



A Quest Towards Collective Action for Freedom & Development

Annual Report.2017-2018

Foreword

This annual report showcases the many ways in which Samarth supports work at Kutch (Rapar and Nakhtrana), Chhattisgarh (Kwaraha, Bilaspur, Lomi, Sarguja, Surajpur, Raipur, Mahasamund), Doodhar (Banaskantha) and Ahmedabad urban work to achieve the aims of reaching the unreached and the most vulnerable communities for ensuring their social rights and protection.



Kutch Programme: In Kutch this year, we were successful in leveraging Rs. 3, 66, 56,536 from various schemes for reviving water bodies, implemented by Government (MLA grant, 14th Finance Commission, MGNREGA, Village Development Fund, State irrigation Department, Fund allocated by District Development Officer) covering 28 villages.

Three hundred and twenty eight individual beneficiaries in Kutch have received the support of Rs. 38, 62, 500/- from various schemes supported by Government of Gujarat under Swachh Bharat Mission, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna, Janani Suraksha Yojna, Widow Pension and Old-age Pension.

With the blessings from Param Pujya Nalin bhai Kothari of Shri Raj Saubhag Satsang Mandal, Sayla and with the generous donation from Shri Nemchandbhai Shah and India Development Relief Fund, USA and an individual philanthropist couple – Mr Narendra and Jyoti Popat- Samarth has constructed 32 Earthen Check Dams, 11 Dug wells, 6 Step Wells and 1 Cattle Trough in the intervention area supporting 9280 Households, a population of 38250 people and a cattle count of 275800. Around 300 families have started multi-cropping and their incomes have risen from 20,000 to 50,000 per year.

The support extended to us by Late Shri Arun Doshi and his family members (Mr Ajay and Ms Jyoti Doshi) allowed us to continue to provide hostel facilities at Gagodar Campus-based out of Kutch, food and educational support to 25 children from the migrant communities as well as to ensure the attendance of students at the government schools. Support from Baal Dan, USA came in the form of 'nutrition' for the boys.

In Rapar block of the Kutch District, the "Charities Aid Foundation" supported Samarth in the construction of new sanitation unit, the distribution of hygiene kits in 8 Government Schools and in the renovation of 34 Schools in 31 villages.

This year we partnered in the project "Water Harvest" (formerly known as "Wells for India") for construction of "Rain Roof Water Harvesting Structures" in Dholavira (a world heritage site). The on-going project which was initiated in June 2017 Samarth has constructed 32 Rain roof Water Harvesting Structure and has revived of historical step wells.

In the Deodar block of Banaskantha programmes supported by UNICEF Gandhinagar, Samarth worked in 72 villages of Deodar block to form "Child Protection Committees, Adolescent Girls Group" and Children's Groups.

Glimpses of engagement in Chhattisgarh: Samarth takes pride in its achievement in engaging with local and state level bodies in Chhattisgarh. Under the "Learning and Migration Program of American India Foundation" of New Delhi, the District administration of Kawardha and Panchayat committee of Dholbhojja has provided Samarth with a government building in Dholbhojja which functions as a hostel to enable children of migrating families to be rooted in one place for their education. The District Collector and Education officers have been overseeing our programme by attending the 'Baal Melas' and regularly visiting the hostel in Bodla block.

Samarth was also nominated as an External Member by the District Collector in the "Minor Forest Produce Monitoring Committee" of Kawardha district. The District education department Kawardha, Block education department Bodla collaborated with Samarth to build capacities of School Management Committee members in Bodla block.

Water Security Plans of 12 villages prepared by Samarth, has been adopted by District administration Kawardha and included in the District Annual Plan for implementation.

All sensitization workshops and trainings on Disabilities for government employees were facilitated by the block administration in the four intervention blocks under the Chhattisgarh Social Inclusion Program. As a result of this, the Chhattisgarh Social Welfare Department requested Samarth to publish pocket size educational material of sign language, and the developed material was largely circulated among the government officials in all departments. In order to sensitize government employees such as "Sarpanches" or Village Headman and Village Secretaries to the "Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016", three workshops at block level were organized by the local administration and Samarth facilitated these workshops as a resource person.

In the Odagi block of Surgujpur district of Chhattisgarh, Samarth intervened in the selected 20 villages, with the project called 'Sustainable Options for Uplifting Livelihood' which is supported by "Indo Global Social Service Scheme" in collaboration with the Surgujpur district administration to demonstrate best practices in organic farming and facilitate better livelihood opportunities.

Samarth finalized collaboration with Raipur Municipal Corporation and Urban Develop Authority to facilitate the "Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana" scheme and build financial literacy among slum dwellers in Raipur.

Urban Programme: There has been tremendous growth in quality of services, professional care as well as the introduction of new streams such as vocational training for the day-care centre or the "Samarth Talim Kendra" for the mentally challenged children and adolescent group.

The number of students has increased from 42 to 78. The average attendance of students through the year has been as high as 79%. The physiotherapist and speech therapists who visit the centre daily have developed individual goal plans for each child/person and there is marked improvement noted in the development of the children. The centre has also started regular consultations with the psychotherapist who works on the mental abilities of each child and prescribes exercises and therapy sessions accordingly. This therapy has added a new dimension to the child's progress and we now see children showing faster growth.

With the support from WIPRO, Bangalore we have embarked on a journey to work in 5 government schools with Grade 1 teachers on child-centric pedagogy. We are reaching out to 265 children in these schools. In addition to these children there are 62 other children who need extra support and are not able to go to school. These children are accessing educational services from 3 centres based in the bastis. We are grateful to Ekavya-Bhopal and Dakshinamurti- Bhevnagar for providing technical support for this programme.

Together with our communities in the three geographical areas, we will continue to deliver the programmes. Samarth would facilitate enhancing of livelihoods, provide support in reviving the traditional water resources, assist in the integration of People with Disabilities within the social system and equity in terms of gender and caste and fulfilling its goals and in seeking equality for all.

