

MSJK Hospital: Expanding Healthcare Access in Rural Lanjigarh

BHUBANESWAR, (Correspondent) : Kalahandi, a district in Odisha that was once associated with poverty and limited access to basic amenities, has witnessed a steady transformation in how essential medical services reach rural communities. At the centre of this shift is the Maa Santoshi Jankalyan (MSJK) Hospital, which has emerged as an important healthcare support centre for people living in the remote parts of Lanjigarh and surrounding areas. For years, families in this region had to travel long distances to access even basic treatment facilities. Delayed medical care often worsened health conditions, especially for pregnant women, children, elderly people,



and those suffering from diseases prevalent in the area, such as malaria and filaria. MSJK Hospital was established in the year 2000 to serve nearly 8,000 people across 70 villages in 4 Gram Panchayats. Its reach, however, expanded significantly after Vedanta partnered with the hospital in 2014. With the company's support, MSJK Hospital now caters to 120 villages across 12 Gram Panchayats, benefiting nearly 20,654 people annually. The

hospital has helped improve access to quality medical care in one of Odisha's remotest regions, offering essential treatment and timely medical support to communities that previously had limited access to healthcare. Located around 25 km from Lanjigarh, it remains a key healthcare centre for the Bankakundru region and beyond. The impact is visible beyond numbers. Pregnant women, who earlier faced serious risks due

to limited maternal care, now have access to specialised medical attention at the hospital. Children are able to avail of regular vaccinations and health check-ups. Patients suffering from malaria, diarrhoea, sickle cell anaemia and other illnesses can receive treatment closer to their homes. "Earlier, it was very difficult for us to access medical care, and many had to rely on traditional remedies or unregistered medical practitioners in the hope of curing our illnesses. The MSJK Hospital has been a true blessing for the region and helps keep us healthy and happy" said, Bharat Majhi, a resident of Lanjigarh. Healthcare access has also moved beyond the hospital premises. Through Vedanta's Mobile Health Units, expert

doctors and nurses are able to reach remote villages more easily, helping detect illnesses early and reducing the need for emergency hospitalisation. This has allowed many families to receive medical attention within their communities, eliminating the need for travelling long distances. Emergency care has also improved through the introduction of ambulance support, helping ensure faster medical intervention in critical cases. Vedanta-supported initiatives linked to maternal and community healthcare have also been recognised under the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matrutwa Abhiyan, underscoring the role such interventions play in rural healthcare. Today, MSJK Hospital stands as a vital healthcare institution for rural Lanjigarh.