



Foundation for  
Responsive  
Governance

**STRENGTHENING CAPABILITIES,  
AMPLIFYING IMPACT: REACHING  
VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

**2023-24**



**ResGov's  
Annual Report**

# FOREWORD



AVANI KAPUR

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2023-24 for the Foundation for Responsive Governance (ResGov). As we look back at the few months since our launch, I feel proud to share our work aligned with our intent to strengthen capabilities to ensure public initiatives reach the most vulnerable in India.

ResGov was launched in October 2023 after our team, formerly at the Centre for Policy Research, realigned to understand how India's policy ecosystem needs to learn from the lived realities of vulnerable citizens who experience common realities harshly.

From tribal communities to women in our villages, migrant labourers to natives of small towns and cities, elderly to children and pregnant women, there is a deep necessity to engage and build capabilities for stronger responsive and equitable governments.

We believe these capabilities, for citizens, government and civil society alike, must improve sustained access to development across India's diverse landscape. Through collective efforts such as the co-production of knowledge and partnerships in the field, we must work towards ensuring governance systems are responsive to real needs felt by our communities.

Understanding our role in the ecosystem came relatively quickly to us as our young team has remained committed to this cause in countless ways. From living with and improving access to schemes for remote tribes in Meghalaya to working as an Elected Representative in rural Karnataka, our team members bring unique perspectives and skills to the table.

It brings me great joy and gratitude to convene this group that does not hesitate to walk the talk on improving governance in India. In the last few months since our launch, we have made significant strides in achieving the vision we have set out to work on. During this short time, we undertook projects such as capacity building of Elected Women Representatives in Maharashtra and Rajasthan and an in-depth budget analysis of 8 key welfare ministries. Further, through partnerships with government bodies and civil society organisations at conferences and discussions, we have exchanged ideas that can further our efforts to foster responsive governance systems. The progress detailed in this report reflects our commitment to evidence-based research and practical solutions that can create meaningful change at both policy and implementation levels.

As we look forward, we remain dedicated to building on these accomplishments and continuing our work toward more responsive governance across India.

Launching a coordinated effort such as ResGov would not be possible without the support of various civil society organisations, academic and government officers who share our vision. We are grateful to our Board of Advisors for their constant support as well. With your support, we remain committed to continue our collective efforts.

*Warm regards,  
Avani Kapur  
Founder and Director  
Foundation for Responsive Governance (ResGov)*



# WORK AREAS & APPROACH

## ISSUES WE TACKLE & OUR VISION

In Financial Year 2023-24, **₹36.27 lakh crore was estimated to be spent on development related expenditure in India** (RBI, 2024). However, systemic challenges, such as knowledge gaps, limited institutional capacity, and fragmented collaboration, often result in funds going unspent, ineffective policy responses, and missed opportunities to meet community needs. We intend to solve this by building capabilities to ensure public initiatives reach the most vulnerable.



## WE DID THIS THROUGH TWO AREAS

### 1. BY IMPROVING PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT:

We believe that understanding and improving public finance management systems for welfare is crucial as it ensures that required funds are allocated and reach communities, address real needs, and are used efficiently. By strengthening these systems, we can close knowledge gaps, boost institutional capacity, and enhance collaboration within and between government and civil society. This results in better service delivery, fewer unspent resources, and positive, measurable impacts on people's lives.

### 2. BY STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNANCE INSTITUTIONS:

India's cities, villages and small towns are the closest governance bodies to communities, playing a key role in local decision-making and service delivery. Empowering these institutions will lead to improved welfare outcomes and greater community trust and participation.

## OUR APPROACH



#### INSIGHTS:

We conduct rigorous evidence-based research that can strengthen welfare service delivery.

#### ACTION:

We build capacities of wide-ranging institutional stakeholders who enable access to welfare services.

#### DIALOGUE:

We design inclusive spaces where diverse stakeholders can participate in facilitated discussions, ensuring every voice counts.

**BIHAR**

**RAJASTHAN**

# ***OUR FOOTPRINT***

**KARNATAKA**

**MAHARASHTRA**

**MADHYA PRADESH**



**KNOWLEDGE  
PARTNERSHIPS**

Established with civil  
society organisations

**30**

**TEAM MEMBERS  
OF A CIVIL SOCIETY  
ORGANISATION TRAINED IN  
RAJASTHAN**

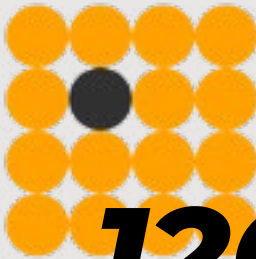
Reaching a total of 97 Gram  
Panchayats with a population  
of 2.9 Lakh.



