

Empowering Communities: Maersk Suhana Safar Programme Hosts 18 Health Camps for Truck Drivers and Families



Gynaecologists & female doctors who offer diagnosis and treatment tailored to women & girl's needs,

For over eight years, a transformative journey has been underway to bring essential healthcare services to truck drivers, helpers, and nearby communities. This journey, spearheaded by the Suhana Safar initiative, is a collaboration between Development Alternatives (DA) and Maersk.

The Suhana Safar program, implemented by DA, is designed to empower these vital members of the logistics sector. It provides them with knowledge and skills in crucial areas like road safety, water, sanitation, hygiene & health (WASHH), and financial literacy. Additionally, the program tackles health concerns by raising awareness about drug use, alcoholism, and HIV. Through nine phases, Suhana Safar has reached over 137,000 truck drivers, helpers, and their families.

This year, to further expand their reach, DA collaborated with the Welfare Foundation to focus on the Delhi-NCR region. Their efforts ensured that no one was left behind when it comes to healthcare. The DA team organised 22 community health camps, reaching out to 3,180 truck drivers, helpers, and community members. These camps offered a wide range of free services, including blood pressure and diabetes checks, eye and dental exams, and consultations with specialists in gynaecology, dentistry, and optometry.

Our mission extends beyond just diagnosis and treatment. We are dedicated to raising awareness and promoting primary health activities. Through the expertise of registered doctors and pharmacists, the program empowers participants with the knowledge and resources they need to lead healthier lives.

A key insight from the Suhana Safar program is that many people rely on local pharmacies for their health needs without seeing a doctor first. To address this, they facilitated 22 health camps, offering consultation and medication support to approximately 150 participants at each camp.

The impact of these health camps is undeniable. One participant from the Tilapta Dadri community expressed her gratitude for the support received, emphasising the challenges they face in accessing healthcare due to economic barriers. Through these initiatives, Suhana Safar is bringing healthcare directly to the doorstep of those in need, ensuring that no one is left behind.

A crucial aspect of the health camps is the provision of specialised services for women and girls, including access to gynaecologists and female doctors. By addressing common health issues such as

asthma, dental problems, and oral cancer, the program strives to ensure complete and effective healthcare for all.

With the dedication and expertise of the DA team, they are making a tangible difference in the lives of individuals and communities, with the potential to significantly improve their overall quality of life. Through ongoing collaboration, Development Alternatives and Maersk are working together to enhance healthcare access and improve the quality of life for disadvantaged communities in Delhi-NCR and other intervention areas.

By providing essential healthcare services, education, and awareness programs, the Suhana Safar initiative is creating a healthier future for truck drivers, helpers, and their communities.

A community participant shared her feedback during the health camp:

I was suffering from back pain for a long time, but after receiving consultation and medication support from the health camp, I am feeling better now. I met with the doctor. It is a great help for me, I felt helpless before about where I would go to take the treatment and how much I must pay, like this.”



Some glimpses of community health camps:-

