

M
A
Y
2
0
2
5



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

CEO's Message

**Dear Friends, Member Organizations, Donors & Stakeholders,
Greetings from the Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN)**

May has been a month of meaningful impact, recognition, and renewed momentum across ISRN's initiatives.

I am proud to share that ISRN supported, a women-based FPO-Kamalapur Fed Farmer Producer Company in Sitapur, processed 20 quintals of premium, chemical-free arhar dal using traditional methods, showcasing how sustainable livelihoods, women-led enterprises and indigenous knowledge can come together for health, nutrition, and economic empowerment at the grassroots.



In a moment of great pride, ISRN received the **Best NGO Award in Agricultural Innovation** at the 12th National Seminar on Futuristic Agriculture held in Umiam, Meghalaya. This prestigious recognition, jointly organized by Mobilization and Central Agricultural University, ICAR-NEH Region, and ICAR-ATARI (Assam), affirms our growing contribution in strengthening rural livelihoods and promoting sustainable farming practices across India.

Our team continued to engage at the national level, with my representation of ISRN as a panelist at the **National Seminar on Digital Empowerment of Rural Women**, organized by BIMTECH and ICSSR in collaboration with ISDM. The insights were provided on digital inclusion, and NGO-led transformation added strength to the discourse on equity and accessibility in rural India.

ISRN also proudly participated in the World Health Summit Regional Meeting 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Our participation offered us the opportunity to engage with global leaders on critical themes like climate-resilient health systems, emergency preparedness, and health equity, reaffirming our commitment to contributing to a resilient and inclusive public health landscape.

On the education front, the Uttam School Initiative progressed further through **robust partnerships with IRCTC and Rahee Infratech**, with renewed efforts in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand to transform rural schools into inclusive, child-friendly learning environments.

In healthcare, we launched the **Swasth Jeevan Express—a Mobile Health Unit in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh, with support from CONCOR**. This initiative is taking healthcare directly to underserved communities while also promoting health education and preventive care.

Internationally, we hosted the **International CoNGO Webinar**, featuring global voices including **Dr. Liberato Bautista, President of CoNGO (Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, New York)**. The session provided Indian CSOs valuable guidance on obtaining ECOSOC status and scaling their global advocacy efforts.

We also continued fostering **open dialogue through our NGO Clinic Podcast**, where we candidly addressed the real challenges NGOs face—and shared practical solutions from our collective experience.

We remain grounded in our mission—to empower communities, amplify grassroots innovation, and build a self-reliant Bharat. Thank you for standing with us.

Warm Regards,
Santosh Gupta
Chief Executive Officer
Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN)

Formation & Promotion of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)

Savoring Tradition: Women FPO Members Lead Chemical-Free Dal Processing in Sitapur

In a powerful showcase of tradition-driven innovation, a women-based FPO named Kamalapur Fed Farmer Producer Company Limited in Kasmanda Block, Sitapur (Uttar Pradesh) have successfully processed 20 quintals of premium-quality arhar (pigeon pea) dal, completely free from chemicals and artificial polish.

Supported by ISRN, the FPO adopted a traditional, manual processing method that begins with carefully selecting whole arhar grains. These were roasted in iron pans to naturally loosen the husk and enhance the aroma. Once cooled, the grains were manually dehusked and split using hand-operated stone grinders (chakki), ensuring the dal retains its authentic texture, rich flavor, and nutritional value.



This initiative delivers more than just a nutritious, protein-rich product—it reflects the strength of community-based enterprises and the impact of women-led agricultural practices grounded in sustainability and health. Local consumers have praised the dal for its purity and health benefits, reaffirming the value of traditional food practices.

ISRN remains dedicated to nurturing rural enterprises that celebrate heritage, health, and women's participation in sustainable livelihoods.



ISRN Receives Best NGO Award for Agricultural Innovation

Recognized at the 12th National Seminar on Futuristic Agriculture in Meghalaya

ISRN is proud to share that we have been honored with the Best NGO Category Award at the 12th National Seminar on Futuristic Agriculture: Technology, Sustainability and Beyond, held in Umiam, Meghalaya. This prestigious event was jointly organized by Mobilization and Central Agricultural University, ICAR-NEH Region, and ICAR-ATARI, Assam.



