



**SAMHATI**

Bangladesh Women's Organization

## **Welcome to our Second Virtual Annual Gala**

In Support of Women & Children in Bangladesh

November 6, 2021

# But First...

- ▶ This event is being recorded and will be on Samhati's social media channels
- ▶ Please **mute** yourself during the whole event, except for the Q+A
- ▶ Use **gallery mode** to see other attendees
- ▶ Feel free to use the **“chat” function** (at the bottom middle of the screen) if you have questions or issues or just to interact!
- ▶ If you have any technical problems, please call or text **Shaan Noman at 301-787-3528**

# Samhati: An Overview

- ★ **37 years in operation, longest running organization of Bangladeshi women in the US**
- ★ **All-volunteer organization with 95% of your contributions going directly to needy families**
- ★ **Thousands of women, children and families have benefited from our programs focused on education, health and environment**



# Pandemic Updates

- ✦ People impacted severely by lost income and economic loss to their small businesses
- ✦ Schools and colleges have only started to reopen in September 2021
- ✦ We are continuing to provide scholarships to our students
- ✦ Our trainings were closed at various times but have now resumed with smaller classes and mandatory masks
- ✦ Coronavirus did reach our village projects but few casualties so far among our members
- ✦ Lack of testing and shortage of vaccines, especially in rural areas

# Update on Key Initiatives

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## LAKSMICHAP



2

## NATORE



3

## KATAKHALI





## LAKSMICHAP



- ★ Multi-faceted program in Laksmichap Union, a diverse community
- ★ Education, scholarships, school supplies
- ★ Free health check ups and eye check up camps
- ★ Small business training

LAKSMICHAP

We started a new computer literacy class to facilitate online learning during the pandemic





LAKSMICHAP



Provided 12 bicycles to students at Dubasuri  
Girls High School in October 2021



LAKSMICHAP

কাল্পনিক প্রশিক্ষণ-২০২১  
স্থান : ১নং কমিউনিটি হাус ব্যাংক, লক্ষীচাপ, নীলফামারী  
সহযোগিতায় : সংহতি  
বাস্তবায়নে : ইউএসএস, নীলফামারী

We inaugurated 5 women's literacy centers in  
February 2021



**LAKSMICHAP**

Training for women in sewing, organic vegetable cultivation and poultry rearing






## NATORE



- ★ Strong program making positive change to these communities in Northern Bangladesh, in its 14<sup>th</sup> year!
- ★ Education, literacy, scholarships
- ★ Computer learning center is extremely popular
- ★ Sewing, tailoring and other small business training

## NATORE

A photograph showing three women sitting at wooden desks in a computer center. The woman on the left is wearing a pink patterned shirt and a blue face mask. The woman in the middle is wearing a yellow headscarf and a blue face mask. The woman on the right is wearing an orange headscarf and a maroon long-sleeved shirt. They are all focused on their computer screens. The background features a light green wall with three large, closed wooden shutters. The floor is a light-colored concrete or stone.

Trained 25 people in the Computer Center. Graduates have set up small shops providing word processing and online services to villagers.



**NATORE**

Have trained over 40 women in tailoring and sewing





**NATORE**

শিক্ষা বৃত্তি বিতরণ-১০২১

স্বাধীনতার স্মরণে নারী উন্নয়ন

তিয়ান্দহ, সি

লনায় : ড

রিখ : ১৩-৫

We recently gave out scholarships for 30 high school children





**NATORE**

Adult literacy classes running in three adjacent villages for 75 women to learn reading, writing and basic arithmetic. Plus gave 1000 taka emergency funds during pandemic.



