

# KOITA FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

July 2025



The first half of 2025 marks an exciting phase of growth and collaboration for Koita Foundation. We were honoured to receive the Forbes India Leadership Award 2025 in Grassroots Philanthropist as a recognition of our digital endeavours for NGOs and Healthcare organisations.

At NABH, certification for HIS/EMR systems gained momentum with over 50 applications and the first set of systems were certified. Our work with RSSDI continues through the launch of Digital Health standards and the Diabetes Digital Health Grant, aimed at accelerating digital innovation in diabetes care. In the cancer care ecosystem, NCG-KCDO is making good progress in EMR adoption and focusing on use of latest digital and AI tools in Oncology. NCG-KCDO also signed an MoU with India AI (MeitY) to drive the adoption of AI-powered oncology solutions.

As part of our capacity building initiatives in medical education, MUHS expanded the Digital Health Foundation Course (DHFC) to over 2,600 students, while DHFC on India's iGOT platform has seen over 200,000 registrations! Based on the success of DHFC, we have launched DHFC-N for nurse professionals along with MUHS and The Trained Nurses Association of India (TNAI). MUHS has launched DHFC-N across 243 nursing colleges, while TNAI will roll out DHFC-N across their 6.0 lakh in-service nurses across India.

Academic partnerships with IIT Bombay and Ashoka University continue to deepen, with new grant programs, international internships, and AI-healthcare research initiatives making significant strides.

In the NGO space, we have partnered with ILSS (India Leaders for Social Sector) to set up the Koita Centre for Digital Transformation (KCDDT) to build capacity of NGOs and foster the use of digital technologies in the social sector. We would like KCDDT to play a catalytic role in driving digital adoption across India.

We look forward to our digital transformation engagements with leading organisations like Paani Foundation, Antara Foundation, and Kherwadi Social Welfare Association along with continuing our work with other cohort partners.

Rekha Koita, Director and Co-Founder

# Digital Health Initiatives

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## Forbes India Leadership Award 2025

Rekha and Rizwan Koita were awarded the Forbes India Leadership Award (FILA) for Grassroots Philanthropists in February 2025 at the 14th Annual FILA Ceremony in Mumbai. The FILA are flagship honours by Forbes that celebrate transformational leadership in the entrepreneurial ecosystem and cover 11 categories - from Best CEO and Emerging Innovator to Social Impact and Grassroots Philanthropy.



## NABH Digital Health

### Congratulations to the first set of NABH Certified HIS/EMR systems in India!

The launch of the NABH HIS/EMR Systems certification standards in September 2024 was received warmly by the healthcare tech industry. Over 50 leading HIS/EMR systems applied and are at various stages of the rigorous certification process. NABH announced the first set of certified HIS/EMR systems in early June 2025 and will be certifying more solutions soon! This achievement marks a significant step towards standardisation of Digital Health solutions in India and makes NABH the first organisation globally to have fully integrated clinical and Digital Health standards. KF is proud to have been a part of this journey with NABH.

KF is supporting NABH's work on developing Digital Health Standards for Clinic Management Systems, and specialised standards for Diabetes Care and Management and Cancer Care which will be released over the next few months.

## NCG - Koita Centre for Digital Oncology (KCDO)

### NCG-KCDO Advances Cancer EMRs and AI in Oncology

The Bulletin of the World Health Organization recently spotlighted the NCG-KCDO Oncology EMR Initiative as an innovative model for cancer care in low- and middle-income countries! The NCG-KCDO EMR initiative furthers the development of oncology-specific and interoperable EMRs designed for Indian hospitals. Read the full article here: [WHO Bulletin](#).

In addition, the NCG LEAP program has enabled 20+ NCG hospitals to get access to substantial funding for deploying the NCG-KCDO empanelled EMRs.

NCG signed an MoU with IndiaAI Mission (MeitY) to advance the use of AI-based solutions in cancer care. The partnership will focus on accelerating Artificial Intelligence (AI) solutions in Oncology including developing ethical and privacy guidelines for AI use in oncology, and building capacity among healthcare professionals to effectively adopt these technologies.

