

GRAM SEWA SANGH

Nagpur

Presents

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

2022 - 2023

PROFILE

Empowering under privileged Children and Women of Urban, Rural & Tribal Regions And their Holistic Development, Specially Education, Health, Agriculture, and Research.

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GRAM SEWA SANGH, NAGPUR

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 2022 – MARCH 2023

1) Introduction:

Gram Sewa Sangh is a Non - Profit Charitable trust established on 31st December 1993, registered as a Non - Government Organization (Society Act) MH/874/93/NGP by the Nagpur Charity Commissioner and also registered as a charitable trust under Bombay Public Trust Act. BPT No.: -F-11264/NGP, founded by late Mr. Philip A Paranjape who died on 17th Oct 2013. Now, Mr. Vishal Philip Paranjape is the current President of this Organization.

2) Our Vision:

- 1) To achieve the basic goal of livelihoods education and to provide opportunity for a secure and sustainable livelihoods ensuring quality of life for parents and children.
- 2) To have an equal opportunity for all to fulfill basic needs including health, education & sustainable environment in a society. Creating “One Asian Community without Poverty.”
- 3) To create happier and healthier childhood by providing the children healthy environment to live, learn, play and grow.
- 4) We aim to provide support, encouragement and care to needy students and deprived people in the society with special focus on slums and rural communities and aim to bring change in their lives.
- 5) A world of hope, tolerance and social justice, where poverty has been overcome and all people live in dignity and security.

3) Our Mission:

- 1) The GSS is committed to work for the holistic development of people & society particularly in weaker section. Our mission is:
- 2) To provide best Education and guidance to shape the future of the underprivileged children.
- 3) To empower underprivileged children, youth and women through education, healthcare and livelihood programs.
- 4) To end hunger by empowering women to provide sustainable strategies to feed and help their families.
- 5) Helping children receive adequate care, love, and education so they can grow up to lead productive and meaningful lives.
- 6) To improve the living conditions in slums and rural population.

4) Target Group:

Empowering under privileged Children and Women of Urban, Rural & Tribal Regions and their Holistic Development, Specially Education, Health, Agriculture and Research are some of our focal areas. The large population of India that has crossed one billion, is causing hardship to Government to provide minimum standard of living / necessary basic need to every individuals i.e. food, shelter, education, health, environment etc. we have a concern towards Unemployment, below poverty, hopelessness, depression, and diverting some of them towards crime /suicide, which is fatal for society. Our GSS wants to bring smile on the poor face and work for the society.

School Bag Distribution Program



School Bag Distribution to the underprivileged children living in slum - Full of Happiness and Hope

Acquisition of knowledge is the first step on the path to global sustainability, prosperity and world peace. Innovation and progress too come via education, a universal right. In slum, 6-18 year age group have either never attended school or have dropped out, putting the literacy rate of the community much below the national average. Due to rising inflation and unemployment, more parents are unable to provide basic food to their children or meet their school expenses. There are others who have little money to get their children admitted to schools but can't afford to deal with daily expenses related to studies such as necessary stationery item, school bags, etc. It is for this reason Gram Sewa Sangh / AFS Nagpur had launched Child Academy Project (A Non Formal School) for the underprivileged children living in slum. Since then, it takes on the mammoth task of distributing school kits among needy every year. It may look like one-dimensional need. But school kit means much more to a child than just a regular part of school-going activity. The school kits, which allow students to further their studies, are particularly distributed among children living in unfavorable conditions or chronic poverty.

