

Monthly Updates- June 2026

SHG Households' Adopting Agriculture through Natural farming practices (SHAAN)

Overview

Project SHAAN is being implemented across Bihar and Jharkhand in partnership with the Gates Foundation. This is done in partnership with Rythu Sadhikara Samstha (RySS) of Andhra Pradesh, the national pioneer in natural farming. The project works to transform smallholder agriculture for SHG households by making it profitable, sustainable, and climate resilient through a shift away from chemical-intensive farming towards natural farming practices. CRISP and RySS together provide technical guidance and field expertise at no cost to state governments, with the SRLMs owning implementation.

Project Goal



To promote natural farming by the rural poor (organised into Self-Help Groups) and thereby make agriculture profitable, sustainable and climate resilient.

Strategy



Working with the SRLMs in Bihar and Jharkhand and transfer of knowledge and natural farming know-how through the expert practitioners of natural farming in Andhra Pradesh.



Schools of Practice developed which can be used for training other farmers.



The project is implemented along with AP RySS which is spearheading the natural farming movement under the leadership of Mr T. Vijay Kumar.



Deploy External Community Resource Persons from Andhra Pradesh to live in pilot villages and work side by side with SHG households.

Progress this Month

Bihar

- On 17 June 2026, CRISP signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with JEEViKA, Rural Development Department, Government of Bihar, for the implementation of the SHAAN project.
- Conducted a state visit to Nalanda with the JEEViKA team to initiate project planning and stakeholder consultations.
- Held meetings with the District Project Manager, Block Project Managers, and other district and block-level officials to discuss project implementation.
- Visited the Cluster Level Federation (CLF) office in Rajgir, Nalanda to understand JEEViKA's institutional structure and day-to-day operations.
- Undertook field visits to two villages in Nalanda and interacted with SHG members, community cadres (Didis), and farmers to understand local contexts, community priorities, and implementation realities.
- Visited Didi Ki Rasoi to understand the livelihood model and explore opportunities for strengthening women-led enterprises.
- Visited the Didi Adhikar Kendra (DAK) to understand JEEViKA's social action mechanisms, grievance redressal processes, and community support systems.

Jharkhand

- Initiated the preparation of the draft Action Plan.
- Engaged with the stakeholders to identify potential blocks and villages for project implementation.

Way Forward

Bihar

- Identify and finalize project blocks and Gram Panchayats based on agreed selection criteria.
- Develop implementation and monitoring plans for the project.
- Undertake field visit to Samastipur district to understand the local implementation context.

Jharkhand

- Complete and finalize the SHAAN Action Plan.
- Finalize the selection of project locations in consultation with the department.
- Secure departmental approval and prepare for project implementation in the selected areas.

Photo Gallery



Signing of MoU between JEEViKA & CRISP for implementation of the SHAAN Project in Bihar



Visit to JEEViKA centre in Nalanda district