

Summary Report of MAHAN trust -1997 to March 2025

A. Background

MAHAN (Meditation, AIDS, Health, Addiction, Nutrition) is a NGO established in 1998 to improve health and reduce deaths of tribal, in Melghat region. MAHAN was touched by Gandhian teaching that “youths should go to the villages to serve as real India is in villages”. Melghat is the difficult to access, hilly, forest, impoverished tribal area with grossly inadequate Medical facilities as compared to rest of Maharashtra. Melghat has very high under 5 children mortality, Malnutrition, mortality in age group (16-60 years) & maternal mortality. Dr. Ashish (MBBS, MD) and Dr. Kavita Satav (MBBS, MS) have dedicated their 26 years in Melghat to serve poor tribals free of cost.

B. Interventions

- 1) MAHAN, Mahatma Gandhi Tribal Hospital
- 2) Home-Based Child-Care Program
- 3) Community Based Management for severely malnourished Children: SMC.
- 4) Mortality control program for economically productive age group
- 5) Blindness Control Program
- 6) Speciality camps
- 7) Covid hospital
- 8) Counsellor Program for strengthening of government hospitals.
- 9) Wairagkar Shanti-Nilayam Hospice”- Abode of peace for terminally ill patients
- 10) UMANG nutrition farm
- 11) Yoga-meditation
- 12) De-addiction.
- 13) Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health program
- 14) Feasibility study: Tracking community mortality due to Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).
- 15) Advocacy & writ petition in Hon. High Court for Maharashtra Government, Policy Changes
- 16) MITS: Minimal Invasive Tissue Sampling
- 17) Respire research on: TB, Photovoice, AdAPT.

C. Key activities:

1. Expert physician, eye surgeon and paediatrician treated >139215 patients in the Hospital. Treated >5404 serious patients like Heart attack, Cerebral Malaria, Tetanus etc.
2. Operated more than 2938 cases with Ophthalmic problems especially cataract free of cost.

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3. Door to door Eye check-up of > 4,53,594 people and > 1,15,672 students from > 450 tribal villages.
4. More than 23,519 patients have been treated in >331 speciality camps.
5. 2076 plastic, general, orthopaedics and gynaecology surgeries were performed for post-burn contractures, cancers of uterus, oral cavity, parotid & breast, cleft lips & palates, goitre.
6. Treatment of >1,05,660 childhood illness episodes(e.g. neonatal sepsis, birth asphyxia, Pneumonia, Normal new-born care etc.), 1887 SMC (5189 SMC episodes) with MAHAN LTF (Locally prepared therapeutic food) and MAHAN minerals and vitamins, ANC (>8277) and LTF to >4380 pregnant women, treatment of >1,30,484 adult illness episodes (of Hypertension, diarrhoea, Malaria, Pneumonia) by village health workers (VHWs) in 34 villages.
7. Treatment of 2,524 suspected covid patients & 173 confirmed critical covid patients.
8. Treated free of charge to 20 poor tribal terminally ill patients suffering from advanced cancers in Wairagkar Shanti Nilayam Hospice.
9. Behaviour change communication (BCC) was done for >4,78,848 children, parents and adult episodes.
10. Developed > 12062 nutrition gardens & nutrition farms in 27 tribal villages.
11. We arranged Yoga and meditation classes in 15 villages for >10812 children and youths.
12. We arranged ARSH (Adolescent Reproductive sexual Health) training camps (>6) for >300 adolescent children, 14 VHWs and 32 tribal counsellors.
13. Achieved the target of 4125 nasopharyngeal swab collection from severe Pneumonia children and 493 dead children.
14. Counsellor program is the best example of leveraging of government welfare scheme through counselling of tribal for hospitalisation of severely malnourished children and hospital deliveries along with monitoring & improving services of 17 government hospitals in Melghat.
15. We conducted 16 MITS: Minimal Invasive Tissue Sampling, 9 in ambulance in community and 7 at MAHAN hospital.
16. Photovoice study of 20 cases.