Samerth's "team" is its strongest asset and I applaud the energy and commitment they apply every day, which was reflected in work and results on the ground. I would like to thank Ms Rajul Bharti, who relentlessly worked to put together for this report information on all the three different geographical areas and on the various programmes. I am very proud of and thankful for the efforts of our staff, who contribute their ideas, skills and knowledge freely and openly. They are engaged, empowered and committed to work on the ground and reach out to the most unreached areas. Led by our experienced Senior Management Team and supported by our robust governance frameworks, we are well placed to embrace the opportunities and address the challenges in the coming year.

On behalf of the board members my sincere thanks to everyone who took the time to contribute their valuable inputs to the report.

I trust that you will enjoy reading this account of Samerth activities of 2017-2018 and that it will provide you with new insights into the work of our organisation.

Sincerely,



Gazala Paul
Managing Trustee

1. Let me find my wings!

Vocational centre at Samarth Talim Kendra : Day care centre for children with special needs - Ahmedabad

Rehan works in one of the many auto garages that are operational in Ahmedabad. It is typically a crowded, noisy place – but Rehan's smile lights up the dull atmosphere. Rehan is 17 years old and has been living in the slums of Ahmedabad. He has a younger brother, who is 7 years old and studies in 2nd grade. His father ekes out a living by doing small jobs and survives on daily wages. His mother does tailoring job work for a readymade wholesaler.

Rehan was born with mental retardation and was confined to his home for the first 10 years of life. He was admitted to Samarth Talim Kendra, in 2012 (at the age of 10). He had speech issues, problems in communicating and had never ventured out of his home alone. His social skills were poor and he refused to interact with anyone except his family members. His parents were distraught, already caught up in the struggle for survival a disabled child seemed like the last straw. Their biggest worry was Rehan's wellbeing after them; with no support and no hopes of ever saving enough they were at their wit's end.

REHAN AT THE GARAGE



Rehan's assessment at the kendra revealed that he had 50% disability. The special educators at the kendra convinced his parents to send Rehan regularly, pay special attention to his nutrition and encourage him to interact with strangers in order to build his social skills. Within six months of regular speech therapy, undergoing various exercises on activities of daily living, as well as participating in various outdoor activities Rehan started showing confidence in social interaction. He bloomed into an extrovert who was greatly interested in machines.

As a part of the program, adolescents and adults are encouraged to participate in pre-vocational and vocational activities based on their capabilities & interest. This is done with the parent/ care giver's consent. Vocational centre was initiated few year into the program, to address the issue of financial independence & dignity. Rehan participated in the pre-vocational training activities undertaken for adolescents at the kendra, but his main interest lay in the garage that was operated next to the kendra. He would sit there, fascinated –by the various tools and how it all came together to bring a static thing to motion. By 2015 - in the 3 years he was at the kendra, Rehan had become fully independent in his daily living activities. He could now travel alone, could buy things from the street –having understood the concept of money and time. He was then admitted to a regular school where he studied for the next two years.

BEADWORK



PHOTOCOPY

PAPER PLATE



Today, he works under Riyasatbai, who runs a garage. He has become independent to a great extent, and his employer is all praise for his expertise. Rehan, since then has been working regularly his parents are very proud of him!

Samerth Talim Kendra has been undertaking pre vocational and vocational activities since its inception in 2007. Last year, the Kendra initiated a full-fledged vocational training centre, where numerous enterprises such as jewellery making from beads, operating photo-copy machine, paper plates and bowls making have been initiated. 17 trainees are currently being trained at the centre. But there are many more like Rehan, who have found gainful employment outside of the vocational centre.

Till date, 27 trainees have been trained in various enterprises in the last two years.

2. Saleha's golden Handshake

Samerth Talim Kendra – Day care centre for Children with Special needs (Ahmedabad)

Saleha came to the Samerth Talim Kendra (STK - Daycare centre for special children) in 2013





when she was 7 years old. She was diagnosed with severe Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation. When she came to the centre, Salaha was not independent. She was not toilet trained, could not use her limbs, and had to drag herself to move. She could not talk and was completely dependant on the caregiver to help her.

Salaha comes from the slums of Juhapura. Her father – drives a three-wheeler local lorry and earns about Rs. 12,000/- per month. She has a younger sister who goes to school. Salaha's parents learnt about the Kendra in a community meeting. Till then Salaha had been confined to her house because of her severe disability. She was dependant on her mother completely.

The first time the very sceptical parents came to the kendra, they were unsure of sending Salaha for such long hours. They were then assured by the kendra team that their daughter is in safe hands. The team also advised her mother to accompany Salaha until she gets accustomed to the special educators and other peer group members.

At STK, once the beneficiary is admitted his/her capabilities and learning levels are thoroughly assessed. This is done with the child, parents, teachers and expert such as a psychologist and speech/physiotherapist to come to a comprehensive understanding of the child's disability and therefore the special needs that each one has. It is scientifically undertaken with 6 areas of development detailed into 20 parameters. After assessment, the IAP (individual action plan), goals and strategies for the entire year is decided upon and activities are conducted keeping in mind the capability, age and I.Q. level of the child. IAP is revisited and assessed every quarter to note the progress of the child and to understand if further changes are needed goals and strategies.

After initial hiccups, Saleha settled beautifully in the STK centre. Regular physio and speech therapies helped her become independent, as well as communicate with the team. She can now walk with support; can communicate her day to day needs. She also enjoys interacting with new people and loves to sit on the bench – like a grownup and tells her name, age&parents name when asked. And yes, she loves to shake hands! Since she can now communicate, she travels with her parents and loves to socialise.

Since 2007, more than 190 special children (diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, Down Syndrome, Autism Spectrum and Multiple disabilities) have enrolled in Samarth Talim Kendra. These are children with more than 50% disability belonging to disadvantaged and vulnerable backgrounds. From the total 192 children who have availed benefits of Samarth Talim Kendra, 13 then got enrolled in regular schools, 12 were gainfully employed in various enterprises and 11 went to specialized schools.

3. Samir goes to school

Education intervention – Ahmedabad

Samir is 9 years old and is a great performer. Like others in his family, friends and neighbours – is a natural in front of a crowd. Adapting immediately to catch their attention. Samir belongs to the Mir Fakir community – belonging to the nomadic tribe. They travel from one city to another – previously as performers, in today's time adapting to whatever work available. This includes selling toys / Knick knacks at traffic signals/ taking up small labour jobs, begging at fairs, signals, temple/masques etc. The last option is usually undertaken by children.