**8**

**BUDGET INSIGHT REPORTS**

Shared with -  
500+ Members of Parliament &  
100+ civil society organisations



**126**

**ELECTED WOMEN  
REPRESENTATIVES TRAINED  
IN MAHARASHTRA**

Reaching 51 Panchayats that  
serve a population of 1.2 Lakh in  
Satara, Beed, Latur, and  
Osmanabad districts.



**PUBLIC EVENTS**

and conferences where we  
participated as speakers or  
delivered presentations.



**RESEARCH STUDIES**

Initiated on governance  
and public policy



# IMPROVING PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT

## 01

### UNPACKING UNION TRENDS IN SOCIAL WELFARE ALLOCATIONS AND SPENDING:

The national budget is an important source of information to understand how the government plans to use public resources to meet citizen needs. Yet, by design, they tend to be highly technical documents, with information spread across different sources, making it difficult to access and understand - even for policymakers. In a democracy where budget decisions directly affect the lives of 1.4 billion people, accessible expert analysis isn't just valuable—it's essential for ensuring informed debate, and meaningful participation.



Every year, ResGov will unpack trends in Union social welfare allocations and spending, with an aim to bridge the information gap, and enable a clearer understanding of government priorities, outcomes, and the real-world impact of public resources.

This year, we **analysed trends across 9 key ministries** ranging from Rural Development, Women and Child Development, Education, New and Renewable Energy, Food and Public Distribution, Housing and Urban Affairs, Health and Family Welfare, and Drinking Water and Sanitation. We also **developed a 10 year comparative analysis** on how social welfare financing has evolved over the years. These briefs were shared with **500+ Members of Parliament** in the run up to the budget discussion and **100+ civil society organisations**, strengthening evidence-based policy discussions nationwide. Our budget insights can be accessed [here](#).



## ANALYSING FINANCING FOR GENDER WELFARE:

02

We produced four evidence-based articles that were published by BehanBox analysing flagship social sector schemes including the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Jal Jeevan Mission, and MGNREGS, with focus on service delivery for women and girls. The articles can be accessed [here](#).



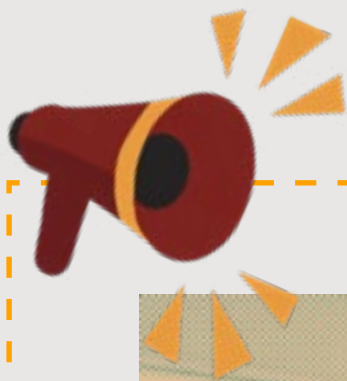
03

### ENGAGED WITH THE MEDIA ON ANALYSING THE PRADHAN MANTRI JAN AROGYA YOJANA

Our Founder, Avani Kapur, participated in a podcast hosted by The Hindu's Parley, alongside Nachiket Mor, Visiting Scientist at the Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health. The discussion focused on whether PMJAY requires a design change to address emerging operational issues and ensure sustained access to quality healthcare for vulnerable populations.

This engagement reflects ResGov's commitment to contributing expert insights to inform public policy debates.





## OTHER ENGAGEMENTS



## MEDIA MENTIONS:



Avani Kapur was quoted in an article by *IndiaSpend* on trends in social *welfare allocations in Union Budget 2024-25*. Read more [here](#).



Avani Kapur and Yamini Aiyar, Visiting Senior Fellow at Saxena Center and Watson Institute, Brown University authored an opinion piece in Hindustan Times on social welfare development expectations from the Interim Union Budget 2024. Read more [here](#).

# STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNANCE INSTITUTIONS

## 01

### CAPACITY BUILDING OF PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTION (PRI) MEMBERS IN MAHARASHTRA

Empowering Panchayat leaders is crucial for responsive local governance and reaching underserved communities, especially women. We partnered with [CORO India](#), an organisation that works towards empowering marginalised communities, to deliver targeted workshops for Panchayat Raj members and women leaders in Maharashtra. The training enhanced skills in decentralisation, public finance, and e-governance among [126 leaders across 50 Panchayats, covering over 113,000 citizens in Satara and Aurangabad districts.](#)

“

*After my training, I saw our Sabhas weren't well-organised, and lacked people's involvement in development planning. So, while creating the annual plan, I set up our first ward meeting. Villagers came and talked about their problems. Later, during the Gram meeting, we shared these issues with the Panchayat members, marking a big shift towards making plans that cater to people's needs.*

”

*- Apeksha, Elected Representative  
(Sangli District, Maharashtra)*







## 02

### CAPACITY BUILDING OF CIVIL SOCIETY MEMBERS IN RAJASTHAN:

To improve local governance in Rajasthan's socio-economically weaker districts, we partnered with *Jatan Santhan*.

