



Nanhi Kali's

Where girls learn they matter

Project Nanhi Kali's Football Movement:

Empowering Girls Through Play

In 2019, a group of girls from Project Nanhi Kali in Jambusar, Gujarat, stepped onto the field for their first district-level football tournament. With no formal training, they didn't take home the trophy—but they left with something far more powerful: an unshakable determination to win.

Fast forward to today, and that spirit has fueled a nationwide movement. What started with makeshift football made of scraps and football nets made from mosquito nets and sarees has grown into 805 girls' football teams across India, with 1,000 teams soon on the horizon. These young players are not just learning a sport; they're rewriting the rules, defying expectations, and proving that when given a chance, girls can conquer any field—both in sports and life.

#EmpoweringGirlsThroughSports

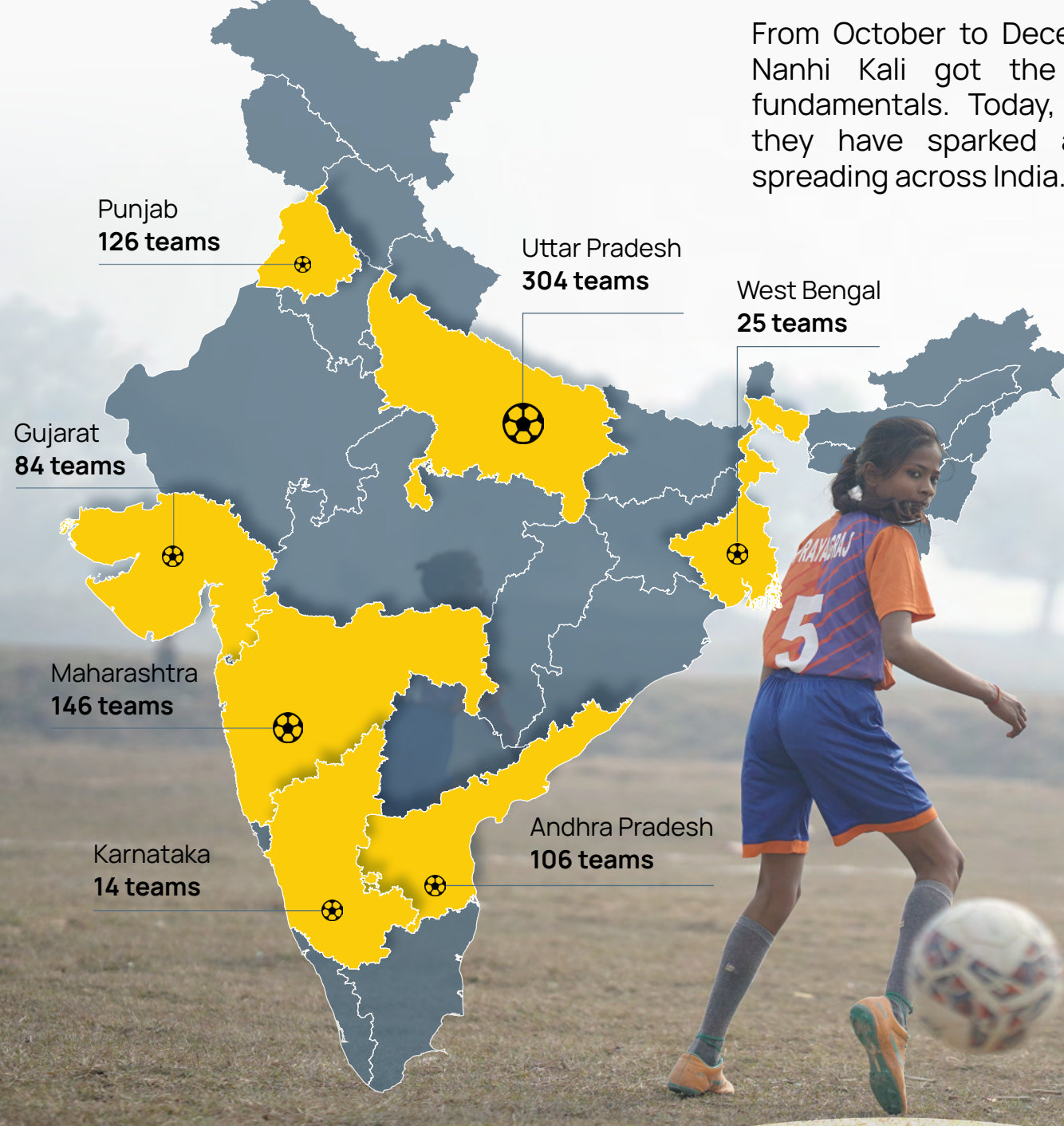
Every match they play isn't just about scoring goals; it's about breaking down barriers and challenging social norms. Within a secure and supportive environment, these Nanhi Kalis are discovering their strength, leadership, and limitless potential.