In cities, the community lives in makeshift huts, constructed on illegal lands. Once the lands are confiscated by the government, they move on to the exterior parts of the city for the next few years. Due to the shifting from one place to another, they are generally devoid of education.

Samarth runs a community centre in one such Mir Fakir Basti of Ahmedabad. The centre engages children between 6 to 8 years of age – in /out of school and helps them with language and math acquisition. Through the program,



Samarth reaches out to 100 children in the community and five schools – to work with teachers in building a stronger foundation.

Samir started coming to one such centre. He had never gone to school but was intrigued by the colourful pictures and flashcards that the teachers used. He started coming to the centre and enjoyed the process. He said he wanted to go to a big school and learn computers! Through games, poems and stories he learnt various alphabets, vowels and consonants. By the end of the year, he could not only recognise alphabets but could also form small sentences.

This year, he got admitted to grade 3 in the Sankaltnagar school (public school) near his locality. He is the first in his family to get admitted in the school. This has given a lot of hopes to the others in his area and also prompted his younger sister to come to the community centre.

Currently in its second year of program, Samarth team now runs 5 community centres reaching out to 100 children from vulnerable communities.

4. Learning through joyful method

Enhancing quality Education in schools

Kundan Makwana always wanted to be a teacher. She enjoys teaching and being surrounded by young minds. She completed her Masters in Arts – followed by Primary Teachers Certificate Course. She has been working as a teacher in Ravinagar Public School, for the past year and a half.

Samarth began its intervention in schools from June 2018. The team works with 5 schools with the teachers trying to create a more joyful, interactive environment that fosters imagination and creativity. Samarth team has been undergoing extensive trainings with Eldarya (Bhopal) and Dakshinamurthy (Bhavnagar) to hon their teaching-learning styles. The result has been an evolved pedagogy that works alongside children's natural inquisitiveness & intelligence focuses on a child's overall development. Samarth team has taken approval from the District Education department of Gujarat Government, to carry out this initiative.

Since the very first session, Kundan welcomed the idea of making teaching a joyful experience for the school children. She enjoyed the various activities and confessed that they added on to her own understanding of initiating language and mathematics with such conceptual clarity. She has been extremely cooperative of the team and has



taken to the various activities – probing deeper into the learning goal of the activity.

Her enthusiasm has positive impact on the children too, who look forward to the sessions taken by the Samarth team.

Currently in its first year of program, the samarth team has been able to reach out to 4 Government Schools – for Grade 1, reaching out to 200 students

5. Pond Development – Defying the Mirage in the desert of Kutch

Participatory Ground water Management - Kutch

Rama Rana Koli is living in Jodhparyandh (hamlet) near Gagodar village with six of his family members. Every year the entire family migrates to nearby salt pans to work as daily wagers. They have a small piece of land that sustains them for 3 -4 months. With no water source, their farming is largely rain-fed. Since the entire household migrates children were not admitted into schools

There are eight such families living in the small hamlet of Jodhparyandh. All of them migrate for 6-8 months a year. They would come back during monsoons, would farm and before the end of winters would return to the back-breaking labour of salt pans, charcoal making or brick kilns.

This year, Samarth supported them to develop one pond in this area that is adjoining the small Rann. All the eight



Rana Rama Koli Residing At Jodhparyandh, Near Gagodar Village



**The Pond Filled With Water
In September 2017**



Vegetables In His Farm



families came together to develop the pond so that they would take up two crops in the adjoining 10 acres of land. Once the rain water got filled in the pond they were able to do the rabi crop and harvested cumin, pearl millet and sorghum in their respective farms. Rama Keli has also developed a small area into growing vegetable for the families' personal use.

The group then set up a mechanism to use the water from the pond so that every family gets a fair share. They also fixed the timings to lift water for their irrigation activities. Rama is the leader of this group and he has helped the group to take maximum benefit from such management. All the farmers have collectively developed the crop of cumin worth Rs. 4.5 lakhs. They have also grown vegetables and have been able to grow millets/sorghum for their consumption for the whole year.

Their migration pattern has undergone a sea change. Now, with their food being secured, only one member of the

family migrated for about 2-3 months a year to earn cash for their other needs. This has led to a more secure life – the children are going to school and the overall expenditure on health has also reduced. 15 children from the 8 families have started going to school. In the words of Rama Rana -“I can finally dream of a better future for my children and that has been the biggest gain from the pond”.

In year 2017-18- Samarth has constructed 32 Earthen Check Dams, 11 Dug wells, 6 step wells and 1 cattle trough in the intervention area. The above interventions have provided water to

6. Everyone must be his/her own scavenger- Mahatma Gandhi

Health and Hygiene program – Kutch

Jafar Gohri is the principal of Gagodar Primary Girls School. The school has been operational since 1956 and currently 335 number of girls study here. Mr Gohri has been the principal since 2015. Post-earthquake, new school premises were built in 2003. But very soon the toilets were damaged and have not been fully operational since then. This had resulted in frequent absenteeism of adolescent girls.

Samarth started a hygiene and Sanitation drive in Gagodar in 2015. The girls school was amongst the 42 schools across Rapar block, where Samarth supported in building toilet units – reaching out to 4074 boys and 4495 girls. Mr Gohri was extremely enthusiastic about the initiative and took a personal interest in the construction of the toilet.

The program strengthened institutional mechanisms such as PRIs, School Management Committees. These were then used to create a window for the children in the rural government schools for accessibility of safe and clean sanitation system in 34 villages/hamlets of 25 Gram Panchayats.

Through the program, the team used information and communication methods to educate communities (children, teachers, gram panchayat members, water committee members and other stakeholders) about hygiene methods,

Mr. Jafar Ghori with teachers, Samerth team and members of school management committee in front of the newly constructed sanitation unit



cleanliness and maintenance of the school sanitation units.

As a follow up to the program, this year Samerth provided hygiene kit to the school authorities where sanitation support had been provided. This was to make the units sustainable. It prompted the school children to maintain the sanitation units in their respective schools.