Mr. Santosh Patil joined as CEO NCG-KCDO in June 2025. He brings over two decades of healthcare IT leadership and delivery experience – across EMR solutions, medical imaging, and interoperability, with a strong focus on driving digital transformation in healthcare. Santosh takes over from Dr. Nikesh Shah who played an instrumental role in starting NCG-KCDO and leading it for over 2 years.

## Koita Centre for Digital Diabetology (KCDD-RSSDI)

### KCDD-RSSDI Launches Digital Health Grant, Supports Diabetes Standards development

KCDD announced the RSSDI Diabetes Digital Health Grant 2025—a first-of-its-kind initiative by RSSDI, designed to catalyse digital innovation in diabetes care. The grant is open to RSSDI members and health tech companies working on digital solutions for diabetes management.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

KCDD-RSSDI is collaborating with NABH to develop two key standards: (1) NABH Standards for Diabetes Care and Management in Allopathic Clinics, based on ICMR and RSSDI guidelines and (2) NABH Digital Health Standards for Diabetes-Specific CMS. These standards, scheduled to be released in September 2025, will promote clinical standardization and digital tool adoption in diabetes care.

The team has also expanded and onboarded Mr. Parag Kamat (AVP, Technology) and Sajan Bhandarkar (Sr Program Manager) to drive key initiatives.

## Digital Health Foundation Course (DHFC)

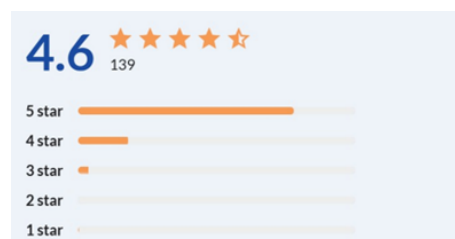
### DHFC scales nationally through iGOT, MUHS and other state university rollouts

Last year, Maharashtra became the first state to include the Digital Health Foundation Course (DHFC) in the curriculum of medical students. The course has gained momentum and 2600+ students have enrolled in the course till date, of which 600+ students completed the course.

Under the MUHS-NHA MoU, DHFC was launched on iGOT Karmayogi in August 2024. DHFC has had an exceptional adoption on iGOT - 200,000+ enrolments and 42,000+ completions in six months! It has received a user rating of 4.6/5.0.

DHFC is gaining significant interest from other state medical universities. It is now being rolled out across the states of Rajasthan (RUHS) and New Delhi (GGSIPU).

DHFC is open source which can be used and white-labelled by any organisation. [Visit DHFC Resources here.](#)



*The average iGOT user rating of DHFC is an exceptional 4.6/5.0.*

## Digital Health Foundation Course for Nurses (DHFC-N)



### Nationwide Launch of the DHFC-N through MUHS and Trained Nurses' Association of India (TNAI)

The Digital Health Foundation Course for Nurses (DHFC-N) is the first-of-its-kind, open-source, self-paced course developed by Koita Foundation in collaboration with leading nursing experts. It equips nurses with essential Digital Health skills across EMR/HIS systems, ABDM, digital documentation, privacy, and health analytics. DHFC-N builds on the success of DHFC which was developed last year for doctors and medical students. Developed along with Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS), with support from Piramal Foundation, Medvarsity, and academic

experts, the DHFC-N program includes a Digital Health Lab for hands-on experience with EMR, HMIS, and telemedicine tools.

On May 24, 2025, the Trained Nurses' Association of India (TNAI) signed an MoU with Koita Foundation to roll out DHFC-N nationwide. TNAI will lead adoption among its 600,000 in-service nurse members, boosting digital readiness across India's 30 lakh nurses. The course offers CNE credits with TNAI, empowering nurses to lead in a digitally transforming healthcare system.

On June 10, 2025, MUHS launched DHFC-N for 10,000+ nursing students across 243 colleges in Maharashtra via its LMS, ePrabodhini.

