

IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

Comprehensive Day Care Program for Children Living on Construction Sites

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Project Details

Project Number:	10309
Project title:	Comprehensive Day Care Program for Children Living on Construction Sites
Project duration:	Apr 2020- Jun 2022
Approved Budget:	Rs.145 lakhs
Major Stakeholders:	Children
Location:	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Implementation Agency:	Mumbai Mobile Creches
Assessment Agency:	impactDash

The construction sector in India, being one of the largest employers of labour in the country, is heavily dependent on migrant workers. The rise in the number of migrant workers highlights pressing issues such as lack of job security, unsafe working conditions, poor living conditions, and lack of social welfare faced by migrant laborers. The children of construction workers are equally vulnerable due to poverty and existing living conditions. Because their families are impoverished and their parents are working, these children are compelled to take care of themselves, exposing them to malnutrition, numerous health problems, and lack of hygiene. Additionally, due to migration, they are deprived of formal schooling, daycare centers, or any sort of support system.

In this challenging scenario, Mumbai Mobile Creches, a grassroots-level non-profit organization, runs daycare centers on construction sites to provide education, nutrition, and healthcare for the children of construction laborers. The organization adopts a comprehensive approach to overcome the challenges faced by the children. The centers cater to babies under 3 years old, a Balwadi (preschool) for children aged 3 to 5 years, and a classroom for providing after-school support to children above 6 years old. Bajaj Finance Limited has been a significant supporter of Mumbai Mobile Creches' (MMC) on the Comprehensive Day Care Program. The project aims to ensure the overall development of children living on construction sites by providing quality services in education, health, and nutrition through the Comprehensive Day Care Program implemented by MMC. The impact assessment was carried out at both Shirdhon and Virar centers, with a beneficiaries list comprising 200 children attending in both locations.



02 Key Activities

Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Age-appropriate educational support through Prakash themes, arts, crafts, puppetry, songs, and other creative activities.• Enrolling children in school and providing after-school support.• Offering online educational activities to support children's learning.
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular visits by doctors to monitor children's health• Health monitoring and treatment• Providing daily calcium supplements, B Complex, and multivitamins to combat malnutrition.• Organizing Health Camps for children's overall well-being.• Conducting Chai-Pani meetings to raise awareness about relevant health, nutrition, and hygiene practices.
Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoting hygiene awareness and practices among children for their health and well-being.
Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing nutritious meals and snacks to ensure children's proper nutritional intake

03 Key Impact

The impact assessment is based on the OECD DAC Network on Development Evaluation (EvalNet) based on six evaluation criteria – relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability.

Cognitive Development

- The children demonstrated increased curiosity and enthusiasm to learn new things, as established by their engagement in educational activities such as writing, drawing, painting, crafting, learning new songs, puppetry, and reading.
- Their ability to recall and share what they have learned showcases improved memory retention and verbal communication skills. These cognitive enhancements reflect the positive impact of the creche environment on the intellectual development of the children.

Socio-Emotional Development

- The parents expressed the noticeable changes in the children's responsiveness to them and following a routine in their day-to-day activities like eating on time, bathing, changing clothes, etc.
 - Children exhibited greater independence and self-reliance since enrolling in the centre.
 - The supportive environment at the creche has also positively influenced their emotional well-being, as indicated by their enthusiasm, confidence, and ability to form positive relationships with others.
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Health and Physical Development

- The doctors regularly check for cold, cough, fever, eyes, throat, ears, nose, stomach, height, weight, and provide medications as per the requirement. required.
 - Additional support is provided to malnourished children in their diet and medications. The centre provides guidance on healthy eating habits.
 - The children receive regular meals at the centre, including khichdi, fruits, milk, eggs, dry fruits, and juices, ensuring their nutritional needs are met.
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Hygiene Education and Practices

- The children have learned about health and hygiene practices, including the importance of washing hands before meals, before using the restroom, and after returning home.
 - The center maintains cleanliness and good hygiene, with regular cleaning of utensils and the premises. The children are actively involved in maintaining cleanliness and are taught to keep their utensils clean. This reflects a strong focus on hygiene awareness and practices at the center.
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Mainstreaming into schools and After-school support

- The creche teachers and staff support the parents in the admission procedures of their children in school through the documentation process, therefore ensuring a smooth transition for children entering mainstream schools.
 - Children receive after-school support at the creche which includes a variety of activities such as study games and classes on tablets, language assistance, and resolving school-related doubts.
 - Children also engage in yoga, prayers, and study sessions, fostering holistic development beyond regular academics.
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Staff support and training

- The MMC staff established a comprehensive support system for construction workers' families by addressing their diverse needs.
 - Creche staff work beyond their professional commitments to ensure there is community engagement. Parents' stories indicate the creche's success in meeting community concerns effectively.
 - Staff receives a year-long training before practical sessions with children. Umeed training is also conducted among staff followed by fire drill practices to enhance capacity building.
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Parental involvement and satisfaction

- The parents overall expressed a sense of deep satisfaction with the creche.
- Their main issue which is the safety of the kids in their homes was addressed quite effectively by the creche and everything else- food, education, and health were added benefits that came with the primary support of their kids having a safe place to be at which they go to work.
- The engagement with the center was still a very strong part of their everyday lives.