At the Gagodar School, the girls welcomed the sanitation facilities. They now proudly maintain their sanitation units. They also underwent a hygiene management training which was extremely successful. In Mr Gohri's words "Absenteeism in girls has reduced due to toilet facilities in our school. This has directly impacted the overall result of the school." Mr Gohri also encouraged female teachers to provide sanitary napkins in schools. This was done by taking the support of Asha worker in the villages. This has further improved attendance. Today parents, as well as



Children cleaning their toilet units



MHM training

school management committee members, have also pledged their support in maintaining the unit and supporting girls in continuation for their education.

The positive change in schools has prompted women leaders from the community to demand sanitation facilities other schools/gram panchayats and other public spaces.

Samerth has constructed 8 new sanitation units in schools and renovated 34 sanitation units in government schools in Rapar block of Kutch District. This year 42 hygiene kits were distributed in the schools.

7. First step!

Women's empowerment and Yagad Pani Sangthan (YPS) (in process) - Kutch

Shantiben Suthar is a 45-year-old woman from Saay village in Rapar. She belongs to the Bakshi panch caste, a marginalised community in Gujarat. Shantiben, like other men and women from her village, had never participated in Gram Sabha and had never been vocal of her rights. In 2017, Samarth started an empowerment drive and invited women from the poor and marginalized families for meetings and discussions. These meetings covered a



Shantiben Suthar Being Felicitated



Federation Meetings In Progress



range of subjects, focusing on leadership development. Mostly the following subjects were discussed: (1) Basic rights of women, (2) women's role in the administration of village panchayat, (3) Participation of women in panchayat elections.

About 230 women from 15 villages actively participated in these meetings. Post these meetings, the women held many informal consultations within themselves to talk about their personal and social issues. It gave them a platform to come together and lend support to each other. Over a period they realized that they had many common issues. Few were village level issues regarding assets that were created in the village and participation of women / marginalized communities in them. The women started holding mini gram sabhas and ensured that the resolutions passed in these sabhas were endorsed by the panchayat. 487 mini gram sabhas were conducted in the intervention villages. A few women like Shantiben took initiative and decided to contest elections. This was a big leap! Though they did not win, it gave the entire process right from filing nominations to canvassing and mobilization gave them self-confidence. They realized it was not an impossible task and decided to contest again next time with better preparedness.

The other recurring issue that came up in meetings was related to water. In a draught-prone region as Rapar, water is a prized possession. Most families in the village had small farm holdings and it was the women of the family who did most of the labour. The agriculture was ruined and most poor families would migrate in search of labour for a livelihood. The group encouraged by the election experience, ideated with the Somerth team and decided to form one of its kind federation – Vagad Pani Sangathan. The area in and around Rapar where Somerth works is called Vagad. The sangathan has both men and women members. The platform plans to address issues of entitlements, the need for sustainable solutions to the water and livelihoods crisis in the region. The women were very excited to be part of the federation and so far 167 members have registered as a member.

230 women underwent leadership training, out of which 4 contested the Panchayat elections for the very first time. Vagad Pani Sangathan formed. 167 men and women already are registered as its members.

8.Nothing is impossible!

Hostel facilities for Children from migrant & vulnerable families - Kutch

This year Vinod Koli passed 10th grade with distinction! This was a huge achievement – being first generation learner from his family and the very first to study up till 10th grade from his hamlet! Vinod belongs to the very vulnerable Koli tribe. His family lives in a hamlet called Mayanivandh in Bhim Deyka Panchayat. Typically the men work in charcoal making and women work to take care of small land holding with one rainfed crop a year. The year there are no rains (Rapar is a drought-prone area) the entire family migrates in search of work. Most children then drop out of



- 1.Koli Vinod
 2. Rathod Vijay
and
 3. Koli Ganganam
- the students from the boys' hostel
who has passed the
10th board examination



Boys Hostel Activities – Having Breakfast, Studying And Getting Ready For School

school to accompany their parents. When they get back – the cycle repeats and it's time to migrate again.

Since 2011, Samarth Trust runs a boys hostel in Gagodar, Rapar with lodging, boarding and tuition facilities. The hostel is exclusively meant for boys from marginalized and disadvantaged backgrounds. Vinod came to the hostel in the year 2014 after completing his primary education. He worked hard along with 25 other boys at the hostel. He was amongst the eldest in the group. This year three boys from the hostel: Vinod Koli, Gangaram Koli and Vijay Rathod passed the 10th grade with flying colours. This has been extremely encouraging for the community as well as younger boys at the hostel, who look up to these three boys as their seniors. Encouraged by the response, all three of them have decided to study further, take up professional degrees.

Since inception in 2011, 227 boys have benefitted from the hostel.

9. Case study for Dug well- thirsty village

Participatory ground water management program - Kutch

Dug well: This is Dahiben. She lives in Davri village. Davri is located 22 kilometres from block headquarter Rapar. This village has just two dug wells constructed near the side of Davri village pond. The village pond is spread in 8 to 9 acres of land and this pond is based on the sandstone terrain. The dug well receives recharge water from the pond and the families from Davri village get their daily quota of drinking water from this dug well. This year Samarth has developed this dug well by strengthening the side walls and pillars of this dug well and also fixed angles with pulleys on the pillar so that the women can easily get the water. Samarth also constructed a path to walk up to the well. It made the job of women much easier or else they would walk neck



Dahiben Fetching
Drinking Water
From The Dug Well
At Davri Village



**Men And Women
Both Use The Dugwell**



Women Going Towards Dugwell

deep in monsoon season to fetch water as this well is situated in the middle of the pond. 85 families from this village get their drinking water from this dug well including Dahiban.

Earlier Dahiban would walk for 2 kilometres one way to fetch drinking water for her family of seven people. The newly developed well is less than half a km away, saving her time and energy. This well provides drinking water to the community for almost the whole year. The locations for the wells were identified in consultation with the community. Samerth team inspected the recharge area near the dug wells as per the geohydrological conditions of the area. They found it appropriate as they found sandstone beneath the well area which is conducive for recharging the fresh water. The team also supervised the desilting and cleaning work of the dug well. Most communities prefer using dug wells for drinking water rather than a pond as the recharge water in the dug well is potable, sweet and less contaminated than the open water in the pond. They believe that dug wells are like food deposits in the desert. They serve as a repository during the summers, even when the pond dries; the dug well have water.

