ISRN

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026



CEO'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends, Member Organizations, Donors, and Stakeholders,

Warm greetings from the Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN)!

It gives me great pleasure to share the key highlights of **August 2026**, reflecting ISRN's continued commitment to community empowerment, child development, health, education, livelihoods, and innovation.

This month marked several important milestones, our partnership with Girl Effect India and Gavi's HPV Vaccination Programme continued through the **Teeka Talk initiative,** with ISRN taking forward implementation across Meghalaya and Nagaland, alongside virtual engagement in Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh, reaching 90 schools.

Our partnership with Honasa Consumer Limited reached an important milestone with the inauguration of the **Honasa Little Steps Centre in Kadarpur, Gurugram,** on Independence Day, providing a safe, nurturing space for children and families and strengthening community-based early childhood development.

The **AI Labs for Future Skills** initiative with **HMD Global** progressed significantly with the establishment of AI Labs in two CM SHRI Government Schools in Delhi, supporting hands-on learning in **AI, coding, robotics, data exploration, and Generative AI.**

Through **Project SHE,** supported by John Snow India Private Limited, adolescent health and well-being remained a key focus in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh, with continued engagement on menstrual hygiene, nutrition, anaemia prevention, and community participation.

Our work with **Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)** continued to promote farmer empowerment, agricultural awareness, and environmental responsibility. Independence Day activities in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, brought together initiatives on scientific fertilizer management, Rabi season planning, agricultural awareness, and tree plantation, reinforcing the importance of sustainable agriculture and community-led environmental conservation.

As technology continues to shape the development sector, ISRN also strengthened knowledge and awareness around **AI safety and cybersecurity** through its Knowledge Hub and NGO Clinic Podcast. **Episode 8,** developed in collaboration with the **CyberPeace Foundation**, highlighted key cybersecurity risks and safer digital practices, supporting CSOs in strengthening digital security, organisational resilience, and responsible engagement with emerging technologies.

These achievements reflect the power of strong partnerships, community leadership, innovation, and continuous learning. I sincerely thank our donors, partners, member organisations, volunteers, and team members for their continued trust and support.

Together, let us continue building a more equitable, resilient, and empowered society.

With regards,
Santosh Gupta
CEO, Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN)

GIRL EFFECT INDIA – GAVI HPV

PARTNER ONBOARDING WORKSHOP – HPV VACCINATION PROGRAM (TEEKA TALK) AUGUST 11-12, 2026 - NEW DELHI STRENGTHENING HPV VACCINATION AWARENESS ACROSS NORTHEAST INDIA

ISRN, in partnership with Girl Effect India and GAVI's HPV vaccination programme, participated in the Partner Onboarding Workshop for the Teeka Talk programme, held on 11–12 August 2026 in New Delhi. The workshop brought together programme partners to align strategies, strengthen implementation readiness, and accelerate demand generation for HPV vaccination.As part of the programme, ISRN will lead implementation across Meghalaya and Nagaland, with virtual engagement in Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh. The initiative will reach 90 schools across Meghalaya and Nagaland—46 in Meghalaya and 44 in Nagaland—along with engagement with additional schools in the low-touch states.

ISRN has already established its project teams and offices in Shillong and Kohima to support coordinated field implementation.

The programme will focus on school orientations, teacher training, community engagement and government coordination, while working closely with teachers, parents, ASHAs, ANMs, schools and local stakeholders. The implementation approach also recognises the importance of locally trusted institutions and culturally relevant communication, particularly in Meghalaya and Nagaland.