This award recognizes our impactful work in the agriculture vertical, where we are actively promoting sustainable farming practices, capacity building of farmers, and technology-driven Interventions across rural India. It highlights ISRN's expanding footprint in supporting livelihoods and agrarian innovation alongside our work in health, education, and social development.

We are deeply grateful for this recognition and remain committed to our mission of building resilient rural communities. This achievement is a collective win for our team, our partners, and the countless communities we serve.



"Hard work, dedication, and a passion for social change always find recognition. This award is both an honor and a motivation to do more."

Uttam School

Empowering Education in Rural India: ISRN & IRCTC Join Hands for School Transformation in Ballia, UP

ISRN, under its flagship Uttam School Initiative, conducted a detailed pre-inspection and need assessment at Composite School-Dighar, located in the Aspirational District of Ballia, Uttar Pradesh. This initiative is being implemented in collaboration with IRCTC India Limited as part of its impactful CSR commitment.

Led by ISRN's CEO, Shri Santosh Gupta, the team interacted with students, teachers, and community leaders to gain first-hand insights into the school's pressing needs. The assessment focused on critical areas such as sanitation facilities, classroom infrastructure, co-curricular enrichment and inclusive learning environments.

The Uttam School project envisions creating safe, well-equipped, and student-centric learning spaces, nurturing the holistic development of every child. With visionary partnerships like IRCTC, ISRN is shaping a brighter, more equitable future for children in underserved communities.



Empowering Rural Education with Rahee Infratech: Phase II of the Uttam School Project Kicks Off!



Building on last year's impactful efforts, the Uttam School Project has officially entered its second phase, thanks to continued support from Rahee Infratech Limited and implementation by The Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN).

This new phase marks the signing of MoU, with a renewed focus on upgrading school infrastructure in rural Uttarakhand—regions where access to quality education remains a challenge.

The project is committed to creating a conducive, well-equipped, and student-centric learning environment for students, blending traditional learning with modern educational tools to bridge the rural-urban learning gap.



Swasth Jeevan Express

A Mobile Health Unit (MMU) Initiative: Driving Healthcare to the Last Mile with CONCOR

In a transformative move toward bridging the healthcare divide, ISRN, with the generous support of Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR), under its CSR initiative, has launched the Swasth Jeevan Express—a state-of-the-art Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) in Ballia, one of Uttar Pradesh's Aspirational Districts.

This initiative is taking primary healthcare directly to the doorsteps of communities living in remote, underserved villages—where accessing even basic medical services often remains a challenge.



A recent visit to the Bairia block by ISRN-CEO, Shri Santosh Gupta and the core project team marked a critical milestone. The visit focused on operational readiness, community alignment, and strategic planning with local health authorities, Panchayat leaders, and residents.



Key Highlights:

- Micro-level village mapping and route planning completed
- Constructive collaboration with health officials and grassroots stakeholders
- Active community mobilization through rapport building



The Swasth Jeevan Express will provide OPD consultations, essential healthcare services, multi-speciality health camp services and promote preventive healthcare, all while reducing the burden on rural health infrastructure. What sets this initiative apart is its dual focus on treatment and empowerment. Alongside curative services, the MMU team will conduct health education sessions to help rural populations make informed decisions for a healthier future. With Swasth Jeevan Express, ISRN reaffirms its commitment to a Viksit Ballia and contributes meaningfully to the vision of a Viksit Bharat—where quality healthcare is a right, not a privilege.

ISRN @ The National Seminar on Digital Empowerment of Rural Women

We are delighted to share that our CEO, Shri Santosh Gupta, represented ISRN as a panellist, in the National Seminar on “Empowering Rural Women Through Digital Inclusion: The Role of NGOs”, organized by BIMTECH under the prestigious Indian Council of Social Sciences Research (ICSSR) in collaboration with Indian School of Development Management (ISDM)



Speaking during the session on “NGOs as Catalysts for Digital Equity,” he reflected on the remarkable journey of NGOs over the past two decades—from driving grassroots interventions to shaping inclusive development policies. He stressed the need for:

- Strengthened partnerships between NGOs, government bodies, and private tech stakeholders
- Affordable access to internet connectivity and digital devices in rural India
- Integration of digital tools and cybersecurity frameworks within NGO operations



At ISRN, we remain committed to advancing digital inclusion and empowering communities across the nation. Together, let's build a digitally inclusive and empowered Bharat

World Health Summit 2025 - A Global Call for Health Equity

ISRN was honoured to Participate at the World Health Summit (WHS) Regional Meeting 2025, held from April 25–27, 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.

