

## Taj Safaris (Mahua Kothi, Pashan Garh, Banjar Tola, Baghvan) Social Responsibility Alongside Luxury Tourism

Taj Safaris lodges' philanthropic activities fall within the Taj Group's corporate social responsibility policy with a focus on four areas: vocational skills development programmes, income-generation and livelihood enhancement, disaster relief and rehabilitation and partnerships to promote indigenous heritage, culture, arts and handicrafts.



Installation of smokeless chulhas by a lodge associate with the help of a villager.

Mahua Kothi – Taj Safaris has installed around 180 smokeless chulhas (cooking stoves) in nearby villages helping to reduce the adverse effect of smoke from cooking on health. The smokeless chulhas also use 50% less firewood, a further benefit whilst retaining traditional cooking methods.

A library project has provided books for use by approximately 150-180 children in three village schools. Most are photographic books on flora and fauna to build awareness about wildlife and conservation. The books are complemented by talks by the lodge naturalists to help create local wildlife custodians for the future.



Libraries have been created in three schools.



Anganwadi School food nutrition distribution.

Nutritional supplements are provided to approximately 120 children attending Aaganbadi schools in the villages of Dobha and Rancha twice a month. Regular school and home meals using nutritious ingredients such as groundnuts, chickpeas, moong beans and jaggery about which there is low awareness amongst the community are also provided to boost child health.

Both Pashan Garh and Banjar Tola worked from 2016 to 2018 with NGO Pratham in training and certifying over 300 young people in housekeeping and front and backhouse services leading to jobs in other hotels and improved livelihoods. Pashan Garh, Banjar Tola and Baghvan have also provided culinary training to local women's Self Help Groups to open up new employment opportunities. Pashan Garh has distributed 200 solar lamps to 60 homes without electricity. The lodge paramedic conducts medical camps for village children along with deworming and awareness on health and hygiene. Nutritional supplements for the mid-day meal are contributed to the primary school. Support is also provided to Asha Bhavan, a home for disabled destitute girls.



Mahua Kothi guest distributing stationery at the local school.

Banjar Tola extends its support for nature awareness camps for visually and hearing impaired and mentally challenged children



Solar lanterns distributed to local homes by Pashan Garh.

working in partnership with Forest Departments. Guests at all Taj Safaris lodges are encouraged to donate to local projects. Mahua Kothi stocks stationery and school bags in its shop and keeps a record of donations. See also [Cultural Heritage](#) profile.