The grassroots nonprofit organisation works with rural and marginalised communities in Rajasthan. Through the partnership, *we trained 60 civil society members. This initiative supported 97 Gram Panchayats covering 2.9 lakh citizens* across Udaipur, Bhilwada and Dungarpur districts by building capacity in public finance, decentralisation and e-governance.

“

*All the topics present in the 4 day workshop were new for me. We work with the government but if we do not have a better understanding of the government then we have to face problems. I found the topics of decentralisation, public finance, budget, and e-governance very useful. We explored all topics by connecting them with our experiences on the ground. This course will help me engage with the government officials more confidently.*

”

*-Nilofar Neelgar, Block  
Coordinator (Jatan Santhan,  
Rajasthan)*



## OTHER ENGAGEMENTS:

**1. Learning to Use Case Studies in Capacity Building:** Our team members participated in a case teaching workshop facilitated by Prof. Maya Tudor from the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford at the Indian School of Public Policy (ISPP) in March 2024. The workshop helped us understand how to best develop and introduce case studies in our capacity building interventions for strengthening local governance institutions.

**2. Learning From Others on Civic Engagement:** Our team members attended the first edition of the India Civic Summit organised by Oorvani Foundation in Bangalore in March 2024. The summit served as an opportunity to engage and share learnings with leaders and civil society organisations working towards common goals.



# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

**RESGOV REMAINS COMMITTED TO OUR VISION OF STRENGTHENING CAPABILITIES TO ENSURE PUBLIC INITIATIVES REACH THE MOST VULNERABLE. HERE IS WHAT WE HAVE PLANNED FOR THE COMING YEAR!**

01

## **STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNANCE INSTITUTIONS:**



Expanding training programmes for Elected Women Representatives to Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh, focusing on -

- constitutional provisions
- panchayat finances
- leadership development.



Creating targeted resources for grassroots organisations to improve their partnership with government bodies, including both in-person and online courses.



Training members on Panchayat finances to integrate financial insights into community development initiatives through a partnership with Transform Rural India Foundation.



Delivering specialised training on administrative structures, planning, and district-level finances at Indian School of Development Management and other institutions.



## 02

### NEW INTERVENTIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS ON AREAS SUCH:



**Climate vulnerabilities:** Addressing climate vulnerability is essential, now more than ever, to reduce risks to communities' safety and livelihoods, build resilience, and ensure effective, inclusive, and sustainable climate action.



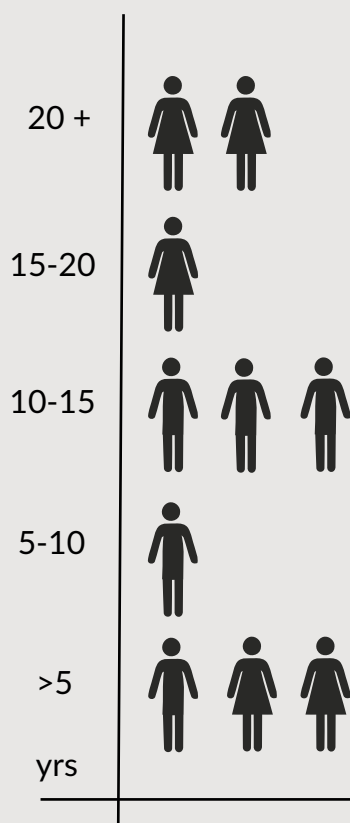
**Digital transformation of governments:** As governments rapidly adopt technology to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in public services, understanding and improving digital governance is crucial to enable better citizen engagement and more responsive, inclusive governance.