## Digital Health Master Class (DHMC)

### DHMC Extended to New Regions to Accelerate EMR Adoption in Small / Mid-sized Hospitals Across India in Partnership with NATHealth and AHPI

Digital Health Master Class (DHMC) is a workshop designed for owners and leaders of small and mid-sized hospitals looking to begin their Digital Health and EMR journey; developed by Koita Foundation with NATHEALTH and PwC. DHMC is open source and freely adaptable. [Learn more.](#)

Digital Health Master Class (DHMC) – Phase 1 reached 600+ participants from 260+ hospitals across 11 cities through KF's partnership with NATHEALTH. Association of Healthcare Providers India (AHPI) conducted DHMC workshops in Gorakhpur, Bangalore, and Bhopal, with 300+ participants from 190+ hospitals. In Phase 2, NATHEALTH and our partners aim to scale the DHMC initiative to 50 more cities in the coming year.



## Koita Centre for Digital Health – IIT Bombay

### KCDH Drives Education, Internships, and AI Innovation

The momentum at KCDH-IIT Bombay continues to grow - across both Digital Health teaching and research. Key milestones in past year include increased student enrolment for Digital Health electives (over 800 students!) and over 40 students pursuing interdisciplinary minors and doctoral programs in Digital Health! 15 students were awarded various internships at Monash University in Melbourne, Samsung in Seoul, Eka Care, and Aditya Birla Health Insurance. KCDH and affiliated faculty had over 20 national and international publications last year in Digital Health. [Learn more.](#)

KCDH announced a prestigious Healthcare AI grant challenge of Rs. 300 lacs. This grant will support faculty and student researchers to collaborate with clinicians and hospitals to develop practical Health AI solutions for real-world healthcare problems. [Apply here.](#)



## Koita Centre for Digital Health- Ashoka University



### WHO Partnership and Research Grants

Over the past year KCDH-A has significantly expanded its faculty and research team – hiring experienced Digital Health leaders across the globe. It has developed collaborations with leading institutions including Max Cancer Institute, World Health Organisation and AIIMS New Delhi. KCDH-A secured several large research grants cumulatively adding up to almost Rs. 8.0 Crores.

KCDH-A co-led the World Health Summit Regional Meeting in New Delhi in May 2025. It was a 3-day event with over 900 speakers and attended by over 5000 delegates. An important milestone for KCDH-A, it further solidifies the partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO). The association will support joint research, knowledge exchange, and capacity building for national Digital Health adoption.

Dr. Aradhita Baral has been appointed as the Deputy Director of KCDH-A. She brings with her a strong interdisciplinary research background and leadership experience. Alongside her, new faculty and staff appointments are strengthening KCDH-A's capacity to drive impactful Digital Health research and education.

## NGO Transformation Initiatives

### India Leaders for Social Sector

**Koita Centre for Digital Transformation (KCDT) launched: A Catalyst for Digital Innovation in the Social Sector**

KF and India Leaders for Social Sector (ILSS) signed an MoU in February 2025 to launch the Koita Centre for Digital Transformation (KCDT). KCDT serves as a dedicated hub to empower social sector organizations (SSOs) embrace digital technologies. KCDT offers tailored training in digital transformation, expert guidance, and curated digital case studies and resources. KCDT aims to build an integrated ecosystem that supports SSOs in their digital transformation journeys.

The second cohort of the Digital Transformation Program for Nonprofit CXOs was launched. 25 participants from 21 NGOs took part in the 12-week program which included expert-led sessions, mentorship, and practical tools focused on needs assessment, visioning for impact, and solutioning. In addition, the top performing teams in the Digital Transformation program have the opportunity to win a grant of Rs. 25.0 lacs each from KF to drive digital transformation initiatives within their organisation.



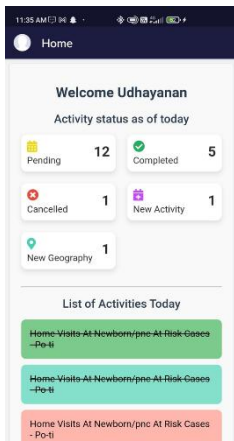
# Paani Foundation

## Paani and Koita Partner for Digital Agriculture

Paani Foundation is driving large-scale rural transformation in Maharashtra through the Satyamev Jayate Farmer Cup, a unique initiative that empowers farmer groups to adopt sustainable agricultural practices, reduce input costs, and build climate resilience. Since 2022, the program has grown from 1,500 to over 4,300 farmer groups across the state.

