led sessions hosted by SAWF IN, covering ITR filing, human rights approaches to case building, matrimonial litigation, child sexual abuse (POCSO) cases, sexual violence litigation, and workplace sexual harassment.

A three-month pilot mentorship programme paired fellows with four senior practitioners (10+ years' experience) for individualised guidance on case strategies, courtroom practices, and drafting skills. This short-term mentorship offered insights into context-specific challenges and ethical dilemmas in feminist lawyering, highlighting the need to incorporate longer-term mentorship across the full fellowship period in future cohorts.

In the third quarter, SAWF IN initiated work to develop a feminist lawyering guidebook for practitioners to address gender-based violence and inequalities. This will be completed and piloted in 2025.

Proactive efforts were made to create greater visibility and deeper relationships with networks and initiatives working gender and access to justice concerns.

### Peer Exchange and Learning:

Monthly online conversations provide spaces for fellows to reflect, share, and co-create knowledge. These interactions reinforce a culture of collaboration, mutual accountability, and solidarity.

Snapshot of FY 2024–25: Following the Annual Convening of Fellows in April 2024, monthly peer-learning calls were hosted by SAWF IN throughout the fellowship period, with enthusiastic participation from all fellows. Each session facilitated reflection on legal strategies, courtroom experiences, client and community engagement, and ethical dilemmas. An active chat group further strengthened connections, enabling fellows to share legal updates, feminist resources, local insights, and calls for solidarity. This combination of structured and informal peer exchange cultivated a robust learning ecosystem that sustained feminist lawyering practices, especially in under-resourced districts.

### Ecosystem Engagement

Enabling fellows to connect with local institutions, civil society, and community actors to strengthen access to justice, build movement-based sustainability, and stay grounded in district-specific realities through field visits.

Snapshot of FY 2024–25: Fellows actively engaged with District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA), One Stop Centres (OSC), civil society groups, and law colleges and students. These engagements resulted in joint legal literacy initiatives, mentoring of law students and fresher lawyers, and coordinated institutional responses to cases of gender-based violence and discrimination. By fostering sustained partnerships and knowledge-sharing, fellows strengthened the responsiveness and inclusivity of local justice ecosystems. Field visits by the SAWF IN team across four states reinforced the fellowship's impact potential, highlighting peer support, local justice insights, and mentorship connections with community actors supporting underserved women and LGBTQIA+ populations.

## Direct outreach and ecosystem strengthening efforts by fellows

- Since March 2024 fellows handled about 280 cases of gender-based discriminations, spanning litigation, counselling, mediation, legal services, and post-litigation support.
- These cases represented a diverse range of legal issues, including domestic violence, matrimonial disputes like divorce and custody, sexual assault, and property rights.
- They have received these cases from women's groups, DLSA, OSC's and word of mouth from satisfied clients.
- 13 / 14 fellows have reported experiencing a positive shift in their lawyering skills and case strategies, visibility as lawyers in their courts and local communities they engage with. They have also experienced an increase in the pro bono as well as paid practice.
- 6 / 14 fellows engage closely with their Legal Services authority or OSCs as part of roster of lawyers to provide legal aid and/or mediation services.
- 8 / 14 lawyers spend time on providing learning opportunities to law students and/or fresher lawyers, most of them women.
- 12 / 14 fellows steadily engage with rights groups for support in legal literacy initiatives.

Most fellows have reported increased visibility in their courts as active, sensitive, and responsible advocates. The fellowship activities have become a thriving space for co-learning and collaboration, enabling the sharing of knowledge and strategies to strengthen quality services while addressing challenges. Fellows are also encouraged to build and sustain deeper connections with the broader socio-legal aid ecosystem, including communities, civil society groups committed to women's and queer rights, District Legal Services Authorities, One Stop Centres, and law students.

Through the Parvaaz Legal Fellowship, SAWF IN continues to strengthen support for diverse women lawyers and access to justice initiatives. Efforts focus on enhancing the fellowship's visibility at local, national, regional, and international levels to attract collaborations, knowledge exchange, and financial support. Insights from the fellowship, which is entering into its ninth year, will guide the design of a wider programme on access to justice.





3.2.1 Economic and Environmental Justice Fellowship for grassroots feminist leaders

The Economic and Environmental Justice (EEJ) Fellowship supported by Microland Foundation, enabled grassroots feminist leaders develop , environmentally sustainable economic enterprises grounded in community knowledge and gender equality. Facilitated by SAWF IN from 2021 till June 2024, five fellows led initiatives across Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, and West Bengal, and collectively mobilised over 300 women and trans persons with an indirect reach of more than 11,700 community members.

SAWF IN envisages outcomes that include enhancement in income levels, expansion of economic opportunities as well as increased collective strength to seek entitlements and challenge discriminatory gender norms

The following section presents the work of four fellows who continued to be part of the fellowship in FY 2024-25.



Rehena conducting a group meeting



Raina and Shubharti in discussion with members at their new office space in Dhapa

Raina Roy, West Bengal

Raina Roy and Shubharti, both trans women, organised and lead a collective of trans waste collectors is promoting safe solid waste management practices at the Dhapa dumping site in Kolkata, West Bengal. They formed six self-help groups (SHGs) with 75 trans persons, focused on financial literacy, and developed a business plan for a trans-run kitchen enterprise. These SHGs were not just financial instruments but were also spaces of solidarity and care, allowing trans persons—many of whom faced violence, displacement, and systemic exclusion—to build confidence in handling savings and accessing basic rights.