Dahiban says that the structural development of this dug well has provided much relief to the village easily. The

approach road from the side of the pond reaching to it was also developed by Samarth for easy access to reach the well. The quality of water is good. Regular water testing happens to see that the water is potable.

Samarth has have constructed 11 dug wells in the year 2017. Due to this 900 families have access to potable water.

10. The ancient ingenuity of water harvesting

Rain Roof Water Harvesting Structures - Kutch

Name of the beneficiary: – Dineshbhai Radhu Koli lives in Dugranivandh with his wife Shantiben and two daughters aged 7 and 5 years. Dineshbhai works as a labourer and he migrates to other farms for labour work.



Shantiben using the RRWHS



Shantiben Koli near her home in Dungranivandh at Dholavira

Shantiben Dineshbhi stays in the house in Dungranivandh with her two daughters. This house is located on the outskirts of the main area of this hamlet and before our intervention Shantiben used to get the water for her domestic use from the nearby school tank (the water is supplied to this water tank from the bore well of the gram panchayat) which is the only source of water for the 50 families staying in Dungranivandh.

Shantiben had a tough time getting the water for their daily use as she has to look after her daughters as well. The other women members from the community used to support her in getting the water.

When the Samarth team has approached for the construction of RRWHs in this area, the elders from the community had suggested our team to give priority to construct RRWHs in Dineshbhai's house and our team had planned it accordingly. The family members especially Shantiben is so happy with this kind of support. When contacted she said that she had never imagined in her life that one day she will have such kind of water storage structure in her house.

They are happy and look forward to good rains, to fill the RRWHs with water. This year has been very unfortunate as it hasn't rained in the entire Kutch (less than 26 mm (1 inch) and therefore the situation is not very good.

Last year, 17 rain roof water harvesting structures constructed in water scarce areas for vulnerable families

1.1. Making People Self-reliant with Social Inclusion Programme

Somnath's battery tricycle is loaded with two clothes bags full of handmade jewellery. He is on the way to Marine drive road to sell the jewellery to the customers there. The Marine drive Road is a famous hangout location among friends, family and youth circles in Raipur. This has now become the routine of Somnath, to reach the marine drive with jewellery, exhibit them and keep selling until late at night.

Somnath's body is 80% disabled and much of his lower body is non-functional. He moves around using his both hands and travels on the battery tricycle. His family operated a small hotel where Somnath used to help his parents, with the growing age he understood, he shouldn't be a burden to the family and need to stand on his own. He was identified during the baseline survey of CGSIP (Chhattisgarh Social Inclusion Programme). CGSIP was launched in 2017 by Samarth in four blocks of Raipur and Mahasamund districts. The CGSIP programme supported by Sightsavers is aimed at organizing People with Disabilities (PwDs) into Self Help Groups (SHG) for linking them with financial institutions and bringing economic empowerment in their lives. On the other hand, these PwDs are being motivated to become part of a larger Sangh (Disabled Peoples Organization- DPO) for ensuring their rights and entitlements.

Somnath and his friends were oriented and formed into SHG under the intervention. In April 2018, the group is named "Nav-Jagran Swasahayta Samuh". The group received training on book keeping-recording, panchasutra



Somnath sells handmade jewellery to customers

(five rules) of SHG by NRLM master trainers organized under the intervention for the benefit of SHG members. The CGSIP coordinators also facilitate the SHGs in the opening of a bank account, ensuring monthly meeting and savings. The handholding was done in the beginning. Now the group is well functioning and self-relied.

SHG members are provided trade based trainings owing to their interests and capacities. Intensive trainings by expert trainers were organized in jewellery making, bangle designing, eco-friendly sanitary pads, tailoring, mushroom cultivation and paper bags for the members of various SHGs. Where 3 of the "Nav-Jagran Swasahayta Samuh" members took training in jewellery making. The training was given by a professional jewellery trainer to enhance their creativity and produce good quality products with minimal cost of production. The group picked up techniques very quickly and produced a wide range of jewellery using quilling paper. While other members make jewellery, buy material etc. Somnath does the marketing part of it. The jewellery is also exhibited in all programmes of Samarth and is being promoted.



1. Training on ecofriendly sanitary pad making



2. Jewellery making training for PwD members



3. Training on tailoring for PwDs in Mahasamund district

Through the CGSIP programme 67 SHGs have been formed in the two intervention districts, 29 in Mahasamund and 38 in Raipur. DPOs have been formed in all four intervention blocks that are Dharsiwa, Tilda, Pithaura and Mahasamund with 903 disabled members.

Under the CGSIP initiative Samarth promotes the rights of PwDs and advocates for resource mobilization, entitlements, barrier free environment and Policy level changes.

12. Managing Water Resources with Community Participation

Sendurkhar is a hilltop village, located in the interiors of the Pandariya block in Kawardha district. Due to the hilly terrain, there are no water resources up to 200 feet underground. Almost eight bore wells laid by PHED (Public Health and Engineering Department) failed to trace any water. There are 189 Adivasi (tribal) families in the village and people have to walk through the difficult path to fetch water from a nearby natural spring.

Bhagat Singh Shyam is an active youth of the Gond tribal community of Sendurkhar, studied till class 10th and took up the traditional profession of farming. Farming is sustenance in these villages and they all depend on traditional water resources and summer is the season of hardships as the water levels fall deep down. Bhagat always had the urge of finding a permanent solution for their village. Samarth has intervened in 43 interior and less accessed villages of 2 blocks in Kawardha district to facilitate participatory water resource management (PGWM), Sanitation and Hygiene Practices. A Sangathan was formed in the village by Samarth to bring people together and work towards solutions collectively.