To support this scale-up, Paani Foundation is partnering with KF to power the digital transformation of the Farmer Cup as it expands from 46 to all 350 talukas of Maharashtra by 2026. We are developing a mobile platform for guiding farmers with timely SOPs, reminders, and actionable insights, while streamlining backend operations for Paani's team. This digital platform will be a key enabler in scaling sustainable farming practices and supporting over 50,000 farmers to adopt prosperous and climate-resilient farming practices.

**Antara Foundation**



## Koita and Antara Launch Aalekha Platform

The Antara Foundation is strengthening maternal and child health across rural India by supporting frontline workers and engaging with government systems. Koita Foundation partnered with Antara in 2024 to build Aalekha – a digital platform that helps program officers and district managers plan field visits, track support provided, and monitor health system interventions.

In April 2025, Aalekha was rolled out across nine districts and supporting nearly 100 field staff. Aalekha has improved beneficiary engagement for close to one million mothers and children annually. This platform has become a key component in advancing Antara's mission of equitable healthcare for every mother and child.

## Kherwadi Social Welfare Association

## KSWA and Koita Launch Student Management System

Kherwadi Social Welfare Association (KSWA) is empowering youth across India through skill development and livelihood training under its Yuva Parivartan initiative.

To strengthen program delivery across 13 states, in the Phase 2 of its rollout, KSWA launched the Student Management System (SMS) a web-based platform that streamlines the entire student journey from enrolment to certification. SMS empowers program teams to onboard students, manage batches, monitor progress, and reduce administrative workload, allowing them to focus on field impact. Prior to this, KSWA launched the Journey to Livelihood app that improved tour planning, target allocation and, quicker issue resolution due to instant data availability.

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## Other Updates

Leveraging AI for Transformative Social Innovation



## Leadership Talk- Leveraging AI for Transformative Social Innovation

Koita Foundation recently hosted a Leadership Webinar on Leveraging AI for Transformative Social Innovation, featuring Azeez Gupta (Rocket Learning) and Aditya Tyagi (i-Saksham). With over 70 participants from across the social sector, the session saw strong engagement and curiosity around AI's potential.

Speakers shared practical insights on starting small, designing for local contexts, and positioning AI as a support tool and not a replacement. From driving frontline adoption to building feedback loops and cross-sector partnerships, the conversation helped reframe AI as an accessible, powerful ally in scaling impact.

## Technology in Action: New Stories in Our IDR Series on Digital Transformation

Koita Foundation has partnered with India Development Review (IDR) on a series exploring the technology adoption journeys of leading NGOs to showcase the transformative potential of technology in the social sector. As part of the series, we are excited to share two new stories in Digital Transformation:

- Vipla Foundation is using the Umang app across Mumbai's Balwadis to track attendance, monitor child development, and support teachers with real-time data. The result: reduced absenteeism and stronger classroom outcomes in low-resource settings.
- CEQUE shares how the Seekhe Sikhaye app helps streamline teacher coaching—tracking progress, scheduling visits, and sharing best practices via videos. It is tech-enabled mentorship at scale.

Read the full series [here](#).

## KF Team: New Members

### Hiloni Shukla

Sr. Program Manager

Hiloni is a social impact professional with 7+ years of experience in Education, Livelihoods and Government Advisory. At Koita Foundation, she brings expertise in program design, strategy, and implementation. Previously, she led state-level digital initiatives at Primus Partners and managed TechnoServe India's Campus to Corporate Careers program.



### Neil Maheshwari

Sr. Program Manager

Neil is an experienced program and policy professional who has worked across government, non-profits, and consulting. Before joining Koita Foundation, he served as an Innovation Fellow with the Government Performance Lab at the Harvard Kennedy School. He worked with the City of Seattle to improve procurement efficiency, train government staff, and drive operational reforms across the procurement division.

### Dr. Nitya Balagopalan

Sr. Program Manager

Dr. Nitya is an MD physician and public health professional with 10 years of diverse experience in the healthcare sector. She has contributed to public health programs with organisations like the World Health Organization, where she supported the implementation of non-communicable disease (NCD) programs, and Jhpiego, where she was involved in evaluation and research for primary healthcare and health system strengthening initiatives.



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