Our CEO, Shri Santosh Gupta, and Program Officer, Dr. Karishma Nayal, actively participated in this powerful 3-day summit, which brought together global leaders, policymakers, and practitioners from diverse sectors to address the most pressing challenges in public health.



The World Health Summit is recognized as the premier international platform for global health. It brings together key stakeholders from politics, science, the private sector and civil society to shape the global health agenda and promote innovative solutions for a healthier future.

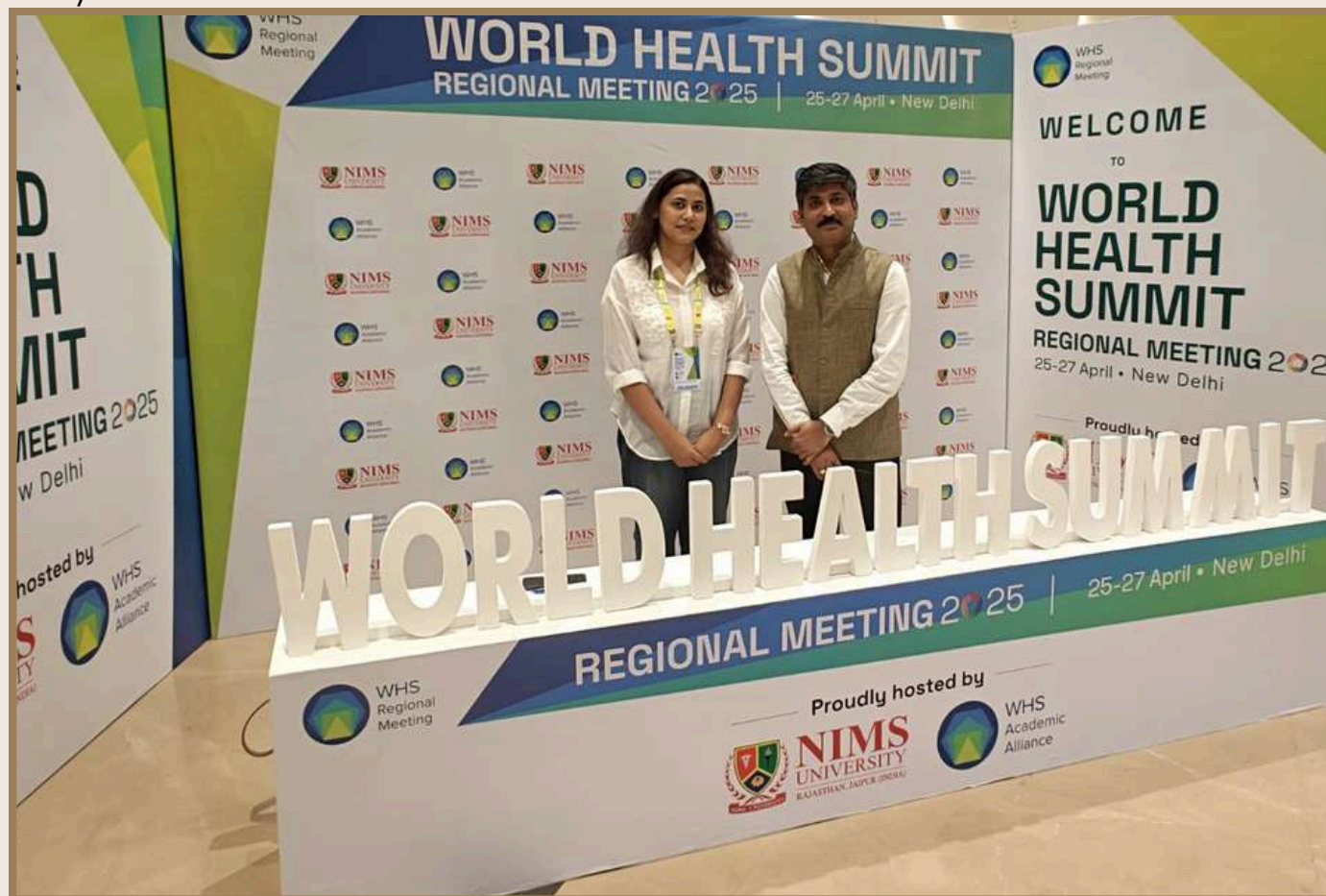


The 2025 regional meeting continued this legacy by focusing on critical themes such as:

- Strengthening the global health workforce
- Building climate-resilient health systems
- Improving emergency preparedness in a changing world

Hosted under the WHS Academic Alliance, the summit served as a unique space to exchange insights, strengthen partnerships, and reaffirm global solidarity. This year's edition reaffirmed the Summit's commitment to a science-driven, interdisciplinary, and inclusive approach to health—one that recognizes health as a human right, deeply influenced by governance and policy. With over 3,000 on-site participants and 10,000+ online attendees, WHS 2025 provided ISRN with a valuable opportunity to engage with international thought leaders, contribute to the dialogue, and return with renewed momentum.

We thank the organizers for creating such a transformative platform. ISRN remains committed to fostering collaboration and action toward a more resilient, equitable, and inclusive health ecosystem for all.



From Bharat to the World: ISRN's Transformative International CoNGO Webinar

We are thrilled to share the remarkable success of the International CoNGO Webinar held on 9th May 2025, which brought together change makers from diverse backgrounds and countries. The webinar witnessed enthusiastic participation from non-profits across India and around the globe and was streamed live on ISRN's youtube channel and multiple social media platforms.

The webinar focused on the importance of engaging with the United Nations ecosystem, the process of obtaining ECOSOC Consultative Status, and the pathway to affiliating with CoNGO (Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, New York). It offered invaluable insights into Unlocking global opportunities for advocacy, networking, and recognition for Indian Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

CoNGO
The Conference of NGOs
in Consultative Relationship
with the United Nations
Defining the Present. Shaping the Future. Making the Change. Now!

International CoNGO Webinar
Unlocking Global Opportunities for NGOs

Dr. Liberato C. Bautista
President of CoNGO
Key Speaker

Ms. Bhumi Sharma
Climate Council- Lead
Indian Youth Diplomacy Forum
Moderator

Mr. Santosh Gupta
CEO - ISRN

FRIDAY
9th May 2025 | **05:00 PM**
Onwards

- Explore the UN ecosystem and its opportunities.
- Unlock the benefits of UN ECOSOC & CoNGO accreditation.
- Expand your global presence and impact.
- Fast-track your SDG journey with expert guidance.

REGISTER HERE

SCAN ME

We were honoured to host Dr. Liberato C. Bautista, President of CoNGO, as the keynote speaker, who delivered a powerful address on “Strengthening Global Engagement of Indian CSOs: The Role of UN ECOSOC Consultative Status and CoNGO.” His address emphasized:

His address emphasized:

- A step-by-step guide to applying for ECOSOC consultative status
- How ECOSOC status empowers Indian CSOs to engage and influence global policy
- CoNGO's critical role in mentoring NGOs for international advocacy
- Strategic approaches to enhance networking, visibility, and credibility at the UN level
- Overcoming global engagement challenges with CoNGO's support

The session was expertly moderated by Ms. Bhumi Sharma, Climate Council Lead at the Indian Youth Diplomacy Forum and Columbia University, whose thoughtful facilitation enriched the dialogue.

The event concluded with an inspiring message from Shri Santosh Gupta, CEO-ISRN, who said: *The partnership between ISRN and CoNGO is a testament to the power of collaboration – a global dialogue grounded in grassroots action.*

The webinar marked a significant milestone in ISRN's efforts to amplify India's voice on the international stage, reaffirming our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the participants, partners, and speakers who made this event impactful and memorable. Together, we took a step forward in empowering Indian CSOs to become active agents of global change.



**Nature's Guardian Writes:
Mr. Jagat Kinkhabwala, The Sparrow Man
(Governing Board Member-ISR)**

**How many times have you heard for a girl,
'She talks a lot and is like a Myna!**

Common Myna / Marathi: Solonaki / Telugu: Goranka

Myna is a beautiful bird in structure, voice and appearance. It is capable of exactly mimicking the sounds of many other birds. Its sounds are clear and beautiful. The surprising thing is that many people in many countries keep the myna in cages at home. Myna is a very agile, active and efficient bird. It becomes very aggressive for its own protection, for its mates, for the preservation of the nest site and for its territory. It is considered among the most aggressive birds in the world, which is surprising considering its regular presence around you.