# TEAM MEMBERS

1. **AVANI KAPUR** | Founder and Director | Delhi NCR
2. **SIDHARTH SANTHOSH** | Senior Research Associate | Delhi NCR
3. **MALLIKA ARORA** | Programme Associate | Delhi NCR
4. **TANYA RANA** | Research Associate | Delhi NCR
5. **SWAPNA RAMTEKE** | Senior State Associate | Madhya Pradesh
6. **REUBEN KHONGLAH** | Senior Programme Associate | Meghalaya
7. **UDAY SHANKAR KUMAR** | State Associate | Bihar
8. **TAJUDDIN KHAN** | State Associate | Rajasthan
9. **SHAILAJA SHANKARANARAYANA** | Senior State Associate | Karnataka
10. **KAUSHAL PATHAK** | State Associate | Madhya Pradesh

This year at ResGov, our team celebrated an equal gender balance with 5 women and 5 men.



The strength of our team lies in the breadth of experience each member brings to social impact work. The graphic illustrates the varied years of experience among our dedicated team members, demonstrating a mix of fresh perspectives and seasoned expertise!



## BOARD OF ADVISORS



**DIPA SINHA**

RESEARCHER AND VISITING  
PROFESSOR APU



**SUNIL KUMAR**

IAS OFFICER, RETD. AS  
SECRETARY TO MINISTRY OF  
PANCHAYAT RAJ



**UTHARA  
NARAYANAN**

FOUNDER OF BUZZ WOMEN,  
REVOLUTIONISING WOMEN  
LEADERSHIP AT  
GRASSROOTS



**SEKAR BONU**

PAST WITH NITI AAYOG, ASIAN  
DEVELOPMENT BANK, AND  
INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE  
SERVICE



Foundation for  
Responsive  
Governance

## THANK YOU

We express our sincere gratitude to all our partners, collaborators, and stakeholders who have supported our mission of strengthening responsive governance in India. Our work would not be possible without the dedication of our team members and the cooperation of government bodies, civil society organisations, and academic institutions who share our vision for better governance systems.

TEAM RESGOV



<https://www.resgov.org/>



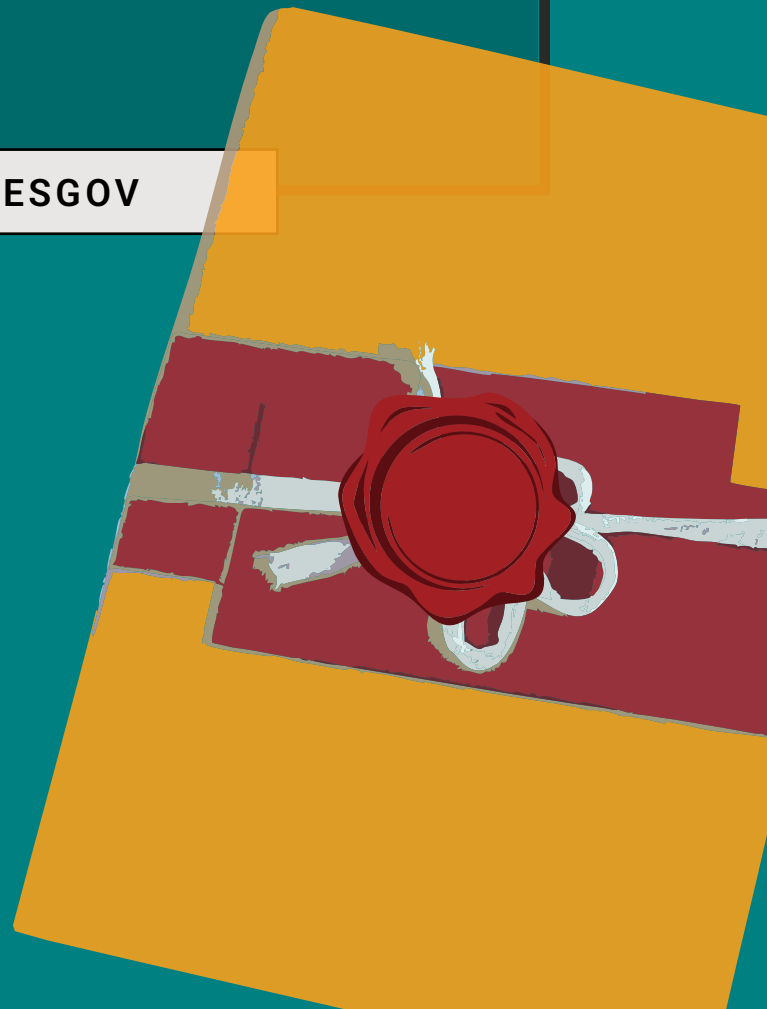
[hello@resgov.org](mailto:hello@resgov.org)



