

Dr. Thiyagarajan SM, District Magistrate, PATNA

# Rationale And Challenges

- A unique, comprehensive, end to end approach for addressing hearing loss in children < 6 years.
- Focus on EARLY detection, earliest intervention and rehabilitation.

#### Rationale

- Hearing loss affects 5-8 per 1000 children, >1 Lakh babies have HI / Year.
- Early intervention is critical for speech development and social integration. Average detection in India is at 2 yrs of age.

# Challenges

- Lack of resources, screening mechanisms, limited skilled manpower and equipments.
- Financial barriers, multi-level screening, multi-intervention and lack of awareness.

"Don't wait and see when it comes to child's speech"

# Integrated Service Delivery Model

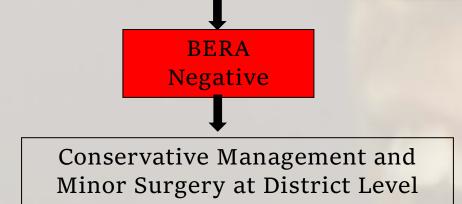
#### PROCESS FLOW

Community Mobilization, Door-to-Door screening, Pooling of Resources, Screening Camp at AWC

Early Identification of HI children at AWC through OAE Test

Referral to District Early Intervention Centre and BERA Test





Free of cost Cochlear Implant Surgery under
ADIP /DMF /RBSK

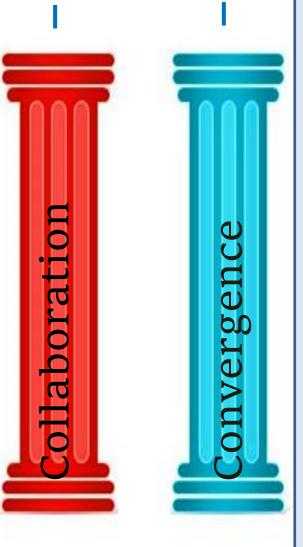
Free of cost speech therapy and rehabilitation for 3 Years



# A Sustainable and Scalable Solution Uniqueness

# Twin pillars

- > Inter-department collaboration
  - > Nodal Department- Health
  - ➤ Mobilization- ICDS, PRD, RDD, Health
  - Resource- Health,SAKSHAM, Education,Mining & NGO
- Collaboration of Institutions-District Health Society, Dr. S N Mehrotra Hospital, Kanpur, AIIMS, Patna, Local NGOs.



- ➤ Central and State Govt Schemes
  - > ADIP
  - > DMF
  - > RBSK
  - > SAKSHAM
- ➤ Resource Convergence
  - > Audiologist
  - > OAE, BERA Equipment
- Community Mobilization through
  - ➤ Self Help Group
  - > PRI
  - > ASHA, AWW, ANM & NGO





# A Journey of Change: Metrics and Stories

# Tangible and Intangible Impact from Gaya Pilot

#### **Quantitative Impact**

- □ 425,911 children screened across 2591 AWCs, detecting 1739 HI Children.
- □ 1,669 children received conservative treatment/minor surgery.
- □ 70 children successfully received free cochlear implants.

## **Qualitative Impact**

- ☐ Enhanced language, social skills, formal education.
- ☐ Policy formulation at state level -Bal Shravan Scheme.
- ☐ Enhanced institutional capacity and infrastructure-Sensory Garden.
- ☐ Strengthened new-born screening program & Reduction in economic burden on families.





# From Pilot to Policy: A Model for Growth

## **Assessment and Replicability**

## **Evaluation and Recognition**

- Independent Assessment by UNICEF: Recognized as a path-breaking initiative for its impact and replicability.
- National Health Summit: Included as a best practice for innovation in child healthcare.
- State Innovation Award: Recognized for its cost-effectiveness and scalability.

## Way forward

- Incorporation into State Policy: Formulation of Bihar Bal Shrawan Scheme.
- 1-3-6 model for newborn screening.
- Scaling through Digital Innovation: Mobile app for self-screening and teleconsultation.
- Digital Dashboard for Screening, Digital Tracking of Beneficiaries





# The world is no linger silent

# **Smiling Lives**



Ritik Raj & Reyansh Kumar – Differently Abled Parents (Father's response)

Thank you for giving my child the gift of sound and a future full of possibilities!



Raushan Kumar – Both Parents are deaf (Mother' response)

The world is no longer silent; I can hear the world through my child.



Sunny (Father's response)

I always wondered what my mother's voice sounded like—now I know!



Sakshi Kumari, (Mother's response)

Was unaware about deafness, ran from pillar-to-pillar. Now won the Battle.
Thank You!



Vandana Kumari (Father's voice)

The chirping of birds and raindrops sound so magical for my child!







### **BEYOND WORDS: EVIDENCE OF CHANGE**

Snapshots of Success from Gaya



1. Children with parents going to Kanpur for treatment



3. District level screening camps



2. Screening of children at AWCs.



4. Smile for hearing the world

#### Shravan Shruti Project brings smile on the face hearing impaired children



SURESH PRASAD NIKHAR

GAYA: Children suffering from hearing loss or deafness in Gaya district are getting a lot of help from the district administration and health department.

Shravan Shruti Project has become a boon for such children and the children are responding to their parents, which is now bringing a smile on their parents' faces. Seeing their children, hope has arisen in them and all this is happening because of the Shravan Shruti Project.