Bhagat became an active member and was later selected as Jaldoot for capacity building. He received training in water testing, PGWM, rights and entitlements in Gramsabha and developed an understanding of preparing water security plans. Under the Samarth's intervention, Mini Gramsabhas were organized in the village to discuss the water issue and prepare a plan. Repairing of the natural spring and water supply through tap connection were proposed in the "Lok Suraj Abhiyan" in January 2018. The application



**Bhagat Singh Shyam, Jaldoot
(Community Volunteer) of Sendurkhar village**

The water tank is installed with the collective of efforts of CBO members



Capacity building training of Jaldoots and CBO members



Laying of pipeline work underway in the Sendurkhar village



was submitted by Bhagat with active contribution of the Sangathan members. Regular follow up with the administration was made for approval and sanction of funds for the proposed activities.

The follow-up and pressure operated by the sangathan members resulted in the sanction of waterworks under "Nal Jal Yojana" for the village. In the first phase, 76 families began to get safe drinking water near their homes.

307 Jaldoots from 86 villages received training in PGWA. 102 Jaldoots have been specially selected and trained in Ground Water Management.

Water Security Plan of 16 villages has been prepared with the technical assessment on requirement and availability of water in the village.

In order to address the community issues, 86 Sangathans (CBO) has been formed and raised awareness on Government schemes and entitlements, through facilitating Mini Gramsabhas. 458 applications on various civic issues are proposed through 629 Mini Gramsabhas and submitted to the local administration.

2590 families have been met through the door to door visits and passed on the message of Personal hygiene and maintenance. As a result, 1416 families practice proper maintenance of drinking water at home, 1015 families use dustbins, 1349 families have dedicated handwashing places, 1506 individuals regularly wash hands before the meal and after defecation, 838 families got their toilets repaired and 860 families started using toilets.

13. Building financial literacy and facilitating formal housing process...

Roushan Niha (46) lived in Pragati Nagar slum of Raipur since her childhood. She lives with her four Children and husband in the house of elder brother, as the family can't afford to rent a house. Her husband, Aslam Baksh is an auto driver at the age of 50, makes barely 9000 rupees a month. She had acquired some land belonged to her family and since then had the dream of having their own house. She applied for the BLC (Beneficiary Led Construction) scheme under PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna). Few months later she received the news of her name being listed eligible for the BLC scheme, but she and her husband were clueless of the process to be followed to avail the benefit.



Roushan Niha Stands At Her Newly Constructed (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna) PMAY House



Women From Raipur Slums Visit Model Economically Weaker Section Houses Of Chhattisgarh Housing Board In Raipur



Building Financial Literacy Through Workshops In Raipur



Releasing Of IEC Material Developed By Samarth Team By Urban Development Secretary Of Chhattisgarh, Shri. Rohit Yadav, IAS

She was approached by the SSVJ team during baseline survey. It was found that the beneficiary had not received the Swikriti Patra (Grant Letter) and had no idea of way forward. The issue was reported to RMC (Raipur Municipal Corporation) by the team and the grant letter was received in 10 days. The same way, 3 further instalments and geotagging of the progress at the right time was done. With the timely support provided the family constructed the house in less than 4 months and overwhelmed to see their dream become true. Like Roushan Nisha, there are 400 more families who are helped at various stages to complete their construction by the Samarth's SSVJ team in Raipur. The team has surveyed 5,000 families living slums, identifies specific areas and ensures facilitation of support through workshops, linkages and capacity building.

SSVJ (Sharmaji Ke Sawal-Yinodji Ke Jawab) supported by DHFL (Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited) and Aahar Housing, focuses the need of financial literacy among the people living in Urban Slums and facilitates conversion into formal housing. Two "Yittiya Salaah Kendras" in Raipur act as resource centres to provide information on learning, available housing quarters, filing ITR, required documentation for various govt schemes, linking youth to skill development programmes and wide range of other services too. People who come for

assistance are build thorough knowledge through financial literacy workshops, they are linked with bankers and financial institutions for availing loans.

SSVJ team in Raipur has majorly been focusing on effectively facilitating the BLC component of PMAY scheme. The PMAY intervention Areas have been handed over to SSVJ team by Raipur Municipal Corporation to identify beneficiary level issues and strategically assist PMAY team to resolve them with time constraints.

- The team developed an FAQ and flowchart of BLC scheme to help beneficiaries by bridging the knowledge gap.
- More than 100 technical issues of BLC beneficiaries resolved with strategical advocacy with Raipur Municipal Corporation.
- Through financial literacy drives, 398 households been built capacities on loaning processes, housing finance, filing NTR and application procedure of various entitlements.
- 100 family heads have visited available EWS, LIG housing quarters developed by Housing Board under the team's facilitation.

500 Individuals applied for PAN cards in the facilitation camps of the programme.

14. Land, Community organizations and Livelihood

Chapda is a Panchayat in Odagi block of Surajpur district with a population of 1780 people. People do only one crop a year as there is no irrigation facility of any kind, except rains. The land was left unused after the rice crop. The open unused land came into the notice of Samerth staff who were visiting it under the intervention SOUL (Sustainable Outcome for Uplifting Livelihood) supported by IGSSS (Indo Global Social Service Society). The team met the villagers and understood that villagers are interested to cultivate it if support is provided. The team then met the agriculture department at the district level and discussed the matter. Upon the suggestion of the agriculture officers, it was decided that Maize can be cultivated in the land. The maize seeds were freely distributed in the village and training was provided on the maize cultivation.

Samerth Team In Surajpur District

**Rice Plantation
Through Sri Method
Under The Facilitation
Of Samerth Team**



With the training and free seeds available the sowing was done quickly by 27 farmers in the right time when the rains were there. The maize crop is growing healthy and the farmers of Chapda are grateful of the fortunate timely support provided by Samerth. The intervention SOUL covers 20 interior villages of Odagi block. The intervention



**District Collector Surajpur,
Shri. Devanapath, IAS,
Speaks In An Orientation
Organized By The Samarth Team
In Surajpur District**



**Demonstration Of Seed
Treatment For Community
Members**



**Demonstrating Preparation
Of Organic Pesticides And
Fertilizers Among Farmers**

covers 1000 economically weaker and less land holding tribal families of these villages. The focus of the intervention is to facilitate climate resilient land and non-land based activities to improve income, to improve the nutrition factors of the daily intake and community organizations become democratic spaces for local participation on rural livelihoods and development.