The community space they built was a major milestone—it hosted literacy classes, community meetings, and informal counseling. Through this space, members could speak freely about their aspirations and fears, forging a strong sense of belonging.

A kitchen enterprise was conceived as a collective livelihood model that would bring dignified employment, good food, and a sense of ownership to the community. The business plan laid emphasis on hygienic, affordable meals for working-class consumers while creating safe employment for trans women.

Alongside, they began groundwork to form a 5000-member trans-inclusive labour union and intensified their efforts for a trans shelter home in Kolkata.



## Bujji Pallepogu, NTR District, Andhra Pradesh

Bujji led a self-sustainable ecological and economic model for solid waste management in the village. Bujji's enterprise in Somaravam focuses on vermicomposting, converting agricultural and kitchen waste into high-quality natural compost that is well-received by farmers in the village and surrounding areas. Designed to provide livelihoods for 20 women, the business has been profitable from the outset due to zero procurement costs for raw materials. A need-entrepreneur without land access, Bujji developed her model through three rounds of intensive business planning with SAWF IN and mentors, identifying hidden costs, refining strategies for break-even, and exploring market expansion and product diversification.

Twenty women earn ₹3,000 each month on average from vermicompost sales since October 2023. There are setbacks during the monsoons, as rain comes inside the shed. Bujji plans to raise resources to build a permanent shed. A backyard nutrition garden initiative engaged 50 women, of whom 40 earn between ₹300–₹3,000 per month for an average of seven months of the year. Seventeen women took the significant step of selling directly in Nandigama market. Organised into six SHGs, members save regularly, access microloans, and operate on a rotational work schedule, taking ownership of meetings, agendas, and production tasks. The initiative has fostered community waste segregation practices and inspired the formation of two SHGs dedicated solely to vermicompost production, signalling both environmental impact and sustainable growth.

## Kirti Vartha, Palghar District, Maharashtra

Kirti has worked with women from the Warli tribe and supported them to revive traditional, women-led livelihood practices and build socio-economic leadership. Kirti leads a tribal women's enterprise in Palghar that revives and commercializes traditional Warli art on products such as stoles, handbags, blouses, and other handicrafts, while also restoring the role of Dhavaleri women as wedding priests.

Eight women from the Dhavleri Collective are now recognised artists in painting and chalk art. In the Dhavaleri Parishad, ninety-one widows officiate weddings, gaining greater social acceptance. There has also been an increase in women's income, savings, and control over resources.

Though she remains hesitant to identify as a — businesswoman, a detailed business plan developed with SAWF IN and SME partners has charted a path to break even, outlined capital needs, and set growth strategies.

In January 2024, she convened 91 Dhavaleri women, local government representatives, and members of the Adivasi Ekta Parishad, resulting in a landmark community resolution to have weddings solemnised by Dhavaleri women. An online platform now registers 76 Dhavaleri women, strengthening their recognition and visibility.

Currently, 32 Dhavaleri women earn an average of ₹7,000 annually over six months from marriage solemnisation, while 28 women earn an average of ₹3,714 over 4.5 months from Warli art and Chaulk painting at weddings. Beyond the core eight-member collective, 20 trained women now work independently in these crafts. Kirti facilitated a ₹50,000 grant for Tara, a woman with a disability and collective artist, from the Adivasi Vikas Prakash. Outreach efforts include a Warli art workshop for 40 students at Navodaya Vidyalaya in Palghar.



Rehena Molla, Sunderbans West Bengal

Rehena has organised women’s collectives in Joynagar district of the Sunderbans, reaching out to vulnerable women-led households. Rehena’s initiative on engaging 60 women in natural farming and poultry has the purpose to generate livelihoods for women and creating awareness for naturally grown vegetables in Sunderbans.

Vegetable growing is a seasonal business; poultry is for home consumption; selling eggs and chicken earns cash income. 55 women in Rehena’s groups are earning an average income of Rs. 1860 every month (minimum Rs 1000 to maximum Rs 3000) through different activities – sale of vegetables, poultry, zari work and small businesses. They earn this income through 5 months of the year on average (minimum 2 months to maximum 12 months). Sixty women across six Self Help Groups have successfully accessed government support.



Kirti empowered Warli women across 31 Palghar villages.



Rehena empowered 60 women in Sunderbans through natural farming and poultry for livelihoods and healthy produce.



Dhavalieris, widowed Warli women, gained respect and recognition in their community.

Nurturing gender-just economies

Through the EEJ Fellowship SAWF IN integrates financial and non-financial supports to enable grassroots changemakers’ impact. Financially, it offers a stipend for fellows’ time and modest funds for community engagement, including travel, meetings, trainings, equipment, and communication. Non-financially, it provides tailored capacity building, trainings, peer- learning workshops, exposure visits, and access to knowledge resources. SAWF IN catalyses ecosystem linkages by facilitating networking with local experts, nonprofits, government, media, and academia, with clear roles and expectations. Efforts for resource mobilisation, and connections to platforms and alliances are supported. SAWF IN documents fellows’ journeys through diverse tools, offers need-based mentorship, and sustains leadership development focused on self and community, strategy, and systems mapping.



Warli women—the art’s original practitioners—remain marginalised as male artists gain global recognition.