Each bag contains adequate materials for one student to study for one year. Through school kit distribution, Child Academy Nagpur not only seeks to enable children to pursue their education but also wants to raise awareness about the lack of access to education in the society. Child Academy Schoolbag Project may not be offering the ultimate answer to all the problems of the needy students, but it is definitely a step forward to empower young children by providing them with a key tool to become learned, innovative and progressive members of a prosperous society. Child Academy school kit – which contains best possible support as per need like uniform, shoes, fee along with a good looking bag, set of pencil, eraser, rubber, sharpener, glue and pen sachets, biscuits, note pad and reading books etc. Child Academy is thankful to JAFS who are keen to reduce school dropouts in India and strengthen our educational efforts. Every year, we have supported more than 100 students by providing school kits. These school kits had been distributed among very needy students of Nagpur Slum. We are also thankful to local volunteer who helped us in reaching deserving students and prioritizing educational assistance within School Kit Program. These school kits are simply a token of our faith in those children's potential. This is just to make them feel that they are not alone. School kit project aims to show our commitment, love and care for these poor children and give them confidence and courage to grasp each moment of development with both hands. Therefore, please continue support us to provide them school kit for their hope and happiness. Thank you for your support.





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Being equipped with the proper tools for school is essential to academic success. Gram Sewa Sangh/AFS Nagpur recognizes that in order to break the cycle of poverty and hunger, children must be prepared to learn and succeed in school. Additionally, statistics show that children tend to learn and retain more information if they perceive themselves to be on a level playing field with other children. Children that are academically prepared have higher self-confidence, self-worth and pride, which in turn, results in better grades.



In 2021, while the world is fighting against COVID 19, due to extended lockdowns and time away from school, children

from low-income communities are experiencing a loss of learning and shortage of any supply of academic materials.

The School Supplies Program serves school-aged children (Pre-K - 12th grade) whose families are unable to purchase needed school supplies. Each year, Gram Sewa Sangh/AFS Nagpur collects or purchases new back packs, pencils, notebooks, pens, paper, binders and other supplies for distribution.



SCHOOL SUPPLIES LIST:

- School Bags
- Exam Pad
- Geometry Box
- Wide ruled and college ruled paper
- Registers and Drawing Book
- Pencils, pens and Sharpener
- Large and small erasers
- Pencil boxes and pencil pouches
- Colored pencils, markers and highlighters
- Crayons and dry erase markers
- Glue sticks, composition books, spiral notebooks
- 3-ring binders, notebook tab dividers and pocket folders



ENSURING QUALITY EDUCATION



We help underprivileged children reach their full potential by tutoring them. This complements their formal schooling and enables them to integrate with and flourish into mainstream schools.

PROVIDING SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The families of underprivileged children often can't afford basic school supplies such as uniforms, books, bags, and writing material. We help them to overcome this barrier.



BRINGING HEALTH CARE

Each year, millions of children die from preventable or easily treatable diseases. We provide essential medical aid to treat these preventable illnesses and save their lives. We also teach them healthy habits that can last a lifetime.



IMPROVING NUTRITION



Good nutrition is essential to a child's growth and health. But, in India alone, 48.2 million children are stunted due to malnutrition. We provide nutritious food and grocery to the children family to reverse this malady.

EDUCATING CHILDREN FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW



Unfortunately, education remains a distant dream for 168 million children around the world. Often forced into child labor, they are robbed them of their childhood, health and education, thus trapping them in a perpetual cycle of poverty. Our aim is to make quality education a reality for every child. By providing education through child academy center by helping slum children providing much-needed food and healthcare, the future of tens of thousands of children are being forever altered.

Slum Children of Nagpur, India situation after COVID-19

Slum can be defined as 'A residential area where dwellings are unfit for human habitation by reasons of dilapidation, overcrowding, lack of ventilation or sanitation facility and having drinking water facilities in unhygienic conditions'.

Children growing up in slums experience a childhood that often defies the imagination of both the 'innocent childhood' proponents and the 'universal childhood' advocates. The slums typically lack proper sanitation, safe drinking water, or systematic garbage collection; there is usually a severe shortage of space inside the houses where the children live, and no



public spaces dedicated to their use. But that does not mean that these children have no childhood, only a different kind of childhood that sees them playing on rough, uneven ground, taking on multiple roles in everyday life, and sharing responsibilities with adults in domestic and public spaces in the community.