- SOUL is implemented in 20 villages of 16 Interior Panchayats of Odagi block in Surajpur district, to increase income of local farmers, through climate resilient land and non-land based livelihood options.
- The intervention closely works with 200 SHGs to make them function as self-sufficient, sustainable and democratic.
- Over a 100 families received free seeds with Samarth's advocacy with the local government, and 331 farmers received training on Seed Treatment.
- SRI cultivation began by 153 farmers in 10 villages of the block, which will become demonstration models.
- Farmers of 100 families received training on preparation of Organic Pesticides and started experimenting in their fields.

Credibility Alliance Compliance

A. List of Board of Trustees

| Sr. No. | Name | Age | Gender | Position | Occupation | Remuneration/ Reimbursement |
|---------|-------------------------|-----|--------|------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Ms. Gazala Paul | 53 | Female | Managing Trustee | Managing Trustee, Samerth Charitable Trust | Rs.8,43,592/- |
| 2 | Dr. Bhushan Punani | 62 | Male | Trustee | Executive Director, Blind People's Association | ZERO |
| 3 | Dr. Darshini Mahadevia | 58 | Female | Chairperson | Dean, School of Planning, CEPT, Ahmedabad | ZERO |
| 4 | Dr. Yogendrasinh Jadeja | 49 | Male | Trustee | Director of Arid Communities and Technologies | ZERO |
| 5 | Ms. Chinmayi Desai | 48 | Female | Trustee | Programme Manager at SAATH Charitable Trust | ZERO |

Note: None of the above trustees are related to each other

B. Salary (Highest and Lowest)

Highest Paid Staff Rs. 8,43,592/- per annum (Ms. Gazala Paul Managing Trustee)

Lowest – Rs. 72,000/- per annum

C. Foreign Travel: There was no foreign visit by any staff in 2017-18.

Domestic Travel: Rs. 36,82,561/- (for field and Programme Personnel)

Human Resources:

| Salary Slabs | Salary Slabs | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Below 5000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 5001 - 10000 | 20 | 7 | 27 |
| | 10001 - 25000 | 15 | 12 | 27 |
| | 25001 - 50000 | 5 | 3 | 8 |
| | 50000 above | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Total | | 42 | 24 | 66 |

Diversity Profile:

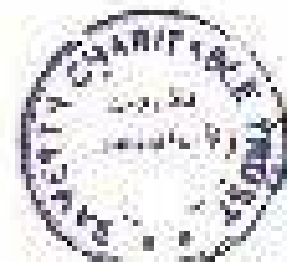
| Staff Diversity | Range | Male | Female | Total |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | General | 17 | 7 | 24 |
| | Minority | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| | SC/ST/OBC | 20 | 9 | 29 |
| | Physically Handicapped | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Total | | 42 | 24 | 66 |

Financial Overview

Samerth Charitable Trust
Trust Registration No. : E-9150/Ahmedabad

BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 2018

| PARTICULARS | ANNEXURE | 31.03.2018 | 31.03.2017 | 31.03.2016 |
|--------------------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| FUND & LIABILITIES | | | | |
| TRUST FUNDS | A | 30,67,453 | 27,66,156 | 27,99,103 |
| GENERAL FUND | C | 90,19,445 | 71,64,129 | 49,73,975 |
| UNUTILIZED GRANT | F1 | 1,94,18,684 | 1,41,36,536 | 1,37,71,489 |
| INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT | D | 88,199 | 1,312 | 1,333 |
| TOTAL | | 3,15,93,781 | 2,40,68,132 | 2,15,45,899 |
| ASSETS & PROPERTIES | | | | |
| NET BLOCK OF FIXED ASSETS | B | 25,22,090 | 24,66,156 | 26,99,103 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | E | 11,08,553 | 3,93,699 | 1,88,46,797 |
| INVESTMENT | F | 2,79,63,137 | 2,12,07,197 | |
| TOTAL | | 3,15,93,781 | 2,40,68,132 | 2,15,45,899 |



For SAMERTH CHARITABLE TRUST

MS GADALI PATEL
MANAGER & TRUSTEE

DATE : 27/07/2018
PLACE : Ahmedabad



For, A. S. Shaikh & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No. 139775W

Aslam Shaikh
Proprietor
Membership No. 162345

DATE : 27/07/2018
PLACE : Ahmedabad



AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE ATTACHED
For, H. L. Rustom & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No. 108908W

HRD DALAL
Proprietor
Membership No. 31364

DATE : 27/07/2018
PLACE : Ahmedabad

Samerth Charitable Trust
Trust Registration No. : E-9150/Ahmedabad

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING ON 31ST MARCH 2018

| PARTICULARS | ANNEXURE | 31.03.2018 | 31.03.2017 | 31.03.2016 |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| INCOME | | | | |
| GRANT & DONATIONS | G | 4,36,87,026 | 38,74,99,89 | 3,80,76,196 |
| INTEREST INCOME | H | 17,71,151 | 12,63,175 | 12,35,536 |
| OTHER INCOME | I | 5,45,292 | 5,12,803 | 2,80,585 |
| TOTAL | | 4,60,03,469 | 4,05,25,868 | 3,95,92,317 |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | |
| EXPENDITURE ON OBJECT OF THE TRUST | J | 3,80,11,571 | 3,33,46,167 | 3,30,45,653 |
| ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES | K | 32,94,349 | 35,84,618 | 36,32,771 |
| REMUNERATION TO TRUSTEE | L | 8,43,592 | 7,61,151 | 7,10,900 |
| AUDIT FEES | M | 1,08,500 | 79,000 | 1,14,500 |
| CHARITY COMMISSIONER CONTRIBUTION | N | 52,438 | 0 | 0 |
| DEPRECIATION | B | 4,86,236 | 5,97,845 | 5,89,501 |
| LOSS ON SALE OF ASSETS | | | 0 | -31,518 |
| EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME | D | 21,96,783 | 21,57,186 | 15,29,610 |
| TOTAL | | 4,60,03,469 | 4,05,25,868 | 3,95,92,317 |

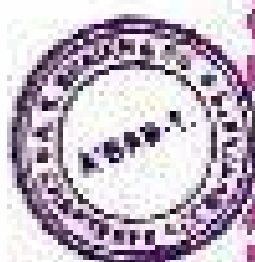
AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE ATTACHED