Warli art reflects the community’s deep bond and harmony with nature.

## The EEJ Fellowship over three years had sustained efforts evidenced in the Endline Survey undertaken in March 2024, 18 months after the Baseline Survey in October 2022.

The endline survey of 105 repeat respondents shows broad gains in economic status, financial inclusion, mobility, and decision-making, alongside stronger gender- equitable attitudes and diversified livelihoods, with a few fellow-wise anomalies requiring verification.

- Identity documentation improved substantially: PAN ownership rose from 23 to 77 and voter IDs from 71 to 88 among the same respondents, enhancing access to formal services.

- Average annual household income increased by about 14% from ₹33,112 to ₹37,583. Livelihoods diversified toward sustainable, entrepreneurial activities: vermicomposting expanded, kitchen gardening rose, and small businesses grew; continuity persisted in chalk painting, waste collection, and natural farming.

- Financial inclusion and behaviours strengthened: bank/savings account ownership rose from 81% to 93% overall, with Raina's cohort jumping from 13% to 87%; average savings increased from ₹4,439 to ₹5,188, and the share who save rose from 65% to 95%.

- Awareness of women-focused loan programmes increased from 67% to 84%, even as business loan uptake fell from 41% to 10%, suggesting reduced credit dependence or alternative financing.
- Gender norms and autonomy advanced: support for women working grew from 50% to 80%, perceived community support improved, and mobility rose sharply across sites; independent control expanded; decisions on earnings increased from 6% to 55%, on savings from 5% to 61%, with notable independence gains in Raina's cohort and sustained high autonomy in Rehena's.

The EEJ Fellowship demonstrates how feminist funding can power gender-just economies by investing in locally grounded, identity-affirming enterprises. The fellowship offers critical learnings on supporting trans and rural women leaders and creates a case for trust-based philanthropy that moves beyond livelihood to long-term ecosystem change.





### 3.2.1 Urja Fellowship: Empowering Transgender Entrepreneurs

Transgender individuals in India, especially from rural and marginalised communities, face immense barriers to economic stability. Despite legal protections like the NALSA judgment (2014) and the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act (2019), social stigma, discrimination, and lack of access to mentorship and financial resources keep many confined to precarious livelihoods, with mainstream employment largely inaccessible.

Against this backdrop, the Urja Fellowship was initiated by SAWF-IN in FY 2024-25 with the support of Titan Company Pvt. Ltd., as a targeted intervention to disrupt these patterns by providing transgender entrepreneurs with the requisite skills, resources, confidence, and networks to build and sustain their enterprises. The holistic approach goes beyond business training to address the intersecting social and emotional challenges that define transgender lives in India.

The Urja Fellowship is a tailored and multi-dimensional program centred on four main pillars:

- **Personalised Capacity Building:** Each fellow's unique background, business needs, and context are assessed. Custom training in business management, market strategies, financial literacy, and record-keeping is delivered in local languages via online and in-person sessions. Workshops and exposure visits to transgender-led ventures further broaden learning.
- **Financial and Institutional Support:** Fellows received a monthly stipend and additional funding for business growth. Support is extended for MSME registration (Udyam ID), and wherever possible, fellows are linked to self-help groups and government schemes, enabling mainstream economic integration.
- **Mentorship and Emotional Wellbeing:** Sustained mentorship addresses not just technical skills but also the vital dimensions of confidence-building and emotional resilience. Peer support groups, both through WhatsApp and in-person gatherings, provide vital spaces for sharing, mutual motivation, and troubleshooting.
- **Peer Learning and Community Networking:** Fellows meet for regular peer-learning sessions—two in-person workshops were conducted during this cycle—plus online check-ins fostering ongoing collaboration and healthy competition. By doing so, the program creates a new cadre of role models and peer mentors in the community.





## Brief Profiles of the Fellows

### JAnu (Chennai, Tamil Nadu):

A trans woman from a weaving family, Anu launched a saree business targeting both the transgender community and the general market. With growing confidence and newly honed strategic skills, she broadens her product base and dreams of opening her own shop. Her income has doubled and she inspires others by mentoring SHG groups.

Anu has expanded her product line and customer base beyond the transgender community. With strategic selling, she aims to establish her own shop and double her income.

JManu (Chennai, Tamil Nadu): A sociology graduate, Manu creates handmade jewellery and offers saree draping. Starting as a hobby, her business now serves customers beyond the trans community and leverages online groups for outreach. Manu is an SHG leader known for her skilled record-keeping and vision to scale up into retail and boutique spaces.

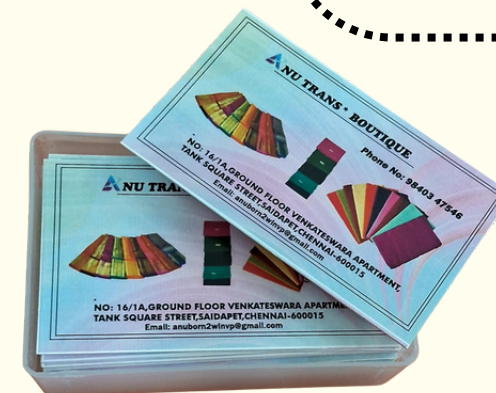
Abeda Begum (Raichur, Karnataka): An intersex woman from a Muslim working-class family, Abeda crafts pride-themed garlands, shawls, and stoles, selling at events and institutions. The fellowship fostered her shift from event-based sales toward establishing sustainable, year-round ventures like a saree and tea shop. MSME registration and learning to diversify have significantly strengthened her business.