KEY DELIVERABLES

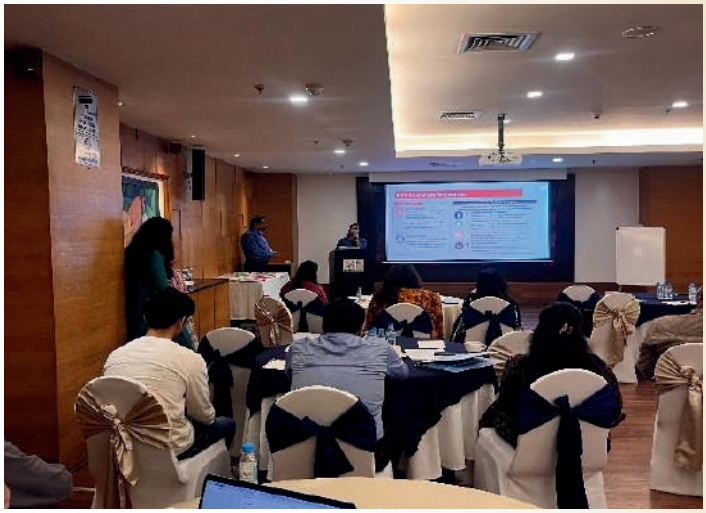
- 90 schools to be engaged across Meghalaya and Nagaland.
- 40 teachers to be trained through Teacher Training of Trainers (ToT).
- Government and district-level coordination through structured meetings and school access.
- Linkages with PHCs, ANMs and ASHAs to strengthen vaccination referral pathways.
- Virtual engagement with schools in Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh.
- School-based communication using QR-enabled IEC materials, flashcards and parent engagement tools.
- Localised communication, including radio and community messaging for mothers and young girls.
- Orientation and linkages with the U-WIN vaccination platform.

Through this initiative, ISRN is contributing to informed decision-making, stronger community engagement and improved access to HPV vaccination information, supporting collective efforts towards cervical cancer prevention and healthier futures for adolescents across Northeast India.

IMAGES OF THE WORKSHOP









The state teams are implementing on-ground activities in close coordination with state and district-level officials, supporting them in conducting HPV vaccination awareness sessions and school-level vaccination drives. In both states, the teams have mapped eligible government and private schools and established partnerships with the identified schools to facilitate programme implementation.

As part of the school engagement strategy, the team also conducted a teacher orientation programme for teachers from 19 schools in Kohima, focusing on HPV vaccination awareness and strengthening teachers' role in engaging and informing students and parents.

GLIMPSES FROM FIELD



Orientation meetings in school in East Khasi Hills



Team conducting session for teachers in ToT (Nagaland)





Teacher Orientation Training with teachers from 19 schools in Kohima, Nagaland



Supported community sensitisation programme on BBBP, Women's safety & security & HPV at Aoyimti, Dimapur



Supporting HPV awareness in Kohima & Dimapur Meeting with Kohima District official: CMO, DIO organised by CMO team

Farmer Producer Organisations

INDEPENDENCE DAY 2026: CELEBRATING FREEDOM THROUGH FARMER EMPOWERMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

On 15 August 2026, ISRN-promoted Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh, commemorated Independence Day through initiatives promoting farmer awareness, collective action, and environmental sustainability. At Shri Vaman Fed Farmer Producer Company Limited, Sidhauli Block, the celebrations began with National Flag hoisting and a tribute to the nation's freedom fighters. Mr. Dinesh Shukla, Promoter, interacted with farmers and highlighted the FPO's role in strengthening access to agricultural inputs, technical information, and market opportunities.Farmers were also sensitized to the Government's e-token system for fertilizer distribution during the Kharif season, along with the importance of advance planning, balanced fertilizer application, and scientific fertilizer management.

Awareness regarding timely input planning for the upcoming Rabi season further supported farmers in preparing for their agricultural needs.Adding an environmental dimension to the celebrations, Kamlapur Fed Farmer Producer Company Limited, Kasmanda Block, organized a Tree Plantation Drive with active participation from farmers, FPO representatives, and community members. The initiative encouraged awareness of environmental conservation, soil health, water conservation, pollution reduction, and sustainable agricultural practices.Through these initiatives, ISRN-promoted FPOs continue to foster farmer empowerment, strengthen community participation, and promote environmental responsibility, contributing to resilient and sustainable rural communities.