For SAMERTH CHARITABLE TRUST

MS GADALI PATEL
MANAGER/TRUSTEE

DATE : 27/07/2018
PLACE : Ahmedabad



For, A.S. Shaikh & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No. 139775W

Asam Shaikh
Proprietor
Membership No. 162345

DATE : 27/07/2018
PLACE : Ahmedabad



For, H.L. Rustom & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No. 108908W

HMD DALAL
Proprietor
Membership No. 31368

DATE : 27/07/2018
PLACE : Ahmedabad

Samerth Charitable Trust
Trust Registration No. : E-9150/Ahmedabad

RECEIPT & PAYMENT ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 2017 TO 31ST MARCH 2018

| RECEIPT | AMOUNT | PAYMENT | AMOUNT |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Source of Fund | | Application of Fund | |
| Opening Balance | 2,15,00,893 | Programme Admin Expenses | 27,95,189 |
| Grant Received | 4,85,77,974 | Programme Expenses | 2,62,03,860 |
| Donation Received | 2,91,200 | Programme Staff Expenses | 1,28,07,711 |
| Interest Income | 17,71,151 | Establishment Expenses | 4,99,150 |
| Other Income | 5,45,292 | Capital Purchase | 4,94,370 |
| | | Payment to Trustee | 8,43,592 |
| | | Audit Fees | 1,08,500 |
| | | Charity Commissioner Contribution | 62,438 |
| | | Closing Balance | 2,90,71,690 |
| Grand Total | 7,28,86,510 | Grand Total | 7,28,86,510 |

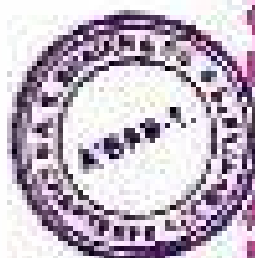


For SAMERTH CHARITABLE TRUST

[Signature]

MS DALAL PATEL
MANAGER & TRUSTEE

DATE : 27/07/2018
PLACE : Ahmedabad



For, A. S. Shaikh & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No. 139775W

[Signature]

Asam Shaikh
Proprietor
Membership No. 162345

DATE : 27/07/2018
PLACE : Ahmedabad



AS PER OUR REPORT OF EVEN DATE ATTACHED

For, H. Rustom & Co.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No. 108908W

[Signature]

HRD DALAL
Proprietor
Membership No. 31368

DATE : 27/07/2018
PLACE : Ahmedabad

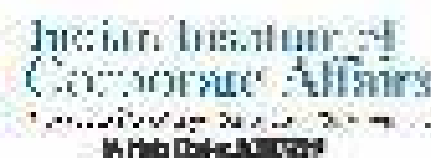
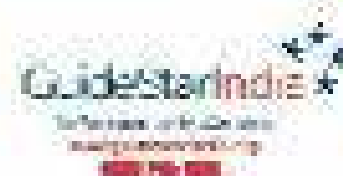
GOVERNANCE



CERTIFICATE



ASSOCIATE WITH:



Development Partners

- Anghyam Trust, Bangalore, India.
- Adarsh Charitable Foundation.
- Aird Communities and Technologies, Surat, Kutch, India
- Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE), Mumbai, India
- Asha For Education, USA
- Badal Dan Charities USA
- Bread for the World - Protestant Development Service.
- Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation (BRLF)
- Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- Charities Aid Foundation, New Delhi, India
- Clarianta Research Limited, Ahmedabad
- Credibility Alliance, Delhi, India
- Confederation of Indian Industry Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Consumer Education and Research Centre, Ahmedabad
- Dabur India Private Limited Ahmedabad – Gujarat & Raipur – Chhattisgarh
- Frank Water, UK
- Gujarat CSR Authority, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Give India, Mumbai, India
- Give Foundation USA
- Gruh Finance Limited, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Guide Star India, Mumbai, India GSN: 888
- Help Your NGOs.com India Private Limited
- International Institute of Hotel Management (IIHM- Ahmedabad)
- Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, GOIA Hub Code: A000269
- India Development and Relief Fund, Inc., USA
- Indo Global Social Service Society, Kolkata, New Delhi
- Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar.
- Mr. Achil Paul
- Mr. Jayashilal Shanilal Mehta, UK
- Mr. Narendran Shamji Shah, Kenya
- Mr. Hasan A Lala & Mrs Ansha H. Lala Owen, Mumbai
- Manav Kalyan Trust, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- Mr. Narendran and Mrs. Jyoti Popat, USA/Mumbai, India
- Mr. Aloy Doshi, Australia
- Mr. Gulam-Ahmed G. Motiwala
- Mr. Ashwin Meghani Doshi.

- Mr. Veena Lakshmanani
- Mr. Bala Rajendra Joshi
- Late Mr. Arunbhai Meghani Doshi and Mrs. Prtyevanda A. Doshi, Australia
- Manav Jagruti Foundation, New Delhi
- One World Group.
- Parasn Pujya Bhai Shreshthabhai Kothari, Mumbai & Surat, Gujarat, India
- Parsh Water Management Pvt. Ltd. Nethya, Kutch
- Prof. Vipin Tripathi, Sadbhav Mission, New Delhi
- RTE Forum, Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind (Sightsavers)
- Shree Raj Soubhag Sanchay Mandal, Mumbai & Surat, Gujarat, India
- Shram Jindal Foundation New Delhi, Bangalore.
- The American India Foundation Trust
- The Mahatir Trust, UK
- The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)
- Unicef Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- Unicef Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- WIPRO Limited, Bangalore
- Wells for India.
- Water Harvest Limited.

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 Bank of India, Panchavati Branch, Ahmedabad.
 State Bank of India, Vana Branch, Ahmedabad.
 State Bank of India, Kargi Road, Kota, Bilaspur, C.G.

Samerth Charitable Trust Annual Report 2017-18

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Registered In 1992 under the Bombay Public Trust Act 1950, Trust Registration No. E-9150/Ahmedabad, Samerth is a non governmental, non-profit organisation. Also registered under Ministry of Home Affairs, India, to receive foreign funds, 12A and exempted under 80G. Samerth is tax exempted under section 501(c) for receiving donation in USA.

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