Abeda Begum is transitioning from event-focused sales to broader retail. She is exploring a saree shop and tea shop and aspiring to a tenfold income increase as she diversifies her product range.

### Arundhathi (Chitradurga, Karnataka):

Despite academic qualifications, Arundhathi faced professional exclusion as a trans woman. She pioneered livestock rearing and runs a tea-coconut stall, now employing over 50 trans people in alternative livelihoods. Robust business planning and resilience strategies have been her fellowship takeaway, with ambitions to expand income and community impacts even further.

Arundhathi operates diversified ventures and is continually looking to learn and grow her business. With improved business planning, she sets a much higher goal of scaling up to ₹1–2 lakh per month, partly by mentoring and employing others in her community.



4. Building Feminist Futures and Research Studies

4.1 Capacity Strengthening and Building Feminist Futures through Grassroots Leadership

SAWF IN engaged with eight grassroots organisations across India to strengthen capacities. combining feminist leadership development, peer learning, and intersectional approaches, anchored in long-term, flexible interventions.

The year’s work combined accompaniment, thematic capacity building, peer learning, and reflective practice to translate feminist principles into operational shifts in community programmes and organisations led by women and trans leaders.

Programme delivery followed a deliberate arc from assessment to action and reflection, ensuring relevance to local contexts while reinforcing rigour in practice and documentation. A needs assessment in April and May 2024 identified priority training areas and informed tailored accompaniment plans, sustained through weekly calls and monthly sharing sessions that kept implementation responsive and collaborative.

Measured through community-level shifts, the period marked meaningful advances in equity, practice quality, and collective power.

- Leaders strengthened intersectional analysis to address layered discrimination—caste, disability, sexual orientation—broadening engagement with single women, differently abled women, and trans persons, and improving program relevance by centring excluded voices.
- Gender-responsive approaches were embedded across programme cycles—planning, design, implementation, and evaluation—yielding more holistic and inclusive delivery while clarifying the gendered dimensions of climate impacts on women’s lives.

In June 2024, a flagship Peer Learning workshop deepened intersectionality, access to justice, gender-transformative approaches, Feminist Monitoring Evaluation Accountability and Learning (FMEAL), leadership, and community-building, linking concepts to actionable strategies in community work.

Three online sessions in November–December 2024 with Mudita Foundation on POCSO, child rights, and POSH strengthened compliance, survivor support, and protective practice for community-facing teams, while enhancing advocacy capacities with policy relevance.

Complementary sessions in December 2024–January 2025 built capacities around legal compliances and resource management. Towards the last quarter of the financial year, SAWF IN also captured change stories documenting how peer exchange, intersectionality, and reflective practice are translating into improved justice access and economic resilience in communities.



1.1 Surfacing evidence through research studies and knowledge briefs

SAWF IN made efforts to understand the philanthropic landscape by undertaking research on various aspects of funding for feminist causes over 2022 to 2024.

Based on these knowledge briefs were developed and disseminated. These evidence, storytelling, and practice-based insights to inform and influence philanthropic discourse and strategy.

Insights from the three research studies are shared in the following section.

Philanthropy for Climate Action and Gender Equality

SAWF IN’s 2023–25 work at the gender–climate intersection reveals critical gaps in funding, data, and inclusion, underscoring the need for gender-transformative approaches to mitigation and adaptation. With women and gender-diverse communities facing disproportionate climate risks yet remaining underrepresented in planning and finance, SAWF IN identifies opportunities to embed gender scoring, fund women-led and LGBTQI-responsive initiatives, and champion feminist, community-centred climate action that advances equity and resilience.

Philanthropy for transgender initiatives

SAWF IN mapped the landscape of trans-led initiatives, resource needs, and funding gaps through desk research and primary interviews with 22 trans persons across seven states, centring transfeminism perspectives, and diverse identities beyond a narrow —third gender frame. The analysis situates ongoing advocacy from the NALSA verdict to the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, underscoring procedural hurdles in legal recognition, uneven state implementation, and the case for horizontal reservations to address caste–gender intersections in education and employment.

Findings reveal deep structural marginalisation across livelihoods, education, health, and GBV, compounded by stigma, limited gender-affirming care, and scarce, uneven funding—only 15% of global LGBTI funds reach trans-serving organisations, mostly in the Global North. A forward agenda calls for democratising resources, building capacity, piloting alternative models, mediating funder–collective dialogues, and establishing trans mentor groups.

Philanthropy for women’s rights and gender equality

Philanthropy for women’s rights and gender equality in India reveals persistent gender gaps and underinvestment, with social spending at 8.3% of GDP and CSR to women’s empowerment under 1%. As women-led philanthropy and collaborative vehicles expand flexible, multi-year funding, the study urges investment in organisational agendas, stronger gender data, and GEDI integration—positioning women’s funds as key connectors and catalysts for channeling resources to grassroots feminist leadership.

5. Critical Conversations for Resourcing Gender Equality

Over the past year, SAWF IN has played a catalytic role in engaging stronger ecosystems for gender equality and feminist leadership. Work in this space has been grounded in the belief that flexible, long-term, and values-aligned resources are essential for the sustainability of women and trans-led organisations. Bilateral conversations with funders and orchestrators have helped steer discourse on feminist funding and the systemic shifts required to achieve it.