This project is being continuously reviewed and monitored by the District Magistrate Dr. SM Thiagarajan himself, the

result of which today is that many children who are suffering from hearing loss problem, they are being given proper treatment free of cost.

Considering Gaya district as a model by State Health Committee Bihar Patna, in addition to Gaya district, total 9 districts namely Patna, Nalanda, Bhagalpur, Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, East Champaran, Purnia and Vaishali districts will be given free treatment for hearing loss children. An MoU has been signed between the State Health Committee and Dr. SN Malhotra Memorial UP.

Apart from Gaya district, now the children of these districts will also be screened and treated free of seets.

tricts will also be screened and treated free of cost.

#### Media Clips

## श्रवण श्रुति प्रोजेक्ट से माता–पिता के चेहरे पर आई मुस्कान

बच्चों के लिए श्रवण श्रति प्रोजेक्ट बरदान बन चुका है। ऐसे बच्चे अपने माता-पिता को प्रतिक्रिया दे रहे हैं, जिससे उनके माता-पिता के चेहरे पर अब मस्कान आ रही है। अपने बच्चों को देख उनमें उम्मीद जगी है और यह सब श्रवण श्रुति प्रोजेवट के कारण हो रहा है। इस प्रोजेक्ट का जिलाधिकारी एसएम त्यागराजन द्वारा स्वयं लगातार समीक्षा तथा अनुश्रवण किया जा रहा है। परिणाम है कि अनेकों बच्चे जो हियरिंग लास की समस्या से ग्रसित थे, उन्हें समुचित अधास से बतवीत करते सीपमनीतीश कुमार ● कहल कोटो जिला को माहल के रूप में देखते हुए जिलाधिकारी रवयं कर रहे इस गया जिले के अतिरिक्त नी जिले पटना, ग्रोजेक्ट का अनुश्रवण इलाज कराया जाएगा। इसके लिए राज्य मुख्यमंत्री बिहार नीतीश कुमार से कॉकलियर इंग्लॉट किया गया है। की जा चुकी हैं। सर्जरी के लिए 30 बच्चों स्वास्थ्य समिति एवं डा. एसएन मल्लोत्रा बोकेबाजार में हुई थी। श्रेयोश अब धीरे आइसीडीएस तथा राष्ट्रीय बाल को चिन्हित किया गया है।



है। इलाज के लिए पटना स्थित एम्स तथा कानपुर भेजा जाता है। कानपुर में बच्चों के श्रवण शक्ति की गंभीरता के अनुसार सर्जरी कर कॉकलियर इंप्लीट कियाँ जा रहा है। श्रवण श्रुति में अब तक जिला इलाज निशुल्क करवाया जा स्ता है। राज्य काकितियर इंग्लॉट के वाद श्रेयांश धीरे सुन रहा है और बोलना संख स्ता की जांच की गयी है। पूर्ण बहरेपन हेतु स्वास्थ्य सीमित बिहार पटना द्वारा गया से मुख्यमंत्री को दी अपनी प्रतिक्रिया है। स्वजन उसे नये शब्द बता रहे हैं, चिन्हित बच्चों की संख्य 53 है तथा जिसे सुन वह उसका उच्चारण करने की तत्कालीन बहरेपन छेद चिन्हित बच्चों पूरी कोशिश करता है। टिकारी के हमजा की संख्या 79 है। 53 बच्चों में 07 बच्चों श्रीमशाद और सन्ती, बेलागंज के शाद का सर्जरी की मदद से कॉकलियर इंग्लांट पूर्वी चंपरण, पूर्णिया एवं वैशाली जिला भेमोरियल यूपी के बीच एमओयू हुआ है। रहमान, बोधगया की साक्षी कुमारी, बंदना किया गया है। 16 बच्चों के कॉकलियर के हियरिंग लास बच्चों को निशुल्क इमागंज के श्रेयंश की मुलाकात कुमारी तथा अनुराधा शामिल हैं जिनका ईंप्लॉट के लिए सर्जर से पूर्व सभी जांच

# The Journey of Change Continues at Patna

## Findings from Patna - Started with pilot in Danapur and PhulwariShariff and scaled in August 2025

### **Quantitative Impact**

- □ 20645 children screened detecting 87 HI Children till August.
- ☐ 35 children identified for cochlear implants.
- □ 10 children successfully received free cochlear implants.
- ☐ The rest are prepared to be sent for surgery

#### **Qualitative Impact**

- ☐ Enhanced language, social skills, formal education.
- ☐ Enhanced institutional capacity and infrastructure-Sensory Garden.
- ☐ Strengthened new-born screening program & Reduction in economic burden on families.
- ☐ Improved co-ordination between line departments





## **BEYOND WORDS: EVIDENCE OF CHANGE**

Snapshots of Success from Patna



Screening of children at AWCs.





Speech therapy Sessions



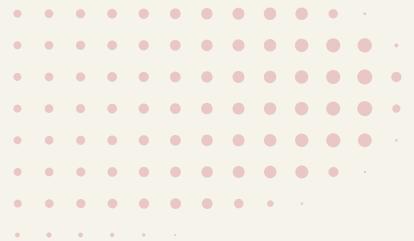
Smile for hearing the world





Group pic with officials





# Thanks...