D. Impact/Achievement:

1. Saved **>4928** precious serious lives in our hospital. **Case fatality rate of ICU patients is 8.81% which is very less as compared to national average of 18%. We have achieved the target of ICU mortality <10% in India.**

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2. Mortality rate of serious covid patient was 16.9 % which is less than India: 25-30%.
3. More than 36,194 patients were given vision and their blindness was prevented.
4. Functional lives of >2000 patients improved by surgical camps.
5. There is significant reduction by 75.59% in child deaths in intervention villages as compared to baseline and control villages. (p value<0.001).
6. There is significant reduction in prevalence and deaths of severe malnutrition, 73.6 to 86% children came out of severe acute malnutrition. Case fatality rate of treated severe malnutrition 0.42%. Very Satisfactory achievement, achieved WHO targets.
7. Age specific mortality rate (16-60 years), prevalence of untreated HT and maternal mortality rate has been reduced significantly (47.85%, 74% and 62.99% respectively) in intervention area.(p value<0.001).
8. Tribal produced > >449071 kg of vegetables, pulses, oilseeds, etc. in their nutrition gardens and farms, which was mostly consumed by families. It improved nutrition & prevented malnutrition in >10202 families.
9. More than 220 patients of tobacco and alcohol addiction stopped addiction. Reduced tobacco chewing by pregnant ladies and reduced prevalence of Low-Birth-Weight babies. Three villages celebrated holi without social drinking and reduced annual social drinking to a significant extent during last 11 years. In two villages, alcohol production was stopped.
10. RSV program will impact global RSV vaccination policy by Global Alliance of Vaccination.

11. MITS:

MITS Acceptance rate: 59.23%. SOP of community MITS in an ambulance is established.

Advantages: Ambulance is an easy to reach transport, provided a well-designed and discrete facility to perform MITS in community, winning the confidence of bereaved family. Reduced time interval between death and MITS.

CONCLUSIONS: MAHAN become the first organisation in world to conduct MITS in community and ambulance. MITS in purpose-modified Ambulance: can be used worldwide for community MITS especially in areas which are remote and lack healthcare access. On verge of replication in other countries.

12. Government of Maharashtra has modified and started 38 State Policies due to MAHAN.
 - a. Counsellor program has benefitted 7,69,148 poor tribal patients. There was improvement in hospital deliveries from 2% to 70.72% (p<0.0001), and hospitalisation of SMC from 0.12% to 14.53% (p<0.0001). Statistically significant Improvement in Hospitalized severely malnourished babies. P < 0.0001.
 - b. It has been replicated in Rajasthan and will be replicated in Maharashtra. b) There is improved surveillance of severe Malnutrition in Maharashtra:
 - c. Compulsory posting of IAS officers in tribal areas as assistant collector.
 - d. Reclassification of severe malnutrition benefitting lakhs of SUW.
 - e. Rajmata Jijau Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Mission have been started by government and UNICEF.

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- f. Dr. Satav has been awarded membership of many national, state and international policy committees.
- g. As a result of above, lakhs of poor tribal children and pregnant mothers have been benefitted and thousands of lives have been saved in Maharashtra.
- 13. Research Paper Presentation in 44 International Journals & 36 international symposia.
- 14. Dr. Satav was invited by Gates foundation as key note speaker in an international conference organized by Gates foundation, USAID, Welcome trust, Govt. of UK, etc.
- 15. Harvard university USA, UNICEF and Lancet global health have published success stories of MAHAN research in their joint publication.
- 16. Collaboration for health projects: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, USA, University of Colorado, Denver, USA, University of Nottingham, UK, University of Edinburgh, UK. Bajaj Auto CSR, Tata trust, etc.

E. Awards and felicitations (82 awards)

- 1. **“Public Health Champion” award by World Health Organisation.**
- 2. REAL global award by Save the Children UK.
- 3. Covid last mile achievers award by World Economic Forum.
- 4. Felicitation by Ex. President of INDIA, Hon. A.P.J. Abdul Kalamji.



- 5. Felicitation of Dr. Ashish and Dr. Kavita by honourable President of India, Mr. Ramnath Kovind. Presented work of MAHAN.



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6. “Best Tribal Research Project Award & Young Scientist Award” by Indian Counsel of Medical Research.
7. Oberoi melting pot award by Rotary International, Consulate Generals of 26 countries
8. Dr. HP Award by CSA, USA.
9. International TEER tribal health conference-first oral paper award to Dr. Dani of MAHAN trust. (2024-25)
10. International TEER tribal health conference-second oral paper award to Dr. Bharadwaj of MAHAN trust. (2024-25)
11. Champion of Rural Surgery Award to Dr. Kavita Satav (2024-25).
12. Champion of Rural Surgery Award to Dr. Dilip Gahankari for MAHAN camps (2024-25).
13. Americares Foundation’s ‘Spirit of Humanity Award 2011 –National Award ’ for child nutrition and child health.
14. Angels of Rural India -Healers of India award to Dr. Ashish Satav by hands of Health Minister of India Mr. Naddha and WHO India chief Henk Bechedem in Taj palace Delhi.