Acknowledging the need to leverage synergies, SAWF IN convened critical dialogues with funds working for women’s equality, women-led organisations and intermediaries to collectively map effective strategies funding practices on gender equality.

The facilitated critical learning spaces and dialogues for feminist organisations and networks during the year included the following:



5.1 Convening of women’s funds supporting gender equality

On November 25, 2024, SAWF IN convened women’s and allied funds to strengthen collective action around gender funding, fostering collaboration among organisations supporting women- and trans-led initiatives in India. Discussions addressed underfunding, compliance challenges, and systemic exclusions, leading to adoption of the SHIFT framework—Stay Relevant, Harness CSO Needs, Influence Philanthropy, Fund More, and Transform Philanthropy—and commitments to engage domestic philanthropists, share resources, and build funder–frontline dialogue. The convening reaffirmed a collective vision for a just, inclusive, and sustainable funding ecosystem rooted in local leadership and long-term support.

5.2 Learning Sharing Convening to unpack good practices to end GBV

In January 2025, SAWF IN co-hosted a two-day Learning-Sharing Convening on Gender-Based Violence in Hyderabad, bringing together 50 participants from 25 women-led grassroots NGOs and CBOs across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The convening deepened learning, strengthened collaboration, and amplified grassroots perspectives on GBV, highlighting regional challenges, intersectional issues, and institutional barriers. Discussions emphasised engagement with law enforcement, government, and media, and addressed rising digital violence. The convening concluded with a collective call to establish a women-led regional feminist consortium to enable shared infrastructure, capacity building, and policy engagement.





### 5.3 Convening on Gender, Environment Sustainability and Economic Resilience

The Gender, Environment, Sustainability and Economic Resilience (GESER) convening, held at Nagaloka, Nagpur in February 2025, brought together 56 professionals, activists, and grassroots workers from ten states for a transformative two-day workshop hosted by SAWF IN. Centering the experiences of women and marginalised groups navigating climate realities, participants shared stories of resilience, adaptation, and invisible labour often missing from mainstream discourse.

Through storytelling and collective reflection, GESER forged connections for locally rooted climate solutions and issued a resounding call to reimagine climate resilience through equity, inclusion, and feminist leadership.

### 5.4 Convening on Strategies and Good Practices for Advancing Gender Justice in Northeast India

The regional convening “Strategies and Good Practices for Advancing Gender Justice in Northeast India” held in Guwahati in January 2025 brought together 26 participants from 19 women- and trans-led organisations, along with academics, journalists, and legal practitioners from four Northeastern states. Designed as a space for cross-learning, it fostered dialogue on advancing gender justice through feminist legal practice, addressing gaps between informal, customary, and formal legal systems, and highlighting funding challenges for women and trans-led initiatives.

Participants explored district-level lawyering, local alliances, and regional knowledge-sharing to strengthen gender justice ecosystems.

### 5.5 Convening of intermediaries, advisors, and connectors in the philanthropic ecosystem

In March 2025, SAWF IN hosted a pivotal gathering in Mumbai with key philanthropic intermediaries—including Dasra, Arthan/EquiLead, Sattva, Dalberg, and Bridgespan—to deepen collective engagement on resourcing gender equality in India. The convening addressed challenges such as short-term funding, low visibility of locally led initiatives, and metric-driven approaches, while emphasising women-led development and internal gender accountability. It concluded with actionable steps: forming a working group, co-developing publications, creating a shared gender glossary, building donor exposure journeys, and mapping gender-committed funders, reaffirming the power of collaborative, feminist-led philanthropy for systemic change.





## 6. Unlocking domestic philanthropy for Resourcing Gender Equality

In line with its mandate, SAWF IN is developing a programme to bring more donors into resourcing gender equality. Recognising chronic underfunding, and the growing role of women in philanthropy, SAWF IN made efforts to understand the why women give, what they support and how they fund. At the same time, SAWF IN is also mapping and making visible grassroots organisations led by women and transpersons often overlooked in traditional funding and finding mechanisms by which they can be supported.

### 6.1 Bringing The Spotlight On Women Philanthropists

This year, SAWF IN began developing a landmark publication featuring the stories of ten women philanthropists advancing gender equality through long-term, flexible funding. Drawn from in-depth interviews, the compilation captures their motivations, journeys, and insights, serving as both inspiration and strategy to motivate new donors. By framing giving as a feminist act rooted in care, commitment, and consciousness, the publication seeks to inspire a new generation of philanthropists to reimagine power and capital, igniting systemic shifts toward equity, dignity, and inclusion.

### 6.2 Building a Repository of Women-led Organisations

SAWF IN initiated a mapping and repository of women-led organisations across Chhattisgarh, Odisha, and Rajasthan to make visible the leadership, labour, and priorities of feminist organising and to inform gender-transformative giving. Upgrading its earlier database into a research-oriented tool, the effort revealed a diverse ecosystem addressing GBV, education, livelihoods, SRHR, disability, and climate justice, with tribal and Dalit women advancing land rights and anti-violence work. Grounded in feminist principles, the repository serves as both a knowledge resource and an advocacy tool for long-term, flexible funding to strengthen grassroots feminist leadership.