Empowering Farmers. Nurturing Nature. Building a Sustainable Future.









HONASA LITTLE STEPS

INAUGURAL LAUNCH ON THE OCCASSION OF INDEPENDENCE DAY 2026

On 15 August 2026, the **Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN),** in collaboration with Honasa Consumer Limited, marked a heartwarming milestone with the inauguration of the **Honasa Little Steps Centre at Kadarpur, Gurugram.** Held on Independence Day, the occasion celebrated a shared vision of nurturing young minds and empowering every child with the freedom to learn, grow, dream, and take confident steps towards a brighter future.Bringing together 60 children, their parents and caregivers, and the Honasa and ISRN teams, the inauguration was filled with moments of joy, pride, and hope.

The celebrations featured ribbon cutting, flag hoisting, the National Anthem, and vibrant cultural performances by children from both the **Little Steps centres (Kadarpur and Ghata)**, including "Suno Gaur Se Duniya Walo, etc." Their enthusiasm and confidence added a special warmth to the occasion, reminding everyone of the possibilities that emerge when children are given a safe and nurturing space to grow. The event also provided an opportunity to showcase the child-friendly learning environment, featuring colourful BalaArt wall paintings, learning corners, play and learning kits, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, a kitchen setup, and a smart screen for interactive learning. We were honoured by the presence of **Ms. Ghazal Alagh, Co-founder and CIO, Mamaearth**, and **Mr. Varun Alagh, Co-founder and CEO, Mamaearth.**

The Honasa Little Steps Centre was formally dedicated to the community as a space where children can learn, play, explore, and build confidence. Children and parents from both Kadarpur and Ghata centres shared their experiences with the Honasa team, adding a meaningful community voice to the celebration.

The inauguration was a successful and memorable celebration, bringing together children, parents, community members, and the Honasa and ISRN teams in a spirit of shared purpose and joy.The event marked the beginning of a promising journey towards nurturing young minds, strengthening community support, and creating a safe, joyful, and enriching environment where every child can take confident steps towards a brighter future.

GLIMPSES OF THE EVENT










Dream.
Learn
Grow
Succe










EVERY DROP COUNTS

AI LABS FOR FUTURE SKILLS | HMD GLOBAL



During August 2026, the AI Labs for Future Skills initiative, implemented by the Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN) in partnership with HMD Global, achieved substantial progress across the two CM SHRI Government Schools in Delhi. The AI Lab establishment, curriculum refinement, dashboard development, and wall art and infrastructure setup were completed, marking a transition towards academic implementation. Initial preparations for the formal inauguration, scheduled for September 2026, were also initiated.

AI Lab Establishment & Equipment Setup: The AI Labs were established across both participating schools, with equipment, learning resources, modular furniture, and supporting infrastructure in place to facilitate hands-on and experiential learning.

Curriculum Development & Refinement: AI learning modules for Classes 6–12 were refined to incorporate coding and programming, machine learning, data exploration, Generative AI, robotics, and project-based learning.

Dashboard Development: The programme dashboard was developed to support systematic monitoring, reporting, and assessment of school participation, teacher engagement, student involvement, and learning sessions.

Wall Art & Infrastructure Setup: Wall art, branding, and associated infrastructure arrangements were completed, creating engaging and innovation-focused learning spaces that foster creativity, curiosity, and future-ready skills.

Implementation Readiness: With the lab setup and learning resources in place, the project is progressing towards the academic implementation phase, including teacher orientation, practical learning activities, and student engagement in AI and coding.