In India, 17 birds are known as common birds found all over the country which live around human settlements. Myna is one of the 17 common birds. It is found almost everywhere in South Asia and India. This bird is found all over Gujarat and India in open turfs, fields and near human settlements. It is also found on offshore islands including the Middle East, South Africa, Israel, North America, Australia, New Zealand and Hawaii. According to historians, Mynas migrated from Asia and Europe to Africa. It is impossible to move it from its nesting place and it never leaves its territory. While number of many birds have decreased and are rarely seen, the myna has managed to sustain its existence in the changed environment.

The Myna is 25 cm in length and its head, neck and upper chest are black. The rest of the body colour is brown, which is darker on the back and paler on the underside. The tail is white on the bottom. Its rounded tail is black and white at the tip. The eyes of the myna are very beautiful and are brown in colour, the bill and the soft folds that come below and behind the eyes are yellow and the legs are yellow. The combination of black and yellow colour makes it wink as if someone has embellished it! Its legs are very strong.

If you see a Myna walk, you will notice swag in it, as if an artist is walking. It does not hop on two legs while walking but instead walks with one foot behind the other.



Male and female Mynas are so similar in appearance that it is difficult to tell them apart. But when a female Myna conceives, its body size increases and it becomes easy to identify it. Its weight is around 120 to 140 grams. Its life span is 12 to 15 years. After mating, male and female Mynas always maintain their relationship and both stay faithful to each other for life. When you see a cluster of Mynas, you will see couples moving close to each other. Mynas love their partner incomparably and remain loyal.

Its nesting season starts from April to August. It nests in trees, walls, bridges, mud nests or well cavities. It uses roots, twigs and fabricated materials like thread, paper, plastic etc. for making its nest. It lays 4 to 6 bright blue eggs. Looking at the colour of the eggs, it is surprising that it differs so much from the colour of myna. The male and female work together from incubating the eggs to raising the chicks, and one of the two constantly guards the nest. Even in the dark of the night it guards the nest.



Starling Myna is an omnivorous bird. It also eats grains, fruits, and insects and occasionally eats leftovers near human settlements. It also eats insects from grasslands, lizards, small snakes, bird eggs and chicks, and grass insects. It catches and eats grasshoppers flying as well as from the ground. They can eat different types of food like dates, apples, bananas, and nectar from the flower. It wipes out the crops from the field on a large scale. This is one of the reasons why it does not die of hunger. Its aggressiveness helps it to get food and it is a selfish bird.

When aggravated, the Myna has a hoarse voice, when seeing the danger like a snake or a cat, it gives out a warning call, which is called 'Chadavo' in the native language, which makes other birds and humans also alert. However, this bird knows how to imitate the speech of others very well and it enjoys this art of mimicry very much.

ISRN's NGO Clinic Podcast – Episode 16

“NGO Talks: NGOs ki Baat Aapke Saath”



ISRN'S NGO CLINIC PODCAST EPISODE 16



“ONE STOP FOR NGO SOLUTIONS”

एनजीओ समाधान के लिए एकमात्र स्थान

NGO Talks: NGOs ki Baat Apke sath
NGO टॉकस : NGOs की बात आपके साथ।

NGOs are the unsung heroes driving change across India—but the path they walk is far from smooth. From fundraising dilemmas and digital limitations to field-level chaos and team management Challenges—the struggle is real. In this power-packed episode, the ISRN team dives deep into the real-life roadblocks NGOs face and brings to light practical, experience-based solutions that actually work.

Episode Highlights:

- Grassroots challenges NGOs & VOs encounter every day
- Smart ways to overcome funding, HR & operational hurdles
- How to bridge the digital divide for deeper community impact
- Game-changing strategies for visibility, advocacy & influence
- Candid conversations, real stories, and actionable insights

Whether you're a field worker, program lead, or NGO founder, this episode is your go-to guide for building a stronger, smarter, and more sustainable organization.

[Watch the full episode here!](#)

ISRN believes that having a 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 800 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!



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