Children were to be seen everywhere as one entered the Slum. They played in the parks that wrapped the slum on the western side to hide it from the gaze of the city. They played on the rough ground and vacant lots dotted with graves, in the open spaces in the center where garbage was manually sorted. The parked rickshaws, vending carts, cars and bikes all served as play props in the streets. As soon as they could walk, children could be seen outdoors walking around mostly barefoot, climbing on debris and petting goats that freely roamed around. Girls as young as 5 carried infants and toddlers on their hip and moved around freely in the narrow pedestrian by lanes of the slum, visiting shops for sweets and the houses of friends down the street. Many houses open out directly onto the street through a doorway that often is nothing more than a 5-foot-high opening in a wall. Infants reach out of these holes in the wall and interact with passers-by.

The migrant population in India is mostly illiterate and constantly on the move, in search of new livelihood opportunities. Migrant children move with their parents and often lose out

on age-appropriate educational opportunities. Often they engage in labor to escape poverty and support their parents.

Access to early childhood care, balanced nutrition, education, health, and recreational facilities are keys to the positive development of children. However, in places where clean drinking water and two square meals are a struggle, slum children's education, health and other contributing factors for development will always take a backseat.

Life after Covid19 Pandemic:



The Covid-19 pandemic has made life difficult for India's poorest population that struggled for survival during the initial months of lockdown. Not just jobs and income, but inequalities have also increased in other areas such as healthcare and education during the pandemic. The coronavirus pandemic has made life difficult for the poorest population in the world as the economic crisis triggered by it has led to a sharp rise in income inequality.

Impact of Covid-19 on children living in slum

The COVID19 pandemic and its economic and social consequences hurt some children more than others. In particular, COVID-19 exacerbates the risks of children experiencing maltreatment, violence at home, and poor nutrition, while lockdown measures reduced opportunities for children participate in extra-circular activities, to come in contact with supportive adults at school and in the community, and to access the justice system and child protection services.



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In India, over 30,000 children had lost both or either of their parents. Millions have lost their jobs. This COVID-led crisis in the family had left millions of children with very little or no financial support for their further education.

School closures due to COVID-19 heightened the child labor and child marriage risk in poor communities

When children cannot access quality education, and their parents or caregivers are unable to support their learning at home because they have low literacy skills themselves, families often have no choice but to send their children to work or and put them into child marriage. Survey respondents also noted that distance learning was almost impossible in poor communities which do not have telecommunications

infrastructure. The obstacles that parents face are that they do not have a smartphone and adequate internet access. As such, their children cannot properly access school lessons.



Covid-19 had adversely affected food security

COVID-19 had worsened the food security situation due to decreased incomes, loss of job and other factors. Poor community is helpless as they have spent all their savings at the time of lockdown and in the treatment of their loved ones. They are struggling to fulfill the requirements of the family. Poverty usually is coexistent with food insecurity and is the main cause of hunger and malnutrition. Poverty exists



when there is lack of income, productive malnutrition, illiteracy, homelessness, inadequate housing, unsafe environment, social discrimination, and many more factors "Malnutrition not only denies people their right to health; it also has serious economic implications. Malnourished children are less able to concentrate in school, and malnourished adults are less able to work effectively.

Problems in Education of Slum Children

Focusing on Girl Child and Women Education



The cycle of illiteracy will continue if proper steps are not taken in time to reduce drop-out rates, increase enrollment and encourage girl child education and slum children's education. Mother is a child's first teacher. When mothers remain uneducated they cannot fully comprehend the value of education for their children. Children of educated mothers have better access to education, proper nutrition, and timely healthcare needs like timely immunization against various diseases.