Girls with goals:

A football movement begins!

From October to December last year, every girl at Nanhi Kali got the chance to learn football fundamentals. Today, at different learning levels, they have sparked a movement – one that's spreading across India.



The Jambusar Story:

A Testament to Transformation

From their humble start in 2019, the Jambusar girls have evolved into fierce competitors. They've competed in prestigious tournaments like the Inspire Football Cup and State-level Slum Soccer events, proving that talent thrives where opportunity exists.

A defining moment came at Khel Mahakumbh, a major sporting event where **31 standout players** battled their way to the Zonal-level tournament. From playing barefoot to competing at national levels— their journey is rewriting the rules and inspiring a new generation!



Women in Sports:

The Game Changers

Women in sports leadership don't just coach— they create opportunities and champion equality



At Project Nanhi Kali, we're not just training players; we're shaping leaders. Our all-women coaching team, known as 'Game Changers,' is leading the football movement. Under the mentorship of **Lisa Travella Murawsky, Sports Director** at Nanhi Kali 'Sports For Life' Programme and Naandi Foundation, these women are guiding the next generation of female athletes, proving that:

- Women deserve recognition in sports leadership
- Women deserve opportunities as coaches, officials, and decision-makers
- Women deserve the chance to prove they are just as capable as men.



Stories from the Field



Parmar Visha, Bharuch, Gujarat

"My parents always tell me, 'Don't just play for Gujarat; play for India.' Their support keeps me going. I started playing football in 5th standard, scared and unsure, but my coach believed in me. Her motivation pushed me to practice two hours every day after school. Football has made me stronger, taught me teamwork and discipline, and given me the courage to dream big. Balancing studies and sports is tough, but with determination, anything is possible. My team became champions for the second time, and the whole village celebrated. Now, I dream of playing as a striker for India - maybe even facing Brazil one day. I'm ready to make my village and my country proud."



Himanshi, Game Changer, Prayagraj

"I started as a football player, and for the past year and a half, I've been coaching 20 girls in Prayagraj. At first, parents were hesitant - worried their daughters would fall sick playing in the sun or that sports weren't 'suitable' as they grew older. But I didn't give up. I spoke to them, convinced them to give their daughters a chance. Now, these same girls train with me every morning at 6 a.m., rain or shine. We've built 22 teams with 22 Game Changers in Prayagraj. When we played against Darjeeling's talented girls, my team saw them as tough competition—but instead of backing down, they used it as motivation to improve. Watching them grow through football has been the most rewarding part of my journey."

Impact beyond the Field

Project Nanhi Kali's football journey is more than just a sports program—it's a movement of resilience, empowerment, and transformation. From a handful of girls in a small town to a nationwide revolution, these players have proven that with the right support, no dream is too big.

They're not just learning to play football - they're learning to lead, rise above challenges, and **believe in their limitless potential.**

As they continue to shatter barriers on and off the field, one thing is clear: **this is just the beginning.**

Here's to 1,000 Nanhi Kali football teams—and a future where every girl gets a **chance to chase her dreams.**



Watch our film **Lessons From A Football** and witness their journey firsthand

[Watch here](#)



Project Nanhi Kali is jointly managed by K.C. Mahindra Education Trust and Naandi Foundation

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