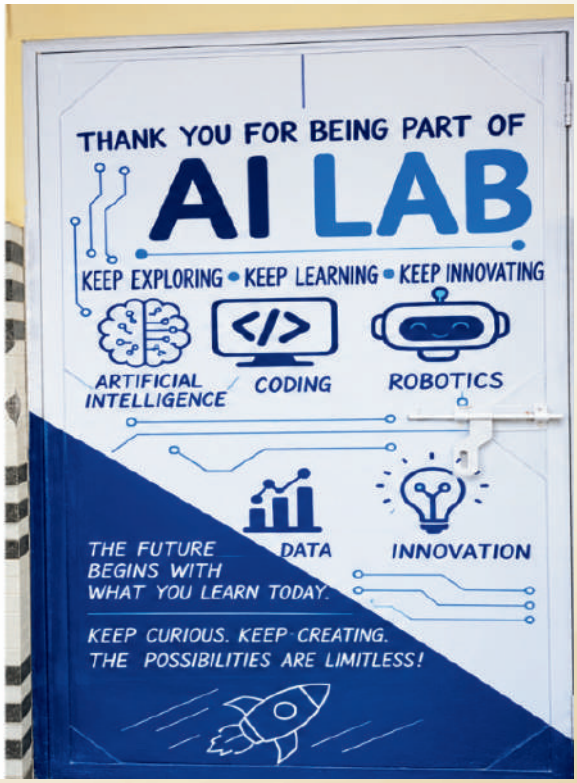
Plan for the next month: Inauguration & Project Launch Planning

Initial planning and coordination for the formal inauguration of the AI Labs commenced during August 2026. The project launch is planned for September 2026, followed by the rollout of structured learning activities and continued support for teachers and students.









PROJECT SHE
(SANITATION, HEALTH AND EMPOWERMENT)

ISRN, with the support of **John Snow India Private Limited (JSIPL)**, continued its community and school-level engagement under Project SHE during August 2026 across project villages and schools in Jhabua district, Madhya Pradesh. During the month, the project conducted ten awareness sessions under the **"Suno, Samjho, Seekho"** initiative along with **male engagement sessions**, strengthening engagement with adolescents, parents, caregivers, School Management Committee members, and other community stakeholders.

Building on the awareness generated in previous months, the August sessions focused on reinforcing positive practices related to menstrual hygiene management, nutrition, and anaemia prevention, particularly among school-going adolescents. Facilitators encouraged open and informed conversations around menstruation, addressing prevalent myths, misconceptions, and social norms while highlighting the importance of supportive family and community environments for adolescent girls.

The community sessions witnessed active participation from parents and caregivers, providing a platform to discuss menstrual health and nutrition more openly at the household level. Discussions also highlighted the importance of access to hygienic menstrual products, safe menstrual waste disposal, nutritious diets, and timely support for adolescent health.The sessions further reinforced the role of families, schools, and communities in sustaining positive behavioural change, including encouraging healthy practices, regular consumption of iron-rich foods, and stronger linkages with available government health services.

Through continued school and community engagement, Project SHE is strengthening an enabling ecosystem where adolescents are better informed, families are more supportive, and communities are increasingly empowered to promote menstrual health, nutrition, and adolescent well-being.

PROJECT GLIMPSES







KNOWLEDGE HUB

AI USE AND SAFETY

Introduction

Today, even kids are aware of, and in awe of, Artificial Intelligence, commonly called AI. Over the past few years, it has broken free of the confines of research labs and is being extensively used in diverse fields. However, there is a growing concern that the intensive use of AI in industries, the IT sector, and national infrastructure might lead to issues like increased scamming, technological unemployment, system failures, and pose a threat to national security. With the rise in generative AI (which creates content in addition to predicting and analysing), it has been increasingly felt that the use of AI needs to be monitored and managed.

Therein arises the need for AI safety- to ensure that the systems behave in a fair, reliable and accurate manner that resonates with our value system.

In addition, there needs to be checks in place to ensure technology works as it should, without causing any negative consequences. The AI users should make their processes transparent and accept accountability for their activities. And at all times, the AI models should be kept under strong security.