## 7. Learning and Networking

In FY 2024–25, SAWF IN deepened its commitment to institutional strengthening through a holistic set of internal and external facing efforts. These included team development, expert-led learning sessions, strategic collaborations, and sustained participation in feminist philanthropic networks. The aim remained clear: to build a resilient, values-driven feminist fund with the capacity to drive long-term systemic impact in the field of gender equality.

### 7.1 Internal Team Processes and Capacity Building

SAWF IN’s internal culture continued to prioritise care, reflection, and strategic alignment through regular meetings and retreats that fostered dialogue on power, sustainability, and purpose. Expert-led sessions by Dr. Janaki Andharia on “Data to Insights” and Ms. Beena Pallical on Dalit rights and leadership deepened the team’s understanding of systemic issues and strengthened its ability to translate learning into actionable strategies. These processes reinforced a culture of continuous learning, feminist values, and critical inquiry across SAWF IN’s grantmaking, partnerships, and communications.





7.4 SAWF IN's Participation in Various Forums

Conference Participation

- Ford Foundation Convening
- AVPN South Asia Conference
- Dasra Philanthropy Week
- AWID (Association for Women's Rights in Development)
- ILSS Fundraising Conference
- Leaders' Roundtable (EquiLead & Co-Impact)

Paper Presentation & Publications

- IWWAGE Conference on Measuring Women's Work
- Submission to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)

Sector Platforms & Collaborations

Prospera Feminist Funds Network

Resilience Fund Platform

Breakthrough's REFRAME Initiative

7.3. Collaborative Learning in FMEAL and Resource Mobilisation

SAWF IN's participation in two Prospera sister-fund collaboratives—on Resource Mobilisation and Feminist Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (FMEAL)—enhanced capacities, sharpened strategy, and deepened alignment with global feminist funding practices.

The FMEAL Collaborative advanced feminist approaches to learning and accountability, co-creating qualitative tools to gather stories of change and prioritising flexible, narrative-based reporting rooted in lived realities. These learnings are shaping SAWF IN's refreshed MEL frameworks to be lighter, context-sensitive, and grounded in care and collective sense making.


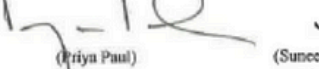
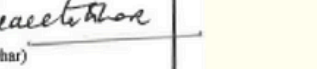
The Resource Mobilisation Collaborative explored narrative power and how funder perceptions shape gender equality resourcing. Through research and testing of "personas," SAWF IN developed donor-facing stories that align with funder motivations while subtly shifting them toward feminist, long-term resourcing.

Together, these processes strengthened SAWF IN's ability to anchor evidence in community-led narratives, reimagine accountability through feminist principles, and translate strategic storytelling into mobilised, equitable funding for grassroots feminist leadership.

8.1 Balance Sheet

SOUTH ASIA WOMEN FOUNDATION INDIA			
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2025			
(Amount in Rs Hundreds.)			
Particulars	Note No.	As at 31st March 2025	As at 31st March 2024
<b>I. EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>(1) Shareholder's Funds</b>			
(a) Share Capital	3	30.00	30.00
(b) Reserves and Surplus	4	508.67	(19,170.11)
<b>(2) Current Liabilities</b>			
(a) Short-term borrowings		-	-
(b) Trade payables		-	-
(c) Other current liabilities	5	4,765.37	22,118.87
(d) Short-term provisions	6	1,67,324.76	12,356.97
(e) Property, Plant & Equipment	11	999.95	1,124.14
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,73,628.75</b>	<b>16,459.87</b>
<b>II. ASSETS</b>			
<b>(1) Non-current assets</b>			
(a) Fixed assets			
(i) Property, Plant & Equipment	11	999.95	1,124.14
(ii) Intangible assets		-	-
<b>(2) Current assets</b>			
(a) Cash and cash equivalents	7	1,67,894.56	15,239.73
(b) Short-term loans and advances		-	-
(c) Other current assets	8	4,734.24	96.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,73,628.75</b>	<b>16,459.87</b>
NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1 to 17			
This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our report of even date.			
For KUMAR MITTAL & CO. Chartered Accountants FRN:010500N  (Amrish Gupta) Partner M. No. 090553			
By order of the Board for and on behalf of SOUTH ASIA WOMEN FOUNDATION INDIA  (Priya Paul) Director DIN:00051215			
 (Suneeta Dhar) Director DIN:07147265			
Place: New Delhi Date: 19 SEP 2025			

8.2 Income And Expenditure Sheet

SOUTH ASIA WOMEN FOUNDATION INDIA			
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025			
(Amount in Rs Hundreds.)			
Particulars	Note No.	For the year ended 31st March 2025	For the year ended 31st March 2024
<b>Incomes:</b>			
Grants to the extent utilized			
- Specific Grants		2,31,671.65	12,000.00
- CSR Grants		62,688.30	68,206.75
General Donation		1,000.00	1,752.50
Other Income			
Bank Interest		4,357.41	-
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>2,99,717.36</b>	<b>81,959.25</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Programme Expenses	9	2,56,417.79	89,381.04
Admin expenses	10	42,798.53	10,939.94
Acquisition of Assets		275.99	1,173.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>2,99,492.31</b>	<b>1,01,493.98</b>
Tax expense:			
Current Tax		-	-
<b>Surplus/ (Deficit) before exceptional and extraordinary items and tax</b>		<b>225.05</b>	<b>(19,534.73)</b>
Exceptional Items		-	-
<b>Surplus/ (Deficit) before extraordinary items and tax</b>		<b>225.05</b>	<b>(19,534.73)</b>
<b>Surplus/ (Deficit) before tax</b>		<b>225.05</b>	<b>(19,534.73)</b>
Deferred Tax		-	-
<b>Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year</b>		<b>225.05</b>	<b>(19,534.73)</b>
Earning per equity share:			
Basic		-	-
Diluted		-	-
NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1 to 17			
This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our report of even date.			
For KUMAR MITTAL & CO. Chartered Accountants FRN:010500N  (Amrish Gupta) Partner M. No. 090553			
By order of the Board for and on behalf of SOUTH ASIA WOMEN FOUNDATION INDIA  (Priya Paul) Director DIN:00051215			
 (Suneeta Dhar) Director DIN:07147265			
Place: New Delhi Date: 19 SEP 2025			