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/resgov>



[https://x.com/Res\\_Gov](https://x.com/Res_Gov)



# RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRANSFORMATION FOUNDATION

(A Company Licensed under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013)  
CIN - U88900DL2023NPL418137

## BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 2024

	Note nn	AMOUNT(Rs.) AS ON 31.03.2024	AMOUNT(Rs.) AS ON 31.03.2023
<b>I. EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>			
(1) <b>Shareholders' funds</b>			
(a) Share capital	1	50000.00	0.00
(b) Reserves and surplus	2	1031800.47	0.00
(c) Money received against share warrants		0.00	0.00
		<u>1081800.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>
(2) <b>Share application money pending allotment</b>		0.00	0.00
(3) <b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
(a) Long-term borrowings	3	0.00	0.00
(b) Other Long Term Liabilities		0.00	0.00
(c) Long Term Provisions		0.00	0.00
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
(4) <b>Current liabilities</b>			
(a) Short-term borrowings	4	0.00	0.00
(b) Other Current liabilities	5	0.00	0.00
(c) Other Short-term provisions	6	0.00	0.00
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<u>1081800.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>II. ASSETS</b>			
(1) <b>Non-current assets</b>			
(a) Property, Plant and Equipment & Intangible Assets			
(i) Property, Plant and Equipment	7	0.00	0.00
(ii) Intangible assets			
(iii) Capital work-in-progress			
(iv) Intangible assets under development			
(b) Non-current investments	8	0.00	0.00
(c) Long Term Loans & Advances		0.00	0.00
(d) Other non-current assets	9	0.00	0.00
		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
(2) <b>Current assets</b>			
(a) Current Investments	10	0.00	0.00
(b) Cash and cash equivalents	11	1035737.47	0.00
(c) Short-term loans and advances	12	0.00	0.00
(d) Other current assets	13	46063.00	0.00
		<u>1081800.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<u>1081800.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Account are integral part of Financial Statements

As per our report of even date attached

For MAYUR AND COMPANY

FRN : 021448N

Chartered Accountants

CA MAYUR GUPTA, FCA, Proprietor

M.No. 503036

UDIN - 24503036BKELUG7890

Place : New Delhi

Date : 30-05-2024



For RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRANSFORMATION FOUNDATION  
TRANSFORMATION FOUNDATION

Satyam Vyas  
(DIRECTOR)  
(DIN-07666097)

Avani Kapur  
(DIRECTOR)  
(DIN-10267094)

**RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRANSFORMATION FOUNDATION**

(A Company Licensed under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013)

**CIN - U88900DL2023NPL418137****STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

	Note No.	AMOUNT (Rs.) AS ON 31.03.2024	AMOUNT (Rs.) AS ON 31.03.2023
I. Donation Received	14	1193063.00	0.00
II. Other income	15	3504.00	0.00
III. Total Income (I + II)		<u>1196567.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
IV. Expenses:			
Utilization on Programmes and Activities	16	55371.00	0.00
Finance Cost	17	0.00	0.00
Depreciation and amortisation Expense	18	0.00	0.00
Other Expenses	19	109395.53	0.00
Total expenses		<u>164766.53</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Surplus/ (Deficit) before exceptional and extraordinary items and tax (III-IV)		<u>1031800.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>
VI Exceptional items - Allocation to specific funds		0.00	0.00
VII Surplus/ (Deficit) before extraordinary items and tax (V-VI)		<u>1031800.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>
VIII Extraordinary items		0.00	0.00
IX Surplus before Tax (VII-VIII)		<u>1031800.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>
X Tax Expense			
Current Tax		0.00	0.00
Deferred Tax		0.00	0.00
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period from continuing operations (IX-X)		<u>1031800.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>
XII Surplus/(Deficit) from discontinuing operations		0.00	0.00
XIII Tax Expense of discounting operations		0.00	0.00
XIV Surplus/(Deficit) from discontinuing operations (XII-XIII)		<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
XV Surplus/(Deficit) for the Period (XI + XIV)		<u>1031800.47</u>	<u>0.00</u>

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Account are integral part of Financial Statements

As per our report of even date attached  
For MAYUR AND COMPANY  
FRN : 021448N  
Chartered Accountants

CA MAYUR GUPTA, FCA, Proprietor  
M.No. 503036  
UDIN - 24503036BKELUG7890  
Place : New Delhi  
Date : 30-05-2024



For RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE AND  
TRANSFORMATION FOUNDATION  
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