Key Risks Involved

Deepfakes and Synthetic Media: Generative AI is being increasingly used to create misinformation, disinformation and new, altered narratives. AI tools have made it possible to clone images, videos, and even voices. During elections, synthetic videos are created to manipulate public opinion.

AI-Enhanced Social Engineering: Scams, including Phishing, are increasingly using AI to make the content believable. The use of LLM (Large Language Modelling) enables the creation of customised and grammatically accurate content. AI based tools are also being used to steal content from a target's social-media page, generate realistic conversations, or to mimic writing styles.

Data Exploitation and Privacy Leakage: As the process of AI calls for a vast amount of data, there will always be the danger of data leaking and misuse.

Algorithmic Bias and Discrimination: AI-based content can display marked bias if inaccurate data is used to train models. This can negatively impact hiring, loan approvals, and equal opportunities to all communities.

How to Use AI Safely

- **Verify before you believe:** Use available tools to verify images, videos, written content, or claims. Practice STOP. THINK. ACT.
- **Cyber hygiene:** Stay safe. Use long and unique passphrases for all your accounts, or else use a passkey. Enable multi-factor authentication, turn on auto updates, and be selective about permissions that you give apps. Also, avoid using public WiFi.
- **Beware of emotional manipulation:** Scammers use pressure tactics, or temptation, to lure targets to act in haste. Do not trust any message or person without verifying.
- **Review 3rd Party data sharing:** Under the DPDP Act 2023, data principals can review their data and its usage on platforms. When apps ask for permissions to collect certain data, check how the data will be processed and used and who will have access to it.
- **Do not replace your own judgment with AI:** Give heed to the disclaimer that follows every information generated by AI online- ‗AI responses may include mistakes.' Google itself advises users to ‗Always check important info in more than one place'. Cross-check and verify, especially in cases of medical, financial, educational or professional content.

Conclusion

When you and your friends express themselves creatively online, you have a platform to do so and interact with a bigger audience. Children can be empowered to navigate the digital world responsibly and support a vibrant and polite online creative community by highlighting the importance of protecting intellectual property and staying safe when sharing creative work.

AI safety has now become a common man's problem; its proper use, his responsibility. Understanding how AI works. Being aware of probable threats and having a clear understanding of cyber hygiene are all instrumental for navigating today's digitally mediated world. Informed users can better manage their digital spaces and have an enriching time online, avoiding the pitfalls.

AI is truly beneficial and the future will be smarter because of it- the faster we learn to use it ethically and safely, the safer our digital lives will be.

📞 In case of Cybercrime

Report cybercrime immediately:

National Cybercrime Helpline: 1930 | 🌐 cybercrime.gov.in

CyberPeace Helpline: 9570000066 | ✉️ helpline@cyberpeace.net

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL OR CSAM

INTRODUCTION

One of the most serious and heinous cybercrimes involving innocent minors (children below 18) is that of child Sexual abuse Material, or CSAM. CSAM involves all content related to sexual abuse or exploitation of minors- including real or AIgenerated images, videos, and livestreaming of paedophile acts. Minors cannot legally consent to sexual activities, which is why any such depiction constitutes abuse. That's why the term CSAM has replaced child pornography', to highlight the criminal nature and harm caused to the child victims.

Classification of CSAM Visuals

Respecting others' privacy online is a fundamental aspect of being a responsible netizen. It involves understanding and following certain principles:

- Sexual acts involving a minor
- Images or videos of a child's private areas
- Images and videos of private parts or sexually suggestive acts taken by the child themselves, under the instructions of their groomers. (Groomers are bad actors who create fake profiles to befriend children online, earn their trust and confidence, and then manipulate them to act as per their instructions.)
- Images and videos thus created are often further edited using AI to make it seem the child is being abused.

How is it done?

- CSAM content can be created by people around the child
- Online groomers target and groom unsuspecting children and make them do as they bid.
- The creator then advertises and sells content in private online forums, or to groups, or to a gang
- The creation and distribution of content may also involve organised criminal gangs, who use the Dark Web for sharing such content and selling it to buyers

When Does the Abuse Happen?