8.4 Payment and Receipts Statement

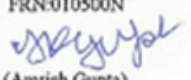

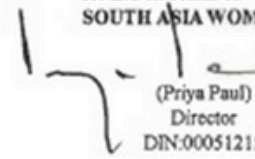
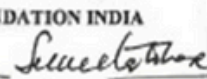
SOUTH ASIA WOMEN FOUNDATION INDIA CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF RECEIPT AND PAYMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025		
(Amount in Hundreds.)		
Particulars	For the year ended 31st March 2025	For the year ended 31st March 2024
<b>Opening Cash and Bank Balances:</b>		
Cash at Bank	15,208.98	2,241.43
Cash in Hand	30.75	30.75
Sub Total	15,239.73	2,272.18
<b>Receipts:</b>		
- Specific Grants	4,02,137.46	12,000.00
- CSR Grants	66,644.00	80,075.16
- General Donation	1,000.00	1,752.50
Sub Total	4,69,781.46	93,827.66
<b>Other Income:</b>		
Bank Interest	4,357.41	-
<b>Total Receipts (A)</b>	<b>4,89,378.60</b>	<b>96,099.84</b>
<b>Payments:</b>		
<b>Foreign Contributions</b>		
<b>New Venture Fund</b>		
- Project Expenses on Research and Dissemination activities for strengthen women's rights. To create, publish and distribute material pertaining to women's rights, issues and concerns. Creating a document on women and philanthropy	52602.27	-
- Project Expenses to create learning platforms and opportunities for women leaders and individuals working on women's programmes.	25442.35	-
- Project Expenses on Field Visit & Program Support for accompaniment support	4864.48	-
- Project Expenses on Capacity Building Training & Peer Learning Workshop of Women-led organization	20433.45	-
- Program Meetings and Workshops to ensure implementation aligns with the approved plan, and identify opportunities for improvement.	6985.64	-
<b>Women Win</b>		
- Project Expenses on Research and Dissemination activities for strengthen women's rights. To create, publish and distribute material pertaining to women's rights, issues and concerns. Creating a document on women and philanthropy	5768.42	-
- Project Expenses to create learning platforms and opportunities for women leaders and individuals working on women's programmes.	2501.47	-
- Project Expenses on Field Visit & Program Support for accompaniment support	13539.91	-
- Project Expenses on Capacity Building Training & Peer Learning Workshop of Women-led organization	15231.87	-
- Program Meetings and Workshops to ensure implementation aligns with the approved plan, and identify opportunities for improvement.	593.59	-
<b>Global Fund for Women</b>		
- Project Expenses on Research and Dissemination activities for strengthen women's rights. To create, publish and distribute material pertaining to women's rights, issues and concerns. Creating a document on women and philanthropy	13429.13	-
- Project Expenses to create learning platforms and opportunities for women leaders and individuals working on women's programmes.	6062.79	-
<b>United Nation Foundation</b>		
- Project Expenses on Research and Dissemination activities for strengthen women's rights. To create, publish and distribute material pertaining to women's rights, issues and concerns. Creating a document on women and philanthropy	5675.52	-
- Project Expenses to create learning platforms and opportunities for women leaders and individuals working on women's programmes.	13251.16	-
- Project Expenses on Capacity Building Training & Peer Learning Workshop of Women-led organization	9226.97	-
- Program Meetings and Workshops to ensure implementation aligns with the approved plan, and identify opportunities for improvement.	830.47	-
Sub Total	1,96,439.49	-
<b>Local Contributions</b>		
Sub Granting for UDAAN Program	24000.00	24000.00
Sub Granting for Strengthening Women's Leadership	10100.00	7200.00