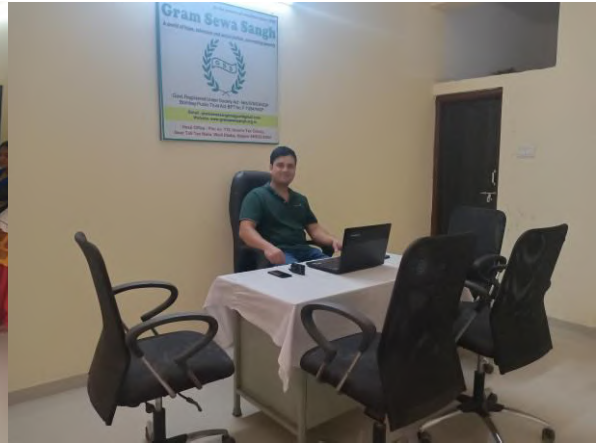
Social, Health, Education, and Empowerment

Gram Sewa Sangh Nagpur's Child Academy works extensively with adolescent girls, youth and mothers. Remedial classes are conducted for them to teach them the concepts of learning more clearly. Academic material like school bags, tiffin, bottles, notebooks, geometry boxes are provided to them.



Healthcare services; medical camp, eye checkup, free medicines are provided to children and elders in their family. Adolescent girls are provided with sanitary napkins to break the stigma around periods and also to encourage attendance at school. We also conduct various health awareness programs for the children and their families.

It is a chance for us to come together and make a difference in a slum child's life that needs financial and moral support to complete their school education.



SALAIMENDA VILLAGE DRINKING WATER BOREWELL PROJECT REPORT



Location of the Project: SALAIMENDA VILLAGE, NAGPUR HINGNA– DISTRICT,
MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

Beneficiaries of the Project 500 Tribal Families (farmers) (low caste families)

MAY 24th, 2023

Project Proposal: SALAIMENDA VILLAGE is a very poor area consisting hard working Indian Tribal (lower caste) people. The people in this region are divided according to their Caste in every village. There are many restrictions for the low caste (Tribal) in every step of their life. Even now in this 21st century, these untouchable restrictions continue in every village including but not limited to where the villagers can fetch water. By drilling a borehole in the village, the people of the tribal class can find safe and plentiful drinking water at all times. This is an incredible blessing that will then allow the children, especially the girls and young women, to pursue their education and other life-skills training.

Salaimenda village was selected because of the pronounced number of restrictions due to the different castes in that village. The low caste people do manual labor, working for the land owners from morning till evening and are paid minimal wages. The families are very big and children are many, all working very hard to improve their life situation, especially education. These people have been struggling with drinking water problems for many years, having to travel considerable distances to get some water to drink and use for any other

purpose. Based upon the caste structure of this village and their needs. The Coronavirus has been very prevalent in this area, creating additional challenges. Now the problem is inflation which these people are also facing. As you know everything went up in such a way that the common man is unable to live with this kind of inflation. It is affecting every sector of work and life. We propose to your kind consideration to provide a borewell of



their own and humbly leave for your discretion this request to provide us needed help to complete the project. We are satisfied whatever you provide us. We take it as a great gift from the hands of God and appreciate the generous contribution of the Donor.

Thank you so much. Along with the people of Salaimenda, I myself thank you so much and the donor for making this project becomes a reality. The villagers are so happy that now they can have drinking water near to them. I know it is a great sacrifice of the donor for their needy brothers and sisters. Thank you once again.



FUTURE PLANS:-

- Child Education Program.
- Implementation and safety of slums family members and children's.
- Child Development Program.
- Income generating Programs.
- Environment Growth[Green Scout School]
- Agricultural Development.
- Self help group [women Empowerment]
- To make a Medical facility available especially for Slums and village people.
- Sustainable life thorough green environment and ideal habitat in the new millennium.
- To enhance the activity of green scout movement in Nagpur region.
- To make a members of AFS and tree plantation in surrounding area by taking the help of local medical personal for ongoing training of the community health volunteers .
- Primarily child labor, women empowerment, organic farming, youth programs to be initiated.
- To organize training program for women and men. So that they may improve their financial status for self reliance.
- To repair and develop the infrastructure of GSS for making more facilities for the future programs.
- To repair the houses of project CAN children's.
- To provide nutrition to the project children's families for better growth of health.

Respectfully submitted by

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Nagpur, INDIA

www.gramsewasangh.org.in