The abuse happens when such content is being created. This is a matter of lifelong trauma for the child, as they can neither seek help nor get the content off the system, as it is shared on the Dark Web.

Where Can It Be Found?

Once CSAM content is created, shared, and/or sold, it can be found in the devices of the creator or buyers, or stored in external drives or the cloud; it may also be available in closed groups like chat sites, online forums, or in the Dark Web. What makes it tricky to trace such content is that it is not limited to a nation- the crime ring is global.

How Do Law Agencies Find It?

International Law Agencies collaborate and share information. They use technologies like hash-matching that compare unique digital signatures against databases from organisations like the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF)

Some Recent Actions Targeting CSAM

- Operation Megh Chakra, Sep 2022: The CBI raided almost 59 locations across 21 states/UTs in India, based on the intelligence shared by Interpol's units in Singapore and New Zealand. The raids targeted those who used cloud storage for circulating CSAM.
- Operation Carbon, Nov 2021: Raids were conducted at 77 locations across 14 states, which led to the unmasking of extensive social media groups involved in trading CSAM.
- Other Ongoing Efforts: The CBI conducts similar raids, acting on intelligence shared by ICSE (Interpol's International Child Sexual Exploitation) database and other international partners.

How to Identify if a Child is Being Abused or Groomed

Groomers use fear tactics or emotional blackmail to ensure a child does not share their plight with anyone.

Look Out for the Red Flags

- The child secretly photographs self, nude or clothed
- The child's demeanour is not appropriate to their age
- The child's behaviour changes to secretive, scared, or withdrawn
- The child suddenly is uncomfortable in the presence of a certain adult
- The child hides online activities; laughs or mutters while seeming to message someone
- The child has sudden mood swings and becomes isolated from parents and siblings

Be Aware

Creating, distributing, downloading, copying, selling, buying, or saving CSAM are all punishable acts. If you come across such material or signs of child abuse, report it immediately. You can report online at cybercrime.gov.in. Together, we can keep our children safe online. That's our responsibility and duty.

ISRN'S NGO CLINIC PODCAST

EPISODE 8 – Insider Threat: Remote Work Risks



Speaker: Mr. Naman Shridhar, Director, Cipherics, Tech Team, CyberPeace Foundation

Remote work has transformed the way we work—but has it also created new cybersecurity risks?

From unsecured devices and weak passwords to accidental data sharing and insider misuse, remote work environments can expose organizations to serious security threats. Sometimes, the biggest cybersecurity risk isn't outside the organization—it can start from within.

Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN) presents Episode 8 under the Cybersecurity Empowerment Program in collaboration with CyberPeace Foundation.

Watch Now: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQ6a4I7hyIE&t=1091s

📞 In case of cybercrime:
National Helpline: 1930 | cybercrime.gov.in
CyberPeace Helpline: 9570000066 | ✉️ Helpline@cyberpeace.net

ISRN believes that having the right to live in equality is something each human deserves and with support from esteemed people like you, we are transforming the lives of thousands of fellow citizens. We have held workshops and training sessions for more than 840 Member Organisations, fostering a symbolic growth system

We genuinely appreciate all of your help, love, and support for ISRN.

We humbly ask that you continue to provide us with support, advice, and invaluable assistance that will enable us to ensure that each and everyone is empowered to grow and flourish in their own unique way.

Please scan the QR code to donate towards these causes, as your small contribution will help maintain smiles on million faces.

Scan the QR code to CONTRIBUTE

Thank you for reading!

ISRN

INDIAN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY NETWORK
A-85, GROUND FLOOR, EAST OF KAILASH, NEW DELHI - 110065
Contact no.: 011-4347 4545, +91-99991 09271
Email- info@isrn.in , communications@isrn.in
isrnnewdelhi www.isrn.in