8.5 Payment and Receipts Statement - Continued

SOUTH ASIA WOMEN FOUNDATION INDIA CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF RECEIPT AND PAYMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024		
(Amount in Rs. Hundreds.)		
Particulars	For the year ended 31st March 2024	For the year ended 31st March 2023
<b>Opening Cash and Bank Balances:</b>		
Cash at Bank	2,241.43	1,134.87
Cash in Hand	30.75	30.75
Sub Total	2,272.18	1,165.62
<b>Receipts:</b>		
<b>Grants to the extent utilized</b>		
- Specific Grants	12,000.00	20,854.00
- CSR Grants	80,075.16	31,088.03
- General Donation	1,752.50	1,782.78
Sub Total	93,827.66	53,724.81
<b>Total (A)</b>	<b>96,099.84</b>	<b>54,890.43</b>
<b>Payments:</b>		
<b>Programme Expense :</b>		
Sub Grants	31,200.00	5,600.00
Economic and Environmental Justice Fellowship programme	11,336.00	13,800.00
Legal Fellowship programme	12,610.00	8,760.00
Payments to Advocates/ resource persons toward providing the free legal support to programme beneficiaries		
-Consultancy Expense		2,400.00
-Programme Travel	3,872.34	10,579.60
-Subscription Fee		364.62
Grant Making & Fellowship Expenses	548.00	2,939.31
Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning	6,193.74	611.32
Honarium	160.00	1,470.00
Programme Management Expense	4,862.67	
Senior Researcher and Executive Director	600.00	
Sub Total	71,382.75	46,524.85
<b>Admin Expense:</b>		
Staff Cost	3,900.00	3,300.00
Communication Expenses	1,497.20	284.10
Administrative Expense	790.04	402.76
Board Meeting Expense	564.28	912.42
Registration Fee	631.76	169.00
Website maintenance	208.24	238.24
Resource Mobilisation		137.88
Software expense	44.40	
Interest on TDS	19.44	
Audit Fees	649.00	649.00
Sub Total	8,304.36	1,860.30
Acquisition of Assets		
- Computers		
Sub Total	1,173.00	
<b>Total (B)</b>	<b>80,860.11</b>	<b>48,385.15</b>
<b>Net Balance (A-B)</b>	<b>15,239.73</b>	<b>6,505.28</b>
Represent By-		
Closing Cash and Bank Balances:		
Cash at Bank	15,208.98	2,241.43
Cash in Hand	30.75	30.75
<b>NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b> 1 to 17		
For KUMAR MITTAL & CO. Chartered Accountants FRN:010500N  (Anurish Gupta) Partner M. No. 090553	By order of the Board for and on behalf of SOUTH ASIA WOMEN FOUNDATION INDIA  (Priya Paul) Director DIN:00051215  (Suneeta Dhar) Director DIN:07147265	
Place: New Delhi Date: 28 AUG 2024		

8.6 Cash Flow Statement

SOUTH ASIA WOMEN FOUNDATION INDIA		
CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2025		
(Amount in Rs Hundreds.)		
Particulars	For the year ended 31st March 2025	For the year ended 31st March 2024
Cash Flow from Operating Activities		
Grant/ Donations	4,69,781.46	93,827.66
Less: Payments towards Operations	3,21,484.04	80,860.11
Net Cash used in Operating Activities (A)	1,48,297.42	12,967.55
Cash Flow from Investing Activities	4,357.41	-
Net Cash Flow from Investing Activities (B)	4,357.41	-
Cash Flow from Financing Activities	-	-
Proceeds from issue of Share Capital	-	-
Proceeds From General Donations	-	-
Net Cash Flow from Financing Activities (C)	-	-
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents(A+B+C)	1,52,654.83	12,967.55
Cash and Cash Equivalent at the beginning of the year	15,239.73	2,272.18
Cash and Cash Equivalent at the end of the year (Cash & Bank Balance)	1,67,894.36	15,239.73
NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
1 to 17		
This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our report of even date.		
For KUMAR MITTAL & CO. Chartered Accountants FRN-010500N  (Amrisha Gupta) Partner M. No. 090553 		
By order of the Board for and on behalf of SOUTH ASIA WOMEN FOUNDATION INDIA  (Priya Paul) Director DIN:00051215  (Suneeta Dhar) Director DIN:07147265		
Place: New Delhi Date: 19 SEP 2025		

9. Partners and Supporters

Domestic Funders	Foreign Funders
• Azim Premji Foundation	• Global Fund for Women
• Christian Dior Trading India Private Limited	• New Ventures Fund
• Leiner Shoes Private Limited	• Women Win
• Microland Foundation	• United Nations Foundation
• Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies Foundation	
• Priya Paul	
• Titan Company Limited	
• Individual donors	



GOVERNANCE

At the heart of SAWF IN’s work is a team of passionate individuals with relentless belief and commitment towards empowering women and trans persons across the country.

Board Meetings

Comprised of three members, the members of the Board of SAWF IN met four times in FY2024-25.

BOARD MEETING DATE	NUMBER OF BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT
28/6/2024	3/3
28/8/2024	3/3
12/12/2024	3/3
4/3/2025	3/3

The Annual General Meeting was held on 28/8/2024.

There were no payments, consultancy charges, or salaries paid to the Directors of SAWF IN in FY2024-25.

No cases of sexual harassment were reported to and received by SAWF IN between April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 and March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025.

Registration Details

SAWF IN is registered under:

- Section 8 of Companies Act, 2013 vide CIN: U74140DL2015NPL284509
- 80G and 12A of Income Tax Act, 1961
- CSR-1 of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India for undertaking

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities (reg. no CSR00007446)

Permanent Account Number (PAN): AAWCS6337H

Registered Address:  
2, Aurangzeb Lane, Delhi – 110011

Contact Information:  
Website: [www.sawfindia.org](http://www.sawfindia.org)  
Email: [sawfindia@gmail.com](mailto:sawfindia@gmail.com)  
Mobile: +91 77381 53988



<https://www.facebook.com/sawf.india.9>



<https://twitter.com/sawfindia15>



<https://www.instagram.com/sawfindia>



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/south-asia-women-foundation-india-645841178/>

**SAWF IN**  
South Asia Women Foundation India