1) **The Triumph of Resilience: Poor tribal patient’s Journey to Recovery**

In the heart of the tranquil village of Melghat, amidst the verdant hills of Melghat, a story of remarkable resilience unfolded. At the age of 45, a poor tribal patient, a beloved member of the community, faced a daunting array of health challenges that threatened to overwhelm him. Diagnosed with a complex web of ailments including diabetes mellitus, severe hypertension, diabetic foot and gangrene, chronic renal failure (CRF), pulmonary oedema (congestive cardiac failure), acute respiratory distress syndrome, severe hypoxia, acidosis, his journey to recovery seemed like an insurmountable mountain to climb. Yet, within the walls of the MAHAN Tribal Hospital, a beacon of hope emerged. A team of skilled physicians, nurses, and specialists rallied around him, employing cutting-edge treatments including ventilator and unwavering determination to combat his myriad health issues. Through a combination of meticulous medical care, innovative therapies, and compassionate support, they fought tirelessly to turn the tide in his favour. Ultimately MAHAN team could save his life.

His journey serves as an inspiration to us all, a reminder that no matter how daunting the obstacles may seem, the human spirit is capable of overcoming even the greatest of challenges.

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Board members/ Executive counsel members of MAHAN trust.				
Sr. no.	Name	Qualification / professional degree	Number of years associated with organization	Designation in Executive counsel
1	Dr. Ashish Rambhau Satav	M.B.B.S., M.D.	26	President
2	Dr. Abhijit Vassudeo Bharadwaj	M.B.B.S., D.Ch.	26	Secretary
3	Mrs. Manik Sameer Palaskar	B.E.	26	Treasurer
4	Dr. Avinash Shrikrishna Saoji	M.B.B.S.	26	Board Member
5	Dr. Prakash Murlidhar , (Baba) Amte	M.B.B.S.	26	Board Member

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6	Mr. Avinash Nimbalkar	B.E., M.E.	13	Board Member
7	Dr. Kanna Dobi Madavi	M.B.B.S., M.D.	26	Board Member
8	Dr. Devendra Vasudeo Khandait	M.B.B.S., M.D.	26	Board Member
9	Mrs .Urmila Laxmikant Varangaonkar	B.A.	26	Board Member
10	Mr. Shriram Laxman Panherkar	10 th	17	Board Member
11	Mr. Chandrakant Shyamrao Ragit	B.E., M.E., Ph.D.	26	Board Member

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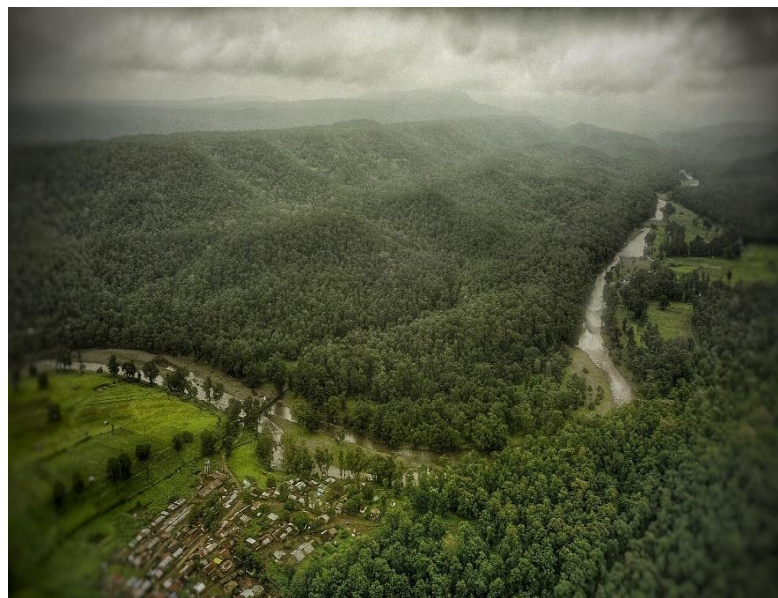


Figure 1 Village of our hospital.

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Reaching the unreachable