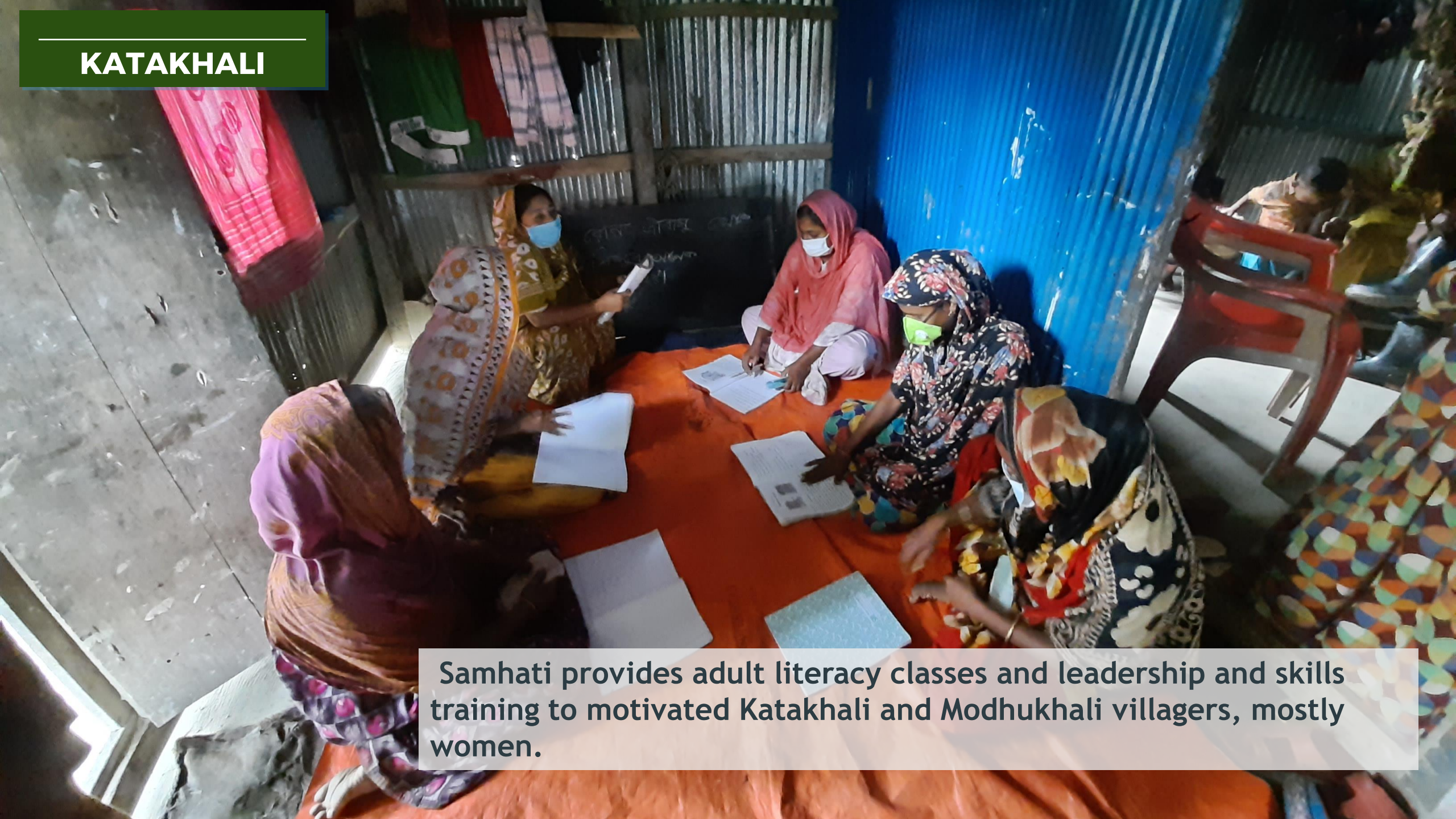
## KATAKHALI



- ✦ First holistic eco-empowerment project in this remote coastal area
- ✦ Focus on adult literacy, leadership building
- ✦ Healthcare and family planning
- ✦ Tremendous positive impact within this community



