

Monthly Updates- May 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

- State Lead Mr Baidhyanadh Yadav IAS (rtd) and a Fellow for Project SHAAN have been selected and positioned.
- The MoU and Action Plan have been submitted, after revisions, to JEEViKA to formally initiate project collaboration.
- Samastipur and Nalanda districts in Bihar have been finalised as the pilot districts for the project's initial rollout.

Jharkhand

- The SHAAN Natural Farming file no: JSLPS/NRLM/L.F./2026/184 is with the secretary for the final approval.
- A Gantt chart with work and activity flow has been prepared for the project.
- A Fellow for Jharkhand has been assigned for the project.
- East Singhbhum and Godda have been selected for the project (subject to change as per dept final say).

Way Forward

Bihar

- Finalisation of MoU and Action Plan with JEEViKA; initiate baseline activities in Samastipur and Nalanda districts as per the Gantt Chart timelines.
- Coordination with RySS on finalization of blocks and personnel for implementation of the project.

Jharkhand

- Getting the final executive letter of approval from JSLPS for the project.
- Finalisation of pilot areas.
- Approval of the action plan from the CEO, JSLPS.