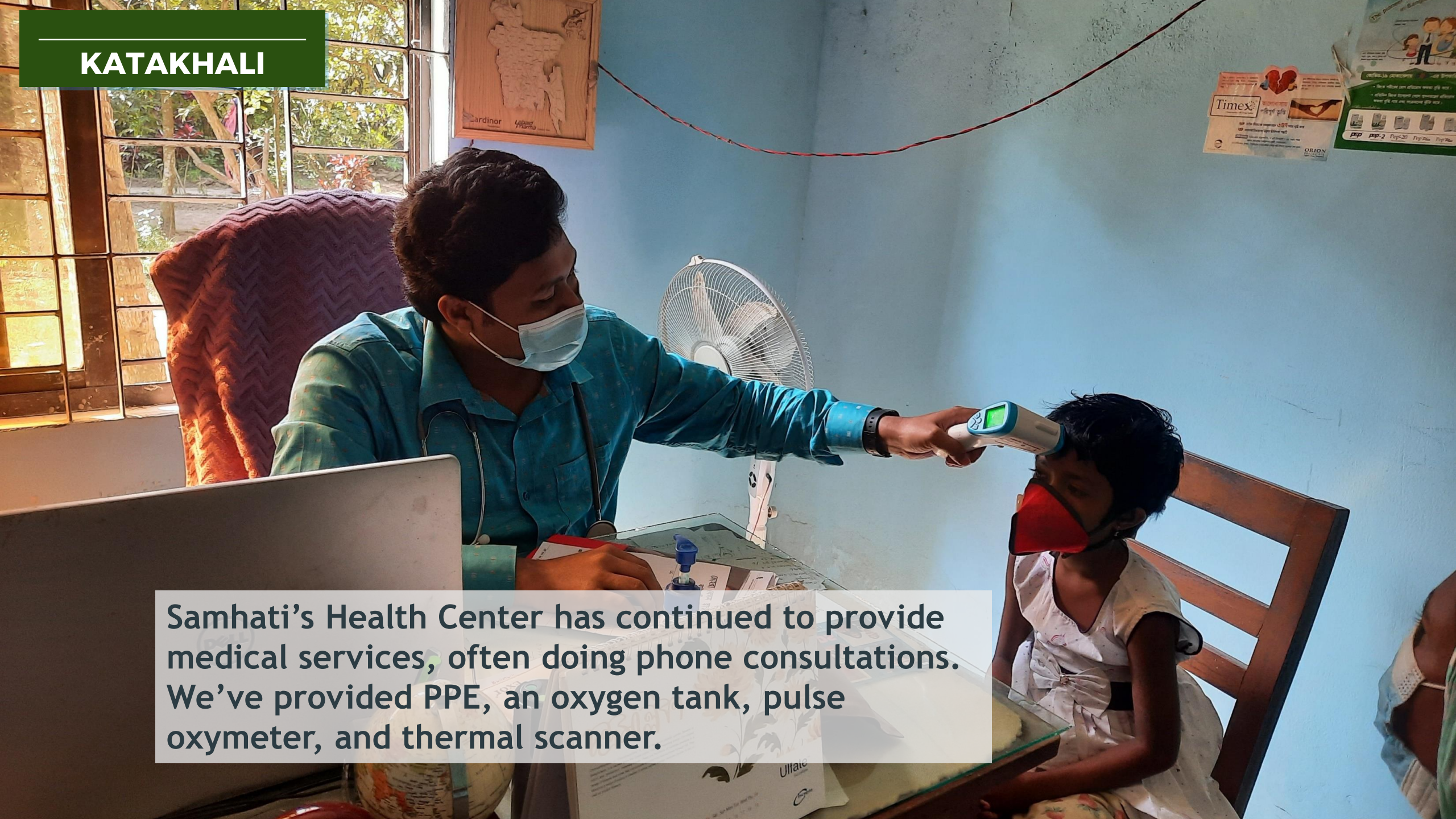
## KATAKHALI



Samhati provides adult literacy classes and leadership and skills training to motivated Katakhal and Modhukhal villagers, mostly women.



# KATAKHALI



Samhati's Health Center has continued to provide medical services, often doing phone consultations. We've provided PPE, an oxygen tank, pulse oxymeter, and thermal scanner.



# Addressing Gender-based Violence

- Have helped prevent several child marriages in Katakhal
- Continuing to assist one teen sexual assault survivor
- Facilitating her legal case in a very difficult judicial environment where most perpetrators go free
- Update: The assailant served two years in jail but had been set free. Trial date is now set.

# The Jahanara Ali Memorial College Scholarship

YEAR 4

Samhati gave laptops to both Beauty Aktar and Asha Moni



**Beauty Aktar (Laksmichamp),**  
Graduated Nilphamari Government College;  
applying to dental school



**Asha Moni (Katakhali),**  
Patuakhali Mahila College, now in 1<sup>st</sup> year of  
BA Honors in Economics



**Anwara Khatun (Natore),**  
Dropped out / *Looking for new candidate*









Questions?



# Special Thank You!

## Platinum Level Donors

Jaseem  
Ahmed

Anita  
Jahan  
Bose

Janel Callon  
Family Fund

Mustafa +  
Naheed  
Chowdhury

Ronald  
Creamer

## Today's performer

Antora Rahman

## Gold Level Donors

Farooq Akbar \* Cima Ali \* Nellie Al-Saigh \* Dale & Julie Bennett \* Shamarukh Billah \* Kathryn & Michael Caballero \* Marcia Drinkard \*  
Peter Fenlon \* Charles Fulton \* Probal Hasan \* Razia & Syed Hashmi \* Tareq Hoque \* Mark Jacobsen \* Thomas Karr \*  
Dr. Rumana Kazmi \* Zubaid Kazmi \* Iqbal & Nasima Mansur \* Susan & Patrick Nevins \* Kathryn Pile \* Liz Wilcox & Eric Pan \* Quazi Zaman

## Silver Level Donors

Iftikkhar Ahmad & Rachel Jongerius \* Ismat Ahmed \* Rachel S. Bayard & Travis Putvain \* Blake Biles \* Michael Bennett & Monica Jahan Bose \*  
Bill and Susan Bortz \* Noorjahan Bose \* Nancy Chang \* Nurun and Abida Choudhury \* Andalib and Dilruba Chowdhury \*  
Nariz and Nasreen Dossani \* Fulton \* Bill & Linda Goldman \* Roquia Haider \* Jahanara Hasan \* Jhinuk Hasan-Fulton \* Laneyse Hooks \*  
Irfan & Firdous Huq \* Leiserson Family Charitable Fund \* Nasryn & Kazi Matin \* Aimen Mir \* Shaan Noman \* Marium Parveen \* Michael Quinn \*  
NAM Atiqur Rahman & Nasima Nusrat \* Jenifer Rogers \* Satwant Tulsi



**Samhati**

Bangladesh Women's Organization

সংহতি



# Our Goal: \$65,000

\$75 = *one-year scholarship to keep a middle/ high school child in school*

\$100 = *adult literacy or vocational classes*

\$250 = *cash stipend for 20 families during the pandemic*

\$500 = *our health clinic in Katakhalī village for one month, providing care for the entire island*

\$1,000 = *cash grants for 80 families during the pandemic*



THANK YOU!

